

CUBAN AFFAIRS.

Further Facts in Connection with the Upton Expedition—A Hard Story of Suffering—Cubans Quarreling—The Eastern Department—Seizure by Creditors—The Mary Lowell Case.

From Our Own Correspondent.

HAVANA, Saturday, June 11, 1870.

Further particulars of the *Upton* expedition have reached Havana, and they demonstrate that a great deal of carelessness and neglect was observed by the leaders of the expedition. The sworn depositions of three members of the expedition, whose love of life undoubtedly caused them to be so prolific, their declarations filling several closely-printed columns, has shown the manner in which these expeditions are organized, a display proving that only good luck, and not talent, has ever enabled the Cubans to land either men or arms. The first declaration is signed by LUIS MEDAL. As the documents are very lengthy, I shall limit myself to making extracts. Mr. MEDAL begins by stating that he wishes it to be remembered that he was taken unarmed with five companions, that it was his intention to surrender, and that owing to his sickness since landing his companions had abandoned him. The landing was effected on the night of the 23d, the steamer leaving in the morning and returning on the succeeding night, but still without being able to discharge all her cargo. The men landing being commanded by GASPAR BETANCOURT. All were busily engaged in hiding the landed arms and ammunition on the beach. On the 26th a Spanish gun-boat appeared off the beach, and sent some men ashore, who, I understand, were driven back. Col. BETANCOURT then gave the order to leave, abandoning seven or eight sick persons. MEDAL says he and his associates tried to see if they could find some troops to whom they could surrender, and on the afternoon of the 28th they met four men on horseback, to whom they told their story, and who brought them near the spot where the fourth company of artillery battalion was encamped. The men on horseback then turned and ran, the troops firing on them and advancing, which resulted in the taking of some and the killing of CARLOS ALVAREZ. On the 29th, MEDAL and company left with the column and arrived on the beach, where the landing had been effected on the afternoon of the same day, when their companions BENAVIDES, the brothers FUSTO and PEDRO APARNIO, and the colored man JOSE VALDES were executed. On the 30th a quantity of the disembarked goods was found, and on the 31st MEDAL went as a prisoner aboard the gunboat *Ero*, together with JOSE YSIDRO FERNANDEZ and TOMAS ALMEYDA, also of the *Upton* expedition. MEDAL also wishes to state that two more expeditions are to be undertaken within a short time, one from Columbia commanded by LONO, and the other commanded by QUESADA; the latter is said to be due in a steamer armed as a man-of-war, and the former by the *Upton*. And now Mr. MEDAL makes some serious charges, beginning with a statement that this phantom of a lying liberty (Cuban liberty) is created by a club of men without faith or conscience, and by them forced upon weak and sickly minds; also, that it would be difficult to make the people understand at once that the so-called Junta of Cuba and Porto Rico (New-York Junta) is only a society of assassins who live covered by the mask of patriotism, and have no other aim than to send innumerable brothers to die—brothers who imagine that they are sacrificing themselves on the altar of their country. What did this Junta mean, he asks, by sending an expedition to the beach of Punta Prava, a place in possession of the Government and without communication with the interior? What diabolical idea possessed it to lose this cargo and the 125 or 130 men who came by the *Upton*? And what arrangements had been made with those who were to receive these arms, when it was altogether impossible for them to reach the beach? This bitter and painful truth brings the bad faith of these men (the Junta) to light, and MEDAL, who, with many companions of the expedition, had been wandering lost about these mountains, hungry, naked, burnt by the fiery sun, and worn out with thirst and fatigue. MEDAL says he prayed God to have compassion on him and to wreak vengeance on the perfidious. The document I refer to is signed by LOUIS MEDAL, and the other two are couched in similar language, TOMAS ALMEYDA, who, I believe, was at one time Secretary of the Cuban Junta at Key West, declaring the following particulars in his declaration relating to the treatment on board, namely, that they were treated badly on the *Upton*; that the officers lived "in clover" and did not even care whether the men had anything to eat or not. Also, that there was no organization whatsoever; that the Cuban leaders were no soldiers, and that those who were, did not speak Spanish. ALMEYDA confirms the statement that BETANCOURT sent the sick men into the mountains without provisions, and that they lived on the few crabs they could catch. The third prisoner, GARCIA, repeats the same story of hunger and despotic treatment aboard. The three prisoners also requested in writing, that the commander of the gun-boat should intercede in their behalf. And now comes the story of Spanish generosity toward these sick and defenceless prisoners—men who surrendered without having fired a shot and without being in possession of arms. These men, who pointed out to their captors the hidden arms, were taken to Puerto Principe and had a conversation with the Captain-General, who generously ordered a verbal court-martial to assemble, which tried them as prisoners, and they were executed behind the jail at Puerto Principe on the 2d of June. They had far better died without dealing a line, but they were led to hope a great deal from the kind behavior of Lieut. OLIVAREZ, of the gun-boat, who, however, had no power to interfere in their behalf.

CUBANS QUARRERING.

The reports which find their way through the Cuban ranks all agree that the leaders are not living as is required by the magnitude and importance of their undertaking. Generals quarrel with Generals, or their inferiors; the President with the Generals and Congress with somebody else. One of the most prominent leaders of the revolution, Gen. IGNACIO AGRAMONTE LAYNAS, only lately Commander-in-Chief, has written a letter to CESPEDAS, which is simply a challenge to fight a duel. The *Voz de Cuba*, referring to this letter, says that if both were of any account, they would work in unison instead of quarrelling. CESPEDAS

being the Cuban revolution personified, and IGNACIO AGRAMONTE the man of action. This remark from the ultra *Voz de Cuba* is timely and true; if the Cubans wish to win they must, above all, sink every personal feeling and work only to accomplish the object they have in view. Internal dissensions will be the worst enemy they will have to contend with, and all private differences and difficulties ought to be forgotten for the present.

EASTERN DEPARTMENT.

According to the reports of both parties, the campaign sustained in the Eastern Department is the most difficult and thankless of all, not only on account of the weather, but also owing to the bad roads and peculiar qualities of that mountainous region. MODESTO DIAZ manages to keep VALMASEDA busy, and has been skillful and successful enough to thwart the efforts of the 3,500 men which compose the several columns operating against him. Many times the troops were quite positive that they had caged the fox, and flattered themselves with the pleasing delusion that their troubles and labor would soon be ended. But DIAZ always found means to escape them, and by his shrewdness and knowledge of the country always avoided falling into the trap laid for him, escaping at times only by the "skin of his teeth," and not always with a "whole hide." The latest news from Santiago de Cuba states that he was completely surrounded in the Cienaga del Buéy by the columns of CANVIZALES, BONICHE, HEREDIA, PEDEMONTA and GALDOS, and at the moment when everybody was expecting to hear the news of his being killed or captured we learn, through private sources, (the Press and RODAS being silent on the subject,) that DIAZ had cut his way through, killing twenty-seven and wounding thirty-nine Spaniards, with a loss to himself of thirty-eight killed and nearly one hundred wounded. After the fight the Spanish troops, who had marched over twenty miles, were so exhausted that they were unable to pursue him. The Cuban Col. HALL, with a body of men from MARCANO'S division, is endeavoring to overtake MODESTO DIAZ, and will most probably succeed. Col. VELASCO, who was wounded in a recent engagement with DIAZ, has left his command and come to Havana. Since the arrival of the steamer several ominous rumors have been in circulation from this region, and the *Diario*, without specifying them at all, declares them to be false. The rumors are that the *presentados* near Guantanamo were continually molested and ill-treated, and that they had joined the army again against the Spaniards, together with the negroes of all the plantations in that vicinity, who had risen *en masse* and formed a formidable force. There is some probability of such an event, but your correspondent cannot vouch for the truth of these reports, although it is more than probable that they rest on some foundation and have been exaggerated.

SEIZURE BY CREDITORS.

Your correspondent has just been informed that all the funds of the ALDAMA family in England, amounting to \$350,000, have been embargoed and seized by the creditors of the Bahia Railroad in England, the late Mr. DOMINGO ALDAMA having signed a security bond. Rumors of this have been circulating for some time, and as Mr. ALDAMA had been connected largely with railroad matters, the report may be true.

THE MARY LOWELL CASE.

which has caused such an immense amount of diplomatic talk, is again on the tapis. The Spanish Government, although repeatedly asked for a duplicate of the papers in the case, always refused to furnish a copy under some pretext or other, stating that the papers had gone to Spain. On Wednesday the documents were at last delivered to the American Consul, who had them copied and they will go forward today to Washington. QUASIMODO.