

CUBA.

Official Reports of Fighting.

HAVANA, March 8.—The Government has made public dispatches giving details of the advance of General Lesca from Laguanajah to Puerto Principe. On this march the heaviest engagement, since the beginning of the rebellion, was fought. General Lesca found the enemy, to the number of four thousand, strongly intrenched on Sierra de Cubitas. Artillery was brought up, and commenced a vigorous fire upon the works. Covered by the batteries, a column of regular troops, 1,500 strong, attacked the enemy's fortifications with bayonets. Both sides fought with determination, and the havoc was fearful. Gen. Lesca reports his loss 31 killed and 80 wounded. The loss of the rebels is estimated at upward of 1,000 killed and wounded. The Government accounts claim a victory for Gen. Lesca, and assert that the insurgents are much disheartened by their defeat. A detachment which left Puerto Principe for Santa Cruz to obtain supplies brought to that port by the fleet, returned on the 2d inst. with provisions and ammunition, having made the march both ways without interruption. The entire available strength of the rebel forces now under Quesada is estimated at 7,000.

HAVANA, March 8.—The commanders of a British gunboat and French steamer, which arrived to-day, report that they passed in the Bahama Channel the Peruvian monitors, in tow of two steamers, with a Spanish man-of-war following in their wake.

Gen. Puello left the town of Santa Espiritu, and divided his command into three flying columns to scour the country. The Diario reports that the rebel leaders in the Province of Santa Espiritu have deserted their men. In the Eastern Department, bands are roaming between Holquin and Gibra, and committing great depredations and outrages. They carry the rebel flag, but are disowned by the insurgents, and denounced as bandits.

A steamer arrived to-day from Cienfuegos with a number of prisoners, among them four priests.

Sugar quiet, with sales at 9½ reals for No. 12.