

CUBA.

DIMINISHED SUGAR CROP—ARRIVAL OF NEW TROOPS—DEATH OF TWO CUBAN CHIEFS.

The sugar crop will be much smaller than last year. The planters have had much difficulty in procuring the requisite supply of labor, many of the negroes and Chinese being in the ranks of the insurgents, while hundreds of others are roaming the country, unwilling either to fight or to work. This is especially the case in the Eastern and Central Departments. Besides, the rebels are applying the torch to the fields wherever they are able to do so. Squads of volunteers guard, in many districts, the estates, but these are sometimes surprised and taken, when the estate is at once committed to the flames. The Cubans are said to be particularly active at this time in the jurisdiction of Cienfuegos and Santiago de Cuba in burning estates.

The steamers Guipuzcoa, bringing 1,000, and the Antonio Lopez, 500 troops, have recently arrived from Spain. These will be at once dispatched to the theater of war.

Some fighting is reported as having occurred near Santiago de Cuba. The engagement is said to have been a severe one, but no particulars have as yet been received. Rustan, the Cuban General, is said to have died from the effects of wounds received some time ago. Santos, a chief of some note, has been captured by the Spaniards. He was immediately afterward executed.

The North German steamer Meteor is still hanging around the coast. She is being actively watched by the Tallman, a French steamer of fine model and a much larger and better vessel. It is supposed the former is awaiting an opportunity to seize some French merchantmen. There is no talk of other naval duels off this port.

You will remember that Valmaseda's appointment to the Captain-Generalcy is only for the time being. A powerful pressure is now being brought to bear upon the Madrid Government to secure him in the permanent enjoyment of the place of Governor-General.