

## The Cuban Revolution.

Mr. Willard of Vt., made a sensible speech on the 9th ult., in the House of Representatives, on the question of adopting Gen. Banks' resolution relative to the recognition of Cuba. The views of Mr. Willard will be approved in Vermont.

We give the following passages from the conclusion of his speech :—

I do not oppose this resolution, Mr. Speaker, because as an individual I have no sympathy with people struggling for their liberties against despotic power. I may not be so sanguine as some of my colleagues that out of this insurrection will come a stable, free, republican government. Some of the rose-colored visions of free government in Spanish America have hardly been realized. If the people of Cuba desire to live under a form of government of their own choice I hope they may establish such a government. Certainly I would; and I should hope this government would, put no obstacle in their way. When a revolution throws off despotic authority, and brings in and *establishes* a government of the people, I would have all haste consistent with well established principles of international law made in its recognition. But as a Government, or as a branch of the Government, we cannot take sides in any way with an insurrection which has not become a success, without putting ourselves in an attitude of hostility to the Government against which the insurrection has been set on foot. Yet this resolution, if it means anything, gives, and was intended to give, moral support, aid, and comfort to the insurgents in Cuba. It is an official declaration of one branch of the Government, purposely so phrased as not to require the assent of any other branch of the Government, to give it life, that we hope the Cubans will succeed in their rebellion against Spain. It arrays this House of Representatives on the side of the insurgents, and is not less hostile in fact though it may be in words, to the provisional government of Spain, than it would be if it proposed armed intervention. It is not addressed to Spain, but to the insurgents in Cuba. Its object is not, by friendly offices, to induce the Spanish Government to give the Cubans what the Liberals of the Peninsula have just as they hope, achieved for themselves, the right of self government; but its manifest purpose is to strengthen the arms and give hope to the hearts of the insurrectionary "people of Cuba." \* \* \* \*

I am aware, Mr. Speaker, that the popular ear is not tickled by speeches in opposition to such projects as give strength to this resolution; and I am not ignorant of the fact that the covetous eyes with which for many years many of our people have looked upon the "gem of the Antilles" will grow bright at the announcement that this measure has received the endorsement of a majority of this House. This is not the first insurrection in Cuba, and the present is not the first time in our history that filibustering has had a temporary popularity. The lust for territory seems yet to possess others than Mr. Seward, and the real estate operations and projects for annexation, if they abandoned the State Department, did not leave all branches of the Government with the late Secretary. The "manifest destiny" men still live, and although our flag does not yet fully protect or give free government to all upon our own soil, they would run our boundaries beyond the limits of the unsettled and fighting populations of the West Indies, and the turbulent factions of Mexico, and would make American citizens alike of the Esquimaux toward the north pole, and the naked natives of the tropics. I believe this resolution has its chief and most active support both in and out of this House, from those who favor this project of continental empire. For myself, however, I am by no means assured that the United States have not already territory enough; and I am quite certain that, until freedom and equal rights and the peaceful enjoyment of life and liberty are made abundantly secure to white and black at home, it is not wise, just, or expedient, to take up the quarrels of any other people, or attempt to establish free governments upon any foreign soil.

In whatever view, Mr. Speaker, I have been able to look at this measure, whether as tried by the law of nations, by the uniform practice of this Government, by the facts so far as we know anything respecting the state of the insurrection in Cuba, by the embarrassment in which it may place us in pressing our claims against England, by the encouragement it gives to unlawful expeditions in aid of the insurgents, or by its purpose as part of a general scheme of extended empire, I can only see good reason for deprecating its passage.