

GEN. QUESADA LEAVES TOWN

A BELIEF THAT HE IS ON HIS WAY TO CUBA.

HE INTENDS TO TAKE ACTIVE PART IN THE REBELLION, IT IS REPORTED—A FILIBUSTERING EXPEDITION READY TO START FOR THE ISLAND.

General Rafael de y Quesada, who has been in the city for the last two months working in the interest of Cuban freedom, has suddenly disappeared from New-York. During his stay in the city General Quesada has made his headquarters at the Fifth Avenue Hotel. He quietly paid his hotel bill on Thursday and left the city. To the hotel people he gave no explanation of his departure. At Cuban headquarters, No. 66 Broadway, no comment was made upon his departure, and those in charge seemed to be fully



SENOR ESTRADA PALMA.

informed as to his movements. It was not until yesterday that it was generally known that he had left the city, but in answer to inquiries contradictory statements were made as to where he had gone.

General Quesada has been a picturesque figure in the present uprising. Once Minister of War of Venezuela, and also a veteran of the last revolt in Cuba, he brought to the cause a fund of experience that was almost invaluable. He has been reticent in speaking about his connection with the rebellion. He has been in close touch with the leaders and has done a great deal for the cause. It was a matter of general comment that General Quesada, with his military training, did not take the field. He made no reply to these comments.

It is now generally thought that General Quesada has gone to the front. It was so announced yesterday by one of the Cuban patriots. Others said that he had gone to Venezuela. Some significant utterances by General Quesada are remembered now, and they tend to corroborate the report that he has gone to Cuba to engage in actual warfare. Some time ago, when he was asked by a Tribune reporter for news from Cuba, he replied slowly: "We have glorious news. Our armies are victorious everywhere. I expect to be in Havana before the year is over with a victorious Cuban army that will control the city."

General Quesada about a month ago quietly slipped out of New-York and went South. He travelled to Tampa and later to Texas. Although the General never admitted it, the fact was generally known that he had gone South to equip and arrange for a clearing port for mails and private messages, as well as minor filibustering expeditions. The success of this trip was shown soon after his return by the rapid manner in which the leaders of the revolutionary party in New-York were able to communicate with their brethren in Cuba. Since that time General Quesada has been with the newly elected Delegate, Estrada Palma.

"There are many reasons which lead to the belief that General Quesada has gone to Cuba," said a Cuban yesterday. "The war is reaching a crisis. The patriots have lost several able leaders. Military diplomacy is needed in fighting General Campos, and the one supreme conflict, which, it is believed, will settle the fate of Cuba, is approaching, and the patriots need every bit of power that they can bring to bear."

The Ward Line steamship Santiago, from Cuban ports, which arrived at her pier at Wall-st. on Saturday, brought many important letters to the Cuban leaders in New-York. The arrival of this vessel was anxiously awaited by the revolutionary party here. The headquarters at No. 66 Broadway were astir early in the day, as a result, and the vessel was met on her arrival by a number of the faithful. Perhaps one of the most important messages received was addressed to Gonzalo de y Quesada, secretary of the revolutionary party in America, giving encouraging news of the Cuban army.

The writer is a well-known officer in the Cuban service. Señor Estrada Palma, the Delegate, was highly pleased with the news.

The Cubans in this city are now daily expecting to receive news of an engagement between General Gomez and the Spanish troops under General Campos. The two armies are facing each other at Bayamo. Besides this, the Cuban leaders are anxiously watching a filibustering expedition which is expected to leave the coast of Central America some time next week. This expedition is to be the most formidable of the whole war, and the patriots place great faith in it.

Colonel Henrique Collazo, a veteran of the last Cuban uprising, is to be at the head of this expedition. He was in New-York a little over a month ago to consult the Cuban leaders. He is known as an organizer and successful pilot of filibustering expeditions. When his presence in the city became known through a newspaper article, which hinted that he was here to confer with leaders about the organization of a filibustering expedition, he quietly went away, and it was said that he had gone to Central America to complete arrangements for this expedition.

The fact has become known that Colonel Collazo was in New-York within a week. It was learned that he was here to report to Delegate Palma and other leaders that an outfit was ready to sail from Central America at any time, and that he wished final instructions. He has been liberally supplied with funds. Central America has not an adequate naval service to patrol the coast, and there the expedition has been fitted out. Colonel Collazo was last heard from at Tampa, Fla., last Tuesday night. He is hurrying to the coast, and news may come from him at any time. The expedition is the largest one planned during the present uprising. It is to be a daring piece of blockade-running, and upon its success or failure hinges much of the hope of Cuban independence.