CUBA.

Spanish Accounts of the Military Situation.

ASTOUNDING CLAIMS OF VICTORIES.

Details of the Battles of Puerto Padre.

General Quesada's Official Report of Patriot Triumphs.

Belligerent Recognition by Peru and Chile.

Official Accounts from the Various Departments—Astounding Stories—Reports of Landings—Meeting of the Spanish Club to Consider Rodas' Coming—The Puerto Padre Fight—The Sequestration.

HAVANA, June 14, 1869.

From the official accounts of certain operations in the interior, published in the *Gazette*, I collate the following:—The military commandant of Guantanamo, under date of the 7th, states that the party of filibusters, composed of 100 Americans, Mexicans and Dominicans, who landed in that jurisdiction were discovered at Baitiquiri by the forces of Captain Gunmez, who attacked them at the point of the bayonet, compelled them to fly, and captured three loads of accoutrements and munitions, 3,000 Remington rifles, several guns and two flags. The troops had only three wounded. The captain of the Guardia Civil found 400 Remingtons, forty boxes ammunition and two pieces of artillery abandoned on the beach.

The commandant at Mayari, under date of the 5th, announces the arrival there of General Buceta, who in a reconnoissance with the "Corona" regiment on the peninsula of Ramon, found two pieces of mountain artillery which the insurgents had left there, with a large quantity of cartridges.

Colonel Lopez Camara, under date of the 5th, at Santiago de Cuba, gives an account of the fight at the Camp St. Simon. He attacked the rebels with a company of engineers, twenty of the Leon regiment, forty regulars, fourteen Reina cavalry and two volunteers of Los Doo Caminos. The rebels numbered from 800 to 1,000, white and black. Soon after the firing commenced the troops made a bayonet charge, which caused the complete dispersion of the enemy. The troops destroyed more than one hundred hats and four houses, situated in the centre of the camp, the enemy's headquarters; also forges, carpenters' shops and other establishments. They captured two cannons, a quantity of munitions and some horses. The troops had ten wounded.

The Commanding General of the Central Department, under date of the 2d, states that on May 25 he ordered Lieutenant Colonel Yoller, with four companies of the colored mobilized volunteers of Havana, with a squadron of the Reina cavalry, to Listado, three and a half leagues from Minas, to escort some families desirous of coming to the last mentioned place. An insignificant fire was kept up on the party, but the object of the mission was consummated with the loss of one colored dead and another wounded.

The Commanding General of Santiago de Cuba, under date the 6th, states that on the 5th a party of 150 rebels attempted to molest a small detachment near the plantation Santa Isabel. An available force under Ensign Rosadu was sent out. It forded the river Guaninico and compelled the enemy to take refuge in the Vega Ganado, one and a quarter leagues distant; having come up with him again he was again dislodged by a bayonet charge. The enemy continued firing while retreating for fifteen minutes, causing only one wounded. The commandant of Holguin, under date of the 9th, states that on the 7th, despite the floods consequent on the heavy rains, he sent a small force to Cuaba, a point two and a half leagues to the south, where rapid firing had been heard. The troops came up with the rebels in ambuscade and the lancers attacked intrepidly, killing an American colonel. The enemy gave way, leaving behind one howitzer and two boxes of ammunition. On the field were found fifty-five dead bodies, forty-nine guns, three rifles, sixteen lances, many revolvers and sixty horses. The loss on our side was two killed and six wounded volunteers and three soldiers wounded. Having been reinforced by fifty artillerists the column returned to Holguin. The enemy fell back on Bijaru, twelve leagues from Holguin.

The Commanding General of the Cinco Villas (Lesca) yesterday transmitted the following telegram:—"The enemy attacked Ciego Montero this afternoon and was repulsed by the detachment stationed there. The latter, having been reinforced by a section of cavalry and some volunteers, attacked and defeated the insurgents, who had fifteen dead and several wounded, losing besides fifty horses, three loads of munitions and a quantity of arms. We had no loss."

The following is the published list of arms captured in Jojo, between Baracao and Guantanamo, from a party of 100 filibusters, who came from St. Domingo and landed on that coast:—Two mountain howitzers, with carriages; 24,000 (?) Spencer rifles, 20,000 Armstrong cartridges, 550 Armstrong percussion guns, 168 ramrods, and several other articles.

These official accounts are after the model of those published by Lersundi, and no doubt contain about the same amount of truth.

A meeting of the Spanish Club took place at the Theatre Tacon last evening to consider the situation with reference to the arrival and probable policy of Rodas. The results are of course not made public, but it is well understood that a determination is felt to have a clear understanding with the new Captain General, and the meeting was held to establish unity of action.

Three hundred of the additional Guardia Civil, lately organized at the expense of the planters and for their protection, have been compelled to take the field in an emergency.

The steamers Pajaro and Triunfo, just arrived from Santiago, Gibara and Nuevitas, brought nearly 200 troops, mostly wounded and some sick; among the former are several officers.

The following have been officially declared as comprehended in the sequestration decree of April 20 last:—

In the Insurrection.—Luis Tejada, Juan Tejada, Pablo Rebustillos, Julio Villasana, Antonio Pacheco, Miguel Pacheco, Donna Clotilde Tamayo de Marmol, Eduardo Marmol, José Pacheco, Donato Marmol, Raimundo Marmol, Justo Marmol, Jesus Perez, Carlos Manuel Cespedes, Francisco Aguilera, Lucas Castillo, Felix Figueredo.

Abroad.—Isidro Fajacios, Manuel Fernandez, Francisco Agramonte, Fernandez Cuevas, Desiderio Murillo, Felipe Veranes, Buenaventura Martinez, José Robert, Francisco de P. Bravo, Pedro Boudet, Francisco Lemaur, Lorenzo Pedroso, Narciso Foxa.

Absent from Matanzas.—Severino Caballero, Juan Andricain, Sebastian Alfredo Morales, Juan Francisco Lazo.

La Voz de Cuba, in speaking of the fight which took place between Puerto Padre and Las Tuñas, admits that the insurgents "attacked the troops with great *furia*, rabid as they were with hunger;" that the struggle was an obstinate one, sustained for a long time hand to hand; that there was great *carniseria* (butchery), and that after the insurgents were defeated some presented themselves still declaring that they would rather be shot than die of inanition. The same journal mentions that among various feats of heroic valor on the part of the troops one case deserves notice. An artillerist being in want of "fire lances" he placed a piston on the ear of the cannon and pummelled it with a stone, succeeded in firing the gun and causing the grapeshot to create great havoc among the insurgents, who were whirled, as it were, from before the cannon's mouth.

El Pabellon Nacional of Cienfuegos of the 11th contains the following:—

"IMPORTANT.—Action by the column which Colonel Salinas commands between Loma Alta and Azules—Defeat of the Insurgents—Capture and conveyance of the rebel Generals Dona Pastora Gonzales, apprehended by the forces under the chief of police, Zurbano.—Yesterday at half-past two o'clock P. M. the disciplined militia of Guines entered the town, commanded by N. Zurbano, conveying among the ranks, on horseback, the Señora Dona Pastora Gonzales, who was placed in custody at the residence of said police chief. The details of the action given by Colonel Salinas we will publish as soon as they reach us. Santa Clara, June 10, 1869."

Landing of Two Expeditions—One of Them Reported Annihilated—Rumored Murder of General Buceta—Resignation of General Latorre.

SANTIAGO DE CUBA, June 8, 1869.

Reliable information of the landing of two expeditions has been received here, one near Guantanamo and the other at Joji, on the north coast, near Baracoa. The former consisted of about 120 men; and report says they have already been attacked and exterminated, killed or made prisoners. It is also said that they lost forty boxes of rifles and two cannons; but, as near as I can learn, this is somewhat premature; the truth being that a small party, which was detached to communicate with the insurgents in the interior, was met and cut off, and the main body, which remained behind, was surrounded, with little hope of escape. Of the other landing nothing is known. This end of the island is most unfavorable to landings, as there are no insurgents in the vicinity to receive them and furnish means of transportation.

Rumors are afloat that General Buceta has been murdered by his soldiers, and are generally believed, as a previous attempt had been made on him, his horse falling a victim. General Latorre has sent in his resignation, or, at least, has asked to be relieved at once.

The two cannons taken by Colonel Camara recently, and over which such a jubilee was made, were of home manufacture, consisting of wood and iron pipe, and are more valuable in the hands of ther captors as curiosities than they were as engines of war to their original owners.

None of the munitions of war reported captured at Magasi have arrived here, save twelve boxes, containing two cannon balls each.

Details of the Fight Between Puerto Padre and Las Tunas—Valor of the Patriots—Affairs on the Principe Railroad—Pecuniary Success of a Spanish General—Dissatisfaction With Letona—The Rio Blanco Fight—Death of one of the "Perit" Filibusters—A Gloomy Situation.

NUEVITAS, June 11, 1869.

The troops that let here on the 25th ult., under command of Brigadier General Ferrer to reinforce the Fifth mobilized volunteers, the Napoles regulars and part of the "regiment Havana" at Puerto Padre, returned on the 8th inst. to this city on the steamer Moctezuma. They accomplished their object, which was to assist the first named troops in conducting a convoy of prisoners to Las Tunas. They return in a very deplorable condition, having passed through innumerable hardships. The cholera broke out among them on their first day here. Out of nineteen case seven proved fatal before night.

These troops, in conjunction with those already at Puerto Padre, started from the latter place with a convoy of thirty carts, each drawn by six oxen, on the 26th ult. They encamped the first night at the plantation Manuel. On the 27th ult., at an early hour, they resumed their march, and soon after leaving the plantation they were hostelized by the insurgents, who kept up a running fire, which continued until they arrived at place called La Breñosa. Here the patriots attacked the centre of the Spanish column guarding the convoy, and a hard struggle ensued, they making use of their machetes to wrest the convoy from the troops. They attacked three successive times, but were repulsed on every occasion. As I am informed by a soldier, the insurgents were at one time very near becoming masters of the convoy, but the superiority of arms and discipline, together with a piece of artillery placed in a favorable position, decided the victory in favor of the Spaniards, the rebels retiring in good order. They were without artillery, but continued hostilizing the convoy until within six miles of Las Tunas. Generals Marmol, Marcano, Vicente, Garcia and Rubalcava were the chiefs in command.

The loss of the insurgents I have heard estimated by various Spanish officers from eighty to 800, among them General Marmol; but this last is very doubtful. As usual, it is very hard to get at the truth—a thing which never flourished in Cuba, and has now been entirely rooted out. The Spaniards confess to have lost seventy-six in killed and wounded, among the former a lieutenant of artillery, and Major Bonichi, considered one of the best and most gallant officers in the Spanish army, dangerously wounded. I have conversed with several officers concerning this action, and they all agree that the insurgents fought well and gave proof of much valor, a virtue generally denied them by the Spaniards.

Nothing of any interest has occurred recently between here and Puerto Principe. The train makes about two trips weekly without any obstacles. The line continues to be guarded by troops. The telegraph wires are cut occasionally, and attempts are made to burn the bridges; but the latter are frustrated by the watchfulness of the troops. The train arrived yesterday afternoon. A hand car, with four soldiers belonging to the engineer corps, and which was about two miles ahead of the train to examine the road, was cut off by a small party of rebels.

Don Fernando Betancourt, Don Domingo Mora, Dr. Emelio Marquez, Don José A. Recio and Don Carlos de Varona y la Torre, all gentlemen of high standing, are still in prison in Puerto Principe. No proofs have been found against them, but they are held, as the Spaniards say, for "preventive measures."

It is generally rumored here that Brigadier Mena, late Governor of Puerto Principe, took the nice little sum of $60,000 with him. This demonstrates what a Spanish general can make in a besieged city. A great row is imminent among the volunteers in Principe. They are dissatisfied with General Letona and a commission of four is going to Havana with a view of having him relieved. Letona is too lenient for them.

The rebel account of the fight at Rio Blanco has been confirmed by several Spanish officers, who confess that their rear guard, consisting of 107 men and seven officers, was entirely cut off and captured, together with one cannon. The officers sent to Las Tunas for their clothing, which was sent to them. So it seems the insurgents do not shoot down their prisoners in cold blood, as the Spaniards frequently have done. The account of the fight referred to was published in the HERALD of the 20th ult.

Guimaro and Cascorro, as is said, have been burned by the rebels to prevent their being occupied by the Spanish troops.

On the 19th ult., a day after the engagement near the Bay of Nipe, a German, giving his name as John Jager, presented himself or was taken by the Spanish gunboat Africio. He stated that he embarked on the steamer Perit, Captain Fletcher; that he sailed from New York on the 7th ult. with thirty-nine Americans, twenty-nine Germans and 100 Cubans. Her cargo consisted of 2,000 rifles, eighteen cannon and other articles of war, with provisions. The steamer arrived at Nipe on the 14th, and after landing her passengers and cargo sailed away. He was shot in the act of jumping overboard to make his escape, as say the Spaniards. He was a native of Guttenburg, Germany, twenty-six years of age, a citizen of the United States, and served in the federal army during the late war.

In looking at the situation here, it is evident that the struggle will continue a long time. I do not see any advantages on either side which promise an early restoration of peace. Many of the Spanish officers are disheartened; they speak in very disparaging terms of their commanders, seeming to have no faith in them. As an officer remarked to me not long since, "It is nothing but marching and countermarching, conducting a convoy from one place to another, never stopping to fight and route the enemy. All we accomplish is to relieve Las Tunas, Puerto Principe, or some other city from starving. Much hard work and no glory; a good deal of noise and nothing more. Pompous and exaggerated reports are given by our colonels and brigadiers to gratify their ambition and advance their career."

PATRIOT ACCOUNTS.

The Engagement at Puerto Padre—Defeat of the Spaniards with Heavy Loss—One Cuban Only Wounded—Defeat of a Column Marching to the Relief of the Spaniards—Patriotism and Bravery of the Cubans.

CUBAN REPUBLIC,
OFFICE OF SECRETARY OF WAR, May 16, 1869.

The Citizen General in Chief of the liberating army communicates to the department the following:—

GENERAL QUARTERS IN MUNICION.

Having on the 12th inst. learned that Spanish troops had disembarked near Puerto Padre I went in that direction, concluding that they came to reinforce the garrison of Tuñas. On the morning of the 14th I marched towards San Manuel, and in Maniabon, where I breakfasted, Citizen General Peralta joined us with part of his forces. I learned there that the enemy was approaching. On descrying the enemy we crossed the river, and I placed the riflemen of the escort, under the orders of Colonel Varona, General Marmol and staff on the right wing and General Peralta with his troops on the left, disposing of the balance—commanded by General Garcia and Colonel Boza—at convenient points. We were not in ambuscade, nor had we even the advantage of the position, as the enemy commanded the highest ground. A heavy shower of rain fell at the same time and rendered a great quantity of our munitions useless for the want of canvas. Despite all, our troops fought so bravely that the enemy soon became alarmed and disordered at seeing the great losses they were suffering, while we had to regret the want of a parque, which prevented the complete destruction of their column.

In this glorious fight our men distinguished themselves to an extraordinary degree, especially the riflemen under Colonel Varona. The enemy's loss was over 100 men in killed, wounded and prisoners. From the latter I learned all that we required with reference to our opponents, and in Vazquez I prepared the way to a complete rout on their part. We waited for the enemy in vain; having become completely terrified, he did not venture to sally from behind the walls where he had taken refuge, and where he was certainly not sheltered from the rain, as I had previously ordered the demolishing of the huts, which might otherwise have served him.

I learned this morning that a column was coming from Tuñas in aid of their comrades, already a short distance from headquarters. The arms of the republic had on this occasion to reap new glory, if not a triumph, as the enemy fled in the most shameful manner, after a rude attack with machete in hand, directed by Colonel Varona, and thus the enemy was pursued until the Cubans had spent their last cartridge, not only of their own arms, but likewise of those captured from the enemy in the previous fight. This remarkable final attack was made by Colonels Villar and Varona.

In the first encounter, notwithstanding that the Cubans fought open breasted and with admirable serenity, it was only the aid, Eduardo Montejo, that had the glory of being slightly wounded in the leg. In the latter encounter we had a loss of twenty-five killed and wounded. As regards the casualties of the enemy, they were not under one hundred in the first and one hundred and fifty in the second fight. They left sixty dead bodies on the field.

The republic has reason to be well satisfied with the bravery, constancy and the good success with which her sons have struggled on this occasion, compelling the enemy to run away shamefully. The patriotism in this department, vying with the skill and valor of the chiefs, and the feelings of the soldiers, renders it unnecessary to have the fraternal aid that has been offered us by the force of Camaguey. Let therefore return to that district the brigade of Colonel Manuel Boza, one of the illustrious veterans of our army. May he march crowned with laurels. I will answer for it that the soldiers of the East will continue to gain them for the glory and salvation of the patria.

Be pleased to transcribe this communication to the citizen major general of that State. Patria and Libertad. MANUEL QUESADA, General-in-Chief.

Published for the information and satisfaction of all patriots. Patria and Libertad.

FRANCISCO AGUILERA, Secretary of War.

GUAIMARO, May 18, 1869.

Patriotic Address to the Cubans—The Atrocities of Valmaseda.

EL MAMBI, May 27, 1869.

That Cuba has been and is more advanced than Spain is a problem that has been solved more than a quarter of a century. That Cubans are better disposed to receive the benefits of liberty is so certain, that the conduct observed in this war is sufficient to prove it, as it is readily discerned therein which of the two nations is most civilized and worthy of liberty. The Spanish General, Valmaseda, was the foremost who gave vent to his national character, after the encounter in Bonilla, where he was undeceived as to the result—that it did not consist in the power of armaments nor in the number of soldiers. He destroyed and burned the plantations La Fé, Union, Santa Isabel and Barreto. Having unmasked himself, he continued his vandalic march, destroying estates, sacking towns indefensive, such as Cascorro and Guaimaro until his junction with Colonel Lofin in the savannahs of Rompe. On leaving Tunas his march was noted for more incendiarism as far as Bayamo, on the ashes of which he has intrenched himself, to continue that war of extermination and desolation with which he believes to be able to conquer anew he that was an oppressed Cuban.

Mark the difference. The Spaniards shoot and burn the Cuban prisoners. The Cubans pardon the Spaniards made prisoners. Civilization, in awarding war to the oppressed against the oppressor, enjoins the sacred duty of being generous with the vanquished, and as Cuba is strong she is generous with her ancient oppressor. It is not weakness that compels her to act thus. It is the moral education of this people that prompts her to it—an education not received from her rulers, but that which has been inculcated by the continuous contact with the American people. The little space we are permitted to dispose of does not allow us all the latitude we could desire. Nevertheless, we will occasionally furnish our readers with the news of the great events which have occurred in our war.

The republican army is covered with glory. The heroic encounters of Maniabon Varquez prove our superiority over the enemy. The result was a loss to him of 250 against twenty-five on our side. Neither our armament nor the discipline of our volunteer patriots afford us the aureola of the much vaunted Spanish militaryism. The strong against the weak are crushed when the former has to deal with a valiant and determined enemy.

Reuniting our ideas and with the object of corroborating the state of our civilization as compared with Spain, we will conclude with the noble expressions which inspired our brave commander-in-chief, on the solemn occasion of saving the lives of 200 Spanish prisoners, of which ten were chiefs and officers:—

The savage conduct of your government compels me to make reprisals and to retaliate. To assassinate the aged and even infants and women is of easy execution to your generals. That conduct I condemn in you; but as at this moment I am representing the Cuban republic and her magnanimity, I pardon you in her name. Cuba, in fighting for her liberty, wants to do so as behooves her and is due to morality, to civilization, and, although she is making war against a revengeful and ferocious enemy, it is not less true that she fulfils her duty to morality and humanity. Your generals and me have a judge; terrible, yes, but just. That judge is history, and I am sure that in giving its flat with respect to our respective conduct will say:—Valmaseda and Dulce acquitted themselves with the Spanish civilization—Quesada did so with the American. YGNACIO MORA.

BELLIGERENT RECOGNITION OF CUBA.

Official Recognition of Cuban Belligerency by Peru and Chile—Their Ministers at Washington Instructed to Use Their Good Offices With Our Government—Interesting Letters on the Subject.

The following are the official documents from the governments of Chile and Peru acknowledging the Cuban patriots as belligerents:—

RECOGNITION OF CHILE.

OFFICE OF THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS,
Republic of Chile, 30th April, 1869.

Sir—His Excellency the President of the republic has carefully considered the contents of your despatch of the 9th December, 1868, which was forwarded to him on the 14th January last by the agent of the provisional government of Cuba at Kingston, Jamaica, and he has directed me to give your Excellency the following reply:—The said despatch of your Excellency, after having shown the origin, the object and the progress of the Cuban revolution, solicits of the government of Chile that it should recognize the patriots of Cuba as belligerents, and that it should lend them all the support to which the identity of the two countries point. Also that it should use its influence with other nations to prevent the Spanish government from continuing to burn the properties, destroying the cities and imprisoning families. Above all, I would assure your Excellency that the government of Chile has witnessed the recent events in Cuba with that lively interest which they merit. Not alone on account of the firm bonds which exist between two American peoples like those of Chile and Cuba, but likewise that the object of the insurrection of that island is completely analogous to that which at the commencement of this century resulted in the independence of Chile and the other States of this continent.

In view of the immense proportions which the insurrection of Cuba has assumed and the organization upon which it is based the government of Chile believes that the patriots of Cuba are entitled to be recognized in the capacity of belligerents, and it accordingly recognizes them as such.

In regard to all which concerns the mode of regulating war, your Excellency will inform yourself of the measures which my government has taken in this respect by the copies of the despatches addressed to the representative of the republic in the United States of North America and in Peru, which I have the honor of enclosing and forwarding to your Excellency.

I am glad at being enabled to avail myself of this opportunity of offering to your Excellency the expression of my respectful consideration, with which I have the honor to subscribe myself your Excellency's respectful and sincere servant,

MIGUEL LUIS AMUNATEGUI.

To HIS EXCELLENCY the Chief of the Provisional Government of Cuba.

OFFICE OF THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS,
REPUBLIC OF CHILE,
SANTIAGO, April 15, 1869.

The government of Chile has witnessed with the liveliest interest the political events which have lately transpired in Cuba. From the intelligences we have received of these events it seems beyond a question of doubt that the insurrection undertaken by those who are proclaiming the independence of that island acquires daily additional force, and everything tends to indicate that the struggle of the Spanish authorities against the insurgents will be prolonged and bloody. Eyewitnesses worthy of credence agree in asserting that this war has assumed an inhuman character, which civilized people cannot view with indifference, the similarity of origin, of religion, of language which exists between the Chilean and Cuban people, no less than the sentiments of humanity, would have induced my government to promote the regulation of this war; but the position of our relations with Spain prevents Chile exercising her good offices to such end.

It is not thus with the people and the government of the United States. The amicable relations which it cultivates with Spain, inspires us with confidence that the latter will not be indifferent to the prestige of the influence of the former and its amicable intervention. The vicinity even of the scene of the war offers the North American government a title, and a motive, too, for endeavoring to insure the more humane conduct of the combatants.

I request you then, under such impressions, to seek an interview with the Minister of Foreign Affairs, and through him to place before the government at Washington the desires of Chile of which I now inform you.

I have pleasure in believing that the American government will lend to this suggestion of mine a reception so much the more kindly, as you ought not to forget that the cause which the insurgents of Cuba fight for is that same noble cause on behalf of which the people of the United States, and of all the republics of America made, at another epoch, so many and such great heroic sacrifices.

I request you at the same time to make such arrangements as will always keep this office well informed of the events of this war, forwarding us by each opportunity intelligence which you deem most credible.

To the CHARGE D'AFFAIRES for Chile at Washington.

True copy for the principal officer, Chief of Section. EMILIO BELLO.

OFFICE OF THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS,
REPULIC OF CHILE, SANTIAGO, April 15, 1869.

By the enclosed copy you will be informed of the despatch which I to-day address to our Minister at Washington, with the view of directing the attention of the government of the United States to the subject of the war undertaken by the insurgents of Cuba, proclaiming the independence of that island and desirous too of inducing that government to exercise its good offices with the object of regulating this war, to which, it appears, the colonial authorities have commenced to give an inhuman character.

With respect to the despatch to which I refer you will solicit the concurrence of the government of Peru, so that by the aid of its representative at Washington it will associate itself with our request, and thus enable us to work together with greater efficacy, in the matter which for numerous grave considerations (will not conceal themselves from your discernment) cannot be indifferent to us.

MIGUEL LIWS AMUNATEGUI.

To the CHARGES D'AFFAIRES for Chile at Lima.

True copy for the principal officer, chief of section. EMILIO BELLO.

RECOGNITION BY PERU.

OFFICE OF THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS,
REPUBLIC OF PERU, LIMA, May 13, 1869.

SIR—His Excellency, the President of Peru, has received with particular satisfaction the note which your Excellency has addressed to him under date 10th December last, in which your Excellency after having explained the origin, the object and the progress of the Cuban insurrection against the government of Spain, solicits that the Peruvian government will recognize as belligerents the Cuban patriots who are fighting for their independence, and lend them the support which our identity of origin demands, and, that we should interpose our influence with other nations in order that the Spanish government should regulate the operations of war.

His Excellency the President of Peru, faithful interpreter of the sentiments of his country, sympathizes deeply with the noble cause of which your Excellency constitutes himself the worthy champion, and he will do his utmost to mark the interest which that island, so worthy of taking its place with the civilized nations of the world, inspires him with. The Peruvian government recognizes then as belligerents the party which is fighting for the independence of Cuba, and will strive its utmost to secure their recognition as such by other nations, and likewise that the war, which unfortunately continues, should be properly regulated in conformity with international usages and laws. To such end I write by order of his Excellency to our Legation at Washington.

Please accept for your excellency the consideration of his Excellency the President of Peru and the very respectful and distinguished sentiments with which I have the honor to subscribe myself. Your Excellency's very humble and very devoted servant. J. A. BARRENECHEA.

To His Excellency the Captain General of the Liberating Army of Cuba, CARLOS MANUEL CESPEDES.

THE GREEK GOVERNMENT AND THE LATE DR. KING.

CONSULATE OF GREECE IN NEW YORK,
NEW YORK, June 15, 1869.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD:—

You do a manifest injustice to the Greek government in the obituary notice published in this morning's issue, regarding the late Jonas King, a missionary of the Presbyterian Board, who died in Athens, Greece, on the 22d of May.

The unfortunate controversy between the Greek government and Dr. King arose solely from the persistence of the latter, notwithstanding numerous warnings to desist from speaking, in unbecoming terms against the predominating religion of the country, from distributing secretly pamphlets to the same effect among the peasantry, and from practising openly proselytism. Both these cases are clearly provided for by the first article of our constitution:—

ARTICLE I. The predominating religion in Greece is that of the Eastern Orthodox Church of Christ. Every other religion is tolerated, and its services and ceremonies are allowed to be practised without any hindrance or molestation under the protection of the laws of the kingdom. Proselytism and any other interference against the predominating religion are forbidden.

For these offences he was brought before the Court of Jurors, in Athens, in 1852, and condemned to leave the country; but the sentence has never been carried out, out of deference to the American government and people. It is a well known fact that Dr. King continued to reside in Athens unmolested ever since, with the exception of two visits which he made to the United States for the benefit of his health. Dr. King has never been imprisoned in Greece.

With regard to the land controversy, the case stands thus:—Dr. King had bought a piece of land in Athens for $1,000. According to the approved plan of the city of Athens a public street had to pass through a corner of his land, and for this a fair compensation was offered to him by the municipality of Athens. He refused said compensation—first, because he wanted more money, and then because he pretended that he wanted to build on it. Of course this could not be allowed, as it would obstruct a public thoroughfare. Many years afterwards he brought a heavy suit for damages and accrued interest against the government. His claim was powerfully supported by the Franklin Pierce administration, which ordered the Hon. George P. Marsh, then United States Minister at Constantinople, to proceed to Athens and enforce the claim. This gentleman, as soon as he arrived in Athens, demanded, in very peremptory terms, first, the sentence for exile to be annulled, and, second, the whole amount claimed by Dr. King to be paid at once. The Greek government replied very courteously that it had no power to overthrow a judiciary sentence (although said sentence was never carried out) of an independent tribunal, and as for the land claim it was ready to come to terms and do justice to Dr. King. Mr. Marsh left Athens without accomplishing the object of his mission. Subsequently the United States government sent to Athens the Hon. R. H. Pryor, of Virginia, to settle this matter amicably. Mr. Pryor laid entirely aside the judicial question and confined himself to the land claim. The result was that Dr. King received a draft on the Greek Treasury for $23,000, in gold, for his claim. I may as well add that the cash and landed property of the late Dr. King in Athens is estimated at over half a million of drachmas ($100,000). His wife, an accomplished Greek lady from Smyrna, continues to reside in Athens and has always remained a member of the Eastern Orthodox Church.

I have the honor to be, sir, your most obedient servant, D. N. BOTASSI,
Consul of Greece in New York.

ELOPEMENT EXTRAORDINARY.—On Tuesday night, last week, a young gentleman, whose home is in Westernport, Md., just across the Potomac from Piedmont, and a fair damsel of the latter village, each of whom was infatuated with the other, eloped, went over to Lonaconing and were married at early dawn next morning. It was the "old, old story" of about the course of true love. The proverbial stern parent not only frowned on the young man, but forbid him to visit his house. A festival in Piedmont was the opportunity. The wave of a handkerchief the signal of a preconcerted arrangement. The lovers met outside, unseen and unsuspected, and, having no fiery steed, set off across the country afoot, reached the minister's residence, eight miles distant, at daylight, were married and sat down to breakfast man and wife.

SUNDAY PLEASURES.

Glimpses of Gothamites as Picnickian Characters.

Excursions Up the Hudson, On the Bay, Along the Sound and Down to the Fishing Banks.

Yesterday was the first genuine summer Sunday of the season, and New Yorkers were not lacking in the will or preparation to spend the day in the usual old time "summery" manner. Below will be found reports of some of the more interesting of the scores of excursions from the city.

Up the Hudson.

Among the many excursion parties which left the city yesterday, that which chose the steamboat Sleepy Hollow for their transit could take a foremost place. The steamboat Sleepy Hollow was built to compete with the Hudson River Railroad in carrying passengers to and from West Point, Cold Spring and Newburg, and in order to do this it was necessary that good accommodations at a moderate fare should be furnished, and that withal the boat should be able to make the trip in reasonably fast time. All these requisites have been furnished by the proprietors of the boat. The boat, they say, can accommodate 2,000 people, and makes the run to Newburgh in a little over three hours. It is fitted up in a style affording ease and comfort to passengers, and is at the same time most elegant in its appointments. So much for the boat. The party which embarked on board yesterday morning must have numbered fully 1,000 or 1,200, and was composed of people, to all appearances, of the highest respectability. There was none of the "rough" element on board, as the trip is such that for that gent it would be "a long time between drinks" and would call too heavily on their ready cash to pay the fare. Those who were present were mostly family parties intent on enjoying a quiet, pleasant excursion, or on the way to make a call on some friend in the country. The company, then, it will be seen, was a choice one. With such a fine vessel, such a select lot of *voyageurs*, and such beautiful weather as that of yesterday, a trip of a few hours up the Hudson, breathing the pure air of Heaven and feasting the eye and the mind on the beauties of nature which abound along the route and the happy thoughts which they give rise to could not be otherwise than delightful. The boat started from Fulton ferry, Brooklyn, at eight o'clock in the morning, touched at Christopher street and Thirty-fourth street piers and then sped on its way. At each of the stopping places there was a crowd in waiting, which looked at first as if large enough to fill the entire boat; but there was room enough for all, and the old saying was frequently repeated by persons in the crowd, "The more the merrier." The several landings were made in due season and Newburg was reached about one P. M. Two hours were allowed for a skirmish through the quiet town and the adjacent country. Shortly after three o'clock the prow was turned again toward the metropolis. Many who had left the boat empty handed came back bearing boughs or bouquets as testimonials of the fact that they had really been in the country. As the gallant craft steadily approached the city the rain storm, which had been threatening for some time, came on quite lively. There was a good natured scramble for shelter in the cabins. Beyond the loss of a little more perspiration and a little crushing of neat summer dresses during the crowding of the cabin there was no damage done. No accidents in any kind occurred, and the crowds were deposited at the various landing places in this city and Brooklyn, all cheerful and thankful after and for their trip, and many perhaps, at the same time, regretting that they could not repeat the dose daily.

Fort Lee.

The steamers Palisade, P. C. Schultz and Fort Lee make busy trips on Sundays from the metropolis to Fort Lee and the picturesque environs of the Jersey shore along the Hudson river. Taking any one of these gay little steamers at ten A. M. a merry throng of citizens in gala attire is found, the Teutonic element perhaps preponderating, and, with bands discoursing lively music and colors flying, the boat swings from her moorings and steams up the river. On the broad decks of the barges convoyed by the steamers groups of lovers of the art Terpsichorean indulged in saltatory exercises apparently with earnest determination to dance or die, despite the scorching sun and torrid heat. About eleven o'clock the steamers rounded to at its little wharf at Fort Lee. Now comes the general debarkation of the living freight and the disembowelling of the boats of their stores of picnic baskets, hampers, kegs and demijohns. These excursions being public, as soon as the point of destination is reached they rapidly disintegrate, and in little knots of two and three scatter about the picturesque localities within walking distance, and wander at their own sweet wills, chatting and flirting and lunching and smoking and drinking; for there is no lack on these occasions of the nectar and ambrosia wherein disciples of the jolly Bacchus revel, nor of the more innocent and no less seductive brews of the lager-loving Teutons.

The points of interest in this locality are numerous. Lovers of the noble game of billiards find facilities for tests of skill at the various hotels. Others engage in the muscular exercise of the bowling alley; others try their eyes and nerves at target shooting, some swing or are swung, and other parties wander to the ruins of the old fort, all overgrown with verdure and suggestive of anything but war. Many stroll to the edge of the river, just above Fort Lee, known as the Bluffs. The view from this point is extensive and attractive, embracing New York county, Long Island and the Sound, Staten Island and the waters of the lower bay, dotted with little islands and bristling with forts. The day passes quietly, pleasantly and, with the exception of incipient fights, generally nipped in the bud, harmoniously. From four to five o'clock the tired picnickers commence the return trip, and the steamers return to the city as well filled with voyagers as when in the morning they started out for their Sunday of pleasure.

Coney Island.

Yesterday was what the Coney Islanders would call "the first rosy gush of summer." After a very hot Saturday the artisan threw off his apron, the blacksmith left his anvil and the men of toil generally looked forward to a gala day for themselves and their little ones. From an early hour in the morning the Coney Island cars were freighted with a mass of living, buoyant pleasure seekers, and by noon there was a goodly crowd on the beach. There were very few "three-card monte men" to be recognized; but those that were there did their business in a quiet way, and did not come within the ken of the authorities, who were not in any wise extra vigilant. The only institution on the island to be noticed yesterday was "Billy Conners, the peanut man," and a great many breakers.

Staten Island.

Staten Island has always been a favorite resort for Sunday excursionists. Yesterday the bright sun which rejoiced the heart of Gotham with its smiling rays had the effect of determining many to spend the hours of their weekly holiday away from the close and heated streets of the city and to enjoy the day of rest among the green fields and within reach of the cooling breezes which came from over the bosom of the bay. The Staten Island boats were not forgotten by the pleasure-seeking thousands, but all through the morning, the afternoon, and even during the evening, they were crowded with persons seeking change of scene and air, away from the places made familiar by every day association. Seated in one of these boats, crowded in almost every part, it was really interesting to notice the various specimens of the *genus homo* congregated upon the decks and in the cabins. There was the father accompanied by his wife and children, and provided with baskets containing the day's repast; the clerk dressed in the most fashionable style, and exhibiting himself as if he thought his make-up the very acme of good taste; the working girl enjoying to the full the gentle breeze which kissed her cheek and played around her delicate form; the mechanic, who rejoiced in the opportunity of feeling free from the demands of daily toil; the merchant and the mendicant, the employed and the employer—all mixing in the motley throng and enjoying the same sensations of delight and satisfaction. When the boats reached the various landings portions of the heterogeneous crowd passed off, some to ramble among the hills, others to extend their journey further up the island, and yet others to gather round the tables in front of the various hotels and there indulge in their bibulous propensities, the Excise law notwithstanding. As the afternoon advanced a storm came on, and no sooner did the rain begin to fall than a general rush was made for the boats and many started for their homes rather than run the chance of a "ducking." Owing to this fact the evening boats for New York were not too much crowded and the return trip was thus made more comfortable. Parties were formed in the cabins and upon the decks, and the time was soon passed in song and general merriment. On one of the boats a religious enthusiast undertook to turn the cabin into a church, and to deliver a religious address, which in its commencement was more rambling than interesting; but his anxiety for the religious welfare of his fellow passengers received a sudden check at the hands of one of the employés, who unceremoniously ordered him to bring his discourse to an untimely conclusion.

The Neversink Highlands.

The fleet little steamer Sea Bird made a very pleasant flight to Red Bank yesterday, touching at some half-dozen intermediate points for the purpose of landing excursionists. Her passengers were more respectable than the generality of persons who attend Sunday excursions. There were parties of aristocrats who had taken this method of reaching Long Branch in order to enjoy the pure air of the bay and the pleasures of the drive from Red Bank; incipient "bloods" in choker collars, tight pants and sickly moustaches; "old sports" who were "jolly good fellows," ever ready for a trip to the regions below, wherein the bar was situated; disciples of Izaak Walton, who were off for a good day's sport on the Sandy Hook dock; mechanics, who were enjoying their relaxation from toil by inhaling the health-giving air and viewing the beautiful scenery of the bay, unsurpassed by even that of the Bay of Naples. The first point touched at was Sandy Hook, where she landed the disciples of Izaak Walton, again departing for the picturesque Highlands, before reaching which she was detained a half hour by running aground on the Shrewsbury river bar. About this time some of her passengers began to look and feel as if they had been detained too long at the "bar" below. After leaving the Highlands the passengers were startled by the grating of the bottom along the sand and the cry of "She's aground again!" After a detention of fifteen minutes, during which time the passengers amused themselves in viewing the beautiful country before them, she again started. During the run between here and Red Bank (stopping at Thompson's Landing and other points for the purpose of landing passengers), the scenery was of the most beautiful, varied and enchanting character.

Red Bank,