

# THE CUBAN CONSTITUTION.

**The Full Text of the Document Proclaimed by the Cuban Junta, Nov. 17.**

The following is the new Constitution of Cuba, proclaimed by the Cuban Junta on the 17th inst.:

**ARTICLE I.** The legislative power shall be vested in the House of Representatives.

II. To this body shall be delegated an equal representation from each of the four States into which the Island of Cuba shall be divided.

III. These States are Oriente, Camaguey, Las Villas and Occidente.

IV. No one shall be eligible as representative of any of these States except a citizen of the Republic who is upward of 20 years of age.

V. No representative of any State shall hold any other official position during his representative term.

VI. Whenever a vacancy occurs in the representation of any State, the Executive thereof shall have power to fill such vacancy until the ensuing election.

VII. The House of Representatives shall elect a President of the Republic, a General-in-Chief of its armies, a President of the Congress, and other Executive officers. The General-in-Chief shall be subordinate to the Executive, and shall render him an account of the performance of his duties.

VIII. The President of the Republic, the General-in-Chief and the members of the House of Representatives are amenable to charges which may be made by any citizen to the House of Representatives, who shall proceed to examine into the charges preferred; and if, in their judgment, it be necessary, the case of the accused shall be submitted to the judiciary.

IX. The House of Representatives shall have full power to dismiss from office any functionary whom they have appointed.

X. The legislative acts and decisions of the House of Representatives, in order to be valid and binding, must have the sanction of the President of the Republic.

XI. If the President fail to approve the acts and decisions of the House, he shall, without delay, return the same, with his objections thereto, for the reconsideration of that body.

XII. Within ten days after their reception the President shall return all bills, resolutions and enactments which may be sent to him by the House for his approval, with his sanction thereof or with his objections thereto.

XIII. Upon the passage of any act, bill or resolution, after a reconsideration thereof by the House, it shall be sanctioned by the President.

XIV. The House of Representatives shall legislate upon taxation, public loans, and ratification of treaties, and shall have power to declare and conduct war, to authorize the President to raise letters of marque, to raise troops and provide for their support, to organize and maintain a navy, and to regulate appeals as to the public enemy.

XV. The House of Representatives shall remain in permanent session from the time of the ratification of this fundamental law by the people until the termination of the war with Spain.

XVI. The Executive power shall be vested in the President of the Republic.

XVII. He shall be eligible to the Presidency who is not a native of the Republic, and over thirty years of age.

XVIII. All treaties made by the President may be ratified by the House of Representatives.

XIX. The President shall have power to appoint Ambassadors, Ministers, Plenipotentiaries and Consuls of the Republic to foreign countries.

XX. The President shall treat with Ambassadors and Ministers that the laws are faithfully executed. He shall also be the official communications to and from the authorities of the Republic.

XXI. The President shall propose the names for the members of his Cabinet to the House of Representatives for its approval.

XXII. The Judiciary shall form an independent judicial department of the Government, under the organization of a special law.

XXIII. Voters are required to possess the same qualifications as to age and citizenship as the members of the House of Representatives.

XXIV. All the inhabitants of the Republic of Cuba are absolutely free.

XXV. All the citizens are considered as soldiers of the liberating army.

XXVI. The Republic shall not bestow dignities, titles, orders, or privileges.

XXVII. The citizens of the Republic shall not accept honours or titles from foreign countries.

XXVIII. The House of Representatives shall not admit the freedom of religion, nor of the Press, nor of public meetings, nor of education, nor of petition, nor any inalienable right of the people.

XXIX. This Constitution can be amended only by the unanimous concurrence of the House of Representatives.

**NOTE.**—Here follow the signatures of CARLOS MAXIMILIANO CESTEROS, President of the Convention, and all of the delegates.

We, the undersigned, hereby certify and declare that the foregoing is a correct and faithful translation of the Cuban Constitution, and of each and every article and clause thereof, and that the same is the fundamental and supreme law of the Republic.

Done by order of the Junta Cubana, at the City of New-York, in the United States of America, this 17th day of November, A. D. 1899, and the second year of the Independence of Cuba.

ARTURIO DE ALDAMA, President.

J. M. MASHKE, Secretary.