

The steamship *Columbia*, Captain Van Rie, from Havana August 7, arrived at this port yesterday morning with passengers and merchandise.

The purser of the *Columbia* will accept our thanks for the prompt delivery of our correspondence.

Financial Difficulties—The "Tag" of War—Arrival of the Colored Militia at Sagua—Insurgent General Hernandez Shot—Lesca's Telegrams from Cuatro Villas—Insurgents in Santi Espirito—Slaves Freed Informing Against Rebel Masters—Extent and Wealth of the Rebel Possessions.

HAVANA, August 7, 1890.

On the 7th of July last the Captain General sent a communication to the committee which was entrusted by his Excellency's predecessor with dis-covering the "ways and means" necessary to place the colonial government of the island in a position to carry on the war with such resources as the colony afforded, without, of course, any assistance from the home government.

The committee was composed of the following members: Julian Zulueta, importer of Africans and a sugar planter; Mamerto Pulido, an army officer, who married an heiress, daughter of an iron monger; Ignacio M. Zangroniz, merchant; Rafael R. Torices, an ex-Ironmonger, and bankrupt; Daniel All. Torices, a sugar planter; Jose E. More, merchant and planter; Pedro Sotolongo, merchant; Juan A. Colomé, bank director of "La Alianza;" Marquis de Campo Florida, planter, and Augustin Saavedra, lawyer, justice of the peace and municipal lamp-lighter—all Cubans, "loyal and true." I almost omitted one, an English merchant, F. C. Tolme, Esq., who is supposed to be a Cuban, with a drachm of "Españolismo," but who was born on the briny deep and is an Englishman.

The communication of his Excellency was accom-pained with a copy of the estimates for 1889 and 1890, and a statement of the taxes, collected during the second quarter, ending on the 30th of June last, for the purpose of redeeming the 8,000,000 of notes previously issued by the Banco Español. After a careful study thereof the committee report as fol-lows:—

That the expenditure, amounting to.....\$55,503,000
And the income, to.....39,902,000

There is a deficiency of.....\$15,607,000
There remain, they say, in the Treasury five mil-lions out of the first loan, which reduces the deficien-cy to \$10,607,000; and this is the amount that has to be met by extraordinary resources. In the \$55,503,000 of the estimates there are \$15,136,000 included as ex-penditure of war and navy. The taxes imposed for the purpose of redeeming the previous loan pro-duced during the quarter ending on the 30th June \$1,106,400. The committee arrived at two important considerations:—

First—The necessity of providing for the deficiency of \$15,607,000.

Second—That the war tax should be regulated in such a way as to approximately produce two and a half to three millions annually for two more years to come, in order to cover the first eight millions in three years, the committee being of opinion that the public wealth and industry should not be taxed by further burdens and that the war subsidy be con-sequently prolonged.

The delegates having repaired to the directors of the Banco Español with the foregoing report, there was only one member dissident, the same who on the previous occasion had the moral courage to dis-agree with all the other advisers of that institution. The bank agreed to issue more notes, as previously, redeemable by its collections of the extraordinary taxes approved of by the Executive. The committee recommends the punctual fulfillment of that part of the engagement relative to the weekly instalments to be made to the bank of said subsidy, and also that the proceeds derived from the political em-bargoes be deposited in its coffers; and further, that, in order to provide against a crisis that might arise from an excess of paper circulation and produce any notable premium on gold, his Excellency recom-mends to the supreme government the establish-ment of a mint, which the province stands so much in need of. In consequence of which report the fol-lowing decree has been issued by the superior political government of the province of Cuba:—

HAVANA, August 8, 1890.

In view of the expediency of providing for the deficit which is calculated to occur in the estimates of the present year, while the present liabilities caused by the war cannot be disregarded, if the circumstances do not soon disappear which produce the present analogical deficit, and in view of the superior political government to contract with the Banco Español the negotiation sanctioned by the supreme government of the nation on the 23d of April last, in virtue whereof the aforementioned establishment engaged to issue notes to the extent of \$2,000,000, guaranteed by the meeting of the majority of the merchants, proprietors and industrial classes of the capital, and by the war subsidy decreed on the 25th of February last, I have directed, in virtue of the extra-ordinary powers with which I am invested, and in conformity with the proportions of the commission and in conformity with said negotiation and have formed the project published be-neath, which, being accepted by the bank with the same dis-interestedness and patriotism as with the aforesaid contract, that the same be held as amplified to the sum of \$14,000,000, being \$2,000,000 more, the guarantee of the established taxes subsisting and continuing as long as circumstances may de-mand it, besides the proceeds of the properties embargoed of individuals hostilely disaffected to the national integri-ty, which will directly go to said establishment; all which, with-out prejudice to being reported to the government of his Highness the Regent of the Kingdom for final approbation, as also to effectually urge the establishment of a mint in the capital as already proposed. CABALLERO DE RODAS.

It is feared that the new issue will produce an enormous depreciation, which would almost render the issue abortive, and suggestions have been made forcibly to make it a legal tender. It has been further proposed that the government should issue paper, to be guaranteed by the embargoed property of disloyal Cubans and with a lien on the "Crown lands."

The total amount subscribed to date towards the patriotic fund for the maintenance of the mobilized volunteers in camp, for a period of three months foots up \$274,821. Of this sum the following distributions, by order of the Captain General, were made:—

To the battalion of España Chasseurs, No. 1. 120,960
To the battalion of Orden Chasseurs, No. 2. 120,486
To the 1st Flying Guerrillas..... 21,696
To the 2nd Flying Guerrillas..... 23,991
To the company of Holguin volunteers..... 7,294
To a Deputy of General Valmaseda's column..... 60

Total.....\$265,081
Thus leaving a balance in cash of.....\$134
Don Ramon Herrera, colonel of the Fifth volun-teers and treasurer of the above fund, has at the same time submitted to the Captain General a list of the subscribers who have so far failed to fulfil their promises, and these have been politely notified by his Excellency, before publishing the list. The Banco Español paid towards said fund, \$91,450; the merchants, \$20,392; and the dry goods traders, \$87,868.

The Captain General having scrutinized the written processes received from the various jurisdictions, has decreed as follows:—Don Luis Martin de la Cruz to be removed to Ceuta, and Don Calixto Machado y Martin to Melilla, both condemned to transportation by court martial. The following are to be placed at his disposition, to be tried by a Council of War:—Benjamin Perez Figueroa, Cesario Betancourt and Antonio Ramirez. The following are to change their places of residence in the island:—Rafael Perez Quinti, Leandro Gonzalez Herrera, Rafael Perez Martinez, José de la Luz Garcia, José Garcia Vi-cente Ledesma, Desiderio Ledesma, Victoriano Ledesma, Manuel de la Cabada, Alejo Pinales, Antonio Oliva and Juan de Leon.

The following are to be transported to the Penin-sula of Spain, to be held at the disposition of the supreme government:—Leandro Junco, Nicanor Cantero, Lucas A. de Castro, Pedro Rodriguez, Francisco Prato, Pio Pedros, Fernando Cisneros, José Antonio Cortes, Manuel Gelabert, Ramon Sar-racino y Bruno, José Maria Valdespino y Pulido, Alejandro Muró, Sebastian Font, Rafael Vingut, Ru-dolando Tenreiro, Benito Zerquera, Juan Gandara, Ernesto Escobar, Juan Padilla, Cristobal Fontan, Antonio Trina, José Maria Fernandez de Izeta, Itza-el Medina, Manuel Hernandez, Francisco Cueto, Itza-el, Antonio Paucurich, Leandro Gonzalez, the mulatto sacramento, Sixto Iturralde, father; Sixto Iturralde, son.

Hon. Gabriel Suarez del Villar, of Trinidad, is to be brought before the ordinary courts for having ac-cepted the office of Judge of the Peace and Syndic of the Municipality without having renounced his American citizenship, to which right he appealed on being imprisoned, and has now to legalize the va-lidity of his acts in the exercise of his public func-tions.

An ordinary court martial was held here on the 26th ultimo on the mulatto Alejandro Collazo, who among others stood charged with subversive cries in the public streets, and which led to the killing of the mulatto José Camilo Enrique. Being found guilty, he was condemned to four years' imprisonment.

The Captain General has approved of the verdicts given by court martial in Santi Espirito on the 16th ultimo, for disloyalty, against Antonio Abad de la Cruz, his sons José and Tiburcio, Juan Sanchez, J. M. Meneses and the mulatto Demetrio Pina, con-demned to six years' imprisonment; against Juan Pablo Arias, a rebel leader, condemned to be shot if apprehended; against Mariano Valdez, Juan Rodri-guez, Ignacio de la Cruz and the mulattos Joaquin Pios, Manuel Quesada and Geronimo Chaviano, con-demned to the imprisonment already undergone and remaining under the vigilance of the police.

The properties of the following individuals have just been embargoed:—Juan Rosell, of Guatabacca; José Gomez y Cardero, of Moron; José de Jesus Opeña, Agustín Camejo and Agustín Aguero, of Santi Espirito.

Only four companies of the colored disciplinados have left Havana. They embarked in the steamer *Barcelona* on Sunday last, having received some pay in advance as they required. Considerable curi-osity was created by the novelty. The stores were bedecked with banners. A few of the stores in par-ting with their female companions and relations caused considerable noise and disorder. A few tried to desert; one not quite sober got out of the ranks on embarking and ran along the streets threatening his bayonet at inoffensive persons; he would not surrender to some white volunteers, and in the affray

was killed and others wounded. The people appre-hended more disturbances, but the city was perfectly quiet soon after. It is half surmised that they will go over to the enemy when in sight; they are mostly of a class that society will lose nothing by if they do so. A telegram has been received from Boca del Rio stating that the four companies of colored militia had arrived at Sagua la Grande on Monday evening. The steamer Comercio de Cardenas, from Nuevitas, has conveyed some companies of the Sumacas and Chiclana to Sagua la Grande.

It is no fault of General Pueblo that he is called a colored man, but it is now reported that the battalions of Chiclana and Andalucia do not want to be under his orders. Troops were required to guard the Principe and Nuevitas Railroad, and this was one of the reasons why the colored militia were to have gone there.

Don Enrique Trillo, the military commandant of Sagua la Grande, arrived here some days ago in the steamer Almodovar, and his name being very popu-lar the officers of the General's Guides, of the artil-lery volunteers and of some of the other citizen soldiers gave him a splendid serenade. A special commission arrived also, to beg the Captain Gen-eral not to remove him from the Sagua, to which his Excellency acceded, and Governor Trillo has re-turned to his jurisdiction, accompanied as far as the Morro Castle by his friends and admirers.

A Señor Vallá, said to be a relative of the Ameri-can Consul in Sagua, was brought here in the same steamer as a political prisoner. Dates from Sagua to the 21st ult. mention no further encounters with the insurgents. The aid of the Chief General Her-nandez had been tried by court martial and shot, having been captured with five followers by For-tun's cavalry volunteers.

On Monday fifty furloughed troops will leave for Cienfuegos to garrison two plantations in said jurisdiction.

General Lesca, the commandant general of the Cuatro Villas, telegraphs to the Governor:—"The enemy in Sabana Nueva was beaten by the Verdugo detachment, killing eight rebels and capturing twelve horses and some arms. A column of the de-tachment and some volunteers left Jaguayabon and destroyed three rebel camps in Guanabacoa, kill-ing sixteen rebels and capturing 180 horses, one dog and some arms. The troops had one wounded. The column of Colonel Menduiza surprised the enemy in Mamoy, killing seven rebels and capturing twenty-one horses and some arms. The column of Lieutenent Colonel Perez, in various encounters, killed nine rebels and captured fifteen horses and some arms. The enemy has burned the Teresa plantation.

Despite the great popularity of General Lesca among the volunteers people report that he has asked to be relieved on the plea of sickness.

Passengers from Santi Espirito state that the in-surgents intend to burn no other than the property which the government embargoes, in order that it shall derive no benefit from these. The insurgents have determined also to pursue the bands of robbers and others that injure the Cuban cane.

It is given out that General Valmaseda has been beaten near Santi Espirito and obliged to fall back with the small force he had there, asking for reinforcements to force a passage. This may or may not be true, but till it be confirmed may be doubted.

Your readers will have wondered how it is, ever since this Cuban revolution broke out, that, accord-ing to the Spanish reports ("accounts") is more prop-er in this instance, in fights lasting for many hours seldom any of the Spanish soldiers appear to be killed. I am positively assured that the numbers of their killed are not concealed either from any na-tional fanaticism or patriotic zeal, nor even from an excess of amour propre, nor a morbid modesty; but that this is only accounted for that as long as the death of a soldier is not given his pay is put to ac-count and the nation charged for it accordingly. It is thus, I am told, that while Spain only has an army here of 10,000 men she was charged for a much larger number supposed to be on the island, but in reality many dead and others furloughed.

The Captain General has awarded freedom to four slaves belonging to Don Juan Bantista Madrigal, a Cuban in Santi Espirito, for having apprised the au-thorities there of the concealment on his plantation of six boxes with arms, which were thus discovered. The action of the Captain General is in accordance with article 38 of the slave Regulations and Law 3, title 22, part 4.

According to the statistics last taken the districts of Principe, Nuevitas, Tunas, Manzanillo, Holguin, Bayamo, Jiguaní, Santiago, Guantánamo and Baracoa contain more than 300 sugar estates. Assuming their value, as compared with that of other juris-dictions, they may not exceed thirty. The wealth of the above districts—the focus of the insurrection—is more properly represented by the cattle raising in-terests, which not many years ago numbered more than 2,340 haciendas, 1,110 cattle farms, 2,270 small pasturages, and no less than 6,350 tobacco planta-tions. The territorial extent of the above-named ten districts, which, when the island was divided into only two instead of, as at present, three departments, formed the East-ern and now is the Central Department, may be as-sumed at one-half of the whole island. Its entire wealth, however, may not amount to more than \$25,000,000, whereas the other half of the island, or the old Western Department, represented about \$105,000,000 prior to that territorial division. The ten districts in question, before the revolution, had about 330,000 inhabitants, while the other half of the island numbered about 1,050,000 souls. The propor-tion of whites and colored was in both departments similar; but that of the colored predominated in the Eastern Department. Of the 330,000 inhabitants in the latter there were only 60,000 slaves. The foregoing may at this moment be of interest to your readers, and perhaps worth the attention of our American statesmen.

The Spanish government having conceded, says an official notice dated the 2d instant, the exequatur to the appointment made by the President of the United States in favor of Mr. Edward Plumb for Consul General in Havana, the Captain General or-ders the fulfillment thereof and its publication for general information.

The emigration of Spanish families at present ex-ceeds that of the Cubans. Mexico seems to be the favored point just now. The press will take it up, and a committee is being formed to dissuade the Spaniards from leaving the island.

Señor Menéndez Valdez, ex Governor of Trinidad, having gone beyond the bounds by decreeing a con-scription there, was promptly removed, and Colonel Demetrio Quiros has been appointed in his place. The wealthy planters of Trinidad, Señors Izaga and Cantero, are here, and it is supposed that they com-plain to the Captain General about said Menéndez. In fact, it is stated that they represented to his Ex-celency that the policy of the ex-Governor tended to divide instead of uniting parties, and it is thought that the General removed him on that score.

Brigadier Goyeneche has just been appointed Gov-ernor ad interim of Santa Clara.

By order of the Captain General thanks have been tendered to Don Eleuterio Nazarieta, engineer of the Cienfuegos Railroad, for his laudable act of saving a train with passengers (attacked by the insurgents) from destruction; and further, that the fact be re-ported to the supreme government, to reward him in the way it may judge becoming.

On Sunday, the 1st instant, there was a general meeting of the stockholders of the Havana Railroad Company, at which Mavor Roberts presided, as re-presentative for the government; as shareholder, he represented all the shares of persons whose prop-erties have been sequestered, thus holding the majority of votes, and in virtue thereof he proposed to annul the recent acts of the Board of Directors, especially that of continuing the salary of \$10,000 a year to Señor Echegarai, who was sent to Spain by the government. Of course the motion was carried. The road will now be entirely in the hands of the government, and whereby the Cuban employés will be discharged and Spaniards take their place. What may become of the interests of the shareholders can only be surmised. With some of the other railroads similar incidents may occur, and probably with similar results. Señor Quiros, hitherto of the Police Department, has been appointed as manager of the Bahia and Matanzas Railroad. Gonzalo Castanon, proprietor of the *Voz de Cuba*, is proposed for the Havana Railroad. It is understood that all the com-panies will be expected soon to charge no fares or freight to the government for the conveyance of the military, war materials and other goods for the gov-ernment.

The following report is given of last Sunday's junta in the Palace. The object was to again discuss the propriety of arming the people; but the com-manders of the volunteers opposed it, stating their conviction that there was not a single Cuban that inspired confidence. The General is said to have re-plied that if such were the case the cause should be abandoned, inasmuch as when there was no con-fidence in a people's resistance was useless. Nothing was determined. It is also rumored that General Rodas has urgently asked the government to admit his resignation, not being provided with the power to reassert his authority. I mention the rumor for what it may be worth hereafter, as I would rather disbelieve it.

The other day the police surprised five gentlemen found gambling in Lamparilla street, No. 85. All but two, who could not pay the fine imposed, were released from imprisonment.

The Spanish steamer Churrucha has just arrived from Nuevitas and reports that the insurgent chief Perez had been killed. It was also rumored that Quesada had moved his forces towards the coast, hoping to assist in the landing of an expedition he looked for. Disease had considerably diminished in Nuevitas.