

The Recent Revolution in Havana—Volunteers Demand the Head of Pelaez and Abdication of Dulce—The Regulars on Guard—The People Quiet—Fight in Villa Clara—Landing of Arms—Arrival of Political Prisoners—Official Report of Landing at Bay of Nipe.

HAVANA, June 2, 1894.

The past has been a night of excitement, such as has been scarce surpassed since the outbreak of the insurrection. The volunteers, disappointed in the oft-repeated assurances given them that "the triumph of the Spanish cause in Cuba is inevitable, it is imminent, the insurrection is controlled, is conquered," and each day more suspicious of the authorities, have broken out in open, threatening, riotous demonstrations, which like to have resulted in the death of the Captain General, followed by Heaven only knows what. While the feeling has been a long time culminating its immediate occasion was the recall and arrival here of General Pelaez, who, as is known to the readers of the HERALD, has been in command of troops operating in the jurisdictions of Cienfuegos, Villa Clara and vicinity. He is of the new regime, having come out with Dulce, and is his firm supporter. While he has accomplished nothing in the field it cannot be said that his failure has been more marked than that of others. It is claimed, however, that his antecedents are bad; that while in command in San Domingo he made everything subservient to the accumulation of gold, and further, that, in keeping with such antecedents, he has been recently selling *saio conductas* to insurgents. The indignation against him was very bitter in Cienfuegos, and upon his arrival there the volunteers made such threatening demonstrations that he did not land, but proceeded to Batabano, en route for this city. Notice was given of his coming, and on his arrival, during the afternoon of Monday, the 31st ult., preparations had been made to receive him with a mock celebration. He went to the Telegraph Hotel, where soon after an excited crowd gathered with tin horns, pans and other articles wherewith to make a noise, and a demonstration rivaling pandemonium followed. The General, who had been forewarned, soon made his escape from the hotel and, when the crowd, more fierce each moment, made a rush for the hotel he was far away and in safety. The proprietor entreated them not to injure his establishment, assured them that Pelaez was not there and, throwing open his doors, told them that they could look for themselves. Soon realizing that their prey had escaped them, with a howl of disappointment they immediately proceeded to the palace, on the Plaza de Armas, when they made vociferous demands for their intended victim, shouting "Death to Pelaez! Death to Dulce!" and other similar cries. Some twenty of them were allowed to pass by the guard and penetrated into the palace, where they were met by Dulce, indignant, yet powerless, who assured them that Pelaez was not there and ordered the doors thrown open that they might search for themselves. They were finally induced to retire, and though some excitement continued through the night no further demonstrations were made. During the day yesterday, though quiet was on the surface, meetings were held and, as is now understood at the hour of this writing, a demand has been made upon General Dulce to turn over the command and embark for Spain. The volunteers are in uniform and in arms over the city. The regular troops are on guard at the palace. The cavalry are standing to horse in front of the plaza and elsewhere in the vicinity, and a body of marines are on shore and prepared to operate if called on, while all necessary preparations to resist an outbreak have been made by the war vessels in the harbor. Naturally a thousand rumors are afloat, but it is pretty well authenticated that a commission waited upon Dulce at an early hour this morning demanding his retirement; that he was given up to ten o'clock for his answer. He has expressed a desire for forty-eight hours in which to telegraph to Spain and receive an answer, with result not stated.

The people are quiet, seemingly enjoying the commotion, but not anticipating anything serious. The volunteers scattered about the streets or formed at different points are very threatening, swearing to have the head of Pelaez and the abdication of Dulce. The mail steamer from Cadiz is outside with 600 Vasque volunteers, for whose reception great preparations have been made. She is detained outside in order that nothing be added to the existing excitement. As the steamer is about sailing I am compelled to close my account. Ere the reception of this you will have been informed of the result by telegraph. The volunteers, though fierce enough for the moment, have not shown themselves persistent, and the prospect is that the worst is over.

Our news from the seat of insurrection indicates more activity than was anticipated at this season, and that the insurgents are making good their expressed determination to keep the Spaniards actively employed during the warm weather. In Villa Clara a considerable body of patriots are operating. A gentleman recently from there reports a fight between 1,200 of them and a company of troops on the hill of Santa Cruz, thirteen miles from the city, from which only three of the latter escaped. My informant went over the field shortly after the engagement and counted twenty-two dead Spaniards lying there.

The *Diario de la Marina* refers to the fight on the road from Puerto Padre to Las Tunas, between the insurgents and a column escorting a convoy to the latter place, accounts of which have appeared in the HERALD. It places the troops at six hundred, and says they were compelled to return to Puerto Padre, bringing their wounded with them. Some of the latter have arrived in Havana.

By the coasting steamer Almedares, from Sagua, Remedios and other points on the north coast, we learn that a party of insurgents had appeared in Encrucijada de Sagua and that a column of troops had at once gone out after them. The steamer brought here nineteen political prisoners in custody of the guardia civil. Their names are as follows:—Florentino Jimenez, Francisco G. Junco, Jacinto Borroto, Francisco Navarro, Juan N. Cristo, Ricardo Casanova, Juan M. Lopez, Rafael Capote, Leonardo Morejon, Justo Hernandez, Francisco Casamadrid, Salvador Dominguez, Rafael Sublan, Antonio Ibarra, Eugenio Herrera, José Domingo Gonzalez, Casiano Machado and the mulatto Leonardo Capote. Some of the officials, civil and military, of Remedios came hither by the Almedares, as is said, with the intention of not returning.

A passenger by the Moctezuma steamer, recently arrived from Santiago de Cuba, reports that on her way hither she ran into the Bay of Nipe, where she sighted a foreign schooner which had landed war materials at a port adjacent. She was making all haste to get away, and when the gunboat which was notified arrived there she had disappeared.

The steamer Pelayo, which arrived on Saturday last, brought General Lesca and 130 soldiers, some of whom were wounded at Atágracia during the march of the convoy from Nuevitas to Puerto Principe. She also brought one of the cannon captured from the filibusters at Nipe. It is understood that General Lesca will shortly proceed to Cinco Villas to assume command of all the forces there.

The Captain General has made the following appointments, viz.:—Colonel Meras, to be Governor of Cienfuegos; Lieutenant Colonel Antonio Palacios, to be Governor of Jiguaní.

The Local Council has issued an order, dated May 29, to the effect that for the necessary service of the State all the employees for Puerto Principe who have remained in this capital will at once proceed to their destination, communication with Nuevitas having been re-established. These include members of the judicial tribunal and attaches of the Treasury.

On the 31st arrived the war steamer Hernan Cortes, Captain Gonzales Quevedo, from Ferrol, via Canaries and Puerto Rico, with 103 troops.

The Cadiz mail steamer left on the 30th, filled with passengers, including many families, Don Joaquin Galvez, ex-General Military Intendente; Don Manuel José Posadillo, ex-President of the High Court of Justice; Brigadier Mens, Don Joaquin Posadillo, Navy Captain and ex-Harbor Master, sailed in her.

General Nelson, Minister to Mexico, with family and Secretary of Legation, arrived here from New Orleans on Monday last on the steamer George Cromwell. He will proceed hence on the sloop-of-war Santiago, or by the French steamer, as he may hereafter decide.

The following is the official account published in the *Gazette* of the landing at the Bay of Nipe:—

CAPTAIN GENERAL'S OFFICE, HEADQUARTERS.

By official accounts from the Commandant General of Santiago de Cuba, with reference to report from the Military Commandant of Mayari, it is known that on the 18th a landing of some 350 adventurers was effected at the port of Banes, in the Bay of Nipe. As soon as notice thereof was given a column went forward, composed of 100 troops of the Corona regiment and forty-five volunteers, under Captain Agustin Mozo Viejo, in the direction of the rebel encampment at Ramon, on the other side of the bay, and having there disembarked on the 18th, at seven A. M., they found the insurgents entrenched and armed with needle guns and rifles and seven cannon. Our small column made an attack immediately and succeeded in occupying the camp, taking two silk flags, the seven cannon and sundry arms. The cannon were used by our men against the enemy until, having exhausted our munitions and not being able to carry off those pieces for want of vehicles, the troops retired, after having caused the enemy the loss of sixty killed and over one hundred wounded. On our side we had a loss of two officers and seventeen men killed and seventeen wounded.

On the receipt of this news the Commandant General ordered one hundred troops to leave Santiago by the merchant steamer Guantabamo, with a convoy of munitions, which force, joined by others which had gone to the nearest points, formed in the peninsula of Ramon a column of four hundred and fifty men of the First battalion of artillery of the Corona, Caba, Menes and Aragon chasseurs, all under the command of Colonel Hidalgo de Quiniana, who, according to his communication of the 25th, had determined to attack on the morning of the 24th at daybreak the fortified points which the insurgents occupied in said peninsula. For this purpose he combined with the naval forces then in the Bay of Nipe. At six A. M., when the rain had ceased, the disembarkation commenced, and the vessels were at that moment in a favorable position. The Guantabamo, owing to her small draught, was nearest the shore, and had alongside of her the war schooners Andaluza and Africa, besides the war steamer Vasco Nunez de Balboa. After the Andaluza threw some grenade shots into the swamps all the boats were fastened to the shore to land the troops, while guardias were located there to cover the operation till the column was formed on the beach. At half-past nine the column commenced to march, in the midst of a dense swamp, flanked by strong detachments, and crossed the thickets, unheeding of the incessant fire from the adventurers. When the vanguard, under Lieutenant Colonel Roll, of the artillery, arrived at the

Hoguin road, they surprised a *lurpon* (of gun carriage), which was conveying war materials, escorted by a large number of insurgents. These offered some resistance and made two discharges on the troops; but at the shout of "Viva Espana!" made by our soldiers at the very commencement of the attack, the enemy fled in a cowardly manner, abandoning his arms, munitions and other materials, and leaving several carriages of artillery on the road, besides many war utensils and provisions. The column continued its march till it arrived at the central building on the peninsula, from which some of the rebels that had remained there for the protection of the rear of a convoy fled. The position being taken, several reconnoitings were practiced, from one o'clock onwards, until it became necessary to reconcentrate, in consequence of a heavy shower of rain, without having seen any more of the enemy. During this operation several war materials were found, as described in the accompanying list. All of which is made known by order of his Excellency the Captain General for the information of the public.

CARLOS NAVARRO,
Brigadier, Chief of Staff.

List of the principal war materials captured or destroyed by the column of operations in the peninsula of Ramon, in the Bay of Nipe:—

CAPTURED.

Three Armstrong cannon of twelve centimetres; two gun carriages for ditto; one ambulance; one artillery car of munitions; 157 grenades of eighteen centimetres; eight grenades of twelve centimetres; four canisters of shot; eighteen boxes quick matches; three levelling screws; eighteen piston guns; three cannon sponges of twelve centimetres; one cannon sponge of eight centimetres; one worm for drawing wads; ten bayonets; one box cartridges for Spencers; three signal lanterns.

DESTROYED.

One portable printing press, with lithographic stone; one campaign forge; four munition cars; two ambulance cars; one field gun carriage; thirty rifles, in bad condition; 50,000 cartridges for piston guns; 10,000 cartridges for Spencer guns; 100,000 friction quick matches; 400 fuses; 800 grenades; thirty cwt. salt; twenty barrels biscuit bread; ten barrels potatoes; eighteen horses, of no use; sundry mountings, guns, rifles, carbines, apparel correspondence and other papers, &c.