

CUBAN AFFAIRS.

ARRIVAL OF THE HAVANA STEAMSHIP EAGLE.

The steamship *Eagle*, which left Havana on Dec. 18, reached this port yesterday. By the courtesy of Purser HEMPSTEAD, our special correspondence printed below is at hand.

The Campaign—Remarkable Financial Problem—Wholesale Execution—War News and Miscellaneous Gossip.

From Our Own Correspondent.

HAVANA, Saturday, Dec. 18, 1869.

The Havana Press continues to give its hopeful and rose-colored versions of the war, varied occasionally by threatening leaders against persons in arms and those who sympathize with the revolution. Plans are proposed by the thousand to finish the insurrection, but they all remain plans, and the Cubans continue in the field. The motto of the Havana Spaniards is almost the same as that of the Havana Cubans: "Vox et præterea nihil;" in marked contrast to the motto of the Cubans from Puerto Principe, Bayamo and other portions of the Eastern Department, who fully carry out that "Qui mori didicit morire dedidit."

FINANCES.

There is a very remarkable circumstance connected with the Cuban revolution, which may be considered without precedent in the history of nations. In 1866 the failure of Bossier's Bank, the temporary suspension of other banks and the immense exportation of specie to pay for the war with Santo Domingo, the Government grasping every dollar that went into the Treasury and taking great care to owe for almost everything it purchased, had brought the island to the verge of financial ruin. A general crisis was looked for and partially took place; arrangements of the most curious nature were entered into by importers and dealers, and all transactions rested on the foundation of hope and the expectancy that in time the dealers would be able to pay off their indebtedness. In the Fall of 1868, when no disturbance was expected and all classes tried to free themselves from indebtedness, the revolution broke out in Yara, and as a natural consequence every banker, merchant and tradesman quaked in his boots at the sign of approaching utter ruin and calamity. But nothing of the kind has taken place. The Spanish Bank has issued millions and millions of worthless currency, the only guarantee of its ultimate redemption being the promise of a bankrupt Government to pay its debts whenever it may be able to. But knowing these facts and aware of the real condition of the Treasury, and also of its utter inability to redeem its promise for a long time to come if ever, the people take these notes readily, no objections are raised, and spite of the demand for specie, the notes are resold at two to two and one-half per cent. discount against gold, the highest rate paid having been five per cent. Even the United States with its solid guarantees and stable Government could not maintain its currency at the same rate after fourteen months of war. This proves beyond a doubt that the confidence of the Spaniards and foreign merchants regarding the ultimate triumph of the Spaniards and a flattering future for the island remains unshaken. The dealers and wholesale grocers, as well as those in the dry goods and other lines, have not only met their engagements since the war, but they have also reduced their former indebtedness to a considerable extent, and in many cases liquidated it altogether. We hear nothing of failures or suspected merchants, and in the midst of an undecisive war of ruin, incendiarism, cruelty and desolation, commerce flourishes and confidence is unshaken. This is a very anomalous state of affairs, but such are the facts and they merit the deepest attention.

WHOLESALE EXECUTION.

About ten days ago two Spaniards belonging to the volunteers and keeping a little store at Juan y Martinez, in the Vuelta Abajo, and who, it is reported, insulted some ladies, were found dead in their houses. The assassins were hunted for, but no clue to their identity could be discovered and nobody could be found to give any testimony. Captain DURANONA, of the Second Battalion of Havana Volunteers, hit on an ingenious plan to discover the culprits. Forming a circle of all those arrested, about sixty in all, he demanded if anybody was willing to testify, but nobody answered. He then ordered a sergeant to lead six of them into the yard and shoot them. A volley was heard and the sergeant returned, stating that they were dead. DURANONA asked again if anybody would speak, but all remained silent, when he ordered another half dozen to be taken out and shot. Again a volley was heard, and again the sergeant returned with the announcement that the six had left this world of trouble. The third time the question was put when a mulatto stepped forward and said: "Captain, I am innocent, but I was asked to commit the deed, or to help to do so by such and such men," pointing them out among the prisoners. As soon as this declaration had been given, the door was thrown open and in marched the twelve men, who had been confined in a neighboring room, but not a hair on their heads hurt, the troops having merely fired a volley in the air in order to frighten the men inside. A court martial was held immediately, and ten men were condemned to death and executed summarily. It is reported that they all confessed their crime. One was a native of the Canary Islands named J. R. MENDOZA. The others were EUSTAQUIO ARENCIVIA, JAVIERO MONTANO, CIRIACO and CRISPINO ALVAREZ, brother Cubans, and five colored men.

WAR NEWS.

Captain-General RODAS has issued an order compelling all persons having properties belonging to the confiscated estates, or owing to parties whose property has been confiscated, to report the facts in the case to the properly-constituted authorities under penalty of being liable to trial by court martial. In Remedios letters bring advices that the insurgents have burned two sugar estates in the vicinity. No military movements of importance have taken place in this jurisdiction during the past week. Two skirmishes of little note between Sagua and Villa Clara are all that are reported from that section. General CARBO at last dates was at Sagua, after having visited the different ports within the limits of his command. General PUELLO, at Puerto Principe, reports but few rebels in that section, the impression being general there that large bodies of insurgents have gone thence toward Las Tunas and Holguin. General VALMASEDA, according to recent news, was on his old war path between Santiago de Cuba and Manzanillo. This General has urgently asked reinforcements of General RODAS in order to wind up the war in that quarter at once. Insurgent bands still make their appearance from time to time in the hills surrounding Trinidad, though no scrimmages have occurred there. General GORENECHE, at the head of 600 troops in the Miron Parish, east of Remedios, occupied some intrenched camps with no loss to the troops and a very slight one to the insurgents. The regulars captured some seventy horses, provisions, salt, &c. At three points in this parish, as one of the results of this raid, 300 insurrectionists presented themselves to General GORENECHE. The rebels are estimated to be 2,000 strong between Remedios and Nuevitas, in this district, and are commanded by General ACOSTA. They adhere to their usual tactics—building good intrenchments, which they vacate on the first approach of the Spanish troops. The capture of a Haytian steamer near Santiago de Cuba by the Spanish man-of-war *Fernando el Catolico*, some days ago, on suspicion of being engaged in landing arms, has been magnified by a Sagua journal into a naval action, the Haytian being a Mexican man-of-war. *La Voz de Cuba* copies the above as authentic.

QUASIMODO.