

# O'KELLY

The Arrest of the Herald Special Commissioner at Manzanillo.

WILL THEY DARE MURDER HIM?

Efforts by the Spaniards to Conceal His Arrest.

DESPATCHES CONCERNING HIM SUPPRESSED.

After Five Days the News Leaks Out at Havana.

British and American Consuls Intervening.

THE CAPTAIN GENERAL'S POSITION.

Equivocation on His Promise Not to Shoot O'Kelly.

WAS IT PART OF A COLD-BLOODED PLOT?

The Herald Man Declines to Impart His Herald News to Spaniards.

OUTRAGE ON AMERICANS

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AMERICAN HOPES AND FEARS.

Secretary Fish, Caleb Cushing, General Butler and Senator Sumner's Views.

"Have No Fears for His Safety."

SPANISH OFFICIAL VIEWS.

Admiral Polo de Barnabe and the Spanish Consul Speak.

WHAT THE CUBANS SAY.

Key West, April 7, 1873. Your correspondent at Havana writes to me as follows concerning the arrest of the Herald Special Commissioner, Mr. James J. O'Kelly, at Manzanillo:—

THE SPANIARDS AND CONSULAR LIBERTY. HAVANA, April 5, 1873.

The delay in learning of O'Kelly's arrest will be traced to its cause in what I now set forth.

A SUPPRESSED TELEGRAM. Mr. Louten, the British Vice Consul at Manzanillo, writes to Mr. Ramsden, the British Vice Consul at Santiago de Cuba, that he telegraphed on the 31st of March, five days ago, the following message to him:—

"Telegraph to the British Consul General, Dunlop, that O'Kelly, the New York Herald's Commissioner, has been arrested here. He asks assistance from you (Ramsden) and from the American Consul. LOUTEN."

TRACHEARY SOMEWHERE. Mr. Ramsden adds in his telegram to Consul General Dunlop that he never received this telegram, which shows plainly that the authorities at Manzanillo did not allow its transmission.

HERALD DESPATCHES STOPPED. It is very probable that telegrams to me have also been intercepted.

THE NEWS IN SIGHT OF THE SPANIARDS. Consul General Dunlop, immediately after receiving the telegram, sent for me and communicated O'Kelly's arrest, which was the first intimation I had of the act.

A SPANIARD'S WORD OF HONOR! In giving you an account of my interview with Captain General Ceballos yesterday I omitted to state that I reminded him of his promise in regard to O'Kelly's only being expelled in case of returning within the Spanish lines.

HOW IT MAY BE QUALIFIED. To this the Captain General replied that he only gave me this assurance in case O'Kelly was not found guilty of being in connivance with the insurgents and that he could prove his neutrality while among them. This, however,

THE CAPTAIN GENERAL DID NOT STATE in the interview I refer to, when I first questioned him in regard to the fate of O'Kelly upon his return to the Spanish lines. On being reminded of this he said it was very natural to suppose that a military inquiry would take place upon O'Kelly's return.

CONSULAR INTERVENTION. I saw the British and American Consuls last night, and both will use their good offices with the authorities. I have also telegraphed to Mr. Young, the American Consul at Santiago de Cuba, but have received no reply. It appears as though telegrams to me are withheld.

# INSURGENT CUBA.

Map Showing the District Traversed by the Insurgents and Where the Herald Commissioners Have Done Their Duty.



The Herald Commissioner Refuses to Deliver His News to Spaniards—A Spanish Bloodhound's Spite.

Key West, April 7, 1873. The following has just been received from your correspondent at Havana:—

HAVANA, April 6, 1873. I have had nothing further direct about O'Kelly. Indirectly we have been informed that, in the preparatory proceedings of the Court, O'Kelly had refused to answer all questions or declare anything; that the Captain General was consulted by telegraph, and he replied telling the Court to continue its proceedings according to the prescriptions of the law and not consult him any further.

A SPANISH COWARD'S WEAK INTERVENTION. The following malicious paragraph appears in the *Diario* to-day in its New York correspondence, and at this juncture makes an unfavorable impression:—

"I have the moral conviction that the object of O'Kelly's mission was to carry advice to the insurgents and post them regarding the filibustering projects concocting in this country. This is nothing more than to continue what Henderson began, and it will be observed that after the interview the latter held with Agramonte, the insurgents have shown more activity and pertinacity in their operations. To leave the island is easy enough; but to reach the rebels offers many difficulties. Only on such a pretext as that of Henderson and O'Kelly can verbal counsel and plans of action, which study of the question in the United States gives rise to, be taken with impunity by the insurgents, in order that their movements may be in concert with the plans of the laborantes."

Outrage on Americans at Santiago de Cuba—Deserting Sailors Arrested in a Boat as Rebels—Refusal to Allow the American Consul Young at the Trial—A Firm and Manly Protest.

Key West, April 7, 1873. The following from your correspondent at Havana illustrates the extremity of O'Kelly's danger, and the necessity of prompt action in some direction:—

THE SPANIARDS AND THE AMERICAN CONSUL. HAVANA, April 6, 1873.

Private advices from Santiago de Cuba report a difficulty of the American Consul with the authorities. On the night of the 11th ult.

THREE SAILORS DESERTED from the American bark *Union*, taking one of the ship's boats and starting off to westward. The master of the vessel reported the desertion to the Consul, who, as is the usual custom, made application to the Captain of the Port for their arrest. When thirty-six hours out the men in the boat were picked up by the Spanish steamer *Cantabro* and brought back to Santiago de Cuba, and then delivered over to the authorities for trial, as the captors arrived at the gratuitous conclusion that their intention was to get into the insurrection.

A COURT MARTIAL BEING ORDERED in the case, Lieutenant Colonel Reedno, the Fiscal, or prosecutor, commenced to take the declarations of the men, but was interrupted by Consul Young, who made his appearance and demanded the right to be present during the examination. This was refused him,

whereupon the men refused to answer and Mr. Young protested against any further proceedings.

This displeased the Fiscal, and he folded up his papers, wiped his pen and retired to advise with his superior, the Governor. The wires were set working, and the Captain General ordered the trial to go on, saying the Consul had no right to be present, whereupon the Governor arose,

DEGOTED MR. YOUNG TO WITHDRAW HIS PROTEST, not to bother them with making any complications, and also, for obvious reasons, he declined to state the charges against the men. He summoned the master, mate and another seaman to appear the following day. The Consul accompanied the master and the others to be present at the examination; but the same objections being raised he repeated his protest.

A HIGH-HANDED ARREST. Mr. Young has in his office as clerk a young man who is the son of the government interpreter, and both he and his father are now under arrest for having, it is charged, advised Mr. Young of what was going on.

Consul General Torbert has instructed Mr. Young to insist upon being present at the trial of the sailors, and on no account to withdraw his protest.

The Key West Cuban Colony Agitated—A Meeting Calling on the Government to Intervene.

Key West, April 7, 1873.

Leading Cubans here express the gravest anxiety regarding O'Kelly's safety. The declaration of the Captain General is regarded as dangerously significant. There are two monitors here that ought to be good arguments in case the Court of Inquiry has any doubts.

A CUBAN MEETING. There is a meeting of the Patriotic Society to-night to take action in regard to O'Kelly's arrest, and to ask action from this government.

VIEWS IN WASHINGTON ON THE ARREST.

Caleb Cushing, Secretary Fish, General Butler, Admiral Polo, the Spanish Minister, and Senator Sumner on O'Kelly and Cuba—Cheerful Views.

WASHINGTON, April 7, 1873.

The news of the capture of the city of Manzanillo by the Cuban insurgents and the report of the arrest of James J. O'Kelly, the special Herald commissioner to Cuba, are two events which have attracted more than passing notice among prominent persons in this city. The boldness of the first and the audacity of the second have awakened new interest in the cause of *Cuba Libre* in Washington. It has many friends here, sincere sympathizers, and, whatever may be said to the contrary, none more zealous individually than the President and Secretary of State.

THE INFORMATION RECEIVED HERE LAST NIGHT was to the effect that O'Kelly had been captured with documents pertaining to the movement of the insurgents, and this bit of news, following so closely the despatches of the day before that Manzanillo had fallen into the hands of the patriots, led some to suppose that O'Kelly was fully apprised of the movement. Then the threats made at the time of his passing beyond the Spanish line, that if found thereafter he would be treated as a

spy, served to intensify the interest in the news from Cuba, and to awaken solicitude for the safety of the faithful Herald commissioner.

A VISIT TO THE STATE DEPARTMENT this afternoon for the purpose of ascertaining what step the government would take if the Spanish authorities insisted on detaining O'Kelly, found Secretary Fish up to his ears in official business, accumulated during his recent absence. He had just returned from New York, and expected the President would arrive to-morrow to hold a Cabinet meeting, for which the Secretary was endeavoring to prepare, that all pending matters might be disposed of before the President's departure for the West. He was, in the midst of the cares of State, as affable and courteous as ever, but begged to be excused from an interview for the reasons stated. Besides, he could only give his individual opinion as to what the government might do in the event application was made for its interposition. He replied:—"The department never anticipates, but is

ALWAYS READY TO ACT PROMPTLY when matters are properly before it." Retiring with the consolation that it is more pleasant to be refused by some than favored by others, the office of

CALEB CUSHING was sought to ascertain what views he entertained on the progress of events in Cuba. In a second story room on the sunny side of the building occupied by the Mexican Claims Commission, Mr. Cushing was found immersed in business of the Commission, having resumed the office temporarily vacated by him during his connection with the Geneva Tribunal. His welcome was most cordial. A chatty introductory about the enterprise of the Herald, its daily mass of intelligence forming, in his opinion, the most successful newspaper in the world, developed the purpose of the visit to him. In response to the request that he would

GIVE HIS VIEWS on the condition of affairs in Cuba for the benefit of the readers of the Herald, Mr. Cushing said:—"I think the condition of affairs in Cuba is very critical. All the great revolutions in Spanish America have been the immediate consequences of revolution in Spain. Mexico, New Granada and the other existing republics broke off on the occasion of the invasion of Spain by Napoleon. So in the case of Cuba

THE DETRIMENT OF TRADE was immediately followed by insurrection in Cuba. Spain has been making enormous efforts in the expenditure of men and money during three or four years in the vain attempt to suppress the insurrection, although during the whole period of the government of the regent Serrano, and since then of the government of Amadeus, Spain, greatly as she was disturbed at home by occasional risings of ultra republicans in the south and of Carlistas in the north, still had sufficient command of her domestic resources, especially in the matter of soldiers, to keep up the supply of troops with which to carry on the war in Cuba, while obtaining pecuniary resources for that purpose by means of loans and taxes in the island itself. But it would seem that the republican government is

LOSING HOLD OF THE ARMY IN SPAIN, while at the same time the local insurrections, especially on the part of the Carlistas, are more threatening than they were in the time of Serrano and Amadeus. Hence it has been observable that since the abdication of Amadeus a relatively small number of soldiers has been sent to Cuba. At the same time it would also appear that the necessity of supplying the place of those killed in battle, or dying of exposure to the climate, would require uninterrupted despatch of troops to Cuba. The diminution of the number of Spanish troops there may have had much to do with

THE RECENT SUCCESS OF THE INSURGENTS, while it is easy to conceive that the power of the volunteer troops will have been very much shaken by their participation—in feeling, at least—in the political passion which now convulses Spain. At any rate, it is manifest that if the recent intelligence from Cuba be well founded the insurgents have taken a great step in the occupation of the port Manzanillo. If they should be unable to hold it, still they will have obtained by means of even the temporary occupation of Manzanillo a great addition to their military resources in the form of arms and powder and ball, to say nothing of provisions, clothing, medicines and other lesser military supplies. But they may hold it, and if they do, then

THEIR INDEPENDENCE IS ASSURED. The weak point in the political condition of the insurrection has been its not possessing any support, by means of which the leaders could communicate with the rest of the world, and receive money and munitions of war. Indeed one of the

serious objections heretofore to recognizing the belligerency of the insurgents has been the fact of their

BEING SHUT OFF INLAND, and having no access to the sea by means of any fortified position. With such a port as Manzanillo, if they can hold it, they will have the first great element of government, which heretofore they have not possessed. Now, if in these circumstances the same political differences which manifest themselves in Spain should make their appearance in Cuba we may expect movements among the Spaniards there which will powerfully contribute, if not to strengthen the insurgents directly, at least to do so indirectly.

BY DIMINISHING THE WEAK POWER OF SPAIN. Moreover it may be reasonably expected that the act of emancipating the slaves at Porto Rico will tell upon this condition of the slaves in Cuba. In view of all these circumstances, it is not rash to assume that we may at a very early day witness interesting and stirring events in Cuba. As to O'Kelly, I

DO NOT BELIEVE THAT HIS LIFE IS IN ANY DANGER except from what we may call accidents, that is, some act of violence on the part of the volunteers. No hasty or rash act is to be expected from the Captain General or other superior military officers from Spain. They would not be likely at any time to perpetrate any act of useless violence on the person of an American, and they would be still less likely to do so at the present time when the utmost degree of

PRUDENCE AND DISCRETION ARE INCUMBENT UPON THEM by reason of the condition of things in Spain. Unless O'Kelly has undertaken to be the bearer of despatches from the insurgents on the other side of the Trocha to their friends on this side

CANNOT BE TREATED AS A SPY, and it is not likely that he would consent to be the bearer of despatches between the insurgents, or that any such thing would be asked or expected of him by Céspedes or Aguilera. If he has done any such imprudent thing as that he may be subjected to detention, as happened whenever during our late civil war persons undertook to carry despatches to and from our line and those of the Confederacy without permission of the military authorities of the United States. I do not believe that the superior military authorities of Cuba would perpetrate, or if they could prevent it, would suffer to be perpetrated any act endangering the life of O'Kelly. If they should undertake to try him by military commission, the most unlikely thing, because

THE MOST ABSURD THING, would be to act with precipitation, so as to prevent interposition in his behalf on the part of his friends in the United States. It is to be hoped, therefore, that at worst he may be required to leave the island and return to the United States, in which case

HE WILL BRING HOME INFORMATION concerning the state of the insurrection of great value, and such as, heretofore, we have had very little of, and that little as much colored by Spanish sympathy on the one hand or insurgent sympathy on the other as to be of very little practical value.

THE LETTERS OF O'KELLY TO THE HERALD have already been very instructive, and if he returns in safety to give a full and fair account of all that he has seen it will be doing A PRODIGIOUS THING FOR THE CAUSE OF HUMANITY, as well as for the Herald.

Thanking the venerable jurist for his views on the situation in Cuba, your correspondent bade him good afternoon.

GENERAL BUTLER'S VIEWS. It was dusk when the green braze door leading into the office of General Butler swung on its hinges, and your correspondent stood face to face with the Essex statesman. There was no lack, however, of gas. Strikes are not common in Washington. The only thing the people complain of is the poor quality and high rate charged for gas. The General was engaged at his favorite amusement, sucking a Partagas cigar, with the wrong end in his mouth. Business is business with Mr. Butler, and in reply to the question whether he could submit to an interview, he said it depended upon what subject was to be discussed.

"INDEPENDENT CUBA AND THE FATE OF O'KELLY," said your correspondent.

"Independent Cuba," exclaimed the General. "What does Cuba want to be independent for? The fate of O'Kelly; what has happened to him?" These questions were acceptably answered.

"What do you think of the success of the Cuban insurgents in capturing the city of Manzanillo?" asked your correspondent. This was the answer:—"Manzanillo captured? Oh, I remember reading something about the sacking of a town of that name not long since. Yes, it was in one of the Sunday papers. The same paper that said I had purchased the Stone farm for \$300,000. I know the latter is not true. What do you think about the

other matter? It is difficult, don't you see, to rely upon newspaper information."

The General changed his attitude, elevated his slipped feet on a cane bottom chair, took another pull at his Partagas, scanned the columns of the Herald, and was ready for an answer.

"Why," replied your correspondent, "the success of the insurgents is confirmed through Spanish sources, giving additional particulars to the news as first received by these can be no doubt of the arrest of Mr. O'Kelly, the Herald Commissioner. That intelligence is confirmed by the Captain General." The General relaxed his hold on the paper, deliberately withdrew his cigar, and, in a friendly manner, expressed great sympathy for the prisoner.

DECLARING THAT HE WOULD NOT BE HURT. "You see," continued Mr. Butler, "I do not take much stock in Cuban matters. How long the insurrection has been going on I don't know, but among the evidences of the prosperity of the island is the fact that the sugar increases every year, and the exports are new largely in excess of the first years of the trouble."

THERE CANNOT BE ANY SERIOUS DISTURBANCE or declination of the population by war with such signs of prosperity. You need not give yourself any uneasiness about the fate of O'Kelly. The Spanish authorities will not be unjust, and I have not the slightest doubt but that Mr. O'Kelly is

AS SAFE AS TAKE CARE OF HIMSELF. With these words of comfort the interview ended. One of the Judges of the Supreme Court was announced. The legal luminary was ushered in, and your correspondent bowed out.

THE SPANISH MINISTER RETICENT. Your correspondent called this afternoon on Admiral Polo, the Spanish Minister. In reply to the question what he thought of Mr. O'Kelly's arrest by the Spanish authorities in Cuba the Admiral replied:—

"The authorities in Cuba have not kept me informed of the movements and doings of Mr. O'Kelly. In fact, they have not even mentioned his name to me. I have only seen a paragraph in the Washington papers reporting his arrest. Therefore I have no information to give, nor can I express any opinion on the subject; and were I even disposed to say something in regard to Mr. O'Kelly's case I should wait until I got the facts."

The Spanish Minister declined to say anything further on Mr. O'Kelly's arrest, and your correspondent next called on

SENATOR SUMNER, who proved even more reticent than Admiral Polo. The great Senator looked better to-day than he has done for some time, although he is still suffering severely from nervous attack. At his invitation this afternoon your correspondent entered his carriage and took a drive with him to the Capitol. Speaking of Mr. O'Kelly on the way, Senator Sumner said:—

"I do not like to express any opinion about what I do not know. Therefore, all I can say regarding Mr. O'Kelly's case is that it is

A TWO-EDGED SWORD. It is a serious thing for the Spanish authorities to arrest a foreigner; but is equally serious for a foreigner to be found under such circumstances. For, as was the case in our own war, he is liable to be suspected and ill-treated."

THE SPANISH CONSUL ON MR. O'KELLY.

He Thinks the Herald Commissioner Will Not Be Shot, but May Be Expelled.

A Herald reporter called on the Spanish Consul, Mr. Hipolito de Uriarte, yesterday to ascertain if he had received any additional despatches in regard to the arrest of the Herald Commissioner to Cuba, Mr. James J. O'Kelly. The Spanish Consul is a large, powerfully built man, with broad shoulders, a fine, manly chest, an open, handsome face, with a dark mustache, expressive eyes of the same color and a very agreeable, polite manner.

"Good morning, sir!" he exclaimed, as the reporter entered his private office.

REPORTER—I have called to see if you could give me any information in regard to the fate of Mr. O'Kelly?

THE CONSUL (brightly)—I really don't know anything about it, except what I read in this morning's Herald. This matter is entirely out of my province. I represent the commercial interests of Spain here, but have nothing to do with political affairs. I don't want to be mixed up in this matter.

REPORTER—What will Mr. O'Kelly's fate be? Do you think that he will be shot?

THE CONSUL (in a tone of decision)—I think not. I think that you need have no apprehension on that score. I do not think that Mr. O'Kelly will be shot. But you see I really don't know anything definite until you receive more detailed information.

REPORTER—How came it that Mr. O'Kelly was arrested?

THE CONSUL—You know what a state of war is in Cuba. The insurgents are everywhere. I think that perhaps he was found by some small military detachment and they brought him before the nearest military chief. Perhaps they found him among the insurgents, and he really could not tell the condition and they probably thought he was one of them. It is impossible to say anything definite at present.

REPORTER—Do you think he will be tried by court-martial?

THE CONSUL—That depends. If they found papers of the insurgents on him they would probably try him by court-martial; they would treat him as a spy. You see, as I understand it, Mr. O'Kelly was not sent to be a letter-carrier for the chiefs of the insurgents, but simply to report to the Herald. That, as I understand it, was his mission.

REPORTER—In that case you do not think that the Captain General would interfere with the proceedings of the military tribunal?

THE CONSUL—I really don't know. You see I am not a military man, and I really could not tell about court-martials and all this sort of thing. I know that the Captain General has the prerogative of pardoning criminals, but I really don't know what he would do in a case like this.

REPORTER—The Captain General has said that he would shoot O'Kelly as a spy.

THE CONSUL—Yes, I read in the Herald, but I don't know it of my own knowledge. I don't know what he said that. It is very hard to say what they will do. They may only take possession of his papers and send him out of Cuba.

REPORTER—Prohibiting his return at the same time?

THE CONSUL—Undoubtedly. That would seem to be the most likely result.

REPORTER—Could he be sentenced to imprisonment?

THE CONSUL—Yes; that might be done. The court martial might sentence him to three, four or six months' imprisonment. They might do that, but, as I said before, I really could not tell definitely what the authorities will do. There is one point which I cannot understand. Yesterday the Herald had a despatch that the insurgents had taken Manzanillo. Now, if that is true, I don't understand how the Spanish troops can have arrested him. I don't understand that.

REPORTER—If the authorities take possession of Mr. O'Kelly's papers, what will they do with them?

THE CONSUL—Send them home, probably, for the further action of the government. No. No, no need be afraid that Mr. O'Kelly will lose his life. The Captain General is a thoroughgoing gentleman—a man of honor. He will do what is just and right. He will also be ready to take into account the feelings of humanity, and will simply endeavor to mete out justice.

REPORTER—The authorities have no feeling against the Herald Commissioner?

THE CONSUL—No, I think not. I think he has acted with great caution and prudence, and as far as I have heard, has been treated with great courtesy. Of course, if he had been found fighting with the insurgents, then it would be a different thing. But I don't think Mr. O'Kelly would do that. He has shown himself too cautious and discreet.

REPORTER—Do you regard it possible that he could be shot within the next forty-eight hours?

THE CONSUL—No, sir; Mr. O'Kelly is in the hands of a regularly organized tribunal, not in those of a mob, and I don't think the Captain General would do anything before consulting the home government. No. If such a thing of the kind were to be done, it would not be a matter that could be disposed of in twenty-four or forty-eight hours. That you may rely on.

REPORTER—Rising to depart?—Thanks.

THE CONSUL—I am very sorry I can give you no more definite information. Good-day.

The Sentiment of the Cubans of New York.

A Herald reporter, in circulating among the most prominent Cubans of the city, found but one sentiment—that the Spaniards would not dare touch the representative of the New York Herald, and, indirectly, of the American people.

"I think they will quietly let him go," observed a Cuban patriot, one of the wealthiest and most prominent in this country. "Things have changed in Havana. They expect a new Captain General, who will be a republican—a novel thing, by the

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