

PARRA HAD OTHER PLOT

GENERAL'S BRUTAL PLANS

Revolutionist Tried to Overthrow a Republic.

Havana, Oct. 12 (Special).—General Juan Maso Parra is still in prison here, where he was placed a few weeks ago by order of Governor



GENERAL JUAN M. PARRA.
In uniform of Spanish colonel.

Magoon, charged with trying to foment disorder in the island. Some startling revelations made to-day to the Tribune correspondent show that instead of being a harmless agitator, as his friends make him out, General Parra is a dangerous, desperate person, professional revolutionist and a menace to peace and order. The circumstances of these revelations are that the general was in New York a year and a half ago planning a revolution for a republic in Central America. The person who tells of them is worthy of full confidence and belief and possesses knowledge from his association with General Parra in his efforts to overthrow the legally constituted government of the republic in question, whose plans included the killing of the latter's president, the looting of the national banks, the cancellation of the concessions held by foreign corporations, and among other highly desperate acts of brigandage the establishment of a personally dominated government to be nominally presided over by a native of the country, but whose age and known lack of patriotism would guarantee to General Parra the absolute dictatorship of the country, of which he was not even a native.

PARRA FOUGHT AGAINST COUNTRY.

General Parra is a Cuban who deserted from General Gomez's army and allied himself with Spain against the cause of his country. So far as anybody in Havana knew, the general, who had fought against his compatriots as a colonel in the Spanish volunteers, had spent in Spain the several years of his absence from Cuba. He returned to Cuba several months ago. The New York incident in the career of General Parra will be news to even Governor Magoon, and probably those who have advanced the "harmless dreamer" argument in extenuation of Parra's conduct lately will see things in an entirely different light.

General Parra's plan to capture a whole country and exploit its government, its treasury and its industries, all of which he promised in New York to those who would aid him in his design, was stretching things to an extremity. His plans were novel, even dastardly, but highly romantic; some of them were diabolical. In fact, it was the desperateness of the scheme that was responsible for its failure.

In his propaganda General Parra boasted the friendship of President Diaz of Mexico and President Amador of Panama, both of whom, he declared, would help him. He also attempted in like manner to compromise a foreign diplomat at Washington. His chief reliance on President Diaz was the Masonic tie that he asserted bound them, for Parra said he was a thirty-third degree Mason.

The conspiracy had its beginning in April, 1906, said the narrator of the remarkable story that follows:

PLOT ORIGINATED IN NEW YORK.

"I met a lawyer in New York who was interested in the plans of General Parra. He outlined the proposed campaign to me. 'Two San Francisco friends of mine,' he said, 'have met a man by the name of General Juan Maso Parra, who is a Spaniard [sic] and a revolutionist. He has a scheme whereby he can overthrow a Central American government and place in power a man as President who will be a figurehead, Parra being the power behind the throne and absolute dictator of the policies to be followed out.'

"I continue to quote the lawyer: 'Now to carry out this plan it is necessary to adopt some drastic measures. It is General Parra's idea, if he can get the money, to organize an army of, say, five hundred men. He will head them and go to the capital and seize the President, make him a prisoner and compel him to sign his resignation. As soon as this is done a provisional government will be created by Parra and he will at once install or swear in this man whom he has in mind as President. When this is done new appointments to office will be made, all the valuable concessions will be seized and controlled by Parra and his friends. To get this going Parra thinks it would cost about \$25,000 for the purchase of guns, ammunition, food and the chartering of a steamer. The start will be from here. We have at present about \$10,000 subscribed. It is the best paying proposition I have ever seen. This money has been guaranteed by the two men from San Francisco and an Englishman in Trinidad. There is considerable gold in the bank there which will be confiscated by Parra and divided among his friends. The banana crop, which is worth millions of dollars yearly, is now controlled by the United Fruit Company, but we would eventually take this away from them.'

Then the correspondent's informant told of his

first conversation with General Parra, in which the latter elaborated on the plans as outlined by his lawyer representative and revealed more of the "drastic measures" that might be necessary to accomplish their ends. He said:

"General Parra told me that our plan of attack was to embark at Panama and proceed to the principal seaport of the marked republic. 'In this place, as soon as we land,' the general said, 'all telegraph lines and every mode of sending messages will be destroyed. The police there number only about fifteen. We will take care of them easily enough. We will have in waiting at the railroad an engine and cars, by which we will be carried to the capital, a distance of twelve miles. We will destroy the telegraphic communication there, take care of the small military and police forces they have there, and then I will lead my men to the Capitol, where we will seize the President under the cover of darkness. The President occupies a small house adjoining the Capitol. I will propose to him that he sign his resignation in ten minutes. If he refuses to comply I will order that he be killed. Then my man would be installed as President. His health will get bad, and then, you see, the entire situation will be in my hands. Of course, to be President I will have to renounce my allegiance to Spain; I am willing to do that. My man is satisfied to accept \$500,000 for his part.'"

The interpreter of this romance of actual life went on to tell of visits to the home of General Parra, which was in West 112th street, New York City, where the general told further of his plans to enrich himself and his friends. One of these was the establishment of a national lottery, which the general promised would yield millions of dollars in profits. He also revealed the supposed method by which he would obtain arms and ammunition. There were guns, cannon and cartridge at Panama, he said, left over from the revolution, which President Amador would let him have.

"I have at present working for me at different places in the republic we will go to, over two hundred trained men, who are ready to fall in line as soon as I give the signal.' He added: 'You see I have a very dear friend in Mexico; that man is President Porfirio Diaz. He is ready to help me any time I say so. I intend to control in the same manner as Castro controls Venezuela. He has his own army supported by the government and he tells the lawmakers just what laws he wants and he gets them.'"

But several conditions contributed to the failure of realization of General Parra's dreams of empire and now he languishes in prison here awaiting judgment on his latest effort to break the peace of a nation.

CUBAN BANDITS SURRENDER.

Havana, Oct. 17.—The group of bandits under the command of Gil Calder, which recently had been committing extensive depredations in the vicinity of Cienfuegos, surrendered to-day to Captain Wittenmayer, the American officer in charge of the rural guard in the Cienfuegos district.