

## CUBA WELL LOST.

In a debate in the Cortes on the 25th of last month, the present head of Spain was provoked to avow that the hatred of Cubans to the Spanish Government is too great to be appeased or converted, and, he might have added, conquered. He further acknowledged that men who, at the time of his Captain-Generalship under the Ministry of O'Donnell, were his devoted friends and counselors, are now leading the insurgents, or are among the exiles in New-York straining every nerve for their cause. Here is a dismal admission for Spain, and this, too, from the man who is to become her Regent, and, perhaps, practically her President. It speaks reluctantly the unanimous opinion of every friend of the Spanish administration in Cuba, and virtually confesses what Captain-General Dulce and Major-General Mena have of late more boldly said, that the island this time is lost to the mother country. It is worth remembering that both Marshal Serrano and Gen. Dulce were once members of a Commission of Information appointed in 1857 to testify as to the reform necessary to the island, and then declared to Queen Isabella that without speedy redress of its grievances it would be hopelessly alienated. Gen. Dulce has seen his misgivings verified to the letter, and felt the fatality of opposing an earnest revolution with bankruptcy and anarchy. Cuba is lost to Spain, and worse than lost. Every soldier sent out for her conquest is a traitor to authority, and represents so much dearly-bought money thrown into a flood.

The Spanish Minister at Washington is reported to be exceedingly anxious as to the situation of his authorities in the island. Seeing that his brother, the political Governor at Havana, contemplates his bodily escape out of the crisis, this does not surprise us. The best art of the ambassador will be required to show us in what way Spain still keeps possession of her territory, and how it is possible for us at present to respect her authority. If we recognize the rebels who have expelled Gen. Dulce and installed a regime of slave-traders, we surely do offense to those at whose hands the late Captain-General received his commission. If we recognize the President and Congress at Guaimaro we are still liable to displease the friends of those Castilian leaders who insist that they did us good offices in our own hour of difficulty. But we see not how Spain can help acknowledging what is now plain to the world, that her Cuban possession is gone utterly—in forfeit to her misuse of opportunities, means, men, lands, and whatever wealth God gives to a country for the prospering of peoples. Cuba will be free instead of slave, and the Spanish race will be the gainer for all that Spanish misgovernment has forfeited. Her possession will be well lost if Spain but learn to take honest care of her people at home. She is well rid of an heirloom of her barbarism if she can turn introspective eyes upon her own condition and consolidate freedom, rather than vainly cling to empire.

One other consideration seems to point to the Spanish need of renouncing the province in the tropics. Minister Figuerola's count of costs for carrying on the Government of Spain amounts to the great sum of \$150,000,000, while the budget contemplated by the Republicans of the Cortes is no more than \$90,000,000. The deficit in the Minister's estimate reaches the serious sum of \$55,000,000, and we now hear, through the Cable, that he has announced the impossibility of reducing his budget. The conviction of this news may alarm Spain, but it is auspicious to Cuba, and we doubt not the mother country will find it better to save fifty-five millions than to waste fifty-five millions more for the conquest of a ruin.