

# WASHINGTON.

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## The Trouble About the Landing of the French Cable.

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## Probable Satisfactory Arrangement Made by Secretary Fish.

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## THE CUBAN QUESTION.

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## Minister Roberts' Opinion of the Rumored Sale of the Island.

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WASHINGTON, July 17, 1869.

### The Canard About the Purchase of Cuba—In- tervention Between the Belligerents.

After careful inquiry in official quarters I cannot obtain any confirmation of the story telegraphed hence about the proposed purchase of Cuba by the Cubans, through the intervention of our Minister to Spain. It seems to have been manufactured just as the story was that General Sickles had been instructed to negotiate for the purchase of Cuba by the United States. The State Department denies that Sickles has any such instructions as he is said to have in the despatch alluded to. The United States government has not tendered its friendly offices to bring about peace between Spain and the Cubans, for the reason that it has not had the slightest encouragement from either party to the quarrel to do so. The Spanish Minister says that so far as he understands the intention of his government, Cuba is not for sale at present, either to the Cubans or the United States. The Cuban envoy and the members of the Cuban Junta are of opinion that the Cubans can take Cuba from Spain, and hence have no intention of buying it. With regard to Spain allowing the Cubans to control their own affairs as the Canadians do, and so bringing the revolution to an end, it may be stated that such a proposition was made indirectly to the insurgent leaders when the prospect of Cuban independence was less bright than it is now and promptly rejected.

### A Coming Argument for the Recognition of Cuba.

It is said that Senator Sumner has written here deprecating any action on the part of the government looking towards a recognition of the belligerent rights of the Cubans, on the ground that it would compromise the settlement of our claims upon Great Britain for the ravages of the Alabama. A radical Western Senator of acknowledged ability is understood to be preparing an elaborate argument in favor of according belligerent rights to the Cubans at once. This is to be sent to the President through the Secretary of State. This Senator will take up and dispose of Sumner's theory about the recognition of Cuba compromising our position on the Alabama claims. When this document, which, it is said, will set forth the claims of Cuban independence and the duty of the United States to lend a helping hand in achieving it in a new light is finished, it will be made public.