

The neutrality question is monopolizing a very large share of the attention of the Government at the present. Cubans and Spaniards are both purchasing arms in the United States. Spain as a recognized power, has an undoubted right to do so; but has Cuba, who is not yet so recognized? If Cuba can purchase arms, she is thereby greatly assisted, and Spain will charge us with aiding her rebel subjects. The indications are that our Government will take the ground that she has a right to sell arms to whoever chooses to buy, and that they are liable to purchase and sale like any other sort of merchandise. It is further claimed that existing neutrality laws only prevent us from fitting out armed vessels or from permitting the raising of volunteers within our borders. It is very evident that the success or failure of the Cuban revolution depends very largely on the interpretation our government gives to this international obligation.