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TWO GREAT BOOKS IN ONE VOLUME.

CUBA'S FIGHT FOR FREEDOM WAR WITH SPAIN



A Comprehensive, Accurate and Thrilling History of the Spanish Kingdom and its latest and fairest Colony; the long Struggle of Cuba for Freedom and Independence; the Intervention of the United States and the Fierce War with Spain that followed.

A Record of Oppression and Patriotism, of Cruelty and of Valor, and above all of the triumph of the Stars and Stripes.

PROFUSELY ILLUSTRATED.

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BY

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PREFACE.

THE HISTORY of the world is largely a history of wars. Whether or not it is true that civilization gets forward upon a powder-cart, it is undeniable that the powder-cart keeps well up with the procession. The present work is a record of two wars, closely associated together, and both making especially direct appeal to the sympathies of the American people.

It was in a war that our own freedom and independence were won. We cannot, then, regard with indifference the much longer and not less heroic struggles of Cuba for the same great blessings. They have been conducted almost within sight of our own shores, and have materially affected our own interests. They cannot be forgotten while liberty is loved or valor appreciated. Neither can the story of them, told as it is in this volume, in hot blood, directly from the field of suffering and strife and triumph, be other than fascinating to the student or to the patriot.

It had been the lot of this country to wage three great wars before the present. The first was for independence. The second was for sov-

foreign rights in equality with all other nations. The third was for the preservation of the Union. All three were gloriously successful, both in the triumph of our arms and in the establishment of the principles for which they were waged.

The latest of our wars was for a different purpose. It was a missionary war. It was the act of a great nation that, having won for itself the blessings of freedom and popular government and made itself secure, was generous enough and brave enough to take up the gage of battle in behalf of another people struggling to be free. The record of our wars for self-interest is known to all. Here is the story of our championship of the interests of others. It forms a new and novel chapter in our nation's annals and one not less glorious than any earlier one.

This record, made largely by those who saw the events narrated and were themselves a large part of them, is likewise to be commended to the reader, whether for study or for entertainment or for the exaltation of patriotic sentiment. It is instructive and inspiring, and fills a worthy place in the literature of "Freedom's battle, oft begun."

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