

Progress of the Cuban Insurrection.

Copies of official documents have been received direct from the Cuban Provisional Government. Statements are made therein showing the general condition of the revolution, and from them the following authentic facts are taken:

The Republican Government of Cuba has within six months extended its sway over 20,000 square miles of the 30,000 comprised within the boundaries of the island. Its armies hold and occupy almost wholly the districts of Cuba, Guantanamo, Holguin, Manzanillo, Jiguarey, Bayamo, Las Tunas, Puerto Principe, Nuevitas, Santa Clara, Moron, Remedios, Trinidad, Santa Spiritu, and Cienfuegos y Colon, the Spanish troops remaining therein being confined to a few towns and villages, without means of attacking, closely beleagued, unable to move out without danger of serious disaster, even for the purpose of foraging, and trusting only to timely and fresh arrivals of troops from Spain to escape entire destruction. General Valmaseda, commanding the Spanish forces, remains at Jiguan, making no serious aggressive efforts. This is also the case with the troops at Cuba, Manzanillo, and Guantanamo. The Spanish troops at Santa Spiritu, Trinidad, Cienfuegos, Santa Clara, Remedios, and Sagua, do not dare to abandon the shelter of the towns they garrison.

They have made no active movement since the early part of February, as the patriot forces under Puella and others, numbering over twelve thousand effective men, have kept them fully occupied, in holding on to the few strategic points now occupied by them. The Puerto Principe "jurisdiction" and that of the Cinco Villas are the seats of the most active efforts. No more severe military blow has been dealt at the Spaniards than the engagement between Count Leaca and a patriot force in an important pass of the Sierra del Cobre. The general facts in relation to this battle have already been received from Havana, and even the Spaniards were compelled to give some truth in the report they allowed to pass.

Count Leaca moved with two thousand five hundred well-equipped troops, a heavy train of supplies, two field batteries, and a military chest containing half a million dollars in notes of the Royal Bank at Havana. His purpose was to relieve Puerto Principe. Quezada, with five thousand well armed patriots, was intrenched on the road over which Leaca was expected to pass. The only other available road was through a difficult mountain pass, to guard which the patriot General had placed a force of eight hundred men. The Spanish commander diverged from the high way, and determined to force this pass. He succeeded in so doing on the third assault, but arrived in Puerto Principe with but nine hundred men, no train, no artillery, and the loss of the half million dollars referred to.

The patriot loss was proportionately heavy, but they obtained several guns in good condition, and a large number of rifles left on the field by the Spaniards. Of course Leaca's troops were of no benefit, but otherwise to the beleaguered garrison he was to relieve. Since then we hear of movements toward Santa Anna for the obtaining of supplies, some particulars of which have reached here by way of Nassau. The Spaniards were greatly harassed and lost largely on their return in both men and material, though succeeding in reaching the city with a large portion of their commissariat train.

The progress of the Cuban revolution can be more plainly shown by the following statistics: The districts in open revolution at the beginning of February contained, by the census of 1861, a population of 261,520 persons, divided as follows: 126,368 whites, 80,274 free persons of color, and 51,778 slaves. The districts which have revolted since the 1st of February last (including those of the Cinco Villas and Colon—the latter being but a few hours' ride from Havana), contained at the same date a population of 172,667 whites, 42,444 free persons of color, and 69,207 slaves. This makes a total of 548,738, which must have increased since 1861 to at least 600,000 persons. In area this territory covers two-thirds of the island. Within the same there are 147 cities, towns and villages, of which not quite one-half remain in the hands of the Spaniards.

Cuba, independent, will at once enter into the most harmonious and complete commercial relations with this Republic. Whether an independent State, or as a member of this Union (to be determined upon by the freely expressed will of both countries after Cuba becomes fully independent), the island has within itself, by virtue of both natural resources and commanding position, the element of great prosperity and political importance. Under the present regime, and despite all drawbacks, the commerce of Cuba ten years ago amounted to \$57,400,000 of exports, and \$43,400,000 of imports, an aggregate of \$100,800,000.

The total trade at present is valued at more than \$170,000,000, of which (exports only) the United States does 35 per cent; England, 27 per cent, and Spain only 19 per cent. Yet the mother country drains over \$30,000,000 annually from the "Ever Faithful Isle," of which more than one-sixth is taken to Spain, and the balance spent in maintaining a Spanish administration and enriching the officials. In 1862 the reported value of the rural wealth (real estate, etc.) was \$391,000,000; that of the towns was \$170,000,000. In the same year (1862) the productions were valued at: Sugar, \$62,000,000; tobacco, \$15,000,000; other products, \$52,000,000, a total of \$129,000,000.

The Colonial policy has always been an inimical one to the United States; that of independent Cuba will be a friendly one in the largest degree. One fact will serve to illustrate the policy of Spain. The valley of the Mississippi is the natural bread supplier of Cuba. The duty on flour imported from the United States is eight times more than that imported from Spain. On account of an earthquake, not long since, flour was allowed into Porto Rico free of duty. The Cubans have since purchased American flour imported into Porto Rico at much less than that brought from Spain.