

CUBA AND PERU.

Serenade to the Peruvian Minister—Addresses by Senor Cisneros, Colonel Freyre, Senor Ruiz and General Acosta.

Two weeks ago the news was flashed across the wires that the republic of Peru had recognized the independent republic of Cuba and had extended to that infant nation the right hand of fellowship among the nations of the world. This fact was encouraging to the Cubans resident in this city and was accepted by them as an augury favorable to the ultimate success of the Ever Faithful Isle. The Cuban Junta of this city, not desiring to allow this occurrence to pass without a suitable token of gratitude, decided to express their thanks to the Peruvian Minister to the United States, Colonel Manuel Freyre. Colonel Freyre, who succeeded Mr. Garcia in the mission to this country about four months ago, has been passing the summer months at Morristown, N. J., and was expected to arrive in this city last Monday, and arrangements were made to tender him the proposed demonstration upon that date. A Committee of Arrangements, consisting of Senors Cisneros, Mora, Basora, Fesser, Aldama, Mestre, Bramosa, Betances and Valentea, was appointed and arranged a programme, which included a procession from Cooper Institute, with music, fireworks, &c., and a serenade and public reception to the Minister at the Gramercy Park Hotel.

At that time, however, Minister Freyre was prevented by a slight indisposition from returning to this city, and the demonstration was postponed until last evening, when it took place in accordance with the programme indicated above. At eight o'clock an immense concourse of Cubans assembled at Washington square, and, forming in procession, marched up University place to Eighth street, and through Eighth street to the Cooper Institute, where they were joined by a band of twenty pieces, and, preceded by this music, the line of march was again formed for the Gramercy Park Hotel, at the corner of Thirteenth street and Gramercy Park. About 400 men were in line, and the procession was brilliant with torchlights, Chinese lanterns and fireworks. At the head of the procession was a line of standard-bearers, carrying flags of Cuba, the United States, Chile, and of other governments which had expressed sympathy with the cause of Cuban independence, the Cuban flag being upon the right and that of the United States upon the left of the line.

At the hotel a brilliant assemblage was gathered, including the gentlemen of the committee mentioned above, Senors Lemus and Basora, President and Secretary of the Cuban Junta, Colonel Alvaro and others. There were also present in the parlors a large number of ladies, members of the Ladies' Junta Patriotica. Previous to the arrival of the procession a magnificent Cuban flag of silk, with the lone star beautifully embroidered in white, was presented by the ladies of the Junta to the wife of the Minister, and was suspended in a prominent position in one of the parlors.

At half-past nine o'clock the procession came in sight, and, after marching around the Park, halted in front of the hotel. The committee and a few invited guests proceeded up stairs to the parlors of the Minister and were presented to him by Mr. Fesser.

The address of welcome was made by Senor Cisneros, who said the night had for Cubans an impressive solemnity. They came to salute his Excellency with two motives—one to manifest to the republic of Peru their most profound gratitude, and the other to congratulate his Excellency upon Peru being the first country to demonstrate justice and wisdom in this affair. The people of Cuba could not have expected differently of Peru, for their political interests were closely allied, and because the cause of Cuba was not only that of America but of humanity, liberty, civilization and right, and on the complete triumph of America depended her security. The recognition of Cuba was an act demanded by the civilization of the world. It was an act of justice, because the patriots occupied the greater part of the island while the agents of the Spanish government were confined to a few towns from which it was impossible for them to escape. The war was not a war of party nor personal ambition, but solely for liberal principles. The speaker then reviewed briefly the campaign in Cuba, and the many privileges offered the Cubans by the patriot government, and paid an eloquent tribute to the men who had, in the face of every obstacle, organized and maintained a beneficent government on all the territory held by patriot troops, concluding with a brilliant peroration upon the future of Cuba and America.

When the murmurs of applause with which the speech was received had somewhat subsided Colonel Freyre responded briefly, thanking Senor Cisneros, and, through him, the Cuban residents of the United States for his kind reception. Peru, he said, had felt it to be a duty that she owed to Cuba and to herself to recognize the independence of that country for two reasons, and in recognition of two grand principles, that Cuba had enunciated those of independence from the thralldom of Spain and of the abolition of slavery within her territory. Now, he declared, slavery finds for itself no foothold on the continent of America. With the scouring of that system by Peru, Brazil, Cuba and the United States, all forms of slavery in America were forever dead.

These remarks of Colonel Freyre were delivered with much earnestness and impressiveness, and were received with shouts of "Bravo," "Vive la Peru" and "Vive y Libertad," and at the conclusion of the speech, in response to cheers from the multitude below, which now completely filled the street along the whole length of the hotel, the party appeared upon the balcony, and the flags of Cuba, Chile and the United States were produced and suspended therefrom.

Brief addresses followed from Dr. Ruiz, General Santos Acosta, Minister of Colombia, and others. The enthusiasm was unbounded, and cheers for the United States, Cuba, Peru, Chile, and groans for Spain and Spanish rule were vociferated with zest and followed in rapid succession. In the committee room a collation had been prepared, and after the addresses had been completed the social portion of the demonstration was inaugurated by the toast from Senor Fesser, of Peru—"It has now and for the second time in its history repulsed the tyranny of Spain." This was drunk standing, and the remainder of the evening was spent in a social and delightful manner.

In an adjoining parlor the wife of Minister Freyre dispensed her charming hospitality to the ladies of the Junta, who were present to the number of nearly 200. The display of toilets was very brilliant, and the saloon of the ladies successfully rivaled in interest the gathering of soldiers and diplomats in the adjoining room.