

**GUNBOAT OPERATIONS.**—Our amiable Spanish friends of Cuba are doing a very sensible thing just now. They have made a contract with a well known iron manufacturing firm of New York for the construction of thirty handsome and fast steam gunboats, which are to be ready in ninety days. These steamers are to be of about two hundred tons burden each, to be armed with one large gun amidships, and to have a light draught of water to enable them to cruise among the cays and shallow waters of the coast of Cuba after sympathizers, filibusters and other curious fish. We understand that certain leading filibusters have already an eye on these boats, with a view to appropriating them to uses not contemplated by our amiable neighbors. We advise them to refrain from all vain longings, for Uncle Sam will have a use for them as soon as the approaching annexation of Cuba is consummated. They will make excellent cutters of Secretary Boutwell's revenue fleet.