

WASHINGTON.

Sumner on Cuban Belligerency—The President's Foreign Policy Sustained by the Senate—The Indian Delegation at the Capital.

WASHINGTON, May 30, 1870.

The President's Cuban Policy Sustained by the Senate.

If the house should pass resolutions favoring the granting of belligerent rights to the Cubans, as the result of General Banks' report—and it would seem from the present temper of that body that this is not among the impossibilities—what action the Senate is likely to take becomes a matter of interest. Senator Sumner, the chairman of the Committee on Foreign Relations, would of course be the chief defender of the foreign policy of the administration in that body. His views with regard to Cuba have undergone no change. Secretary Fish and he are known to differ about the Alabama claims, but on the Cuban question they are a unit. Mr. Sumner will oppose any movement likely to culminate in the acquisition of Cuba, just as he opposes St. Domingo, on the general principle in the acquisition of territory in the tropics. Senator Sumner, like Secretary Fish, is never at a loss for some plausible argument against interfering on behalf of the Cubans, and no matter how many Americans are murdered by the Spanish volunteers, the Senator and the Secretary somehow or other always discover that the Americans were to blame. In a conversation with the Senator to-day your correspondent called his attention to the cases of Speakman and Wyeth, who were shot at Santiago de Cuba, notwithstanding the protest of the American Consul. He immediately replied, "It is a question whether they were American citizens." I suggested that they were certainly not Englishmen, otherwise the Spaniards would have suffered for it.

"I think," said the senator, "we are as quick to punish an outrage upon our citizens as any other government, but you see we must have a clear case to go on before we resort to extreme measures."

"But," said I, "Mr. Fish admits, in his official correspondence on the subject, that these men were American citizens, and all the reparation he demands is a pecuniary contribution from the Spanish government for their families."

"Well, that may be," said the Senator; "but the circumstances surrounding their case were peculiar. They were found in suspicious company, and we could not make the same kind of a demand upon the Spanish government as if they had been residing in Cuba in the pursuit of a peaceable business."

I asked the Senator what he thought of the treatment of Consul Phillips by the Spaniards.

"What I hear of Phillips," said he, "leads me to think that he acted imprudently. It is charged that he handled General Jordan's mail and sent it off to the United States. Now, we must, in order to reach the proper view of all these matters, apply them to ourselves. Suppose, during our rebellion, some Englishman acting as consul of Great Britain had undertaken to carry the mail to Jeff Davis or General Lee, what do you suppose Mr. Stanton would have done had he discovered the fact? I think he would have cleared him out of the country, or very likely he would have arrested him and placed him in the old Capitol."

I suggested that Great Britain, in that case, might have made a demand for his release, as she did in the case of Siskell and Masoa. Recurring to the expected report of General Banks, and the probable action of the House thereon, I asked the Senator what he supposed the Senate would do.

"The House," he replied, "might pass such a resolution as you indicate—belligerent rights—with the expectation that the Senate would stop it. Very frequently the House does such things. I cannot say what the Senate would do, but I don't believe it would do anything hastily. In the Senate there is a feeling that we are not now in a condition to go into a war. We don't feel like putting another hundred millions of debt upon the already heavy burdens of the country. For my own part I don't think any candid person can find fault with the course the administration has pursued on this subject. It is the wisest and the best that could have been pursued."

From this it is evident that Mr. Sumner will oppose any resolution that is proposed having for its object the recognition of the Cubans, or any measure that might tend to involve us in trouble with Spain.

The Indian Delegations—Spotted Tail Wearies of White Man's Civilization.

Red Cloud and his party are expected to reach Washington by Wednesday, and will be assigned quarters at the same hotel with Spotted Tail and his companions. The last named are beginning to be rather weary of their stay in civilized regions, and express a desire to get through with their business as soon as possible, so as to leave for their homes, though they would be glad to visit New York and St. Louis on the way. They are still doubtful about Red Cloud coming, and Spotted Tail does not express any anxiety to meet him, as the former has disregarded many talks from him in which Red Cloud was advised to preserve peaceable relations with the white men's government. The Indians have not yet had an interview with the President. That will take place when Red Cloud arrives, so that a talk will be had with all of them together. To-morrow it is proposed to take Spotted Tail and his associates on a trip to Mount Vernon.

Shrewd Dodge of a Darky Policeman.

One night last March ex-Mayor Berrett, of this city, was aroused between midnight and morning by one of Mayor Bowen's colored police and informed that burglars were in his house. The ex-Mayor soon struck a light and admitted the sable guardian of the interests of the slumbering population, and the two made a thorough search of the dwelling without discovering any thief. A large plated goblet, however, was missing, which to-day was found in the trunk of the watchful darky, upon whom suspicions recently existed of certain pilferings at the police station. Mr. Berrett was sent for this afternoon and identified the goblet, which the policeman had stolen before he troubled himself to warn the owner of the depredation on his premises.

The McCarraban Land Case.

The Judiciary Committee have held several meetings recently for consultation on the documents and evidence in the McCarraban case, and are said to have come to a decision, which is still kept secret.

Proposed Impeachment of Judges Field and Hoffman.

Judge Bingham, chairman of the committee, says there is no prospect whatever that time will be found this session for even the most cursory examination of the petitions asking the impeachment of Judges Field and Hoffman. Universal opinion on the subject here is that the matter will die a natural death in the committee.