

Ab, don't be sorrowful, darling,  
And don't be sorrowful, pray;  
Telling the year together, my dear,  
There isn't more night than day.

The winter weather, my darling,  
Time's waves they heavily run  
But taking the year together, my dear,  
There isn't more night than day.

We are old folks, now, my darling,  
Our heads are growing grey,  
But taking the year together, my dear,  
You will always find the May.

We have had our May, my darling,  
Our roses long ago have faded,  
And the time of year has come, my dear,  
For the silent night and snow.

And God is my darling,  
Of night and death no grief,  
And we feel and know that we can go  
Wherever He leads the way.

Aye, God is my darling,  
Of the night of death no grief,  
The gate that leads to life, good wife,  
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## "Queen of the Antilles."

Just at this interesting period of Cuban affairs anything that relates, even in the remotest degree, to the Island of Cuba, is read with deep interest; therefore we lay the following before our readers. Owing to the fact that it is the largest of the West India Islands, Cuba has received the position of "Queen of the Antilles." The figure of Cuba is long and narrow, approaching to that of a crescent, with a convex side looking towards the north; its western portion lying between Florida and the peninsula of Yucatan, leaves two entrances into the Gulf of Mexico. The greatest length of the island, following its curve, is about six hundred and sixty miles; its breadth, which is very irregular, varies from eleven to one hundred and thirty-five miles, while the coast line may be estimated at eighteen hundred miles. The total area of the island is 48,489 English square miles. The coast is surrounded by many islands, keys and reefs, but notwithstanding the difficulty of approach to its shores, it has several excellent harbors, that of Havana being one of the best in the world. As respects the civil jurisdiction, Cuba is divided into three provinces or departments, comprising within their limits 166 parishes or counties. These three departments, the Eastern, Central and Western, have Santiago, Trinidad and Havana as their respective capitals. The Government is vested in a Captain General, appointed by the mother country, who is supreme military commander, and also civil governor of the western portion of the island. The remaining provinces have each a Governor, who has independent civil powers, responsible only to the Court of Spain. The island is also appointed by the three civil provinces, the chiefs or governors of which are of course subordinate to the Captain General. The royal court of Puerto Principe, of which the Captain General is the *ex officio* President, is the supreme judicial authority in all criminal and civil affairs. The population of Cuba, according to the most recent statistical authority (1862) numbers 1,370,211 people, of which 764,750 are whites and the balance colored persons. The total population is at the present day variously estimated at from 1,500,000 to 1,700,000. Cuba, the "richest jewel in the crown of Spain," was discovered by Columbus, October 28, 1492. It was first named Juana, then Ferdinand, and afterwards Santiago and Ayo Maria. The natives called it Cuba, which name has since come into general use. The first Spanish settlement was formed in 1511. The colonists carried on continual war with the aboriginal inhabitants, who were almost exterminated by 1560. General Lopez having, in spite of prohibitions from the Government of the United States, invaded Cuba at the head of an expedition of American filibusters, May 17, 1850, and again August 12, 1851, was captured by the Spanish authorities, and executed at Havana, September 1, 1851. Cuba, as it is well known, has always been considered by the mother country as an inexhaustible mine for the replenishment of her treasury. Whenever money was needed by the Spanish Government, the purchase of the "ever faithful" island was immediately taxed to its uttermost; whenever men were required to fight the battles of Spain, Cuba sent forth more than her fair quota of her loyal sons; whenever any other burden had to be borne the "Pearl of the Antilles" uncomplainingly offered her shoulders to bear the heaviest portion of it, without ever once reaping any other reward for her many sacrifices than the oppression of the most tyrannical kind. The Spanish Government always looked upon Cuba as a foreign country—or rather as upon a conquered and hostile territory, and so did every official that was sent to that fair island, from the Governor General down to the meanest servant that was in his suite. The country had long panted for liberty, when upon the receipt of the news of the Spanish revolution, Sept.—Oct. 1868, an insurrection broke out in this colony on the 10th of the last named month, and on the same day a declaration of independence was issued at Manzanillo, and a national Junta formed. This revolutionary movement rapidly spread over the whole of the eastern and central divisions of the island. The insurgents appointed Don Carlos Manuel Cespedes, a native Cuban, their commander-in-chief and their Junta or provisional government applied to the United States for their recognition as belligerents. Numerous skirmishes and minor engagements occurred between the Spanish troops and the rebels, with varying and unimportant results. While the endeavors of the Cubans to gain their independence from the Spanish yoke were actually proceeding, or whether the Spanish arms will triumph over the insurgents, will mainly depend upon the part which the Government of the United States will deem it to the interest of this country to take in this question.

## THE REPUBLICAN.

## CLEARFIELD, PA.

## WEDNESDAY MORNING, JAN. 7, 1873.

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