

The Struggle in Cuba.

The news from Cuba to-day is a little too huge. Defeats in which only three of the vanquished escape, although not beyond the bounds of possibility, are still so straining to faith that we need a good deal of moral support. A few affidavits from eye-witnesses would not be amiss.

The tide has evidently turned in the affairs of the Cuban rebels. They have received strong reinforcements from sympathising American filibusters, and, what is probably more important, they have received a considerable supply of serviceable arms. As the sickly season is at hand, and the operations of the government troops will be necessarily crippled by the heat and malaria, it is not improbable that the Cubans will overrun the most of the island and coop the Spaniards up in a few of the larger towns.

But Spain evinces an inexorable determination to maintain her hold of Cuba. She has sent out De Roda to supersede Dulce as Captain-General. De Roda is said to be another Alva in disposition—sanguinary in the extreme; and he goes out, as is said, under instructions to spare neither fire nor sword. The Northern papers say that the cruelty of Dulce cannot be exceeded, but De Roda is going to try the Stanton plan on the Cuba rebels. He goes to destroy the food, clothing and shelter of non-combatants and to call in the aid of universal starvation. The “loyal” can come into the Spanish garrisons and get what food may be doled out to them; but the rebels must perish out in time, if the government can keep up a vigorous blockade, and prosecute the work of destroying houses, food and crops. If the Spanish government can find money to carry on the war long enough, they can probably subdue the rebellion in this way.
