

THE CUBAN PATRIOT.

A correspondent of the New York Sun gives the following sketch of Cespedes, the leader of the Cuban insurgents:

Carlos Manuel Cespedes was born about forty-five years ago, in the town of Bayamo, Cuba. The first twelve years of his life were spent with his parents, who resided on a plantation in the vicinity. With them he only learned the first rudiments in reading, writing and arithmetic, while at the same time he indulged in those hardy employments and health-giving games which are consequent in a life in a country naturally mountainous and full of forests. His family having moved when he was twelve years of age to the town of Bayamo, Carlos Manuel was there sent to school for the first time. A few days after the commencement of his studies there, he gave proof of an extraordinary mental activity and intellectual talents, leaving behind him the most advanced of the scholars in the school, and being recognized by them as the head of the institution. When eighteen years of age he went to Havana, with the object of prosecuting his studies there for the law profession. His great intellectuality was further developed there, at the same time that numerous personal affairs gave him an opportunity to show his active, courageous and tenacious disposition, giving an indication that he would be as "great in war as in peace." Graduating as attorney-at-law in Europe, where he went afterward, and receiving the greatest university honors, he returned to Cuba and fixed his residence at Manzanillo. His powers of eloquence, energy, and his knowledge soon made him the most popular man in the vicinity, and entitled him to rank as the first lawyer in that part of the country. But of all traits in his character, generosity marks an important one, and will give a lustre to all his future actions. The fortune which he inherited from his father, the wealth which he amassed by his industrial enterprise, and his future prospect of increasing it, would have secured him a life full of comfort and ease; but his patriotic heart could not support longer the sight of his country in chains and the victim to the outrages of the tyrannical Spanish Government. Inspired by a heroic resolution, he gives freedom to all his slaves, abandons his sugar estates to the merciless fury of his Spanish foe, who burn them all in revenge; and, sacrificing all on the altar of liberty and independence, with the noblest motives he inaugurates the revolution in Cuba at the head of one hundred patriots—a movement which now counts in its ranks the whole native population of the island. To the present, he has shown in all his acts the fullest energy, an untiring constancy, and the greatest moderation in the exercise of the discretionary powers conferred on him by the unanimous assent of the Cubans. When we see men of this stamp, supported by all the natives of Cuba, and that they without arms and ammunition of any consideration, and by their unaided efforts, not only have been able to withstand the advances of the Spanish foe, but have repeatedly defeated them, and at last obtained possession of almost all the island—then it becomes impossible for us to doubt of the final triumph of liberty, and the prevailing of American institutions in the "Gem of the Antilles."

TUNNELING UNDER THE SEA.

A scheme has been proposed for uniting Ireland and Scotland, so as to do away with the necessity of making a sea passage altogether. The entrance of the railway tunnel, by which it is to be accomplished, on the Irish side is to be from a point about midway between Cushendall and Cushendall, on the coast of Antrim; and on the Scotch side at Glenelg, from whence it would run through the head of the Mull of Cantyre. The total length of the tunnel under water would be 14 miles 3 furlongs, and it is said that the ground through which it would have to be made is exactly suited for tunneling operations, and the sandstone for lining it can be had in any quantity on the Irish shore. It is proposed to construct the tunnel for a single line only, the extreme depth being twenty-one feet, and the clear width at the level of the rails fifteen feet. It is proposed, however, to lay down three lines of rails to accommodate wide and narrow gauge carriages. The gradient at the entrance of the tunnel on the Irish side would be one in sixty for about five miles; it would then fall to one in eighty-two for about half that distance, and to one in 773 for about five miles in the centre of the tunnel under the water, rising from that to one in 272, then to one in 113, then to one in sixty for about the same distance as on the Irish side, which continues to the entrance of the tunnel on the Scotch side. The estimated time that would be occupied in completing the tunnel is, allowing for all contingencies, under six years, and the cost under four and a quarter millions. To pay a dividend of five per cent, the weekly earnings must be £42 per mile, and an estimate is appended to show that the gross earnings would be largely in excess of this amount, and that the mineral resources of the land in the immediate vicinity of the Irish end of the tunnel would be immensely developed. Nobody will be disposed to deny that a railway communication between the two countries would be a very desirable thing if it can be accomplished.—*Cassell's Magazine.*

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