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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.

WRITTEN AND EDITED
BY

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Author of "Famous Battles,"
"The Greco-Turkish War," etc., etc.

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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."

LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS.

BOOK I.

Cuba's Fight for Freedom.

Map of Cuba and the World.	Frontispiece.
1. Panorama of Havana	19
2. Morro Castle, Havana	20
3. Boat Landing, Havana	37
4. Palace of the Captain-General, Havana	38
5. The Cathedral, Havana	55
6. Columbus Memorial Chapel, Havana	56
7. The Indian Statue on the Prado, Havana	73
8. Obispo Street, Havana	74
9. Royal Lottery Ticket Seller, Havana	91
10. Bull Fight, Havana	92
11. Avenue of Royal Palms, Havana	109
12. Cuban Family at Home	110
13. Sugar Plantation, Cuba	127
14. The "Virginus" Outrage—Shooting of the Four Prominent Cuban Patriots	128
15. The Butchery of the Crew of the "Virginus"— Scene at the Slaughter-house the Moment before the Execution. Captain Frey bidding his Companions Farewell	145
16. The "Virginus" Butchery—Spanish Horsemen Trampling the Dead and the Dying Victims into the Slaughter-house Trench at Santiago de Cuba	146