

PATRIOT ACCOUNTS.

Government Retaining American Mails—
Peaceable Citizens Released Again Ar-
rested—Arrival of Colonel Quiros with all
that Remains of the Reus Regiment—
Mobilized Volunteers Go Over to the
Enemy—Negroes Hungry—Cholera Among
the Troops on the Plantations.

SANTIAGO DE CUBA, July 30, 1869.

The news we have is by no means favorable to the Spanish cause. It is said that General Antonio Lopez de Letona, in transit on board the Spanish steamer Pajaro for Porto Rico, was invited by the Governor of this place to breakfast, and that the former did not accept the invitation, "because the present state of affairs is not so satisfactory as to permit us to enjoy breakfast. If your Excellency had come from the centre of the insurrection, as I have, you would understand the reason. The scale has changed its position. God grant that my words may not be prophetic, but, in my opinion, in a short time we shall not be able to conceal to other nations the state of our forces against those of our enemy, so strong both in position, men and money."

The 26th inst., being the patron saint's day of Spain, was celebrated with feasts and masquerades, permission for the latter being given by the Gov-

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ernor; but they were only attended by colored persons and Catalans. At the ball at the Comercio theatre only such persons as wore the volunteer uniform were allowed to enter. The *Bandera Española* newspaper, on announcing these balls hoped that many ladies would be present; all, however, abstained from going. The Governor was present at the volunteers' ball.

The papers of this city under date of 26th instant publish an official account of an engagement on the 25th inst. in this jurisdiction. It states that a division of forty volunteers and ten soldiers of the battalion Leon, under Colonel Lopez Camara, attacked the insurgents, taking three prisoners, many arms and munitions, adding that they were completely disorganized. This is false, for Colonel Camara has been in this city wounded since the 22d, and has retired from the campaign.

On the 26th instant the slaves of the estate Armonica, owned by M. Colas, not being allowed by the authorities, as customary, to dance after their own custom, rebelled, carrying off three firearms and some small cane knives, and killed the sentinel. Their driver took to the woods and probably has joined the insurgents. It is rumored that sixteen of the mobilized militia, on the plantation La Victoria, passed over to the insurgents, with their arms and munitions.

The negroes of the plantation Santa Isabel complained bitterly of the want of food since the embargo; the person in charge had to kill one of the working oxen, and says that unless provisions soon arrive the slaves will rise. Cholera had broken out, and medicines were very scarce. On the 24th twenty soldiers arrived from Guatamano, by order of the government, to join the expedition, which is to leave in search of Lieutenant Colonel Terrero, nothing having been heard of him, nor of the 250 men under his orders. The Captain General has relieved Don Manuel Arnaz from the First battalion of volunteers, conferring the command of the two battalions on Colonel Escalona. This body will be called *Nacionales del Orden*. This morning 300 men, the remainder of the unfortunate battalion of Hens, under the command of Colonel Quiros, left here, it is supposed, in search of Terrero's force.

The United States mail which came from Havana by the steamer *Villa Clara* has not been delivered by the Post Office. The cholera caused some deaths among the troops and on the plantations; there is only a case now and then in the city. Señors José A. Collazo, Joaquin Ros Bruno Collazo, Salvador C. Benitez, Acencio Ycarico and Gonzalo Billar, all persons of good social positions, were arrested a month ago and nothing having been proved they were released, but they are again arrested at the instance of General Valmaseda, who says he has proofs of their complicity in the insurrection. They leave to-day, by order of our Governor, in the steamer *Villa Clara*, bound for Manzanillo, whence they will have to travel all the way by land to Bayamo. The conduct of the Governor is very censurable, since he sends respectable men from the capital of the department, where all the tribunals of justice are in session, to Bayamo, inhabited solely by the troops and where exists no other but the military authority, represented by Valmaseda. The prisoners, aware that something might befall them upon the way, begged that the leader of their escort might be selected by them, naming Don Armado Salazar, who appears worthy of their confidence. The general opinion is that they will be assassinated upon the road, or in Bayamo, under the first accusation that Valmaseda may see proper to proffer against them. A curious incident is said to have occurred here. A party of forty armed peasants with machetes appeared in the town. At first they were supposed to be robbers, but they entered no houses. They only carried away some horses, and nobody opposed them. They had done so in other localities, but no one can find out the place to which they take the horses thus collected.