

Recognition of Cuba by Chile.

It will be seen by our correspondence published elsewhere to-day that Chile has followed Peru in recognizing the Cuban republic as a belligerent Power, and the two republics have united in instructing their Ministers at Washington to ask our government to withdraw the conditions stipulated in the sale contract for the two Peruvian monitors now in the West Indies. This request places the government at Washington in a very peculiar position. It must either withdraw these conditions or it must detain the thirty Spanish gunboats now building here for the Spanish government. There is reason to suppose that the war between Spain and the Peruvian and Chilean republics will soon blaze out afresh, with a Cuba complication in the waters of the Atlantic, and serious complications may follow. We can pursue but one safe and honorable course in these questions, and that is to extend to Cuba our recognition of her rights as a belligerent Power and put both parties on an equal footing in our ports. In that way Peru will obtain her monitors, Spain her gunboats, Cuba the arms she clamors for, and all parties can proceed to settle their little unpleasantness after their own fashion. But for Mr. Fish to insist on imposing conditions upon the republican efforts while monarchical Spain is allowed to buy war material and ship it by every weekly steamer to Havana, and finally to construct thirty gunboats in our shipyards unmolested, won't do at all. Republics have rights as well as monarchies, and we expect our very respectable Secretary of State to admit that fact at once.