

Progress of the War for Independence.

Brilliant Patriot Raid Upon Puerto Principe.

General Activity of the Cuban Forces.

The steamship *Missouri*, Captain Palmer, from Havana July 31, arrived at this port early yesterday morning, with passengers and merchandise.

The purser of the *Missouri* will accept our thanks for the prompt delivery of our budget of correspondence, which will be found in the letters given below.

Policy of General Radaa—Citizen Soldiers Snubbed—Affairs in the Interior Adverse—Demands for More Troops—Grand Raid on Principe—Martano, with 5,000 Negroes, in Cinco Villas—A Special Commissioner Sent to Spain—Correspondence Intercepted—More Sequestrations—Reported Landing of Two Negro Expeditions.

HAVANA, July 31, 1869.

The policy which the Captain General, on one side, has reserved to himself, and the espionage of the *Casino Español* on the other, makes it appear as if perfect tranquillity reigned here and silence were supreme. The volunteers have made new attempts to "engraft" themselves on government affairs, but Caballero de Rodas has found a happy way of repelling them. When they present themselves to him with a petition or demand any vigorous measure to be enforced he tells them that the only way there is of obtaining their object is to go to the battle field, fight the rebels and thus end all evils. As this reply does not please them, and as this is his constant retort, they trouble him less frequently than heretofore.

Affairs in the interior go on badly for the government. Demands for more troops are continually received, but as there are none here to satisfy those demands endeavors are made to organize a new battalion of mobilized volunteers under the command of Colonel Acosta y Alvar. As yet only 270 have enlisted, and as this is not quite satisfactory recourse has been had for recruits to the public prisons; but even of these, although they have been offered pardon for their past offences, very few are inclined to go, for all know that scarcely one remains of the first battalion which Alvar took with him a few months ago. With the same view it was proposed to send the colored militia, who were ordered into barracks to prepare for the field, but they refused, and as there seemed to be a desire to push them they gave out that they would join the enemy. Nearly all of them having families, they required to be supplied with \$16,000, which not being forthcoming the marching was suspended until further orders.

In the interior the government is not better placed, and this is said to have induced the Governor of Trinidad to order that all Spaniards between fifteen and sixty years old are to bear arms; the creoles are not included, for obvious reasons. It is said that this measure is but the avant courier of an order of the like tenor for this city and suburbs; but there is a difficulty in doing so; for thus an official line would be drawn dividing Spaniards and creoles; and as, according to the census of Pexuela there are but 60,000 Spaniards to 1,200,000 Cubans and free colored men, it would appear to people abroad as so many votes against this system of government; and thus the assertion that only a few creoles do not support the government would not hold good. On this subject there have been very many private consultations with the Madrid government, and from it has resulted an order that no more offensive measures be taken until further notice.

Señor Calderon y Kessel has resumed the command of the Sixth battalion of volunteers, from which he was removed in consequence of anonymous communications against him. He was succeeded by Colonel Ybañez, who was never disposed to do anything contrary to General Duice's orders, and, therefore, he has also been compelled by the battalion to resign the command. This resumption, resulting from the suggestion of the Captain General, who thought it very proper and convenient that a creole should command a battalion of volunteers, caused some "peculiar" feeling on the part of some of the Cubans.

Serious rumors are in circulation about the war. The Spaniards appear to have been worsted near Tufas, and the family of Brigadier Ferrer (Cuban) has not heard from him. Colonel Goyeneche had left Santi Espiritu, but although two steamers have arrived since, there are no certain tidings from him. For some days no news has been received from General Lesca, but the following telegrams were received by the Captain General:—"Commandant Fortun, of the Camaguaní volunteers, came up in Mugica with the insurgent chief Hernandez and 200 rebels. With only thirty-three horsemen they were dispersed, killing fifteen, wounding several, capturing sixteen horses, a flag and some arms." "Colonel Bonilla and his column have beaten the enemy in the forests of Voladoras and Melones, destroying his camps, killing three and capturing forty-seven saddled horses, three mules and many arms." As the insurgents have formed many and dangerous ambuscades throughout the country the Spaniards are in great fear that some of their principal commanders may be thus victimized.

The news from Puerto Principe is serious. It is supposed that the insurgents' grand raid on the 20th had for its main object the means of escape of many Cuban families that were detained there. Some of them succeeded in getting away. As General Puella has since prohibited the exit of its citizens another big raid may be necessary for more families to leave, and then the insurgents may besiege the place in due formality, as the garrison and employees of the government only will remain, and thus, if the garrison carries out its threats of blowing up the city before surrendering it, there will be less Cubans buried under its ruins.

It has been stated by Cubans that General Martano has 5,000 fighting negro rebels in Cinco Villas.

The steamer *Moctezuma*, from Santiago de Cuba, Nuevitas and other ports, arrived here late on the 28th, with 101 troops, two commandants, four captains, four lieutenants and three sub-lieutenants, some of whom are sick and others wounded.

We learn by telegraph that Governor Trillo, commandant of the jurisdiction of Sagua, who has done signal service to the Spanish cause, had embarked for this city to hold a conference with the Captain General.

Brigadier Letenre y Illos embarks in the mail steamer for Cadiz, having been commissioned by the Captain General to get more troops out from Spain, and verbally to explain the precarious situation of affairs here, as the government has information that in the Yucita Abajo arms have been received from abroad, the want of which had alone prevented a rising there, and that they may join movements said to be preparing in Matanzas and Cadenas.

Brigadier Amable Escalante leaves in the same steamer, being in bad health.

"El hombre justiciero" (General Caballero de Rodas) proceeds steadily and judiciously in his acts of equity and justice. By a second and third decree, dated the 27th and 29th, his secretary's office has (unflinchingly) ordered that the following political prisoners be dealt with according to their merits: Jacinto Barroto, Ramon de la Rosa, Carlos de la Rosa, Eduardo Pajadas, Gustavo Gonzalez, Ramon Gonzalez and Pedro Gonzalez to be set free; José Lopez Francas, Ventura Lunar, José Pino, Pablo Rodriguez, Mariano Gonzalez, of Villa Clara, and Carlos Cepero to change their domicile within the territory, under the vigilance of the authorities; Leopoldo Machado y Marrero, Antonio Ibarra, Francisco Helen Calvera and Antonio Andres Azoy to be "transported to Spain" and held at the disposition of the supreme government; José Capiro, Francisco Martinez Pupo, Eligio Machado y Marrero, Eugenio Herrera, José Domingo Gonzalez, Manuel Alvarez Rodriguez, Adolfo Castellanos, Francisco Gonzalez Junco, Francisco Figueras and Francisco Casamadrid to be placed at the disposition of this Capitania General for trial by court martial, in accordance with General Duice's decree of the 12th of February last. In his Excellency's previous order the name of the party who had denounced some of the prisoners was mentioned, and against whom they had a right to proceed in accordance with law for the consequences of false information, but in the present orders no name of any informer is given, and it is to be hoped that there was none.

In consequence of correspondence and documents lately intercepted it would appear that the government had obtained information to justify further sequestrations. The following embeargoes of the properties of more prominent absentees have just been ordered:—Señora Cristobal Madan, Manuel Toscano and Leonardo del Monte Aldama, of Havana; Domingo del Monte Portillo and Antonio Govin, of Matanzas; Antonio Mur, of Vuelta Abajo, and Esteban Marquez, of Trinidad.

The *Gazette* contains a list of the houses embargoed of suspected Cubans, advertising the lease and conditions, which are that one month's rent is to be paid in advance and another in deposit.

By a decree of the Captain General, dated the 29th, the registration of slaves throughout the island will be suppressed on and after the 1st of August next. It occupied many employees and proved a useless expenditure. The registration will in future be attended to by the *retadores* of police, who in reality are authorized thereto by royal order of November 24, 1867.

teverest New York for Spain. He and the woman lately, and amidst here do not look as promising as he was led to believe he sees no attachment to stay here.

There is great dissatisfaction amongst the officers of the Custom House in consequence of the appointment of a vigilance committee of merchants.

It is reported in town that two expeditions of Africans have been safely landed on the coast recently for account of Don Julian Zulueta.

The holy fathers of the Belen College of Jesuits celebrate a great feast to-day in commemoration of the famous founder of their order, St. Ignacio de Loyola.

It has finally been arranged that the negro militia go to the field, probably to the number of 1,500. Few guns and twenty cartridges to each are now being distributed to them: it is yet uncertain whether their destination is to be Cinco Villas or Cu Saguya.