

CUBA.

Gloomy Picture of the Country—The Recent Victories of the Revolutionists—Cuban Enthusiasm—Spanish Excesses—Demoralization Among the Soldiers.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Sept. 12, 1869.

A Southern gentleman, who is visiting Cuba for the purpose of ascertaining the state of affairs for himself and his friends, writes from Cardenas under date of September 1 as follows:—

The news of the recent successes of the Cubans near Puerto Principe, Sagua la Grande and Las Tunas has given an impetus and new life to the patriot cause which will prove irresistible. The enthusiasm of the Cubans knows no bounds. They are rising en masse and flocking to the liberating army by hundreds. The Spanish openly assert that the revolution will be successful; that the Spanish force is almost destroyed, and that Spain cannot send sufficient reinforcements to regain the positions lost by these battles. It is reported that the Cubans in these engagements fought with great determination and daring, and showed a discipline equal to that of regular troops. The Spanish troops everywhere are demoralized; they have no confidence in their commanders, nor have the officers confidence in their soldiers. Many of the regulars are known to sympathize with the Cubans. The revolution, I honestly believe, will succeed and the independence of Cuba be attained. The outrages perpetrated upon inoffensive and helpless people by the volunteers and their friends are of the most revolting character, and exceed even those perpetrated by the Indians on the frontiers of the United States. Everywhere evidence of these outrages can be seen—buildings burned, churches destroyed and hundreds of homeless, starving wanderers.

This once beautiful and luxurious island is now a barren waste, and should the war be prolonged six months it will be almost uninhabitable. Even now all along the eastern coast of the island the people are on the very verge of starvation and are dying by hundreds from disease superinduced by want.
