

edying such evils, it would be as well to let alone Hayti and Cuba, where we cannot possibly do any good.

A Foolish Scheme.

There is before Congress a joint resolution providing that the United States may establish a protectorate over the islands in the Caribbean Sea, (Hayti and St. Domingo being specially mentioned,) for the purpose of enabling them to establish stable republican forms of Government against any and all influences foreign to them, or whenever the people of said islands may request the same.

Now, we suppose that Congress knows that there is no trouble whatever about foreign intervention in Hayti or St. Domingo, and that it is not "foreign influences" that prevent them establishing stable republican Governments. Their troubles are *internal*. The revolution and anarchy that prevail in Hayti and St. Domingo come from their own people, and from the struggles of their own ambitious leaders. In Hayti there has been no foreign interference, and the last attempt at foreign interference in St. Domingo was eight years ago, when Spain made an effort to reassert her authority. Yet, during the last ten years, there has been revolution after revolution in Hayti, and the war which has raged throughout the country for the last two years has now brought it into an almost hopeless state of anarchy. Neither the Empire of SOULOUQUE, the Republic of GEFFRARD, nor the Administration of SALNAVE, has been able to hold together, and it is impossible to guess what may turn up after they get exhausted with the present war. In the Republic of St. Domingo also, there seems to be no end to the raging squabbles, and hardly any prospect of assured republican stability.

Now, if Congress wishes to assist these two unhappy peoples, it is not from foreign interference they need to be saved, but from *themselves*. We must send an army and navy to put down the insurrections and revolutions, to establish Government, and to preserve order. We must crush out the rebels, if we can discover which party are the rebels. We must uphold the genuine Government, if we can find out the genuine one. And, if we were to try this, for example, in the case of Hayti, we should be very sure to find all Hayti against us. We should have to fight all the factions, and the whole population—fight them on the seaboard, fight them in the mountains—fight the worst savages outside of Africa, in the most difficult country outside of Abyssinia. We suppose we could do it. The American people stick at nothing, and Congress is afraid of nothing. But after it is done,—what? Why, a ruined island more utterly ruined than it is now, and a nation of African savages more hopelessly savage than ever. We should find a couple of hundred millions added to our own debt, and a good deal less than nothing to show for it.

But we are told that the resolution introduced to Congress also "squints very strongly at Cuba." The Cuban insurrectionists have asked the assistance of this country, and it is thought we might do them the small service of guaranteeing them against foreign interference, and securing them a "stable republican Government." Why not? It might be a small service, but it would be a good deal bigger fight than some folks imagine. It would need an army of at least fifty thousand men,—to say nothing of the navy,—even if we had only Spain to fight; and it would cost us at least five hundred millions,—to say nothing of shoddy and plundering. And if, after all, we were to save the people of Cuba from foreign interference, we might by no means be able to give them a "stable republican Government." It might not be so easy to make stable republicans out of the African and Chinese inhabitants,—to say nothing of the Creoles and Spaniards.

The fact is, there is no necessity for Americans going to Hayti, or Cuba, or Crete, to find all the work they can possibly do in behalf of republican institutions. There has fearful corruption grown up in our own Republic, which it will require more effort to keep from ruining us than were required in the seven labors of Hercules. There is a stupendous debt crushing the country, which we can only pay off justly by stupendous effort and stupendous honesty. There is a vast amount of poverty, suffering and helplessness among our laboring classes, which is working toward the degradation of the country, and must be remedied by vast effort if we would save our Republic from ruin. If Congress can furnish us any assistance in either of these directions it will receive our deep gratitude; but until it is able to do something in the way of reim-