

NEXT WILL BE THE LYNN CLAIM.

Spanish in Cuba Destroy the Property of an American Citizen.

New York, Aug. 3.—Charles Lynn, the "Cuban Cattle King," who arrived from the scene of insurgent fighting in Santa Clara Province recently, has come to this country to push a claim of \$150,000 against the Spanish government for the destruction of his father's property and the imprisonment of his mother in the jail at Trinidad, Cuba, without warrant of law.

Mr. Lynn is the foster brother of Bautista Esportorno, a President of the first Cuban Republic. The older Lynn had five boys in his family, four of them being his own sons, and the fifth being Bautista Esportorno, whom he adopted. All five went to fight in the first Cuban struggle for independence.

The Spaniards devised a scheme, Mr. Lynn says, to intimidate the brothers and prevent them from fighting for Cuba. The scheme was to loot, burn, and finally, if possible, confiscate the elder Lynn's property, imprison his wife, and otherwise persecute innocent members of the family until the boys should be driven to seek terms for the sake of their parents. This was in spite of the fact that the elder Lynn and his wife were American citizens.

The mother was seized by soldiers and dragged to Trinidad, where she lay helpless in prison twenty-nine days. She begged her sons not to consider her sufferings, saying the Spanish might kill her before she would ask any of her boys to give up their cherished convictions. Finding their cruelty unavailing, the Spanish officers were finally constrained to release the unfortunate woman. They took the precaution, however, to burn Lynn's cattle pens, destroy his means of support, and reduce him to practical poverty.

At Cuban headquarters Charles Lynn had a long talk with Thomas Estrada Palma, president of the revolutionary party, and Horatio S. Rubens, the counsel. It is understood Mr. Rubens told him he had a good case to recover heavy damages. Later in the day Mr. Lynn mailed the papers in the case to the Department of State at Washington. Lynn himself was forced to get out of Cuba in July.