

The Cuban Filibusters and the Cuban Question.

The remnant of the Cuban filibustering expedition—one hundred and twenty-four in number—surrendered on Saturday to the deputies of Marshal Barlow, and were conveyed from Gardiner's Island to Fort Lafayette, to await instructions from Washington as to what was to be done with them. This abrupt and disagreeable ending of their ambitious projects in durance vile, albeit but temporary, in dungeons described as more loathsome than Libby prison or Ludlow street jail, is ill calculated to sustain the enthusiasm of the Cuban patriots. They doubtless, however, set out on their expedition with hearts prepared for any fate. Perhaps their bad luck will convince them that for the present, at least, they must bide their time for a more favorable opportunity. Some of them might find their way singly or in small squads to Cuba, and thus gradually swell the ranks of the revolutionists; but, on the whole, we would advise them to wait patiently for the interesting and important news which may ere long be expected, giving the results of the Sickles mission to Spain. The United States government has manifestly done all it could do to conciliate the new Spanish government and to enable General Sickles to present himself at Madrid

with a clean record. But the administration must have ulterior and higher purposes than merely to enforce the neutrality laws, otherwise it would place itself just where the administration of Andy Johnson was placed in reference to the Fenians in Canada. Neutrality was in that case fully maintained, but we got no thanks for it from England. The rigid execution of the neutrality laws in reference to the Cuban filibusters must surely indicate a definite policy on the part of President Grant's administration in favor of the interests of the United States and the rights of Cuba.
