

him to gain a thorough insight into the benefits he might confer, the evils he might mitigate, and the abuses he might reform. He knows that he is sent to Cuba to make hay, and make it he must while the sun shines. He is surrounded by a legion of satellites, who, in order to bask in the smiles of the representative of royalty, flatter his vanity, conceal truth, and urge him to acts which are a disgrace to the era in which we live, so that, in lieu of being the father of the people, he proves the curse of the island.

No Colony stands so much in need of reform as Cuba—no Colony stands so little chance of obtaining reformation. So long as the home government permits so many influential men to live in the enjoyment of illegal privileges, and appropriate to themselves the surplus of taxation, so long will these abuses continue to exist; but the day must dawn, when the people, driven to desperation, will turn upon their tyrants, heedless of the awful danger that awaits them in the event of a general rising of the blacks on the one hand, and the struggle of the Spanish troops, on the other, to keep them in subjection. Where there is a will there is a way, and unless Spain intends to drive the Cubanos to desperation, the sooner she reforms the abuses the creoles so justly complain of, the better, unless she wishes to see Cuba the scene of bloodshed, or become dependent on a more paternal and liberal government.

Jonathan has an eye to Cuba. Can't you throw out a hint in some of the journals, so that it may catch Lord Palmerston's eye. We'll talk of this on my return, which will be shortly, as Mrs. S. is frightened out of her wits at the idea of yellow fever, which usually comes in May. May we be safe in London by that time.

Yours faithfully,

PETER SMITH.

P.S.—I forgot to mention that freights are up, though coffee is down; sugar much inquired after, and molasses eagerly sought for by the Americans. Exchange same as last mail.

(To be continued.)

## A FEW WORDS ABOUT SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

It has been the lot of this Colony to receive a large amount of opprobrium. The principle on which it was founded was deemed bad, and, consequently, nothing but failure was predicted by the operation of the Wakefield system of Colonisation. Such, however, has been the progress made by South Australia, that the most sanguine expectations of its promoters have been realised, and the fears of its detractors effectually silenced.

The exports have increased so as nearly to equal the imports, the revenue has far exceeded the expenditure (including the payment of various debentures granted during the crisis of 1840-41), the population has rapidly augmented, so that the most incredulous must now