

THE CUBAN EXPEDITION.

"The Lost Children" Not Heard From—Capture of a Revenue Cutter by a Merchant Steamer—What Colonel Ryan Said and What Marshal Barlow Thinks—Release of Prisoners.

There is now little, if any, doubt that the Cuban expedition which left this port on Saturday night, under command of Colonel Ryan, as reported in the HERALD of Sunday last, is safely out at sea on its way to the "Ever Faithful Isle," and entirely beyond the reach or jurisdiction of Marshal Barlow or his host of deputies. Some of the city papers have taken hold of a very acute line of argument in the matter, and, while conceding that several tugboats went down the bay on Saturday night unchallenged by the revenue cutter, claim that because the vessel to which the men on board the tugs were transferred was not caught by the government vessels, no such vessel could have sailed. There is no doubt that about 300 men actually left New York, Hoboken and Elm Park, Staten Island, with the intention of sailing for Cuba, and the only refuge they could have taken, if they were intercepted by a United States vessel before passing Sandy Hook, would be in Raritan Bay or the Kill von Kull. It will be acknowledged that 300 men cannot be hidden under a hat, and in a bay no larger than the bay of New York, and the various inlets and coves which surround it, all of which are thickly clustered by sailing craft of every description, it would be equally strange if they could be concealed for thirty-six or forty hours after their presence was suspected, and more especially so when several revenue cutters are presumed to be not only on the "look out" for, but actually in quest of them. Besides this, if the vessels were concealed anywhere on the Jersey or Long Island shores of the bay it would be like remarkable if some few at least of the men did not contrive to return to this city. Yet no one seems to have seen or even heard of any such weary wanderer. And further, numbers of persons who were known to have sailed left friends in this city with whom they would assuredly have communicated in the event of being obliged to put back, and some of these friends have not only been anxious in their inquiries, but diligent in their search also for some trace of their relatives, but could find none. In view of these facts it is difficult to presume for a moment that the expedition has been frustrated in this port, whatever may be its fate hereafter, and when it is considered that the effort to fit out this expedition has cost, as much labor, energy, adroitness and expenditure of money as the Cuban Junta can put forth at any one time in this city, under the existing condition of affairs it is highly probable that they would take desperate chances to get out of the harbor, and probably regarded the fog of Saturday night and Sunday morning as a favorable circumstance. It would certainly be as much to the disadvantage of the revenue cutters as of the expeditionary vessels. In any event it would be no uncommon thing for a vessel to navigate the bay in a fog, and one of the officers of this expedition told the reporter of the HERALD about an hour before starting that "they were going to take all even the most serious risks, if they once got afloat." This conversation took place at the Stevens House, near the pier at which the officers, including Colonel Ryan, General Goicorris, Colonel Courier, Captain Peters and Surgeon Dorset, embarked. So far also as it is assumed that the steamer Quaker City must have come into the lower bay to take the men on board the assumption is erroneous; for Colonel Ryan, on Thursday last, the day after his escape from the deputy marshal, personally informed the writer that the vessel would be met on the coast, and the transfer would be made at such place of rendezvous with the understanding that it should not be made public until after the sailing of the expedition; and in response to an inquiry as to when and how the arms and stores were to be taken on board, Colonel Ryan used the following language:—"Oh, the arms and ammunition and all the stores for the expedition have been at sea waiting for us for the past ten or twelve days. You know we expected to have got out sooner, but these arrests have delayed us."

When asked whether such vessel was not the Quaker City, that vessel having sailed about "ten or twelve days" previous, he laughed and replied:—"Well, you may presume so."

At about two o'clock on Sunday morning, it is reported, the tugboat Yankee, one of the vessels which took the men of Colonel Jordan's expedition to the steamer Perit, landed at Elm Park and took on board a number of men; that the Yankee was overhauled by a revenue cutter shortly afterwards, and in reply to a question as to where she was going answered "to the Fishing Banks." That is precisely the reply reported in the HERALD of Sunday last as having been made by some of the men at Hoboken. And what New York fisherman is there who does not know that when the Yankee goes to the Fishing Banks she starts about midnight on Saturday from the vicinity of Peck slip and other city landings, and is never announced to call at Elm Park.

THE CATHARINE WHITING,

the vessel which was stopped near Bedloe's Island about two o'clock Sunday morning, by the revenue cutter McCullough, and compelled to anchor, is believed to have been used by the Cubans as a decoy. The Whiting had been lying at anchor in that position, with steam up, for some eight or ten hours, and unquestionably was aware of the fact that she was a suspected vessel and was under the surveillance of the McCullough. At two o'clock she innocently gets under way, with a government vessel at point blank range, and attempts to go to Cuba. Of course the "wary" cutter commander stopped her. He saluted her with a discharge of gunpowder, and when she still kept on he sent a solid shot athwart her bow. The Whiting hauled up and the McCulloch was captured by her—as the suspected vessel was convoyed by the revenue cutter all the remainder of the night and the next day, and even yesterday, and there certainly was one revenue cutter less to annoy the veritable filibustrious craft. When boarded the Whiting was found with about half a cargo of hay and "a small store of provisions." Cuban volunteers don't eat hay, and a small store of provisions would not last them long. No horses were thought of being taken on the expedition, and one individual who desired to take two satchels of clothing with him was compelled to leave one behind, as the Junta officials positively would not allow him to take more than one traveling bag on board. Of course

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is confident that no expedition left this port on Saturday night. He was equally confident that no filibusters went out when the Perit sailed, but the fact is "the General" was out-generalled, and is not going to own up until he is obliged to do so. It is admitted that several small steamers were allowed to pass by the Marshal's "lookouts," but he paid the most scrutinizing attention to the Whiting; in fact, he had marked her down as the filibuster and had made up his mind to overhaul her as soon as she budged. And he did; and he has got her yet. But the beauty of the thing is found in the fact that while he virtually concedes that the filibusters embarked he is sure they have not yet got away, and yet he had no information up to last night where they are although he has officers on their track.

Considering all the circumstances connected with the matter, while it is barely possible that the expedition failed, there are a dozen probabilities that the filibusters—the "First New York regiment"—are on their way to Cuba.

Among the recruits who "started" on this expedition was a company of fifty men raised in Richmond, Va., and commanded by Captain Harrison, an ex-confederate officer of that city.

Drs. Frederick J. McNulty and J. W. Du Bose, who were confined in Ludlow street jail on an indictment for violation of the neutrality laws, inherent to their love for the Queen of the Antilles, were yesterday released on their own recognizance to appear for trial. Colonel Clancy, Capt. Lindorf, J. H. Norris, Ralph Harmon and Capt. F. W. Conant are the only remaining prisoners not released on bail. It is expected that they will be released in a day or two.