

Spanish Savages.

Europe, accustomed to the horrors of warfare, is shocked by the barbarities of the Spanish savages. These are mostly perpetrated by the Carlists, though the Republicans have not been above a savage retaliation. The weak points of the historical Spanish character—ferocious bigotry, cruelty and implacable revenge. Their deeds remind us of the military excesses committed under Philip II. and the Duke of Alba. They are true descendants of the men who fought the bloody brilliant pages. Their virtues, like their vices, are all of the martial order. While they are sanguinary and brutal in the highest degree, they are men of undoubted courage, and of unwavering fidelity to the cause espoused by their fanaticism. The best of the Carlists will die for Don Carlos, their "King," and their wives and daughters share the devotion. At the recent reception of the "Queen" in a small Carlist town, young girls with swords about their waists formed her body guard. If it were not for the fanatical cruelties of the Carlists, we could not help admiring their staunch loyalty to the pretender whose ambition is dragging these men, women and children through a civil war which brings nothing but bloodshed and misery in its train. Every day supplies some new dreadful instance of Carlist inhumanity. In all captured places they sack and burn houses, with people in them. After some successful engagements they kill all the Republican prisoners taken; on other occasions they shoot one out of ten. Some of their exploits remind us of the Apaches. The prefect of Cuenca, which they took the other day, says that thirty-four bodies of Republicans were found there, so horribly mutilated as to be unrecognizable. The war on the Carlist side will soon become one of extermination. "No quarter" will be the rule; and the Republicans will cheerfully accept the terms. Under the late Marquis of Cádiz it was sometimes a war to the knife. When the victorious Republicans entered a fallen town, they burned, pillaged and killed with as much relish as their enemies. Concha's successor seems to be a milder man; but doubtless he will feel forced, by the horrible example of the Carlists, to deal severely with his foes when he catches them. Of the two forces, the Carlists are much the worse. They began this barbarous warfare, and they carry it through in cruelty. For this reason they have provoked the censure of all the civilized peoples of Europe; and some of the nations are ready to step in, on suitable provocation, and aid in crushing out these medieval butchers. The North German Gazette says: "Germany, in behalf of civilized European civilization, will seek and find means to teach the Carlists that the murder of a captured German shall not remain unpunished." As any moment the Carlists may engage England by the butchery of one or more of her citizens, caught straying among the lines, but innocent of hostile intentions. In their mad career the Carlists respect no flag; and it is luck and not discretion that has kept them so far from embroiling with England. If the North German Gazette speaks the official voice, the threat we quote is not an empty one. There is some hope that Carlistia will be suppressed for a while by the more vigorous policy of the Republicans. The Government of Madrid has published a decree declaring all Spain in a state of siege, which is most to the point, creating a special reserve of 125,000 men. This fresh army, if it is ever organized, ought, in addition to the force already put into the field, to give the Carlists their death-blow. One new order—that prohibiting the shooting of prisoners in retaliation for Carlist atrocities—will, if enforced (doubtful), greatly increase European sympathy for the Republicans. Although the Republicans are numerically much stronger than the Carlists, no prudent man will predict a Republican victory. In Cuba we see the same war in miniature, except that the insurgents are the Carlists and the natives struggling against foreigners—Cubans against Spaniards—and that the principle of the contest in the Cuban war is freedom and independence, whereas Don Carlos is warring for his lost crown. The odds are about the same in Cuba as in Spain, and we know how stubbornly and unyieldingly the Cubanists wage the unequal strife.—N. Y. Journal of Commerce.



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