

## The War in Cuba—Rough Work for the Spaniards.

The armies sent out from Spain seem to melt away in the island of Cuba, as the rivers from the mountains disappear in the sands of the Arabian desert. A month ago, from all that could be gathered on the island in the way of information by Mr. Plumb, the insurrection was at an end, or so near the last ditch as to be reduced to a few straggling bands of guerrillas in the mountains; but from the news which we publish this morning it would appear that the revolutionists are still able to grapple with and defeat a Spanish force of two or three thousand men.

On Christmas day General Puello left Nuevitas with a force of three thousand men, promising to make short work of the "insurgent rabble" in their mountain retreats. On New Year's day he was met, "tackled" and defeated by General Jordan, the Spaniards suffering a loss of thirty-six officers and four hundred men killed and wounded—a very considerable battle and a very important victory for the Cubans. It breaks up Puello's campaign and gives Jordan (promoted to the supreme command of the liberals) a pretty fair opening for cutting up the Spanish detachments in detail. The prospect now is that there will still be much fighting and bloodshed in the island before the Cubans are subdued; and still the question recurs, is it really impossible for the government of the United States to do anything to bring this bloody business to an end? Is General Grant so tied up in red tape that he can move neither hand nor foot to extricate himself or Spain or the Cubans from this diplomatic entanglement? Has he given up Cuba as a Gordian knot which cannot be untied, with the indefinite postponement of the Alabama claims? We think that some resolution of inquiry in Congress to-morrow would probably result in throwing a little light on both these subjects.

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