

## The Cuban Insurrection.

The Cuban insurgents hold their ground with a pertinacity which argues considerable strength, though it is impossible to gather from the conflicting reports received what are its prospects precisely. The decree abolishing slavery which has just been issued may have the effect to enlist many negro recruits, though freedmen are given the alternative of remaining to cultivate the plantations. As a means of more efficiently directing the struggle, the insurgents propose establishing a Seat of Government. If they can do this, and maintain possession of a single city as their political headquarters and military centre, they may hope eventually to win recognition as belligerents. So long as they are without organization, without a fixed Government exercising actual jurisdiction, they cannot expect to be regarded in any other light than as mere insurgents. The proposition of Congressman Brooks to recognize them as belligerents is not merely premature; it is unwise and inconsistent. Our Government cannot afford to exaggerate in the case of Spain and Cuba the offense which England was charged with committing when it hastened to recognize the Confederacy. Spain is a friendly power, to whom we have extended our sympathies on account of her efforts in the direction of civil and political progress. Should we hasten to encourage a revolution within a revolution—to dignify with our official attention an insular revolt against a government offering reforms and privileges, we should stultify ourselves in a double sense. When the insurgents shall have proved to be the real power in Cuba, will be time enough to accord them a consideration equal with that we show to the authority of Spain.