

LATEST NEWS BY MAIL.

The Cuba Question.

WASHINGTON, May 8.—President Grant is keeping a vigilant watch over the affairs in the Island of Cuba. Notwithstanding the confidence expressed by the Spanish authorities of their ability to speedily suppress the rebellion, the Government is constantly in receipt of intelligence which shows that the insurgents have not brought into action all their available strength, and it is expected that the next two or three months will indicate something definite respecting the struggle, for either side. In the meantime it is not the intention of the Government to interfere so long as every demand made upon the Spanish authorities, where our interests are interfered with, is promptly acceded to.

Although the Government officials have indicated a willingness to sell war materials of all kinds to parties who desire to purchase, no sales have yet been made.

The President has stated, in substance, that he believes the Spaniards have exhausted their resources in Cuba, while the Cubans have much latent strength, which will show itself hereafter in an effective manner.

Our new Consul General at Havana, E. L. Plumb, Esq., left here for New York this morning, and will sail for his post on Thursday. He has received very full and explicit instructions in view of the important and delicate nature of our relations with the Spanish authorities. He is required to do all that may be in his power to protect the rights of the American citizens while they respect the laws, and at the same time is cautioned to do nothing that will precipitate a quarrel with the colonial officials.

More Gossip About Cuba.

The press dispatch relating to the Republican Congress of Cuba declaring for annexation, is discredited here. It is known there is a strong party among the patriots in favor of independence, and that by general consent the idea of annexation has not been considered an open question. Cuban agents here have universally affirmed that the object of the revolution was to effect their separation from Spain, leaving the annexation project to settle itself when the island is free. There has been no concealment of a belief that on the attainment of Cuban independence, annexation to the United States will follow, solicited by the free votes of the Cubans themselves. The great effort of the patriot leaders has been to prevent the agitation of this subject.

Quesada, reported elected General-in-Chief, is an avowed annexationist, after independence has been secured.

Céspedes has been placed at the head of the Republican Government.

Advices received this evening by way of Florida indicate the safe arrival within the patriot lines of a vessel from New York, loaded with arms and munitions. It is supposed to be the Grapeshot.