

# OUR WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENCE.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

WASHINGTON, May 7.

The case of the *Pierrot* and the other filibuster expeditions from New York, fitted out under the eyes of our Government for Cuba, has been brought to the notice of Secretary Fish by the Spanish Minister, and it is, no doubt, a matter of consideration at the Cabinet meeting to-day. The Government has been repeatedly advised of the preparations made in New York for the violation of our neutrality laws, and it cannot plead ignorance of the movement. The Cuban sympathizers and their efforts to afford material aid in the form of men and munitions, to the Cuban insurgents, have attracted public attention for weeks past. Indeed, the subject has been considered by the Government, and the President declined interference through a proclamation, such as was issued for the purpose of checking the Fenian raids into Canada. At the same time it has been understood that the Administration held divided opinions as to the policy to be pursued towards the Cuban insurrection, Mr. Fish being an advocate for the enforcement of strict neutrality, and the President being disposed to let the matter take its natural course, unobstructed by Government interference.

The President, too, is disposed to act in conformity with the House resolution for the recognition of Cuban independence as soon as he can find any justification for it, in the ability of the insurgents to secure and maintain their independence. He is not satisfied on this point, but may be when his agent, who has charge of the investigation, shall return from Cuba.

Meanwhile we may know that the Spanish gunboats have captured the *Pierrot* or some one of the filibuster parties, and that the prisoners thus taken, who are for the most part Cubans or Europeans, have been summarily dealt with. General Gousirris, being known here as an ardent and zealous filibuster of the Lopez and Walker school, is one of the moving spirits of the Cuban movement for independence. If the revolutionists could command funds enough to keep the foothold they have got, they may weary out the Spanish authorities. But, in a financial view, they are likely to fail, for Spain finds financial backing in England.

The event will be a God-send to the British ministry. It will afford Lord Clarendon a complete justification of the course England has pursued in the Alabama case. It will be contended by the British Government, even without reference to the Cuban affair, that the course of England in relation to Southern belligerency was such as has been ordinarily pursued both by England and by the United States.

The President desires that Virginia should accept the fifteenth amendment, and the improbability that she will accept under duress have led to a relaxation of radical policy towards her in relation to disfranchisement and the other odious provisions of the Underwood Constitution. Even Governor Wells has found that the radicals will lose the State election if the disfranchisement article be adhered to by his party, so he surrenders that point.

It was the intention of the Radical leaders of the United States Senate that the postoffices in Georgia should all be put under the charge of negroes, in retaliation of the exclusion of that race from the State Legislature. Mr. Cresswell commenced to carry out the scheme, in the appointment of Simms, a colored man, to be postmaster of the city of Savannah. But Gen. Grant was not a party to this plan, and he has not yet approved of it.

LEO.