

The Cuban Revolution—The Policy of the Spanish Authorities.

The Havana correspondent of the New York Times says: For some time past nothing definite has been heard of Cespedes, Quezada or the big guns on the Spanish side, the latter remaining idle in their fortified positions, and the former undoubtedly being employed in organizing. For some time past, watching passing events, I have been under the impression that the Spaniards did not desire to close the war or carry it on with vigor. Now a conversation with a very prominent Spanish gentleman whose relations with the highest officials of the island are intimate, has convinced me that the plan he stated as being the plan of the Spanish Government must be the correct one. I can do no better than to give it in the gentleman's own words: Spain, he says, has an object in not finishing the revolution, as an early peace would undoubtedly pacify the island temporarily, but would keep a discontented male population of over one hundred thousand men opposed to the Spanish Government, and ready to take up arms again at any moment, making the final retention of the island a very doubtful matter. On the average, from three to five hundred Cubans either die or are killed every eight days; by keeping them in the mountains the number of Cubans will decrease daily, and ultimately they will remain in such small numbers as to make it an easy matter to exterminate them. The loss of the Cubans cannot be replaced, because they have only their own country to draw from—that is to say, from the number of 100,000 Cubans willing to take up arms. Say that for every 10,000 Cubans, 8,000 Spaniards are sacrificed. This is of no consequence, because we have a country containing twenty millions of inhabitants to fall back upon. The island is so rich and fertile that a few years will erase all traces of the revolution, left with a population in the main truly loyal to Spain, and composed of the remnants of the Spanish armies, who will be recompensed with grants of land and be aided by the Government. Therefore it is best to lose 25,000 Spaniards, and by this sacrifice exterminate the rebellious portion of the population.