

The insurgents in great force are entrenched in a mountain called Jucaro, about fifteen leagues from this city. Until now they have not been molested at that point by the troops, although it has been announced that they would be attacked when the Mogote was cleared. The latter place has been reinforced by 2,000 insurgents and a supply of munitions from Mayari and vicinity, and under command of Generals Donato del Marmol and Loño. They brought a convoy of provisions and powder, of which the Cubans were in great need. They arrived at Mogote without having fired a shot, the Spanish troops who were operating there having retired—Camara to La Victoria and Colonel Ahern towards Palma Gorrana.

Another landing of arms and ammunition took place at the mouth of the Bacouao river, on the night of the 8th. Information reached here soon after, and a war steamer was despatched to the point, but without discovering anything, as all signs of it had been removed.

The condition of the Spanish forces here is not improving. It is stated on good authority that Valmaseda has sent a communication to the Captain General, in which he says that if reinforcements are not sent him he will be compelled to resign his command, as it is impossible for him to carry on the campaign with the 3,000 men under his command, one-third of whom are sick. In the military hospitals here there enter on an average twelve each day of sick and wounded, without counting those who remain in the provisional hospitals in the country. One of them established on the embargoed estate Santa Isabel has in it 120 sick and seventy wounded, more or less severely. The care and attention afforded the inmates in these hospitals are very bad and they have nothing but rice and pilot bread to eat, and not sufficient of that. There are, moreover, many soldiers on the various estates not in a condition to be moved. Of the battalion of marine infantry not long since arrived here from Spain thirty-two died from the yellow fever in one day. They are in the country, and the colonel having divided them in small groups to prevent spread of sickness, the insurgents have taken advantage of their position to attack them and several encounters have taken place.

The Catalans who form the greater part of the Spanish population are much agitated as to the probable action of the United States upon the meeting of Congress.

Arrival of Spanish Volunteers in Havana.

News from the Seat of War—The Fighting at Mogote—Arrival of Insurgent Reinforcements and Retirement of the Spaniards—Landing of Arms and Ammunition.

The steamship *Blerwine*, Captain Baker, from New Orleans, December, 12, and Havana, December 16, arrived at this port yesterday. We are indebted to purser Alexander for the prompt delivery of our correspondence.

The Arrival of Troops—The Festivities on the Occasion—News from the Seat of War—Spanish Accounts—The Fighting at Mogote—Sequestrations.

HAVANA, Dec. 15, 1893.

Owing to the rapid arrival of troops we are having our prolonged gala day, and *Viva Espana* and red and yellow bunting rule the hour. Whatever the virtues or vices of the Spaniards in Cuba, they are not slow or lacking in enthusiasm while welcoming their brothers from the Peninsula who come here to defend them. On Saturday last arrived in the harbor the small steamer *Espana*, having on board a regiment of volunteers of Santander, composed of two chiefs, forty-three officers, thirty sergeants and 1,000 men. Owing to the fact that the triumphal arches were not completed and the bunting not all hung out, they were detained on board until the following (Sunday) morning. At eleven o'clock the *Espana* moved up from the guardship at the entrance of the harbor, surrounded by small steamers and other boats, carrying bands of music and bedecked with flags. She was moored to the Custom House wharf, which had been beautifully adorned with flowers and evergreens. Among the chief objects of interest here was a miniature castle chained to a rock, moving toward which was a ship under full sail, constituting the arms of Santander. The disembarkation was quickly accomplished, and the regiment having formed, were treated to an address from a grave looking gentleman in black. The volunteers just arrived being assigned their due positions of honor, the procession filed through some of the principal streets, which were profusely hung with red and yellow. Following the parade the new comers were assigned quarters and allowed perfect latitude for three days, during which time the festivities continued. On Monday evening a grand banquet was given at the Tacon theatre to the chiefs and officers of the regiment. The boxes were filled with the beauty and life of the city as spectators. Following the supper speeches were made, in which much good feeling was displayed, as is the custom. An impromptu dance wound up the affair, in which it was demonstrated that the gentlemen had supped. With last evening ended the festivities of this occasion. Other troops are expected, however, when the same thing will be repeated. It is stated that an unusual demonstration is to follow the arrival of the expected gunboats from the North.

The volunteers of Santander will proceed to the field at once, leaving behind their kind entertainers, from whom they are no doubt loth to part, though amid the sufferings and dangers consequent on a campaign in this climate they will carry with them pleasing reminiscences of their three days in Havana—and nothing more.

From the seat of war the usual accounts reach us. There is continued evidence that an active campaign is about to open in Camaguey. The "*Voluntarios de Madrid*" arrived at Puerto Principe on the 9th, and were received by the suffering people and troops there with great rejoicing. A portion of the regiment del Rey, which has been stationed at Gibara, recently left for Nuevitas to reinforce the troops there. General Poello has visited the latter place after a tour of inspection among the various detachments on the line of railroad. The Catalans have been furnished with a new armament. A letter dated in the camp of Buena Vista on the 11th, says that according to the statement of an insurgent, who had presented himself at Puerto Principe, Bernabé de Farona, alias "Bembeta," an insurgent chief, had fallen in the attack on San José, the 20th November.

Dates from Baracoa, Gibara and Nuevitas are to the 9th, 10th and 11th respectively. Complete tranquillity is reported in those places. The weather throughout the Central Department was becoming much cooler. A heavy norther had been blowing, and its good effects on the general health was perceptible. Spanish reports from Santiago de Cuba to the 3d speak of two fights at Bambeta and La Guaira on the 27th and 28th of last month, in which the Spaniards gained the usual victory. The insurgents lost twelve killed and many wounded. A letter dated the 2d says that search was recently made in the caves of Mogote, but nothing was found. An official despatch of the 4th announces a successful encounter of Colonel Camara's forces against the insurgents. It closes with a general notice that all the points which had been occupied by the rebels were taken.

General Lesca leaves to-day in the mail steamer for Spain. One of the city papers publishes the result of his doings while in command of the Cinco Villas from the 7th of June to the 5th of December, 1888. The enemy's loss during that time was 1,537, as follows:—Twenty-two chiefs and 1,174 men killed and 342 presented themselves. A paper of Santa Clara, in commenting upon this, says:—"There is not a single point occupied by our troops which has not been taken from the enemy." It adds:—"The troops are in continual motion, and there are none left at the points of departure except such as are necessary for the protection of families." According to a telegram from the Cinco Villas, received on the 13th, a number of insurgents, with their arms and horses, and accompanied by some families, had presented themselves. They report the greatest misery and discouragement in the insurgent camps. According to the despatches received from that section considerable numbers are daily presenting themselves.

Estates continue to be burned. Among those recently destroyed in Cienfuegos are the "Inragua" of Don Tomas Terry and D. Francisco Arreobarena, the "Barcalona" of General Ravella, and "Yuca" of D. Francisco Santos. The celebrated estate "Flor de Cuba," in Colon, was recently set on fire, but small damage was done. According to reliable sources we learn that 167 Spanish officers have died from sickness and wounds since the insurrection broke out.

The volunteers of Coradonga left on Friday evening for Batabano, and on arriving embarked on a steamer there. Their destination is said to be Las Tunas, in St. Spiritus. The mail steamer Santander arrived this morning with a regiment of Catalan volunteers, the second from that province. They were placed in the Cabanas to await the arrival of other volunteers daily expected, when a grand reception will be accorded them.

The embargo on the property of Don Valentin Abreu has been raised and he permitted to return to the island. This owing to his good conduct as certified to by the Spanish Consul in New Orleans. The commission appointed to report on the proposed reforms submitted by the Intendente, General Santos, has finished its labors and will report soon.

A Suspicious Steamer Discovered off the Bacouao River—She is Towed to Santiago de Cuba and Detained—Arrival of Troops—The Fighting at Mogote.

SANTIAGO DE CUBA, Dec. 8, 1893.

On the afternoon of the 3d the steamer Tomas Brooks arrived in this port and reported having seen a suspicious looking steamer at anchor in the mouth of the Bacouao river. On approaching her she hoisted the Haytian flag. On receiving the information the war steamer Fernando El Catolico left this harbor without delay, and on the following day returned, having in tow the Haytian steamer *Marianne*. On opening her hatches a vacant space was observed in her hold. Upon being questioned concerning it the captain stated that during a storm he had been obliged to throw overboard a part of his cargo off Cape Maisi, and some of the steamer's machinery giving out he endeavored to make this port, but was unable, and so anchored at the mouth of the river, awaiting some steamer to tow him here. The impression is here that the missing part of the cargo has been landed on this coast, which is the more probable as parties of insurgents are known to have been hovering around the mouth of that river of late. The *Marianne* still remains in port with the rest of her cargo, which consists of logwood.

This morning the steamer *Cienfuegos* arrived here, having on board 700 volunteers, known as the "Guas de Valmaseda," and among them fifty cavalry. They will be sent to operate against the insurgents at Mogote. The Spaniards already have 2,000 troops employed in that section without having gained a foot of territory and have lost during their operations 125 killed and wounded and 375 sick, who have returned to this city. A severe engagement took place on the 5th, lasting all day, and yesterday over fifty wounded arrived here from the battle field.

A company of colored firemen of this city, who enlisted for active service, lost half of its number by desertion during a skirmish with the insurgents. The Spaniards have entirely abandoned their camp at Sevilla on account of sickness. It was formerly occupied by white troops, who suffered so much that they were replaced by negroes; the latter lost twenty-five in ten days, and the others were in such a deplorable condition that the complete abandonment of the place was necessary.

The cholera has decreased very much in this city.

Arrival of Troops—Withdrawal of the Spaniards from Mogote—Arrival of Marmol with Reinforcements—Landing of Munitions—Condition of Spanish Forces—Valmaseda Commands Reinforcements.

SANTIAGO DE CUBA, Dec. 10, 1893.

The battalion "Cazadores de Valmaseda," which recently arrived here, left yesterday in the direction