



COLUMBUS MEMORIAL COLLEGE, CUBA.

Being, and in a life after death. An old chief, presenting Columbus with a basket of fruits and flowers, said:

"Whether you are a man or a divinity we know not. You come into these countries with such a show of force we would be mad to resist even if we were so inclined. We are, therefore, at your mercy; but if you and your followers are men like ourselves, subject to mortality, you can not be unapprized that after this life there is another, wherein a very different portion is allotted to good and bad men. And if you believe you will be rewarded in a future state, you will do us no harm, for we intend none to you."

The Spaniards regarded Cuba as conquered territory, and dealt with the natives as they did with the Mexicans and Peruvians. They undertook to reduce them to a state of slavery. The Caribees were not accustomed to work, and could not be made to obey their Spanish lords. For this offence they were exterminated. They were told that if they would go on board the Spanish ships they would be taken to some happy islands where they

would see their ancestors, and where they would enjoy a state of bliss of which they had no conception. In this way more than forty thousand were decoyed away from home and slaughtered. Some Spanish vowed to kill thirteen every morning before breakfast in honour of Christ and his twelve apostles! Others compelled the natives to submit to baptism, and despatched them at once, to keep them from becoming apostates. A native chief opposed the Dons, and was tied to a stake and faggots were heaped about him. A monk held the crucifix to his lips and talked to him about the beauties of the Christian faith. "Be sorry for your sins, that you may go to heaven." "Where is heaven, and will there be any Spaniards there?" The monk replied, "Yes, a great many." The chief said, "Then let me go somewhere else."

Negroes were imported to take the places of these aborigines, and to do the hard and rough work for the Spaniards. Slavery has since