

WASHINGTON

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WASHINGTON, Feb. 14, 1870.

Favorable Position of the Cuban Question in the House—Sumner Attempts to Squelch Sherman's Resolution in the Senate.

The Foreign Affairs Committee of the House has under consideration the various resolutions referred to it relative to the Cubans and the propriety of granting them belligerent rights. General Banks, the chairman of the committee, has not been indifferent to the Cuban question. Since his return from Europe he has been collecting all the information, official and otherwise, to which he could obtain access, so that when a demonstration should be made in the House in favor of the Cubans he might be able to meet and answer the objections of all comers. At the meeting of the committee next Thursday it is the purpose of General Banks to have the whole matter thoroughly discussed and some definite conclusion reached. General Banks has prepared a resolution authorizing the President to issue a proclamation setting forth that a state of war exists in Cuba, and declaring that, as between the belligerents, the government of the United States is bound to observe a strict neutrality as to the purchase of arms and munitions of war and the fitting out of vessels of war in the United States, and enjoining all officers of the United States to enforce the neutrality laws against the Spaniards as well as the Cubans. General Banks has consulted with several members of his committee about the resolution, and he thinks a majority will agree to it. If so, he will report it to the House as soon as he can have the committee called. The resolution in effect authorizes the President to grant the Cubans belligerent rights and to put them on an equal footing with the Spaniards in all respects so far as the government of the United States is concerned. This is all the Cubans ask, and all they have ever asked. It appears that the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations, with Mr. Sumner at its head, is not favorably disposed towards Senator Sherman's Cuban resolution. No action has yet been taken, Mr. Sumner not having, as he promised he would do in open Senate, brought it to the attention of the committees without delay. A member of the committee, who is in favor of the resolution, said to-day that he feared a majority of the committee were against it. It is understood that Cameron, Morton and Schurz will vote to report the resolution favorably. The other four members of the committee, including the chairman, are said to share the views of Mr. Sumner. It may be, however, that Mr. Casserly, the only democrat on the committee, will join Cameron, Morton and Schurz, in which case Mr. Sumner will find himself in a minority. The feeling in the Senate is growing stronger daily, and although Mr. Sumner is in the habit of ignoring the opinions of his fellow Senators, it is probable that the pressure will be too great for even his resistance. Should the committee refuse to report the resolution there is a method of getting it before the Senate despite Mr. Sumner. Senator Sherman can move that the committee be discharged from the further consideration of the subject, and if the Senate sustains him the resolution can be called up. This was a favorite piece of tactics with Old Ben Wade when he wanted to get anything out of the clutches of a committee, and it is not at all improbable that Sherman will imitate old Ben's example. General Logan made a strong speech in the House to-day in favor of granting belligerent rights to the Cubans. He got the floor after the morning hour as a question of privilege on his motion to reconsider the reference of the resolution about the Cubans, introduced by him a few days ago, to the Committee on Foreign Affairs. Logan took the ground which has all along been held by the HERALD, that a state of war existed in Cuba; that it is folly for the administration to ignore the fact; that the Spaniards have no claims on us more than the Cubans; that it is the duty of our government to extend sympathy to all people struggling for freedom as against oppression and that the voice of the people demands the recognition of the Cubans as belligerents.

The Late Murder of Americans in Havana.

The President to-day, in response to a resolution of the House, transmitted to that body such information as has already been received from Havana with reference to the late assault on American citizens. The first telegram from Consul General Hall, addressed to Secretary Fish, was dated Havana, February 7, as follows:—

Isaac Greenwald, residing at New York, was killed; Thomas K. Foster and Hugh Johnson, Americans, severely wounded yesterday. Much excitement prevailed among the American residents. The authorities manifested great activity in discovering the perpetrator. HALL.

February 7, Secretary Fish telegraphed:—

Despatches received. Send by cable details and other facts for the information of Congress if called for. FISH.

Mr. Hall replied February 8:—

Greenwald, a German; Johnson and Foster, Americans, were quietly walking near the Tacon theatre, Sunday last, about noon. A man in citizen's dress, with a pistol, attacked Greenwald, tearing off his necktie. All retreated, when the man fired and a crowd collected immediately. Many shots were fired at the four. Greenwald, Foster and Johnson were hit by balls and Greenwald afterward pursued and stabbed by the crowd and died; Johnson and Foster wounded badly; Wells unharmed. The three men shot had on blue necktie cravats, which being Cuban color, must have been the cause of the attack. All quiet and orderly men and gave no offence whatever. Statement sent by mail yesterday. Others will follow by first steamer. The affair was witnessed by the French and the wife and daughter of the British Consul General. Will send their statements when received. The authorities promise protection and a reward of \$1,000 for the man who fired the first shot. HALL.

The Secretary of State says he will communicate the documents to the House when they arrive.