

CUBA.

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The steamship *Morro Castle*, which left Havana on the 2d inst., arrived here yesterday. She brings mails up to date of sailing. Purser Albert will receive our acknowledgements for favors received.

**The Sailing of the Hornet—Her Pursuit and Capture by the United States Demanded or Serious Consequences to Result—Threatening Attitude of Spaniards and the Press—Finances of the Island—Condition of the Spanish Bank—Cubans Required to Give Guarantees Before Leaving the Island—More Estates Burned.**

HAVANA, Oct. 2, 1892.

The attitude of the Spaniards and press of this city, and indeed of the entire island, toward the United States is threatening, and the causes of complaint are numerous. As you have been advised the Ayuntamientos of all the leading cities have seconded the warlike resolutions of the Havana municipality, calling on the Captain General to pitch into any "foreign Power which shall show, by direct or indirect acts of hostility, that they forget the rights of Spain or make any attempt against the honor due to her sovereignty." In view of the recent action of the New York municipality, as represented by its Common Council, in calling on the government to recognize the Cubans as belligerents, it has been suggested that the two corporate bodies be placed in an enclosure and allowed to fight it out together. Should the result be as with the Kilkenny cats much would be gained, though it left the great question unsettled. The latest "tread on the coat tail" is the alleged departure of the privateer *Hornet* from some port of the United States to prey upon Spanish commerce, and it has called forth a very angry roar—

Such have I heard on Africa's burning shore.

*La Prensa*, whilom a highly conservative and generally sensible journal, is on this occasion the mouth-piece, and the other journalistic lions do not "think the first a bore," but shake their manes with grave and lofty approbation. Its article is as follows. I translate in full, as a timely warning to the unfortunate republic of the north:—

If it is true, as says the telegram of the Associated Press, contrary to what was to be expected, that the *Hornet* has left the United States, armed with seven cannon and manned by 150 persons, the question is more delicate than Mr. Slick's note. As is easily understood the crew are Cubans by name only, for excepting the worthy officers of the navy who were born here and some old marines retired from the service, there could perhaps be found no sons of the island capable of filling all the positions. If it is really true, as from the foregoing, that the *Hornet* has left, manned by 150 men, and the United States does not pursue and punish them, then we know what to expect. This act is distinct from those which have preceded it, for up to this their efforts have only been directed to embarking men and arms secretly for the insurgents. The article we have written for our next issue and the letters of the 9th of September addressed to the *HERALD* by its correspondent at Madrid, and which we have translated, will explain how the people of the *Archipelago* are aiming on the question of Cuba and the United States. If it is true that the *Hornet* has been thus armed, we believe the Anglo-American government will hold the authors to the most severe responsibility, and will give orders that the vessel be pursued and caught wherever the men-of-war may find her. If it should not do so, God knows what consequences may result at a future day, not far distant, for an attempt so contrary to the principles of the laws of men. As to the damages the *Hornet*, converted into an incendiary of the seas, might do, they cannot be as grave as those caused by twenty highwaymen secreted in the mountains of Cuba. She may harm two or three of the unarmed Spanish vessels which at this season navigate in these waters, but her coal would soon give out, and she would be detained on entering the port of any civilized nation, as the Cuban flag and the governments of Siberia and Guaimaro are not known, and much less recognized.

In considering this and other articles of the press here, with a view of giving them their due importance, it should always be borne in mind that they are published under a despotic government, where the press is under a rigid censorship, and are written by editors who are prominent members of the "Casino Español," within whose walls Spanish sentiment shapes itself, and they may be therefore regarded as the authoritative expression of rulers and people. They indicate how possible a war is, notwithstanding the relative strength of the two Powers, and to what extent the bigotry and vanity of the Spanish race may carry them toward their own destruction.

There is very considerable excitement and agitation throughout the city on account of the *Hornet*, as it is anticipated that, if out, she will turn her attention to the ships bringing reinforcements from Spain.

The condition of the finances of this island cannot be much longer ignored. Heretofore, by common consent, the bills of the Spanish Bank, which practically make up the currency of the island, have been received at or near their par value, though it is well known that millions of its issue have no other base than the public confidence and the faith of a government admittedly bankrupt and now in the throes of revolution at home and abroad. This condition of affairs, of itself, is having serious effect upon the business of the island, which is likely to increase in geometrical proportion. A correspondent, signing himself "Gold Speculator," calls attention to these facts in a communication to the *Voz de Cuba*, and insists that the interests of the mercantile community demand that the real condition of the bank should be considered in estimating the value of its issues. The journal replies that at such a time to incite want of confidence in the bank is a crime, and expresses the opinion that the writer would much prefer to pay his money to the Cespedes government. Unfortunately, bombastic and sententious sentences will not bolster up poor paper, and, without an early suppression of the insurrection, a financial convulsion is certain to come upon us. The vigilance and activity of the authorities in shutting up the avenues of assistance to the insurgents are untiring. An order is about being issued requiring all natives of the island, Spanish subjects, desiring to leave for any point, save Spain, to give a guarantee for their good conduct toward the government in the sum of \$5,000.

Accounts reach us of the burning of several estates near Santi Espirita and Trinidad. Among them are named Cacagual, belonging to Don Ilagar de Lara, and the Ingenio de Abajo, belonging to his Excellency Don Felix Isnaga.

In the month of September twenty-three persons were sentenced for *infidencia*—disloyalty—as follows:—Fifteen to six years' imprisonment in Havana, two for ten and six years' respectively in Ceuta, five to imprisonment in Spain for various terms, from one to six years, and one to the prison in Matanzas for four years.

Don Carlos Garcia, recently pardoned by the Captain General, is said to have made revelations to the government implicating large numbers in the rising of the *Vuelta Abajo*. As Garcia is a man of notoriously bad character this is highly probable.

For the last thirty-six hours a hurricane has been confidently anticipated here. During the night of Thursday the barometer fell very rapidly, and the condition of the atmosphere was thought to be such as preceded previous storms. During the day yesterday the captain of the port had hoisted storm signals, and all possible preparation was made by the shipping in the harbor. Thus far, however, we have escaped, and as I close this letter it is hoped the danger is past. Doubtless there has been a hurricane throughout some portions of the West Indies.

**A Spanish Protest Against Cuban Independence—Who Protest?**

We have received a copy of a circular addressed to the Spanish nation by "The Spaniards of the island of Cuba," in which vehement protestations are made against the sale or the transfer of the "Ever Faithful Isle." The tenor is in the usual flowery style, and applies some hard expressions to Messrs. Cespedes, Quesada, Santa Lucia, Aguilera and "the traitor Morales Lemus." Inference is also drawn that their efforts against the Spanish government will reduce the island to the same miserable condition as that of St. Domingo, &c. It concludes with a solemn oath to adhere to the Spanish rule or forfeit their heads; but the paper bears no signature.