

cities," says the General, and there is no information which we needed less. All that he says confirms the belief that in Cuba itself the revolution is regarded with disfavor, or else that the people will not move because they expect us to do their work for them. They had better get rid of all such delusions. The American nation has watched the insurrection with interest and sympathy, knowing well that Spanish misgovernment is exercising a baleful influence over a magnificent island. But is it just to demand of them that they shall help a people who will not help themselves?

What is to Become of Cuba?

Any one who contrasts the recent history of Cuba with that of the Central and South American Republics, formerly under the dominion of Spain, will deeply regret the mismanagement which has characterized the insurrection intended to accomplish Cuban independence. It seems to be the destiny of every colony which is governed from Madrid to fall into gradual decay, or at least to have its progress perceptibly retarded, and its resources frittered away. It is not yet fifty years ago since the five Republics of Central America achieved their independence, and notwithstanding circumstances of great trial, they have since enjoyed a measure of prosperity which, with the incubus of Spanish rule upon them, they could never have hoped for. Where social or political disorders have prevailed most largely, we find that Spanish influences and Spanish traditions retain their strongest hold. Guatemala is one example of this, and if Nicaragua has not experienced that repose which was essential to its welfare, we must remember that the slaveholders of the South are partly responsible for the misfortune. Spain has scarcely ever ceased to harass the South American Republics, from which she was only driven after exhausting all her efforts. The United States Government are still endeavoring to make peace between Spain and Peru, Chili, Bolivia and Ecuador.

If Cuba could have freed herself from the trammels which have so long held her down, the lesson of her history would have been far stronger than that of all the other colonies which once called Spain the "mother country." The wealth of the island, the variety of its resources, the enterprise and industry of a large section of the people, must necessarily have raised it to a position in the world such as it has never yet attained. Had it been under a Government which encouraged the development of the country, and protected the welfare of the people while seeking to withdraw as little as possible from the fruits of their industry, it would in one year have accomplished more than in any decade of its previous history. But the yoke of Spain has had its usual effect. It is a blight upon every people who have been subjected to it, and only when they throw it off does the curse which paralyzes all their efforts pass from them. Many countries have treated their colonies foolishly. France has always neglected hers; England is at this moment trying all in her power to get rid of New-Zealand; but Spain alone *witers* everything she touches. If Cuba is not insignificant, it is partly because her natural riches were too great to be altogether neutralized, and partly because the Spanish Government has treated Cuba as a mine from which she might always get help in extremity.

The time seemed to have come when Cuba could get rid of this constant drain upon her. The flight of Queen ISABELLA, in September, 1868, left Spain in confusion. We all know that the same confusion still exists. Thus, for a period of fourteen months the Independence Party in Cuba have had a great opportunity in their hands. We will not ask what they have done with it, for we have no desire to seem willing to cast reproach on leaders who must bitterly deplore their ill success. But it is fair to inquire whether we have seen all that the "liberationists" are destined to do? Is no more help to be afforded them by Cubans who have the means and the power to support a tottering cause? They fold their arms, and call upon the United States for "intervention," for "recognition," and we know not what besides. Supposing the Government here decided to "recognize" Cuba, to whom would it send its representative? Where is the head of the "Cuban Government?"—what capital has he chosen, and how is the agent to reach him? The United States agent would be compelled to ride, at the risk of his life, in search of a General and a moving camp. He would carry "recognition" of a Government which he could not find. Instead of making absurd demands on the United States the Cubans ought to work out their own deliverance. If they desire it so much as we are told they do, they could certainly gain it, and within three months. But if the mass of the people are indifferent to the question, if the "propertied" class in Havana and elsewhere do not wish the insurrection to succeed—if they are holding aloof from what is called the popular army, and will not even (as General JORDAN leads us to suppose) find clothing for that "army," or for the women and children with them—then how can the United States be expected to take a quarrel which does not belong to it upon its hands? "Give us arms and clothing," cries General JORDAN. Well, are there no resident Cubans to respond to that appeal? Surely, it would be easier to supply the requisite articles from Havana than from New-York. "We have not wasted our armies nor materials in attacking larrea