

## Senator Morton on Cuba and the Administration

Mr. Morton, of Indiana, made a strong and, in our estimation, a reasonable stirring up of the administration on the Cuban question, in the Senate yesterday. So far as we, outside the State Department, are informed of the present position of this question, it is not satisfactory. General Sickles in his negotiations has been brought to a standstill, our neutrality laws appear to be enforced with remarkable zeal in behalf of Spain, and, in short, the whole course of the administration on this subject would seem to justify the opinion that General Grant does not care a button for the island of Cuba or that he has done nothing for fear of troublesome complications. No doubt his exceedingly conservative policy regarding Cuba has, to some extent, been shaped by his very conservative Secretary of State; but it is possible that Mr. Senator Sumner (whose special idea at present is the Alabama claims) has a finger in this pie. His special objection against the Cubans has been that they have not in their constitution abolished negro slavery, and have no intention to abolish it; but it has been abundantly shown that upon this matter he is all wrong. Whatever may be the embarrassments which hold General Grant to the policy of Micawber, the policy of "waiting for something to turn up," he ought to know that the mystery of his present attitude in relation to Cuba is anything but satisfactory to the American people. Hence we think this speech of Senator Morton is not unseasonable, and that a few more such speeches in Congress, with a little sharper accent, would do no harm "at the other end of the avenue."