

THE CUBAN JUNTA.

Petition to Congress for the Recognition of Cuba as a Belligerent.

A petition is at present being circulated in this city, under authority of the Cuban Junta, and is being numerously signed by citizens generally, asking Congress to accord to the patriots of Cuba the rights of belligerents. The form of the petition is as follows:—

TO THE HONORABLE THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES:—

We, the citizens of the American Union, in behalf of the principles written in our charter of national independence, in the name of liberty and the sovereignty of people struggling to be free, respectfully petition that your honorable body do accord to Cuba the rights of a belligerent Power, and at once recognize the independence of her sons from the tyranny of a foreign yoke which for more than a year they have maintained (unaided) by the triumph of their arms.

The Officers of the Cuba After the Junta with a Sharp Stick.

It is reported that Commodore Higgins and a majority of the officers of the privateer Cuba appeared yesterday morning before the Junta in this city and demanded an investigation into the charges, said to have been preferred by the Junta itself against these officers, alleging disobedience in the command of the vessel, and imputing to them, through such disobedience, the fault of her seizure by the United States authorities in North Carolina. The Junta refused such investigation, and at the same time denied Commodore Higgins the privilege of appearing before the Junta while considering the report sent by him from Wilmington regarding the necessity which compelled him to enter the mouth of Cape Fear river. They also requested time to consider and answer said report.

The officers express themselves as very indignant at the treatment which Commodore Higgins and themselves have received at the hands of the Junta. They have demanded and will insist upon an investigation into the conduct of their late commander, and express themselves as satisfied to await the result of such an event. Nearly all of these officers have seen service in either the Union or Confederate navies, and some of them have attained eminence in such service, and they are ill-disposed to rest under any odium which may attach to them from this affair until such time as it shall have been impartially shown that they were derelict or in some measure to blame. Should the Junta decline such investigation there will be a lively little war inaugurated between the respective forces.