

WASHINGTON.

The Cuban Question at Length Under Discussion in the House.

Speech of Gen. Banks in Favor of Granting Belligerent Rights.

The Spanish Minister and his Government Arraigned.

Defense of the Administration in the Debate which Followed.

The Testimony in the San Domingo Investigation---Failure Thus Far to Prove the Charge of "Bribery and Corruption"---Scene in a Committee-Room---Extensive Land Grants.

Special Dispatch to the New-York Times.

WASHINGTON, June 14.—The Cuban debate, so long awaited, opened today, and, so far as the discussion is concerned, will be closed before to-morrow night, and the vote will be taken immediately after the reading of the Journal on Thursday. The result thus far is a disappointment to all who expected new interest to be invested in the subject. Even the President's terse and bold message, and the prospect of its criticism at the hands of sharp debaters, did not serve to fill the galleries. This bright June day, when it was a luxury for everybody to be out. Gen. BANKS, who is always a showy and attractive speaker on any subject, opened the discussion in a speech of over an hour, during which he had the most complimentary attention from both floor and galleries. But Gen. BANKS evidently had up-hill work. The message of yesterday had staggered him; and though he announced at the outset that it had not in any wise shaken his convictions, it was easy to see that he thought it was necessary to assume the aggressive, and attack it. So he was respectfully severe, and then quite bitter. When he at times intimated that the document bore marks of a paternity with which he had been familiar for many years, many people thought that this was meant for Mr. SUMNER; but CALEB CUSHING is more probably the man. It was an interesting, attractive, agreeable speech; but it shed no new light on the Cuban question, and it failed to combat the facts which have been presented on the other side. Judge ORTH followed in an able speech in support of the minority proposition and in defense of the attitude of the Administration. Gov. SWANN followed on the other side and Mr. AMBLER in support of the minority. At the evening session Mr. WILKINSON, Mr. FITCH and Mr. MUNGEN all spoke in favor of recognition. Mr. FITCH's speech is conceded to be one of the best yet made.