

for other governments to pursue a like policy with their colonies.

3. — Freer intercourse with Spain, but with Spain only, was allowed to Cuba after 1763, and an increased measure of prosperity resulted, but it was cursed with the stain of the slave trade, as Cuba became the depot for the traffic in humanity for all Central America. The trade in slaves was freed from all former restrictions in 1789, and from that year to 1820, the average importation of slaves to Cuba per annum, was 7,000. For the next twenty-one years the average was 13,000. The trade was placed under restrictions after 1841, and in 1845 it was expressly forbidden. That order was made absolute by the vigilance of Captain General Concha during two years, but after that lapse of time it became understood by Spanish officials that the order was not in earnest; it was a concession to civilization in outward appearances, not intended for every day wear. So the slave trade revived in Cuba after the year 1847.

4. — Cuba enjoyed an era of commercial prosperity after the first quarter of the nineteenth century, for three reasons: Hayti had fallen into trouble, and civil wars distracted attention from business, so a rival was practically removed; the tobacco monopoly, which confined all dealings to Spanish ports, was annulled in 1816, and the benefit speedily followed; and thirdly, general freedom of trade was permitted in and after the year 1818. There were insurrections of the negroes in the year 1844, and again in 1848, besides many minor outbreaks, but such risings were repressed with great rigor, and it is believed that the war of 1848 cost 10,000 negroes their lives. The slave traffic could not have been all profit, when from a slave owner's point of view, so much valuable property had to be destroyed in order to prevent all the rest from emerging into human conditions.

5. — Cuba is an object of very great interest to the United States, as may well appear from the fact that