

## Reign of Terror in Havana.

Our full and complete advices by mail from Havana give a sad picture of the state of affairs in that city caused by the recent excesses of the Spanish volunteers, and which have resulted in the murder of many citizens and the beginning of an exodus which, if continued, will leave General Dulce but little prospect of a restoration of a feeling of loyalty to Spain in the homes and hearts of the Cuban people. The uncalled-for slaughter of one American citizen, Mr. Cohner, and the shooting at several others by volunteer patrols, simply because in reply to the military challenge they stated they were Americans, is not calculated to help the Spanish cause much in this country. The acts of these volunteers on the 22d and 24th of January last remind us of the occurrences on the 16th of August, 1851, on the occasion of the shooting of Crittenden and his fifty companions by General Concha, after their surrender in good faith on a promise of being sent to the United States.

These sanguinary feelings demonstrate that the revolution, far from being put down, is making rapid progress in Cuba, which will before long culminate in further trouble and disaster to the colonial government. In the state of incapacity and weakness attending the present provisional government of Spain, with the prospect of a very serious letting of blood there, it would have seemed the part of wisdom for the Spanish volunteers to have refrained from making up so bloody a record against themselves. Now their doom is sealed. Sooner or later the revolution will overwhelm them with its tide of passion and blood. At this moment there seems to be a tacit truce between the combatants in the centre and east of Cuba, pending the interviews of the Peace Commission from Havana with the leaders in Puerto Principe and General Cespedes in the vicinity of Holguin.

According to the best accounts we can obtain from the interior of the island the insurgent forces are becoming better organized, better armed and in every respect more formidable, as they learn by practice the art of war. They still cling to the Fabian policy in their operations, and the fall of Bayamo, instead of having a depressing effect, seems to have offered an example in the burning of his own home by Cespedes which every Cuban is disposed to imitate. These things augur success to the revolution, and we advise Mr. Seward to remember that now is the time to return in kind the many favors which the Captain General of Cuba, under orders from Madrid, extended to the rebel Commissioner Helm in Havana. For three years he was enabled to obtain there on favorable terms, and even from government depots, if not to be procured elsewhere, munitions of war and supplies of all kinds. The harbors of Cuba were converted into refuges for blockade runners, and belligerent rights were, from an early period of the rebellion, conceded to the bars and stars, much to the disgust of Consul General Shufeldt.

We are told that an authorized commissioner from Señor Cespedes, the Commander-in-Chief of the Cuban patriots and the recognized head of the new government, has reached this city and will soon present his credentials at Washington. Let him be received with the honor and respect due to the representative of a people who for four months have maintained a contest for liberty with bare swords against breach-loading rifles and rifled artillery; and if he needs any little utensils in the hardware line let him pay his money and take his choice. An early communication will also be not amiss from the ready pen of our Secretary of State to our Vice Consul General in Havana approving the prompt and proper stand he has recently taken in behalf of our citizens resident in Cuba. We do not care to see them shot down by Spanish volunteers because they doubt the propriety of shouting "*Viva España!*"