

Spanish Views of the Cuban Question.

The letter of our Madrid correspondent published in yesterday's HERALD gives a very lucid exposition of the feeling in Spain in regard to the revolution in Cuba and the sympathies in this country for the republican cause there, and shows how completely ignorant are the people, and even the press, in Spain of the situation of affairs in the Gem of the Antilles. They are led to believe that the revolution is dying out "through powerful repressive measures and its own exhaustion," and that the filibustering operations of this country are the only support of the present movements in the island. They moreover ostentatiously claim that Spain was strictly neutral in our recent war, giving the United States ships perhaps a little advantage over the rebel cruisers; in return for which they demand that we shall not be neutral in the present contest, but shall side entirely with Spain against her rebellious subjects. As evidence of their fairness it is asserted that "there are very few Spaniards who do not see that Cuba must eventually fall into the hands of the United States, but that they would like to see this result attained in a fair, natural and honorable way," and then the following extraordinary proposition is set forth:—"If the people of Cuba could vote in a fair, untrammelled way on the question of separation from Spain, and the majority of the votes should be in favor of that act, it is certain that no great number of Spaniards would favor their retention under the Spanish dominion by force. They would regret the loss of the pearl of the Antilles, but they would not spend a dollar or risk a life to prevent its consummation if legitimately carried out; only they would demand a reimbursement for all the money spent by Spain in great public works in Cuba—a proposition fair and just." The determination of the Spanish people to spend their last dollar and send their last man to put down the revolution is set forth in true Artemus Ward style, and the whole is capped by an intimation that "some questions will be asked, not only by Spain, but by several great Powers, as to the intentions of the United States government."

We recognize in these points a very correct exposition of the views and arguments of the Spanish press and of the people of Spain in the present questions relating to Cuba; but they are founded in the grossest ignorance.

both of the people of the United States and of the condition of the Spanish colonies in America, and the sooner Spain ceases to follow her blind guides in American affairs the better it will be for her. Whether the revolution in Cuba is dying out through powerful repressive measures and its own exhaustion or not she can best learn by the clamorous calls of her own partisans in Cuba for more men and more money to put it down. As for the claim that Spain is now entitled to our exclusive friendship because she only did as much for our rebels as she did for us, we do not see it in that light. To us it seems that in her unseemly haste to recognize our rebellion and confer belligerent rights upon our rebels she was pointedly ungracious to us.

The proposition for the people of Cuba to vote on the question of separation from Spain, and the statement if the majority of the votes should be in favor of that fact it is certain that no great number of Spaniards would favor their retention under the Spanish dominion, is a novel view on this side of the ocean and has some very pertinent relations to present facts. The people of Cuba have voted and are voting now in a very pronounced manner on that question, and every Spanish newspaper that we receive from Havana contains returns of the votes cast. We are told that thousands of them are in arms in favor of the separation; that not a Cuban is trusted by the Spanish authorities; that every one is an insurgent, and not a native, man, woman or child, in the island will shout *viva España* except at the point of the bayonet. Spain had better read the returns that are now coming in from the election in Cuba, and, if she means business in the suggestion above quoted, she will do well to act soon. Only one other point requires notice at our hands. We are told that not only Spain, but some of the great Powers are about to ask us what are our intentions. For a reply to this question we would call their attention to the vote of the House of Representatives on the Cuban resolutions—98 to 24—and to the Senate vote—54 to 1—for the rejection of the treaty regarding the Alabama claims.