

friend, while it may alienate many who hitherto have been its allies. Probably no measure more hurtful to his political prestige could have received the sanction of Mr. MADISON.

THE CUBAN CONSTITUTION.

It is now asserted that the Constitution of "Free Cuba," declaring the objects for which the patriots strive in their struggle to rid themselves of the Cuban yoke, was prepared in the City of Washington. This is hardly a matter of surprise. Such of its provisions as have leaked out are so evidently *fac similes* of certain articles in the fundamental law of our own land that a glance only was necessary to convince one that some parties more intimately acquainted with American Republicanism than the Cubans must have had a large share in their preparation. Would not the fact, too, that so many of the members of our Congress, to say nothing of officials more closely identified with the Administration, cordially sympathize with the Cuban insurgents, lead us naturally to suppose that their agents in this country would find it but an easy matter to secure all the aid they desired at Washington in the drafting of a constitution for the embryo Republic? Be this as it may, it is now positively made known that the instrument was drawn up in this country—ostensibly, to be sure—by the Cuban exiles. The framers of it also boldly proceeded on the assumption that the island would achieve its release from Spanish tyranny, and then, as in the case of Texas, seek annexation to the United States. Two or three States, instead of a single large one, are demarcated, which will comprise the newly-born nation. Then, when the moment arrives for annexation, we shall have to add several more stars to our flag. A few days since news was received that at a meeting of the Cuban Congress, a resolution was adopted affirming it the intention of the patriots to knock at our doors for admission. That despatch was doubted by many; and really its truth was controverted by certain stubborn qualifying circumstances. Nevertheless, it was not absolutely disproven. Now, assuming that the Cuban Constitution was prepared at Washington, does not the despatch that this resolution of annexation was voted, receive an additional and forcible confirmation? The Cuban exiles in this country enjoy a well-merited reputation for shrewdness and sagacity, and by what other device than the procurement of the passage of such a resolution in their Congress, could they have awakened a more lively and effectual sympathy among us for their cause and its success? The truth of the matter is—a truth which cannot be concealed—that far the larger majority of the Cubans desire annexation to the United States. They know that it must naturally flow from the achievement of their independence—an independence gained mainly by assistance from this country. Let but the Stars and Stripes be planted on her shores, and Cuba is free forever from the grasp of Spain. Still, though eager for the coming of that time, it