

OBITUARY.

SEÑOR C. JOSE MORALES LEMUS.

The death of this, one of Cuba's staunchest patriots, is a powerful blow to the cause of republican liberty in the "Ever Faithful Isle." Devoted to her interests, Señor Lemus's efforts in her behalf were arduous, and tended to aggravate the ravages of a disorder which had been slowly undermining his health for a long time, and on Tuesday last he died. Señor Lemus was born in the latter part of May, 1808, at Gibara, Cuba, whence his family, shortly after his birth, removed to Holguin, where much of his early life was spent. In the latter city he received a liberal education, and at the age of 20 years married a lady, who brought quite an accession to his fortune, already large. At the age of 27 he was admitted to the bar, and by the force of his natural talent and unswerving integrity attained an exalted and enviable position at the head of his profession. To his executive ability Cuba is to-day indebted for many of the advantages she enjoys. It was he who conceived and created the Remedios and Caribbean and Cienfuegos and Villa Clara Railroads, the docks of Sta. Catalina and San José and the Bank of Alcañá. He was for eight years Mayor of the City of Havana, during which time he invariably refused to receive from the Spaniards even the salary of his office, and always rejected their money when offered to him. A confirmed opponent to Slavery, he never possessed slaves of his own, but spent much of his time and means to procure the manumission of all whom he could reach. In 1863, he was elected deputy from the district of Remedios and proceeded to Spain at the head of the deputation. There he read the famous report of that committee, said to have been written by himself. While there he endeavored to induce the Spanish Government to abolish Slavery in the Island of Cuba, presenting the strongest and most eloquent arguments against the institution; but his advice was unheeded, and he returned to his home, where he was engaged in his profession until the uprising of the revolutionists in 1868. He embraced their cause with all the ardor of his nature, and joined all his energies with those who carried on the struggle for liberty. Ever faithful to the cause in which all his hopes were embarked, he was to Cuba's freedom a light and a guide in the darkest hours of her troubles. In 1893 he was appointed Agent General of the Republic of Cuba and Minister Extraordinary to the Government of the United States. He arrived here in February of that year, presented his credentials at Washington, and sought, with all the eloquence for which he was famed, the recognition of his country. Again and again he applied to the authorities at Washington, but his suit was not heeded, and he then turned his attention and efforts in another channel, ever holding before him the promotion of the cause for which he had labored, and fitted out several expeditions of men and arms destined to aid his suffering brethren in his native land. The fate of these well known, and their effect upon the mind of a man advanced in years and stricken with sickness and disappointment, may be surmised.