

THE CUBAN REVOLUTION.

LOSS OF THE STEAMER MISSISSIPPI—ALL HANDS SAVED.

HAVANA, May 24.—Advices have been received from St. Louis that the steamship Mississippi, which left Rio Janeiro on the 23d of April for New-York, ran ashore at Martinique, under full head of steam. She will probably be a total loss. All hands were saved by the assistance of a French war steamer.

OFFICIAL ACCOUNT OF THE LANDING OF RE-ENFORCEMENTS—MOVEMENT OF UNITED STATES STEAMERS—SENSATIONAL RUMOR ABOUT QUESADA.

The following official account of the landing of filibusters in the Eastern Department has been made public: "Seven hundred men disembarked on the night of the 16th, in the Bay of Nipe. There they quietly took up a position, mounting six guns and fortifying three houses. They remained undiscovered 36 hours. Capt. Mozo attacked them with 120 men, and, using the bayonet, stormed one of the houses and captured a flag. He was finally obliged to retire, his ammunition giving out. The filibusters lost 60 killed and 160 wounded. The Spaniards had four killed." The *Prensa* adds that the filibusters fired three cannon-shot into the steamer *Marzella*, damaging her hull and rigging. The flag captured by Capt. Mozo is inscribed, "Riferos Libertad," and was presented by Emilia Casanova. It is now in this city. The troops took the six guns and turned them against the filibusters, and spiked the guns before they fell back.

Four war steamers, with troops, have sailed for the Bay of Nipe. There is a rumor that the Rebel Gen. Quesada has been captured and shot. Mr. Plumb assumed the duties of United States Consul-General to-day. The U. S. flagship *Contoocook* and steamer *Yantic*, have sailed for Matanzas. The *Saratoga* is waiting here to carry Minister Nelson to Mexico. The *Narragansett* has gone to Nuevitas to bring away American residents desirous of leaving. Twenty-two prisoners captured on the prize *Galvanic*, were sent to Spain yesterday.

REJOICING IN NASSAU AT THE SUCCESSFUL LANDING OF MEN.

Dates from Nassau are to the 21st. On the 8th inst. the English steamer *Salvador* returned from the north coast of Cuba, and there was great rejoicing in Nassau over her success in safely landing men and munitions. The Receiver-General had seized the *Salvador* for violation of the Foreign Enlistment act. The Government demand £4,000 fine for excess of passengers taken by her from Nassau, and the people are indignant at the demand.

LANDING OF RE-ENFORCEMENTS FOR THE CUBANS.

KEY WEST, Fla., May 24.—Capt. Carlin and others of the Steamer *Salvador*, have arrived here from Nassau. They report the successful landing of troops and ammunition in Cuba.

CUBAN AND SPANISH WARFARE COMPARED—NO CUBAN PRECEDENT FOR THE INFAMOUS PROCLAMATION OF VALMASEDA—COMPLETE TEXT OF THE PROCLAMATION OF CESPEDES.

ROOMS OF THE CUBAN REPUBLICAN JUNTA, }
NEW-YORK, May 24, 1895. }

Among the telegraphic news published on Saturday, the 22d inst., there is a dispatch from Havana containing extracts from a decree issued by Gen. Cespedes on the 18th of February, and in which several rigid resolutions are proclaimed by the Cuban leader. The Spanish authorities, by publishing these extracts now, evidently desire to counteract the feeling of horror occasioned by Valmaseda's infamous proclamation of the 4th of April, the latter being made to appear as a necessary and excusable consequence of the former. With that object the dispatch only mentions the orders contained in Cespedes's edict, and artfully avoids making any allusion to the circumstances which gave rise to them and which are expressed in the proclamation. The Junta therefore consider it their duty to make a truthful statement of the case, thereby unmasking the artifice employed by the Spanish Government with the object of disguising its iniquitous conduct at the cost of Cuban reputation and honor. Gen. Cespedes's decree of the 18th of February is now brought to life by the authorities at Havana, who perversely inform us that it was issued five weeks before that of Valmaseda; but the former proclamation, far from having given occasion to the promulgation of the latter, was precisely the sad and inevitable consequence of the system of war to the knife declared against Cuban patriots by the Spanish commander. The following is a complete text of Cespedes's declaration:

Since the first acts of the Cuban revolution, since the taking of Bayamo and Tiguani in this department, and Guaimaro in the Central Department, when a generous capitulation was offered to the garrisons on which we could have enforced an unconditional surrender, as is well known, the principles of humanity, civilization, and generosity were displayed on the part of the Cubans, showing the manner in which we were willing to carry on war with our oppressors. More than 400 prisoners, whom those successes and following ones placed in our power without any risk of life, have continued to reveal our purpose, while the enemy violated in a base manner at Puerto Principe the capitulation of Guaimaro, arming anew against us the civil guard, who had been sworn by the terms of the above-named capitulation never to take up arms against the Cubans. And they not only denied quarter to the few prisoners they succeeded in taking, but with bloodthirstiness and ferocity worthy of their antecedents in America, where they lost their power by similar brutality and cruelty, they shot, without judgment, peaceable citizens for mere suspicion of connivance with the revolutionary troops. They did more. While our troops not only respected the mortal remains of the enemy's soldiers, and buried those who were inhumanly abandoned by their companions, and took care of their wounded, our dead were barbarously abused by the Spanish soldiery, their bodies mutilated, and otherwise subjected to the most horrible atrocities.

The liberating army has not made reprisals. We wish to avail ourselves of every means in our power to make the enemy adopt more humane practices and a less ferocious system of warfare. With that object I had addressed, in the first days of the revolution, a dispatch in that sense to the Spanish Governor at Manzanillo. That dispatch obtained no answer, and the shooting of Cubans found in arms and the desecration of our dead were continued by the Spaniards.

Decided, nevertheless, to await the last extremity before giving way to the horrors of reprisals, I sent by flag of truce a dispatch on the 20th of December last, to the Commander-General of Cuba, in which I entreated that the Spanish Government should accept the kind of warfare which we had instituted and were observing. In other words to stipulate quarter for prisoners and wounded, as all civilized belligerents do, even when not united by ties of similarity in origin, religion, and language, and naming a period of 15 days for its answer, declaring that after that time, if I unhappily received no satisfactory answer saying that they would cease to shoot and commit the before named cruelties, I would adopt at last the mournful but absolute necessity of reprisals.

The Commanding General, Brigadier Garcia Munoz, after having maltreated by words and miserably insulted the envoy, by bearing with his own hands the insignia and devices of the defenders of the country, said, in answer, that he could not condescend to take my dispatch into consideration. Notwithstanding, true to my word, I resolved to take no steps whatever until the period should have elapsed.

But, to-day, the permit being at an end, and the conduct of the enemy being not only unchanged, but, on the contrary, aggravated by new acts of cruelty and barbarity, I have been obliged to accept the war to the knife, with all the determination with which I have repelled it.

Therefore, I decree reprisals against the enemy in its most ample terms from to-day, without restriction of any kind. Blood for blood; execution for execution; extermination for extermination.

January, 1895. CARLOS MANUEL DE CESPEDES.

The decree issued on the 18th of February was the sequel and practical expression of the above declaration, and as a proof of this statement, we give the heading which accompanied the proclamation, and which was very carefully suppressed by the Spanish censor.

War to the knife being declared in the Island of Cuba by the Spanish authorities in several edicts, executed in fact by their troops operating in this Territory, and repudiated by being admitted as a rule of their warfare, I, Captain General Cespedes, am obliged to dictate the necessary course to be followed on our part to avoid confusion, and to attain uniformity of action in the army under my command.

Whereas, all who are waging war against us are not similarly circumstanced;

Whereas, according to the laws of humanity, and the elementary principles of sound policy, a distinction should be established among our enemies; and

Whereas, it is in accordance with the spirit and nature of the present war of independence, I decree:

Here follows the proclamation, of which an extract has been already published in the Cable dispatch to which we refer.

With the above explanations the trickery of the Spanish Government will be made manifest, as they clearly prove not only that Valmaseda's proclamation of the 4th of April had no connection whatever with Cespedes's decree of the 18th of February, but also that the latter was adopted in consequence of similar proclamations issued by the Spaniards, and the acts of cruelty and barbarity perpetrated by their soldiery.

Nevertheless let Cespedes's proclamation be compared with that of Valmaseda's, and it will be seen at once that the same judgment is not applicable to both, even if considered in the abstract.

Cespedes establishes a difference between his enemies, grants pardon to the Spanish soldier, and punishes neutral Cubans, according to circumstances. Valmaseda orders that young men over 15 years of age shall be shot

for the simple crime of being away from their homes without a plausible excuse; that all dwellings uninhabited or unprotected with a white flag, shall be reduced to ashes; and finally that all women, who are not found in their respective houses or in those of their relations, shall be taken by force to Jiguani or Bayamo. The Cuban leader, in obedience to the principles of civilization, when driven to retaliate in consequence of the atrocious acts of his enemy, endeavors not to be absolute in his severity. The Spanish chieftain vents his fury not only upon those who resist him with arms, but also upon peaceable inhabitants, children, women, and even farm-houses.

Let truth, therefore, come to our aid, and place facts in their right place. Valmaseda's proclamation admits of no excuse, and will stand forever as a testimony of Spanish ignorance in the island of Cuba.

F. J. BARORA, Secretary.