

he happens to be in a position of vast responsibility, and must act cautiously—an obligation which is not shared by the Woods and Logans of the House. They can cry havoc and let loose the dogs of war every day in the week, if they are in the humor, and no one will be either worse or better off. But suppose the President were to be everlastingly fuming and threatening, like another *Bombastes Furioso*, how would a sober-minded and decorous nation like it? A man in Congress may say anything he likes, but the President is expected to have a due regard for laws and for the public interest. If Mr. BANKS could by some miracle be President to-morrow, his martial ardor would almost certainly cool down, and he would be found in favor of not embroiling the country needlessly with foreign Powers. Responsibility invariably sobers men. Gen. GRANT is, however, quite right in wishing to modify his policy so as to gratify the reasonable desires of the people. A protest against Spanish cruelties in the Island of Cuba may possibly warn Spain that she must be very cautious how she carries on this war, and that, above all, she must not allow murderous hands to be laid on American citizens. The President will undoubtedly take all necessary steps in this direction, and, if his intention should render necessary a reconstruction of the Cabinet, no one can help it. In short, the President, we are convinced, will insure ample protection to our countrymen in Cuba, and everywhere else, but we trust he will not be hounded on by the wild cries of irresponsible men to an act which the people would afterward condemn with one voice.

The President and Cuba.

The great Cuban debate is over, and what does it amount to? To nothing more than the old story of the mountain and the mouse. Gen. BANKS has managed to display a portion of his large and varied assortment of "wind-bags." Mr. FERNANDO WOOD has done his best to provide a model speech for the numerous gentlemen who are engaged to address their friends on the 4th of next month. Gen. LOGAN has made one of his celebrated "rub-a-dub" orations, very noisy and very much calculated to startle weak nerves; and Mr. RANDALL has called Gen. BUTLER dishonest. After all this labor, Mr. BINGHAM's mouse creeps into the world. The President is authorized to remonstrate against the "barbarous manner in which the war in Cuba has been conducted"—the resolution not even stating on which side the barbarism has been displayed, so that the President might "remonstrate" with Gen. JORDAN's friends if he thought proper. And this is all. Mr. BANKS fulminated in his very best manner, and brought out all the war-like appliances which he constantly keeps ready for use. But his powder was damp and would not go off. Mr. BINGHAM and common sense have prevailed against unmeaning vamping and bluster.

The truth is that Gen. BANKS had nothing to propose. The resolutions which he reported to the House were only calculated to delude the friends of the Cuban insurgents into the belief that the United States Government was prepared to render them substantial assistance. Mr. BANKS can never resist the temptation to range himself on what he believes to be the popular side of a question, but in this matter he has only dared to go half way. He appears to wish to force the President into a position from which there would be no way of escape except by entering into a war with Spain. Well, then, why does not Gen. BANKS have the manliness to take the full responsibility of the course into which he is anxious to beguile the President? He knows very well that this Government cannot intervene in favor of the Cuban insurgents without involving the country in a war with Spain. Why not take the short road to his object at once? The Constitution confers upon Congress the right of declaring war. There is no need to vituperate the President in the matter, or to throw all the responsibility upon him. Let Mr. BANKS persuade Congress to make what he describes as the "wholesale butchery of the defenseless people of Cuba" a *casus belli*. We should think that rather a remarkable course, and one which would add a new feature or two to "international law;" but at least it would be straightforward. These attacks on the President and Mr. FISH are simply absurd. The President has no right to declare war against Spain, or to do anything which would cause Spain to declare war against the United States. Thus far he has simply performed his duty, and the people would never have forgiven him if he had been led astray by those who denounce him for not "making Cuba free."

We have not the slightest doubt that the President would be very glad to see the friends of liberty triumph everywhere: but