

EPIDEMIC DISEASES AND QUARANTINE.—

Cholera is raging at different points in Cuba; smallpox is very severe there, and the yellow fever has made its customary appearance. This will be interesting news for persons who contemplate trips that way in filibustering expeditions. But it is not without a very lively interest also to the people of this city, when we consider that a great many merchants trading with Cuban ports are just now raising a clamor for the relaxation, if not the abolition, of quarantine. These rich merchants, if they make a hundred thousand dollars on sugar, as they often do in a single operation, or the same on coffee, can step away nicely to Newport, Saratoga, or even to Switzerland, and what then will they care for the cholera their ships brought, which will rage mostly in Roosevelt street? Not a button will they care, taking their ease at Vevey. It is to be hoped that the quarantine authorities will care as little for their noise as they care for the public health. Their clamor is for freedom to import disease; the cry of the people is for vigilance in keeping it out.
