

CUBAN AFFAIRS.

Matters in Havana—Ammunition—Supplies for the Insurgents—The Cigar-Making Trade—Tidings from Santiago—Trials, Sentences, Pardons and Executions—Disorderly Volunteers.

From Our Own Correspondent.

HAVANA, Saturday, May 20, 1871.

The information which I gave some time ago, that several small cargoes of ammunition had been landed in the Eastern Department and that they had reached the interior successfully, was laughed at by a portion of the Spaniards in that department. But others, who knew better, went to work, and these found out that something else besides mere ammunition was landed, as you will see by the notes of the Santiago de Cuba correspondent below. The correspondent of the *Diario de la Marina* confirms my report in speaking of an engagement. "To judge by the paper in which the cartridges had been wrapped," it says, "they were manufactured in South America, which proves that, notwithstanding all the precautions taken, the insurgents continue to receive some aid from abroad." The Government knew this long ago, and now the people also.

THE CIGAR-MAKING TRADE.

A question of vital interest to Cuba is now engaging the attention of those who have any money invested on the island: that concerning the single Cuban trade of cigar-making. Complaints are made that the manufacturers of cigars in Havana cannot live if they must pay the present high prices of raw material. In that case the manufacturers must either close their establishments or else raise the price of their wares. But an unsophisticated person, who would place implicit reliance on such statements, would perhaps like to know how all manufacturers of cigars in Havana have amassed fortunes of a greater or less magnitude, while the cigar-makers themselves are all poor, and the owners of the tobacco plantations, with but rare exceptions, are always in debt to the manufacturer. A writer in the *Voz de Cuba* says that this year foreign tobacco has been sold and smoked in Havana, and your correspondent understands that Florida tobacco has been imported here, manufactured into cigars, and then sent abroad again as legitimate Vuelta Abajo. At any rate, the future of Florida, as a tobacco-growing country, is far more likely than that of Cuba.

HAVANA MISCELLANEOUS GOSSIP.

Not only the Generals of the regular army, but also some of the big-bugs among the volunteers, are abandoning the country which they love so much, and returning to Spain. Colonel AMPUDIA, commanding the Second Battalion Ligeros, will leave shortly for Spain, and Mr. JOAQUIN PAYRET, the owner of the Louvre Coffee-house, is making strenuous efforts to obtain the position. PAYRET is a smart man, and anxious to accumulate not a moderate, but an immense fortune, and he knows what he is aiming at.... Judge MATA, who was hooted by the volunteers, has complained of this act to the authorities, but as he knows that such complaints will have no other effect than to make matters worse, he wisely concluded to pack his trunk. He will leave on the 30th inst.... The trouble between the civil and ecclesiastical authorities as to whom the right of administering the new cemetery and deriving the revenue therefrom, continues. The priests are not willing to have the amount produced fall into the hands of laymen whose pursuits do not allow them to appreciate the beauties of money, to the same extent as a priest who has plenty of leisure time to meditate on it.... The Spanish Casino does not like "bummers," especially Spanish "bummers," as very few creoles go to the saloons, which are occupied by the society. Many Spaniards who never belonged, or who formerly were members of the Casino, were in the habit of making themselves comfortable there, and the directors have published a warning in the journals, informing all interlopers that the janitor has orders to turn them out. Since this order has been issued the attendance of visitors has decreased notably.... A number of gentlemen, including Mr. LAFOREST, the French Consul, have been decorated with Spanish orders, the papers having come by the last mail steamer. It is understood that several other Consuls, a prominent dentist, and a few lukewarm Cubans, together with a sprinkling of successful grocers, will be the recipients of the next batch of crosses.

SANTIAGO DE CUBA.

Your Santiago de Cuba correspondent writes, under date of the 15th inst., the following exceedingly interesting account of what has lately taken place in that vicinity:

"The people of this city and its surroundings have been in a very excited state for a week past, and at times a riot was considered to be imminent. It was likely to be caused principally by the Horruttiner matter, of which you have undoubtedly learnt something by telegraph. JOSE HORRUTTINER was arrested in BOET's time, with one SOURZA, "mayoral" of a small estate of HORRUTTINER'S. According to the then existing custom, these prisoners were taken to the country by Mr. BOET, to be examined at his leisure. The result was a long declaration, written and signed by HORRUTTINER, confessing to sufficient to sentence twenty people, and therefore of course bringing about his own sentence. Knowing the objections usually entertained by people on trial for a capital offense to admitting anything prejudicial to themselves, it seems strange that HORRUTTINER should be so anxious to prove an exception to this as actually to write out declarations so damning to himself. This circumstance, coupled with the fact that all this examination was carried on in an obscure estate, give rise to comments more or less injurious to BOET & Co. Whether on this account, or by influence or right I do not know, but HORRUTTINER appealed, and was again condemned, and again appealed with the same result, the last sentence being passed on Thursday. The execution should have taken place on Friday, but for reasons of which I am unaware was postponed until Saturday morning. Fortunately for Mr. HORRUTTINER, and also for SOZA, (in the preceding narrative the greater always includes the less,) the Cuba Submarine Telegraph had had time to establish itself in the interval between his first arrest and ultimate conviction, and telegrams were dispatched to H. E. the Captain-General and H. M. the King, also to friends in Madrid and other places. On Saturday afternoon a telegram was received from Madrid that his Majesty had ordered Gen. VALMASEDA to relieve the condemned. But it got late on Saturday afternoon and no telegram from VALMASEDA. It was time to close the office and before it reopened at 9½ next morning the prisoners would be beyond relieve. It was therefore necessary to keep the office open all night. Gen. PALANCA, our Governor, had no objection. Mr. RAMSDEN, the Company's agent, as little, and the clerks were quite ready to give their time, so the office remained open, but still no telegrams. No one doubted that Gen. VALMASEDA would be only too happy to save these two lives, but Gen. VALMASEDA was at Sancti Spiritus and might have gone on some excursion, or not have received the King's telegram. At 12 o'clock the prisoner was placed in a capilla, and about 1 o'clock, I am told, that the communication between Havana and Sancti Spiritus was temporarily interrupted. The execution was fixed at 7 A. M., and at 6½ came the looked-for dispatch from Gen. VALMASEDA. The prisoners were relieved, and Gen. PALANCA, in full uniform, accompanied by his staff, walked down to the prison, and shaking each of the condemned men by the hand apprised them of and congratulated them on their pardon, amid great enthusiasm and shouts of "Viva el Rey," and "Viva el Conde de Valmaseda." And now, it grieves me to say, some two companies of the First Battalion of Volunteers, who had assembled for the execution, on hearing the news, broke into almost open mutiny, demanded the blood of the pardoned men, insulted the staff officers, and generally behaved in a manner that seemed worthy of cannibals. To such an extent did they carry their rage and disappointment, that they refused to do any more guard duty, and the force then on guard was left twelve hours over their time, and finally relieved by some colored volunteers. This dead-lock still continues, but of course is of little consequence, as Gen. PALANCA has more than sufficient regular troops under his command to repress any demonstration which might assume more formidable proportions than mere pettishness. The occurrence will, as may be imagined, prove a godsend to the talking Cubans abroad, and will serve to point out the morals, and to abuse the Bizarros in general. It is a pity that the more enlightened and humane among the volunteers should be made responsible for the acts of a few.... With regard to the Cobre business, Col. CANIZAL picked up a prisoner lately who showed some disposition to what is technically called "singing." Anglice, to confess, and this gentleman, being carefully handled gave information which led to a number of arrests. Among others was that of three men, named MOYA, Catalans by birth and shop-keepers by profession, who were always loud in their patriotism and apparently devoted to the *integridad nacional*. These men, who had their store in Cobre, carried on a tremendous business with JESUS PEREZ, the famous insurgent chief of that neighborhood. The proofs were of the clearest, as the prisoners had been arrested, so to say, in the act, and the whole transaction was wound up on Saturday

afternoon by the shooting of the three MOYAS and three more. The discontented volunteers here say that the MOYAS had as good a right to pardon as HORRUTTINER, but there can be no parallel made between a Cuban who furnished the rebels with supplies either from love for them or hate for the Spaniards, and a Spaniard who, while professing the most violent loyalty, carries on, for money, a large business with the insurgents. QUASIMODO.