CUBA.

Wholesale Assassination by Spaniards in Santiago de Cuba.

Two American Citizens Among the Victims.

Contemptuous Treatment of an American Consul.

Particulars of the Outrage on an American Sea Captain.

The Seizure of the Steamer Colonel Lloyd Aspinwall by the Spaniards.

Efforts of the Government to Throw the Responsibility of the Murder of Greenwalth on the Cubans.

The steamship Morro Castle, Captain Adams, from Havana February 26, arrived at this port yesterday, bringing our despatches to the date of sailing. Our correspondence furnishes full particulars of the assassinations of Cubans and Americans, and various other outrages perpetrated upon our citizens by the Spaniards, brief mention of which has been given in our telegraphic columns.

Another Wholesale Assassination in Santiago de Cuba—Two American Citizens Among the Victims—Contemptuous Treatment of an American Consul—The Promise to Admiral Hoff Ignored—Pretended Trial on a Remote Plantation—An Unsuccessful Expedition.

HAVANA, Feb. 26, 1870.

Advices from Santiago de Cuba to the 18th report that on the Tuesday previous the city was appalled by a fresh tragedy, nearly equalling that of Jiguaní. Since the death of Marcano, and, as is said, owing to developments from correspondence captured with him, a considerable number of arrests have been made at intervals, the unfortunates comprising some of the more prominent and well known citizens of the place. These have been noticed in the correspondence of the HERALD from there as they have occurred. Later the following additional arrests were made, namely, of Andres Puente, Magin Robert, Diego Vinagre, Procurador Santiestiban and Ramon Garriga. These, with others, numbering fifteen in all, were taken on the 13th inst. to the estate known as "San Juan," near the city, and on the 16th all were massacred, except Magin Robert and Ramon Garriga, who have returned to town.

It would seem that the Governor *ad interim* was desirous of saving their lives, or at least not having the stain of their blood on his hands, as on Tuesday he sent out the colonel of the Marine regiment stationed there, under escort of the volunteer cavalry, with orders to Boet, the contra-guerilla chief, to deliver up the prisoners to be brought back to town. Boet not only refused to obey, but had them brought out at once and shot, alleging the superior orders of Valmaseda. Among the dead are two American citizens, named respectively John Francis Portuondo and Charles Dannery, the former naturalized and the latter native born. When these men were arrested the acting consul for the United States in Santiago de Cuba, Mr. Phillips, at once sent a despatch to the government claiming the fulfilment of the promise made to Admiral Hoff that any American citizen accused of offence should be given a fair trial in the presence of his consul. To this the government, having no monitors before its eyes, returned a contemptuous answer, and the men were shot as stated.

The Spaniards claim that they and the others were executed after a fair trial; but this is preposterous, when it is considered that there were men arrested and taken away from the town, the proper place for their trial, tied up and handed over to an officer who commands a set of the most depraved and ferocious of men, principally composed of convicts, as these contra-guerillas are, and by him were conducted to an obscure plantation, and there, without being permitted counsel or witnesses, came to a violent death, the officer constituting judge, jury, witnesses and executioner.

On receipt of the intelligence in the city many of the Catalans decorated their establishments with the Spanish colors, which were, however, promptly taken down by the police. It was reported that the contra-guerillas and Catalans were so incensed at the effort of Colonel Ojeda, the Governor *ad interim*, to deprive them of their prey, that they proposed to revolt and depose him; but on receiving intimation that he had the artillery all ready to receive them, they changed their minds and contented themselves with the massacre of his prisoners. Boet, the commander of the lawless band of contra-guerillas, is claimed to be a man of intelligence and of many good qualities, and his personal appearance indicates this. He places the responsibility of his action on Valmaseda, under whose immediate orders he acted.

The Spaniards say that by this blow they have deprived the insurrection of its main support; that the dead men include the Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary of the Cuban Junta in Santiago, and those who were the most active and determined in supplying the insurgents. They also claim that the NEW YORK HERALD correspondent in that place is among them.

A private letter from Santiago says that the expedition which lately left there to inquire into the reported landing to the leeward returned without having found any trace of it. The man who acted as guide and another who was caught were shot. A large open American built boat was found hidden close in shore.

The papers in Havana do not seem to be particularly well informed concerning this massacre, and treat the matter very gingerly. The first notices were brought by a passenger from Manzanillo. In its evening edition of Thursday the *Diario* had the following:—

> To-day we have letters from Cuba and other sources of information from which we know what we state briefly. Among the papers which the indefatigable Gonzalez Boet collected from Figuerdo and Marcano was found some which contained evidence that in the capital of the department existed a junta, committee or whatever it may be called, which was in communication and correspondence with the insurgent chiefs and forwarded them information and such resources as they could. It is said that the declarations of Marcano confirmed this. These notices gave reason for the arrest of various persons of Santiago de Cuba, who, with the documents which accused them, were placed at the disposition of a council of war, which was convened at the estate San Juan, two or three leagues from Cobre. The council proceeded in all the formalities of custom, and condemned to death eighteen of the arrested, who were executed. This is told us by well informed persons, and even the names of the executed, which we omit.

This is followed by a long rigmarole concerning the clemency of the government and the ingratitude of persons taking advantage of its protection to conspire against it, evidently striving to justify the act, and which, as it has nothing to do with the question, is omitted.

The *Perensa*, in its morning edition of the 25th, gives the statement of a passenger that fourteen had been shot, and postpones farther mention until it receives more certain information. Nothing farther has appeared, nor is it probable there will be.

A letter from the British Consul in Santiago de Cuba says that Gonzalez Boet has a court on a plantation, some fifteen miles outside of the city, where every suspected person is taken, and from whence they do not return, and fully confirms the recital in this correspondence.

Among the killed was General Puente, who was Grand Orient in the Masonic order, the highest Mason in Cuba, and a man by name of Jordan, though of what nationality is not known.

Efforts to Make Cubans Responsible for the Assassination of Greenwalth—Official Announcement of the Government—No Evidence Offered—The Facts of the Case—Recognition of the Assassin—Outrage on an American Sea Captain—He is Compelled to Take Refuge on a British Man-of-War—Meeting of Insurgent Chiefs—A Successful Landing—The Steamer Morro Castle on Ragged Reef.

HAVANA, Feb. 26, 1870.

The efforts of the government here to make the Cubans responsible for the affair of Sunday, the 6th, which resulted in the death of Isaac Greenwalth and severe injury to the young Americans, Foster and Johnson, have culminated in an official announcement of success. Not one shadow of evidence is afforded to substantiate it, however and officials must have much confidence in the credulity of the world if they suppose it will be satisfied with the unsupported statement of an interested party upon a point of this character and that so ridiculously improbable. The announcement, as made in the *Gazette*, is as follows:—

> SUPREME POLITICAL GOVERNMENT,
> PROVINCE OF CUBA.
>
> OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY, HAVANA, Feb. 22, 1870.
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> The presumptions which existed with the government concerning the origin of the recent excesses in Cuba have been officially confirmed. The enemies of Spain regard everything as good which favors their cause, and announce incendiarism and destruction as a system of warfare and propagate daily in foreign periodicals the most absurd ideas, the authors of the conspiracy of Cuba found out of the telegrams from Key West circulating notices of destruction, in their indignation at witnessing proofs of the prudence and judgment with which the Spanish Havana responed to the provocations that they well understand, make a new effort to worry and ruin their country, to throw discredit on a well merited institution, which has afforded and continues to afford such opportune services to the country, and create exterior complications, as proved which the organs and leaders of the rebellion have always in view.
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> These, from their hiding places, sent out word that agents of the Havana authorities had enlisted men for the formation of volunteers, or at least should wear some of the insignia of their uniform, for the purpose of assassinating as many as possible of those best known to be foreigners. In obedience to this plan the unfortunate occurrences of Sunday, the 6th inst., and others that the authorities, actively and faithfully seconded, endeavored to break up without prejudice to the action of the tribunals, which have brought all the power of the law on the offenders.
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> His Excellency the Superior Governor has determined to make public this discovery, to the end that the machinations of such crimes should be known. The volunteers are today the firm friends of order in the cities and his Excellency will take every precaution under his care to be acquitted by so many sacrifices, expecting help from all and each one to discover the criminals who pretend to hide themselves under the uniform.
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> CASARIEGO FERNANDEZ, Secretary.

This is the entire case as submitted by the government to the world.

It is known that following the affair of the 6th great excitement prevailed in the Palace, as it was of so outrageous and unprovoked a character that it was likely to excite a feeling in favor of the Cubans throughout the United States too strong for Secretary Fish and other allies of the Spaniards to resist, and had the perpetrator or rather the initiator of the murder been produced at once it is possible he might have been reprimanded if not imprisoned. That any other than a volunteer and a Spaniard was the guilty party was not intimated; upon his firing at Greenwalth the man was at once surrounded by hundreds of volunteers, who, by their subsequent acts, as heretofore portrayed in the HERALD, were quite as amenable to punishment as he. But as one day after another passed it began to be suspected that the affair had deeper ramifications than was supposed, and that the intention was to cause an indiscriminate slaughter of foreigners, including the United States Consul. It was stated, also, that a number of people had arrived here from New Orleans and Key West for that purpose.

By the affair of the 6th the thing was precipitated before the plan was fairly matured, and the plotters had to escape as best they could. As stated, a letter was received here from the Spanish Consul in New Orleans, stating these facts, and that three of the ringleaders escaped on the steamer Yazoo, which sailed from here for the last mentioned place on the 7th. Of all this, the only thing tangible was the steamer Yazoo, which recently returned here, and the captain, officers and engineer of which have made oath that no persons such as referred to went on that vessel to New Orleans; that she carried but one passenger (an old Havana, American gentleman from Philadelphia. Following this comes another letter that it was not the Yazoo but another steamer on which they escaped, and so the matter stands.

In regard to the assassin, the young man Wells, the companion of Johnson and Foster, and the French Consul, who also saw the affair, selected from a number of the same persons, have given their moral certainty that he was the man, but hesitated to swear positively to his identity.

The Casino Espanol has raised $1,216 for the widow and children of Greenwalth, and presented the same to the Prussian consul, Mr. Luis Weil, to be forwarded. Mr. Weil replies in a polite note of thanks, which is published.

Another outrage upon an American citizen recently occurred here. Among the small vessels which ply between here and Key West, mostly loaded with fish, is the smack Union, Franklin, master, owned by parties who "sympathized with order in Havana" became impressed with the idea that Captain Franklin had taken out from Key West one of the assassins of Castalon, and on his arrival he was at once informed of his trade his vessel was visited by some Spaniards, who used very threatening language to him, and he, thinking his life in danger, went on board the Spanish steamer Deience—as usual, there being no American man-of-war in the harbor. Hence he communicated with the Consul, as did also the commander of the Defence, and Mr. Dodge went on board the smack and took his statement and then called on the Captain General. Franklin desired his "Morro pass," so called, in order that he might return to Key West, and this some volunteers or other persons refused to permit him to get. The Captain General told the Consul to let him come ashore on the following day and he would see that he had his pass. He accordingly did so, but it seems was dogged from his landing and as he was entering the office of the Captain of the Port he was stopped and informed if he entered he would be a dead man. He immediately returned on board of the Defence, when the Captain General being apprised of the facts, caused his pass to be sent to him and erected a Spanish man-of-war to escort him out of the harbor.

The course of all the officials connected with the affair is commended by the Consul, who states that they acted in the affair with entire promptness and efficiency. The commander of the Defence is entitled to gratitude for his courtesy and readiness to extend all needful protection to Captain Franklin. The matter has been reported to Washington.

We have little of importance concerning the insurrection. The *Diario* of the 23d professes to have seen private letters from Nuevitas which contain "very interesting notices concerning the state of the rebellion in the Eastern department." At Nuevitas there has been a reunion of the principal rebel chiefs on the estate "La Batide," of Simoni, where were 600 armed men, they having recently received 1,500 guns (Del Rey and Remington), a ton and a half of powder, 4,000 caps and more than 500,000 cartridges, which formed a cargo which recently disembarked on the coast of Tunas from a steam launch proceeding from Nassau, where, it is stated, remains another vessel loaded with arms. It is known that the number of forces in the territory of Cascorro, Sibanicon, &c., is 2,000, without counting separate parties in Tunas, Bayamo and other points. According to the confession of some prisoners "the principal chiefs are much depressed." The same paper states that D. Adolfo de Varona, D. Jose Ignacio Lolmez, D. Carlos Lomez and an individual from Bayamo accompanied Quesada to Nassau. A landing of filibusters, arms and munitions on the coast of Holguin is reported by the papers here. It is said to be the same cargo which was on board the Lilian. Valmaseda, with sufficient force, had proceeded in person against the expedition.

A telegram from Cinco Villas, received last evening, says there has presented himself, asking pardon, the insurrectionist, the so-called Lieutenant Colonel Don Manuel Garcia, with all of his party, consisting of five officers and eighty troops, carrying forty-five firearms, one of them a Remington—which were all the party had—some ammunition, &c. According to the account they were well received, the soldiers embracing them and manifesting much enthusiasm. Much activity prevails in San Juan de los Remedios, and several encounters are reported there.

On the 23d the Second, Third, Fourth and Seventh companies of the "Honorable Bamberos" a colored military organization, having corps of the fire department, left this city for the Cinco Villas, where, as the journals say, they go to build fortifications, though why they are required in that "completely pacific district" it were hard to tell.

It is denied by the Colonel of the Fifth battalion of volunteers that a sergeant of his regiment was the assassin of Greenwalth.

The Havana journals are jubilant over the action of the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations at Washington. In view of the approaching carnival the government is taking unusual care to preserve the peace.

The steamer Morro Castle, Captain Adams, which arrived here on the 23d, on her passage down ran on to Ragged Reef, twelve miles south of Cape Florida, in lat. 25 20, lon. 80, where she lay for twelve hours, working off by the rising of the tide at one o'clock on Tuesday, the 22d. She was in no way injured. While on the reef she threw over 200 tons of her cargo, consisting of salt and lard. But one wrecker appeared near her, which carried out her bow anchor, but was of too small tonnage to lighten her. At half-past eight in the morning the German steamer Frankfurt, Kuhlken master, passed the Morro Castle from three to five miles off. The colors were immediately hoisted union downwards and four guns fired. The German seemed to respond to the signal, but did not stop, and great indignation was expressed. On the arrival of the two vessels here Captain Kuhlken stated that he did not see the signals nor hear the guns, though he saw some smoke. The usual protest was made by Captain Adams before the American Consul. He finds no blame whatever with the captain of the German steamer.

In the Morro arrived General James Watson Webb and wife and George Wiley, of New York.

Spanish Outrage on American Commerce—Case of the Steamer Colonel Lloyd Aspinwall—Statement of the Captain.

The case of the seizure of the American steamer Colonel Lloyd Aspinwall by the Spanish man-of-war Herman Cortes, and the subsequent detention of the vessel and crew, with the barbarous treatment of the latter by Spanish officials in Havana, as recited in the following statement of the master, and confirmed by all on board, is but another evidence of the utter disregard of International law and comity which characterizes the Spaniards in their intercourse with American citizens. The affair was some time since brought to the notice of the Washington authorities, but at last accounts the vessel was still detained.

STATEMENT OF THE MASTER OF THE COLONEL LLOYD ASPINWALL.

The master, Charles McCarty, states that the Colonel Lloyd Aspinwall, of 76 6-100 tons registered burden, left Port au Prince on the 17th January, 1870, bound to Havana. On the 18th a very heavy sea prevailed, and the vessel being in danger of swamping, he changed her course, steaming three points to the windward. At seven A. M. of that day, and when in sight of the island of Cuba, the pumps became choked by coal and all hands were obliged to turn to with buckets to keep her free, as the sea was breaking over her in large quantities. At three P. M. the engines were moving very slowly, with twelve inches of water on the fireroom floor, and at four P. M. the engines were stopped, all hands bailing. In about an hour they so gained on the water as to start the engines, and at seven P. M. the vessel made the Cape Maysi light. On the 19th the weather was more moderate, but the sea still ran high and the captain kept close to land, hoping to enter the harbor of Baracoa. The crew was exhausted and the water gaining slowly. At seven A. M. of the 20th he saw the entrance to Baracoa harbor, but it was too rough to enter without a pilot. The steamer continued along, the engines working slowly or not at all, until ten A. M. of the 21st, when she sighted Maternillas lighthouse, and soon after a Spanish man-of-war was observed coming towards them. The captain immediately hoisted his flag, when the war vessel changed her course, apparently satisfied. He then ordered the mate to haul it down, as the wind was blowing very hard and the flag was too heavy for the staff. At ten minutes past twelve o'clock P. M. the war vessel fired a gun, and the engines of the Aspinwall being immediately stopped, a boat lowered alongside, and an officer stepping on board took possession of the ship. The ship's papers were at once handed to this officer, with a request that he should examine them, which he declined to do, stating that he had orders to take her to Nuevitas.

The captain protested, and explained as well as he could, stating that he was bearer of despatches of great importance to the United States government, besides large packages of correspondence for Rear Admiral Poor, commanding the North Atlantic squadron, confided to his care by Commander Elias H. Owen, of the United States steamer Seminole, and other correspondence of moment, to all of which the officer only repeated his orders. According to the best of his knowledge the Aspinwall was from four to six miles from the shore at the time. Arrived at Nuevitas the captain was ordered on board the man-of-war, which proved to be the Herman Cortes, when the papers of his vessel were examined and sent on shore. He repeated what he had told the officers, but no heed was given him. The papers delivered to the commander were as follows:—The register, a clearance from the Custom House at Port au Prince, a manifest clearance, authenticated by the Spanish Consul at Port au Prince; an official letter or passport from the United States Consul at Port au Prince, addressed to commanders of Spanish men-of-war in the Bahama channel; the shipping articles, containing the names of the crew now on board, and an old roll or crew list containing the names of persons who had been employed a few months before, when the vessel was hired by the Haytien government.

The vessel was detained at Nuevitas until the 23d. Meanwhile the captain's trunk, containing the important correspondence referred to and other important papers, was sealed up by the Spanish officials, and the captain and crew were once or twice examined and requested to sign a paper purporting to contain results of their examination, which they refused to do, as it was not in English. On the 27th the captain received orders to get ready for sea, but refused to do anything until his papers were restored to him, and at three P. M. of that day a Spanish war steamer took his vessel in tow, arriving on the 29th in Havana. On the 30th he was given to understand that he could hold no communication with shore. On the 2d February he made application in writing to the Spanish Commander for permission to go on shore and communicate with the United States Consul, which was refused. On the 3d the Aspinwall was towed alongside of the flagship Almansa and made fast. On the 4th the captain addressed the Spanish Admiral asking to be supplied with provisions, to which no answer was returned. On that day his colored cook was taken from the vessel without his knowledge or consent. On the 7th several officials came on board, and with them a gentleman delegated by the United States Vice Consul in Havana to be present at the breaking of the seals on the trunk containing the correspondence and other papers referred to. On the 8th an interpreter came on board and inquired of the captain if he intended to name counsel or advocate, to which he replied that he could do nothing until he consulted with the American Consul. On this day he was permitted to obtain provisions from shore. On the 10th he was granted permission to go on shore and see the Consul, but it being Sunday he did not avail himself of the permit until the 14th, and then made oath to statements contained herein, and that the voyage of the Aspinwall was a legitimate one and was not in the employ of the enemies of Spain, at the same time protesting against the detention of himself, vessel and crew, and claiming damages at the rate of $200 per day.

At the latest accounts from Havana the matter was still before the Marine Court there, though no reason, of course, could be shown for the detention.