

The nobility maintain expensive and ruinous establishments.

The Creoles return hate for the contempt of the Spaniard, and the Government is continually in fear of them, and they are kept as much as possible in ignorance.

In 1846 there were upwards of 470,000 blacks and mulattoes, one-third of whom were free; the number of whites was 425,000. The laws favor the acquisition of freedom by the blacks, their masters being obliged to permit them to devote a portion of their time and wages to this end. The slaves often also resort to the lottery for the purpose of obtaining money to purchase their liberty. During the dry season, when the sugar is manufactured, the slaves on plantations are severely worked, and the yearly mortality among them is excessive. Frequently they escape to the woods to lead a wild life, or commit suicide, several of them together. If a slave is dissatisfied with his master, he can compel the master to sell him, at a price to be settled by referees.

The religious state of Cuba is exceedingly low; there is little religion, and that of a formal kind. The priests frequent the cock-pits, indulge in many vices, and violate, without any attempt at concealment, their vow of chastity. Infidelity prevails to a great extent.

The manner of disposing of the dead, shocks our ideas of propriety. The cemeteries are small, the bodies are carelessly interred, several in one grave, quick lime being sometimes thrown in to hasten decomposition, and the bones are disinterred and gathered into charnal houses, where they are burned. Often a coffin is merely used to carry the body to the grave, the body being cast in and the coffin taken back to serve the same office for another.

The Government of Cuba has been the same since 1589, Captains General being appointed at intervals of about 5 years: 57 have been appointed since that time. Nearly all amass fortunes by conniving at the slave trade, instituting monopolies, &c. About \$20,000,000 are raised by tax for the support of an expensive government. Besides this, the Cuban must obtain license for any amusements at home, and for travelling. He cannot entertain foreigners, or change his residence without notifying his government. The powers of the Captain General are almost absolute and arbitrary. He is sustained by a standing army, but the military are only kept in proper subordination by continually changing the localities of regiments. There is a wide discontent existing throughout the island. The government has no sympathy with the people nor from them. The course of political events for several years past, both in this country and Cuba, seems to certify that it is the 'manifest destiny' of the island to become a member of our confederacy. In a commercial point of view the advantage to both from such an event would be exceedingly great.—[Newark Daily Advertiser.

OPENING OF THE NEW BAPTIST HOUSE

The new Baptist Bible House in Nassau-street, New York, which has been recently completed, was publicly opened with appropriate ceremonies on Monday night, the 11th inst. The President, the Rev. Dr. Bartholomew J. Welch, D. D., occupied the chair. The Secretary, Dr. Babcock, read some of the letters received from brethren who were not able to be present. The dedicatory prayer was offered by the Rev. Dr. Dowling, of Philadelphia.

The ground on which this building stands was purchased in January, 1853, and possession of it taken in May of the same year. The price was \$55,000. This has been increased by interest, taxes, and other expenses incident to the purchase, to about \$60,000.

This sum has been paid. The subscription undertaken to meet it had reached the sum of \$55,000 at the anniversary of the Society in May last, and about \$33,000 has been received. The residue is considered reliable. The building was erected at an expense of about \$75,000. The Committee appointed by the Society at Hope Chapel in May, 1852, at an early period laid down several provisions in relation to this property, among which one was that this Society should furnish to other Societies of the denomination suitable rooms and accommodations for their business purposes, free of rent, and it was directed to tender the same within one month to the American Baptist Home Mission Society, the American Baptist Missionary Union, the American Baptist Publication Society, and the New York Baptist State Convention. The provision was to be binding if accepted by the Societies within two months thereafter. The State Convention and the Publication Society accepted the offer in due time. The Society, however, have no desire to take advantage of the limitation, and in the same spirit with which this provision was made, the offer has recently been cordially repeated to the Home Mission Society upon their application, in such a manner as to have the same force and effect as the original tender.

The President then introduced the Rev. Dr. Anderson, President of the Rochester University, who proceeded to deliver an address. He said it was his fortune, his privilege and his blessing, to have been present at the meeting at Hope Chapel, at which the design of this meeting was first broached. It was his privilege also to have some personal knowledge of the members of that strong and earnest band of brethren who first conceived the plan of erecting this beautiful building. The plan was noble and generous well worthy of the character of those who carried it into execution. Their motives were such as pleased God, and his blessing was upon their work. This property had been chosen to be made available for the dissemination of religious literature. The officers have made ample accommodation for carrying this idea into effect. Dr. Anderson extended his remarks to a considerable length, and at their termination the meeting was closed with devotional exercises.—[N. Y. Tribune.

HALDANE'S MEMOIRS.

"Whence come wars and fightings"? (and the complacency with which they and their horrors are regarded) "Come they not hence, even of your lusts that war in your members?"

Under the caption of "Battle of Camperdown," in Chapter VI. of Memoirs of R. and J. Haldane, there are sentiments expressed which disgrace those interesting details. The shooting and drowning of 2,000 men—the biographer would have his readers believe formed no fit items in "the review of the whole affair," which, with acuteness, penetration and enthusiasm, he says was taken by Mr. R. Haldane, in his congratulatory letter addressed to his gallant relative, the British Admiral. Shocking inconsistency! That any such thing like an "expostulatory" letter or "sermon" should, on such an occasion as this, be deemed by the pious biographer to be out of place, and in his estimation, be accounted as "religious madness"! Surely an "expostulatory sermon" on these "bitter fruits" of the "world's code of honour," would have been as decorous here, and far more needful, than on the occasion of the death of Lord Camelford, mentioned in Chapter XV. On the very evening of the day of slaughter and destruction off Camperdown, after one half of the crew of the Dutch Admiral's ship and the whole of the officers of the quarter deck had been either killed or wounded, this gallant relative played