

CUBAN AFFAIRS.

Mr. De Conto's Movements—Heavy Defalcation—The Weather—The Cane Crop.

From Our Own Correspondent.

HAVANA, Saturday, Dec. 24, 1870.

Mr. JOSE FERRA DE CONTO, the great defender of Spanish interests, as editor of the New-York *Cronista*, who was so well repaid for his zeal by a sojourn of several weeks in prison, leaves today for New-York, and proceeds thence to Madrid, in order to sue the present Admiral at this station, Don JOSE MALCAMPO. Too much cooking spoils the broth, and CONTO was altogether too much of a zealot not to fall into disgrace. He began to be powerful, so his dear friends had to "take him down." But the idea of going to Spain and trying to obtain justice against the Admiral is too ridiculous to be believed for a moment. He may go and present charges, but obtaining justice will be quite another matter. CONTO ought to know Spanish Judges and politicians better than to go on such a Quixotic errand; not even the most stupid Cuban or Spaniard would ever dream of going to law and trying to obtain justice against a man of MALCAMPO's rank. Such things are not now and never have been fashionable in Spain. CONTO himself has preached "*Respeto a la autoridad*" too often, and it is rather late in the day for him to change his ideas now.

HEAVY DEFALCATION.

Mr. MIGUEL A. HERRERA, the Colonel of the Third Volunteer Battalion, an American by birth, and enjoying a high reputation as a merchant, has been a victim to the extent of \$80,000 by the defalcation and absconding of his cashier, Mr. ALVAREZ. Mr. HERRERA was winding up his affairs, and when Mr. ALVAREZ was expected on Thursday to present his book, the gentleman was *non est inventus*. Col. HERRERA is a staunch defender of Spain and Spanish interests. Mr. ALVAREZ was well known as a sympathizer with the revolution. His brother was killed during the war. It is generally understood that Mr. ALVAREZ appropriated the largest portion of the embezzled funds to the benefit of the Cuban cause, undoubtedly thinking that the house of HERRERA & Co., whose principal devoted his personal energy and labors to the cause of Spain, should also, in a spirit of fairness, contribute to the other side.

THE WEATHER—THE CROPS.

A norther has been blowing since yesterday.... The cane is behind hand and sugars will be fully a month later in coming to market.

QUASIMODO.