

# CUBA.

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## Report From Rear Admiral Hoff—Ravages of Cholera Among the Spanish Troops—Some Particulars of the Battle of Puerto Padre—Capture of the Schooner La Have—Her Probable Destination.

WASHINGTON, July 3, 1869.

The Navy Department has despatches from Rear Admiral Hoff, commanding the North Atlantic squadron, dated Key West, June 19 and 24. They contain no news of great importance. Havana is reported quiet and no apprehensions are entertained of any disturbance. Some account is given of the recent engagement between the government troops and the insurgents. The brigade of Brigadier Ferrer, which left Nuevitas on the 25th of May to reinforce the troops at Puerto Padre, had returned in a pitiable condition, the cholera having broken out among them. They secured their object, the conveying of a train from Puerto Padre to Las Tunas, in the interior. They were harassed and finally attacked at La Brenosa. The rebels were repulsed with a loss of eighty men. The Spanish loss was seventy-six in killed and wounded. The insurgents were given credit for bravery and for retiring in good order. There was a report of an intention on the part of the Spaniards to give up the railroad between Nuevitas and Principe. It is still used for conveying troops backward and forward.

The United States steamer Nipsic was at Trinidad de Cuba on June 11. There was nothing new there. American interests were receiving full protection.

The Spanish steamer Fernando Catolico arrived at Nuevitas on June 12 with the English schooner La Have in tow, having seized her while in tow of another steamer about fifteen miles from the Cuban coast, between Inagua and Point Maise. The schooner's cargo is said to consist of thirteen cannon, two of them 200-pounder Parrotts, the others 100-pounders, and fieldpieces; also lumber, powder, cartridges, shells and shot in large quantities, besides other military articles. The La Have cleared from Boston for Jamaica. Hayti is supposed to have been her destination. The English Commodore and the British Consul General had protested against the seizure, and the Spanish war steamer had sailed from Havana in company with the La Have for the purpose, it was rumored, of delivering her to the British authorities at Jamaica.