

The Case of the Suspicious Steamer at St. Thomas—Dominican Guerillas Close to Cuba to Organize the Negroes Against the Spaniards—Difficulty About Alta Vela—Commerce.

St. Domingo, Feb 18, 1863.

The Dominican government has had official notice from St. Thomas that ex-Generals Adon and Lupison had obtained a steamer and fitted her up for a filibustering expedition. The Danish authorities laid the suspected vessel under the guns of the fort, and found in her five cannon and other evidences of warlike intention; but the result of the investigation leaves it doubtful whether they were to be directed against Salvage of Hayti, or Baez of the Dominican republic. There is equal reason to believe that the steamer, which is a remarkably swift and successful old blockade runner, is not, in fact, destined for the supply of arms, &c., for the Cuban insurgents. The friends of Adon, Lupison and Cabral have been saying for a month past that they and other Dominican guerilla officers, who are now known to be in Cuba, were pledged to assist in forming the liberated slaves into guerilla bands, to harass and cut off the advanced post of the Spanish forces.

The Cuban leaders have devoted friends here, and the government has some trouble to keep its army officers in orderly bounds. Three young Dominicans, two of them youths of sixteen and eighteen years, were shot by a Spanish captain at Santiago de Cuba, and the story brought here by an eye witness of the tragedy has stirred up the old Dominican hatred of Spain. Baez will find it impossible to prevent two or three hundred Dominican guerillas joining and heading the Cuban *emancipados*, and you may be prepared to hear of new and horrible features in the conflict with Spain, if the Captain General fails to establish a speedy peace.

There has been a sharp difference of opinion between the Dominican Minister of the Interior and interested parties as to the extent of the power of the Delgado charter for taking guano from Alta Vela. The case has been referred to Washington, and Minister Fabens has been charged to lay copies of the charter, and of all other proceedings of this government on the question, before the American Secretary of State, and accept his decision in the case.

There is but one American vessel in port—a schooner loading for Boston with hides, honey and fine woods. The others are daily expected, one from Boston and one from Baltimore, with provisions. A steamer from New York is also expected.