

CUBA.

The War on Women—Sequestration of Their Property—Landing of Slaves—Anarchy in the Interior—Antagonism Between Volunteers and Regulars—Gloomy Prospects for the Summer.

HAVANA, May 22, 1892.

The Spaniard is not gallant, and his warfare against his enemies is carried on with a bitterness that has no regard for sex. It has been a complaint among the papers of this city and of other cities on the island that the ladies of the interior do not treat "our soldiers" well. They are not careful to extend them hospitalities, and when questioned as to the movements of the enemy never know anything about them. I am afraid that it must be admitted that the fair daughters of Cuba do not like the Spaniards, and would not charmed they ever so wisely, which they do not. As a usual thing the officers and soldiers have not treated them well. Loño cooped them up in Las Tuñas and placed them where they would be the first target in base of attack from husbands, sons and lovers outside. Mena shut them up in Principe, with their children, though starving, and, when some of them escaped, threatened them with a council of war if they did not return. Somehow they did not seem to care for the council, and did not return, but fled to the fastnesses of the forests, where the Spaniards could not find them. Lastly, the redoubtable Valmesseda thunders out against them and tells those who are away from home that they must go to Bayamo or Jiguaní—he might have said Hong Kong. So it is that there is an antagonism between the Cubans and the Spaniards. Of late the "First Authority" of the island has seen fit to take part in this "little unpleasantness," the more particularly as something can be made by it, and by decree of the 21st announces that the estates and properties of the following ladies are sequestered, namely:—Donna Soledad Zayas de Castellanos, Donna Carmen M. de Collis, Donna Concepcion Castellanos de Castellanos, Donna Mercedes Montejo de Sherman, Donna Zara M. de Macias, Donna Rita V. de Castellanos, Donna Luz Valerino, Donna M. Louisa Palma, Donna Rosario Palma, Donna Louisa de Zenea, Donna Josefa Calero de Valerin, Donna Magdalena Mayorga, Donna Joaquina de Trujillo, Donna Susana Santa Rosa, Donna Irene de Badel, Donna Rita Herruñan, Donna Lucia de Valiente, Donna Regina Martinez, Donna Eugenia R. de Macias, Donna Emilia Casanova de Villaverde, Donna Mercedes P. F. de Arcua, Donna Ines Enriquez de Leon, Donna Rosa P. de Izquierdo, Donna Manuela Izquierdo, Donna Carmen Izquierdo; Sra. de Castillo, Sra. de Treles, Sra. del doctor Morena; Srita. de Zulueta. These will be sold and the proceeds devoted to the patriotic and loyal office-holders who come out from regenerated Spain to make their fortunes.

At the place and hour of sale of certain properties belonging to Don Ignacio Alaro, sequestered by the government, no offers were made, and the City Governor has ordered them to be sold at auction without reserve. The uncertainty as to the result of the contest going on in this island causes capitalists to touch sequestered property very gingerly, and the government have great difficulty in realizing upon it. The 1st. Court of Justice, by recent order, summons several individuals accused of being implicated in the landing of some negroes at Punta Holandes. The date when the landing was effected is not given.

The official *Gazette* publishes the text of the postal treaty recently made between Spain and the North German Confederation. It has long been a subject of complaint that no such treaty exists between Spain and the United States. According to an order of the Captain General dated the 20th, Mr. Edward Lee Plumb, having been appointed as Consul General of the United States in Cuba, has been authorized to enter on the exercise of his functions *ad interim* and until the executive power of the nation issues his exequatur. Mr. Plumb enters upon his duties Monday next, and Mr. Hall returns to Matanzas.

The Cadiz mail steamer *Canarias* arrived at a late hour on the 19th, with 250 troops.

Through parties arriving from Remedios we learn that a complete condition of anarchy exists throughout that jurisdiction, Villa Clara, Cienfuegos, and others. The insurgents are going about in small bands, occasionally having a slight skirmish with the troops and volunteers, in which a few are killed upon both sides. Neither party has any respect for law; murders are daily, almost hourly, committed, and "he was an insurgent," or "he was a Spaniard," referring to the victim, forms an all-sufficient excuse, and no investigation follows. Robbery and outrage are the order; no one is safe. The foreigners dare not stir out after nightfall. Assassinations follow on private enmities and go unpunished. The whole country is terrorized, and all who can get away are hurriedly leaving.

An intense antagonism is growing up between the troops from Spain and the volunteers throughout the island. The latter, representing the shopkeepers, are only interested in the preservation of their property and the continuance of trade. They are kept in the towns and cities, doing little or nothing in the field. The others, coming out from a successful revolution, are only alive to freedom, glory and the national integrity, and, amid the hardships and dangers of the field, are impatient with the selfishness of their citizen compatriots, with their easy duty, their handsome uniforms and three meals a day. So intense is this feeling becoming that an ultimate outbreak is feared if something determinate in the war of insurrection does not soon follow.

For some time past it has been understood that the Captain General was about visiting Trinidad, Cienfuegos and other cities along the coast, and sanguine Spaniards have prophesied the most beneficial results therefrom. The state of his Excellency's health will, however, prevent the journey. It is stated that he is afflicted with a large tumor, which draws very severely upon his strength.

The failure of certain prominent houses in New York connected with the trade of this island has created much dismay and materially increased the want of confidence here. Commercial matters are getting into a very bad way. It cannot be disguised that next month is likely to inaugurate a period of great misery. The bulk of the sugar crop will have gone and the money disappeared from the island. Hundreds of stores and other establishments have already closed, owing to the enormous burdens and expenses, without any sales. The Spaniards have managed to drive the wealthier Cubans out of the island, and they are now spending their money in foreign lands. The citizen soldiery are beginning to realize this, and, with the falling off of all their profits and even the means of support of many of them, it is hard to say what may follow. The revenues, too, must fall short of the estimates, especially as to import duties. As will be seen from the shipping reports, the arrivals have fallen off enormously. There are scarcely any American vessels in port. The government will soon be in great straits, despite the funds to come out of the sequestration of property. The war expenses will increase, rather than otherwise, and in every point of view the prospect looks very gloomy.