

THE SPANIARDS AND CUBANS IN NEW YORK.

What Both Parties Are Doing—The Enterpe and the Spanish Mosquito Fleet.

The position of the United States with reference to the Spanish government is exciting great attention. Lawyers are overhauling Vattel and Wheaton, spies are about, and the general public are deeply interested. The intimations in yesterday's despatches from Washington as to the course of the Cabinet created a good deal of excitement, and people are anxiously inquiring what next?

Since the arrest of the leaders of the Cubans in this city by the United States authorities efforts have been made by the principals stationed here in the interests of the Cuban revolution, but great care has been taken to keep within the law. All that has been done by the Junta in support of the Cuban army has been managed with the view of not embroiling the United States authorities in international difficulty. The fitting out of the Hornet (now the Cuba) and other vessels of the Cuban expeditionary force was so managed as not to disturb the peaceful relations existing between our government and the Spanish regency.

It now seems that the steamer Enterpe, still lying at pier No. 20, will be the cause of serious complications. She is owned by Mallory & Co., the builders of the fifteen Spanish gunboats at Mystic, Conn., and when taken up by the agents of the Madrid government was in the New York and Galveston line. She is a small propeller of 792 tons measurement and 1,000 tons burden, is commanded by Captain Gates, and sails ten knots an hour under favorable circumstances. It should be said that she flies the Stars and Stripes. On Wednesday last she took on board at Cold Spring thirty-one 100-pounder Parrott guns and 3,600 shot and shell in cases, and steamed down to New York the same evening under the surveillance of a revenue cutter. The elaborate notice given her in the HERALD attracted the attention of the entire country, and she is now, much to the astonishment of her owners and crew, as famous as the Sumter or Alabama. It would seem that the United States authorities are in a perfect muddle concerning the matter. There are few who have not heard of the showman who attracted attention to his caravansary by yelling, "Here, ladies and gentlemen, you have Daniel in the lion's den. Daniel does not care a 'darn' for the lion, and the lion does not care a 'darn' for Daniel." This, it would seem, is the position of Marshal Barlow towards the Spanish government, and of the Spanish regency towards the United States authorities. Both parties are afraid to act decisively. The government at Washington has given official sanction to the exposition of international law on the matter which appeared in the HERALD, and is not disposed to offer obstacles to the departure of the Enterpe.

Telegraphic despatches were sent to the White House in rapid succession from the Marshal's office on Saturday and on yesterday, but there are abundant reasons for believing that no answers were returned. President Grant was content to let things take their course. Secretary Fish had no disposition to muddle himself.

The Enterpe has not received a clearance from the Custom house, and probably will not for some days. She is quite ready for sea, and only awaits a governmental wink to start. In the meantime the Cubans chuckle. The first mention of the Cuba at sea, with Yankee guns ready to belch forth "red-hot" arguments against the presence of the Spanish flag in American waters, has produced a profound sensation. Anticipating the action of the United States government, orders were telegraphed to Havana yesterday for a man-of-war to convoy the Enterpe to Cuba; and probably before ten days are over, should the general government maintain its attitude of masterly inactivity in the meantime, the singular spectacle will be presented of an American ship, flying the American colors, steaming from an American port with aid and comfort for the enemies of America, convoyed by a Spanish man-of-war. The Cubans say that the Spanish may have the guns and the shot and shell and welcome, as long as the gunboats are detained. Without the boats the guns would be useless. Morro Castle and the other forts protecting the entrance to Havana already bristle with guns of superior calibre. There is no room for others, and the thirty Parrotts on board the Enterpe would only encumber the government wharves in Cuban ports. There is no doubt that a great effort will be made to get the thirty Spanish gunboats to sea. Preparations are now being made to ignore the United States authorities and to run the boats out of the harbor in the same manner in which it is supposed certain Cuban vessels got an outing. The Junta, however, are very watchful, and if the United States marshals' deputies are neglectful of their duty the untiring and revengeful energy of the republican agents will be sufficient to frustrate all and every attempt to violate the law.

One of the Spanish gunboats will be ready in a few days, and an attempt will be made to run her to sea in the face of the naval authorities of the United States. Her officers say that the United States Marshal's office is "fixed;" that no opposition will be offered to the sailing of the gunboats, and that the Spanish goose hangs at a splendid altitude. Between the intrigues of the Spanish and Cubans there is trouble ahead, and the watchful attention of the government at Washington is imperatively required in order to prevent violations of the laws of neutrality and consequent complications with foreign governments.

The Associated Press despatch from Washington yesterday accusing the Cubans of treachery towards foreigners and Americans in their service caused intense excitement among the friends of the young republic in this city, and all are asking for proof of what is apparently asserted in the interest of the Spanish government. In conversation with a prominent Cuban officer at present in this city a HERALD reporter was informed yesterday that Spanish gold was very weighty in Washington, and that not one of the statements made in the despatch alluded to had any foundation in fact. However, it may temporarily deceive the readers of the journals which published it. The despatch is thoroughly understood by journalists.

Colonel J. Whitehouse Byron, the gallant commander of the Irish Legion in the late war, an American citizen, who was left in a British prison merely because he was an Irish-American, is preparing a heavy dose of salts for the Spaniards, in the interest of America, and will soon commence operations. The operations conducted under his direction will be exclusively published in the HERALD. It is well known to a few that before the Enterpe leaves the harbor of New York such combinations will be perfected by the Cubans as will leave the independence of the Cuban republic beyond conjecture.