CUBA.

ESTABLISHMENT OF INDEPENDENT GOVERNMENT IN CUBA.

General Wood, Military Governor of Cuba, to the Adjutant-General of the Army.

[Telegram.]

HABANA, CUBA, May 20, 1902.

I have the honor to report to you that in compliance with instructions received I have this day, at 12 o'clock sharp, transferred to the President and Congress of the Republic of Cuba the government and control of the island, to be held and exercised by them under the provisions of the constitution of the Republic of Cuba. The documents sent to me were read, and Mr. Palma, in accepting the responsibilities on behalf of the island, expressed himself in kind and endearing words and thanked the Republic of the United States and its officials for all that has been done for Cuba and for the fulfillment of promises made. The ceremony was most impressive, and I embark on the Brooklyn with my staff for the United States.

Wood.


To the Congress of the United States:

I commend to the Congress timely consideration of measures for maintaining diplomatic and consular representatives in Cuba and for carrying out the provisions of the act making appropriation for the support of the Army for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1902, approved March 2, 1901, reading as follows:

Provided further, That in fulfillment of the declaration contained in the joint resolution approved April 20, 1898, entitled "For the recognition of the independence of the people of Cuba, demanding that the Government of Spain relinquish its authority and government in the island of Cuba, and to withdraw its land and naval forces from Cuba and Cuban waters, and directing the President of the United States to use the land and naval forces of the United States to carry these resolutions into effect," the President is hereby authorized to "leave the government and control of the island of Cuba to its people" so soon as a government shall have been established in said island under a constitution which, either as a part thereof or in an ordinance appended thereto, shall define the future relations of the United States with Cuba substantially as follows:
I.

That the government of Cuba shall never enter into any treaty or other compact with any foreign power or powers which will impair or tend to impair the independence of Cuba, nor in any manner authorize or permit any foreign power or powers to obtain, by colonization or for military or naval purposes or otherwise, lodgment in or control over any portion of said island.

II.

That said government shall not assume or contract any public debt to pay the interest upon which, and to make reasonable sinking fund provision for the ultimate discharge of which, the ordinary revenues of the island, after defraying the current expenses of government, shall be inadequate.

III.

That the Government of Cuba consents that the United States may exercise the right to intervene for the preservation of Cuban independence, the maintenance of a government adequate for the protection of life, property, and individual liberty, and for discharging the obligations with respect to Cuba imposed by the treaty of Paris on the United States, now to be assumed and undertaken by the Government of Cuba.

IV.

That all acts of the United States in Cuba during its military occupancy thereof are ratified and validated, and all lawful rights acquired thereunder shall be maintained and protected.

V.

That the Government of Cuba will execute, and as far as necessary extend, the plans already devised, or other plans to be mutually agreed upon, for the sanitation of the cities of the island, to the end that a recurrence of epidemic and infectious diseases may be prevented, thereby assuring protection to the people and commerce of Cuba, as well as to the commerce of the southern ports of the United States and the people residing therein.

VI.

That the Isle of Pines shall be omitted from the proposed constitutional boundaries of Cuba, the title thereto being left to future adjustment by treaty.

VII.

That to enable the United States to maintain the independence of Cuba, and to protect the people thereof, as well as for its own defense, the Government of Cuba will sell or lease to the United States lands necessary for coaling or naval stations at certain specified points, to be agreed upon with the President of the United States.

VIII.

That by way of further assurance the Government of Cuba will embody the foregoing provisions in a permanent treaty with the United States.

The people of Cuba having framed a constitution embracing the foregoing requirements, and having elected a President who is soon to take office, the time is near for the fulfillment of the pledge of the United States to leave the government and control of the island of Cuba to its people. I am advised by the Secretary of War that it is now expected that the installation of the Government of Cuba and the termination of the military occupation of that island by the United States will take place on the 20th of May next.

It is necessary and appropriate that the establishment of international relations with the Government of Cuba should coincide with its inauguration, as well to provide a channel for the conduct of diplomatic relations with the new State as to open the path for the immediate

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negotiation of conventional agreements to carry out the provisions of
the act above quoted. It is also advisable that consular representation
be established without delay at the principal Cuban ports in order that
commerce with the island may be conducted with due regard to the
formalities prescribed by the revenue and navigation statutes of the
United States, and that American citizens in Cuba may have the cus-
tomary local resorts open to them for their business needs and, the
case arising, for the protection of their rights.

I therefore recommend that provision be forthwith made, and the
salaries appropriated, to be immediately available, for—

a. Envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary to the Republic of
   Cuba ...................................................................................................................... $10,000
b. Secretary of legation ......................................................................................... 2,000
c. Second secretary of legation ............................................................................ 1,500
d. Consul-general at Habana .................................................................................. 5,000
e. Consuls at—
   Cienfuegos ......................................................................................................... 3,000
   Santiago de Cuba ................................................................................................ 3,000

I do not recommend the present restoration of the consulates for-
merly maintained at Baracoa, Cardenas, Matanzas, Nuevitas, Sagua la
Grande, and San Juan de los Remedios. The commercial interests at
those ports heretofore have not been large. The consular fees col-
lected there during the fiscal year 1896–97 aggregated $752.10. It is
believed that the actual needs of the six offices named can be efficiently
subserved by agents under the three principal consular offices until
events may show the necessity of erecting a full consulate at any
point. The commercial and political conditions in the island of Cuba
while under the Spanish Crown afford little basis for estimating the
local development of intercourse with this country under the influence
of the new relations which have been created by the achievement of
Cuban independence, and which are to be broadened and strengthened
in every proper way by conventional pacts with the Cubans and by
wise and beneficent legislation aiming to stimulate the commerce
between the two countries, if the great task we accepted in 1898 is to
be fittingly accomplished.

THEODORE ROOSEVELT.

WHITE HOUSE,
Washington, March 27, 1902.

RECEPTION OF MINISTER OF THE UNITED STATES.

Mr. Squiers to Mr. Hay.

[Telegram.—Paraphrase.]

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES,
Habana, May 27, 1902.

(Mr. Squiers reports his arrival at Habana on the 26th and reception
by the President of Cuba on the 27th of May; that he was the first
diplomatic representative to present credentials, and that a most cordial
reception was accorded him by the Government and people of Cuba.)
Mr. Squiers to Mr. Hay.

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES,
Habana, May 27, 1902.

SIR: Confirming my telegram of 27th instant, I have the honor to report that, in accordance with my instructions, I sailed from New York on Thursday, 22d instant, on steamer Vigilancia of the Ward Line, and arrived here on the following Monday evening, 26th instant, having been somewhat delayed owing to new machinery.

I was met on the arrival of the steamer by Mr. Aurelio Hevia, assistant secretary of state, representing the foreign office; Mr. Steinhardt, in charge of the Cuban archives; Mr. Yero, acting captain of the port; Major Glennan, of the United States Marine-Hospital Service, and Captain Laborde, chief of the harbor police, who extended to me every possible courtesy.

I called on His Excellency Mr. Carlos de Zaldo, secretary of state and justice this morning, and arranged with him for my audience with the President, which was fixed at 4 p. m.

At the appointed hour I was waited upon by Mr. Hevia, assistant secretary of state, who had been designated to accompany me to the palace. A guard of honor of some thirty troopers also escorted me.

At the palace I was met by His Excellency Mr. de Zaldo, who presented me to the President, to whom I handed my letter of credence and took occasion to say:

The President sends you his most cordial greetings, and desires me to assure your excellency of his personal interest and sympathy in the welfare and prosperity of your people. In these sentiments I beg to join.

To be accredited as the diplomatic representative of the United States near your excellency is to me the greatest possible compliment, and it will be my constant endeavor to so conduct the business of my legation as to draw still closer the ties of friendship which now unite our people.

To which the President replied in Spanish, of which the following is a translation:

As the faithful interpreter of the sentiments of the people of Cuba, permit me—through you—to assure the illustrious President of the United States that our most ardent desires are the happiness and prosperity of the American people and of their worthy President.

At the same time I avail myself of this opportunity to express my satisfaction at your appointment as diplomatic representative of the United States near my Government, since no other person could be more agreeable nor more fit to the end that the friendly relations between both peoples may become the most intimate and cordial.

There were also assembled the principal officials of the Government, executive, judicial, and legislative, to all of whom I was formally presented, as I was afterwards to Her Excellency Madam Palma, wife of the President.

The reception was a most cordial one and intended to impress my Government with the deep feeling of appreciation and regard for the past which the Cuban people and Government seem to feel toward the people of the United States.

During the reception the United States flag was displayed from Morro Castle, the palace, and many of the public buildings.

I inclose a copy of a note of thanks to the foreign office which I hope will meet with your approval. I have no wish to be egotistical,
but I desire to win, as soon as possible, the confidence and good will of these people, feeling sure that under these conditions I will be able to render far better services to my Government even than would follow a like position under different circumstances.

I have, etc.,

H. G. Squiers.

[Inclosure.]

Mr. Squiers to Cuban foreign office.

F. O. No. 1.] Legation of the United States, Habana, May 28, 1902.

Your Excellency: I have the honor to request that your excellency will take occasion to thank, in my name, Mr. Aurelio Hevia, assistant secretary of state, Mr. Yero, acting captain of the port, and Captain Laborde, chief of harbor police, for their kindness and courtesy in meeting my steamer and making my arrival here so very comfortable and pleasant.

I would also like to express my appreciation of the display of flags on Morro Castle and other public buildings, which I understand was done in honor of the diplomatic representative of the United States.

I desire also to congratulate the commanding officer of my military escort at the palace on the fine, soldierly appearance of his men; being an old cavalryman myself, I appreciate the high standard which he and his men have reached.

May I add that I have been extremely gratified with the cordial reception accorded me, in my official capacity, which I feel sure will be much appreciated by my Government.

I avail, etc.,

H. G. Squiers.

RESOLUTION OF UNITED STATES SENATE CONGRATULATING CUBAN REPUBLIC ON ITS APPEARANCE AMONG THE NATIONS OF THE WORLD.

Mr. Hay to Mr. Squiers.

No. 4.] Department of State, Washington, May 26, 1902.

SIR: You are instructed to communicate to the foreign office the inclosed copy of the resolution of the Senate of the United States, dated the 21st instant, congratulating the Cuban Republic on its appearance among the nations of the world.

I am, etc.,

John Hay.

[Inclosure.]

Senate resolution No. 232, Fifty-seventh Congress, first session.

Resolved by the Senate of the United States of America, That the Senate views with satisfaction and expresses congratulation at the appearance of the Cuban Republic among the nations of the world.

Resolved, That the Secretary of State be directed to transmit to the President of the Cuban Republic a copy of these resolutions.
Resolution of the Cuban House of Representatives

Habana, May 23, 1902.

To the honorable President of the Republic of Cuba.

Sir: I have the honor to inform you that the House of Representatives, in its session of the 21st instant, unanimously resolved to sanction the proposition which I transcribe below, to the end that you may be pleased to transmit it to the honorable President of the United States:

"Whereas the Cuban people has now seen its aspirations for a country, independence, and freedom crowned with success, thanks to its own heroic efforts and to the noble aid of the glorious nation of the United States of North America;

"Whereas the people and Government of the American Union have been generous upholders of the Cuban revolution, and have afforded assistance even greater than that which they themselves received from the country of Lafayette and Victor Hugo in behalf of liberty;

"Whereas the American Government proclaimed to the world that Cuba is, and of right ought to be, free and independent, by a joint resolution in pursuance of which it declared war against Spain, and sent its Army and Navy to fight for the rights of the Cuban people until a complete victory was gained, which culminated in the evacuation of the island by the Spanish forces, the flags of both American peoples being unfurled to the breeze;

"Whereas the Government and people of the United States have faithfully carried out the solemn agreement which they spontaneously made with the Cuban people and the world at large by securing peace, establishing a Republican Government, and withdrawing after having suitably organized the various branches of the public service throughout the island, for which benefits the country is grateful;

"Whereas it is the moral, political, and social duty of the people of Cuba, being legally represented by this House, officially to express its deep gratitude to the noble American people and its upright Government in such a manner as will publicly show how greatly Cuba appreciates the sacrifice made in its behalf by the descendants of Washington, Franklin, and Lincoln:

"Now, therefore, the undersigned Representatives have the honor to submit to this House the following proposition, which they think should by all means be sanctioned. They propose

"First. That a solemn vote of thanks be passed, a sincere expression of heartfelt gratitude to the Government and people of the United States of North America for their earnest sympathy, their efficient aid, and for the sacrifices made by them in behalf of the independence and freedom of Cuba.

"Second. That an expression of our heartfelt thanks shall be conveyed to the officers and soldiers of the American Army and Navy who have aided the Cuban cause with their valor, their blood, and their lives, and who have shared with the Cubans the perils of war and the laurels of victory.
FOREIGN RELATIONS.

"Third. That our sincere condolence be expressed on account of the loss of those Americans who met their death on the field of battle, at sea, and in the performance of their duties during the American intervention."

With sentiments of the highest consideration, very respectfully,

PELAYO GARCIA, Speaker.

A true copy:

CARLOS DE ZALDO,
Secretary of State and Justice.

Mr. Adee to Señor Quesada.

No. 12.] DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, August 2, 1902.

Sir: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your note of June 17 last, in which you inclose a certified copy of the resolutions passed unanimously by the Cuban House of Representatives on May 21 last, thanking the Government and people of the United States for their intervention in behalf of Cuba.

Copies of the resolutions have been communicated to the President and to the Secretaries of War and the Navy, and I have the honor to assure you that they have been received by this Government with sincere appreciation.

Accept, etc.,

ALVEY A. ADEE,
Acting Secretary.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF ESTABLISHMENT OF CUBAN REPUBLIC.

Mr. Squiers to Mr. Hay.

No. 23.] LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES,
Habana, June 16, 1902.

Sir: I have the honor to inclose copy of a communication, with translation, sent by the President of the Republic of Cuba to the King of Spain, and also to heads of other Governments.

I have, etc.,

H. G. SQUIERS.

[Inclosure.—Translation.]

Tomás Estrada Palma, President of the Republic of Cuba, to His Majesty Alfonso XIII, King of Spain.

GREAT AND GOOD FRIEND: I have the distinguished honor to inform Your Majesty that on the 20th of the present month, at 12 o'clock noon, the Republic of Cuba was established, inasmuch as the military occupation of the United States of America ceased on that date, and that I have assumed the duties of Chief Executive, as empowered by the Cuban constitution.

In communicating to Your Majesty such a happy event for the country, I take pleasure in informing you, in the name of the Cuban people, of the unalterable wishes of their present Government to maintain the warmest and most cordial relations of friendship with all nations and especially with the Government and people of Spain.

I express the best wishes for the personal welfare of Your Majesty and the prosperity of the Spanish nation.

Your good friend,

T. ESTRADA PALMA.

Given at the executive mansion the 26th day of May, 1902.

CARLOS DE ZALDO,
Secretary of Justice.
COURTSEIES OF CUBAN GOVERNMENT ON OCCASION OF ANNI-
VERSARY OF INDEPENDENCE OF THE UNITED STATES.

President Palma to President Roosevelt.

[Telegram.—Translation.]

HABANA, July 4, 1902.

On this memorable date for the American people I send my greet-
ings to Your Excellency, and make wishes for the prosperity of your
great nation.

T. ESTRADA PALMA,
President of the Republic.

Mr. Squiers to Mr. Hay.

[Telegram.]

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES,
Habana, July 4, 1902.

President Palma writes that he shares with the people of the United
States the happiness they enjoy in celebrating this holiday, the anni-
versary of the Independence of the thirteen English colonies, which,
by the blessing of democratic institutions and love of liberty, have
reached the highest stand as one of the most powerful nations in the
world, and heartily wishes that the American people may enjoy for-
ever the greatest prosperity and happiness.

SQUIERS.

Mr. Hay to Mr. Squiers.

[Telegram.—Paraphrase.]

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, July 5, 1902.

(Mr. Hay states that President Palma’s message of congratulation
by reason of the national anniversary of the Independence of the
United States is received with much gratification by this Government.)

Mr. Squiers to Mr. Hay.

No. 59.] LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES,
Habana, July 7, 1902.

Sir: I have the honor to confirm your telegram of the 5th instant
referring to President Palma’s message of congratulation by reason of
the national anniversary of the Independence of the United States,
and also to inclose a copy of my note to the foreign office conveying
your cable acknowledgment.

I have, etc.,

H. G. SQUIERS.
FOREIGN RELATIONS.

[Inclosure.]

Mr. Squiers to Mr. Zaldo.

F. O. No. 26.] Legation of the United States, Habana, July 7, 1902.

Your Excellency: I have the honor to inform your excellency, with the request that the matter be brought to the notice of the President, that I am just in receipt of a cable instruction from my Government advising me that President Palma's message of congratulation by reason of the national anniversary of the Independence of the United States was received with much gratification.

I avail, etc.,

H. G. Squiers.

Mr. Squiers to Mr. Hay.

No. 60.] Legation of the United States, Habana, July 7, 1902.

Sir: I have the honor to transmit herewith, with translation and copy of my acknowledgment, copy of a note received from the foreign office advising me of the adjournment of the Cuban house of representatives in honor of our Independence Day, and beg to suggest that I may be instructed to make some due and proper acknowledgment in the name of my Government.

I have, etc.,

H. G. Squiers.

[Inclosure 1.—Translation.]

Señor de Zaldo to Mr. Squiers.

No. 86.] Republic of Cuba, Office of the Secretary of Justice, Habana, July 4, 1902.

Mr. Minister: The President of the Republic directs me to communicate to your excellency the following note addressed to him this day by the president of the house of representatives:

"This house, in its session of to-day, resolved as follows:

"Considering that to-day, the 4th of July, the United States celebrate the glorious anniversary of their Independence, and that the great American nation contributed in an efficacious way to the constitution of Cuban nationality, it is resolved as a homage of gratitude, affection, and admiration for the noble country of Washington that the house rise and adjourn for the day, and that such resolution be communicated to the Government of the United States."

"Which I have the honor to communicate to you for your information and that you may inform the Government of the United States."

I beg your excellency to please acquaint your Government with the foregoing resolution.

I avail, etc.,

Carlos de Zaldo, Secretary.

[Inclosure 2.]

Mr. Squiers to Señor de Zaldo.

Legation of the United States, Habana, July 7, 1902.

Your Excellency: In acknowledging receipt of your excellency's note of the 4th instant communicating the resolution of the house of representatives adjourning the session on that day in honor of the anniversary of our national Independence, I beg to request that you will convey to the proper quarter my personal thanks and appreciation of the honor and courtesy shown my country, with the assurances of
the pleasure that it will afford me to advise my Government of this special act and
evidence of friendship and good feeling entertained for the United States by the
representatives in congress of the Cuban people.
I have, etc.,

H. G. Squiers.

Mr. Hay to Mr. Squiers.

No. 48.]

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, July 15, 1902.

Sir: In reply to your No. 60 of the 7th instant, I have to say that
you may convey to the Cuban Government an appropriate expression
of this Government's appreciation of the action of the Cuban house
of representatives in adjourning in honor of the Fourth of July.
I am, etc.,

John Hay.

PROTECTION OF CUBAN INTERESTS BY UNITED STATES
CONSULAR OFFICIALS.

Señor de Zaldo, Cuban secretary of state, to Mr. Hay.

[Telegram—Translation.]

HABANA, May 22, 1902.

The President of the Republic charges me to convey through you to
the President of the United States his desire that the American consuls
accredited to the several countries may continue to represent the interests of the Republic of Cuba, and of its citizens, until Cuban consuls
shall have been appointed, and to ask of the President of the United
States that he may see fit to comply with this desire and issue appropriate instructions to the consuls.

Carlos de Zaldo,
Secretary of State.

Mr. Hay to Señor Zaldo.

[Telegram.]

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, May 24, 1902.

I have received your telegram of the 22d of May. The President
directs me to say that it will give him great pleasure to comply with
the request of the President of the Republic of Cuba, and the appropriate orders will go at once to all our embassies, legations, and consulates.

John Hay.

Señor Quesada to Mr. Hay.

[Translation.]

No. 8.]

LEGATION OF CUBA,
Washington, June 28, 1902.

Excellency: In compliance with instructions of my Government I
have the honor to request that your excellency will have the goodness

*See index for same subject under various other countries.
to inform me of the purport and scope of the authority given by the United States Government to its diplomatic and consular officers for the temporary protection of Cuban interests abroad.

Accept, etc.,

GONZALO DE QUESADA.

Mr. Hay to Señor Quesada.

No. 10.]

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, July 16, 1902.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your note of the 28th ultimo, in which, under the instructions of your department, you ask to be informed of the purport and scope of the authority given by the United States Government to its consular officers for the temporary protection of Cuban interests abroad.

I have the honor to say in reply that the Department is preparing instructions which will be communicated to you.

In general it may be said that the authorization given to the consuls does not empower them to act as agents of Cuba under the instructions of the Cuban Government, but to use good offices, as intermediaries, in all matters affecting Cuban citizens, reporting to this Department, which in turn communicates with the Cuban Government. Any requests of the Cuban Government for consular action on behalf of Cuban interests, upon being addressed to this Department, will be communicated to the respective United States consuls for appropriate action.

Accept, etc.,

JOHN HAY.

Señor Quesada to Mr. Adee.

[Translation.]

LEGATION OF CUBA,
Washington, August 12, 1902.

SIR: Dr. Ramon Neyra, a Cuban citizen, writes me from Panama to deplore the helpless condition of our fellow-citizens residing in the United States of Colombia, and the great peril to which they are exposed by reason of the state of war existing in that country.

By your valued note No. 10, dated July 16 last, I was informed that your Department was preparing instructions for the consuls of the United States, and that those instructions would be communicated to me; but that, in a general way, the authority given to the consular corps of your country for the temporary protection of Cuban interests abroad did not empower them to act as agents of Cuba, subject to instructions from the Cuban Government, but to use their good offices as intermediaries in all matters affecting Cuban citizens, and to report to your Department, which, in turn, would communicate with the Cuban Government; and that (it was added) any request from the Cuban Government would be transmitted to the proper consul of the United States for appropriate action.

Without any knowledge of the text of the instructions referred to in the said note No. 10, the note itself affords me sufficient ground to
believe it my duty to ask that your excellency be pleased to instruct
the consuls of your country in Colombia, and particularly the consul
at Panama, that, in the exercise of their good offices, they protect the
 citizens of Cuba residing in that Republic, and prevent any wrong to
which they may be subjected by the authorities in power in that
territory.

I improve this opportunity, etc.,

Gonzalo de Quesada.

Mr. Adee to Señor Quesada.

No. 13.]  

Department of State,
Washington, September 13, 1902.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your note of
the 12th ultimo, representing the danger in which citizens of Cuba find
themselves during the conflict on the Isthmus of Panama, and asking
that instructions be sent to United States consuls in Colombia direct-
ing them to exercise their good offices for the protection of your fel-
low-countrymen.

In reply, I have the honor to say that instructions have been sent
to the consuls in Colombia as requested.

I inclose copy of the circular sent to United States consuls on July
21 last, directing them, so far as they should be permitted by the
Governments to which they are accredited, to discharge the duties
ordinarily devolving upon Cuban consular officers.

It is hoped that, acting under the instructions previously sent to
them, the United States consuls in Colombia are affording all proper
protection to Cuban citizens standing in need of it.

Accept, etc.,

Alvey A. Adee,
Acting Secretary.

[Inclosure.]

Circular—Cuban interests.

Department of State,
Washington, July 21, 1902.

Gentlemen: In pursuance of instructions already issued to you through the diplo-
matic representatives, at the request of the President of Cuba, to use your good offices
in representation of the interests of Cuba and its citizens until Cuban consuls shall
have been appointed, I now have to inform you that you are expected to discharge,
so far as may be permitted by the Governments to which you are accredited, the
duties ordinarily devolving upon Cuban consular officers. You will be guided by
the instructions in force with respect to consular duties for Cuba prior to May 20,
1902, collecting fees for services performed, in accordance with the tariff of United
States consular fees. All fees collected for services performed in pursuance of these
instructions are to be kept separate from fees collected for services rendered as officers
of the United States, and are to be remitted at the end of each quarter to this Depart-
ment, with proper returns in duplicate.

I am, gentlemen, your obedient servant,

David J. Hill,
Assistant Secretary.
FOREIGN RELATIONS.

Señor Quesada to Mr. Hay.

[Translation.]

LEGATION OF CUBA,
Washington, October 27, 1902.

EXCELLENCY: I have the honor to advise your excellency that the Republic of Cuba has appointed consuls in different places in America and Europe, and that the said consuls are on their way to their respective posts.

My Government charges me to inform your excellency thereof and to lay before you the testimony of our most sincere acknowledgment of the services rendered in regard to Cuban interests by the diplomatic and consular officers of your nation, and to express the wish of the Government that they may continue rendering such services in countries where the Republic is not yet represented by accredited diplomatic or consular agents.

Each Cuban representative has been specifically instructed to give notice of his entrance into office to the American representative who may be at his post of duty, and I beg that the Secretary will recommend that the American officers will, as far as practicable, turn over to the consuls of Cuba such documents as appertain to Cuba and are in the possession of the respective officers of the United States.

I avail, etc.,

GONZALO DE QUESADA.

Mr. Hay to Señor Quesada.

No. 28.]

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, November 15, 1902.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your note of the 27th ultimo advising the Department that your Government has appointed consular officers in different places in America and Europe, who on their arrival at their posts have been directed to notify the respective United States consuls.

You express the thanks of your Government for the action of the United States consular officers in behalf of Cuban interests, and ask that it may be continued where no Cuban consular officers shall be appointed.

I take pleasure in inclosing copies of the Department's circular issued to United States consuls in view of your note.

As to your request that the United States consular officers should, as far as practicable, deliver to the Cuban consuls all such documents as appertain to Cuba and are in their possession, I have the honor to point out that in performing duties for your Government our officers have acted merely as "consuls of the United States in charge of Cuban interests," and not as "Cuban consuls," and that the papers and documents pertaining to such acts are a part of the records of the United States consulates. Should, however, any particular papers be desired at any time, the United States consuls will be directed to furnish copies to the Cuban consuls.

Accept, etc.,

JOHN HAY.
MESSAGES OF THE PRESIDENT OF CUBA TO CONGRESS.

Mr. Squiers to Mr. Hay.

No. 5.] LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES, Habana, June 2, 1902.

Sir: I have the honor to inclose herewith a translation of the President’s message.

The message recognizes a Higher Power in the affairs of Cuba, a recognition which has called forth considerable unfavorable comment from a certain class of Cubans, as is generally the case in a new republic; acknowledges the debt of the Cuban people to the United States; advises strict economy in the administration of the Government; shows the necessity for promoting all branches of agricultural industry; states the necessity for reduction in our tariff in favor of Cuba; promises to open negotiations looking toward a reciprocity treaty; calls attention to the necessity for good municipal government; pays a very high tribute to the American provisional government on account of general improvement in sanitary conditions and recommends that the work be continued; calls attention to the present state of penal institutions, where the prisoners lead lives of idleness; shows necessity for an honest judiciary, and takes up at some detail the matter of education; advises bringing in foreign capital for the exploitation of railways; regrets that the financial condition of the country is not now favorable to a military pension list; advocates cultivating most cordial relations with all nations and particularly with the United States, and urges that a good understanding must exist between the legislative body and executive power.

To us the message is not of great interest outside of the reference to sanitary conditions, a pension list, and Cuba’s relations with the United States. Regarding the matter of sanitation, the matter seems to be passed over very lightly and not given that importance which the necessity certainly demands. His resolution regarding the pension list ought to be very gratifying as it indicates economy in administration, which, under present or even more favorable conditions, is the only hope for a good and lasting government.
While I have not had sufficient time to form an opinion as to the
general situation, I have been impressed with the confidence which
Cubans of all classes seem to have in Mr. Palma's honesty of purpose
and his desire to do what is best for the country as a whole, regardless
of special interests or particular political parties.

I have, etc.,

H. G. Squiers.

[Inclosure.—Translation.]

Message of Tomás Estrada Palma, President of the Republic of Cuba, to the Congress of
Cuba.

Let our first acknowledgments be to Almighty God, as an act of thanksgiving for
the work which with His help we have accomplished, and beseech His divine pro-
tection, in order that the people of Cuba, which now takes rank as an independent
and sovereign nation, may firmly establish a stable government and proceed always
along the pathways of justice, resolutely pledged to the maintenance, with right and
lofty criterions and noble intent, of the democratic institutions which serve as bases
for the Republic of Cuba.

Never have a people struggled with more perseverance nor been subjected to
greater sacrifices in their unbending purpose of acquiring the blessed benefits of
regenerative liberty, nor, consequently, have any people more greatly merited seeing
their efforts crowned by the realization of their noble ideals and worthy aspirations.

Cuba on this memorable date takes her place in the family of nations and com-
menes the pursuit of her rightful destiny, in conformity with the precepts of the
fundamental law decreed and affirmed by the legitimate representatives of the people
united in a constitutional assembly to that end.

It is unlikely that such an event will be seen again in the course of many centuries,
and it is even more unlikely that it be carried into effect under like circumstances to
those which have accompanied the birth of our Republic. These circumstances, in
fact, have been so special as to make it impossible not to acknowledge and remember
them.

Joined to the traditional heroism of three generations of patriots is the splendid
attitude of a great people, who, consulting only their love of liberty, put themselves
resolutely at our side in the tenacious struggle which we sustained for the inde-
pendence of our country. The motive was simply a generous sentiment, pure and
disinterested in its origin. At the impulse of this sentiment the powerful Republic
of the North recognized the independence of Cuba, through their illustrious Presi-
dent, William McKinley, fought for her, and took upon herself the obligation to
deliver the island and its government in due course. This formal promise has now
been faithfully fulfilled by the no less illustrious President, Theodore Roosevelt.
At this moment, in which we feel ourselves to be men of our own right, and people
free and independent, it is impossible to repress the gratitude which overflows from
our bosoms, and which we owe to the people and to the Government of the United
States, as intense as our love for Cuba, as lasting as must be the good received.

To acknowledge, in this historic moment, the debt so contracted, to proclaim our
gratitude to the great Republic which has aided us, and to inaugurate the Cuban
nationality, is an act which exalts our people, and which makes them worthy of the
consideration and respect of the other peoples of the earth.

Our country, having been organized in the form of a free Republic, in accordance
with the fundamental law already promulgated, makes it necessary that the statutory
laws, which are the complements of the constitution, be enacted, and that there be
made all those acts which have as purpose the strengthening of the bases of an
orderly Republic, capable of filling, in itself, all the ends of civilization, and of duly
complying with the obligations and engagements entered into.

The existence of a people, as of individuals, depends absolutely upon the means of
livelihood which they possess, and, consequently, our first duty is to assure to the
state a sufficient sure income to cover, within a regimen of prudent economy, the
inevitable expenses of the distinct departments of the public administration. With
this in view, and guided by discreet foresight, the budgets must be made up in order
that, counting upon definite receipts, the total amount of the disbursements may be
less than that of the income, since it would be expedient to arrange for a reasonable
surplus set apart for emergencies or for public services of undoubted utility.
The budget is, in a way, the motive power of the wheels of state, for which must be set a regular, harmonious, and uninterrupted movement, as, if in any case it be insufficient to procure this end, there would be a disarrangement of the gear of the governmental machinery, bringing with it discredit to the Republic, both at home and abroad, and accompanied, per chance, by grave danger touching the future of the Republic.

The Government proposes to present to Congress a general budget of expenses to serve as an index to the economic life of the Republic, but this labor, difficult in itself even in normal and well-regulated conditions, becomes more difficult at this time in which the transition from one system of government to another exacts the almost complete transformation of the administrative organisms, and carries with it the alteration or obligation of certain services, and the creation of new ones, fitting the order of things which has been effective since the 20th day of this month.

The practice of the American military administration of providing only for the expenses which the public services demanded, by setting apart funds for periods of two months, instead of formulating annual budgets, obliges me to call to the attention of Congress the necessity of adopting means to avoid the embarrassing situation which may shortly be experienced. Appropriations have been made only for the expenses of the public administration up to the 30th day of June next. As within that time the budgets can not be approved, it will be impossible for the Government to make provision for the expenses of the nation, as it lacks the power to dispose of the funds of state. The consequences of this condition of affairs are so manifest that the Congress can not fail to appreciate them, and, anticipating this contingency, will surely adopt such measures as their patriotism suggests.

The development of our national and industrial wealth is intimately connected with the budget. In direct proportion to the productive capacity of the country, the exportation of Cuban products will be augmented, and in the same ratio our purchasing power abroad will also increase. It therefore follows that the expediency of promoting, by all direct or indirect means at the command of the Government, the improvement of those branches of agricultural industry which we now possess, the creation of other branches of industry which may readily be established on our soil, and the building up of the cattle industry, which must be restored at the earliest possible moment to the degree of prosperity formerly enjoyed by it. The importance of the agricultural problems cannot be overlooked by the establishment of agronomic stations for the purpose of improving and perfecting the culture of sugar cane and tobacco, as well as the introduction of the culture of other plants useful as the bases for new industries.

While still ignorant of the resources at our disposal and of the result of the efforts now for some time directed to the reduction of the import tariffs into the United States, it is almost impossible to determine the measures for facing the crisis through which we are now passing; the two primordial fountains of the national wealth, agriculture and industry. On the other hand, the Government can give assurance that it is well advised of the present situation, and that it will devote to it all proper attention, recommending opportunely to the Congress the steps which, in its judgment, should be taken for meeting it.

A prime factor contributing to the profound economical crisis now oppressing the country is the ruinous price of sugar due to the excessive production of beet sugar in Europe. The immediate remedy would be to obtain a satisfactory reduction in the American tariffs, an object to which the endeavors of the Executive will henceforth be dedicated, and who, at the same time, will open negotiations for the conclusion of a reciprocity treaty in the hope of securing advantages for the Cuban producer.

The continuance of social life imposes as a prime necessity the regular and orderly progress of the public service, without interruptions which, if at all times injurious, would be even more prejudicial at a time when it is of supreme importance to maintain the efficacious action of all the springs of administration and government. In this regard there will be only such changes made in the personnel of the administration as shall be deemed necessary.

The municipal arrangements must receive early attention. In these lie the root by whose means must be nourished the highest organism of the Government. It is idle to speak of their importance. Inasmuch as the mayors and councillors are to day performing their functions by virtue of an election effected by direct suffrage, they fit perfectly, with respect to this particular, in the mold of the constitution; but in so far as refers to the organization of the town councils and the attributes of these and of the mayors, this is not true. It is therefore urgent for the legislative body to formulate the municipal law, within the meaning of the constitution, as soon as possible.
On the other hand, the constitution creates a completely new body, the provincial councilors, whose co-operation with the municipal administration and with the State, and whose intimate connection with the civil governors calls for the enactment without delay of a statutory law regulating their actions. Otherwise, we would have a body without legal conditions for its operations. The councilors, consequently, will, although for an indefinite time, have a nominal existence, and will not be able, therefore, to regulate the procedure of the civil governors, who are subordinate to them in the economic order; but, seeing that in the provincial sphere the civil governors are the highest governing authority, it is proper to authorize the Executive, giving to this branch of the administration the necessary uniformity, to look after the indispensable expenditures.

The preservation of public order is the first duty of every government, and for assuring this we have to depend only upon the scant personnel of the rural guard and the artillery corps, so that suffice to say that the tranquillity and security of the public rest upon the proper police of the country, in the common confidence and the surpassing interest which we all have in raising to the greatest height the authority and prestige of the nascent Republic.

If the public forces in the outlying districts are to be a firm guaranty for the personal and a safeguard for the interests of all, it is indispensable that provision be made as soon as possible for the necessities of this service, duly increasing the rural guard and organizing it under the most rigid discipline.

I acknowledge a debt of justice, very pleasing to me, in recognizing that the American intervention has improved the sanitary condition of Cuba to such a degree that the death rate can even now, without discredit, be compared with that of communities where the sanitary conditions have been arranged according to the most modern and efficacious methods. But it is also incumbent on me to say that, up to this time, there remain to be done certain works absolutely necessary for guaranteeing the present satisfactory conditions. The means taken for procuring the entire disappearance of yellow fever as the exponent of an exceptional sanitary condition, may perhaps be successful, inasmuch as they treat of a programme of such magnitude as not only to relate to the internal welfare, but to claim serious consideration as regards the international well-being.

Charitable enterprises shall receive the most careful attention, not only because of the humanitarian duty involved, but because patriotism places us under the obligation of caring for the orphans which the mishaps of war have left unprovided for. This can be accomplished with relative economy, because, through the piety of our people, there have been accumulated considerable resources for the maintenance of asylums and hospitals.

I have to invite attention to the present practice in our penal institutions, which calls for a prompt and radical modification. The life of idleness, in community, which is the usual course followed, lends itself more to instruction in vice than to the reformation of moral delinquents.

A very important factor in the development of material and moral interests is the good administration of justice, as this is the first guaranty and the best safeguard of the respect for property and other civil rights. To decree the laws regulating the exercise of the judicial functions and prescribing the principle of permanency of the functionaries of this branch, ought to be one of the first duties of Congress. In this way there could be expected from the judges and magistrates the independence of action which they require in order to proceed, free from all influence, without other desire than the right and honorable application of the laws.

I shall devote myself with especial solicitude to public education in the several divisions of university, high school, and primary instruction.

It is not long since a new plan, intended to give a more practical character to the studies which are pursued in the university, was adopted. In a matter of such transcendental importance to the intellectual growth of our people, I shall proceed with moderation, to the end that due consideration be given, on the application of the improvements introduced, to the results of the experience and the counsel of the wisdom of the university itself. Exponent, as it is, of the highest culture, the Government feels consummate interest in its apogee and splendor, and shall endeavor to provide for its necessities and so make way for the due fulfillment of its high ideals.

There have also been effected in the high schools certain reforms analogous in tendency to those brought to bear in the university. Perhaps a little later, when the conditions of the general instruction shall permit, it will be deemed proper to vary in somewhat its organization, in order to combine it with the primary education. This latter has experienced a radical change. The merited importance has been given to the branch, and I declare it to be my purpose to devote my energies to the
building up of the public schools, convinced as I am that in them lies the future of our country.

The primary education to-day has an administrative and technical organization more adequate to the principles of pedagogy. As a result of these reforms there are now receiving instruction in our schools a number of scholars so largely increased as to find no precedent in the annals of our primary instruction.

It is but just to give tribute of warm applause to the intervening Government for its zeal in the diffusion of education. The number of schools now existing, as compared with those of note prior to 1895, is great; but even the present number is not sufficient, for, in fact, the whole problem of the future of Cuba rests in the school. Wherefore, the Government will look with extraordinary interest to the improvement of this branch, in so far as the economic condition of the country may permit, to the end that the benefits of instruction may reach those places hitherto untouched.

Means of communication are essential to the development of the country and indispensable to the easy movement of agricultural products, but the works undertaken and the rapidity of their conclusion are necessarily in closest possible relation to the pecuniary means at disposal. The Government, notwithstanding, will direct its endeavors to conserving in the best condition existing works and to finishing such as are now in course of construction.

It will be your duty to invite the greatest possible exploitation of railroads, giving to the capital invested in them all kinds of guarantees, at the same time stimulating the extension and improvement of the enterprises already on foot, as well as the establishment of new enterprises that may seek to avail of the shelter of the statutes now effective or of such as may hereafter be enacted.

The Executive bears in mind the engagements entered into by the revolutionary government with the liberating army, and if at the moment the means for fulfilling them are not at hand, it is only due to the bad economic situation of the country, and ignorance of the actual resources upon which the State may count for meeting the ordinary needs of the administration.

It is indeed lamentable that at this moment it should be impracticable to attend to an obligation so sacred as that of requiting the services of those who struggled arms in hand, and of alleviating the sad condition at present suffered by the widows and orphans of many of those who died so gloriously for the fatherland.

It must be very pleasing to all of us that the Republic of Cuba should have been officially recognized not only by the United States, but by the Governments of Great Britain, Italy, France, Mexico, Guatemala, Nicaragua, Santo Domingo, Ecuador, and Paraguay.

It is to be hoped that other Governments may do likewise, and that we may be able to count upon the good wishes and friendship of the foreign nations.

On our part, we must improve the occasion of cultivating with all of these the mostcordial relations, endeavoring to conclude such treaties of friendship and commerce as may be favorable to the interests of Cuba. To the facilitation of this result, we shall have to accredit in the several countries consular agents and such diplomatic representatives as may be deemed essential.

We shall, in addition, take especial pains to secure at all times a perfect understanding between the United States and ourselves, in order that there may never be even the slightest difficulty in the arrangements of those political and economical matters as commonly interest the two countries.

If the benefit of friendly and cordial relations as with other States is universally admitted, it is certainly still more necessary that, within the Republic of Cuba, there be maintained a lofty spirit of unvarying concord which may bind together all the people as a unit, resolutely determined upon the conservation of the Cuban nation for the material and moral progress of the country and the individual and collective welfare of all the inhabitants in the island.

Can anyone deny that unity and mutual agreement among the members of an association are the most certain guaranties for the lasting existence of that association? Hence, among us who have just assumed the responsibilities of an independent people, it is absolutely indispensable that the noble example of harmony, concord, and unity which we have given to the world in these first days of our political existence continue as the normal state maintained by us in our life as a nation. A factor of the most exceptional importance in this much-desired concord is the good understanding which should always subsist between the legislative bodies and the executive power. These constitute the government of the State in accordance with the principles of the constitution now ruling us. The regular conduct of the public administration necessarily depends on the agreement and harmony which may subsist as between the various powers, on the confidence which the senate and house of representatives may have in the patriotism and good faith of the executive body.
Only in this way can there be the most perfect cooperation regarding the needs, true interests, and positive necessities of the Republic. To this end I pray that the Supreme Being may guide us and strengthen our spirit so that there may be observed in all of our actions a constant and discreet prudence and right judgment at the inspiration, pure and disinterested, of our great love for Cuba.

T. Estrada Palma,
President of the Republic of Cuba.

Habana, May 26, 1902.

Mr. Squiers to Mr. Hay.

No. 280.]

Legation of the United States,
Habana, November 8, 1902.

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith copy of the President's message to Congress presenting the project of the general budget of expenses and revenues for the year 1903, showing an estimated surplus of $3,014,032.28.

Mr. Palma calls attention to a decrease of $7,157,855.21 in the disbursements during the last fiscal year without making any reduction in services of sanitation, which he points out will yearly call for increased expenditures.

Educational matters are well supported, number of schools being 3,474, with an attendance of 163,348.

An agricultural station is to be organized, at a cost of $75,000.

The statistics submitted show a decrease in imports during the first six months of 1902 amounting to $1,700,000 and of exports $12,300,000, or 5 per cent in the former and 28 per cent in the latter, as compared with the year 1901, due, it is claimed, to the low price of sugar.

Estimated receipts on account of consular fees amount to $250,000, as compared with $850,000 estimated receipts under first consular-fee bill which passed Congress and $550,000 under the amended bill which passed the Senate and is now pending in the House.

It is stated that this is the smallest Cuban budget presented since the middle of the century, and when certain expenses are transferred from the general administration to the provincial or municipal there may be a still further reduction of 25 per cent.

I am, etc.,

H. G. Squiers.

[Inclusion.—Translation.]

Cuban Presidential Message.

Habana, November 1, 1902.

To Congress:

I fulfill with true satisfaction the duty imposed upon me under section 5 of article 68 of the constitution, in presenting to Congress the project of the general budget of the nation for the fiscal year of 1903.

For the first time we, as Cubans, exercise the most important of the rights which a people can enjoy—that of freely regulating its revenues and expenses—and this must be for all a cause of true pleasure, because it was one of our most ardent aspirations, which, after bloody sacrifices, we see to-day happily realized. The Government congratulates itself upon contributing on its part to the regulation of the economic life of the State, proposing to the legislative power the estimates for the maintenance of the public services and the revenues deemed necessary to cover them.

During the existence of Spanish sovereignty the Cuban budgets were approved, first, without the concurrence of the representatives of the country, and, later, with the intervention of the few who were sent to the Spanish Parliament, and who, by
reason of their small number and other causes, never had any effective influence in favor of interests genuinely Cuban. In the 31 tables accompanying the revenues and expenses are shown in detail which were estimated for Cuba from the year 1850 to 1898, and it may be seen from them what was the total amount of the obligations which were a charge upon the local treasury and the application given to the income which was exacted from the Cuban people, justifying the protest of the same against that system, which was contrary to its legitimate aspirations and most pressing necessities.

During the rule of the intervention budgets were not made, and on this account I requested in the messages which I addressed to the chamber under your worthy presidency on the 11th of June and the 22d of August last the necessary authorization to pay the expenses of the State until these general budgets were approved, indicating in those messages the causes which prevented the realization with the promptness desired of such an important work. A starting point was lacking because of the special organization given by the intervening government to the public services which discharged their duties without any budget, the needs of the State being paid by means of the concession of funds on the request of the disbursing officers of the various departments, in monthly requisitions at first, and afterwards bimonthly. On the cessation of that government on the 20th of May, services which before had an independent organization, or were directly subject to the headquarters of the Department of Cuba, passed over to form part of the departments of the cabinet, and on this account there did not exist any precedents in the departments. It has been necessary, therefore, as a preliminary task, to reorganize and distribute those bureaus in conformity with the new order of things established at the inauguration of the Republic.

In the project which I have the honor to submit to Congress the endeavor has been to establish the greatest economy, in accord with the manifestations which I made in my programme of the 7th of September, 1901, in which I expressed the necessity of organizing the Republic as modestly as was possible, so as to avoid difficulties and embarrassments for lack of foresight, for which reason we should carefully combine the organization of the public services, as well as their allowances of funds, adjusting them to the capacity of the island in the matter of income and resting upon actual data and never upon flattering hopes.

As a consequence of that purpose the expenses have been limited to the necessities which are a charge upon the State, in conformity with the laws and provisions regulating the public services and in accordance with one of the clauses of the appendix of our constitution in what relates to the land and marine sanitary service.

The general summary of the project is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Revenues:</th>
<th>$14,781,000.00</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Customs</td>
<td>1,200,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tax on beverages</td>
<td>250,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consular fees</td>
<td>500,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Internal revenue</td>
<td>420,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communications (posts and telegraphs)</td>
<td>119,800.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Properties and dues of the State</td>
<td>243,200.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>17,514,000.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expenses:</th>
<th>413,319.68</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Legislature</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Executive</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Presidency</td>
<td>85,700.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Department of state and justice</td>
<td>310,396.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Department of government</td>
<td>4,529,998.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Department of finance</td>
<td>1,801,117.88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Department of public instruction</td>
<td>3,721,790.84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Department of public works</td>
<td>2,923,011.82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Department of agriculture, industry, and commerce</td>
<td>165,319.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>13,537,334.04</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Judiciary                                     | 949,314.00     |
| Total                                         | 14,899,967.72  |
| Surplus                                       | 2,614,032.28   |
Deducting from $14,899,967.72, the amount of the expenses in the accompanying project, the amount of the services newly created—i.e., Congress, the Presidency, the consular corps, and the increase of the rural guard—amounting to $1,457,947.68; also the amount of the contracts entered into by the military government, which the actual Government has to carry out, aggregating $1,085,271.38, it would result that the expenses for the services before established would amount only to $12,356,748.66, or $7,157,835.21 less than the sum of the disbursements in the past fiscal year of 1901–1902, without making any reduction in the services of sanitation and charities and others of not less importance. These sums, compared with those of the last three years, present the following results:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Income</th>
<th>Expenses</th>
<th>Surplus</th>
<th>Deficit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1899–1900c</td>
<td>$17,385,905.30</td>
<td>$15,091,453.06</td>
<td>$1,694,462.24</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1900–1901c</td>
<td>17,374,929.28</td>
<td>17,044,291.81</td>
<td></td>
<td>$190,622.83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1901–1902c</td>
<td>17,701,372.21</td>
<td>15,914,639.97</td>
<td></td>
<td>273,132.85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1902–1903c</td>
<td>17,614,000.00</td>
<td>14,899,067.72</td>
<td>2,614,032.28</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Data from the report of the Secretary of War of the United States of America.

*Data from the report of the general treasurer of the island.

*Estimated.

Examining the expenses, it is to be observed that all those of the legislative power, those of the Presidency and Vice-President, and those of the diplomatic and consular corps are of new creation and unavoidable constitutionally, the latter having a permanent character in conformity with the fundamental law, for which reason they constitute a portion of the fixed estimates and should govern until amended by special laws.

The expenses of the administration of justice also have a permanent character; but, as Congress has not yet enacted the organic law for the judiciary wherein those expenses should be definitely assigned, it is the duty of Congress to adopt such measures as it may deem proper in order that the constitutional provision regarding the legality of such expenses be complied with. In the meantime the necessary sums to maintain the actual organization are included in the project as the only existing legal organization. For this reason the allowance for the municipal courts has not been included in this project, because the fixing of its amount is an exclusive attribute of Congress.

In the department of government appear the obligations of a transitory character which the State has taken upon itself, such as those of the provincial governments and of sanitation and charities—the first, because the provincial councils are not yet organized, and the last, because by their own nature they require the tutelary action of the State whenever the local organizations have not the resources to attend to them.

It is possible that the expenses of the provincial government will figure in the actual budget only a few months, taking into account the proximity of the promulgation of the organic provincial law; and those of charities, amounting to nearly $1,000,000, will surely be decreased as soon as the municipal councils are in such condition that the Government can deliver over to them the beneficent institutions of a municipal character.

The cost of the sanitary service, far from decreasing, will increase, inasmuch as on the extension of the organization of the service to the entire country and even beyond it the amount required for its maintenance will have to be greater. Among those expenses appears the project of the establishment of a chemical bacteriological laboratory of a general nature, wherein shall be made the scientific preparations which to-day are very costly to the State, and wherein chemical analyses will be made, which at present are made under heavy expenses; for which reason it may be asserted that this laboratory will not only produce effective saving, but will yield a positive revenue.

Among the new expenses of government are included the cost of the rural guard under the law of October 18, amounting to $1,783,582; the secret police, previously supported in part by the municipality of Habana, and now a charge upon the State because of existing provisions; as well as the subvention assigned to the corps of firemen by order No. 103, series 1902, which is reduced to $6,000 in place of the $12,000 assigned in said order, for which reason the municipality of Habana should contribute a greater amount than the State for the maintenance of that useful institution, as it has been relieved of other expenses of a local character, and it is enabled, therefore, to attend with greater freedom to the municipal expenses.
Regarding the branch of finance, the greatest economy has been observed in all the services attached to the department. On the termination of the American occupation the reorganization of all the services was effected, seeking uniformity in the economic and financial administration of this island. By order No. 113, of March 7 last, it was provided that the offices of the treasury and of the general auditor (to-day general auditing department of the State) should pass over to that department, and by order No. 142, of the 10th of the same month, the same disposition was made of the customs service, the coast guard, and the bureau of mercantile statistics.

It was also provided—order No. 133—that the immigration and quarantine services should be attached to that department, and by a resolution of headquarters on the 19th of the same month it was given possession of the arsenal, Camp Colombia, the Triscornia Railroad, and various other properties of the State which had been administered directly by said headquarters.

In the estimate of the department of finance are stated the sums considered indispensable for the expenses of transportation; the commission of the National Bank, according to the contract of February 18 of this year the increase of the coast-guard service; the cost of leasing the lands at Triscornia according to the instrument of November 13, 1900; the expenses under the contract of the ice plant and electric-light plant of Hospital No. 1, and of the electric plant established at the Quartel de la Fuerza; the $91,027.56 to be paid annually to the clergy according to the instruments of October 2, 1901, and January 11, 1902; the amount calculated as necessary for reimbursement and returns for account of land and marine rents; and that which is believed to be indispensable to satisfy the “censos” recognized as liens upon properties of the State.

By the decree of the 7th of June of the present year the marine sanitary service, which had been attached, by order No. 133, to the department of finance, was transferred to that of government, inasmuch as the general direction of sanitation created by the intervening government belonged to that department. To the latter belonged also, by reason of its special character, the matters relating to that branch.

By the decree of June 9 last the administrations of rents and taxes of the fiscal zones of Guanajay, Cardenas, Cienfuegos, and Manzanillo were suppressed. This reform represents for the Treasury a saving of $39,600 a year. The suppression of various municipalities of the island having been provided by order No. 23, current series, the action of some of these zones was diminished, and consequently the work intrusted to them decreased.

That of Cienfuegos collected in the year 1901 only 4,321 per cent of the total of the internal revenues of the island; that of Cardenas, 4,146 per cent; that of Manzanillo, 1,379 per cent; and that of Guanajay, 1,348 per cent.

The receipts of these suppressed zones, as compared with their cost, was as follows in the year 1901:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Zone</th>
<th>Collections</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Guanajay</td>
<td>$3,060.56</td>
<td>$9,600.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cardenas</td>
<td>27,846.10</td>
<td>9,303.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cienfuegos</td>
<td>39,020.00</td>
<td>12,320.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manzanillo</td>
<td>11,688.11</td>
<td>6,063.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>77,644.80</strong></td>
<td><strong>39,600.00</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

It results, therefore, that the budget of these branches would absorb more than 50 per cent of their collections.

The service for payments has not suffered any injury with the suppression of said zones, because they continue to be made, as previously, by the administrations of the provincial capitals, with the exception of those in the zone of Holguin.

On the creation of the zones of Cienfuegos and Manzanillo, various municipal districts belonging to the province of Puerto Príncipe were attached, altering the provincial division, which was reestablished with the suppression of those offices, as was just and proper, according to the provisions of the constitution.

The zone of Holguin has been left in existence because of the great distance which separates it from the capital of the province, and its preservation facilitates the service without doing violence to the provincial regimen.

By the order No. 78, dated June 14, 1899, of the military governor, the suppression of all the captaincies of the port of the island was provided, intrusting the same to the administrators of customs, with the exception of that of Habana, which was left in existence and in absolute independence of every other administrative organism.
To put an end to that exception, which was of no benefit to the service, but rather, on the contrary, was an obstacle to the same, the office of captain of the port of this capital was suppressed by decree of May 29 last, its functions passing over to the administrator of customs.

It has been necessary to increase the personnel somewhat in the central offices in order to attend to the new duties to them intrusted.

In the department of public instruction it has been necessary to preserve the actual regimen as much in higher instruction as in intermediate and primary, because the organization of the university, the institutes of secondary instruction, the academy of arts and trades, and the schools of primary instruction follow plans of study established by existing legislation, and the executive lacks power to make alterations in organizations created by law and in the allowances therein assigned for them all.

Article 31 of the constitution ordains that primary instruction shall be compulsory, and that it, as well as that of arts and trades, shall be free, both being in charge of the State, while the municipality and the province are unable to sustain them, respectively, for lack of sufficient resources. Consequently the 3,474 schools are maintained, having an attendance of 163,348 scholars of both sexes, such primary instruction using up the greater part of the estimate for the branch.

It is evident that if schools were suppressed it would be easy to reduce the expenses of primary instruction, but this would be a saving to the prejudice of the social culture of the Cuban people, which requires that the Government should further education by all the means within its reach as the basis of our national life.

In public works the Government has had to accept the contracts made by the American military government, which left in plan and under contract various works whose completion must be attended to, as well as the carrying out of those demanded by the necessities of the island, among them the construction of several bridges and highways, the improvement of harbors, and the service of light-houses to facilitate the interior and exterior traffic of the Republic, and consequently the commercial movement.

In the budget of this branch the items destined for certain expenses of a municipal character, which have passed over to be obligations of the respective municipal councils, have been suppressed, which councils the State assists with some pecuniary subvention, having ceded to them in addition all the properties and implements with which the works were carried on, which were partly, and still are partly, for account of the public treasury.

For the branches of agriculture, industry, and commerce the credits only are assigned which are necessary for the maintenance of the department and the creation of the meteorological service and that of crops, together with a small credit of $75,000 to organize an agricultural station.

The Government laments the meagerness of the allowance for this department, and it hopes that when the loan is approved which is now under discussion by the chambers the organization will be provided for the services of the same, so that it will reach the importance which corresponds to it and which it should have in a country like ours, essentially agricultural.

Whatever may contribute to the betterment and prosperity of agricultural wealth will be the object of the attention of the executive, who will favor within his power the initiative and purposes of all to the end that its reconstruction may be effected with the greatest brevity, carrying out the improvements which the actual cultivation exacts and devoting itself to the development of others which offer appreciable advantages in other countries and which can yield them in our own by virtue of the exceptional conditions of our soil, for the greater part still uncultivated.

The economic situation of the country is certainly not satisfactory, but there is no reason to entertain doubt regarding a very near improvement, as soon as the reciprocity treaty will be associated with the United States and an outlet can be given, under favorable conditions, to our two principal products—sugar and tobacco.

According to statistical data compiled by the department of finance, the commercial movement between the Republic of Cuba and foreign countries during the first six months of 1902 shows a result inferior to that of the like period of 1901. The decrease of imports is equivalent to $1,700,000, and represents 5 per cent of those of the first six months of 1901. In exports the decrease is greater—$12,200,000, or 28 per cent of those for the like period of 1901.

So remarkable a decrease is due to the low price of the sugar shipped abroad and to the diminished sale of this product in expectation of the tariff concessions for Cuba which were urged in the United States and which might bring about more favorable prices.

In the first six months of 1901, 465,000 tons of sugar were exported, 132,000 tons remaining in storehouses.

In the like period for 1902, the exportation has only reached 332,000 tons, and the amount on hand in store on the 30th of June was 450,000 tons, which facts per-
mit the total exportation for the year to be calculated at about 760,000 tons, deducting the consumption of the island; but in spite of this probable larger exportation in 1902, if the sales are effected at the average price of 3 reales per arroba, the value would result $2,000,000 less than last year.

The general commercial movement of Cuba during the last three years is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Imports</th>
<th>Exports</th>
<th>Excess of imports over exports</th>
<th>Excess of exports over imports</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1899</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First 6 months</td>
<td>$35,911,600</td>
<td>$31,660,000</td>
<td>$4,251,600</td>
<td>$2,059,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second 6 months</td>
<td>32,381,100</td>
<td>30,235,100</td>
<td>2,346,000</td>
<td>2,146,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>78,292,700</td>
<td>62,855,100</td>
<td>15,437,600</td>
<td>14,205,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1900</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First 6 months</td>
<td>37,478,200</td>
<td>30,066,600</td>
<td>7,411,600</td>
<td>6,730,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second 6 months</td>
<td>32,001,100</td>
<td>21,385,900</td>
<td>10,615,200</td>
<td>10,615,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>70,794,200</td>
<td>51,452,100</td>
<td>19,342,100</td>
<td>17,343,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1901</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First 6 months</td>
<td>33,663,200</td>
<td>42,942,500</td>
<td>9,279,300</td>
<td>$9,279,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second 6 months</td>
<td>34,069,300</td>
<td>25,556,100</td>
<td>8,513,200</td>
<td>8,513,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>67,738,500</td>
<td>68,508,600</td>
<td>1,770,100</td>
<td>1,770,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1902</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First 6 months</td>
<td>31,977,100</td>
<td>30,687,000</td>
<td>1,290,100</td>
<td>1,290,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>245,118,000</td>
<td>199,674,200</td>
<td>45,443,800</td>
<td>45,443,800</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For the comparison of values, the reduction in the price of the sugars which were exported must be taken into account, as well as the amount on hand for sale, which, fortunately, has so diminished in the last two months that it will probably be entirely realized upon in the remainder of the present year.

The situation through which the sugar industry is passing is not exclusive for Cuba, for all countries which produce cane sugar are feeling as she does the rigor of the competition of the beet, which, thanks to very advanced methods of elaboration and the protection afforded to it by bounties, direct and indirect, can be placed in all the markets of the world under favorable conditions. For us this competition has been more keenly felt because of the afflicting circumstances through which Cuba has passed and because the reduction has not yet been reached in the tariff duties which are collected in the United States upon our products; but we should have faith that so soon as the reciprocity treaty is entered into with that nation, whose first magistrate is carrying on an active campaign in furtherance of this just cause, with the suppression of the bounties agreed upon in the Brussels conference and the measures which Congress will adopt to favor agriculture, industry, and commerce, the reconstruction of our wealth will, within a few years, be complete.

The conditions of our soil and the energy of its inhabitants, demonstrated under all circumstances, are factors which will aid also in the accomplishment of these patriotic desires.

Congress has already demonstrated the importance which it attributes to the development of the cattle industry by enacting the law of September 15, which grants tariff franchises for the importation of some classes of cattle as a powerful stimulus for reaching, by that branch of our wealth, its complete development. Taking into account the circumstances set forth in the preceding paragraphs, the income has been calculated with some reductions as compared with the collections for the last three economic years and the result of the first three months of the current year.

The same items of taxation are left in force, to which the revenues of the State were reduced since the reform of the tax system of the island was made by the decree of March 25, 1899, all direct taxes and some indirect passing over the municipal councils, the State reserving for itself only the indirect revenues of customs, posts, telegraphs, real property, transfer taxes (impuestos de derechos reales), the fees from banks and corporations, the income of its estate and properties, and the dues imposed upon the same.

It is for Congress to determine at the proper time whether the obligations of the State ought to be met, as actually happens, only with the proceeds of indirect taxes
of an uncertain amount and subject to variations from natural causes, or for unforeseen circumstances or external causes, or whether a complete transformation should be effected in the actual revenue system of the Cuban State by virtue of the attributes conferred by section 5 of article 59 of the constitution, so that in turn the provinces and the municipal councils may make use of the rights conferred upon them by articles 83 and 105 of the same.

It is proposed to restore the tax on the importation and manufacture of beverages, created by the budget law of 1892-93, which yielded approximately $1,260,000.

The tax on alcohols constitutes one of the bases of the budgets of the principal European nations and of that of the United States. In England it yields 36 per cent of the total of the budget of revenue; in France, 19 per cent; in Germany, 18 per cent; and 20 per cent in the United States. Now, then, although it is not possible for it to yield in like proportion in Cuba, because a great part of the spirituous beverages which are consumed among us is imported and is subject to the payment of tariff duties, and also because we have to attend to the development of our local industry, it may be asserted, nevertheless, that the proceeds will be of considerable importance.

Under that aspect, wines and spirituous and fermented beverages should be subjected to the proposed tax, regulating at the same time the tax upon the factories established in the country, with the exception of those that exist in the sugar mills, all being under obligation to contribute to the State in the amount proposed, and omitting from the tariffs of the industrial tax the items which said factories contribute to the municipal councils, for the purpose of unifying the collection of said tributes.

By reason of the creation of the consulates, the corresponding fees will be exacted, which it is calculated can produce approximately $250,000 a year.

The surplus which results from a comparison of the income and the expense is justified by the necessity of attending to the new expense which will be caused by the increase in the artillery corps, the allowance for municipal courts, and the interest and sinking fund for the loan which is pending approval in the Chambers, the latter of which items is properly given the character of permanent, in accordance with the provisions in section 2 of article 59 of the constitution.

I will conclude by stating that the present project presents the smallest budget which Cuba has had since the middle of the last century, with the favorable circumstance that now for the first time all of its appropriations will be applied to necessities and obligations resulting in her own advantage; and I may add that when Congress enacts the provisions to regulate and organize everything related to the general administration, the provincial, and the municipal—and it will be possible for the provinces and the municipality to bear their own special expenses—the general budget of the State will be considerably reduced, for more than 25 per cent of its total is devoted to-day to the payment of provincial and municipal obligations.

It will then be possible to devote annually important sums to the reconstruction of the country and the furthering of its general interests, and their development will solidify the work of our independence upon the firm foundation of labor, education, and public and private wealth.

The project is accompanied by the bases of those provisions which are deemed necessary for the application and orderly operation of the budget, it being understood that in this case the Executive only suggests a series of ideas or principles of a general character, which Congress may accept in part or in whole, as it may deem most convenient for the public service and the general interests of our Republic.

Yours, respectfully,

T. Estrada Palma.

Republic of Cuba, Department of Finance—Project of the Budget for the Fiscal Year 1903.

Revenues:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Customs</td>
<td>$14,781,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tax on beverages</td>
<td>1,200,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tariff fees [evidently consular]</td>
<td>250,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Internal revenues</td>
<td>500,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communications</td>
<td>420,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Properties and rights of the State</td>
<td>110,800.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Various sources</td>
<td>243,200.00</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>17,514,000.00</strong></td>
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### Expenses

#### LEGISLATURE

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<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tr>
<td>Senate</td>
<td>$125,739.68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>House</td>
<td>265,820.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Journal of sessions</td>
<td>20,760.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>413,319.68</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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#### EXECUTIVE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Presidency</td>
<td>85,700.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Department of state and justice:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office of secretary</td>
<td>6,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Direction of state</td>
<td>85,828.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Diplomatic corps</td>
<td>167,100.00</td>
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<td>Direction of justice</td>
<td>51,470.00</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>310,396.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Department of government:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office of secretary</td>
<td>132,724.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>General archive</td>
<td>13,500.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secret police</td>
<td>62,622.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rural guard</td>
<td>1,783,662.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Artillery</td>
<td>123,133.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Habana prison</td>
<td>147,628.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women’s prison</td>
<td>8,880.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jails</td>
<td>352,898.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charities</td>
<td>873,659.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sanitation</td>
<td>282,048.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communications</td>
<td>623,628.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Civil governments</td>
<td>125,693.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>4,529,998.00</td>
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#### Finance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Secretary’s office</td>
<td>618,469.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fiscal zones</td>
<td>116,540.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Customs</td>
<td>766,010.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Properties of the State</td>
<td>197,287.56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Immigration</td>
<td>56,811.32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drawbacks</td>
<td>38,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contingent</td>
<td>10,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>1,801,117.88</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Public instruction

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Secretary’s office</td>
<td>124,274.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University</td>
<td>290,530.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Institutes and schools</td>
<td>285,673.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primary instruction</td>
<td>3,021,313.84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>3,721,790.84</td>
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#### Public works

<table>
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<tr>
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<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Secretary’s office</td>
<td>163,720.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Highways and bridges</td>
<td>661,272.82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ports</td>
<td>805,239.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Light-houses</td>
<td>147,416.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sanitation</td>
<td>883,680.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>General expenses, new works</td>
<td>256,684.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Railroad commission</td>
<td>25,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>2,923,011.82</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

*a This item includes expenses of general treasury, general auditor, central section of customs, and central disbursing office.*
Agriculture, industry, and commerce:
Secretary's office ........................................... $43,020.00
Meteorological service ...................................... 7,808.50
Provincial boards (agriculture, industry, and commerce) .......................... 11,064.00
Inspection, public lands and mines ............................ 10,650.00
Provincial sections—
  Public lands .................................................. 10,904.00
  Mines .......................................................... 6,873.00
Agricultural station ........................................... 75,000.00
Total ....................................................................... 165,319.50

JUDICIARY.
Supreme court ....................................................... 109,050.00
Audiencias ............................................................ 346,802.00
Trial courts ........................................................... 395,112.00
General expenses .................................................. 96,350.00
Total ....................................................................... 948,314.00
Grand total ............................................................ 14,899,967.72

Résumé.
Income ................................................................... 17,514,000.00
Expenses ................................................................. 14,896,967.72
Surplus ................................................................... 2,614,032.28

Mr. Squiers to Mr. Hay.

No. 282.] LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES,
Habana, November 3, 1902.

Sir: I have the honor to inclose herewith a translation of Mr. Palma's message to Congress, which met on Monday, the 3d instant.

The message is of interest mainly wherein it points out the economies practiced by the Government, probably due to Mr. Palma's personal supervision and his avowed purpose of making expenditures less than receipts, no matter what the latter amount might be. His principal strength lies there, and you may feel assured that so long as he is at the head of affairs financially this Government will be economically and honestly administered.

There is some disappointment expressed by those who are interested in that the President makes no reference to either the payment of the army, including the loan, or revision of the tariff.

He refers particularly to Cuba's relations with the United States; the pending commercial treaty; number of states which have recognized Cuba; to the subject of sanitation, and to the work contracted by the government of intervention which is now being completed under those contracts.

I am, etc.,

H. G. SQUIERS

[Inclosure.—Translation,]

President's message.

To the Congress of the Republic:

It is with pleasure that I comply with the precept contained in article 88 of the fundamental law on the occasion of the opening of the second Legislature of the nation.
Some of the matters which I took the liberty to recommend to the consideration of Congress in my former message are now promulgated laws. Others, such as those referring to the organization of the provinces and the municipalities, are under discussion, either in the House or in the Senate, and it is to be hoped that on account of their importance both the provincial law and municipal law may be terminated during the present Legislature.

The enactment of a law on the organization of the courts is likewise of urgent necessity, to the end that their authority and the method of exercising it may be properly regulated. More especially is this the case with regard to the supreme court, enchanced with the high mission of passing upon the constitutionality of the laws, decrees, and regulations.

During the time the Republic has been in existence the most complete order has reigned in all its territory. There has been no alteration of public order whatsoever, and neither has there been a case of organized brigandage in any part of the island.

This speaks very highly in honor of the Cuban people, and particularly of the rural towns. In spite of the scarcity or lack of work in consequence of the economic crisis we have been undergoing, they have maintained themselves with resignation to the bitterness of circumstances, giving plain evidence of their pacific nature, morality, love of order, and true patriotism.

The sanitary condition continues improving in such manner that it can advantageously stand comparison with many European and American cities.

The annual rate of mortality in June last was 23.96 per 1,000; in July, 24.98; in August, 22.81; in September, 17.86; and from the data obtained in the sanitary department, and which have not yet been made public, it can be assured that the rate for October last was 17.96, the lowest occurring in this capital in that month for thirty-two years—that is to say, since 1870.

With regard to yellow fever, thirteen months have now passed since the last case occurred in Havana. Happily the entire territory of the island has been free of not only that cruel disease, but others of quarantineable nature, including smallpox. Therefore it can be asserted that the sanitary condition of the Republic is even better than during the military government.

The same system as was followed by the intervening government has been followed in sanitation. The number of employees has been slightly increased in the last few months, however, without increasing the cost of the service. The greatest vigilance is carefully exercised by the sanitary officers to avoid the reappearance of yellow fever or any other epidemic disease, and endeavors are being made, all possible means being employed, to prevent the reappearance of cases of glanders and infantile tetanus, as well as to diminish the mortality rate from tuberculosis and enteritis.

The sanitary law must be considered as of immediate importance. We yet lack a fixed guide for Havana itself as well as for the remainder of the island. Military orders are all we now have, contrary, in not a few cases, to constitutional precepts.

The postal and telegraph service of the Republic has continued operating without any deterioration whatsoever, despite the fact that on the transfer of the Government nearly all the personnel was changed, many old employees, Americans, being replaced by Cubans without experience in the service, particularly in that of posts.

The Government promptly made the efforts necessary for Cuba's entrance into the Universal Postal Union. It has already obtained favorable answer, and very shortly, as soon as certain detail requirements are fulfilled, the country will be able to enjoy all the benefits of the said international convention. The Government has petitioned Cuba's admission into the postal convention held at Washington on June 15, 1897, and that it be included in the arrangements concerning exchange of postal orders and parcels, so useful for small commercial negotiations.

In the department of public charity the same expenditures as were made to care for this obligation in the bimonthly period of May and June continue to be made; in general terms, however, notable economies are proposed in the general estimate, although the services are amply provided for in the way of funds.

Experience acquired during the last five months and the practical difficulties arising in the management and good administration of the charitable institutions make it necessary to recommend the study and amendment of the present legislation in this matter and that the powers and attributes of the central authority in charity matters be definitely fixed.

The State prison, where 598 convicts from all parts of the island are working out sentences, is at this moment a matter of preferred attention, as the requirements of this service demand that it be installed in a more commodious building and a spot better adapted to its purposes.

The relations we sustain with other nations are very satisfactory. The Republic has been recognized successively by the United States of America, the Mexican United States, England, France, Spain, Belgium, Guatemala, Costa Rica, Haiti,
Switzerland, Santo Domingo, Venezuela, Italy, Nicaragua, Ecuador, Salvador, Denmark, Portugal, Russia, Germany, the Netherlands, Bolivia, Brazil, Austria-Hungary, Greece, the Argentine Republic, Chile, Peru, Honduras, Paraguay, Uruguay, and Sweden and Norway.

Especially cordial and friendly are our relations with the United States. The negotiations already commenced for a commercial treaty on the basis of mutual tariff concessions are evidence of the good will that unites the Government of the great Republic with our own. The primordial object of this treaty is to obtain real advantages in the United States market for our products, particularly for sugar and tobacco, above all the first, which constitutes our main industry and in great proportion here the foundation of the public wealth.

The never disproven sympathies of the American people toward us; that we have for it admiration and gratitude; the manifest interest it feels in the prosperity of Cuba; the generous wishes in this same sense and spirit of justice of the illustrious magistrate presiding over the destinies of the great Republic, permit it to be confidently expected that a reasonable agreement will be arrived at with regard to the terms of the contemplated convention. There is nothing that will make so solid and lasting the ties of affection and gratitude now binding the people of Cuba to the people of the United States as the welfare to be derived from the development of our industries through the development of mutual commerce between the countries.

Extremely flattering is the present condition of our treasury. The collection of public revenues is accomplished with regularity, and the ordinary and extraordinary obligations of the State have been met with punctuality. After paying off all of our obligations up to the end of the past month, the cash on hand in the general treasury was $1,561,942.06.

The ordinary demands from May 20 to June 30 were paid with funds allotted for the purpose by the military government of the island.

Those for July, August, September, and October have been paid in conformity with the authorizations granted me by the laws of July 12 and September 5.

The extraordinary demands have been paid and charged to the allotment of $300,000 referred to by the law of June 3, and of the same there remains a balance of $157,067.44.

The monthly average of all the expenses for the last four months is $1,235,428.48, or $147,063.82 less than that of the corresponding months of last year, as is shown in the following comparative statement. It should be said that in the first of the amounts mentioned are comprised the extraordinary expenditures and the services newly created:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Disbursements.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 1901 to 1902:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July ..................</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August ..................</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September ..................</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October ..................</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Total .................. | 5,789,668.41 |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 1902 to 1903:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>July ..................</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August ..................</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September ..................</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October ..................</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Total .................. | 5,181,613.86 |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monthly average:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1901–2 ..................</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1902–3 ..................</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Difference .................. | 147,063.62 |

We received the treasury of the Republic with $539,384.99 cash on hand. The difference between this sum and that of $689,191.02 appearing in General Wood's letter on turning over the Government was explained in the message I had the honor of addressing to the House of Representatives on June 27 last. To-day, five months and ten days after the inauguration of the Republic, we have in the treasury the mentioned sum of $1,561,942.06.
The receipts have been as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>May 20 to 31</td>
<td>$416,953.39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June</td>
<td>1,373,641.84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July</td>
<td>1,552,638.13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August</td>
<td>1,239,048.34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September</td>
<td>1,596,401.89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October</td>
<td>1,610,196.48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>7,788,880.07</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A financial statement of the general treasury from May 20 to October 31, 1902, is attached.

Public instruction has followed its regular and ordered course, without any lessening whatsoever of the branches therein comprised.

The university and the high-grade institutes inaugurated on October 1 their new academic course.

Judging by what has been observed up to the present time, there are reasons to believe that the studies in both institutions will each day acquire greater development. For the purpose of bringing about this result reports and data are now being gathered together, the object being to introduce in the plan of studies now in force some modifications that may contribute toward improving the system and making it more practical.

The painting and sculpture academy is proceeding with like regularity. I take pleasure in stating that commencing to-day (November 3) the national library, recently installed in one of the divisions of the department of public instruction, is open to the public.

In June and August last examinations for selection of first and second grade school-teachers were had. To-day we have a personnel of both sexes, equipped for the profession, in sufficient number to attend to the needs of teaching.

From July to August, for a period of four weeks, the summer normal schools were open in the capitals and other important cities of the provinces.

The success attained toward their better organization and discipline and most practical method of the lectures has been much greater this year than last, and it is to be noted that these schools to-day have a surplus of funds, derived from their own resources, which is to be devoted to acquiring teaching material necessary to the end pursued.

I will not omit saying that on September 8 the kindergarten normal school was inaugurated. In addition to the scholars formally entered in this school various others attend as auditors. In this way they prepare themselves to later on render their services in the Republic's primary instruction.

In the department of public works all the work under way when the American Government of intervention ceased is being continued.

In the province of Pinar del Rio the construction of three sections of highway, a bridge, and a wharf has been completed, as well as the reconstruction of various works.

In the province of Habana two sections of highway and a bridge have been completed.

In the province of Matanzas the construction of two sections of highway has been finished, and the work of building a wharf in the capital of the province and dredging the bay of Cardenas is continuing.

In the province of Santa Clara four sections of highway have been finished.

In the province of Santiago de Cuba the construction of three sections of highway has been completed, as well as that of four bridges and the Gibara wharf.

In the light-house service also has work of some importance been done. Seven light-houses have been finished, as well as others repaired.

Four state buildings which were under way have been finished: also the repairing of thirty-two more. The greater number of these buildings were schoolhouses.

Important repairs are being carried out in various of the Republic's institutions, among them the university and the insane hospital.

All cleaning, sanitary repairing and maintenance of streets, parks, and avenue work, including those along the sea front, vulgarly known as the "Malecón" (sea wall), is done by the department of engineers of the city of Habana, under the orders of the department of public works since May 20.

When this branch was transferred to the department of public works, the average monthly expenditures amounted to $133,000, or $1,566,000 per annum. The municipal architect was transferred to the city council from the department of engineers of the city, as likewise were the branches in charge of construction and reconstruc-
tion of state buildings and port works, now operating like the said department of engineers of the city within the organization of the department of public works. This done, the expenditure of the department of engineers amount to $88,000 per month, or $1,068,000 per annum. Of this sum the huge amount of $300,312 corresponded to the roster of employees. As soon as the department of public works took charge of the department in question it proceeded to carry out all the economies reasonably compatible with the duties the department discharges, especially in the heading covering employees, the former list of which, amounting to $300,312, has been reduced to $122,444.

The total per annum allotted to cover the expense of the said department of engineers of the city does not now exceed $882,000. However, all the services corresponding thereto have been carried on up to date with all regularity.

There are various works now under way in each of the six provinces. The economies effected in salaries in the various branches of public works is represented by the sum of $248,000 per annum.

It has not been possible to accomplish anything practical in the agricultural department, due to the lack of funds allotted for the purpose. To attend to the development and improvement of the industries therein comprised this department requires annually a large sum. One of the most efficacious means to attain this end is the establishment of agricultural stations, wherein the cultivation of the plants which are the basis of our industrial wealth can be perfected and where that of others that may become very productive in our soil, as they are now in other countries, may be introduced.

The flattering condition of our treasury after five and a half months of self-government makes us expect with absolute faith that by honestly managing the public revenues and using them with prudence and discretion we will succeed in having in the future funds sufficient not only for bringing great impulse to bear upon our agriculture, the proper thing for an essentially agricultural country, but for undertaking in all the provinces works of genuine advantage, as demanded by the high level of civilization we have reached.

I feel certain that Congress is inspired with the same purposes, and trust that the Executive will always find in both legislative bodies sure support for the material and moral development of our beloved land.

Habana, November 3, 1902.

T. Estrada Palma.

CEREMONIES ATTENDING HAULING DOWN OF UNITED STATES FLAG AT MATANZAS.

Mr. Squiers to Mr. Hay.

No. 7.]

Legation of the United States,
Habana, June 3, 1902.

Sir: I have the honor to inclose to you a copy of a translation of a resolution passed by certain citizens of high standing of the province of Matanzas on the occasion of the transfer of the Government by the United States to Cuba.

I have, etc.,

H. G. Squiers.

[Inclosure—Translation.]

Resolution.

In the city of Matanzas, island of Cuba, at 12 o'clock on the 20th day of May, 1902, assembled in the consistory house, Mr. Juan Carbo, collector of the customs in Matanzas and captain of the port, the mayor of the city, Mr. Domingo Lecuona y Madan, the town council, the secretary of the civil governor, chief clerk for the civil governor, Mr. Bonifacio Byrne, the consular body, the president and magistrates of the audience court, the provincial council, the municipal judges, the judges of instruction, the presidents of and committees from all societies, associations, trades unions, and
the general public, the notary for the occasion being Mr. Manuel del Portillo, secretary of the town council, proceeded to lower the American flag from the place it occupied on the building used by the consistory.

Mr. Leucuona, mayor of the city, caused the flag to descend, and during the lowering two little girls showered flowers on it, the flag being finally received on a silver platter, entirely covered with flowers, while the immense multitude broke into cheers for the United States and the band of the benemerito body of firemen played the American national hymn.

The flag referred to was carried with all signs of respect to the council chamber of the town council and placed on the table of the presiding officer, where it was delivered by the mayor of the city to Mr. Juan Carbo, collector of customs for Matanzas and captain of that port, accompanying the delivery with feelings of gratitude and affection for the American people and warm congratulations to the honorable President Roosevelt, especially charging that the aforesaid expressions come to the knowledge of those to whom they correspond.

Upon receiving the flag Mr. Carbo delivered it into the custody of the civil governor of the province with the same formalities as those with which he had received it, and the flag was deposited in that headquarters.

And in order that it may be known at all times, three resolutions are passed, all of the same tenor, one for transmission to the American governor, the second for the archives of the town council, and the other to be delivered to Mr. Juan Carbo, collector of customs for Matanzas and captain of the port, in testimony of the act accomplished by him, to be authorized and subscribed to by the mayor of the municipality, Dr. Domingo Leucuona y Madan; Mr. Juan Carbo, collector of customs and captain of the port of Matanzas, and the secretary in charge of the office of the civil governor, Mr. Bonifacio Byrne. Before me, the secretary of the town council. To which I certify.

D. LEUCUNA.
BONIFACIO BYRNE.
JUAN CARBO.
MANUEL DEL PORTILLO.

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AMNESTY GRANTED AMERICAN CITIZENS WHO COMMITTED CRIMES IN CUBA DURING INTERVENTION PERIOD.

Mr. Squiers to Mr. Hay.

[Telegram.]

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES,
Habana, June 10, 1902.

Amnesty has been granted by Cuban Government crimes committed American citizens during intervention period.

SQUIERS.

Mr. Squiers to Mr. Hay.

No. 17.]

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES,
Habana, June 11, 1902.

SIR: I have the honor to confirm my telegram of yesterday, announcing the passage by Congress of an act granting amnesty to Americans for offenses committed during the period of intervention, and also inclose copy of the act, together with translation.

I have, etc.,

H. G. SQUIERS.
FOREIGN RELATIONS.

[Inclosure.]

Translation of act granting amnesty to Americans.

THOMAS ESTRADA PALMA, CONSTITUTIONAL PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF CUBA.

By the present I make known that the Congress has decreed and I have sanctioned the following:

ARTICLE I.

Amnesty is granted for the crimes committed during the period of the intervention by citizens of the United States of America.

ARTICLE II.

The district courts will annul all pending proceedings against said citizens, to which end the supreme court will return, and the magistrates will pass on to the respective district courts the motions of which they have cognizance and in which process is had as against such citizens.

ADDITIONAL CLAUSE.

The amnesty shall include all penalties imposed on those other than citizens of the United States of America now serving sentences with such citizens by virtue of the same judgment, and in the actions which have been brought against American citizens the penal proceedings as against the coadjutors, accomplices, and abettors held on the same charge are declared extinguished, notwithstanding their nationality.

Wherefore I order that the present law be complied with in all its respects.

Given in the Presidential palace in Habana on the 9th day of June, 1902.

T. ESTRADA PALMA.

EXCLUSION OF CHINESE FROM CUBA.

Mr. Hay to Mr. Squier.

[Telegram—Paraphrase.]

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, June 13, 1902.

(Mr. Hay states that the Department has been advised that a Ward Line steamer is detained at Habana with Chinese, and instructs Mr. Squier to suggest to Cuban Government that it would be reasonable not to consider exclusion provision enforceable against vessels arriving upon voyages begun before promulgation of the law excluding Chinese from Cuba.)

Mr. Squier to Mr. Hay.

[Telegram—Paraphrase.]

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES,
Habana, June 16, 1902.

(Mr. Squier reports that the Cuban authorities decline to allow Chinese to land, claiming that the Chinese minister at Washington was notified on May 15 of the prohibition.)

See also under China, page 263.
Mr. Squiers to Mr. Hay.

No. 25.]

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES,
Habana, June 16, 1902.

SIR: I have the honor to confirm my telegram of to-day. It was sent after a conference with the President regarding * * * the enforcement of the Chinese exclusion regulations as against certain Chinese now detained here.

As to the admission of the Chinese, his objections were: First. * * * While they are good workers, they carry or send out of the country all the results of their labor. Second. Because at this time, while thousands of Cubans are being thrown out of employment, it hardly seems reasonable to admit an alien laborer to drive out still more of the Cubans.

I have, etc.,

H. G. Squiers.

Mr. Squiers to Mr. Hay.

No. 28.]

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Habana, Cuba, June 18, 1902.

SIR: I have the honor to confirm the Department’s telegram of the 13th instant, and my reply on the 16th instant (see also dispatch No. 25, dated June 16, 1902), regarding the application of the Chinese exclusion regulations to Chinese immigrants who had undertaken the voyage prior to the promulgation of the law.

Mr. Palma himself took an active interest in the matter, as indicated in my dispatch No. 25 of the 16th instant, but, I regret to say, finally decided he could not accept the suggestion of the Department.

I have the honor, etc.,

H. G. Squiers.

[Inclusion 1.]

Mr. Squiers to Mr. Zaldo.

No. 8.]

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES,
Habana, June 14, 1902.

YOUR EXCELLENCY: Acting under telegraphic instructions from my Government regarding detention on account of violation of the Chinese immigration law of a certain Ward Line steamer having on board Chinese immigrants, I have the honor to suggest to your excellency that it would be reasonable not to consider exclusion provision in force against vessels arriving upon voyages begun before promulgation of the law.

As the detention of these immigrants is entailing some considerable expense, I would be pleased to have an early reply.

I avail, etc.,

H. G. Squiers.

[Inclusion 2.—Translation.]

Mr. de Zaldo to Mr. Squiers.

No. 19.]

FOREIGN OFFICE,
Habana, June 16, 1902.

Mr. MINISTER: The President, to whom I have communicated your attentive note, No. 8, of the 14th instant, instructs me to say to your excellency that it would be
exceedingly pleasant to him to accede to your request with regard to the Chinese immigrants who may have undertaken the voyage before the promulgation of the immigration law of the 15th of May of this year, but the text of the law being so definite it is not possible for him to give any such instructions as your excellency indicates, as in doing so it would be tantamount to an infraction of the said law.

I avail, etc.,

CARLOS DE ZALDO.

Mr. Adee to Mr. Squiers.

No. 88.]

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, September 13, 1902.

SIR: I inclose copy of a note from the Chinese minister at this capital, protesting against the order issued by the military governor of Cuba on May 15, 1902, in regard to Chinese immigration into that island; also copy of this Department’s reply.

You may communicate this correspondence to the Cuban Government, in order that it may be advised in the event of a protest being made to it directly by the Chinese Government.

I am, etc.,

ALVEY A. ADEE,
Acting Secretary.

SUSPENSION OF TONNAGE DUES ON CUBAN VESSELS.

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

A PROCLAMATION.

Whereas, satisfactory proof has been given to me by the Government of Cuba that no discriminating duties of tonnage or imposts are imposed or levied in the ports of Cuba, upon vessels wholly belonging to citizens of the United States or upon the produce, manufactures, or merchandise imported in the same from the United States, or from any foreign country:

Now, therefore, I, Theodore Roosevelt, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by section four thousand two hundred and twenty-eight of the Revised Statutes of the United States, do hereby declare and proclaim that, from and after the date of this, my Proclamation, so long as vessels of the United States and their cargoes shall be exempt from discriminating duties as aforesaid, any such duties on Cuban vessels entering the ports of the United States, or on the produce, manufactures, or merchandise imported in such vessels, shall be suspended and discontinued, and no longer.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed.

Done at the City of Washington, the 3d day of July in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and two, and of the Independence of the United States the one hundred and twenty-sixth.

[seal.]

By the President:

THEODORE ROOSEVELT

JOHN HAY

Secretary of State.
DIPLOMATIC IMMUNITIES: TESTIMONY OF UNITED STATES DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATIVES IN FOREIGN COURTS.

Mr. Squiers to Mr. Hay.

No. 149.]

Legation of the United States,
Habana, August 22, 1902.

Sir: Transmitting herewith the correspondence between this legation, the judge of the court of first instance, and the foreign office, regarding a request to the first secretary, Mr. Sleeper, that he appear in said court to give his testimony in a certain case, I have the honor to say that I understand my action is in accordance with diplomatic usage in such cases and with the views of the State Department as set forth in Mr. Adee's telegram to Mr. Iddings, August 1, 1901 (p. 302, Foreign Relations, 1901), and to be, etc.,

H. G. Squiers.

[Inclosure 1.—Translation.]

Judge of first instance to secretary of United States legation.

Habana, August 7, 1902.

In the case instituted in this court on account of theft of a clock, I have ordered that you be addresed, which I have the honor now to do, requesting that you have the kindness to appear in this court between 1 and 3 p. m. to testify.

Very respectfully,

Criminal Judge of the Eastern District.

[Inclosure 2.]

Mr. Squiers to Mr. Montes, acting secretary of state and justice.

Legation of the United States,
Habana, August 12, 1902.

Your Excellency: The first secretary of this legation is in receipt of a communication from the judge of the first instance, requesting him to appear at court to give testimony in a case of robbery which recently occurred at the legation.

While I have no objection to having the first secretary give testimony on terms consistent with representative dignity, I must nevertheless inform your excellency that unless interrogatory in open court is absolutely indispensable, I much prefer personal deposition at the legation.

Trusting that this course may meet with the approval of the Government of your excellency, I improve the occasion, etc.

H. G. Squiers.

[Inclosure 3.—Translation.]

Mr. Montes to Mr. Squiers.

Department of State,
Habana, August 16, 1902.

Excellency: In reply to your polite note of the 12th of the month, I take pleasure in informing you that there is no objection to having the first secretary give his testimony in the legation, to which end the necessary orders will be given to the judge of the first instance to name a day and hour on which to visit the legation and take the aforesaid testimony, previous notice having been given through this department to the first secretary.

I improve, etc.,

Jose M. Garcia Montes.
Mr. Adee to Mr. Squiers.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,  
Washington, August 30, 1902.

Sir: In reply to your No. 149, of the 22d instant, I have to say that your suggestion to the foreign office that the secretary of your legation, who had been summoned to give evidence in the court of first instance at Habana, could make his deposition at the legation, was in accordance with established precedent, and satisfactory.

I am, etc.,

Alvey A. Adee,  
Acting Secretary.

ACCIDENT TO PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT.

President Palma to President Roosevelt.

[Telegram—Translation.]

Habana, September 4, 1902.

I profoundly deplore the accident that has befallen Your Excellency and make sincere wishes for the complete restoration of your health.

T. Estrada Palma.

President Roosevelt to President Palma.

[Telegram.]

Oyster Bay, September 4, 1902.

I thank you for your solicitous message.

Theodore Roosevelt.

LAW ESTABLISHING PROCEDURE FOR OBTAINING CUBAN CITIZENSHIP.

Mr. Squiers to Mr. Hay.

Legation of the United States,  
Habana, November 13, 1902.

Sir: I have the honor to forward herewith a translation of a law passed by the Cuban Congress and promulgated on November 7, 1902, establishing a procedure for obtaining Cuban citizenship, and to be, etc.

H. G. Squiers.

[Inclosure—Translation.]

DEPARTMENT OF STATE AND JUSTICE.

Be it by these presents known that the Congress has enacted, and I, Tomas Estrada Palma, constitutional President of the Republic of Cuba, have sanctioned the following

Law.

ARTICLE 1. The acts by virtue of which Cuban nationality is acquired, lost, or recovered shall be made to appear by means of a record in the section of citizenship of the registry of civil status.
The persons included in the cases referred to in sections 2 and 3 of article 5 of the constitution and the second of the transitory provisions of the same, and residing abroad, shall exercise the right conferred upon them by the former sections before the diplomatic or consular agent of Cuba nearest to their places of residence.

Article 2. The inscriptions to which the preceding article refers shall be made with the following formalities and requirements:
1. The date and place where they are drawn.
2. The names and surnames of the officials authenticating the same.
3. The names, surnames, and filiation of the parties and the witnesses participating in the act.

The witnesses referred to in the preceding paragraphs shall be two, having legal capacity, and shall make a declaration setting forth the truth of the circumstances which should be expressed in the inscription.

Article 3. The interested parties shall present to the custodian of the registry their certificates of baptism or the certificates of birth, as the case may be, as well as the record or certificate of marriage, should they be married, together with the certificates of birth of the wife and of the children.

Should it be impossible to present the documents referred to in the preceding paragraph, they shall indicate the archives where they may be found and their approximate date.

In the cases where the birth of the interested parties, their wives or their children, shall have been inscribed in the registry of civil status of this island, or in the register in charge of the diplomatic or consular agent, the acquisition, loss, or recovery of Cuban citizenship shall be made by a marginal note on the record of birth, for which purpose the custodian of the register wherein the said acquisition, loss, or recovery occurs shall renum, within the term of fifteen days counting from that on which the inscription took place, a certificate of the same to the custodian of the register wherein the said birth appears.

For failure to comply with the provisions of the preceding paragraph a fine of from ten to twenty-five dollars, American currency, shall be imposed on the custodian of the register required to renum the certificate.

Article 4. In the inscriptions mentioned in this law the following circumstances shall be expressed if it is possible:
1. The former domicile of the interested parties.
2. The names, surnames, place of birth, domicile, and profession or occupation of his parents.
3. The name, surname, and place of birth of his wife, if he be married.
4. The names, surnames, place of birth, residence, and profession or occupation of the parents of the latter.
5. The names, surnames, place of birth, residence of the children, setting forth if any of them are emancipated.

Whenever it is impossible to express any of the circumstances mentioned previously a statement shall be made in the inscription of the reason of that impossibility.

Article 5. In order to be inscribed as Cuban citizens the persons included in section 1 of article 6 of the constitution shall prove by means of the discharge or of any other document issued by a competent revolutionary authority that they have belonged to the liberating army. This proof shall be made by such persons before the custodian of the civil registry of their domicile, should they be in this island, or by means of a special attorney before the custodian of the civil registry at their last place of domicile therem or of the place of domicile where they intend to fix their residence in Cuba, if they are abroad.

Article 6. In order to be inscribed as Cuban citizens the persons included in sections 2 and 3 of article 6 of the constitution shall prove before the custodian of the civil registry of their place of domicile in Cuba the residence required by said sections by means of an authentic document, or proof by witnesses made in the manner established in article 8 of the present law.

The declaration of intention to which the third section of article 6 of the constitution refers should be made before the custodian of the civil registry of the domicile which the interested party has in Cuba with the same formalities as in case of inscription.

Article 7. To be inscribed as Cuban citizens the persons included in section 4 of article 6 of the constitution shall prove before the custodian of the registry of civil status of their place of domicile in Cuba that they have not been registered in the registry of Spaniards opened in pursuance of the provisions of the treaty of Paris of December 10, 1898; that they are of full age, and that they resided in this island on the 11th day of April, 1899.

The proof of not being inscribed in the said registry of Spaniards must necessarily be made by means of a certificate issued by the functionary of said registry.

The circumstances of full age and of residence shall be accredited by means of
proof by witnesses received under oath, before the custodian of the registry of civil status, the witnesses declaring that they resided on the aforesaid date of the 11th of April, 1899, in the same locality as the moving party making the proof.

The interested party shall present a certificate of the captnancy of the port, or proper authority, wherein shall appear the date of his arrival in the island, the age which he then had, whether he came alone or with a family, the name of the vessel which brought him, and of the captain of the same.

**Article 8.** To be inscribed as Cuban citizens, the persons included in section 5 of article 5 of the constitution shall prove before the custodian of the civil registry of their place of domicile that the circumstances exacted in said section exist as to them by means of a declaration of witnesses received under oath.

**Article 9.** In all the inscriptions to which this law refers, it shall be made to appear that the interested parties renounce their previous nationality, and that they swear to obey the constitution of the Republic, the laws which are actually in force in this island, and those which may be in force in the future.

**Article 10.** The custodians of the registry of civil status in this island shall remit to the division of state of the department of state and justice a certificate of each inscription which they make in the books of the section of citizenship; and to the section of registries and notarial affairs of the same department, a comprehensive table of the inscriptions, classified according to the model which said section shall formulate.

The diplomatic or consular agents shall remit to the department of state certificates of the inscriptions referred to in paragraph 2 of article 1 of this law, for their transcription in the registry of civil status of the last place of domicile which the interested parties may have had, or of that which they propose to have in this island.

The term for the remission provided for in the two preceding paragraphs shall be fifteen days, counted from the day following that on which the inscription in question shall take place.

Failures to fulfill this duty shall be punished gubernatively by the secretary of state.

**Article 11.** Those who prior to the promulgation of this law have proven in the extinct department of state and government that there exist as to them the circumstances exacted in articles 5, 6, 7, and 8 of this law, are exempted from the proof of the same; as well as those that may have made in the registry of civil status of their domicile the declaration of option or renunciation of nationality, to the end that they might be registered as electors according to the provisions of the additional dispositions of order No. 218 of October 14, 1901.

**Article 12.** All laws, provisions, orders, or decrees contrary to the provisions of this law are repealed.

Therefore, I command the obedience and enforcement of this law in its entirety.

Given at the palace of the President in Havana, October 30, 1902.

T. ESTRADA PALMA,
CARLOS DE ZALDO,
Secretary of State and Justice.

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**RELATIONS BETWEEN CUBA AND THE UNITED STATES.**

No. 301.

**HEADQUARTERS DIVISION OF CUBA,**

**Habana, July 25, 1900.**

The military governor of Cuba directs the publication of the following instructions:

Whereas the Congress of the United States by its joint resolution of April 20, 1898, declared—

That the people of the island of Cuba are, and of right ought to be, free and independent;

That the United States hereby disclaims any disposition or intention to exercise sovereignty, jurisdiction, or control over said island except for the pacification thereof, and asserts its determination, when that is accomplished, to leave the government and control of the island to its people;
And whereas the people of Cuba have established municipal governments, deriving their authority from the suffrages of the people given under just and equal laws, and are now ready in like manner to proceed to the establishment of a general government which shall assume and exercise sovereignty, jurisdiction, and control over the island: Therefore, it is

Ordered, That a general election be held in the island of Cuba on the third Saturday of September, in the year 1900, to elect delegates to a convention to meet in the city of Habana at 12 o’clock noon on the first Monday of November, in the year 1900, to frame and adopt a constitution for the people of Cuba, and, as a part thereof, to provide for and agree with the Government of the United States upon the relations to exist between that Government and the Government of Cuba, and to provide for the election by the people of officers under such constitution and the transfer of government to the officers so elected.

The election will be held in the several voting precincts of the island under and pursuant to the provisions of the electoral law of April 18, 1900, and the amendments thereof.

The people of the several provinces will elect delegates in number proportioned to their populations as determined by the census, viz:

The people of the province of Pinar del Rio will elect 3 delegates.
The people of the province of Habana will elect 8 delegates.
The people of the province of Matanzas will elect 4 delegates.
The people of the province of Santa Clara will elect 7 delegates.
The people of the province of Puerto Principe will elect 2 delegates.
The people of the province of Santiago de Cuba will elect 7 delegates.

J. B. Hickey,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

No. 455.

HEADQUARTERS DIVISION OF CUBA,
Habana, November 9, 1900.

The military governor of Cuba directs the publication of the following official statement made to the Cuban constitutional convention assembled in the city of Habana, Cuba, November 5, 1900:

To the Delegates of the Constitutional Convention of Cuba.

GENTLEMEN: As military governor of the island, representing the President of the United States, I call this convention to order.

It will be your duty, first, to frame and adopt a constitution for Cuba, and, when that has been done, to formulate what, in your opinion, ought to be the relations between Cuba and the United States.

The constitution must be adequate to secure a stable, orderly, and free government.

When you have formulated the relations which, in your opinion, ought to exist between Cuba and the United States, the Government of the United States will doubtless take such action on its part as shall lead to a final and authoritative agreement between the people of the two countries to the promotion of their common interests.

All friends of Cuba will follow your deliberations with the deepest interest, earnestly desiring that you shall reach just conclusions, and
that, by the dignity, individual self-restraint, and wise conservatism which shall characterize your proceedings, the capacity of the Cuban people for representative government may be signally illustrated.

The fundamental distinction between true representative government and dictatorship is that in the former every representative of the people, in whatever office, confines himself strictly within the limits of his defined powers. Without such restraint there can be no free constitutional government.

Under the order pursuant to which you have been elected and convened you have no duty and no authority to take part in the present government of the island. Your powers are strictly limited by the terms of that order.

LEONARD WOOD,
Major-General, U. S. Volunteers, Military Governor.

Official:
J. B. Hickey, Assistant Adjutant-General.

Mr. Squiers to Mr. Hay.

NO. 298.] LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES,
Habana, November 21, 1902.

SIR: For the information of the Department I have the honor to inclose herewith a translation of a report made to the constitutional convention by a committee appointed therefrom to report upon the relations which, in the judgment of the convention, should exist between Cuba and the United States.

This committee was composed of Messrs. Diego Tamayo, as president, now secretary of government; Juan Gualberto Gomez, now editor of La República Cubana and leader of the Independent Republicans; Gonzalo Quesada, now minister at Washington; Mr. Enrique Villuendas, now Representative; and Mr. Manuel R. Silva, as secretary, now a Senator.

The report is particularly interesting at the present time, as it shows the views of the committee, adopted by the convention, relative to what are now known as Articles III and VII of the appendix to the constitution, and also that in the text of said report as prepared by this committee no provision was made for final ratification of all the provisions by treaty.

I have the honor, etc.,

H. G. SQUIERS.

[Inclosure.—Translation.] NOVEMBER 19, 1902.

Report on the relations which should exist between Cuba and the United States—Presented by the committee corresponding.

The committee appointed to draw up a draft of the relations which in the judgment of the constitutional convention should exist between Cuba and the United States, to the convention.

In conformity with the orders of the American Government, published in the gazettes of this island on July 26 and November 6, 1900, with the Nos. 301 and 455, a containing the convocation of the constitutional convention and the address read by the military governor on its inauguration, said convention has various duties to per-
form: Draw up and adopt a constitution for Cuba; render opinion on the relations which, in its judgment, should exist between the Government of Cuba and the Government of the United States; provide for the election of the powers or functionaries the constitution may establish; and, lastly, provide for the transfer to these said functionaries or powers of the government of the island.

Happily ended now the work of drawing up and adopting the constitution, it remains for the constitutional assembly to devote itself, as charged in the said order No. 455, to expressing its opinion on the relations which ought to exist between the United States and Cuba.

The commission to which such an honorable duty was intrusted imagined the first time it met that its task would be as easy as it would be brief. The sentiment of gratitude toward the people of the United States for the powerful and decisive aid they rendered our people in their struggle to separate themselves from Spain, to the end that they might establish themselves in an independent and sovereign State, is so alive in all Cuban patriots that in order to express the opinion requested it seemed to all that we could simply declare we thought the United States and Cuba should eternally maintain ties of the most intimate and fraternal friendship, inasmuch as there is not a glimmer of the slightest opposition between their legitimate interests, nor possible the least disparity in their reasonable aspirations.

But hardly had the commission convened when the military governor of the island asked it for a private interview, in which he made known a communication from the Secretary of War of the United States, containing suggestions as to the points which the American Executive suggests and recommends as basis of the opinion it requests.

From that moment the commission had to proceed with greater care, since the matter had to be considered under a different aspect.

It results, in effect, that both by the text of the convocation of July 26 (order 301) and address of November 5 (order 455) the convention was to freely formulate the kind of relations which in its judgment it would be advisable should exist between the United States and Cuba.

However, after the communication referred to—of the Secretary of War—the contents of which have since been sent in a letter of the military governor of the 21st instant, there exists something new suggested by the American Executive, of which the commission cannot fail to take notice. There is no reason to insist on the importance of this occurrence; no delegate can help but recognize it and it is important to state that after mature examination and careful study of the matter the commission believes that from the outset, and as soon as the suggestions referred to are known, the constitutional assembly should proceed with the same liberty of judgment, with the same independence of opinion, as before they were known. Various circumstances support this belief of ours.

We are the delegates of the people of Cuba. On this account our primordial duty consists in interpreting the will and heeding the interests of our country; and more, it happens that the suggestions of the executive department of the United States Government only contain the stipulations of that which, in its judgment, "the people of Cuba should desire be established and agreed upon as the relations between Cuba and the United States."

Thus it is that on communicating them to us, insinuating that we should adopt them, it is explicitly recognized that "the desires of Cuba are the ones which are to prevail, since it is the endeavor to obtain that Cuba should desire in a certain way. Lastly, it is necessary to bear in mind that the stipulations suggested do not, absolutely, have a definitive or legal character, considering that the formal reservation is made that nothing of what is communicated to the commission "can in any manner be interpreted as binding the United States to a policy which should properly be fixed by Congress." Even more is said, that "these stipulations, it may result, are not in conformity with the conclusions Congress may finally reach when this body considers the matter." Thus it is, then, that they are simply presented "as the opinion of the executive department."

Clear it is that this is already sufficient for us to give it "careful consideration," much more so when they are recommended to us as "wise and prudent and for the best interests of both countries." However, integral remains our authority to accept or not accept; to choose from among them what seems proper to us, and to add to, amend, or substitute them, in conformity with the dictates of our conscience, having always in view our duty to aid whatever may be a legitimate interest and a reasonable purpose of the people of the United States, and the supreme interest and sacred rights of our own.

As a consequence of these ideas, the commission, the suggestions of the Executive of the United States having been carefully considered, believes that the interests of both countries are preserved, as far as human foresight will reach, within the precepts of the constitution we have just adopted for the Republic of Cuba. It is drawn
from the communication of the Secretary of War of the United States, in effect, that
the departing point of all his suggestions is the following: "The United States must
have the assurance that the island of Cuba is to forever be an independent country."

The executive department of the Union believes it can feel this assurance if the
convention will opine in favor of these five stipulations:

1. That no government organized under the constitution shall consider it has
authority to enter into any treaty or contract with any foreign power that may
lessen or oppose the independence of Cuba, or to grant to such foreign power any
special right or privilege without the consent of the United States.

2. That no government organized under the constitution will have authority to
assume to contract any public debt which will exceed the capacity of the usual
revenues of the island to pay the interest after defraying the current expenses of the
government.

3. That on the transfer of the control of Cuba to the government established under
the new constitution, Cuba consents that the United States shall reserve and retain
the right to intervene for the preservation of the independence of Cuba, and the
maintenance of a stable government that will duly protect life, property, and indi-
vidual liberty and fulfill, with respect to Cuba, the obligations imposed upon the
United States by the treaty of Paris and now assumed and taken upon itself by the
Government of Cuba.

4. That all the acts of the military government and all the rights thereby acquired
will be valid and maintained and protected.

5. That to enable the United States to fulfill such duties as will fall upon her by
the stipulations mentioned, and for her own defense, the United States may acquire
title to, and preserve it, lands for naval stations, and maintain such naval stations in
certain specified places.

The undersigned commission, taking the American Executive's departing point
that it is important that the independence of Cuba be absolutely guaranteed, con-
siders that some of these stipulations are not acceptable, exactly because they impair
the independence and sovereignty of Cuba. Our duty consists in making Cuba
independent of every other nation, the great and noble American nation included,
and, if we bind ourselves to ask the Governments of the United States for their con-
sent to our international dealings, if we admit that they shall reserve and retain the
right to intervene in our country to maintain or precipitate conditions and fulfill
duties pertaining solely to Cuban governments, and, lastly, if we grant them the
right to acquire and preserve titles to lands for naval stations and maintain these in
determined places along our coast, it is clear that we could seem independent of the
rest of the world although we were not in reality, but never would we be independ-
ent with reference to the United States.

In the constitution we adopted, we have used special energy in founding our inde-
pendence and sovereignty on solid bases. The organisms to which legislative and
administrative functions correspond are taken from the very vitals of the people;
therefore they have the qualification that gives greatest stability to governments,
the consent of the governed. Furthermore, we have taken care to establish a rea-
sonably wide range between these organisms, to the end that they may work in
harmony and that contentions and even friction may be thereby avoided. It can
even be asserted that with free play of the institutions created, this people's suffer-
ing either of the two maladies, despotism and anarchy, which have alternately
placed the life of other societies in danger, will be prevented. We have likewise
taken all proper precautions to render the disorder or ruin of our treasure impossible,
adopting motu proprio the precept that none of the organisms authorized to contract
loans, be such loans of municipal, provincial, or national character, can do so without
voting at the same time the permanent tax or taxes to be applied to the payment of
their interests and redemption, and without fulfilling other requirements equally
foreseeing, as determined in articles 59, 93, and 103 of the constitution.

Finally, we have specially endeavored to avoid every contention with those foreign
to us, making foreigners equal to natives in all that refers to protection of their per-
sons and property, and with regard to the enjoyment of civil rights, individual
guarantees, and protection of the Cuban laws and authorities. From this it is to be
deduced that the undersigned commission could very well advise the constitutional
assembly to answer the suggestions made by the American Executive simply as fol-
loows: "With the loyal observation by ourselves and all others of the precepts of our
constitution, the aspiration you have, and for which we have been and are willing to
zealously care that the independence of the island of Cuba may be made secure, is
attained." The commission, however, desirous of strengthening the confidence
which the United States should feel with regard to our gratitude and the decisiveness
with which we are resolved that the independence of our native land shall
never run any risk through our fault, believes there is no objection to the conven-
tion opining that the constitutional power of the Republic of Cuba, if they deem it proper, may declare:

First. The Government of the Republic of Cuba will make no treaty or convention with any foreign power or powers which compromises or limits the independence of Cuba or in any other manner permits or authorizes any foreign power or powers to obtain, by means of colonization or for military or naval purposes or in other manner, settlement in, authority, or right over, any portion of Cuba.

Second. The Government of the Republic of Cuba will not permit that its territory serve as a basis of war operations against the United States nor against any other foreign nation.

Third. The Government of the Republic of Cuba will accept the treaty of Paris of December 10, 1898, in its integrity, the same in what affirms Cuba’s rights as with regard to the obligations it limitedly assigns her, and especially those obligations imposed by international law for the protection of lives and properties, substituting the United States in the obligation they acquired to that effect in conformity with articles 1 and 16 of said treaty of Paris.

Fourth. The Government of the Republic of Cuba will recognize as legally valid the acts done for the good government of Cuba by the American military government in representation of the Government of the United States during the period of its occupation, likewise the laws proceeding therefrom, in conformity with the joint resolution and section 2 of the United States army bill for the fiscal year from 1899 to 1900, known as the Foraker amendment, or with the laws existing in this country.

Fifth. The Governments of the United States and of the Republic of Cuba should regulate their commercial relations by means of a convention based on reciprocity, and which, with tendencies toward free trade in their natural and manufactured products, will mutually assure them ample and special advantages in the respective markets.

If the future Government of the Republic of Cuba believes acceptable the opinion we have just rendered, and which is set forth in the five preceding articles, we hold that with the same and the constitution adopted the United States will be able to consider that they should not entertain the slightest suspicion regarding our future. On preparing, as they assert, to cease in the exercise of the intervening authority, their generous work of liberty and pacification can be called ended by them with the entire conviction that no one is more interested and resolved than ourselves in maintaining the absolute independence of our native land, living in peace with all the world, orderly and pacifically governing ourselves, and being to the people of the United States a brotherly, deferent, and thankful people.

For all these reasons the commission recommends that the convention agree to communicate the opinion which has been asked of us to the Government of the United States in the following form:

The constitutional convention, in compliance with its duty to indicate what, in its judgment, might be the relations of the people of Cuba with that of the United States, and in its desire that they should be the most cordial, inalterable, and fruitful, to the end that common interests may be promoted and guaranteed, has carefully considered the suggestions transmitted to it through the military government.

From the context of those suggestions it results that the United States Government is infused with the preoccupation that the independence of Cuba should not be for the United States a cause of apprehension, on account of the dangers to be wrought by the instability of our future institutions, disorder of our treasure, or noncompliance, on our part, with international duties.

The convention is sure that the immediate future will not justify either those apprehensions or any fear as to the capacity of the Cuban people for independent life, nor also the least uneasiness with regard to the operation of the government established by the constitution it has just adopted.

The entire world has been witness of the moderation, respect for law, and generous qualities evidenced by the Cuban people during these two years it has lived under the régime of the intervention, when it had just gotten out of a terrible war that subverted the organization of society and sowed the soil with ruins, leaving the country exhausted and in a state of confusion. It can be proclaimed that in no people, even during less profound crises, have virtues been contemplated that were so excellent and commendable as those which in the midst of these reverses have exalted the people of Cuba.

Only oblivion or ignorance of these facts could engender doubts and suspicions with regard to the patriotism and prudence of our people.

Furthermore, in the convention which we have just turned over to the military governor we have taken special pains in founding our independence and sovereignty on solid bases. The organisms to which legislative and administrative functions correspond are taken from the very vitals of the people, therefore they have the qualification that gives greatest stability to governments—the consent of the governed.
Furthermore, we have taken care to establish a reasonably wide range between these organisms, to the end that they may work in harmony and that contentions and even friction may be thereby avoided. It can even be asserted that with free play of the institutions created this people's suffering either of the two maladies, despotism and anarchy, which have alternately placed the life of other societies in danger, will be prevented. We have likewise taken all proper precautions to render the disorder or ruin of our treasure impossible, adopting motu proprio the precept that none of the organisms authorized to contract loans, be such loans of municipal, provincial, or national character, can do so without voting at the same time the permanent tax or taxes to be applied to the payment of their interests and redemption, and without fulfilling other requirements equally foreseeing, as determined in articles 93, 95, and 106 of the constitution.

Finally, we have especially endeavored to avoid every contention with those foreign to us, making foreigners equal to natives in all that refers to protection of their persons and property, and, with regard to the enjoyment of civil rights, individual guarantees, and protection of the Cuban laws and authorities.

Other measures more efficacious for the purpose of the United States, which at the same time are the supreme interest of Cuba, to guarantee order and secure the peaceful development of our country, are not possible to the human.

The relations between the two peoples, which perform will continue to grow closer through intercourse, that is, through mutual interest and the invariable ties of our gratitude and our affection, will tend to establish between two collectivities so different, and despite their absolute independence respectively, an intimacy which, favoring American interests, will develop at the same time a community which will be a tie of union between the two great races populating this hemisphere.

Working to these noble ends, the new Government which the constitution establishes will certainly agree with the United States to such measures as may facilitate dealings between the two countries, adopting first of all such decisions on local and international hygiene as may be directed to the extinction of transmissible diseases, as well as many others as may most contribute to the development of mercantile and social relations.

The convention considers that with the foregoing the Government of the United States could deem its interests sufficiently guaranteed and aspirations satisfied; however, it desires to strengthen the confidence which the United States should feel with regard to our gratitude and the decisiveness with which we are resolved that the independence of our native land shall never run any risk through our fault. With this idea it is of the opinion that the constitutional powers of the Republic of Cuba, if they deem proper, should declare and adopt the following stipulations:

First. The Government of the Republic of Cuba will make no treaty or convention with any foreign power or powers which compromises or limits the independence of Cuba or in any other manner permits or authorizes any foreign power or powers to obtain, by means of colonization or for military or naval purposes, or in any other manner, settlement in, authority, or rights over any portion of Cuba.

Second. The Government of the Republic will not permit that its territory serve as a basis of war operations against the United States nor against any other foreign nation.

Third. The Government of the Republic of Cuba will accept the treaty of Paris of December 10, 1898, in its integrality, the same in what affirms Cuba's rights as with regard to the obligations it limply assigns her, and especially those obligations imposed by international law for the protection of lives and properties, substituting the United States in the obligation they acquired to that effect in conformity with articles 1 and 16 of said treaty of Paris.

Fourth. The Government of the Republic of Cuba will recognize as legally valid the acts done for the good government of Cuba by the American military government in the representation of the Government of the United States during the period of its occupation, likewise the rights proceeding therefrom, in conformity with the joint resolution and section 2 of the United States army bill for the fiscal year from 1899 to 1900, known as the Foraker amendment, or with the laws existing in this country.

Fifth. The Governments of the United States and of the Republic of Cuba should regulate their commercial relations by means of a convention based on reciprocity and which, with tendencies toward free trade in their natural and manufactured products, will mutually assure them ample and special advantages in the respective markets.

Convention Session Hall, February 26, 1901.

Diego Tamayo, President.
Juan Gualberto Gomez.
Gonzalo de Quesada.
Enrique Villanueva.
Manuel R. Silva, Secretary.