

# SPANISH REPORTS.

**Governor Puello's Hands Fall—Citizens Prohibited from Leaving Town—Puello's Miraculous Escape from Being Shot—Great Rebel Attack on the Town—Their Orderly Retreat—Building in the Cumbres Sierras—Exodus of Families—The High Court of Justice Removed.**

PUERTO PRINCIPA, July 25, 1862.

General Puello, in company with Brigadier Ferrer (Cuban), arrived on the 10th, taking charge of the government and military command of this department.

On the 17th he issued an order to the following effect:—

*First*—The owners of slaves not in domestic employ are to present them to the police to be placed in the depot under the corresponding receipt to be exchanged for a formal document by the government Secretary.

*Second*—The slaves are to be at all times at the disposition of the owners on endorsement of the labor to which they are destined.

*Third*—All colored persons found unoccupied or vagrant three days after date of order will be taken to the public works, and the owners forfeit their right of claiming them as long as the present circumstances prevail, and be subjected to a fine.

*Fourth*—The slaves of persons out of town and aiding the insurrection directly or indirectly will be embargoed and placed at my disposition for purposes of the public works.

*Fifth*—Those destined to the gangs of the public works will remain in barracks, under the custody of the overseers, in order that, without their accompanying them, they shall work nowhere else, as they will be maintained by the government.

*Sixth*—Those whose physical condition will not permit them to perform the work required will be exempt, and are to be cared for by their masters, to prevent vagrancy.

*Seventh*—The police will be held responsible for the strict fulfillment of their decrees.

*Eighth*—The whites and free colored who may be considered as vagrants are to be tried before the courts and the agents of my authority will report to said tribunals accordingly.

On the 19th General Puello issued a second address to the soldiers and volunteers, expressing his satisfaction at their martial qualities and exhorting them to renewed abnegation, in the midst of their hardships.

On the 20th, at half-past four A. M., there was a general stir and alarm in this city. The Plaza Caridad had been attacked by the rebels, where the marines were quartered. The enemy must have numbered in all about 2,000 men. At five A. M. General Puello was on the spot, and meanwhile the small force guarding the Caridad bridge had come up. The rebels, repulsed by the marines and afterwards by the Union Battalion, gradually retired towards Corojo, pursued by both the former, some cavalry and a piece of artillery. The General was ever at the head of the troops and pursued the enemy as far as Guanamaquilla, where he found more numbers to combat, and at half-past eight A. M. he returned to the city without having a single man wounded. He was admired for his serenity and gallant example by the troops. The insurgents had three killed at the Caridad and eight at Corojo; total loss, eleven men.

A party of 100 rebels entered the Beneficencia gate, in San Ramon street, forty having got into the villa of Carnesolitas, pursued by ten volunteers, and they all died, leaving one killed. This same party had entered Gloria street, killing a policeman. A large number of the rebels were colored. They cried out, "Viva Cuba Libre!" in which some of the citizens joined. The volunteers had already formed to follow up the pursuit and clear the cir-

solar zone from Beneficencia to the bridge of Tintina, in which they soon succeeded." Another force, under cavalry Captain Pedro Aguilar, composed of the Reina and Caliciano regulars, the engineers, a section of Rey cavalry and three sections of the Reina cavalry, altogether 250 men, with two pieces of artillery, undertook to pursue the rebels that had attacked on this point, when they commenced firing from the Cucaracha store on the cavalry barracks. The moment the troops got in motion the rebels, twenty in number, beat the retreat towards the bridge of Arroyo Mendez, where the bulk of them were, numbering about 400. When the troops of Aguilar arrived there the enemy retired towards the adjacent savannah in irregular groups, and three grenade shots well pointed set them flying. Aguilar's force returned about half-past eight without a single loss, while the enemy had two killed at the Cucaracha. Another force of Reina infantry, under Captain Mosiera, followed up another band on the railroad line till they reached Pineda, where they were dispersed, with a loss of two killed. This force then incorporated with that of Aguilar.

The early hour, the combined and simultaneous attack on four preconcerted sides of the city, and the fact that the rebels had not for the last eight months made any attack with such decision, leads us to believe that it was part of a preformed plan.

The following corps composed the parade on Saturday, the 17th:—The battalion of marines, followed by a company of engineers; the Battalion of Union, the battalion of volunteers, the companies of colored militia, two sections of artillery, the lancers and sharpshooters of Rey and of Reina and the cavalry volunteers. The Reus regulars were on duty in the Plaza (garrison).

On the 21st Governor Puello issued an order prohibiting the exit of all persons to any point beyond the town, only excepting the passengers leaving by railway to Nuevitas and its neighborhood and those who by special permission from him the police will allow to do so.

A large train, with two engines, arrived here in the afternoon of the 20th, loaded with provisions. The passengers who came from Nuevitas report that the cholera had entirely disappeared from that place and Minas.

Dr. José Baget, of the Rey infantry regiment, after having got over the cholera, died of typhus fever on the 18th inst. Artillery Lieutenant José Montant, one of Puello's staff, who lately arrived with General Rodas, died of vomito on the 21st. Young Captain (cavalry) Alfredo Rameau died on the 16th of cholera.

On the 23d General Puello, his son and five of his Excellency's staff went out to perambulate the outskirts of the town, and when the General was about parting company, at dusk, through Chelo street, a volunteer desecrating a group on horseback, challenged the party by crying, "Quien vive!" Puello's son and the others gave the customary reply of "España." Nevertheless the volunteer, either from not hearing it or mistaking them for rebels, fired on them, and the ball whizzed past the ear of the General. The volunteer was at once arrested; but, thanks to his good antecedents, General Puello, after being convinced that the man had no "bad intentions," pardoned him.

A long train, with two engines, left this for Nuevitas yesterday morning, with twenty-five families, who intend to take up their future residence in Havana and Matanzas. Among the passengers were Doña Catalina Sedano y Usatorrea, Clotilde Marquez y Sedano, Catalina Agüero (widow of Don Antonio Barrera), Bernardina Sacz (widow of Don Manuel Caballé) and daughter, Don Manuel Adriánsens (ex-Alcalde) and his three sons.

The Audiencia or High Court of Justice will probably be shortly removed to Santiago de Cuba.

The doctors say that the cholera is daily decreasing, and the mortality from that disease among the troops is no longer alarming. The colored people have suffered severely. It has been the consequence of dysentery and typhus, in most cases badly attended to.

Doña Encarnacion de Cespedes y Barranco died of the epidemic on the 19th. Doña Caridad de Agüero de Varona, after long suffering, which developed into cholera, died on the 23d.

Our sufferings are awful. The greatest misery prevails, and numbers of respectable people are begging from door to door. All the necessaries of life are sold at exorbitant prices. Even white sugar is at eighteen and three-quarter cents the pound and muscovado twelve cents.

The rebels are constructing a large number of ranchos and houses in the Sierras of Cubitas, to remove their families from Nasaja, Vista Hermosa, Maraguan, &c., to escape from the cholera, which is also making havoc in the country. On this account they have distributed their forces in different parts.

#### Petition of the Spanish Volunteers to the Captain General.

The *Prensa* of Havana, under date of July 29, publishes the following card addressed to it by "Several Volunteers":—

It has given us great satisfaction to read the disposition issued by the worthy Political Governor of Trinidad, Don Manuel Menéndez Valdes, and published in the Journal of that town, under date of the 23d instant, which we pray our worthy Captain General will have extended to the entire island, especially the following clause:—

ARTICLE 2. All persons whose names were inserted in the *Gaceta*, for being included in the terms of article one of the circular of the E. M. of April last, do not present themselves within the term of twenty-five days to the authorities, in order to defend the charges imputed to them, should the insurrection not have been completely terminated before the expiration of that period, shall be subject to have their property put up for sale by public auction, the wherewith shall be used toward covering the expenses of the war.

Being convinced that such definite dispositions will bring about a speedy pacification of the country by the arming of many good Spaniards, and disposing of the resources with which our enemies wage war against us, we confide in the zeal and good patriotism of that high authority that our prayer, which is humbly addressed to it, for the good of the country by a few subordinates will be duly attended to should circumstances permit.