

should not be introduced into this province before the national sentiment shall have become identified and united.

We need not cite the conspiracies which have occurred and been suppressed by the energy of the Spanish population, in corroboration of these views. Nor do we wish to recall to mind the first unsuccessful administration of General Dulce, when revolutionary clubs were introduced, political lectures allowed in cigar manufactories, and journals upholding the independence of the island were not prohibited. These errors produced many parties, who deceptively have been styled "advanced liberals." The imprudent General was gained over by the demonstrations of such men, and went so far as to have said in a farewell address that wherever he was they ever could count on him as "one Cuban more."

When the Spanish revolution occurred the Marquis of Castel Floride played a conspicuous part, and when the cry for independence followed in this province it was believed that none could have been more apt than him to quell the revolution, owing to his close connection with the new government and his alliance with a Cuban lady. He was expected to have encouraged the liberal ideas, not beyond the limits of good order and public interest. So far he was welcomed as a savior.

He soon proved to be unequal to the situation. He gave out in his first decree that he was the head of the autonomy and declared that he would establish the government of the country by the land. In another proclamation he declared that the insurrection in the Western Department was over, when such was not the case; the moral effect of it proved highly injurious to the Spanish cause. Unlimited license to the press, heaping the worst insults on our country, with a view to justify the revolution, was only checked when too late. As it advocated without disguise the independence, youngsters were prompted to give support to the new flag; the public mind became restless and divided, and finally it led to assassination and murder, as, for instance, the scenes in Carmen and Figuera streets, at the Louvre Café and in the Villanueva theatre. These were the resorts of sedition countenanced by Bramasio, the common councilman, while the rebel flag was waved on the building's top. Nothing was done by the superior authority to punish these proceedings, nor to prevent a repetition. The duty to put them down fell on the volunteers.

Anarchy followed the weak conduct of General Dulce. His forty days' amnesty curbed the action of the troops; it afforded the time and means to the enemy to prepare the way for regular organization. The army was neglected and months were lost before the Commander-in-Chief could obtain any reply. Unprovided with munitions, provisions, medicines or clothing, the troops were without the proper elements for defence, and the wounded were unable to recover.

Notwithstanding such a line of conduct, the delegate of the national government received our unlimited support, being supplied to an unlimited extent with money, men, arms, and all that was needed to conquer. Plenty of reinforcements came from Spain; by the expiration of the amnesty mobilized volunteers were organized; whole columns marched to the field, and when the campaign might reasonably have been ended with energy the driblet system of issuing safe conducts was adopted, enabling incendiaries and assassins to assault and insult their victims with impunity. Those who vended those documents were pointed out by the public opinion, and the sequel has proved those surmises to be facts. A military chief directed that his troops were not to move without his express orders, and even ordered that the sentinels should not fire but upon occasions of armed attacks. The rank of rebels became stronger and increased, in spite of all the sacrifices used to annihilate them. Then the column of the traitors under Colonel Morales de los Rios was recalled from the Central Department, although they routed the rebels eleven times without losing one soldier. The laurels gained by the brave Colonel inspired feelings of jealousy to Commander-in-Chief Pelaez. The General having left the Armas road free to rebels of Sigüenza, despising the good counsel at his command close by, created an unfavorable feeling, as it rendered the enemy's escape easy and without loss. General Pelaez spurned the testimony of injured witnesses at the trials of rebels, to render their misdeeds unpunishable. All this General Dulce was cognizant of—committees of the people urged their complaints, but he never heeded them. Afterwards facts transpired, proving that the official orders sent to the commanders of columns and district governors, directing them to use all energy and vigor, were secretly annulled. The proven existence in the rebel ranks of near relatives of the General's wife, the safe conduct furnished to Bramasio, the afterwards enabling him to escape the laws, after being summoned by a civil court for disloyalty; the escape of Morales Lemus, the consulting lawyer and chargé d'affaires of Dulce; the flight of Mestre, another of the Common Council, and many more, at present leading the Cuban Revolutionary Junta in New York, or connected with it; the support afforded to officers known to have taken a price for their treachery; the approval of Letona's famous army order; all these and other acts were followed by respectful but intense remonstrances on the part of the Spanish people, but were disregarded.

In the midst of the reiterated declarations of the Executive that the rebellion was at an end, lamentable news was often received of the abandonment of our comrades in the interior; of the mutilation and other atrocities committed on them by a cowardly enemy, who cut their limbs and tore out the hearts of the living. Mayari, Nipe, Targuín and Cinco Villas will record the cannibalism of the common foe. These atrocities would not have endured had the country districts, and particularly the Central Department, not been left free to the rebel bands which destroyed them, while the troops and militia were limited to a forced inaction. While this dangerous situation increased public dissatisfaction became developed, and affairs had got to such straits that Dulce himself found the mistrust he had created, so that, after hearing the extraordinary junta of the authorities, he sent in his resignation to the government at Madrid. Just at this juncture both Pelaez and Modet surrendered their offices in the interior and arrived in Havana. The next day attached to the former while in St. Domingo was proven by his conduct in the Central Department of Cuba, and he was afraid to come by way of Cienfuegos. The reports of his having issued safe conducts to the rebel chiefs Malibrán, Esportuno, Pácos, Sarria and others proved but too true. Isidro Hernandez owed his pardon to Pelaez, although sentenced to death upon conviction of ransoming, treason and incendiarism. As to Modet, although he passed one night in Esperanza with his column, he never got sight of the rebels, and refused to surprise Villegas and his party. A man that had been expelled from the country on account of his destructive ideas, being an ardent admirer of autonomy, borne on the banner of the Cinco Villas rebels, could scarcely have conducted himself otherwise.

A popular demonstration against Pelaez furnished the Executive an opportunity to understand the discontent in consequence of the proceedings of these officers. Complaints about their conduct had been frequently made. The people expected that he would immediately have been brought to trial before the military commission, which would speedily have set at rest his innocence or criminality. But the first authority seemed bent upon annoying the feelings of the people by showing Pelaez every token of distinction as a proof of appreciation of his past behavior. The following day another demonstration was made, and this was against Modet. The Plaza de Armas was crowded with parties of citizens and volunteers, loudly crying for satisfaction. The immediate relinquishment of the command by the Captain General had not been harbored by any eye, although the public mind was quickly afterward pregnant with the idea. General Dulce not being up to events of the moment, lacking both the prudence and theadroitness to command the circumstances, gave peremptory orders to the regular troops to fire upon the unarmed groups. They were not carried out. What took place became known with electric rapidity, and the indignation of the people became intense. He who held the Executive in Cuba, who was too lenient with the enemy, had conceded the idea of felling numbers of Spaniards that were only actuated by the honor and impulses of the crisis, had contemplated to engender a division between the people and the military, producing fruitless strife, the consequences of which would have been pools of blood among the offspring of the same race. The militia then gathered, and, as with the military, the volunteers and their commanders, in one single determination, determined to prevent a conflict, by naming committees who with formal respect were to make known to the Captain General the expediency of forthwith surrendering the command of his lawful successor. General Dulce did so.

Not one protest against it has been offered, and the act was spontaneously approved and supported. Every one was aware that he who held the authority was to transfer it to another, in order to maintain the principle. The representations made by the committees were in no instance opposed. None have broken their sword nor surrendered the honor given for their country's defence. Every Spanish resident is fully persuaded that all have done justice to the trust imposed upon them by preventing dissension and the shedding of blood in such a crisis might have compromised the safety of the province. None have to bewail the troubles such as preceded the 23d of August, 1871, when Don Vicente Balza was deposed of the command of Captain General in this island.

Mark! The demonstrations referred to were not of a revolutionary character. The authority which is to rule here has not been appointed by us, nor has a new situation been established by us. The power which General Dulce was the depository has gone with due integrity into the hands of the officer whom the law points out—he who is the elect to wield it on behalf of the superior government of the nation, on specific contingencies or emergencies. Events have ever since been uninterrupted in their wonted course. Neither the slightest disorder nor a single catastrophe has occurred. We welcome enthusiastically the comrades sent by the Basque Provinces to fight for the land. General Dulce has left the island without any manifestation of either sympathy or disrespect. The constant maintainers of order, the people and the militia, have preserved the provinces in behalf of the mother country, and they could not have done otherwise. They are ever ready to sacrifice their lives and fortunes for the same sacred purpose. Proper obedience and subordination to the chiefs have been maintained throughout the conflict, and the militia and people have fraternized with the army, affording sincere support to him who has succeeded in authority and by the will of the nation now governs this province. Any other who may be sent to take the reins by order of the supreme government will receive the same aid.

Events of the present character are not reproduced. History will not have to record among the future rulers one like General Dulce, who not only created motives for distrust, but created seeds of discord and division, which on the 24

of June might have produced a lamentable issue to him. All this, and a space of 12 years, were needful to a repetition of a crime in this island, when its characteristics are entirely distinct. Cuba, unaffected by the convulsions of politics in Spain, is not in the habit of seeing the arms of Spanish blood, excepting it be in a "bathing for the common nationality." No political creeds divide the commoner; they hold no other sentiments, but of an unqualified attachment to the patria; they recognize no banner but that of Castile, nor have they any interest so dear to them as the maintenance of the integrity of the territory.

Address to the Nation by the Volunteers of the Island of Cuba.

The Spanish residents of Cuba consider it a duty to address their brethren beyond the seas, with a view that their interference on the occasion of recent events should be adequately appreciated. They do not mean to excuse themselves, as this is not incumbent upon those who have measured their conduct by rational demands and the exigencies which the honor and most sacred concerns of their patria impose.

Occurrences to which it is unnecessary at present to refer brought about changes in the system of government at home. The movement there found an echo here, the explanation of which is not needful to the present manifestation.

The peculiar existence, usage and customs which pertain to this province constitute the social and political organization. As it is not practicable to introduce any reforms without a glance at the past, all residents of this province have ever been opposed to reforms conceived in the mother country unless their expediency proved adaptable to a mixed race, with its corresponding rights, and with a faction ever bent clandestinely upon its final independence. To admit political franchises, such as would endanger its existence, would at once have sided those that strive for a separation from the dominion of the nation. Upon principle the Spanish residents do not object to those liberties; yet they hold that in practice they