

The Revolution in Cuba—The New

Republic and its Constitution.

It is Divided into Four States—The Legislature of One House Only—President Elected by the Legislature—Religious and Civil Liberty Guaranteed—All Citizens over Twenty to Vote.

From a dispatch sent by General Cespedes, President of the Republic of Cuba, to Mr. Morales Lemus, Minister of that Republic to this country, dated in Guaimaro on the 15th ult., we extract the following:

The representatives, fourteen in number, from the insurrectionary districts, chosen by universal suffrage, met in Constituent Assembly in Guaimaro on the 10th ult.

On the opening of the session, Messrs. Agramonte and Zambrana presented a project of a provisional constitution, based upon the constitution of this country, to be effective during the war. Its articles were discussed one by one, and approved with a few unimportant modifications.

General Cespedes promises to send on a copy of this fundamental law of the republic.

It recognizes the equal rights of all men, irrespective of race or color, and establishes complete independence of the three great powers of the nation. The legislative power is declared to reside in a House of Representatives, elected by all citizens over twenty years of age. The constitution further divides the island into four States, each of which shall be equally represented in the House of Representatives. These four States are called the Eastern, Camaguey, the Cinco Villas (five towns), and the Western.

The executive power shall be vested in a President, who shall be responsible to the Chamber Representatives, and it shall be the duty of this latter to elect both the President and the General-in-Chief of the army. The President shall name four Secretaries of State to assist him in his duties, whose nominations shall be approved by the House.

A special law shall be enacted for the creation of the judicial power, which shall at all times be perfectly independent of the other two branches of the government.

Some slight discussion, it appears, arose on the selection of a national flag. The one that Cespedes raised at Yara was not identical with the one used on previous occasions by Lopez, Agüero and others, which last one (the same as displayed in this city) was finally agreed upon. The flags used at Yara and Bayamo were however, ordered to be preserved in the House of Representatives and considered property of the new Republic.

On the following day, the 11th, representatives held their first session, and elected the Presidents and Clerks of the House. When organized, they unanimously and by acclamation, elected General Cespedes as President of the Republic, and General Quesada as Commander-in-Chief of the forces. The Secretaries of the various departments were chosen and entered upon their offices on the following day.

General Cespedes, in his dispatch, adds: "The Republic of Cuba has thus been constituted on principles purely democratic. The right of petition, freedom of worship, liberty of speech and liberty of the press are declared inalienable rights of every citizen."—*N. Y. Sun*.

THE LANDING OF THE AMERICAN EXPEDITION THAT CRIPPLED A SPANISH MAN-OF-WAR—THE EXPEDITIONARY CORPS UNDER AN OLD UNITED STATES ARMY CAPTAIN.

Special Correspondence of the N. Y. Sunday News.]

HEIGHTS OF THE BAY OF NIPE,)

CUBA, May 12th.)

The expedition of which you have been for many weeks past a confidant, was brought to a successful consummation on yesterday. We arrived here after having safely evaded Spanish cruisers, and made good our landing by midnight of yesterday. As you were aware, the General's studies of the charts and topographical maps of this port having been carried out in New York, under consultation with eminent engineers, our commander was prepared, on a very brief reconnoissance, to select a position of defence without delay. To cover risks of movement on the part of the enemy, he threw up some excellent works, and, with the experience of our veterans of the army of the Potomac in the use of the spade, we were very soon enabled to store our material behind defences which our small force of men, "tried in fire," can make good against ten times their number.

The force which we had intended to bring with us you are aware of. Without stating the number, which you already know, I may add that it is, in fact, but about two-thirds of that, seeing that at the eleventh hour the courage of some of the men enlisted leaked out, like that of Bob Acres, "at their fingers' ends." The force actually landed is, however, formidable in its compactness, experience, and dare-devil bravery—Americans, Germans, Irishmen, Englishmen, some of whom have undergone "the baptism of blood" from Chattanooga to Atlanta; others who have breasted the tempest of battle from the Wilderness to the Five Forks!

General Thomas Jordan is, as you have been aware for many months, our commander. He is a native of Luray, in the valley of Virginia, and was a captain in the old army of the United States. He was, during the war of sections, chief of staff to General Beauregard. His engagement with the Junta of New York makes him second in command to the former General-in-Chief of the revolution, Cespedes. Before his arrival, however—deferred, as you are aware, by the miscarriage of his former expedition at Ragged Island—a change had taken place in the State of affairs here, and Cespedes having been made President, his second in command is in fact the present General-in-Chief, Quesada. A virtual, though it may be assumed an unintentional, and perhaps unavoidable, breach of faith with General Jordan has, therefore, followed; and having been brought to that officer's knowledge on our landing, does not appear, as might have been expected, to meet the hearty acquiescence of a man trained, as he has been, in the jealous punctilio of West Point.

General Jordan is not likely to consent to play Chief of Staff to Quesada. The matter will, I hope, be compromised by his assignment to the War Department as its military assistant, organizer and adviser. He appears to think, I suspect, that his duties will not be those of the field; though his men, not being very well adapted for civil service, will object to be led to battle under any Cuban. Herein we fear some little difficulty at the start, but committed as we are to the struggle, that difficulty will very soon vanish when the enemy comes within reach of our rifles. We have sent out part of our force to collect transportation.

They came, unexpectedly to both, upon a small body of Spanish troops placed as a guard on a neighboring property, but very soon persuaded the Dons to part company with them at an unceremonious speed. Teams are being brought in for the removal of our material to the headquarters of Cespedes. Our communications with him have been opened, and already have we received visits from some ragged and hungry looking patriots, who are said in our camp to hold the rank of Generals. I have no more to add than to tell you, in conclusion, that all so far has prospered; that we are in fine health and spirits, and for the time safe from garroting, behind some pretty works mounted landward and seaward, with six very neat looking field pieces.