

THE WAR ON THE CUBANS.

abandoned the idea of recapturing Colonel Ryan, whom they profess to believe was in Philadelphia yesterday, en route to a new and more secure locality, where he is to be joined by his men in small detachments.

Interesting Particulars of the Escape of Colonel Ryan.

HE SENDS A LETTER TO THE MARSHAL.

The Expedition Said to Number 2,500 Men.

The liveliest description of interest was awakened throughout the city yesterday morning when the public became informed of the fact and the particulars of the escape from the custody of Deputy United States Marshal Downie of Colonel W. A. C. Ryan, the commander and organizer of the Cuban patriot volunteers in New York, the interest being heightened by two circumstances in particular—viz., the energy with which the United States officials have prosecuted Colonel Ryan, repeatedly refusing to admit him to bail, as though making a scapegoat of him; and secondly, by the dashing, Jack Sheppard-like manner in which the escape was effected. Deputy Marshal Downie was more astonished than hurt by the manner in which the Colonel's friends "bucked and gagged" him, and was released from the "bucked and gagged" predicament in which they placed him about nine o'clock, or nearly three hours after he was first seized, and the intervening time was most industriously used by the Colonel in making sure his escape. As already stated, the Colonel, as soon as Downie was secured at the Casino, changed his attire slightly, passed out of the building in broad daylight, at a quarter-past six o'clock in the evening, entered a carriage in waiting and drove off, and within a few hours was far beyond the reach of the Marshal's officers. It was well known that during the evening the men, to the number of about 200, who were quartered at the Casino, left in a body, or nearly so, and went to Jersey City, whence they shortly afterwards disappeared, having taken passage on board a tug from the vicinity of the foot of Montgomery street, and well informed Cubans are confident that Colonel Ryan, disguised, was among the party. Such a supposition, indeed, would also appear to be well founded, for it was not in the least likely that he would remain any longer in the city when a detachment of his men were actually embarking and he himself so earnestly sought for and wanted by the authorities.

Shortly after his escape he proceeded to the house of a friend in this city, before proceeding beyond the jurisdiction of the Marshal, and related to this friend a number of interesting particulars of his adventure.

A hitch occurred in the grand plan of escape which chagrined the Colonel beyond measure, and which is also, as has since been learned to have been strictly true, one of the most daring ideas that has entered the brain of a New Yorker for some time. The Colonel stated that it had been arranged between himself and Captain Peters, Captain Ackerman and other "patriots" who were under arrest, that no one of them should give bonds, even if admitted to bail by the court; but the plan was to have been carried out in this wise:—Each of the prisoners, it was expected, would, upon being returned from the Commissioner's Court to Ludlow street jail, be escorted by one, and certainly not more than two deputies. Each prisoner it was agreed should endeavor to prevail upon his guard or guards to accompany him to a particular place already designated, "to make a call upon a friend" before going back to jail. Among the places so designated Colonel Ryan was to "see a friend" at the Casino, and Captain Peters was to do likewise at another rendezvous in that locality. Two other prisoners were to have coaxed their attendant deputies to accompany them to No. 636 Broadway, one proceeding to an agency on an upper floor and the other to a saloon in the basement. At each of these places parties of from five to ten patriots were in waiting to seize and hold the deputies while the prisoner escaped. The Colonel had also prepared a burlesque commitment, signed by himself, as commander of the Cuban forces in New York, and directed to Warden Tracy, of Ludlow street jail, instructing him to keep in his custody the Marshal's deputies, and the latter gentlemen were to have been thus forwarded, "bucked and gagged," to the prison to take the places of those who had escaped. Marshal Downie's disgust, had the plan been fully and successfully carried out, could not have been greater than was the Colonel's upon finding that the other prisoners had "failed to connect." The Colonel was also most energetic in his assurances that no collusion on the part of Downie had been resorted to, and gave his friend a letter to be forwarded to the Marshal to that effect. The letter referred to was to have been mailed last night, and will doubtless be received by the Marshal this morning, and the Colonel stated that the Marshal could satisfy himself of the authenticity of the letter and the handwriting by comparing the signature with a signature by the Colonel to his own affidavit and other documents which the Marshal now holds. The letter was as follows:—

EIGHT O'CLOCK P. M., June 23, 1899.
GENERAL BARLOW, United States Marshal—I deem it an act of justice to inform you that Deputy Marshal Downie discharged his duty faithfully; that it was impossible for him to help himself when made a prisoner by my friends, as he was bound hand and foot, and promised a "gag" if he attempted to call for assistance.

I very much regret being compelled to this step, but I think the act was justifiable.

I assure you that he had very comfortable quarters and was handled very gently. I have no hesitation in telling you that it was my intention to respect my bonds, and that every word contained in the complaint against me is false. Respectfully,

W. A. C. RYAN.

The envelope was addressed simply, "General Barlow, U. S. Marshal, city."

Colonel Ryan stated further that about 2,500 men had been enlisted or enrolled, out of which number he expected about 1,800 would actually "come to time" and embark for the "ever faithful Isle." A portion of these were to leave, he said, on Wednesday night, a second detachment last night and the remainder on Friday (this) evening. They would rendezvous in small bodies in Jersey City and would thence proceed on the expedition, some going to two different ports south of Philadelphia and the remainder embarking from the port of New York.

FURTHER ARRESTS OF CUBANS.

About a quarter past five o'clock last evening Deputy Marshals Davis and Crowley proceeded to the Astor House and arrested Lieutenant Colonel V. Michaelovsky, a Polish gentleman, and Captain Clancy, on warrants charging them with being engaged in fitting out a military expedition for Cuba. They were subsequently conveyed to the Marshal's office, and were thence taken to Ludlow street jail and locked up for the night.

THE CASE OF PETERS AND COURRIER.

About five o'clock yesterday afternoon Colonel Charles Courrier and Captain James Peters were arraigned before United States Commissioner Shields to give bail. In the case of Captain Peters bail was given and accepted in the sum of \$7,500. Colonel Courrier, who was charged with aiding the escape of Colonel Ryan, was not so fortunate, bail in his case being demanded to the amount of \$15,000, and not presenting a satisfactory bondsman he was remanded to Ludlow street jail. Courrier was brought from the jail to the court and back again to the former place under a strong escort, and walked the entire distance with his wrists heavily handcuffed. This latter act, the manacling of a prisoner, the Cubans look upon as the crowning indignity by the United States authorities in the whole transaction.

THE SPANISH AGENTS.

notwithstanding their numbers and the extravagant pecuniary inducements held out to them, are sorely puzzled with the new phase of affairs, and are distractedly rushing about New York and the adjacent cities in quest of subjects for affidavits, their compensation being proportionate to the number and character of such documents furnished by them. The Spanish Consulate was all day yesterday a scene of excitement, and the gentlemanly new Consul seemed to suffer from as much nervousness as if the hostile designs of the expedition were directed against his particular establishment. His agents, some of them with newly acquired witnesses, bustled up and down stairs, anxious to cruise after new victims but afraid to leave their prizes, and each recounting exciting reports respecting the plans and operations of the Cubans. Most of these agents are ex-officers of the United States army, some of whom served with gallantry in the late war and whose record should restrain them from engaging in the questionable enterprises of the spy and informer. Their method hitherto has been to obtain letters of introduction to friends of the Cuban cause, representing themselves to be desirous of joining any expedition going to Cuba, and thus gaining the confidence of the Cuban Junta and its expeditionary leaders, they have in some instances received details, the betrayal of which led to some of the recent arrests. They all admit, however, that their evidence is very weak, in consequence of the caution and shrewdness with which the Cubans have conducted their most important operations, and state that they have yet no direct testimony upon which to convict any of the parties arrested if immediately granted a trial. All their affidavits are only circumstantial in their character as evidence and very weak on all the vital points of the alleged infraction of the neutrality laws. Common report, upon which they base a "sort of knowledge and belief," and the tolerably well grounded suspicion that certain gangs of men, reported to be collected for mining operations in Montana, are intended for Cuba, is, they freely acknowledge, the sum total of their evidence, when sifted, as it would be, at a trial of the accused.

Last evening some of the Spanish emissaries were industriously tracking an alleged would-be Cuban blockade runner or privateer, which they state is being fitted out in our harbor, but up to a late hour they had not acquired any reliable information. They propose to present additional affidavits to-day in relation to the expedition, and seem to have