

CLEAN BELLIGERENCY.

The Cuban Bond Story—No Attempt to Bribe Congress—Mr. Fesser's View of It.

In an interview held with Mr. Fesser yesterday, by one of the reporters of the HERALD, the subject in relation to the Cuban bonds, which was so fully set forth in the Washington correspondence of yesterday's issue, was talked over with the view of throwing additional light on the matter. In this conversation Mr. Fesser acknowledged that the bonds were deposited in the Safe Deposit Company of Washington, not for the purpose of endeavoring to influence members of Congress in the matter of the recognition of belligerents' rights for Cuba, but for the purchase of arms to be used by the Cubans in their efforts to free the island from Spain. Mr. Fesser states that he, as the agent of the Cuban Junta, agreed to purchase a large quantity of arms; that these arms were to be paid for in Cuban bonds, at a valuation of so much on the dollar; and farther, that the arms were to be delivered to the Cuban authorities in New York on or prior to the 1st of February, 1876. For some reason or other the contractors failed to fulfil the conditions of their contract, and having so failed the bonds were withdrawn from the company where they were deposited. General Butler's investigation had nothing whatever to do with that withdrawal, and Mr. Fesser declares that, so far as the Cuban agents are concerned, there was no intention, either directly or indirectly, to influence, by corrupt means, members of Congress in the matter of Cuban belligerency. It was purely a business transaction, having for its object the purchase of arms—only this and nothing more.
