

## Sequestration of Property in Cuba—Senor Casanova's Petition.

Since the presentation of the petition of Casanova to the State Department relative to the sequestration of his property in Cuba by the Spanish authorities, several other parties, who have suffered in like manner, have presented similar petitions. The Secretary of State is giving the subject careful attention and is desirous of doing all that he can consistently with the recognized principles governing the case. The matter is one of great delicacy and surrounded with much difficulty. The question to be considered is how far Casanova and others similarly situated have been guilty of a violation of the laws of Spain governing Cuba. This is what the Secretary of State is now investigating. The mere fact of Casanova being an American citizen would not warrant him, in the opinion of the State Department, in violating any of the laws of the country where he resided, nor would his citizenship in this country shield him from the consequences of such conduct, among which might be the sequestration of his property. It is ascertained that Casanova's estate has not been confiscated by the Spanish authorities, but only sequestered, or, as they designate it in Cuba, "embargoed." Whatever decision is reached in his case will affect all the others, for they are all similarly involved, and our government is determined to proceed with caution so as not to make a mistake which would be fatal to all of them. The indications thus far are that there will be a favorable settlement, but it will require time.