

Removal of the News Interdict—General Jordan's Command in the Mountains—Spanish Successes—Quesada Moving on Santo Espiritu.

HAVANA, August 15, 1869.

A difficulty having arisen with the telegraph censor, as to the nature of the press reports to be sent from Havana by the cable, few news despatches have recently been allowed to pass. The matter, however, was referred to the Captain General, who reiterated his previous declaration, that all news, whether favorable or not, should be permitted to pass over the wires, and the difficulty has now been satisfactorily arranged.

The Havana journals, reviewing the military situation, say the rebels under the command of General Jordan in the jurisdiction of Santiago de Cuba, Guantanamo and Baracoa have been obliged to take refuge in the mountains, and the districts of Manzanillo, Bayamo and Jiguaní are completely under the control of the Spaniards, no organized rebel force appearing there. Small parties of volunteers are found to be quite sufficient to protect the estates in the Trinidad and Cienfuegos districts. The railroad from Nuevitas to Puerto Principe is open. The rebels under Quesada are moving towards Santo Espiritu.

General Jordan's Account of the Fight Near Holguín—Valmaseda Defeated—Slaves Joining the Cubans—Disorganization Among the Spaniards in Nuevitas—Quesada to Attack the City.

WASHINGTON, August 15, 1869.

Letters from Cuba, giving advices to the 5th inst., were received here last evening. General Jordan gives the following account of the action near Holguín:—

Valmaseda, being reinforced, determined to surprise the Cubans. His movements were promptly reported to General Jordan, who prepared to meet him. A small force was sent out to reconnoitre, and, if the enemy appeared, to lead them into an ambush which had been prepared, where General Jordan and 1,000 men awaited them. General Valmaseda met the advanced party and attacked them. They retreated to the main body, who received the Spanish force (more than double their number) with such earnestness that they were thrown into disorder and it was impossible to reorganize them. This success was followed by a charge which forced a disordered retreat. The success of General Jordan was complete. The colored militia, impressed into the service, broke on the first attack, and nearly all deserted to the standard of General Jordan. This fight, it is asserted, has destroyed the army of Valmaseda and given the Cubans control of the entire Holguín district. The Spanish loss is estimated at 170 in killed and wounded, and over 700 in desertions and prisoners.

It is reported that the slaves throughout the island are exhibiting symptoms of insubordination and sympathy with the Céspedes government. They are joining the Cubans by hundreds and thousands, determined to secure the advantages of the decree of liberation issued by General Quesada at the commencement of the struggle for independence. These men, it is said, make good and efficient soldiers.

General Quesada, in the Puerto Principe district, these letters state, is nearly ready for an attack on Nuevitas with a force sufficient to secure success. General Lesca has been restored to command there, and the dissensions between the regulars and volunteers have increased to such an extent as to render his force almost entirely unreliable. Unless General Lesca is reinforced it is not believed he will risk a contest. Vessels sufficient to remove his troops are concentrating in front of the city.