

## Our Cuban Policy.

The special message sent to the House of Representatives by President GRANT, on Monday, elicited a lively debate on Cuban affairs yesterday. Gen. BANKS seemed to regard it as a personal matter, and took occasion to make many wild insinuations and charges, showing that his "feelings" had obtained the upper hand of his discretion. Gen. BANKS is an earnest man, but he is evidently an unsafe counselor in matters of international policy. There is no question that the Administration has been strictly and legally correct in its treatment of the Cuban question. As the Executive power it had no discretion to act outside the requirements of international law and the obligations of treaties. Events have proved conclusively that the Cuban insurrection has at no time attained the proportions which would have justified the Administration in conceding belligerent rights.

Although we are clear that the only proper course toward Cuba has been pursued by the Administration, we are inclined to agree to a certain extent with Gen. BANKS in regard to the lack of protection which has been extended to American citizens on that island. In that respect our policy and action have always been less pronounced than they should be, and far less stringent than other nations generally display. We may be sure that the rights of American citizenship will never be properly respected by other nations so long as we fail to vindicate them ourselves, and neglect to resent any infringement upon them. On this point we can hardly be too exacting, or assert too rigorous a policy. Still, it has no necessary connection with the question of Cuban intervention or recognition, and was not, therefore, legitimately made a part of yesterday's discussion by Gen. BANKS. It will be seen that the debate is to be continued today, and so we may expect another excited and acrimonious discussion of the whole subject.