CUBA.

Arrival and Reception of General de Redas in Havana.

HIS ADDRESS AND PROBABLE POLICY.

Progress of the War for Independence.

Heavy Losses of the Spanish Forces.

Spanish Accounts from All Parts of the Island.

The steamship Eagle, Captain Greene, from Havana, July 3, arrived at this port yesterday with a number of passengers and a large cargo. We are indebted to Purser William D. Hempstead for the prompt delivery of our correspondence and exchanges.

Arrival and Reception of Caballero de Rodas—Festivities on the Occasion—His Address to the Inhabitants—Advice of a Volunteer—Evidences of a Conciliatory Policy—The General Denies that he is Sanguinary—He Desires the Least Bloodshed Possible—His Preparations for an Active Campaign—Rumors of Martial Law—News from the Insurrection—Successes by Quesada—Various Items.

HAVANA, July 3, 1869.

The new Captain General, Don Antonio Fernandez y Caballero de Rodas, is among us. Of him the *Diario de la Marina*, a semi-official journal of this city, recently found it necessary to say, "He is a distinguished Spanish general, sent by the government of the nation to establish peace in Cuba and preserve at all costs the integrity of the national territory." The Captains General who have heretofore reigned in Cuba have been well known to both peninsulars and colonists in their civil and military careers. With the present one this is not the case. He has some, though no very great, reputation as a soldier, very cruel and sanguinary, without honor as a statesman. Thus, all untried in essentials, he comes to grapple with a question in which one of the oldest, most experienced and wily of soldiers and statesmen disastrously failed.

Early on the morning of Monday, the 28th, arrived the Cadiz mail steamer Antonio Lopez, having on board his Excellency, three or four of his near relations, Colonel Augustine Araoz, three lieutenant colonels, seven commandants, two captains, one lieutenant, several officers of inferior rank, 800 troops and a fresh supply of the inevitable employes. The steamer anchored close to the guardship, when the troops were landed and marched into the fortifications, where they have since remained. Soon after, General Espinar, with an official or two, repaired on board, to welcome in an unofficial manner and have a conference with his successor. The British Commodore Phillimore, with quite a number of officers from the various vessels of that nationality in port, also paid a visit to his Excellency on board.

Meanwhile preparations for the landing, announced for ten o'clock, were taking place. One company from each battalion of volunteers, a squadron of cavalry and a volunteer battery were detailed for part in the reception. These were formed in line on each side of the street, extending from the right of the palace, down Obispo street, in front of the Plaza de Armas and to the wharf, facing inwards. Shortly before eleven General Espinar issued from the place, followed by the city government, the members of the municipality and other officials, and preceded by two lines of black-coated gentry and two or three stout looking fellows bearing ponderous maces, or something else, and dressed in the costume of some old century in which purple velvet, gilt feathers and breeches prevailed. They met his Excellency at the wharf, when a terrific explosion of artillery took place, amid which the cortege commenced its return, preceded by the gentleman of Rhodes. He moved on foot through the lines of troops, backed by a large concourse of people, with an easy, graceful and dignified air, glancing continually toward the balconies, from which no ladies greeted him, but only rough bearded men, at intervals raising his chapeau and holding it very like the "monarch of all he surveyed." A physiognomist would not for a moment consider him a great man. There is, however, in his face evidences of great energy and determination of character. Possibly these might lead him to the commission of those excesses and cruelties of which he is accused, but, from an excellent standpoint, I confess failing to find those evidences of a barbarous and bloodthirsty nature of which others have spoken. He is very dark, like his race, eyes intensely black and glittering, nose retrouse, and indicative that a little plebeian blood has flowed in among the lineage of the "gentlemen of Rhodes." He is quite bald on the top of his head, and upon one side may be plainly seen evidences of what must have been a ghastly wound, received, I believe, in Africa. He is about five feet six inches in height, and therein contrasted curiously with the tall, athletic form of Espinar, walking by his side.

There was little or no enthusiasm in the reception. A few hats were waved from the balconies and an occasional *viva* was heard, but nothing indicative of hopeful anticipations from the new arrival. Entering the palace, the oath, with the customary formalities, was administered to the Captain General, and at twelve o'clock a salute from the Cabanas announced to the people that a new representative of the Spanish nation reigned in Cuba. The soldiers then filed before the Palace, and his Excellency appearing on the balcony, shouted "Viva España! Vivan los Voluntarios!"

Scarce were these ceremonies over when there appeared on the streets of the city, in the government imprint, the new Captain General's address to the inhabitants of the isle of Cuba, to the volunteers and to the soldiers and marines, a copy of which I append. The sudden appearance of this, evidently imprinted in the city, has caused certain of the "disloyal" to intimate that it was prepared for him here before his arrival, while others insist that he wrote it before his arrival, and with only such knowledge of the condition of affairs here as he acquired before leaving Spain. In the familiar discourse which took place in the palace, General de Rodas remarked that it was high time the insurrection was put down altogether, which no one present seemed inclined to dispute. He added that should the suppression of it finally cost him his life he hoped to die in the embrace of a volunteer. An explanation of this remark would have been an act of charity, as there has ever since been much anxious speculation as to whether his Excellency wished to indicate his love for the volunteers or the propriety of their going to the field.

In the evening, according to the usual custom, the retiring Captain General, Espinar, entertained his successor at a banquet, which was well attended by the civil, military and naval functionaries and the representatives of the press. During the entertainment the bands of the First and Second battalions of volunteers played select pieces of music in the courtyard. Over the wine General Espinar made a short speech, in which he alluded to the constant support extended him during his brief command in his efforts to maintain order by the volunteer commanders. General de Rodas, who followed, expressed his confidence that he would be equally fortunate in his reliance on the volunteers throughout the island to maintain public order, defend the national integrity and combat the insurrection until it is entirely suppressed. The buildings and stores of the Spanish residents were illuminated and bedecked with the colors of Castile. On the following evening, also, in accordance with custom, the new Captain General reciprocated the compliment of his predecessor in a splendid banquet. This was attended by even a more numerous and brilliant company than the other. Meanwhile the volunteers gave him a magnificent serenade, which attracted large numbers of families to the Plaza. The streets and houses were adorned as before, and, following the dinner, the General was prevailed upon to stroll through Calle de Muralla, which was bedecked in such manner as to present the effect of a fairy scene.

I have omitted to mention in its proper place that among those who called to pay their respects to the new Captain General were the Consuls of the various nationalities resident in this city. They were addressed in a few words of courtesy by his Excellency. Committees from the volunteers of Matanzas and Cardenas also called to felicitate him soon after his arrival.

Simultaneously with the distribution of the Captain General's address was hawked about the streets a circular, purporting to be a letter from a "Volunteer," making certain suggestions to his excellency as a stranger in the island. It alludes to the nine months' duration of the insurrection, it having been commenced by *cuatro gatos* (four cats), as the Spanish expression is, and hints at the mismanagement of affairs ever since; at the underhand doings, the sufferings and deprivations of the troops, and their decimation by epidemics. It refers to the impracticability of troops campaigning under the rain and over impassable roads, and for a remedy to this generally unfortunate condition of affairs, suggests the shooting of every rebel taken with arms in hand. It does not explain how this is to accomplish the desired result. It is an effort to say popular things in the style of an illiterate person, and, save in the admissions it makes, is of no importance. It is regarded by the public as a catchpenny of the printers.

As to the policy of General Rodas, at this early day, it remains open to speculation. Like Dulce, he comes with vows of peace and reconciliation, and, despite the contrary opinions which have been here and elsewhere entertained, there are reasons for believing that he will at first try the efficacy of mild measures. This would seem impossible after the experiences of his predecessor. Still, though like all Spanish officials seemingly incapable of stating anything directly, he hints at this in his address. He says, "It is my mission to restore confidence and peace." What is of still greater significance in connection with the national integrity, he speaks of "justice and morality." By the latter he can only mean radical reform in the administration of the public service, want of which has been one exciting cause of the rebellion; and by the former, such rights to the people of Cuba as are possessed by other Spanish provinces. Again, he hopes "to efface every track and vestige of the extermination and destruction which civil war of necessity produces, to extinguish all animosities, to heal past wounds and to dry many tears." Certainly these are words of peace. In his interview with the editors of the leading journals, which took place on Wednesday, there were manifested even stronger indications of a mild policy. He expressed to them his dissatisfaction at the epithets and coarse language used in treating of the situation, since, far from tending to union and pacification, they tended to excite the passions and throw obstacles in the way of carrying out the policy of the government. He said, "I am believed to be sanguinary; but, on the contrary, I desire to pacify the country with the least possible bloodshed, and expect the press to aid me in the work of conciliation and peace." He stated that Dulce had been harshly treated, adding that in the matter of honor he yielded to no one, thereby doubtless intending to express his disbelief in the accusations against Dulce of favoring the insurgents. He has, moreover, remarked in conversation with his friends that upon leaving the island of Cuba he wished to do so as the pacificator and not the conqueror of the insurrection.

In the policy thus indicated, certainly unexpected enough, the General, moreover, is not likely to lack support, and that from a quarter equally unexpected. It is said, upon good authority, that the volunteers of Matanzas and Cardenas, in paying their respects to his Excellency, represented to him the necessity of a "government of the country for the country"—Dulce's language—and that experience had taught them that a vigorous *régime* was like to end in the independence of the island. Others there are among the Spaniards who entertain these sentiments, and the idea is becoming prevalent throughout Havana that an attempt at peace and reconciliation will be made.

While such are the evidences of a change in policy, General Rodas manifests no lack of energy in preparing for war. At the present his plans have not developed themselves, but it is well understood that he will, at least, visit the field in person, and then judge of the situation and its necessities. His family is expected in the next steamer, and he will then proceed to the Cinco Villas, taking with him the troops he brought from Spain and such of the volunteers as wish to accompany him. Probably of the latter two or three battalions will be made up from the entire corps. Following his arrival, says rumor, an amnesty of short term will be issued.

The volunteers of the city, meanwhile, are quiet and complaisant. Whether hopeless of any attempt against the prestige of Rodas, or convinced that only in obedience to authority can they hope for success, they have certainly made no demonstrations of late, but have yielded to the current of events.

Amid all this serenity and rose water it must not be supposed that we are free from sensations. The idea has been for the past forty-eight hours very extensively circulated that everything was to be made subservient to the early suppression of the rebellion; that the city was to be placed under martial law, the shops closed and their keepers sent to the field, and that devastating war was to be inaugurated against everything not Spanish. The Casino Español (Spanish Club), the bugbear of the hour, is said to advocate this, and other fearful things are told of it. Of late a "notice" has been quietly and extensively circulated, reading as follows:—

A convention of perverted Peninsulars has recently been organized in Havana, to massacre, at a moment's notice, all suspected Cubans. Notice is hereby given thereof to all pacific residents, in order that they be not surprised.

La Prensa, whose editor is a member of this club, publishes the notice, and says it is what might be expected from the enemies of the *Patria*. That the Casino Espanol has not the good of the Cubans at heart may be believed, and, moreover, that it advocates energetic if not cruel and barbarous measures; but the various sensational reports, though thus cited in order to guard the readers of the HERALD against them, are but mere canards, gotten up by designing persons upon both sides.

Our news from the seat of insurrection is neither extensive nor interesting. Lesca, from Villa Clara, telegraphs of four encounters between a few Spaniards and many insurgents, with the usual amount of capturing and killing. The details may be found in the account of any other four encounters hitherto published. Insurgent sympathizers claim great successes for the forces of Quesada about Puerto Principe, but the latest dates from there make no mention of anything additional to that contained in your Nuevitas correspondence, and they are probably incorrect. It is rumored that Letona is to be relieved and ordered to Spain, and that Puello will replace him. Colonel Benegasi, who has been operating in Holguin, is now here, his command having dwindled to almost nothing. Passengers by the Moctezuma report that Ferrer, in his movements between Puerto Padre and Las Tunas, has lost 1,500 men. Officers from Camaguey state that the plan for provisioning Principe, Tunas and other places, during the rainy season, has failed, and that serious results are likely to follow.

The Moctezuma, which arrived on Monday morning, brought eighty wounded and sick soldiers, who were immediately conveyed to the military hospital.

The rations hitherto supplied to the volunteers on guard in the city by their commanders have been discontinued, as the outlay was too great. They are now furnished with the ordinary rations of the soldier, which causes much grumbling.

Since his arrival Rodas has sent four volunteers to Spain for offences of a political character. One of these was an employe of the government and endeavored to excite feeling against Rodas by stating that he had deceived the volunteers in Spain and after having won their friendship and confidence disarmed and shot them.

The *Gazette* announces the appointment of Cesarro Fernandez y Duro, of the Spanish navy, as Secretary of the political government of Cuba, in place of Don José M. Diaz.

By a schooner from Puerto Padre has arrived Commander Fernandez, chief of the Fifth battalion of mobilized volunteers. Colonel Portillo is the newly appointed Governor of Santa Clara.

The British war vessels, four in number, which concentrated here pending the arrival of Rodas, have all left, fearing the yellow fever. There had been one or two cases on board the flagship Defence, recently arrived from England.

The Contoocook, having on board Rear Admiral Henry K. Hoff, arrived here from Key West on Wednesday and returned the same evening. This vessel has been in this latitude for over eight months, and the officers and crew are very much debilitated. Prudence would dictate that she be ordered North. The Admiral has orders not to remain in Havana harbor over one night.

Monday, the 28th, being the anniversary of Victoria's coronation, all the war vessels in the harbor hoisted the British flag at the main, and the usual salutes were fired.

According to the *Gazeta* of Sunday the properties have been sequestred of twenty-five persons in Moron, seventeen in Nuevitas, nine in Santa Clara and eight in Remedios. The following are the names:—Moron—Fernando Sanchez y Lopez Ramos, Mariano Machado y Marin, Pedro Machado y Fernandez Pacheco, Diego Machado y Marin, Ignacio de la Torre y Varona, Cárlos Enrique de Lens, Félix de la Torre y Guerra, José Valdés, Diego Delgado, Felipe Silva, Manuel Machado y Pardo, José Salomé Machado y Marin, Manuel de Jesus Ulloa, Serafin Sanchez, Andrés Jimenez y Jimenez, José Valdés Morales, Eduardo Barreal, Carlos Padron, José de Jesus Pardo y Pardo, Enrique Valdes y Morales, Juan Rafael Vassallo, Manuel Agustin Valdes, José Rafael Vasallo y Guevara, Pardo, Gerónimo Cervantes, Antonio Modesto Machado. Remedios—Antonio Quesada, Luis Miguel de Rojas, Andrés Bottel, José Bottel, Ricardo Bonaches, Nicolás de Loyola, Amador Bonachea, Joaquin García Conde. Santa Clara—Celestino Gonzalez y Rodriguez, Pardo libre, José de Jesus Jimenez (á) el Chicho, Tranquilino Perez y Jimenez, Pardo libre, Rafael Cruz, Manuel Rodriguez y Guzman, Pablo Ochoa y Lopez, Agustin Rodriguez Hiera, Vicente Vega, José Rosario Alba.

Proclamation of the New Captain General.

CAPITANIA GENERAL OF THE ISLAND OF CUBA.

INHABITANTS OF THE ISLAND OF CUBA—For nine months the most fearful calamity that can afflict humanity—civil war—has been pressing upon this island. From the evil moment that this sad period commenced you have seen commerce languish, industry ruined and the most valued property decay before the impulse of the storm of insurrection and the incendiary torch, stirred up by spurious sons of Cuba or fanatics, artfully deceived by unattainable expectations, striving in their folly and imbecility to destroy the common mother by all manner of ways, and thus make her descend from that empire of wealth and well-being hitherto enjoyed to become a country deserted, covered with ruins and ashes. You observe, moreover, now a continued emigration, which is rapidly diminishing the elements of wealth, and, what is worse, you find brothers decimated by fratricidal bullets and treacherous poignards or assassins.

I will not at this moment descend to notice the causes that may have brought us to the present crisis. Considering the actual state of affairs it is my mission to restore confidence and peace; to make an end at all costs of the civil war, and thereafter to look after your necessities, besides studying whatever may contribute to the welfare of the country; to submit to the national government such reforms as may eventually carry this Pearl of the Antilles to a condition of culture, wealth, enlightenment and happiness such as doubtless was reserved for her by destiny. I comprehend all the obstacles which I have to overcome in having accepted of the difficult command which the Executive has conferred on me; yet, at the same time, I entertain the hope of being aided in the undertaking both by our brave and disciplined army and the armed volunteers, to whose determined spirit and efforts the salvation of the island is partly due, as likewise by all upright and sober men.

Naturally you would desire to know what may be my line of conduct. It is embodied in three words—Spain, justice, morality. Spain will, from her great patriotism, draw inexhaustible resources to maintain the integrity of her territory, within and beyond the peninsula. Morality and strict economy in all branches of the administration. Justice equally to all, the same for the opulent and high functionary as for the modest trader. With this simple programme, which I adopt with unswerving confidence and with a free will, I hope to efface every trace and vestige of extermination and destruction which civil war certainly produces; to extinguish all animosities, to heal past wounds and to dry so many tears. I claim from you that generosity which is worthy of your noble Spanish blood, to obliterate offences, and should we arrive at my aim's end, the glory and happiness will be for you, and the satisfaction of having contributed thereto to your Governor and Captain General. CABALLERO DE RODAS.

VOLUNTEERS—With your attitude, energetic and decisive, you have done signal service to the cause of order, justice and right. You deserve well of the *patria*, and throughout its extent echoes a unanimous shout of praise for those who converted themselves into citizen soldiers for the defence of the national honor. You may be truly proud of your behavior. I am also proud, not only to find myself in the lead to sustain the good cause, but also to have the opportunity of offering you the country's acknowledgments, being on the present occasion the faithful interpreter of the sentiments of the national government and of your fellow citizens. Volunteers, *Viva España! viva Cuba!* the most beautiful Spanish province. Your Captain General,

CABALLERO DE RODAS.

SOLDIERS AND MARINERS—A certain number of Cubans, of restless and turbulent temperaments, have taken up arms and raised the flag of rebellion against the common *patria*. Incendiarism and assassination are the only feats they can commemorate, to their own shame, and as an eloquent lesson to those citizens who, remaining loyal, know what can be expected from the insurrects. You responded to the cry of sedition with demonstrations of your unequivocal loyalty and hastened to the combat. But in vain. The rebels would not and dare not cross steels with you, confining themselves to the exercise of acts of perfidy, cruelty and treason. However, if you have not a chance to fight because the enemy refuses to come to the combat, your glory is none the worse, as you prove to be, as always, sober and persevering men, subordinate and worthy sons of our dear Spain. Now that it becomes my privilege and honor to place myself at your head, to end the work of pacification which you have commenced with great animation and a good result, I trust that you will continue to protect the well disposed; to be faithful friends of the volunteers, now your brothers; generous with the vanquished, and just towards those who may be taken with arms. Persevering thus, the *patria* will remain indebted to you. Your countrymen and strangers will admire your virtues, and you will bequeath an everlasting record of glory to your Captain General CABALLERO DE RODAR.

Story of an American Engineer from Puerto Principe—Inaction of the Troops—Fearful Results of Operations Under the Tropical Sun—Encounters and Successes of the Insurgents—Quesada's Whereabouts—Forty Thousand Troops Required—Seizure of American Property—Affairs at Puerto Padre—The Shooting of Speckman, an American, at Santiago de Cuba—The Murder of Robinson in Matanzas.

HAVANA, July 1, 1869.

On Monday last there arrived here from Nuevitas on the steamer Moctezuma, *en route* for New York, an American engineer named Stephen V. Blake, of Catskill, N. Y. Mr. Blake has lived in the country at intervals since 1854, and is in a condition to judge of the state of affairs. Returning from the United States in December last, he has since January been in Nuevitas and Puerto Principe. He left the latter place on the 17th ult. The reports he gives are not favorable to an early peace. He states that Letona has in his command from 4,000 to 5,000 men, 3,000 of which are guarding the line of the railroad. Military operations are few and trivial, and are only entered upon when necessity prompts it, as, for example, to obtain provisions and other supplies. Every one of these, no matter how light its character, is followed by a great depletion in the ranks, not so much from the rifles of the insurgents as from the sickness consequent on the heat of the sun, which, upon the broad savannahs of the neighborhood, beats down with terrific force, wilting the Spanish soldiery like grass. Herein lies the secret of nothing being done, as it is impossible for the unacclimated Spanish troops to do anything. As an example of this he mentions that on the 14th of June 150 of the troops and volunteers went out after cattle at a farm about two leagues from the city. They met a force of insurgents, numbering, as they say, 500 men, by whom they were driven back, with a loss of seven killed and twelve wounded, the former made up of a lieutenant, a sergeant and four soldiers. On their return, in the afternoon, the men were so exhausted that large numbers of them had to be carried in carts, and, on their arrival, forty were sent to the hospital. There are on an average 300 men in the hospitals, and of these ten or twelve die daily. The Catalan volunteers have lost 200 since their arrival. The insurgents are growing much bolder than heretofore, and do not hesitate to attack the troops on the open plains. On the 19th they made a raid on the first station, outside of Principe, while the troops were at dinner. They killed five and wounded seven. Their own loss was three killed. On the 22d they made another attack on that station, killed the six sentinels and surrounded and captured the entire detachment, consisting of forty lancers and sixty-five infantry, all regulars. Among them were six officers. On the 23d they burned a small bridge at San Antonio and cut the telegraph wires. The latter are scarce ever up more than an hour or two at a time, as the rebels are constantly cutting them. On the 25th they burned the estate "Atalaya," across the bay from Nuevitas.

Quesada remains in that vicinity, the troops under his immediate command numbering about 5,000 men, well armed, for, says my informant, "they have had several good runs lately." The reported confidence of the insurgents he confirms, while the depression and demoralization of the troops are very great. As the Confederates, during the late war in the United States, were in the habit of attributing every federal success to the foreigners in the Northern army, so the Spaniards insist that the insurgent successes are entirely due to Americans, whose numbers they greatly exaggerate, for they will by no means allow that there is any fight in the Cubans. It was understood in Puerto Principe that from 8,000 to 10,000 troops were coming with De Rodas, and the Spaniards were very boastful of what would be done on the arrival of the latter. The fact that he brought but a few hundred will cause much disappointment there, for all admit that there is a great lack of troops, and that full 40,000 additional are required, nor would even that number be of much service the present season. The papers of the city here are accounting for the lack of successful operations there, by the rains, which they say, have set in very heavy. Mr. Blake denies this, and says the season up to this time has been unusually dry.

The stories of the unpopularity of Letona are confirmed. He is disliked for being too lenient and for not shooting those who present themselves. A commission of the volunteers of Principe came to Havana recently, on the Ferdinand el Catolico, to petition for his removal and the appointment of Colonel Goniche in his stead. Espinar informed them that it would be necessary to wait until de Rodas came, for something to be done in the matter.

In despite of the fact that the road has been opened for some time, Principe is not well supplied with provisions. Two trains a week are running, consisting of about a dozen cars, and of these but two or three are for the use of the public. The result is, the supply has no more than kept pace with the demand. It is stated that, under de Rodas, the line will be abandoned and the insurgents pursued into the interior. If this prove correct, the inhabitants of that city will soon be in a starving condition. The insurgents earnestly hope for this change of policy, as they know it will result in the troops dying off like sheep and will do them no injury. Before his departure Mr. Blake had a house in Puerto Principe which he occupied with his family. His son-in-law, a Cuban, was with the insurgents, and the authorities, feigning to believe that the furniture of the house belonged to him, seized it, and what was not stolen went into the hands of the "council for the administration of sequestered property." Mr. Blake produced such proofs as satisfied General Letour that the property was his, but it could not be rescued from the "circumlocution" mill into which it had been thrown, and Mr. Blake becomes one of those long list of claimants concerning whom assinine diplomats write notes of profoundest wisdom and nothing ever comes of them.

Dr. Stevens, an American citizen, still remains incarcerated in Puerto Principe, charged with "sympathizing with the insurgents," being an American citizen. He probably will remain incarcerated. Two American engineers are detained there to run the engine on the road, as there are no other persons to do it. They are paid the same salary as in peace times, and dare not apply for a passport, fearing to be imprisoned. Their names are Robert Bruce, of New York, and Patrick McArvil, of Brooklyn.

Another passenger from Nuevitas by the Moctezuma reports that the rear of the convoy moving from Puerto Padre to Las Tunas had been cut off, and an entire company, with eight or nine officers, captured. This is doubtless the affair mentioned in your correspondence from Nuevitas, dated 16th June, descriptive of the defeat of Ferrer and his retreat to Padre. Applications from that officer for reinforcements had reached Nuevitas, and it was stated that he was besieged on a plantation, with a large number of sick.

Communications had passed between Quesada and Letona. The former, in a letter, complained of the manner in which the war was carried on. The other returned a verbal response saying, among other things, that he hoped soon to measure swords with Quesada. The negro volunteers at Alta Gracia had been attacked and had ninety killed and wounded.

From Santiago de Cuba we have additional information concerning the case of Speckman, an American citizen, recently shot there without any form of trial, he having landed from the Grapeshot. Before his death he made the following statement, in effect, to Mr. Phillips, the American Consul:—He shipped on board the schooner Grapeshot for a voyage to Jamaica. Before leaving, a lugboat came alongside and transferred to her some thirty-five passengers. Getting an inkling from this of the real destination of the vessel, Speckman earnestly protested against sailing in her, but was afforded no remedy. Either then, or later on the voyage, he had a serious altercation with the captain and fired a revolver at him, wounding him in the leg. It would not seem, however, that the captain deceived him as to the destination of the vessel, for on passing Cape Maisi she was pointed for Jamaica, whereupon the passengers rose, took possession of her and landed in Baltiquin bay. Speckman assisted in landing the part of the cargo left, and seeing the captain and the balance of the crew going on board, he being accidentally or purposely left, ran to the long boat, into which he would have jumped, had not George Smith, the leader of the party, seized and detained him by force; the others, meanwhile, destroying the boat. Having no other resource, Speckman went with the party, but unarmed, till after the skirmish with the troops, when it was dispersed and he wandered about for some time until he came again upon the scene of the fight, when he picked up a dead man's musket, not knowing where he was or what sort of men or animals he might come across. Finally he fell in with two unarmed men and gave himself up to them and was detained as a prisoner in the camp for some days, but without being tried in any way, so he could easily have made his escape, but was told and believed that he would be delivered to the American Consul; this, the more readily, as three prisoners, who were taken and shot, had given declarations in his favor and corroborated his statements. On his arrival here, and being made aware of his coming fate, Speckman asked for two or three days' time to send for proofs of what he had stated, but this was denied him and he was shot on the morning of the 17th, meeting his fate like a brave man.

The British Consul at Santiago was present at most of the interviews between Mr. Phillips and the prisoner. He expresses great indignation at the bloodthirsty course of the volunteers, at whose instigation the Governor was, no doubt, compelled to act. It is to be presumed that due representation has been made of the affair to the American government; but under the system which prevails in certain quarters here of throwing an awful air of profoundest mystery about everything which may be of interest to the American public nothing is known.

In the matter of shooting a British subject—Robinson—by the volunteers of Corral Falso, the energetic action of the British representatives here has had the happiest effect. It is understood that Commodore Phillimon demands a trial of the volunteers engaged in the affair, and an investigation to learn if they acted under any orders. The matter is regarded as very serious at the British Consulate, and that the Spanish authorities fear the complications which may arise from it may be inferred from the fact that Espinar, Captain General *ad interim*, called in person upon the Consul, asking for a postponement of the matter until the arrival of Rodas, who would have more power. In my last I mentioned that a brother of the murdered man, fearing violence from the volunteers, had been taken on board the Commodore's flagship the Defence, then at Matanzas. It seems he was imprisoned there, charged with carrying letters for the insurgents. An investigation showed his innocence, and the Governor stated that he should be released, but seemed to fear his power to do so. Thereupon Commodore Phillimon, with a few of his officers, proceeded to the prison, and Robinson being delivered to them, they surrounded him and took him on board the vessel. The volunteers meanwhile dared not attack them, but vented their malice by hissing as the officers passed through the street. Robinson is the son of a poor cooper, and yet, being a British subject and innocent of any offence, an officer of the high rank of the commodore goes in person to rescue him from danger, and that, too, at an imminent risk to himself—an example some of our American officials would do well to follow.

Capture of a Detachment of Regulars Near Puerto Principe—Exasperation of the Spaniards—Revolt Among the Catalonian Volunteers—Desolate Condition of Puerto Principe—Sufferings of the Natives—A Prominent Cuban Sentenced to the Chain Gang—Affairs at Puerto Padre—Return of Troops—Burning of the "Atalaya" Estate.

NUEVITAS, June 24, 1869.

The train from Puerto Principe due on Tuesday last, the 22d, did not arrive here until last evening. Meanwhile the most alarming rumors were rife here and the city was in the greatest agitation. It was stated that the train had been attacked and captured, that the bridges had been destroyed and Las Minas laid in ashes. However, much to the satisfaction of the faithful Spaniards and corresponding depression of the disloyal Cubans, quiet followed the coming of the train, though the causes of the delay were serious enough. It seems that when the train which left here last Sunday morning reached a point within seven miles of Puerto Principe there was found an encampment or post, which had been occupied by the Spanish troops, entirely abandoned, the huts burned to the ground, dead horses lying about, bodies of soldiers half buried, and other signs of a desperate contest. Fearing attack, the officer in charge of the train immediately returned to Las Minas and remained there during the night. On the following morning another start was made, with a large escort, and on again arriving at the point from which it had returned the train was met by a column under the lead of General Letona in person. The insurgents, before daylight on Sunday morning, had surprised the detachment stationed there—composed of 71 regulars of the Battalion La Reyna, commanded by a captain and two lieutenants and 630 Lancers Del Rey—and captured it, with the exception of one soldier who carried an account of the affair to Principe. His fear had exaggerated the affair greatly, and brought out Letona himself, with a large force. After burying their dead comrades the troops returned with the train to the city. The affair has exasperated the Spaniards to the highest degree, and, as usual, the "stay at homes" are breathing out threatenings and slaughter. They have continually boasted that the insurgents would not dare attack regular Spanish troops, and to have a whole party thus "gobbled up" in such close proximity to headquarters has caused them the greatest mortification. There have been several skirmishes along the line of the road and in the vicinity of Principe recently. In one of these the Spaniards lost six killed, including an officer.

On the 22d inst. the Catalonian volunteers, who are stationed on the railway, revolted and refused to do duty. Their colonel was said to be under arrest in Principe by order of Letona and they threatened to march there, release him and kill the General. However, the colonel arrived among them yesterday, and order has been restored.

From all accounts Puerto Principe presents a sad picture. This once lively city is nearly abandoned by the Cubans, only those remaining who are compelled to do so from necessity. The last train brought several of them here *en route* for the United States. There is a perfect reign of terror in the city, and many arbitrary arrests are being made. Among these is that of Don Miguel Fernandez, brother-in-law to General Angel Castillo. He was accused of communication with the enemy and acting as a spy for them, and on these charges was tried by court martial and condemned to ten years in the chain gang. Immediately after his sentence he was chained to a colored criminal and is now working on the streets of that city, where but recently he rolled in his carriage. This gentleman has been on the side of the government since the beginning of the revolution and has rendered it important services. General Lesca was his guest during his stay in Puerto Principe. Envy of the Spaniards and foul play have brought about his condemnation. It has caused the greatest consternation among the native inhabitants, who, when thus seeing the stanchest friends of the government so unceremoniously treated, realize that no Cuban, whatever his conduct, is secure of his liberty. It is heartrending to listen to the stories of those who have arrived here concerning their sufferings and the insults they have been compelled to endure.

Brigadier Amable Escalante has had shot a considerable number who have presented themselves at Las Minas. These victims are generally natives of the Canary Islands and have had nothing in common with the insurgents; but, as the rebels are hard to catch and there is such an intense thirst for blood, which must be satisfied in some manner, these miserables have to suffer.

This morning the Spanish gunboat Andaluza returned from Puerto Padre, bringing the battalion La Union, which had been sent last week to reinforce the column of Brigadier Ferrer. There has been very little fighting in that vicinity since my last. The last convoy lost three of its carts, loaded with provisions. The cholera is thinning the ranks of Ferrer's brigade faster than the bullets of the insurgents. The "Union" lost about twenty men and four officers. The battalion leaves for Puerto Principe in the train to-morrow. The cholera has decreased in this port, and so far there have been but few cases, nor has it been of an epidemic character.

The Atalaga estate, owned by Colonel Francisco Acosta, situated across the bay, was recently burned by the insurgents. The fire could be plainly seen from here. The buildings on the estate were valued at over $60,000.

The Troubles in Porto Rico—Additional Features of the Baltiquiri Expedition—Spanish Losses—Rumors of Insurgent Successes.

SANTIAGO DE CUBA, June 25, 1869.

The Moctezuma, which arrived here yesterday from St. Thomas, brought news of an outbreak in Mayaguez, Porto Rico. The Captain General had left San Juan with artillery and infantry to operate in person among the mountains near that place.

On Saturday were brought here from Guantanamo four prisoners—two Habaneros, one Mexican and one American, the last named Albert Wyeth. These, together with a prisoner named Castillo, brought in by train the same day, were publicly shot yesterday morning. They walked firmly to the place of execution and died like brave men. Wyeth was only twenty years old, and was a telegrapher by profession.

The steamer just in from Mayari brings two cannons and 600 muskets, which were captured from the Baltiquiri expedition. From Guantanamo we learn that not more than six of this expedition remain to be accounted for, the others having been caught and shot, died fighting or perished from exhaustion and hunger. Three of them were killed recently after a desperate resistance.

It has transpired that the losses of General Buceta, recently relieved from command here, were very heavy during his campaign. It is reported that as many as 600 of the battalions Reus and Leon had died. He was honored with several mock serenades by the Catalans before his departure.

Rumors are current of insurgent successes near Holguin and Puerto Principe, but they need confirmation. It is also reported that Valmaseda is coming here at the head of a column.

SPANISH ACCOUNTS.

Troops Marching to Colon—Depredations Near Palmillas.

CARDENAS, June 23, 1869.

Colonel Araoz, commanding the regiment of Napoles in garrison here, arrived on the 21st. The troops have orders to march to Colon to-day.

We learn from Colon that the small column which went in pursuit of the rebel party who sacked the Santa Barbara store returned on the 19th. When the troops arrived at Palmillas they found the citizens armed for the defence. Only a section of the Colon cavalry squadron garrisoned the town. After the arrival of the column the alarm abated. Later in the day, and accompanied with a force of Guardia Civil and a section of the Redcaps of Macagua, went out and scoured the country. On the estate Colmena and the farm Santo Domingo they found ranchos abandoned by the rebels under Lamadrid. The troops were all mounted, as has recently been ordered. Two spies were captured and immediately shot. The column of Colonel Chacon is giving chase to the rebels. Narciso Corales, apprehended by an insurgent band in Jaguey Grande, was fortunate enough to escape in the night. He was employed to carry palm leaves for building a thatched "palace" for the rebels in the woods.

Total Force of the Rebels—The Union Troops and Brigadier General Ferrer at Puerto Padre—Much Sickness.

NUEVITAS, June 21, 1869.

The valuable cattle farm Candelaria, of Don Jose Cruz Castellanos was burned by the rebels.

The insurgent forces between San Cristobal, Puerto Padre, Maniabon and Yarey, Nuevitas, Tunas and Holguin, under the command of Quesada, Marmol, Peralta and five others, amount to at least 6,000 men.

The union battalion has returned to Puerto Padre, as also Brigadier Ferrer.

It is said that the insurgents, after uniting all their forces, again attacked Puerto Principe yesterday, but were repulsed. Another account says that a force of 200 rebels appeared in the vicinity of the city on the 19th, and that the volunteers who went in pursuit killed seven and dispersed the rest.

According to the *Fanal*, the volunteers defeated a rebel party at the cattle farm of General Quesada's brother.

General Letona's late measures have reconciled the people in Principe. A certain influential person named Miguel Fernandez always boasted of his loyalty, and managed so well as to be recommended to the confidence of the General; but the latter, with great insight, found out that he was one of those that gave early notice to the rebels what the government were going to do. The General had him arrested, and in three days the legal investigations were terminated, proving his complicity. The military attorney, or "fiscal" of the court martial, Lieutenant Colonel Olarce, demanded the death penalty, but the court decided for perpetual imprisonment. In less than twenty-four hours Señor Fernandez was seen among the chain-gang working with a pickaxe in the streets. This warning to others had produced a good effect.

Some bands are running over the country between San Miguel, Mayanaba and the railroad line.

The news from Gibara is to yesterday.

In the steamer Pelayo, for Havana, several officers and troops return sick. Some of them are wounded.

The rains having set in, there is a good deal of sickness prevailing, particularly dysentery. The military operations are almost completely paralyzed.

Reported Death of the Insurgent Chief Castillo—An American Colonel Killed—Sufferings of the Poor.

NUEVITAS, June 22, 1869.

Brigadier Amable Escalante, who commands in Minas, is suffering from disease of the lungs, and has asked to be relieved. The most numerous band that had appeared in that town did not exceed 200; but there were smaller parties, of fifty to sixty, that took great care not to come in sight of the troops. It was said that the rebels were badly provided, and that much dysentery prevails among them. Letona is rebuilding Minas.

The insurgent chief Castillo and his followers were lately on the estate of Angel Castillo, which is styled San Diego. It is said that he died recently of cholera or dysentery.

A small party of rebels cut the telegraph, but it was soon repaired.

The last train from Principe suffered some delay because the rails in Sabana Nueva had been taken off.

From Gibara, by the war steamer Churruca, we learn that a numerous party of rebels attacked a small detachment of volunteers, who entrenched themselves in a building until some troops came to their assistance, when the volunteers attacked the enemy with intrepidity, and killed about forty, including an American colonel, who commanded them.

The poor in San Andres are badly situated. Colonel Benegasi was to have fixed a detachment there for their protection.

In the town of Velasco the residents are reduced to a limited number, who had to venture out for their food to some distance in groups of twenty.

The hamlets of San Augustin and Parmo have been reduced to ashes.

Encounters Between the Mobilized Volunteers Under Acosta and the Rebels.

SANTI ESPIRITU, June 22, 1869.

Señor Saenz Izquierdo, the Governor *pro tem.*, officially gives an account of Colonel Acosta's encounter with a considerable number of rebels near Selba on the 20th, when the enemy was defeated and dislodged from the advantageous positions he occupied with a loss of four killed and many wounded, among whom was a chieftain. The troops had only two wounded, among whom was the intrepid Captain Martitegui.

In the ward of Arroyo Blan