

## The Expulsion of the Bishop from Havana.

By the steamer Missouri, from Havana, which arrived at this port on Friday last, came the Rev. Dr. Martinez, Bishop of Havana, accompanied by his secretary, the Abbé Paria. The Bishop, *en route* from Europe, whither he had gone to attend the Ecumenical Council, left this city for Havana some two weeks ago, duly furnished with authority from the government at Madrid to the Captain General, Valmaseda; but on reaching Havana he was refused permission to go ashore, on the pretext that his credentials from Madrid were not countersigned by the Spanish Consul at New York. All efforts to change the mind of Valmaseda proving useless, the Bishop had no other alternative than to return to New York, being literally expelled from Cuba.

The real reasons for this expulsion of the Bishop, as it appears, are of a political character. He was ordained and assigned to Havana in 1864, and was on such good terms with Captain General Dulce that he was denounced with Dulce as a traitor by the Spanish volunteers of the Valmaseda faction. Next, it appears there was some difficulty between the Bishop and Lersundi, the next Captain General, concerning certain church honors demanded by Lersundi in his travels from place to place, which the Bishop could not give him. But, worst of all, the Bishop in the discharge of his religious offices had considered it his duty to take equal care of the souls of the Spaniards and of the Cuban insurgents, and had, accordingly, sent some of his priests among the latter; and this was enough for Valmaseda. His doctrine has been and is that the Cubans, fighting for their independence, are not only traitors entitled to no quarter, but that, dying, they have no right to the consolations of the Church, and that the Bishop, in undertaking to administer such consolations to the Cubans, proved himself a traitor. It may yet appear, however, that in his task of subduing the Cuban insurgents Valmaseda has made a great mistake in expelling the Bishop of Havana, devoted to him as are the whole population of the island.