

Insect Plague in Cuba.

To the horrors of war, a new trouble is added for the unfortunate Cubans. A Matanzas correspondent of the New York Herald writes:

In the Valle de Yumiri an insect has of late appeared which threatens to destroy every sort of plant existing in the neighborhood. It is a sort of worm, to which the peasants have given the name of *la madre*, very much like the *comejen*, which destroys even the houses built of stone; but it differs from the *comejen* in that the former is green and the head of a dark color. It inhabits the root of the *luniala*, or a sweet potato, where it deposits an infinity of eggs, producing small white worms, which get into the potato and leave such a repugnant smell and taste that the cattle will not eat the infected *luniala*. The insect has increased to such an extent that it has become a complete plague, and very few estates are free from it. Unless an early and sure remedy be discovered to exterminate the evil, the laborers will be thrown into complete misery and the owners of animals will suffer considerably.