

# SPAIN'S ONLY COURSE

Reported That Compulsion Was To Be Invoked if the Mora Claim Was Not Settled.

## PLAN TO SEIZE HAVANA.

Big Fleet Was To Be Sent to Cuba Under Command of Rear Admiral Bunce.

## SECRETARY OLNEY'S DENIAL.

Officials Relieved Because Mr. Mora Has Agreed to Accept Payment Without the Interest.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE HERALD.]  
HERALD BUREAU,  
CORNER FIFTEENTH AND G STREETS, N. W.,  
WASHINGTON, AUGUST 20, 1895.

A final settlement of the long pending Mora claim is at last assured. Spain's positive agreement to pay at an early date was made some time ago, but since the Cabinet Council at Madrid committed the government to that promise, a difficulty arose through a further decision of the Council not to pay the interest on the claim, amounting to about \$800,000.

The patience of the United States government had been worn out through Spain's persistent policy of making promises and then falling to keep them.

So seriously did this government view the refusal to pay the interest that it was reported that a plan that might have involved the United States in a war with Spain, but probably would not, was decided on by the President, Secretary Olney and Secretary Herbert.

### TO SEIZE HAVANA.

This was no less than an intention to seize Havana and hold that port until the Spanish government laid down the amount of the interest or until customs revenues amounting to the full interest had been collected at the Havana custom house by the United States officers, who would be placed in charge.

The statement that this plan was practically arranged is made on the best authority. In coming to such a serious conclusion, the administration found a precedent in the recent action of Great Britain in seizing the port of Corinto, Nicaragua, for the purpose of collecting indemnity claimed for subjects who had suffered at the hands of the Nicaraguan government during the Mosquito troubles.

Rear Admiral Bunce, commanding the North Atlantic squadron, now cruising in New England waters, was, it was said, selected as the officer to command the expedition to Havana, and his fleet was to consist of the New York, the Montgomery, the Raleigh and the Minneapolis, at present composing the squadron of evolution; the Cincinnati, now in Key West, Fla., and such other vessels as could be prepared for service in time.

### ONLY TO SATISFY CURIOSITY.

It is stated in this connection that the evolutions which the strategic squadron is supposed to be practicing along the Atlantic coast are merely designed to satisfy curiosity as to the assemblage of such a large number of vessels.

There was little doubt in the minds of those who arranged the plan for the seizure of Havana that Spain would pay the indemnity very quickly, when she learned of the character of the persuasion to be employed by this government.

Secretary Olney, in spite of strong statements to the contrary, positively denied some time ago that any such course had ever been considered.

The claimant has now, however, agreed to accept the proposition of the Spanish government to pay the principal only. The one question that remains to be settled relates to the place for the payment to be made.

As stated in the HERALD at the time would be the case, the State Department, upon learning of the decision of the Spanish authorities to settle the debt without interest, consulted with the claimant and his attorneys for the purpose of ascertaining their wishes in the matter.

At first some of Mr. Mora's attorneys were opposed to accepting the proposition, but, realizing the long delay that might ensue over a controversy on the question of interest, Mr. Mora finally determined to take Spain at her word and accept the principal.

### AGREEMENT SIGNED.

An agreement has been signed by Secretary of State Olney, Minister Dupuy de Lome, Antonio Maximo Mora and Dr. Rodriguez, one of the latter's counsel, providing for the settlement of the claim on the basis of \$1,500,000, the claimant waiving all demands for interest.

The memorandum was signed last week at Secretary Olney's summer home in Massachusetts, Mr. Mora and his attorneys being summoned there for that purpose.

The payment is to be made on September 15, but there seems to be some hitch as to where the money shall be transferred. It is understood that Spain wants to make the payment in Havana.

It is expected that the money will be handed over to Consul General Williams, and as the account is to be paid in gold it will probably be conveyed to this country in the cruiser Cincinnati, now at Key West.

It will then devolve upon Mr. Olney to disburse the fund to Mr. Mora, his two attorneys, Dr. Rodriguez and Mr. Page, and several other persons to whom certain portions of the claim will be assigned. It is understood that Mr. Mora has assigned more than one-half of the total amount to other parties.

The officials are greatly relieved now that the matter has been amicably settled. A refusal on the part of Spain to pay the claim would undoubtedly have brought about serious friction between the two countries.

## SALCEDO IS SANGUINE.

Projected Movements, He Believes, Will End the Cuban Rebellion by Next Year.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE HERALD.]

MADRID, August 20, 1895.—General Salcedo, who commanded the Spanish troops in the First Military district of Cuba, has returned to Spain, arriving at Corunna yesterday.

General Salcedo declares that the campaign against the insurgents in Cuba will be actively resumed in November and that Santiago de Cuba, Ciego de Avila and Puerto Principe will be strongly garrisoned with Spanish troops. The consensus of opinion among the Spanish officers in Cuba, he says, is that these movements, together with keeping a close watch on the coast, will put an end to the rebellion by 1896.

## SPAIN HAS REFUSED.

Will Not Accept the Offer of the Spanish Bank of Havana to Issue \$15,000,000 in Notes.

[SPECIAL CABLE DESPATCH TO THE HERALD.]

HAVANA, Cuba, August 20, 1895.—The Government at Madrid has refused the offer of the Spanish Bank of the Island of Cuba to issue \$15,000,000 in notes, guaranteed by Cuban paper, to aid in paying the expenses of the war.

Leader Domingo Mujica was shot this morning in San Seyerino Castle at Matanzas. He was tried by court martial and sentenced to death. A great crowd attended the execution.

Juan Gualherta Gomez will be taken to the penal colony in Centa, Africa, on the first steamer that sails from here. He has been tried and sentenced to twenty years' servitude.

The steam launches purchased in the

United States for the use of the Spanish squadron are to bear the following names:—Edith, Conde de la Mortera, Shrewsbury, General Tacón, Navesink, General Laborde, La Leon, Abbette and Almirante Chacon.

## RAID OF THE REBELS.

They Destroy Telegraph Line and Railroad—One Band Routed.

[BY CABLE TO THE HERALD.]

HAVANA, August 20, 1895.—A despatch from Santiago de Cuba says:—

"The rebels have cut the telegraph wires and destroyed the railroad near Algodonal, and troops have been sent from Alto Songo to protect the men who are making repairs and prevent them from being fired upon by the insurgents.

"Colonel Tejada's column, which has arrived at San Luis, had a battle yesterday with a rebel band under Higini and Vasquez at La Julia. The column then proceeded to Hatillo, Paraiso and Santa Rita. Near Burenes they surprised and attacked a rebel band two hundred strong and routed them, killing four men, taking one prisoner and capturing a quantity of arms, ammunition, &c."

## WAS IT THE SANTIAGO?

The Galicia Fired Upon a Ward Line Steamship, Spanish Authorities Believe.

[SPECIAL CABLE DESPATCH TO THE HERALD.]

SANTIAGO DE CUBA, Cuba, August 16, via NASSAU, N. P., August 20, 1895.—The Spanish authorities allege that the mysterious vessel fired upon by the war ship Galicia off Daiquiri early on the morning of the 9th of August was the Ward liner Santiago, which was in transit from New York, and left Guantanamo the night previous for this port. She entered here at six o'clock in the morning.

The passengers arriving thereon deny the report, and Captain Leighton, whom I saw here to-day upon the Santiago's return from Cienfuegos, assured me that the strange vessel was not his ship, and that no shots were fired at the latter.

The Galicia's pilot admits that the suspicious steamer first displayed the German colors, but raised the Stars and Stripes after the Galicia's third shot.

From Manzanillo comes the report of the landing of a big Cuban expedition near there three days ago. An immense quantity of munitions of war and arms was taken on shore and the rebels receiving the material brought carts to transport the cargo into the interior.

The landing occurred at daylight in full view of the Spanish coast guard. The commander apparently suspected nothing.

He has since been ordered to prison to be court-martialed for his negligence.

It is believed that the sons of President Maso and Major General Jose Maceo were in the expedition. Others think that General Quesada led it.

### UNSUCCESSFUL SPANISH SORTIE.

Two Spanish columns, commanded by General Navarro and Colonel Sandoval, which left Songo and St. Luis to operate jointly against Antonio Maceo's rebel army, returned after a week's unsuccessful operations, during which their ranks were thinned by constant skirmish firing from the Cuban guerrillas. Many Spanish soldiers and several officers died of fever on the roadside during the trip.

Maceo's forces are still in the vicinity of St. Luis, daily harassing the government outposts. The Spanish artillery has been brought here from St. Luis in the fear that Maceo might capture it if left there.

Senor Senz, one of the Americans lately imprisoned in Morro Castle, is in Santiago stricken with yellow fever. Campos has granted the petition of his friends to allow his transfer to the Military Hospital in the city. He is now slowly recuperating. Frank Agra is also reported ill.

The report is current here to-day that the Cuban autonomists are preparing to launch a counter revolution in the island, under the leadership of General Marcos Garcia, Governor of Sancti Spiritus. Garcia is now in Havana, where he has held various long conferences with Campos.

The government is redoubling its efforts to suppress the news, and apparently is determined that the press in the United States and elsewhere shall not learn the exact state of affairs in the island.

## MENOCAL WAS KILLED.

Confirmation of the Report of the Death of the American Engineer.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE HERALD.]

NUEVITAS, Cuba, August 10, via JACKSONVILLE, Fla., August 20, 1895.—The rebel forces, led by Maximo Gomez in person, captured a government convoy on August 2, near Guaimara. In the fight Engineer Menocal, an American citizen, a cousin to Captain Menocal, of the United States navy, and who joined the Cuban insurgents at Santa Cruz del Sul about a month ago, was killed.

The revolutionary forces lost, besides Menocal, fourteen killed and forty wounded. The Spanish loss was not so great.

Gomez has been making good use of the munitions of war seized by his forces, and skirmish fighting between his men and the Spanish troops has been going on for three days between this port and the city of Puerto Principe.

The general headquarters of the Cuban army, Department of the Centre, has been established in Dagrana, a strategic point of importance situated in the Province of Camoaguey, in a central position, about an equal distance from Guaimara, Puerto Principe, Guayabal and Nuevitas, enabling Gomez with a march of ten leagues to attack any of the places mentioned.

He has from six to eight thousand men under his direct personal command and is in constant communication with Maceo in the Province of Santiago and Roloff and Sanchez in Las Villas.

Many of the railway bridges between Puerto Principe and Nuevitas have been burned and traffic between the capital and coast is suspended. Telegraph wires are all down and Military Governor Mella, general in command of the Spanish garrison at Puerto Principe, is often for days without communication with Havana.

## TO THE UNITED STATES.

Cuban Revolutionary Party Will Appeal to Congress for Recognition as Belligerents.

A preliminary conference of the directors of the Cuban Junta and of the revolutionary leaders in this city was held yesterday, and after an extended discussion of the situation it was voted to begin at once a movement in the direction of securing for the Cuban revolutionists official recognition as belligerents.

A special committee, composed of influential and representative Cubans, was appointed for the purpose of notifying the Secretary of State, Richard Olney, at an early date that the Cuban Republic had been established, with a provisional government, and that it had an accredited representative now in this country.

The committee, which was organized with Senor Tomaso Estrada Palma, the delegate at large, as chairman, and Senor Gonzalo de Quesada as clerk, was invested with plenary powers and with authority to proceed at once upon the work of drafting an exhaustive memorial to Congress, appealing for belligerent rights.

A committee will proceed to Washington immediately upon the convening of the House of Representatives and will appear before the Committee on Foreign Affairs, or any special committee to whom the matter may be referred, for the purpose of pressing the appeal and the claims for recognition as a power.

The committee having charge of the matter will establish a permanent headquarters at the capital upon the assembling of Congress, and will remain there until its mission is fulfilled.

The meeting yesterday was held merely to outline the plan of procedure, and other and larger meetings under the auspices of the organization are to be held for the purpose of arousing popular sentiment in behalf of the appeal.

Delegate Palma proposes to make a tour of the States, visiting the principal cities and delivering addresses in behalf of Cuba.

## DYNAMITE ON BOARD.

The steamer Manuel L. Villaverde, General Martinez Campos' yacht, which underwent a thorough scraping and repairing in the Erie Basin dry dock, will sail to-day for Havana. She will carry a large quantity of dynamite, ordered by General Campos, it is said.

Captain Amezaga, of the Villaverde, has been decorated at the request of General Campos with the Order of the White Cross for military merit.

The steamer Ardanmhor, which sailed from this port yesterday, had two steam yachts, the Throp and the Sparkle, on her decks. These two boats have been purchased for the Spanish government, and will be delivered to their new owner at Havana.