

The accounts from Cuba are still of the most contradictory character. It has been currently stated for some days past that the revolutionists had avowed their inability to maintain their claims to independence without the assistance of the United States. At any rate, that even if no materials of war were furnished, yet its recognition was essential for their unity at home and ultimate triumph.

So, too, the Havana journals announced that VILLAMIL and two others of the Republican leaders had given up the contest and surrendered with six hundred of their men, upon condition that their lives were spared.

But later intelligence leads us to distrust this information. It is very difficult to ascertain accurately the position of events. The journals are under the control and censorship of the Government. The consequence is, that the medium through which most of the intelligence comes is scarcely reliable.

There can be no question that the resolution of the United States Congress, and the late recognition of the independence of Cuba by Mexico, have given a fresh impetus to the movement of separation from Spain.

Summer is fast approaching. The rainy season is at hand. Military operations must therefore necessarily soon cease. At least they cannot much longer be carried on with vigor. Unless the revolution is immediately crushed out, the cause of independence must be strengthened. Time is in its favor. Delay is hazardous to Spain.

And this General DULCE has perceived. For the Spanish Generals are straining every nerve for victory.

There have been no regular pitched battles. The fighting has partaken more of the character of guerrilla warfare. And this of all others, if the hearts of the people are with them, is the most difficult to encounter and defeat. Often the Spanish troops are sent to meet the revolutionists who are supposed to be in force. But when they arrive they find that the enemy have retreated. A victory is announced, but scarcely is it published and accepted before the same revolutionists, uniting with other bands, are found in force in another vicinity, and form a new nucleus and rallying point.

The Cubans have adopted the Fabian system of warfare. Except a few skirmishes there have been no battles to record.

The latest advices is that the last movement of the Spaniards, under General LESCA, against Puerto Principe, had proved a failure.

The report reaches us from Washington that Great Britain designs recognizing Cuban independence, with a view to enable her to establish a separate Republic, and thus prevent her absorption by, or annexation to the United States.

In other words, that she will so act, and urge upon Spain that it is better that her people should have a separate existence, and form a federation with Porto Rico and San Domingo, with a view hereafter to the inclusion of the English and French West Indies, than for Cuba to fall into the lap of the United States, and thus add another step to its ultimate stride over the Continent.

At this the *Washington Chronicle* has taken alarm. It publishes a statement to the effect, that the Government of the United States, is daily expecting the arrival of a special agent sent by it some time since, to ascertain the condition of affairs in the Island. It adds. "The action of the Government, will depend to some extent upon the report made by the agent, who is a gentleman in whom the Administration places implicit confidence. The report is looked for with considerable interest."

We have ever advocated the right of every people to the selection of their own form of Government and the regulation of their own liberties. It is their Government that they are entitled to, and not that of any one else, or of any other body of men. There should be no right of rule, except that which the people, of their own free accord, create for themselves.

We have, therefore, ever regarded the action of Spain in denying to the people of Cuba the same right they have exercised for themselves, as inconsistent and untenable.

Its true course was to have cheerfully submitted the whole matter to a popular vote. Then whatever the decision, it would have been the voice of the people, deciding upon their own views of their welfare, and against this decision there could have been no dissent.

But Spain has acted otherwise. The result is she has a revolution on her hand.

We must confess, also, that our sympathies have been excited by the extreme ferocity with which the contest has been waged.

For instance, what can be more bloodthirsty