fluence brought to bear in the matter; but we have reason to hope that these objections, whatever they may be, will shortly be overcome through the exertions of Dr. Elmore, the Peruvian envoy.

The present check to the expected immigration of free Chinese laborers, although very unfortunate for Peru, does not by any means warrant the views expressed by some of our Lima contemporaries, that such immigration is impossible. It is necessary to concede that owing to the former ill treatment of Chinese laborers, Peru has much evil prestige to conquer in Asia; and this was clearly the reason why no emigrants were allowed to leave Hong-Kong, the port first tried. A second trial at a Chinese port, Canton, appears to have been unsuccessful through adverse influences which were, as far as it appears, of a local, and, therefore, it is to be presumed, of a tempro ary nature.

Appeal to the central government of China is now being made through the duly accredited Peruvian minister at Peking, and it would seem a simple thing to decide whether the Chinese government will maintain the solemn treaty entered into with Peru or whether this important instrument will be set aside. The plea that Chinese have been maltreated in Peru is only valid so far as it affects the *coolie* system; free immigration has not been tried, and it is unjust to this country to judge the issue before it arises, unfair to assume that laborers coming here under protection of special treaty will be treated as were those who were brought from their homes in defiance of law and of humanity. The question touches too vitally Peru's agricultural future to be set aside until all honest means have been exhausted, and those now being proved, the demands for enforcement of the treaty permitting free emigration, may, and we trust will, remove the only present existing obstacle to such a volume of immigration as will vastly aid the resources of this country.

We shall, when the times arrives, express our views on the subject of how simple and efficient safeguards may be provided against any malicious abuse of these laborers.

PORTUGAL.

No. 423.

Mr. Moran to Mr. Evarts.

No. 174.] LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES,
Lisbon, December 11, 1877. (Received December 31.)

SIR: Referring to your circular of the 23d of May, giving instructions in regard to attentions to be paid to General Grant, should he come to Portugal, and to my No. 159, dated 13th July last, I have to report that in an interview with the Marquez d'Avila e de Bolama, on the 5th instant, he inquired, with great interest, if General Grant would visit Lisbon. Upon my informing him that it now seemed doubtful, the marquis expressed the great regret and disappointment such a determination would cause His Most Faithful Majesty's Government, who feel the greatest gratitude toward Ex-President Grant for his just decision in the affair of the island of Bolama. He said, also, that to himself personally this failure to visit Lisbon would be a great disappointment, for to General Grant alone he owed the honor of his second title. In conclusion, he requested me to convey to General Grant the assurance that "if he should be enabled ultimately to visit Portugal, he would find the government entirely at his disposition." This message I have sent to the Ex-President, through General Badeau, in London.

If General Grant should finally decide to visit Portugal I am sure that he will be received with enthusiasm, and be entertained hospitably by all persons from the Sovereign down. As the Marquez d'Avila was so earnest in his manner when communicating this sentiment to me on the part of the government, I have thought it proper to report the interview for the information of the Department.

I have, &c., BENJAMIN MORAN.

No. 424.

Mr. Moran to Mr. Evarts.

No. 176.] LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES,
Lisbon, December 22, 1877. (Received Jan. 11, 1878.)

SIR: Referring to your No. 94 and to my No. 156, I have now the honor to forward copies of a further correspondence which I have recently had with the Marquez d'Avila and Mr. Terry on the selection of a new site for the American naval cemetery at the island of St. Vincent.

It will be seen by the Portaria of the 3d of December that the King has given the necessary orders for the setting apart of the new cemetery, and the transfer to it of the remains now deposited in the old cemetery. I have instructed Mr. Terry to co-operate with the governor-general of the province of Cape Verde in effecting the needful change; and I am encouraged by the prompt action of the Marquez d'Avila in the case now to hope for the early and satisfactory settlement of this vexed question. But I shall inform myself from time to time of the progress made in carrying out the new order, and should any unnecessary delay attend the execution of it, I will take such steps to remove such delay as I may deem advisable under the circumstances.

I have, &c., BENJAMIN MORAN.

[Inclosure 1 in No. 176.]

Mr. Moran to the Marquez d'Avila.

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES,
Lisbon, November 19, 1877.

MONSIEUR LE MINISTRE: Before replying to your excellency's letter of the 18th of June, ultimo, with reference to your proposal for the final settlement of the question of the American cemetery at St. Vincent, Cape Verde, I submitted that proposal to my government and asked for definite instructions in reply thereto. These I have now received and hasten to acquaint you with their contents.

Your excellency states that the governor-general of Cape Verde has no hesitation in granting such land as the American Government desires for this purpose, in another situation and with due regard to public and private interests; that in the decent removal of the mortal remains existing in the original cemetery, the Consul shall be kept cognizant; and that the government of His Majesty will not fail to repeat the orders of the 3d of June, 1873, so soon as the wishes of the United States Government are known, viz, that a new American cemetery be marked out in consideration of the inconvenience of restoring the present cemetery.

I am desired, in reply, to express the gratification of my government on learning the good intentions of your excellency in the matter, and to say that they fully appreciate the reasons for which it is proposed to form a new cemetery, in preference to restoring the old one in accordance with Mr. Corvo's promise. I am authorized to accept this proposal of your excellency, and to instruct the consul of the United States to co-operate with the local authorities, both in the selection of the site and in the transfer of the remains.

My government would, however, especially suggest that the new cemetery should be located entirely by itself, and not in contact with or near any other cemetery. They would also express a desire that the new location be selected and the transfer of the remains be carried out as soon as possible.

I avail myself, &c.,

BENJAMIN MORAN.

[Inclosure 2 in No. 176.—Translation.]

The Marquez d'Avila to Mr. Moran.

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS,
POLITICAL DEPARTMENT,
December 17, 1877.

In reply to the note which your excellency was pleased to address to me on the 19th of November last, I have the honor to place in your hands, for your own information and

that of your government, the inclosed copy of a royal order of the 3d instant, forwarded by the minister of marine and colonies to the governor-general of the province of Cape Verde, by which it is decreed that there be set apart in a fitting situation the ground required for the new cemetery of American citizens in the island of Saint Vincent, in conformity with the terms of the said order.

I avail myself, &c.,

MARQUEZ D'AVILA E DE BOLAMA.

[Inclosure 3 in No. 176.—Translation.]

Portaria respecting the cemetery.

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE
FOR THE MARINE AND COLONIES,
December 3, 1877.

The chargé d'affaires of the United States of America at this court having pressed for a settlement of the question concerning a cemetery for citizens of his nation in the island of Saint Vincent de Cape Verde, and information being given by an official letter from the ministry of foreign affairs, of the 20th of November last, that the said diplomatist accepts, by order of his government, the offer made to him of the concession of another site for the construction of a new cemetery, instead of the restoration of the old—

His Majesty the King thinks fit to decree, with reference to the order issued from this ministry on the 3d July, 1873, that there be set apart, in an appropriate place for a new cemetery for American citizens, in the said island of Saint Vincent, the requisite site, saving public and private interests; every proceeding in all this matter being done in accord with the respective consul of the United States and with the local authorities; and that, with the least possible delay, there be carried out the removal to the said cemetery of the bones found in the old cemetery; all due formalities being observed in this matter.

All of which His said august Majesty orders to be communicated, through the ministry of marine and colonies, to the governor-general of the province of Cape Verde for due action therein.

Palace, December 3, 1877.

JOSÉ DE MELLO GOUVEIA.

Countersigned:
FRANCISCO J. DA C. SILVA.
Countersigned: Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, December 17, 1877,
EMILIO ACHILLE MONTEVERDE.

[Inclosure 4 in No. 176.]

Mr. Moran to the Marquez d'Avila.

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES,
Lisbon, December 21, 1877.

MONSIEUR LE MINISTRE: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the note which your excellency addressed to me on the 17th instant, inclosing for my information and that of my government, a copy of a royal order of the 3d instant, forwarded by the minister of marine to the governor-general of the province to Cape Verde, by which it is decreed that there be set apart, in a fitting situation, the ground required for a new cemetery of American citizens in the island of Saint Vincent, and the transfer thereto of the remains contained in the old cemetery.

I shall at once communicate a copy of this order to Mr. Terry, the United States consul at Santiago, and instruct him to co-operate with the governor-general of Cape Verde in carrying out its requirements; and I shall also forward copies of your excellency's note, and of the portaria in question, to my government, which is very anxious that the cemetery may be established as early as possible.

I avail myself, &c., BENJAMIN MORAN.

[Inclosure 5 in No. 176.]

Mr. Moran to Mr. Terry.

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES,
Lisbon, November 19, 1877.

SIR: I have now the honor to inform you that his excellency the Marquez d'Avila e de Bolama addressed a note to me on the 18th of June last, in reference to the naval cemetery at Porto Grande.

His excellency informs me that the Governor-general of Cape Verde will readily grant such land as the United States Government may require for a cemetery in another situation than the present, so that it be without prejudice to public or private interests; and that in the selection of the site and in the removal of the mortal remains from the original cemetery nothing shall be done without your cognizance.

The marquez proposes this as preferable to the restoration of the original cemetery as offered by Mr. Corvo.

The United States Government assents to the marquez's reasons, and accepts this offer, but adds that it is desirable that the site selected should be separate from, and at a distance from, any other cemetery. This proviso I have mentioned to the marquez, and before I receive his reply I think it right to inform you of what is passing, that you may sound the local authorities on the matter, should occasion arise, and perhaps be able to suggest such a site as may be agreeable with the views of our government, and may be granted by the Governor-general.

You will, however, take no decisive action until you again hear from me.

I have, &c.,

BENJAMIN MORAN.

[Inclosure 6 in No. 176.]

Mr. Moran to Mr. Terry.

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES,
Lisbon, December 21, 1877.

SIR: Referring to my note of the 19th November ultimo, I have now the honor to forward herewith a copy of a royal portaria, dated the 3d and 17th instant, by which it will be seen that the governor-general of the Cape Verde Islands has been finally instructed to provide a new American cemetery at Porto Grande, Saint Vincent. You will please consult with his excellency as to the selection of a new site, removal of the remains, and restoration of monuments as far as possible, and inform me from time to time what progress has been made in carrying out the instructions of His Most Faithful Majesty's Government in the case.

You will also take such steps as you may deem necessary to effect the early completion of the new cemetery and the transfer of the remains, bearing in mind my former instructions that it should be separate and at a distance from any other cemetery.

I have, &c.,

BENJAMIN MORAN.

No. 425.

Mr. Moran to Mr. Evarts.

No. 178.] LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES,
Lisbon, January 3, 1878. (Received January 26.)

SIR: I have the honor to report that the last annual session of the present Cortes was opened yesterday by the King in person, and I inclose herewith a printed copy of the speech delivered then by His Majesty to both houses, together with a translation of the same.

This speech gives a brief statement of the present condition of the kingdom, and recommends certain legislation for the better development of trade. The construction of an artificial harbor near Oporto, where the Douro is becoming unnavigable for large vessels owing to an accumulation of sand on the entrance bar, and of more roads in the interior of the country, are the chief measures submitted for the consideration of the Cortes. The necessity for prompt action in regard to Oporto is acknowledged on all hands, and unless something be soon done, either to restore the navigation of the Lower Douro or create an artificial harbor near Oporto, the trade of that place will sink into comparative insignificance.

The financial situation of the country is not encouraging; the total obligations, including the floating debt of £6,000,000, is nearly £90,000,000.

The amount set aside far the payment of interest is £2,700,000, or about 45 per cent. of the present revenue of £5,600,000; and the government expenditure averages £3,100,000 per annum.

I have, &c.,

BENJAMIN MORAN.

[Inclosure 1 in No. 178.—Translation.]

The King's speech, January 2, 1878.

Honored peers of the realm and gentlemen deputies of the Portuguese nation:

In discharge of one of the most pleasing duties of a constitutional King, I am about to inaugurate to-day the labors of the ensuing annual session of the legislature.

I have the greatest satisfaction in announcing to you that our friendly relations with foreign powers remain unchanged.

The conflict existing between two great nations, which please God may not be far from its conclusion, fortunately does not threaten to compromise our interests, nor to disturb that lengthened peace we have enjoyed.

In the year just ended I have received a visit from His Majesty the Emperor of the Brazils, my beloved uncle. This event, while very agreeable to me and all the royal family, has once again been made an occasion of emphatic demonstrations of respect of the Portuguese people toward the illustrious monarch who presides over the destinies of a great nation, to which close bonds of blood unite us, and from which a great number of our compatriots receive fraternal hospitality.

In the interior of the kingdom and in the ultramarine provinces tranquility has continued to be maintained, and under its salutary influence the action of the political system has been undisturbed, and the development of all the national interests, progressive.

In November last the election of the municipal chambers which have to regulate the districts for the two ensuing years, were held in the kingdom and adjacent islands. These passed off with regularity, and, excepting some excitement at places where the dispute was warmer, it can be affirmed the people exercised their electoral rights freely and without molestation.

The state of the public revenue has continued to require the most serious attention of my government, which has employed every means to improve the condition of the treasury, the state of which you will be able to duly estimate by the explanations which will be laid before you by the finance department, together with the estimate of the receipts and expenses of the state for the coming financial year.

Employing the means voted in the last legislative session for the extinction of the floating debt, the government realized a large part of the loan destined to that end; the portion not yet realized will be issued when circumstances permit of so doing to the advantage of the treasury.

The financial situation of the country, somewhat disturbed by the bank crisis of 1876, is in the way of recovering from that convulsion, and allows us to hope it will soon resume its normal activity.

There is a continued impulse felt in the improvements begun in the ultramarine provinces. The development of the great wealth which our vast dominions in those regions offer cannot fail at this epoch to form an important chapter in the programme of all administrations, and the eminent men of this country who form scientific associations intended chiefly for the study of colonial matters, are affording by such designs patriotic co-operation with the public authorities.

The transition from slave to free labor has taken place, owing to the vigilance of the public authorities, without those lamentable conflicts and disorders which in other countries have signalized this great conquest of Christianity and philosophy.

There are now in those regions four scientific expenditures of public works, organized in the kingdom and destined for Mozambique, Angola, Cape Verde, and St. Thomas. You will have, on a fitting occasion, information of these works so as to enable you to make due provision for their continuance, to the great importance of those provinces.

An account will be given you, by the minister of marine and the colonies, of measures taken of a legislative character which have been adopted during the legislative recess for the regulation of those possessions.

The particular attention of my government has also been directed to improvements undertaken by the department of public works, especially those which have for object the development of ordinary and more rapid locomotion.

A circumstantial report will be presented to you, by the ministry of public works, of the works executed since the formation of that department up to the 30th June last. From this report you will see that the sums received into the treasury resulting from

loans contracted within the last twenty-five years have all been employed in improvements which augment the wealth and develop the prosperity of the country.

From the estimate which you will make of this document, and from the suggestions of your enlightened experience, you will assuredly conclude that little now remains to be done before that the improvements realized shall produce such a financial and economical result as the nation has a right to expect as the just reward of its sacrifices.

The increased development of ordinary internal communication can no longer be delayed, especially in the provinces, to which the railroad has brought elements of prosperity which will fail in fruitfulness unless fed by the cheap conveyance of produce which accumulates and deteriorates at the places of its growth.

On the 4th of November last the bridge over the Douro was inaugurated and with it the fifth section of the north and east railway. This ceremony, over which I had the pleasure to preside, was greeted by the country with the most lively enthusiasm, both on account of the high artistic merit of the enterprise as for the advantages resulting therefrom in facilitating and cheapening communication.

With the purpose of placing the postal service in harmony with the requirements of commerce, the government has decreed important reforms in this department, acting therein in conformity with the law of February 10, 1876, an account of which will be given you in a separate report.

Improvements, the object of which you will appreciate, have been initiated at the district farm at Centra by the introduction of steam cultivation, which will give that industrial establishment practically and theoretically the means of advantageously contributing toward transforming the national system of cultivation.

A scarcity of food in the Azores compelled the government, during the year just ended, not only to furnish cereals to feed the necessities of the people, but also to decree extraordinary measures for the free entry of such provisions.

On the last day of the last year, a general census of the population was undertaken, and from this work, which it is hoped will present a favorable report in comparison with the preceding one, the result will be laid before you, so soon as the scrutiny is completed.

In the last legislative session there awaited your deliberation several projects of laws on matters of high importance. It is expected, from your enlightenment, that you will persevere in your examination of them, and my government will so co-operate with you that all the advantage the good of the state requires may result from the measures proposed. Among them must deserve your particular attention that which aims at reforms in elementary instruction, a subject which is incessantly recommended to the care of those who have in charge the promotion of the moral and intellectual development of the nation.

Other proposals of laws will be laid before you by my government, all of which tend to satisfy the pressing necessities of the public service. Among those deserves special mention that which aims at perfecting our election laws by the better arrangement of districts, by enlarging the electoral franchise, extending to a great number of citizens the right of voting, to whom, in the face of the fundamental laws of the state, it cannot be refused.

Among the remaining propositions, and on a par with the general estimate of receipts and expenditures, those unquestionably take precedence which aim at perfecting the laws of taxation by rendering the sources of receipt as productive as possible, so that the indispensable equilibrium between the two may be obtained.

Those measures are not without importance which aim at completing the links of the railway south of the Tagus, not only to utilize the capital at present spent unprofitably between Faro and Cazevel, but also to unite at the most fitting point the Alembejo and Algarve with the railways of the rest of Europe, and the south directly with the north of the kingdom, also to enable the government to push on to a conclusion the railways of the Minho and the Douro, and, on their being completed, to construct the Beira Alta railway, a work of the greatest importance for the development of the wealth of that fertile region.

Measures will also be laid before you for the improvement of the telegraphic service, which doubtless will receive a favorable reception, considering how much there is needed for the perfection of that branch of the service so as to place it on a level with the requirements of the times.

Lastly, I call your attention to a proposal which aims at meeting the urgent necessities of the population of the north of the kingdom, viz, for an artificial port giving free access and safe shelter to ships of whatever tonnage. This improvement, long needed, will assuredly receive an important impulse from your devotion to national interests. And, time permitting, my government reckons on being able to present also to you in this legislative session a proposal for the organization of secondary instruction, in which those difficult and varied problems included in this important branch of public administration will have their solution.

Worthy peers of the realm and deputies of the Portuguese nation, once more I desire to express the conviction which I feel that Divine Providence will continue to inspire

you, so that in the examination of all matters brought under your deliberations you may give fresh proofs of your worth and your patriotism, and that you may use every effort to draw the greatest profit from the valuable resources of the country, so that by placing the finances of the state on a firm footing those improvements will follow at which we are yet aiming and the realization of which must place us on a level with the most advanced of nations.

The session is opened.

No. 426.

Mr. Moran to Mr. Evarts.

No. 184.] LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES,
Lisbon, February 1, 1878. (Received February 21.)

SIR: On Saturday last the ministry of the Marquez d'Avila met with a large adverse vote in the Cortes, and on Monday the King sent for Señor Foutes Pereira de Mello to form a new government.

This change had long been expected, and the return of Señor Foutes to office surprised no one.

* * * * * * *

Señor Corvo, who for several years held this post under the former leadership of Señor Foutes, notified me on the 30th instant that he had been recalled to the place of secretary of state for foreign affairs by the King; and that is the only official notice I have received touching the change of ministry. I inclose a copy and translation of this communication, which is merely a formal circular, together with my acknowledgment thereof.

The new cabinet, with the exception of the ministers of justice and marine, consists of the same gentlemen who constituted the Foutes ministry on its retirement from office in March, 1877, and is as follows:

President of the council and minister of war, Señor Antonio Maria Foutes Pereira de Mello.

Minister of foreign affairs, Señor Joao de Andrade Corvo.

Minister of finance, Señor Antonio de Supa de Pimentel.

Minister of the interior, Señor Antonio Rodriguez Sampaio.

Minister of public works, commerce, and industry, Señor Lorenzo Carvalho.

Minister of the marine and the colonies, Señor Thomas Antonio Ribeiro.

Minister of justice and ecclesiastical affairs, Señor Augusto Cesar Barjona de Freitas.

I have, &c.,

BENJAMIN MORAN.

[Inclosure 1 in No. 184.—Translation.]

Señor Corvo to Mr. Moran.

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS,
POLITICAL DIVISION,
January 30, 1878.

His Majesty the King having seen fit to relieve Señor the Marquez d'Avila e de Bolama from the presidency of the council of ministers and of the post of minister and secretary of state for foreign affairs *ad interim*, has been pleased to nominate me by decree dated yesterday minister and secretary of state for this department, of which I have the honor to inform your excellency, and to communicate the fact that the reception of the gentlemen of the diplomatic body will continue to be on Wednesday of each week from twelve till two, when not a holiday; in such cases on the day previous.

At the same time I have the honor to add, if your excellency should have at any time important business with me, I will receive your excellency upon any day upon your giving me previous notice.

I avail myself, &c.,

JOÃO DE ANDRADE CORVO,
Secretary of State of Foreign Affairs.

[Inclosure 2 in No. 184.]

Mr. Moran to Señor Corvo.

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES,
Lisbon, February 1, 1878.

MONSIEUR LE MINISTRE: I had the honor to receive yesterday the note which your excellency addressed to me on the 30th ultimo, announcing that His Majesty the King, having seen fit to relieve Señor the Marquez d'Avila e de Bolama from the presidency of the council of ministers and from the post of minister and secretary of state for foreign affairs *ad interim*, had seen fit to renominate your excellency by decree dated the 29th ultimo, minister and secretary of state for foreign affairs; and adding that the reception of the gentlemen of the diplomatic body will continue to be as heretofore on Wednesday of each week from twelve till two when not a fête or holiday, but that if I should at any time have any important business with your excellency you will receive me on any day upon my giving you previous notice.

I have to thank you for this information, and although I have no important business to lay before your excellency now, I will avail myself of an early opportunity to call and pay my respects and renew an official and personal intercourse which was very agreeable to me.

I seize this occasion, &c.,

BENJAMIN MORAN.

No. 427.

Mr. Moran to Mr. Evarts.

No. 185.] LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES,
Lisbon, February 5, 1878. (Received February 25.)

SIR: Referring to my No. 177, of the 27th of December last, I have the honor to inform you that Lieut. Commander F. M. Green reported to me on the 2d instant that he had satisfactorily completed the work of measuring the difference of longitude between this point and Madeira, and desired me to express to the Portuguese Government, and especially to the officers of the Royal Observatory, his appreciation of the very courteous manner in which he has been aided in every possible way in his work at this place. This I did on the 4th instant, and I now forward copies of Captain Green's note to me, in which he made this request, and of my note to Mr. Corvo, based thereon.

No pains were spared by the Portuguese authorities to lessen the labors of Captain Green and his officers, and he states that the success of his work is due in a great measure to this fact.

The Guard sailed from Lisbon for Madeira on Sunday the 3d instant, at about 1 p. m., and after a few days' stay there will proceed as speedily as possible to St. Vincent, Cape Verdes, where Captain Green and his officers will begin the work of measuring the difference of longitude between that place and some given point on the northeastern coast of South America.

I have, &c.,

BENJAMIN MORAN.

[Inclosure 1 in No. 185.]

Lieut. Commander Green to Mr. Moran.

UNITED STATES SHIP "GUARD,"
Lisbon, Portugal, February 2, 1878.

SIR: The work of measuring the difference of longitude between this point and Madeira being completed, I desire to express my grateful appreciation of the assistance received from you, and of the very courteous and friendly manner in which the authorities of the Portuguese Government, especially the officers of the Royal Observatory, have aided us in every possible way. No pains have been spared by them to lessen our labors, and the success of our work is, in a very great measure, due to their kind offices.

I have requested the honorable Secretary of the Navy to express his thanks to them in a formal manner.

Very respectfully, &c.,

F. M. GREEN,
Lieutenant-Commander, Commanding.

[Inclosure 2 in No. 185.]

Mr. Moran to Mr. João de Andrade Corvo.

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES,
Lisbon, February 4, 1878.

MONSIEUR LE MINISTRE: Referring to my correspondence with your excellency and the Marquez d'Avila on the determination by United States naval officers of the longitude of both coasts of South America from Paris, I have the pleasure to inform you, on the authority of Captain Green of the United States ship "Guard," that the work of measuring the difference of longitude between Lisbon and Madeira is completed. Captain Green sailed yesterday with the "Guard" for Madeira and the island of St. Vincent, where he will resume his work of observation.

Before leaving, he desired me to express to your excellency his grateful appreciation of the very courteous and friendly manner in which the authorities of His Most Faithful Majesty's Government, especially the officers of the Royal Observatory, aided him and his officers in every possible way. No pains were spared by them to lessen his labors, and he assures me that the success of his work is in a great measure due to their kind offices.

I have particular pleasure in conveying to your excellency this acknowledgment of Captain Green's appreciation of the assistance he received, and beg to express the hope that the gentlemen referred to may be made acquainted with Captain Green's recognition of their useful services.

Captain Green has reported to the honorable Secretary of the Navy his sense of the obligation he is under to His Majesty's Government for the courteous assistance rendered to him while in Lisbon, and in due time I hope to receive instructions from that high officer to express to you his formal thanks for the aid which has been so promptly and effectually afforded to Captain Green.

I avail myself of this occasion to renew, &c., &c.,

BENJAMIN MORAN.

No. 428.

Mr. Moran to Mr. Evarts.

No. 198.] LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES,
Lisbon, May 6, 1878. (Received May 27.)

SIR: The Cortes terminated its sittings on the 4th instant, the session having been extended for public reasons for about a month longer than usual. There was no legislation of interest to foreign nations, and the chief measures of national importance were acts for the extension of the franchise, and for the construction of the Beira Alta Railway. It is believed that this desirable undertaking will now be prosecuted with energy,

and that by its completion Lisbon and Paris will be brought within 48 hours of each other, a consummation which must prove highly beneficial to Portugal.

As this session of the Cortes terminates the period of four years for which the members of the second house were chosen, a fresh selection of deputies will take place during the summer.

The country is tolerably prosperous in the matter of trade and natural productions, and the recent rains have been beneficial to agriculture, except in the Algarve, where they came too late to save crops from the effects of the drought. But it is understood that the government will exert itself to relieve any widespread distress that may appear in that district.

The national finances are not in a satisfactory state. The budget for 1878–'79 presents a deficiency of more that 2,900,000 milreis, or a sum more than equal to $3,000,000 United States gold currency. And as deficiencies of this nature are of annual occurrence, and have been for more than thirty years, many patriotic people are alarmed about the future, and are devising new schemes of taxation which will, it is hoped, provide sufficient revenue for the expenses of the government, and make future financial deficiencies impossible.

I have, &c., BENJAMIN MORAN.

No. 429.

Mr. Moran to Mr. Evarts.

No. 213.] UNITED STATES LEGATION,
Lisbon, October 16, 1878. (Received November 2.)

SIR: For some time past political matters have been very quiet in Portugal, nothing having occurred during the summer that would be interesting to foreign nations; but on Sunday, the 13th instant, the election of members of the second chamber of the Cortes took place throughout the kingdom, in accordance with the provisions of the constitutional charter. The proceedings were everywhere conducted with the greatest order, and resulted in the return of a large majority of deputies favorably disposed to the existing, or Foutes, ministry, although the opposition triumphed in one or two of the largest towns, including Oporto. But no significance is attached to these successes. The overwhelming majority of the government remains practically unchanged. The annual session of the Cortes lasts three months, and the election for deputies takes place every four years, unless in the case of a dissolution, when a new Parliament must be called together immediately.

The last election took place in 1874.

I have, &c., BENJAMIN MORAN.

No. 430.

Mr. Moran to Mr. Evarts.

No. 215.] LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES,
Lisbon, November 5, 1878. (Received November 23.)

SIR: Referring to your circular of the 23d of May, 1877, I now have the honor to report that, having been informed that General Grant would

visit Lisbon in the latter part of October, I communicated the fact unofficially to this government, as requested by the Duke d'Avila e de Bolama, and reported to you in my No. 174, of the 11th of December, 1877, and on the 15th of the month Mr. Corvo called upon me in person and announced that the King had given instructions that every arrangement should be made for the reception and comfort of General Grant during his stay in Portugal. Accordingly an attaché of the foreign office, the Señor da Cunha Sotto Maior, was detailed to attend upon him as the representative of that branch of the government, and directed to proceed with a special saloon-carriage to Badajoz, in Spain, there to welcome him to Portugal in the name of the King, and place the carriage at his disposal, while the Visconde de Pernes, a distinguished military officer, was named by the minister of war to receive him at the railway station, and remain in attendance upon him, with Señor da Cunha, during his sojourn in Lisbon.

General Grant arrived in this city, accompanied by Mrs. Grant, Mr. John Russell Young, and Señor da Cunha, at an early hour on Sunday, the 27th ultimo, and was cordially received at the station by the American and Portuguese officials. Mr. Corvo paid him an official visit on the 28th, and on the 29th he and Mrs. Grant were presented to the King and Queen and other members of the royal family, by whom they were more than cordially received. Indeed, General Grant describes this reception as characterized by exceptional personal warmth and as peculialy agreeable to him. On the 31st he and his suite attended the opera, by royal invitation, in honor of the King's birthday, and on the 1st instant they dined in state with the King and royal family at the Palace of the Ajuda.

Marked respect was paid to General Grant by the public wherever he was recognized, and his visit to Portugal may be truthfully described as gratifying to himself and his compatriots in Lisbon. He authorized me to express to Mr. Corvo his appreciation of the kindness that had been shown him by the King and government, and I accordingly addressed a note to that effect to that gentleman yesterday, and now inclose a copy thereof for the information of the President and yourself.

I may add that this visit of General Grant has afforded much pleasure to Mr. Diman, the consul, and myself, and that we have been gratified in having had it in our power to contribute to his comfort and enjoyment while here.

The general and suite left for Cordova, in Spain, on Saturday evening, the third instant, in a saloon-car furnished by the government, accompanied by Señor da Cunha; and Señor Foutes, the prime minister, myself, and Mr. Diman were present at his departure.

I have, &c.,

BENJAMIN MORAN.

[Inclosure in No. 215.]

Mr. Moran to Mr. Corvo.

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES,
Lisbon, November 4, 1878.

SIR: I have great pleasure in informing your excellency that I have been authorized by General Grant, Ex-President of the United States, to express through you to His Most Faithful Majesty his high sense of the more than cordial reception accorded to him by His Majesty and the royal family, and the members of His Majesty's Government, on his recent visit to Portugal.

General Grant is deeply impressed with the great kindness shown him, and regards his visit as having been characterized by marks of personal friendship which he can never forget.

Where so many officers of the government exerted themselves to make his visit agreeable it would be difficult to name all. But he desires to recognize specially the attention he received from Señor Foutes, president of the council, and your excellency; and he also wishes to make his acknowledgments to Señor Cunha do Sotto Maior and the Visconde de Pernes, for their great courtesy and intelligent attention.

In conclusion, I beg to add the expression of my cordial thanks to His Majesty and His Majesty's Government for the distinguished honor they have shown my illustrious countryman—an honor which I am sure will be gratifying to my government and to the American people, and tend to cement the cordial friendship which so happily subsists between the United States and Portugal.

With assurances, &c.,

BENJAMIN MORAN.

RUSSIA.

No. 431.

Mr. Boker to Mr. Evarts.

No. 224.] LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES,
St. Petersburg, October 12, 1877. (Received October 29.)

SIR: I have the honor to forward to you herewith a communication addressed to me by two American merchants residing at St. Petersburg, complaining of differential duties exacted against citizens of the United States upon the three articles of tools, sugars, and wine, and stating that in their belief this is contrary to the stipulations of the treaty of 1832.

You will observe that this differential duty is indirect, the Russian Government taxing certain articles imported by land less than those imported by sea.

I have had some conversation with the British ambassador upon this subject, and he tells me that the question was submitted to the law officers of the Crown, and that they advised Her Majesty's Government that this differential duty was not one of which they could complain as contrary to their treaty stipulations.

I have also spoken to Mr. de Rentern, the able minister of finance, informally upon the subject, and have received from him a communication, of which I send you a copy and a translation. You will perceive that as regards sugars there is now no cause for complaint. As regards tools and wines, he takes the ground that there is no discrimination against any one nation, as all nations can send by land if so disposed.

I am further informed, unofficially, that, as regards tools, this discrimination is simply a matter of protection to Russian manufactures, the manufacturers of Toula fearing the competition of American, English, and French tools, but having no fear of those produced in Germany and Austria.

I have the honor, also, to send you a copy of the Russian tariff translated into English. It is possible that the Treasury may not have a copy, and that it may be of service to the Secretary. It is recommended to me as a model of clear arrangement and classification.

I have the honor, &c.,

GEO. H. BOKER.