

Recognition of the Cubans—Another Bill in the House.

The Cuban victory at Guaimaro has already had a good effect on the authorities in Congress. Mr. Fitch yesterday introduced a bill in the House to grant belligerent rights to the Cubans, and on motion of General Banks it was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, of which he is chairman, by a vote of 125 to 14. General Banks is a strong, devoted and ardent friend of Cuban independence, and as chairman of the Committee of Foreign Affairs in the House has great influence in the committee room and in the hall. It will be remembered that the resolution of last session, in which the President was authorized at his discretion to recognize the insurgents, was introduced by General Banks in the House, but was killed in the Senate by the refusal of Senator Sumner's committee to report upon it. It left the matter simply to the President's discretion, which in foreign matters must, of course, be largely the discretion of Secretary Fish and of the chairman of the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations, Mr. Sumner. The present bill, however, does away with the discretionary influence of Mr. Fish, and directs that belligerent rights be granted, whether the State Department is willing or not. It now rests with the House to pass the bill, which it will do, and with Senator Sumner to report favorably on it to the Senate, which is more doubtful. Thus we shall have the responsibility in the Cuban business whittled down to a small point.