

CUBA.

Volunteers for the Field—Brutal Treatment of Slaves Suspected of Conspiring to Revolt—Landing of Arms—Engagements in the Trinidad District—The Spaniards Defeated and Pursued.

By the steamship *De Soto*, which arrived on Sunday last from Havana, the following reliable letter has been received in this city:—

MACULINES, Nov. 29, 1869.

On the 1st of next month 400 volunteers from the First battalion of Matanzas will leave for the Aldama sugar estates, where they will be quartered to guard the same, staff and headquarters at the "Santa Rosa," which is a magnificent plantation.

The rising of the negroes at Quemados (Caranacas), which Trilla, the Governor of Sagua, pretends to have discovered, has taken place upon the following estates, viz.:—San Isidro, belonging to More & Ajuria; Lagardita, to Wattellano; Santa Teresa, to Coppinger; Esperanza, to Alfonso; San Francisco, to the Count O'Reilly; Margarita, to Francisco Armenteras; Capriepo, to Blas Muro, and the Eco, to Stocker, which, together, contain about 1,700 negroes. All the hands, both free and slaves, upon the eight estates referred to have been horribly flogged, and afterwards made to give their evidence at the Santa Teresa. Three of the number were shot, one was flogged on three different occasions, receiving in all 800 lashes; and one of the best negroes on the place, a vigorous man, was whipped almost to death, and amid his sufferings, while repeatedly fainting and falling to the ground from sheer weakness, was made to declare what he knew. Another, upon receiving the order to lie down and submit to be tied and receive punishment, fell senseless. Nevertheless he received 1,000 lashes, without giving the slightest sign of life. A creole negro, suspected to be, though not, implicated in the plot, received 1,200 lashes.

The hands of the estates were collected together upon the Esperanza, and there, in the presence of 2,000 negroes, the ringleaders of the conspiracy were flogged in gangs of twenty-one at a time—two executioners being detailed for each victim. At the same place nine were shot, and in the punishment inflicted no distinction was made between free and slave.

A cartload of the chastised freedmen arrived at Sagua la Grande, headquarters of the district, and were thrown into jail, lying with their faces down, because their wounds prevented them from assuming any other position. The head physician of the Charity Hospital called there to see them and declared that it was useless to treat their wounds, because he was sure that they would all die, and added that if they were carried to the hospital it would only be to soil the wards. These sufferers were nine in number, and near death; but it is well understood that if any of them miraculously survive it will be to be shot.

A white man, accused of incendiary intentions, was condemned to be shot to death by a drumhead court martial, which, in this country, is merely the dictum of any commander. The plan of the negroes is supposed to have been to rise on Christmas eve, kill the whites and join the insurgents.

At Santiago de Cuba a landing of arms at Mayari is still spoken of, and the newspapers for the first time make mention of Loui Marciano, and say that Generals Jordan and Joncep Marmol are marching upon Gibara. It will be remembered that Loui Marciano was reported by the Spaniards to have been assassinated by his own men, but the story was universally disbelieved.

A special despatch has been received from General Cavada, dated the 15th of November, near Trinidad.

We have reliable information from the Trinidad district that the Spaniards were repulsed with heavy loss in a formidable attack made on the rebel position at Mecazus, and subsequently a heavy column of troops was routed at Aguada del Santo, in the immediate vicinity of the city of Trinidad, and pursued by a portion of the patriot forces up to the very suburbs of the city. These attacks took place on the 11th and 13th of November.

The Spaniards Defeated Near Trinidad—The Cubans Follow the Retreating Soldiers Up to the Suburbs of the City.

An official despatch has been received in this city from General Cavada, the Cuban general commanding the Trinidad district, dated the 15th of November, near Trinidad, of which the following is the substance:—

—The Spanish troops have been repulsed with heavy loss in a formidable attack made on the rebel positions at Macagua. Subsequently a heavy column of troops was routed at Aguada del Santo, a small place in the vicinity of the city of Trinidad. The Spaniards were pursued by a portion of the patriot forces up to the very suburbs of the city. These engagements took place on the 11th and 13th of November.