

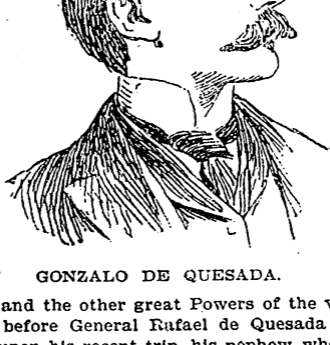
CUBANS TO ORGANIZE HERE.

A PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT PLANNED.

THE FIRST STEPS ALREADY TAKEN AT A CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION—OFFICERS TO BE ELECTED SOON—WHAT SENOR

QUESADA SAYS.

During the last few days many Cubans and Cuban sympathizers have gathered in this city. The Fifth Avenue Hotel and the Hoffman House seem to be the headquarters of the insurgent leaders, and here daily conferences are held and plans of moment discussed. Those who are at the head of the present uprising in Cuba, although directing affairs upon that island from this city, have manifested a degree of reticence that has made it almost impossible to ascertain anything concerning their plans. The real intentions of the Cuban leaders leaked out yesterday, however, and it is now generally understood that they are planning for the formation of a Government that shall be complete in detail, and which they hope to see recognized by the United



GONZALO DE QUESADA.

States and the other great Powers of the world.

Just before General Rafael de Quesada went South upon his recent trip, his nephew, who acts as his secretary, said that the formation of a provisional government in Cuba was contemplated. He said that at a certain time, and in a certain place, delegates would assemble and a provisional government would be formed. At this meeting a President was to be chosen, and a declaration of independence proclaimed. Through fear of interference on the part of the Spanish Government, and the probability of such a convention being broken up in case the real import of it should become known, a great deal of secrecy had to be maintained. At that time it was known, from what was said, that the proposed Constitutional Convention was to be held in Cuba somewhere in the interior, and that each one hundred insurgents engaged in actual warfare against Spain would be represented by a delegate. This convention did take place, as it was declared that it would. It was held on May 18, and the following officers were elected by the Cuban revolutionists: President Masso, General-in-Chief Gomez, Commander-in-Chief of the Oriental Division Maceo. No constitution was drafted at this meeting, but the Government received some tangible form.

TO ENLARGE UPON THE ORIGINAL POLICY.

That convention was the first step, but the original policy outlined is to be enlarged upon, and to that end it is understood that a meeting is to be held in New-York within the next two weeks, which will be practically a continuance of the convention held in Cuba on May 18, but which will effect more sweeping and effective organization. This meeting, it is said, will be held at the Fifth Avenue Hotel on July 10. There is a great deal of reticence manifested by those who are engineering the details of the proposed meeting, lest its nature should become generally known. From what can be learned, it is manifest that the proposed meeting on July 10 is to be the most important step in the history of Cuba's struggle for freedom. The meeting has been quietly arranged for, and doubtless will be quietly held, but its importance and effect will be felt all through the present struggle.

The somewhat unique form of government of the Revolutionist party of Cuba is in the shape of a wheel within a wheel. Primarily there is the organization in Cuba with the officers named, which is making the fight directly against the power of Spain. Besides this there are about one hundred and fifty Cuban or revolutionary clubs in North America, South America and Cuba. These clubs are affiliated under the name of the Revolutionary Party. They lend financial assistance and moral support to the insurgent forces in Cuba. These clubs are the sinew of the rebel forces, and it is their influence and assistance that enable the handful of patriots in Cuba to keep up the struggle against Spain's greatest General and 22,000 picked troops.

These clubs have watched the struggle going on in Cuba from a distance, but they desire to become more closely affiliated. As a result, the meeting will be held next month, and important business will be transacted. The fact that such a meeting is to be held was learned yesterday from Gonzalo de y Quesada, nephew and secretary to General Quesada. He said, in speaking of this meeting:

"These Cuban clubs are all affiliated. There are about one hundred and forty clubs in the United States, Mexico, South America and Cuba. Each club will have an accredited delegate present. The meeting will probably be held in the Fifth Avenue Hotel—surely somewhere in New-York, and important business will be brought up and transacted."

THE NEW PRESIDENT.

When asked what business would be brought up Señor Quesada said:

"The most important thing will be the election of a President for the Provisional Government of Cuba. The most prominent candidate for the honor, and the one who is almost positive of election, is Thomas Estrada Palma, a well-known Cuban and contributor to the cause. Señor Palma lives quietly at Pleasant Valley, N. Y., and he has been seen by many prominent Cubans. He is not inclined to be forward, but his services are at the disposal of Cuba, and he will doubtless be chosen. Señor Palma's duties upon election will be very similar to those of a foreign Minister or delegate. He will remain in New-York, where he will be the agent of the revolutionary party, which is the organization of the Cuban clubs, and he will also be the accredited foreign representative of the Republic of Cuba."

"Will you draft a constitution and elect a Senate and a Chamber of Deputies, such as was done during the last Cuban revolt?"

"No, not at present. The constitution as adopted during the last uprising stands. At that time a great deal of trouble and delay was incurred in order to map out a government upon the lines of the republican forms of government in the world. But little good came of it. It was hoped by drawing up such a form of government that the moral support of the United States would be secured, but that idea fell through. There will be plenty of time to elect a Senate and a Chamber of Deputies, and for the President to form a cabinet after Cuba is free, and that will not be long."

When General Quesada was asked if he had received any news from Cuba recently, he said, through his nephew as an interpreter:

"The press and the cable are still under a censorship imposed by the Spanish soldiers. No authentic information gets out. I do expect, however, to have some good news from Cuba in the near future. I am not yet positively informed of the death of General José Martí. It is all very mysterious, but I am at last coming to think that he is really dead."

The utmost activity prevails among the leaders of the Cuban revolutionary party in this

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CUBANS TO ORGANIZE HERE

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city. The approaching convention to choose a President is a fruitful theme for discussion. Daily acquisitions to the ranks of the Cuban party are made by prominent arrivals. Many questions considered momentous in the struggle for freedom are being discussed and are on the eve of settlement. It is generally understood that other and equally important issues to the election of a President will be brought up at the approaching convention. With a tangible organization to work upon, the Cuban leaders are desirous of cutting out boldly. The idea of issuing interest-bearing bonds to raise funds to carry on the war has been projected, these bonds to be redeemed when the victory of the Cuban insurgents is assured and the Republic solidly established.

BONDS MAY BE ISSUED.

During the last few days there have been many rumors of a capitalistic combination of immense proportions which is willing to furnish money to the insurgent leaders to carry on the fight. When General Quesada was asked last evening about these reports, he said:

"I can neither affirm nor deny the report, because I do not know anything about it. It may be true, but I have not been consulted."

General Quesada could not be induced to discuss whether there was any probability of the issuance of such bonds. It is known, however, that the Cuban revolutionists have many sympathizers in this country who stand ready to help them financially. It is generally understood that should such a convention as the one which is to meet here on July 10 decide to issue bonds, little difficulty would be encountered in floating at least a part of them. Prominent Cubans say that a great many of the bonds would be taken out of sympathy, and it is said that when the convention meets an effort will be made to order the issue of a certain amount, and that in all probability such action will be taken.

Outside of money that would be raised by such a bond issue, the Cuban leaders have a great deal of money at their disposal. General Quesada receives about a hundred letters daily at the Fifth Avenue Hotel offering him moral and financial support. These letters invariably wind up with the words, "Vive Cuba Libre," which has become the watchword of the Cuban Revolutionary party. The sums contributed by these clubs and sympathizers are considerable, and even to-day, without the bonds, so it is stated, the exchequer of the Revolutionary party is in good shape. With the coming convention the organization of the Cuban Revolutionary party will be complete. With the election of a President, the complement of officers will be made up. Benjamin Guerra, of No. 102 Water-st., will continue as treasurer, and Gonzalo Quesada will retain his position as secretary of the party.

HOW MARTI WAS KILLED.

News was brought to the city yesterday of the manner in which Marti met his death. It is said that Marti and a few friends were betrayed by a guide. This guide informed a troop of infantry where Marti was stopping. When the detachment of infantry came up, Marti and his retainers were found asleep in hammocks. While asleep they were riddled with bullets. Mrs. Marti admits that she has no hope of ever seeing her husband alive. She is still with Señor Enrique Trujillo, and expects to remain in this city for some time.

The Cuban colony in this city is daily being reinforced. The latest arrivals are Lieutenant-Colonel Rodriguez, of General Quesada's staff, who is here to study high explosives, and Dr. Saras, who arrived on the Clyde Line steamship Santo Domingo City on Monday. He is a Cuban refugee, and is here in the interest of the cause. Another prominent arrival is Señor Carlos M. Cespedes. He has just arrived from an extended tour through the Gulf States, and he is said to have raised \$20,000.

Henry Leonard, an attorney at No. 243 Broadway, is a Cuban sympathizer, and the patriots in this city make his office a meeting-place to discuss Cuba's cause. Yesterday Mr. Leonard received a letter from some of the insurrectionists in Cuba which said that 6,000 stand of arms which were forwarded from here some time ago were safely landed in Cuba, and were in the hands of patriots.

Gonzalo de Quesada is the Secretary-General of the revolutionary party. Young, endowed with great activity and of proven patriotism, he has already rendered important services to the cause of independence. As a writer, he has published three interesting books, the principal of which, dedicated to the Cuban youth, is entitled "Patriotism," and bears for its motto the words: "To conquer our country is our duty." He was educated in this city, being graduated from the College of the City of New-York with the class of 1888.