

and no plausible pretext having offered itself for taking possession of it by the avowed authority of the government, efforts have been made to induce the inhabitants to rebel against their sovereign, and under assurances of assistance from this country, if not from the government, at least from its citizens, to declare themselves independent, and to form themselves into a democratic state, with a view to future annexation. The most false and calumnious reports of the tyranny and oppression of the Spanish authorities have been circulated, to excite our democratic and monarch-hating citizens, and to prepare them to fly to the assistance of the Cubans, as to the rescue of an ill-used and oppressed people, and false and exaggerated accounts have been forged of the disaffection of the Cubans, and of their readiness and determination to resist and declare themselves independent of the mother country.

Disaffected or speculating Cubans, chiefly residing in this country, good patriots only in leaving their country, in concert with certain American speculators and European refugees, have been induced to form what they call a provisional government, to contract loans, to enlist troops, and commission officers in the name of the imaginary people or Republic of Cuba. This appears to have been done with a double object; first, to secure to these excellent patriots and their American advisers the plunder of the island, and in case of success, the power to oppress its inhabitants, and second, to remove any scruples our citizens might feel as to engaging in an avowed piratical enterprise. Our people hold that they have a right to assist any band of rebels, who profess to be rebelling against monarchy, in favor of democracy. They hold that all authority emanates from the people, and they never take the trouble to enquire whether what they call the people are a perfect people, complete and independent, or only a mob. They outlaw monarchy and monarchists, and hold any number of the inhabitants of a given country, to be the sovereign people, if they are only opposed to monarchy and in favor of a democracy; although in point of fact they are not more than one in a thousand of the whole population. God has given the dominion of the world to democrats, and they have the right, whenever they please and are able, to oust the old

proprietors and to take possession of it. A self-constituted provisional government, having no authority even from the people, no authority, indeed, but what its individual members assume, is for them the sovereign authority of any country subjected to the monarchical form of government, and in it are vested all the rights of a sovereign state, the power to form alliances to declare war, and to make peace. Recognizing this the self-styled provisional government of Cuba, they could feel that in enrolling themselves under its banner and making piratical expeditions against a colony of Spain, they would engage in a legitimate war, and in killing and plundering Spanish subjects be only obeying a legal authority and performing meritorious acts."

#### EDITORIAL NOTES.

A JESUIT FATHER writing from Jamaica, West Indies, to the *New World*, give some interesting information regarding the condition of the Catholic Church in that district. He says that there are but twelve priests, including Bishop Gordon, on the island. The city of Kingston, contains from 10,000 to 12,000 Catholics; other Catholics are scattered through the island. Conversions are frequent, and the bulk of the present Catholic population consists for the most part of converts or children of converts. These missions now belong to the Jesuits of the Maryland—New York province.

The "Catholic Directory" for Great Britain shows that there are at present 25 Archbishops and Bishops, 3,090 priests, and 1,812 churches, chapels and stations in Great Britain, as compared with 24 Archbishops and Bishops, 3,014 priests, and 1,789 churches, chapels and stations last year. Of the priests 2,143 are seculars and 947 are regulars.

MATTHEW ARNOLD speaking of Catholicity exclaimed: This is why the man of imagination, nay, the philosopher, too, will always have a weakness for the Catholic Church: because of the rich treasures of human life which have