

Ports Closed—Arrival of Troops.

HAVANA, February 19.—A proclamation has been issued by the Captain-General closing foreign and domestic shipping ports east of the Bay of Cadiz lighthouse, on the northern coast, and east of Cienfuegos, on the southern coast. All ports provided with custom-houses are excepted from the operation of this decree.

Transports arrived here yesterday with 1,000 troops from Spain, and others arrived to-day with 1,500 more.

Orders have been issued requiring citizens to deliver to the authorities all private arms.

General W. F. Smith positively declines the appointment of consul-general of the United States at Havana.

Sugar active; No. 12 firm at 12 reals. Exchange has a declining tendency.

Progress of the Rebellion in Cuba.

NEW YORK, February 19.—A special dispatch from Havana, dated the 18th, says: "The insurgents hold Guaxaja Port, south of the Roman Cays; they have fortified the town and have batteries mounted with brass cannon and manned by Americans. The water in front of the position has a depth of eight feet; and the guns bear upon the narrow channel by which only the town can be approached from the sea.—

The government at Havana is equipping a flotilla of launches for an attack on Guaxaja.—A landing has been effected by a rebel expedition at Cochiroa. It is whispered here that Secretary Seward has made strong representations to the government at Madrid in regard to the death of Cohiner and other outrages which have occurred in Havana, and that he has asked condign punishment to be visited upon the perpetrators."