

Despatches from Havana contain the usual accounts of desultory fighting, without any decisive results. The *Diario* claims that seven of the central and eastern jurisdictions are held by the Spaniards. Ferrera, a member of the vigilance committee, charged with enforcing the collection of customs, has been dismissed for smuggling.

Secretary Fish, in reply to inquiries from Cubans in Washington, states that he has no information as to any action of the Spanish government on the proposition to sell Cuba. It is believed in Cuban circles that the Serrano government will make no decision in the matter, but will leave it to the King, who is to be chosen by the Cortes on the 15th of September.

Dr. Simons, a New Yorker, who has been a prisoner at Havana for the last seven months, has arrived in Washington to secure Secretary Fish's aid in recovering the property taken from him by the Spaniards during his confinement. He represents that he was shamefully treated by his captors, and several times narrowly escaped being shot by the volunteers.