

The news that a Constitution for Cuba has been formed, probably by the exiles in Washington, makes more plausible the story that the leaders of the island itself have declared outright for annexation. Whatever opinion may have been at first entertained of the expediency of this act, there can be little question that the Cubans earnestly, if not altogether unanimously, desire such connection with the United States as shall save it from the grasp of Spain. Our Washington telegrams say that the new Constitution divides the island into three States, which will some day knock at the door of the Union. In that case we would have to add to our banner three stars instead of one out of the large extent of territory represented in the names of Cuba, Havana, and Camaguey. But let us not be hasty to count our birds before they are hatched. The Cubans have still a very serious work before them. They have to apprise us definitively that a republican government and state is held by them. While they are striving to do this for us, no sympathy and aid we can give them as a people should be withheld.