

WASHINGTON.

FAVORABLE CUBAN REPORTS—OUTRAGES BY THE SPANIARDS—THE CASE OF INOCENZA CASSENOVA—THE RAM ATLANTA SOLD TO THE DOMINICAN GOVERNMENT—THE TEXAS ELECTION POSTPONED UNTIL NOVEMBER—REMOVED CHANGE IN THE CABINET—THE EXAMINATION AT THE ANNAPOLIS NAVAL ACADEMY—THE SOLDIERS' MEMORIAL ANNIVERSARY.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

WASHINGTON, Thursday, May 20, 1893.

A consular agent, who has resided in Cuba during the last fifteen months, has just arrived here, and to-day called upon the President for the purpose of informing him respecting the condition of affairs in that island. The State Department has on file very full dispatches from him. His representations place the Cubans largely in the advantage, and he is of the opinion that the insurgents will eventually succeed. His reasons for so believing are that the mode of warfare adopted by the insurgents, that of not giving open battle in the field, but by detachments and bands, will greatly harass the Spanish troops, and eventually bring them to terms.

Information from Cuban sources, received here by the friends of the insurgents, states that there is the most intense anger manifested on the part of the merchants, planters, and other business men of the island toward Count Valmaseda, on account of his order to put to death all persons over fifteen years of age found away from their homes. The merchants fear the system of reprisals. The late commander at Trinidad is the only Spaniard of note who circulates the proclamation. But its provisions are being carried out with terrible severity, and long lists of brutalities are being constantly reported. Six women, one child, and one editor were recently put to death in one day. The same information reports the success of the Cubans in the jurisdiction of Trinidad, and the defeat of the Spanish commander, Count Leca at Las Tunas.

Inocenza Casanova had another interview with Secretary Fish, to-day, and urged that the State Department should aid in the attempt to obtain the restoration of the property of the family, confiscated by the Spanish authorities in Cuba.

The steam ram Atlanta, which was sold some two or three weeks ago by the Navy Department to parties in New-York, was supposed to be intended for the Cubans, but it appears she was neither for the Cuban nor for the Spanish authorities. She was purchased by the agents of Salvage for the San Domingo Government.

Several Texans are in the city, to urge upon the Administration the unsettled condition of affairs in that State, the constant danger to which loyal men are subjected in some localities, and urging delay in carrying out the provisions of Congress in respect to the elections. One of the gentlemen, Major Moore of the *San Antonio Express*, had an interview with the President to-day, and represented the hopelessness of carrying the State for the Republicans if the election should be held this Summer. The President authorized Mr. Moore to inform those interested that the election would not be held before November. Gen. W. T. Clark of Galveston, who arrived to-day, represents that the business of the State was never more prosperous, and that there are three acres of cotton and corn this year to one of last year, with prospects of a most abundant harvest.

An evening paper here has the following, which lacks confirmation: "It is reported that Gen. Rawlins will shortly resign the War Department portfolio, and retire on account of failing health; and rumor says that in the event of his retirement, Judge Holt will be tendered the War Office. This report comes from pretty high authority."

The annual examination of the Cadets at the Naval Academy at Annapolis began this morning, and will continue about a week. The Cadets will be examined by the Professors, in the presence of the Board of Visitors, in their various studies, comprising gunnery, machinery, navigation, &c. The quarters are also thoroughly inspected by the Board. Secretary Borie and Admiral Porter will be present during a portion of the ceremonies.

By order of the President, Secretaries Boutwell and Rawlins and Postmaster-General Cresswell have issued orders closing their Departments on the 25th inst., in honor of the memorial services over the soldiers' graves. The other Departments will also be closed. Gen. Meigs has directed Quartermasters throughout the country to afford all the aid possible to the Posts of the Grand Army of the Republic engaged in preparing for the services. The preparations here are of an extensive character. Quite a number of churches will on Sunday, the 25th inst., have religious services in commemoration of the dead of the armies. Gen. Logan, Commander-in-Chief of the Grand Army, is organizing his staff for the coming year. Comrade W. T. Collins, who has been Assistant Adjutant General during the past year, has been appointed Adjutant General of the organization. Comrade R. J. Hinton has been announced as Assistant Adjutant General. He will also edit, by order of Gen. Logan, the new volume of memorial services authorized by Congress. The volume prepared by Frank Moore is now going through the press. It is proposed to establish, as an official organ, a monthly magazine, to be known as *The Grand Army Record*.

The President and Cabinet, Gen. Sherman, the Heads of Departments, members of the Diplomatic Corps, and army and navy officers have been invited to be present at the decoration of soldiers' graves at Arlington, on the 25th inst. The music will be furnished by a chorus of 100 vocalists, supported by the Marine Band. Col. Fisher, Commissioner of Patents, will deliver the oration.

Mr. Shellabarger, Minister to Portugal, arrived here to-day, and had an interview with the President. He received his instructions at home, whether they were sent by the State Department. He sails from New-York on the 26th inst., accompanied by his wife and daughter, and by Mr. Neal, Counsel at Lisbon, and his family.

Prof. Hall of the United States Naval Observatory has gone to New-York, with his instruments, and will sail thence for San Francisco, where a Government vessel will be ready to convey him and party to Norton Sound, Alaska, for the purpose of making observations of the eclipse of the sun, on the 6th of August next.

About 40 of the supernumerary army officers, detailed as Indian Agents and Superintendents have reported to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs. They will receive their instructions very soon, and be assigned to their new duties.

The President, accompanied by Secretary Boutwell, visited the various bureaus of the Treasury Department to-day.

Postmaster-General Cresswell went to Baltimore to-day, and will probably be absent until Monday. Secretary Rawlins is also out of town.

About 29 clerks will be discharged from the Navy Department during the month of June.

THE TREASURY GOLD SALES—THE AMOUNT TO BE INCREASED TO TWO MILLIONS PER WEEK—IMPORTANT LAND DECISION—THE DISCRIMINATING TUNNAGE DUTIES ON SPANISH VESSELS ABOLISHED.

[GENERAL PRESS DISPATCH.]

The Secretary of the Treasury has directed the Assistant Treasurer at New-York to sell gold hereafter, until otherwise ordered, to the extent of \$2,000,000 weekly, instead of \$1,000,000 as heretofore, on account of the surplus gold still accumulating in the Treasury.

Representatives Dingham, Loughbridge, Eldridge, and Kerr, the Sub-Committee of the Judiciary Committee, will leave Washington to-morrow for Montgomery, to examine into the charges against Judge Richard Bristow. The latter wanted the examination conducted in Washington, on the ground that his life is not safe in Montgomery, but the Committee denied the application for the reason that the Judge

is now holding court at Montgomery without molestation.

The Commissioner of the General Land Office has replied, in answer to inquiry whether the granting of the right of way to railroad companies by homestead settlers would affect their right under the law, that in his opinion such action does not affect the right, as he does not thereby alienate the land in such a sense as is contemplated in the Homestead Law.

Gen. Spinner, Treasurer of the United States, wishes to inform the public that those who send out circulars offering to furnish exact copies of United States notes, and who inclose genuine 10 or 20 cent notes as specimens of counterfeits in which they deal, gain a living, not by infringing on the law of the United States against counterfeiting, but either by cheating their victims out of the whole amount sent them, or by returning therefor small photographs of United States notes or something similar, which cannot be passed as money. As the laws of the United States take no cognizance of such offenses, the Treasury Department cannot undertake to secure the arrest and punishment of the offenders, but must leave them to be taken care of by local laws and authorities. He makes this statement, not for the information of dupes who would otherwise send their money to swindlers, but to protect himself and the Department from the letters inflicted upon them by well-meaning persons, who, having received copies of the circulars in question, fancy they have unearthed some gigantic scheme of counterfeiting, and hasten to lay their information before the Departments.

The following circular to Collectors of Customs has been issued:

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, May 13, 1893.

You are hereby directed, on and after this date, to discontinue the collection of all discriminating tunnage duty on Spanish vessels entering your port from ports in the island of Cuba and Porto Rico, in accordance with the provisions of the act for a repeal of the tunnage duties on Spanish vessels, approved March 1, 1893, this Department having been officially advised that on this date discriminating tunnage tax upon American vessels will cease to be collected in the ports of the island of Cuba and Porto Rico. Very respectfully,

GEO. B. BOUTWELL, Secretary of the Treasury.

The Custom agents, under the newly-appointed plan of Secretary Boutwell, have nearly all been commissioned.

The President has appointed Samuel W. Harned to be United States Consul at La Rochelle.

W. Krzyzowski has been commissioned Supervisor of Internal Revenue for the District of Georgia, Alabama, and Florida.

The Superintendent of Printing has appointed his son, H. H. Ciapp, his chief clerk, and Madison Davis printer of copy.

The Collector of the Port of Philadelphia has been directed by the Secretary of the Treasury to detain the steamer Florida, now lying at Chester, in the Delaware River, from leaving that port, it being suspected that the vessel is in the interest of Cubans.

Gen. Van Wyck left Washington to night, with some friends, for a trip over the Pacific Railroad to California.

Commander W. L. Hopkins has been ordered to the Philadelphia Navy-Yard as equipment officer, relieving Lieut.-Commander George M. Bache, who will report to Rear-Admiral Breeze for duty. Lieut. Charles W. Thomas has been ordered to the League Island Naval Station. Lieut.-Commander Morrell Miller has been detached from the Naval Academy, and ordered to the Lancaster.

The Customs receipts from May 10 to the 15th, inclusive, are as follows: Boston, \$522,472; New-York, \$1,540,400; Philadelphia, \$253,713; Baltimore, \$259,857; San Francisco, April 19 to 30, \$397,515; total, \$4,525,858.

A REPORT THAT THE EIGHT-HOUR QUESTION IS SETTLED.

The Washington correspondent of *The Boston Advertiser* says:

At the Cabinet meeting on Tuesday there was a full discussion of the Eight Hour law, and it was at last concluded that the sole intent of Congress in passing it must have been to reduce the hours of labor without reducing the pay. It was decided, in order to prevent a different interpretation of the law by the various Departments, that the President should issue an executive order or proclamation, stating that a full day's work for Government employes shall be eight hours, and that for this they shall receive the pay of ten hours' labor.