

CUBAN BELLIGERENCY.

The House Committee on Foreign Affairs have finally agreed upon a declaration in regard to Cuba, which is as follows:

That the President of the United States be, and he is hereby authorized and instructed to declare and maintain a strictly impartial neutrality on the part of the Government of the United States in the contest now existing between the people of Cuba and the government of the Kingdom of Spain.

SECTION 2. *And be it further resolved,* That all acts, or parts of acts, and all provisions of the statute approved the 20th of April, 1818, entitled "An Act in addition to the Act for the punishment of certain crimes against the United States," and to repeal the acts therein mentioned, shall be construed to apply equally to the parties in the existing contest between the people of Cuba and the Government of Spain.

There is much division of opinion as to the precise effect of this declaration. It certainly prohibits either Spain or Cuba from obtaining vessels or munitions in this country, and in that respect it is certainly a declaration of neutrality. A minority of the Committee so regard it, and believe such a declaration equivalent in effect to a recognition of belligerent rights, with a revival of the right of search under the treaty of 1795. The resolution will be reported next week, and there will be a warm debate upon it.