

Cuba.

It is now stated that the Spanish column advancing on Mayari was severely defeated by the insurgents, with a loss of 300 killed. The Spanish troops under La Torre, at Villa Clara, were also defeated. The insurgents have driven off the parties repairing the Villa Clara and Cienfuegos Railroad, and it is estimated that it will require a force of 10,000 men to re-establish railroad communication between the two cities. Many women and children from Puerto Principe have gone to join their relatives among the insurgents, and General Lesca has issued an order that they shall return or be liable to the penalties of military law if captured. It was rumored in Havana that Santiago had been captured by an insurgent expedition in concert with the Peruvian ironclads. The Captain General has issued a decree reducing the direct taxes on property, and the war tax fifty per cent, and to compensate for reduction of revenue has increased the export duties.

Señor Morales Lemus, Minister of the provisional government of Cuba, arrived in this city yesterday, fully empowered to treat with the government for the recognition of Cuban independence.