

Protection Needed for American Citizens in Cuba.

Our advices from Havana show the increasing necessity for some action on the part of our government for the protection of American citizens in Cuba. The excited feeling of the Spanish volunteers and their hatred towards everything American is not only endangering our countrymen, but is also giving General Dulce much trouble. The Spanish paper, the *Voz de Cuba*, published at Havana, calls attention to the Spanish law which makes all persons resident on the island for five years subjects of Spain. There are many American citizens who have been in Cuba over that time and who have never renounced their allegiance to this country. Are they to be treated as Spaniards? It looks from this remark of the *Voz de Cuba* as if the Spanish authorities are going to carry out their brutal and vindictive measures upon people entitled to the protection of the United States government. Is this to be tolerated? What does the government at Washington say? Our Consul at Havana has left, or is about to leave. General Baldy Smith will not accept the office. Thus at this critical time we are to be left, it seems, without a representative at Havana. We hope steps will be taken immediately both to protect American citizens in Cuba, and to arrest, if possible, the saturnalia of blood about to be inaugurated there. It would be an eternal disgrace to the American government should it be indifferent to events in Cuba and the fate

of that island. Not only should there be proper consuls at every consular post, but commissioners to watch the progress of the revolution and to keep our government well informed. Let us have a decided policy, and that a broad and liberal American one, with regard to Cuba. We trust General Grant will at once appoint a Consul General to Havana, and instruct the Admiral, if his representations to the government in behalf of American citizens are not heeded, to remit duplicate to the Captain General and wait off the port twenty-four hours for a reply. If this be not satisfactory, then blockade or reprisals at once.
