

WASHINGTON.

The Cabinet Divided Upon the Cuban Question.

The President Favors According Belligerent Rights to the Revolutionists.

Arrest of the Cuban Junta Endorsed by the Attorney General.

The Iron-Clad Oath for Virginia Legislators.

Negotiations for a Postal Convention With France.

WASHINGTON, June 18, 1869.

Cuban Matters Before the Cabinet—The President Favoring the Cubans—The Cabinet Divided Upon the Question.

It is understood that as soon as the President and the members of the Cabinet who are now absent return the Cuban question will be the subject of a Cabinet meeting. It is conceded by some of the Cabinet members now here that the time has arrived when some definite policy should be adopted towards Cuba. From the beginning the Cabinet has been divided on this question. The President favors the Cubans, and would be willing to grant them belligerent rights, but his Cabinet is against him. The sympathies of Secretary Fish, it is well known, are with the Cubans, but he does not wish to adopt a policy which he thinks would place us in an inconsistent light before Great Britain, especially while the Alabama claims question is pending. He has done nothing, however, against the Cubans, and nothing to further the Spanish interests. He had nothing whatever to do with the recent arrest of the Cubans in New York, and declines to take any action in the premises. Even the Cuban envoy and his secretary give Mr. Fish full credit for his sympathies towards the patriot Cubans. The erudite Attorney General Hoar is pronouncedly against the Cubans, and asserts that if they are harbored here, and their conduct winked at by officers of the government, they will get us into trouble with Spain, a country he seems to regard with some dread. Hoar, it is understood, has issued instructions to all United States District Attorneys and Marshals to keep a sharp look out for Cuban agents and to arrest them upon the first sign of an attempt to infringe upon the neutrality laws. The Secretary of the Navy would be willing to lend the Cubans a helping hand. "Don't be too vigilant in watching for filibuster expeditions in Cuban waters" is the language of his heart to Admiral Hoff. Boutwell naturally sides with Hoar and is for a strict enforcement of the neutrality laws against the Cubans. Rawlins, Cox and Creswell are indifferent. Thus the matter stands. What policy will be adopted when the question is again brought before the Cabinet remains to be seen.

The Cuban Difficulty—The Attorney General Refuses to Interfere.

The Attorney General, it is understood, fully endorses the United States District Attorney and Marshal in their arrest of the Cuban Junta in New York. Mr. Hoar is of opinion that Pierrepont has been derelict in his duty in not having the Cubans indicted and arrested long ago for a violation of the neutrality laws. The Attorney General entertains views on this subject peculiar to himself, and is a strict constructionist of the neutrality laws. In reply to a gentleman who interrogated him to-day as to what course would be pursued in the case Hoar delivered the following written opinion:—"I believe I must refer you to the court and District Attorney. The proceedings of a legal character are only of a public interest after they happen." The opinion was in the Attorney General's own handwriting, and is considered one of his best efforts. The Cubans have nothing to expect from him.