

WASHINGTON.

WASHINGTON, July 8, 1862.

The Iron-Clad to Reinforce our Gulf Squadron.

The Centaur is the name of the iron-clad despatched to Santiago de Cuba to inquire into all the circumstances attending the execution of Speckman, and, if necessary, to demand prompt reparation by the Spanish authorities. Several of the heaviest iron-clads will soon be despatched to the Cuban coast. The Dictator will be prepared in six or eight days to proceed thither, and the Seminole will be ready to-morrow. Three of the vessels composing the present squadron have been obliged to leave Cuban waters owing to the prevalence of yellow fever on board. Within the next two weeks twenty vessels will be available for public service in that direction and elsewhere.

Admiral Hoff.

There is no reason to believe that Admiral Hoff will be relieved of the command of the squadron in Cuban waters unless the request should come from himself, as was ascertained to-day at the Navy Department from an authentic source. The authorities deny that they find any fault with him on account of his official conduct.