

# The Confiscation of Property—Government Reports of News—Advance of the Insurgents on Trinidad.

HAVANA, April 21, 1898.

The recent decree of General Dulce sequestrating the property of Morales Lemus and his coadjutors in the United States working in the interest of free Cuba was but the forerunner of a decree similar in its terms and affecting all those in any way implicated in the insurrection. Its provisions are extensive and intricate, and to the casual observer would appear likely to lead to "confusion worse confounded" in everything touching the property mentioned. They were evidently drawn up by persons either unacquainted with those principles upon which all law is founded or who do not care to consider them. One or two supplemental or explanatory decrees have already been issued, and these are certain to be needed.

From the long published list of names of persons whose property is sequestrated, many of whom are now residing in New York, it is evident that the government here is much better informed of what is being done by the Cubans and their friends in the United States than are the American press. The *Diario de la Marina* of the 18th stated that the value of the property sequestrated, so far, exceeds \$2,000,000—that of Morales Lemus being half a million, and of Fernandez Jiramos another equal amount.

A weekly comic and satiric Sunday paper published to-day an extra (the first during its existence), with the following extraordinary report, which derives its chief value from the fact that everything published here is first sanctioned by the government censor:—"Late last night news was received by two distinct mediums—one is by telegraph and the other by despatches brought by a naval officer on the steamer from Nuevitaa.

By telegraph we learn that General Pelaez, in Cienfuegos, informs the Captain General that he received a communication yesterday, signed by the insurgent chiefs Junco, Cusanova and Villamil, to the effect that under the conviction of a fruitless attempt to prolong their hostile attitude in favor of their patria, they and their 800 men, divided in three portions, were disposed to present themselves before the authority of Spain and recognize it accordingly, surrendering their arms, baggage, munitions, vehicles, &c., on the only condition that their lives be spared, submitting in all other respects to the determination Spain might come to, as likewise to the sentence the councils of war might arrive at, being quite ready to undergo whatever penalty to which they might be condemned, with the exception of the death penalty. If the proposition of submission were accepted to they were willing to be made prisoners at a preconcerted farm and under the custody of the volunteer force, to whose security and protection they would deliver themselves. General Pelaez replied in the affirmative, reminding them that he could only grant pardon of the death penalty, and in all other respects in accordance with the will of the supreme government had to be carried out.

To-day, at twelve o'clock, they are to enter Cienfuegos, escorted by the volunteers, who have at last forgiven them for their errors and impotence.

The three chiefs will at once be consigned to imprisonment and subjected to a council of war, whose sentence will be in consonance with their general conduct and acts in the field.

General Dulce, in consequence of the complete termination of the insurrection in Cienfuegos, gave orders last night that two battalions which were operating in that jurisdiction should march immediately for the Central Department.

The scaled despatches received last night by General Dulce are not less important than those by telegraph. The Comandante General of Puerto Principe, in view of the scarcity of resources in that town, decided on the 18th to form a convoy of vehicles and empty ox carts, with a column of 1,000 men, to go and load them in Nuevitaa and immediately return to Principe. Meanwhile Brigadier Ferrer, with another force of 1,000 men, was to leave from the same capital; and while the column of General Lesca went on by the old road the other was to leave by the railroad, thus avoiding all encumbrances on the way, and insuring the free transit for the early re-establishment of the via.

Lesca was only two days on the way when he reached Nuevitaa, without being attacked, despite the long way, until his force approached a deep wood near Nuevitaa, when the enemy fired heavy volleys at his convoy without showing themselves; but as soon as the soldiers were discovered to be near the enemy fled in precipitation. The column had one wounded, and suffered no other loss. On Lesca's arrival in Nuevitaa he found General Letona there, and to him surrendered the command. He then carried with him the vehicles and carts, and immediately started back to Principe by railroad in order to meet Ferrer, who, having to clear the road, could naturally not make a march as rapidly as Lesca had consummated.

The insurrection may be considered at an end in the Cinco Villas. It is said the rebels have gone to Yuma.

To-day the 1,012 Catalan volunteers, recently arrived in the steamer *Aspiza*, leave for Nuevitaa, as also the colored mobilized force.

The other journals of to-day contain the following items:—

TRINIDAD, 18th.—The insurgents who were overrunning the Cinco Villas, pursued by the troops, have concentrated in this jurisdiction, with the intent of taking the city. On the 16th they approached by the main roads of Guaurabo and Boca; they could be descried from the house terraces of the city. A few volunteers scared them. In the afternoon they reappeared in large numbers on the estates of Torrado and Cantero, numbering at least 1,000, while the troops, including twenty-five horsemen, did not exceed 160 men. They were attacked with spirit, and the enemy left twelve killed, forty mules and many prisoners on the field. Nine Spaniards were retaken from them. The troops had only one wounded.

The steamer *Rapid*, with troops, has just arrived. The insurgents left yesterday towards the mountains, near the coffee plantations, or for Piguanea. The road of Guaurabo continues intercepted by the rebels.

The coffee estates Hacienda of Ignacio Puig have been burned.

It is rumored, however, that just before the steamer left Trinidad the city was in possession of the rebels, a statement that is not relied on, and at all events they will not have been able to keep it long.

## President Juarez Authorized by the Mexican Congress to Recognize the Cuban Insurgents as Belligerents.

The following despatch was filed in the telegraph office in Havana by the agent of the Associated Press on the 17th inst., but was suppressed by the government authorities:—

The Mexican Congress has authorized President Juarez to recognize the Cuban insurgents as belligerents whenever he thinks proper. Vessels bearing the Cuban flag are admitted into the ports of Mexico.

## Captain General Dulce and the Cuban Junta in New York—Confiscation of Property.

The following is an extract from a private letter dated Matanzas, April 19, 1898:—

The Governor has called a meeting for this evening with the intention, it is said, of compelling the people to sign a protest against the proceedings of the Junta in New York and to signify their adherence to the government. I wish you to make this known in advance that the newspapers may publish it, and that "forewarned you may be forearmed." Confiscations continue in our midst. The residences of Messrs. Julian Arango and Gonzalo Alfonso have the seals of the government upon them. Every room in the house of the latter, as well as in the dwellings of the Marquis of Monteflo, have been similarly marked, because at one time Don Jose Mestre, whose property has been confiscated, occupied them.

## Receipts and Expenditures of the Junta Patriótica de Cuba in New York.

JUNTA PATRIÓTICA DE CUBANAS }  
EN NUEVA-YORK, APRIL 20, 1898. }

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD:—

As several exaggerated reports have, from time to time, appeared in the daily papers about the amounts received by the Junta Patriótica de Cubanías, I have, as treasurer of the same, been requested by the members to furnish the public with a true statement of receipts and expenditures up to this date, which I herewith give for publication:—

RECEIPTS.	
Donations received from citizens of New York city.	
Through Mrs. Colas, Horrelliner and Zeuca.....	\$971 75
Through Mrs. M. and A. V. Castellanos.....	911 00
Through Misses Kerdenshamer and Wolfe.....	150 00
Through Miss S. Santa Rosa.....	155 00
Through Mrs. M. de Sherman and Miss Palma.....	82 00
Through Mr. Sherman, from church in Brookfield.	
Condo.....	12 00
Direct to the Junta.....	39 00
Proceeds sale thirty-eight dollars in gold (premium).	9 75
Total donations.....	\$2,201 47
Gross proceeds from DeCordova's lecture at Irving Hall.....	1,706 88
Gross proceeds two performances at Jerome theatre	1,617 00
Total receipts.....	\$5,525 35
EXPENDITURES.	
Advertising, &c., DeCordova's lecture.....	\$72 45
Flags and bands, property of the Junta.....	45 75
Stationery, printing tickets, &c., &c.....	50 35
Seal and paper for the secretary, &c.....	47 30
Rent Jerome theatre, two nights.....	300 00
Hire of costumes, music, &c., &c., for above performances.....	300 48
Paid to Central Junta for relief of sick and wounded	1,700 00
Paid to M. Castello to buy supplies for sick and wounded.....	850 00
To balance on hand in currency.....	2,292 54
To balance on hand in gold.....	71 00
Total.....	\$5,514 58

Donations of articles, &c., for the grand fair which opens to-morrow are not included in the above report, nor the expenses so far incurred in completing the arrangements for the same.

The committee authorized to give concerts in other cities of the Union for the benefit of the Cuban cause are working hard to complete the necessary arrangements and will soon commence operations.

The Rev. Mr. French, who was some time ago authorized by the junta to form sub-juntas in Wash-

ington and other cities, has not as yet reported to this junta the result of his efforts, probably for want of time, and therefore this junta is not yet in official communication with the others that have been noticed in the papers. Very respectfully,  
Mrs. C. DE CASTELLANOS, Treasurer.