Washington News and Gossip.

Cuba-Valmaseda's Preclamation.

Washington, May 20.—Information from Cuban sources, received here by 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 ac-

The same information reports the success of the Cubans at Trinidad and the defeat of the Spanish commander, Count Lesca, at Los Tunos.

count of his order to put to death all per-

sons over fifteen years of age found away

from their bomes. The merchants fear

the system of reprisals. The late Com-

mander of Trinidad is the only Spaniard

of note who circulates the proclamation.

but its provisions are being carried out

to terrible extremities, and long lists of

brutalities are being constantly reported.

Six women, one child and one editor.

special tax receipt; neither is one interchangeable with the other. A manufacturer of tobacco and snuff may sell the products of his own manufacture with paying a special tax as a dealer in tobacco, and a manufacturer of cigars may sell the cigars of his own manufacture at the place of manufacture without paying special tax as a dealer; but if a manufacturer of tobacco or a manufacturer of cigars sell at the same time the products of another manufacturer, he must pay a special tax as a dealer in manufactured tobacco. When a dealer in manufactured tebacco has his salesroom in the front part of his store. and occupies his back part as a place for manufacturing tobacco, snuff or cigars, or where he uses the first floor of his building as a store or salesroom, and the upper part or cellar as places for manufacturing or making tobacco or cigars, the goods, whether tobacco, snuff or cigars, must be packed and stamped before being removed from that part of the building where they are made to the salesroom. When tobacco, snuff or cigars, are removed from the place where they are made, and placed in a store or salesroom, where the occupant does business as a dealer, and they are offered for sale, within the meaning of the revenue law, and if they are found there exposed for sale without the stamps affixed, they are liable to seizure; and the person so removing his goods and offering them for sale, without previously affixing stamps the proper canceling and denoting the payment of the tax, is liable on conviction, to the penalties imposed by sections seventy-one and eighty-nine of the act of July 20, 1868. Where a person manufactures and sells cigars in the same room, and at the same place sells cigars of other persons' manufacture, he must pack and stamp his cigars before he offers or exposes his cigars for sale by placing them upon his shelves, counter, showcase or other conspicuous place. Manufactured and purchased goods cannot be stored promiscuously and offered for sale upon the same shelves and counters, and with no stamps affixed to goods which the person thus exposing them has manufactured himself. Goods

July 20, 1868. Alabama Question in Congress. The opinion prevails here in congressional circles that the Alabama question will give rise to a long if not an able and interesting debate in Congress next session, and that it will form the staple of the speeches which are made at every session of Congress on some important topic or other for circulation in pamphlet form in congressional districts. A leading member of Congress gave this as his opinion to-night. The mass of correspondence on the subject, which was ordered to be printed a short time before adjournment, will be printed during the summer months, and will be the text for innumerable speeches of the character indicated. If the question is settled before the end of 1870 it will be considered that good progress has been made by Mr Motley. Cuba. News from the Cuban Insurgent Camp Di-

of his own manufacture which are com-

mingled by the manufacturer with goods

purchased without being properly stamp-

ed and canceled are liable to seizure

under sections 70 and 71, or if cigars

under the provisions of section 89, act of

Insurgents—A Free Opinion of the Captain General—His Preparations for Departure—A Great Scandal—The Fight at

[From the N. Y. Sun, May 13.]

Syruanea.

rest—The Spaniards Routed in Front of

Trinidad—The City in the Hands of the

TRINIDAD, April 21.—Gen. Cavada ordered part of his troops to approach Trinidad, without, however, attempting to take possession of the place.

Citizen Villamil, with 1600 men and 8 mules, which appeared to be loaded, marched in sight of Trinidad. He was attacked at 11 o'clock, A. M., by the

attacked at 11 o'clock, A. M., by the Spanish troops, which came out from Trinidad for that purpose, but were routed. The Spaniards fled, leaving twenty dead, thirty wounded and twenty-five Remington rifles behind. The patriots lost twenty-four men in killed and wounded, one adjutant among the number. Villamil then received orders from Gen. Cavada to move to Palmarejo, where he arrived without finding a single Spanish soldier on the road. On the same day, and near Trinidad, arms in great quantity were landed, to the cries of "Long live Cuba free," and "Long live Gen. Cespedes." On the 15th Gen. Francisco Aguilera

attacked a convoy four miles from Las

Tunas, that was being conducted to the garrison in that town. After having lost the convoy, the retreating columns were attacked by the light cavalry and infantry of Aguilera, and before they arrived in the city they lost one-tenth of their entire force. But they rallied in Las Tunas, and leaving 200 men to guard the city, sallied forth in quest of the patriot forces. These, more astute than their opponents, disappeared and attacked the city by the opposite side from which the Spanish troops had left, and after a vigorous defence, forced the garrison to surrender, taking 150 prisoners—all that were left after the battle. The patriots had twenty killed in this engagement. Aguilera immediately took possession of the city, and found some artillery, among the rest, two fine field pieces, with which he armed two fortifications, which were immediately erected. On

The Revolucion, a Cuban organ, published in our city, contains a letter from Havana, from which we take the following interesting extracts:

The principal obstacle in the way of the Spaniards is Gen. Dulce. This gentle-

his arrival, he was reinforced by two

hundred and fifty men that the Spaniards

had gone out to meet them presented

themselves before the city, but were

soon put to flight by the artillery of the

On the 17th, the Spanish troops that

had held there in confinement.

Cubans.

the Spaniards is Gen. Dulce. This gentleman, who is arranging his trunks, and has taken good care to send to London and to Madrid as much money as he has up to the present been able to realize out of his wife's property, does not wish to see the isle change its present relations, but very soon we shall witness a struggle going on between these same Peninsulars and the cynical traitor of Vicalvaro. The attitude assumed by certain corps of volunteers will augment the difficulty. They are struggling to find a reason for justifying a mutiny, so that they may get rid of the imbecile and worn-out Dulce The Captain-General foresees the catastrophe, and has already given the note of warning by publishing the "rules for the bodies of volunteers in the isle of Cuba." * * Not even a tragic death will be sufficient punishment for the crimes of which Dulce has made himself responsible, according to the opinions of the volunteers.

A fruitful source for scandal has been the conduct of Dulce with reference to the commander D. José de Sostrado. This gentleman, who discharged the duties of Governor in San Antonio, learned that various volunteers who had in custody the young Rafael Marquez, (charged upon suspicion of disloyalty,) had assassinated their victim in the road between Bejucal and Rincon. He, therefore, caused six of the criminals to be put into prisen. Afterwards, when Dulce was advised of what had been done, he ordered that the prisoners be set at liberty, and removed Sostrado from his post. Such an unheard-of proceeding has contributed to make more plain the disaccord between the volunteers and some of his veteran officers, who applaud or censure Dulce according as each one may regard the complexion of things in Spain, and looking to his own particular interest. The drama is approaching the time of being played, and the day is not distant when it will be put upon the stage.

La Voz de Cuba published lately an article entitled "Something which

should be ready." In it a clamor is raised for a constant sending forth of troops from the Peninsula, and for a general, active and energetic and one who will give the finishing stroke to this insurrection. Dulce, who does not bite his tongue, is preparing to say, publicly, and as though he would throw off all responsibility, that the rebellion has not now more than a few contemptible forces; but no one believes this: " * * * and as the insurgents hold the points heretofore occupied by them. * * * * the only effect of this annoucement will be to still further lower the prestige of the Bashaw of the Plaza de Armas. Mention is made of the "refusal of the colored troops to fight because they did not wish to serve as a bait; and the going over of these mobilized troops to the patriots after having beforehand measured out a regular butchery to the Catalan vohunteers!" As to the fight at Siguanea. A thousand men (Spaniards) left Trinidad under the command of Gen. Buceta. Arrived without obstruction at the outakirts of the slope, the column was formed three deep. When it had gone half way to the trenches, a destructive cross-fire from both wings was opened upon it. The Spaniards, tired out by the long march, by the sun, which fell upon them as lead, and by the hail storm of bullets, which decimated them, endeavored to march forward, but no human power could have made them advance. Buceta, desperate, took a man from each company, and these were shot on the spot * * * (as examples.) After which the column continued its march that of retiring. * * * It entered Trinidad, not, however, without its officers giving the assurance that they had taken the trenches of Siguanea, and that the cowardly insurgents had fled.