

In view of the disturbed condition of affairs in Cuba and the imminent danger to the lives and property of American citizens resident there, Admiral Porter, at the instance of the Secretary of the Navy, has ordered several of the vessels belonging to the Pacific Squadron to proceed immediately to reinforce the West India Squadron. In addition to this, Admiral Porter has given orders to fit out at once two first-class iron-clads, to proceed to Key West, and hold themselves in readiness for any orders that may come from the officer commanding the West India Squadron. The large frigates Lancaster and Sabine are also ordered to be got in readiness for sea service. The Government is of the opinion that the time has arrived when prompt action should be taken to show the Spanish authorities in Cuba that the rights of American citizens there must be respected. When the vessels ordered there have arrived, there will be a sufficient force in Cuban waters to meet all emergencies.