

PAPERS

RELATING TO

THE FOREIGN RELATIONS

OF

THE UNITED STATES,

TRANSMITTED TO CONGRESS WITH THE ANNUAL MESSAGE
OF THE PRESIDENT,

DECEMBER 2, 1872,

PRECEDED BY A

SYNOPTICAL LIST OF PAPERS AND FOLLOWED BY AN ALPHA-
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MESSAGE

OF THE

PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES.

To the Senate and House of Representatives :

In transmitting to you this, my fourth annual message, it is with thankfulness to the Giver of all good that, as a nation, we have been blessed for the past year with peace at home, peace abroad, and a general prosperity vouchsafed to but few peoples.

With the exception of the recent devastating fire which swept from the earth with a breath, as it were, millions of accumulated wealth in the city of Boston, there has been no overshadowing calamity within the year to record. It is gratifying to note how, like their fellow-citizens of the city of Chicago, under similar circumstances a year earlier, the citizens of Boston are rallying under their misfortunes, and the prospect that their energy and perseverance will overcome all obstacles, and show the same prosperity soon that they would had no disaster befallen them. Otherwise we have been free from pestilence, war, and calamities, which often overtake nations; and, as far as human judgment can penetrate the future, no cause seems to exist to threaten our present peace.

When Congress adjourned in June last a question had been raised by Great Britain, and was then pending, which for a time seriously imperiled the settlement by friendly arbitration of the grave differences between this Government and that of Her Britannic Majesty, which by the treaty of Washington had been referred to the tribunal of arbitration which had met at Geneva, in Switzerland.

The arbitrators, however, disposed of the question which had jeopardized the whole of the treaty, and threatened to involve the two nations in most unhappy relations toward each other, in a manner entirely satisfactory to this Government, and in accordance with the views and the policy which it had maintained.

The tribunal, which had convened at Geneva in December, concluded its laborious session on the 14th day of September last, on which day, having availed itself of the discretionary power given to it by the treaty to award a sum in gross, it made its decision, whereby it awarded the sum of fifteen millions five hundred thousand dollars in gold, as the indemnity to be paid by Great Britain to the United States for the satisfaction of all the claims referred to its consideration.

This decision happily disposes of a long-standing difference between the two governments, and, in connection with another award made by the German Emperor, under a reference to him by the same treaty, leaves these two governments without a shadow upon the friendly relations which it is my sincere hope may forever remain equally unclouded.

The report of the agent of the United States appointed to attend the Geneva tribunal, accompanied by the protocols of the proceedings of the arbitrators, the arguments of the counsel of both governments, the award of the tribunal, and the opinions given by the several arbitrators, is transmitted herewith.

I have caused to be communicated, to the heads of the three friendly powers who complied with the joint request made to them under the treaty, the thanks of this Government for the appointment of arbitrators made by them respectively, and also my thanks to the eminent personages named by them, and my appreciation of the dignity, patience, impartiality, and great ability with which they discharged their arduous and high functions.

Her Majesty's government has communicated to me the appreciation by Her Majesty of the ability and indefatigable industry displayed by Mr. Adams, the arbitrator named on the part of this Government, during the protracted inquiries and discussions of the tribunal. I cordially unite with Her Majesty in this appreciation.

It is due to the agent of the United States before the tribunal to record my high appreciation of the marked ability, unwearied patience, and the prudence and discretion with which he has conducted the very responsible and delicate duties committed to him, as it is also due to the learned and eminent counsel who attended the tribunal on the part of this Government, to express my sense of the talents and wisdom which they brought to bear in the attainment of the result so happily reached.

It will be the province of Congress to provide for the distribution, among those who may be entitled to it, of their respective shares of the money to be paid. Although the sum awarded is not payable until a year from the date of the award, it is deemed advisable that no time be lost in making a proper examination of the several cases in which indemnification may be due. I consequently recommend the creation of a board of commissioners for the purpose.

By the thirty-fourth article of the treaty of Washington the respective claims of the United States and of Great Britain, in their construction of the treaty of the 15th of June, 1846, defining the boundary-line between their respective territories, were submitted to the arbitration and award of His Majesty the Emperor of Germany, to decide which of those claims is most in accordance with the true interpretation of the treaty of 1846.

His Majesty the Emperor of Germany, having been pleased to undertake the arbitration, has the earnest thanks of this Government and

of the people of the United States for the labor, pains, and care which he has devoted to the consideration of this long-pending difference. I have caused an expression of my thanks to be communicated to His Majesty. Mr. Bancroft, the representative of this Government at Berlin, conducted the case, and prepared the statement on the part of the United States, with the ability that his past services justified the public in expecting at his hands. As a member of the Cabinet at the date of the treaty which has given rise to the discussion between the two Governments, as the minister to Great Britain when the construction now pronounced unfounded was first advanced, and as the agent and representative of the Government to present the case and to receive the award, he has been associated with the question in all of its phases, and in every stage has manifested a patriotic zeal and earnestness in maintenance of the claim of the United States. He is entitled to much credit for the success which has attended the submission.

After a patient investigation of the case and of the statements of each party, His Majesty the Emperor, on the 21st day of October last, signed his award in writing, decreeing that the claim of the Government of the United States, that the boundary-line between the territories of Her Britannic Majesty and the United States should be drawn through the Haro Channel, is most in accordance with the true interpretation of the treaty concluded on the 15th of June, 1846, between the Governments of Her Britannic Majesty and of the United States.

Copies of the "case" presented on behalf of each government, and of the "statement in reply" of each, and a translation of the award, are transmitted herewith.

This award confirms the United States in their claim to the important archipelago of islands lying between the continent and Vancouver's Island, which for more than twenty-six years (ever since the ratification of the treaty) Great Britain has contested, and leaves us, for the first time in the history of the United States as a nation, without a question of disputed boundary between our territory and the possessions of Great Britain on this continent.

It is my grateful duty to acknowledge the prompt, spontaneous action of Her Majesty's government in giving effect to the award. In anticipation of any request from this Government, and before the reception in the United States of the award signed by the Emperor, Her Majesty had given instructions for the removal of her troops which had been stationed there, and for the cessation of all exercise or claim of jurisdiction, so as to leave the United States in the exclusive possession of the lately disputed territory. I am gratified to be able to announce that the orders for the removal of the troops have been executed, and that the military joint occupation of San Juan has ceased. The islands are now in the exclusive possession of the United States.

It now becomes necessary to complete the survey and determination of that portion of the boundary-line (through the Haro Channel) upon

which the commission which determined the remaining part of the line were unable to agree. I recommend the appointment of a commission to act jointly with one, which may be named by Her Majesty for that purpose.

Experience of the difficulties attending the determination of our admitted line of boundary, after the occupation of the territory, and its settlement by those owing allegiance to the respective governments, points to the importance of establishing, by natural objects or other monuments, the actual line between the territory acquired by purchase from Russia and the adjoining possessions of Her Britannic Majesty. The region is now so sparsely occupied that no conflicting interests of individuals or of jurisdiction are likely to interfere to the delay or embarrassment of the actual location of the line. If deferred until population shall enter and occupy the territory, some trivial contest of neighbors may again array the two governments in antagonism. I therefore recommend the appointment of a commission, to act jointly with one that may be appointed on the part of Great Britain, to determine the line between our territory of Alaska and the conterminous possessions of Great Britain.

In my last annual message I recommended the legislation necessary on the part of the United States to bring into operation the articles of the treaty of Washington, of May 8, 1871, relating to the fisheries, and to other matters touching the relations of the United States toward the British North American possessions, to become operative so soon as the proper legislation should be had on the part of Great Britain and its possessions.

That legislation on the part of Great Britain and its possessions had not then been had, and during the session of Congress a question was raised which for the time raised a doubt whether any action by Congress in the direction indicated would become important. This question has since been disposed of, and I have received notice that the Imperial Parliament and the legislatures of the provincial governments have passed laws to carry the provisions of the treaty on the matters referred to into operation. I therefore recommend your early adoption of the legislation in the same direction necessary on the part of this Government.

The joint commission for determining the boundary-line between the United States and the British possessions, between the Lake of the Woods and the Rocky Mountains, has organized and entered upon its work. It is desirable that the force be increased in order that the completion of the survey and determination of the line may be the sooner attained. To this end I recommend that a sufficient appropriation be made.

With France, our earliest ally; Russia, the constant and steady friend of the United States; Germany, with whose government and people we have so many causes of friendship and so many common sympathies,

and the other powers of Europe, our relations are maintained on the most friendly terms.

Since my last annual message the exchange has been made of the ratifications of a treaty with the Austro-Hungarian empire, relating to naturalization; also of a treaty with the German empire respecting consuls and trade-marks; also of a treaty with Sweden and Norway relating to naturalization; all of which treaties have been duly proclaimed.

Congress, at its last session, having made an appropriation to defray the expense of commissioners on the part of the United States to the International Statistical Congress at St. Petersburg, the persons appointed in that character proceeded to their destination and attended the sessions of the congress. Their report shall in due season be laid before you. This congress meets at intervals of about three years, and has held its sessions in several of the countries of Europe. I submit to your consideration the propriety of extending an invitation to the congress to hold its next meeting in the United States. The Centennial celebration to be held in 1876 would afford an appropriate occasion for such meeting.

Preparations are making for the International Exposition to be held during the next year in Vienna, on a scale of very great magnitude. The tendency of these expositions is in the direction of advanced civilization, and of the elevation of industry and of labor, and of the increase of human happiness, as well as of greater intercourse and good will between nations. As this exposition is to be the first which will have been held in Eastern Europe, it is believed that American inventors and manufacturers will be ready to avail themselves of the opportunity for the presentation of their productions if encouraged by proper aid and protection.

At the last session of Congress, authority was given for the appointment of one or more agents to represent this Government at the exposition. The authority thus given has been exercised; but, in the absence of any appropriation, there is danger that the important benefits which the occasion offers will, in a large degree, be lost to citizens of the United States. I commend the subject strongly to your consideration, and recommend that an adequate appropriation be made for the purpose.

To further aid American exhibitors at the Vienna Exposition I would recommend, in addition to an appropriation of money, that the Secretary of the Navy be authorized to fit up two naval vessels to transport between our Atlantic cities and Trieste, or the most convenient port to Vienna, and back, their articles for exhibition.

Since your last session the President of the Mexican Republic, distinguished by his high character, and by his services to his country, has died. His temporary successor has now been elected with great unanimity by the people, a proof of confidence on their part in his patriotism

and wisdom, which it is believed will be confirmed by the results of his administration. It is particularly desirable that nothing should be left undone by the government of either republic to strengthen their relations as neighbors and friends.

It is much to be regretted that many lawless acts continue to disturb the quiet of the settlements on the border between our territory and that of Mexico, and that complaints of wrongs to American citizens in various parts of the country are made. The revolutionary condition in which the neighboring republic has so long been involved, has in some degree contributed to this disturbance. It is to be hoped that with a more settled rule of order through the republic, which may be expected from the present government, the acts of which just complaint is made will cease.

The proceedings of the commission under the convention with Mexico of the 4th of July, 1868, on the subject of claims, have unfortunately been checked by an obstacle, for the removal of which measures have been taken by the two governments which it is believed will prove successful.

The commissioners appointed, pursuant to the joint resolution of Congress of the 7th of May last, to inquire into depredations on the Texan frontier, have diligently made investigations in that quarter. Their report upon the subject will be communicated to you. Their researches were necessarily incomplete, partly on account of the limited appropriation made by Congress. Mexico, on the part of that government, has appointed a similar commission to investigate these outrages. It is not announced officially, but the press of that country states that the fullest investigation is desired, and that the co-operation of all parties concerned is invited to secure that end. I therefore recommend that a special appropriation be made at the earliest day practicable, to enable the commissioners on the part of the United States to return to their labors without delay.

It is with regret that I have again to announce a continuance of the disturbed condition of the island of Cuba. No advance toward the pacification of the discontented part of the population has been made. While the insurrection has gained no advantages and exhibits no more of the elements of power or of the prospects of ultimate success than were exhibited a year ago, Spain, on the other hand, has not succeeded in its repression, and the parties stand apparently in the same relative attitude which they have occupied for a long time past.

This contest has lasted now for more than four years. Were its scene at a distance from our neighborhood, we might be indifferent to its result, although humanity could not be unmoved by many of its incidents wherever they might occur. It is, however, at our door.

I cannot doubt that the continued maintenance of slavery in Cuba is among the strongest inducements to the continuance of this strife. A terrible wrong is the natural cause of a terrible evil. The abolition of

slavery, and the introduction of other reforms in the administration or government in Cuba, could not fail to advance the restoration of peace and order. It is greatly to be hoped that the present liberal government of Spain will voluntarily adopt this view.

The law of emancipation, which was passed more than two years since, has remained unexecuted in the absence of regulations for its enforcement. It was but a feeble step toward emancipation, but it was the recognition of right, and was hailed as such, and exhibited Spain in harmony with sentiments of humanity and of justice, and in sympathy with the other powers of the Christian and civilized world.

Within the past few weeks the regulations for carrying out the law of emancipation have been announced, giving evidence of the sincerity of intention of the present government to carry into effect the law of 1870. I have not failed to urge the consideration of the wisdom, the policy, and the justice of a more effective system for the abolition of the great evil which oppresses a race, and continues a bloody and destructive contest close to our border, as well as the expediency and the justice of conceding reforms of which the propriety is not questioned.

Deeply impressed with the conviction that the continuance of slavery is one of the most active causes of the continuance of the unhappy condition in Cuba, I regret to believe that citizens of the United States, or those claiming to be such, are large holders in Cuba of what is there claimed as property, but which is forbidden and denounced by the laws of the United States. They are thus, in defiance of the spirit of our own laws, contributing to the continuance of this distressing and sickening contest. In my last annual message I referred to this subject, and I again recommend such legislation as may be proper to denounce, and, if not prevent, at least to discourage American citizens from holding or dealing in slaves.

It is gratifying to announce that the ratifications of the convention concluded under the auspices of this Government, between Spain on the one part, and the allied republics of the Pacific on the other, providing for an armistice, have been exchanged. A copy of the instrument is herewith submitted. It is hoped that this may be followed by a permanent peace between the same parties.

The differences which at one time threatened the maintenance of peace between Brazil and the Argentine Republic, it is hoped are in the way of satisfactory adjustment.

With these states, as with the republics of Central and of South America, we continue to maintain the most friendly relations.

It is with regret, however, I announce that the government of Venezuela has made no further payments on account of the awards under the convention of the 25th of April, 1866. That republic is understood to be now almost, if not quite, tranquillized. It is hoped, therefore, that it will lose no time in providing for the unpaid balance of its debt to the United States, which, having originated in injuries to our citizens by

Venezuelan authorities, and having been acknowledged, pursuant to a treaty, in the most solemn form known among nations, would seem to deserve a preference over debts of a different origin and contracted in a different manner. This subject is again recommended to the attention of Congress for such action as may be deemed proper.

Our treaty relations with Japan remain unchanged. An imposing embassy from that interesting and progressive nation visited this country during the year that is passing; but being unprovided with powers for the signing of a convention in this country, no conclusion in that direction was reached. It is hoped, however, that the interchange of opinions which took place during their stay in this country has led to a mutual appreciation of the interests which may be promoted when the revision of the existing treaty shall be undertaken.

In this connection I renew my recommendation of one year ago, that, "to give importance and to add to the efficiency of our diplomatic relations with Japan and China, and to further aid in retaining the good opinion of those peoples, and to secure to the United States its share of the commerce destined to flow between those nations and the balance of the commercial world, an appropriation be made to support at least four American youths in each of those countries, to serve as a part of the official family of our ministers there. Our representatives would not even then be placed upon an equality with the representatives of Great Britain and of some other powers. As now situated, our representatives in Japan and China have to depend, for interpreters and translators, upon natives of those countries, who know our language imperfectly, or procure for the occasion the services of employes in foreign business-houses, or the interpreters to other foreign ministers."

I renew the recommendation made on a previous occasion, of the transfer to the Department of the Interior, to which they seem more appropriately to belong, of all the powers and duties in relation to the Territories with which the Department of State is now charged by law or by custom.

Congress, from the beginning of the Government, has wisely made provision for the relief of distressed seamen in foreign countries. No similar provision, however, has hitherto been made for the relief of citizens in distress abroad, other than seamen. It is understood to be customary with other governments to authorize consuls to extend such relief to their citizens or subjects in certain cases. A similar authority, and an appropriation to carry it into effect, are recommended in the case of citizens of the United States destitute or sick under such circumstances. It is well known that such citizens resort to foreign countries in great numbers. Though most of them are able to bear the expenses incident to locomotion, there are some who, through accident or otherwise, become penniless, and have no friends at home able to succor them. Persons in this situation must either perish, cast themselves upon the charity of foreigners, or be relieved at the private charge of

our own officers, who usually, even with the most benevolent dispositions, have nothing to spare for such purposes.

Should the authority and appropriation asked for be granted, care will be taken so to carry the beneficence of Congress into effect that it shall not be unnecessarily or unworthily bestowed.

TREASURY.

The moneys received and covered into the Treasury during the fiscal year ended June 30, 1872, were :

| | |
|--|--------------------|
| From customs..... | \$216, 370, 286 77 |
| From sales of public lands | 2, 575, 714 19 |
| From internal revenue..... | 130, 642, 177 72 |
| From tax on national-bank circulation, &c | 6, 523, 396 39 |
| From Pacific Railway companies..... | 749, 861 87 |
| From customs fines, &c | 1, 136, 442 34 |
| From fees, consular, patent, land, &c..... | 2, 284, 095 92 |
| From miscellaneous sources..... | 4, 412, 254 71 |
| <hr/> | |
| Total ordinary receipts | 364, 694, 229 91 |
| From premium on sales of coin..... | 9, 412, 637 65 |
| <hr/> | |
| Total net receipts | 374, 106, 867 56 |
| Balance in Treasury June 30, 1871, (including \$18,228.35 received from "unavailable") | 109, 935, 705 59 |
| <hr/> | |
| Total available cash..... | 484, 042, 573 15 |
| <hr/> | |

The net expenditures by warrants during the same period were :

| | |
|--|-------------------|
| For civil expenses..... | \$16, 187, 059 20 |
| For foreign intercourse..... | 1, 839, 369 14 |
| For Indians..... | 7, 061, 728 82 |
| For pensions..... | 28, 533, 402 76 |
| For military establishment, including fortifications, river and harbor improvements, and arsenals..... | 35, 372, 157 20 |
| For naval establishment, including vessels and machinery and improvements at navy-yards..... | 21, 249, 809 99 |
| For miscellaneous civil, including public buildings, light-houses, and collecting the revenue..... | 42, 958, 329 08 |
| For interest on the public debt..... | 117, 357, 839 72 |
| <hr/> | |
| Total, exclusive of principal and premium on the public debt... | 270, 559, 695 91 |
| For premium on bonds purchased | \$6, 958, 266 76 |
| For redemption of the public debt..... | 99, 960, 253 54 |
| <hr/> | |
| Total net disbursements..... | 106, 918, 520 30 |
| <hr/> | |
| Total net disbursements..... | 377, 478, 216 21 |
| Balance in Treasury June 30, 1872..... | 106, 564, 356 94 |
| <hr/> | |
| Total | 484, 042, 573 15 |
| <hr/> | |

From the foregoing statement it appears that the net reduction of the

principal of the debt during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1872, was \$99,960,253.54.

The source of this reduction is as follows :

| | |
|---|----------------------|
| Net ordinary receipts during the year..... | \$364,694,229 91 |
| Net ordinary expenditures, including interest on the public debt..... | 270,559,695 91 |
| Leaving surplus revenue | 94,134,534 00 |
| Add amount received from premium on sales of gold, in excess of the premium paid on bonds purchased..... | 2,454,370 89 |
| Add the amount of the reduction of the cash balance at the close of the year, accompanied with same at commencement of the year.... | 3,371,348 65 |
| Total | <u>99,960,253 54</u> |

This statement treats solely of the principal of the public debt.

By the monthly statement of the public debt, which adds together the principal, interest due and unpaid, and interest accrued to date, not due, and deducts the cash in the Treasury as ascertained on the day of publication, the reduction was \$100,544,491.28.

The source of this reduction is as follows :

| | |
|---|-----------------------|
| Reduction in principal account..... | \$99,960,003 54 |
| Reduction in unpaid interest account..... | 3,330,952 96 |
| | 103,290,956 50 |
| Reduction in cash on hand..... | 2,746,465 22 |
| | <u>100,544,491 28</u> |

On the basis of the last table the statements show a reduction of the public debt, from the 1st of March, 1869, to the present time, as follows :

| | |
|--|-----------------------|
| From March 1, 1869, to March 1, 1870..... | \$87,134,782 84 |
| From March 1, 1870, to March 1, 1871..... | 117,619,630 25 |
| From March 1, 1871, to March 1, 1872..... | 94,895,348 94 |
| From March 1, 1872, to November 1, 1872, (eight months)..... | 64,047,237 84 |
| Total..... | <u>363,696 999 87</u> |

With the great reduction of taxation by the acts of Congress at its last session, the expenditure of the Government in collecting the revenue will be much reduced for the next fiscal year. It is very doubtful, however, whether any further reduction of so vexatious a burden upon any people will be practicable for the present. At all events, as a measure of justice to the holders of the nation's certificates of indebtedness, I would recommend that no more legislation be had on this subject, unless it be to correct errors of omission or commission in the present laws, until sufficient time has elapsed to prove that it can be done and still leave sufficient revenue to meet current expenses of Government, pay interest on the public debt, and provide for the sinking-fund established by law. The preservation of our national credit is of the highest

importance; next in importance to this comes a solemn duty to provide a national currency, of fixed, unvarying value, as compared with gold, and as soon as practicable, having due regard for the interests of the debtor class, and the vicissitudes of trade and commerce, convertible into gold at par.

WAR DEPARTMENT.

The report of the Secretary of War shows the expenditures of the War Department for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1871, to be \$35,799,991.82, and for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1872, to be \$35,372,157.20, showing a reduction in favor of the last fiscal year of \$427,834.62.

The estimates for military appropriations for the next fiscal year, ending June 30, 1874, are \$33,801,378.78.

The estimates of the Chief of Engineers are submitted separately for fortifications, river and harbor improvements, and for public buildings and grounds, and the Washington aqueduct.

The affairs of the Freedmen's Bureau have all been transferred to the War Department, and regulations have been put into execution for the speedy payment of bounty, pay, &c., due colored soldiers, properly coming under that bureau. All war accounts, for money and property, prior to 1871, have been examined and transmitted to the Treasury for final settlement.

During the fiscal year there has been paid for transportation on railroads \$1,300,000, of which \$800,857 was over the Pacific railroads; for transportation by water \$626,373.52, and by stage \$48,975.84; for the purchase of transportation animals, wagons, hire of teamsters, &c., \$924,650.64.

About \$370,000 have been collected from Southern railroads during the year, leaving about \$4,000,000 still due.

The Quartermaster has examined and transmitted to the accounting officers for settlement, \$367,172.72 of claims by loyal citizens for quartermasters' stores taken during the war.

Subsistence supplies to the amount of \$89,048.12 have been issued to Indians.

The annual average mean strength of the Army was 24,101 white, and 2,494 colored soldiers. The total deaths for the year reported, were 367 white and 54 colored.

The distribution of the Medical and Surgical History of the War is yet to be ordered by Congress.

There exists an absolute necessity for a medical corps of the full number established by act of Congress of July 28, 1866; there being now fifty-nine vacancies, and the number of successful candidates rarely exceeds eight or ten in any one year.

The river and harbor improvements have been carried on with energy and economy. Though many are only partially completed, the results

have saved to commerce many times the amount expended. The increase of commerce, with greater depth of channels, greater security in navigation, and the saving of time, adds millions to the wealth of the country and increases the resources of the Government.

The bridge across the Mississippi River at Rock Island has been completed, and the proper site has been determined upon for the bridge at La Crosse.

The able and exhaustive report made by the commission appointed to investigate the Sutro Tunnel has been transmitted to Congress.

The observations and reports of the Signal Office have been continued. Stations have been maintained at each of the principal lake, sea-port, and river cities. Ten additional stations have been established in the United States, and arrangements have been made for an exchange of reports with Canada, and a similar exchange of observations is contemplated with the West India Islands.

The favorable attention of Congress is invited to the following recommendations of the Secretary of War:

A discontinuance of the appointment of extra lieutenants to serve as adjutants and quartermasters; the adoption of a code providing specific penalties for well-defined offenses, so that the inequality of sentences adjudged by courts-martial may be adjusted; the consolidation of accounts under which expenditures are made, as a measure of economy; a re-appropriation of the money for the construction of a depot at San Antonio, the title to the site being now perfected; a special act placing the cemetery at the city of Mexico on the same basis as other national cemeteries; authority to purchase sites for military posts in Texas; the appointment of commissary sergeants from non-commissioned officers, as a measure for securing the better care and protection of supplies; an appropriation for the publication of the catalogue and tables of the anatomical section of the Army Medical Museum; a re-appropriation of the amount for the manufacture of breech-loading arms, should the selection be so delayed by the board of officers as to leave the former appropriation unexpended at the close of the fiscal year; the sale of such arsenals east of the Mississippi as can be spared, and the proceeds applied to the establishment of one large arsenal of construction and repair upon the Atlantic coast, and the purchase of a suitable site for a proving and experimental ground for heavy ordnance; the abrogation of laws which deprive inventors in the United States service from deriving any benefit from their inventions; the repeal of the law prohibiting promotions in the staff-corps; a continuance of the work upon coast defenses; the repeal of the seventh section of the act of July 13, 1866, taking from engineer soldiers the per diem granted to other troops; a limitation of time for presentation of old war claims for subsistence supplies under act of July 4, 1864; and a modification in the mode of the selection of cadets for the Military Academy, in order to enhance the usefulness of the Academy, which is impaired by reason of the large

amount of time necessarily expended in giving new cadets a thorough knowledge of the more elementary branches of learning, which they should acquire before entering the Academy. Also an appropriation for philosophical apparatus and an increase in the numbers and pay of the Military Academy band.

The attention of Congress will be called during its present session to various enterprises for the more certain and cheaper transportation of the constantly increasing surplus of western and southern products to the Atlantic sea-board. The subject is one that will force itself upon the legislative branch of the Government sooner or later, and I suggest therefore, that immediate steps be taken to gain all available information to insure equable and just legislation.

One route to connect the Mississippi Valley with the Atlantic, at Charleston, South Carolina, and Savannah, Georgia, by water, by the way of the Ohio and Tennessee Rivers, and canals and slack-water navigation to the Savannah and Ocmulgee Rivers, has been surveyed, and report made by an accomplished engineer officer of the Army. Second and third, new routes will be proposed for the consideration of Congress, namely, by an extension of the Kanawha and James River Canal to the Ohio, and by extension of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal.

I am not prepared to recommend Government aid to these or other enterprises until it is clearly shown that they are not only of national interest, but that when completed they will be of a value commensurate with their cost.

That production increases more rapidly than the means of transportation in our country has been demonstrated by past experience. That the unprecedented growth in population and products of the whole country will require additional facilities, and cheaper ones for the more bulky articles of commerce to reach tide-water and a market will be demanded in the near future, is equally demonstrable. I would therefore suggest either a committee or a commission to be authorized to consider this whole question, and to report to Congress at some future day for its better guidance in legislating on this important subject.

The railroads of the country have been rapidly extended during the last few years to meet the growing demands of producers, and reflect much credit upon the capitalists and managers engaged in their construction.

In addition to these, a project to facilitate commerce by the building of a ship-canal around Niagara Falls, on the United States side, which has been agitated for many years, will, no doubt, be called to your attention at this session.

Looking to the great future growth of the country, and the increasing demands of commerce, it might be well, while on this subject, not only to have examined and reported upon the various practicable routes for connecting the Mississippi with tide-water on the Atlantic, but the

feasibility of an almost continuous land-locked navigation from Maine to the Gulf of Mexico. Such a route along our coast would be of great value at all times, and of inestimable value in case of a foreign war. Nature has provided the greater part of this route, and the obstacles to overcome are easily within the skill of the engineer.

I have not alluded to this subject with the view of having any further expenditure of public money at this time than may be necessary to procure and place all the necessary information before Congress in an authentic form, to enable it hereafter, if deemed practicable and worthy, to legislate on the subject without delay.

NAVY DEPARTMENT.

The report of the Secretary of the Navy herewith accompanying, explains fully the condition of that branch of the public service, its wants and deficiencies, expenses incurred during the past year, and appropriations for the same. It also gives a complete history of the services of the Navy for the past year, in addition to its regular service.

It is evident that, unless early steps are taken to preserve our Navy, that in a very few years the United States will be the weakest nation upon the ocean, of all great powers. With an energetic, progressive business people like ours, penetrating and forming business relations with every part of the known world, a Navy strong enough to command the respect of our flag abroad is necessary for the full protection of their rights.

I recommend careful consideration by Congress of the recommendations made by the Secretary of the Navy.

POST-OFFICE DEPARTMENT.

The accompanying report of the Postmaster-General furnishes a full and satisfactory exhibit of the operations of the Post-Office Department during the year. The ordinary revenues of the Department for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1872, amounted to \$21,915,426.37, and the expenditures to \$26,658,192.31. Compared with the previous fiscal year the increase of revenue was \$1,878,330.95, or 9.37 per cent., and the increase of expenditures \$2,268,088.23, or 9.29 per cent. Adding to the ordinary revenues the annual appropriation of \$700,000 for free matter, and the amounts paid to the subsidized mail-steamship lines from special appropriations, the deficiency paid out of the general Treasury was \$3,317,765.94, an excess of \$389,707.28 over the deficiency for the year 1871.

Other interesting statistical information relating to our rapidly extending postal service is furnished in this report. The total length of railroad mail-routes on the 30th of June, 1872, was 57,911 miles, 8,077 additional miles of such service having been put into operation during the year. Eight new lines of railway post-offices have been established, with an aggregate length of 2,909 miles. The number of letters exchanged in the mails with foreign countries was 24,362,500, an increase

of 4,066,502, or 20 per cent. over the number in 1871; and the postage thereon amounted to \$1,871,257.25. The total weight of the mails exchanged with European countries exceeded 820 tons. The cost of the United States transatlantic mail-steamship service was \$220,301.70. The total cost of the United States ocean-steamship service, including the amounts paid to the subsidized lines of mail steamers, was \$1,027,020.97.

The following are the only steamship lines now receiving subsidies for mail service under special acts of Congress: The Pacific Mail Steamship Company receive \$500,000 per annum for conveying a monthly mail between San Francisco, Japan, and China, which will be increased to \$1,000,000 per annum for a semi-monthly mail on and after October 1, 1873; the United States and Brazil Mail Steamship Company receive \$150,000 per annum for conveying a monthly mail between New York and Rio de Janeiro, Brazil; and the California, Oregon, and Mexico Steamship Company receive \$75,000 per annum for conveying a monthly mail between San Francisco and Honolulu, (Hawaiian Islands,) making the total amount of mail-steamship subsidies, at present, \$725,000 per annum.

Our postal communications with all parts of the civilized world have been placed upon a most advantageous footing by the improved postal conventions and arrangements recently concluded with the leading commercial countries of Europe and America, and the gratifying statement is made that with the conclusion of a satisfactory convention with France, the details of which have been definitely agreed to by the head of the French postal department, subject to the approval of the minister of finance, little remains to be accomplished by treaty for some time to come, with respect either to reduction of rates or improved facilities of postal intercourse.

Your favorable consideration is respectfully invited to the recommendations made by the Postmaster-General for an increase of service from monthly to semi-monthly trips on the mail-steamship route to Brazil; for a subsidy in aid of the establishment of an American line of mail steamers between San Francisco, New Zealand, and Australia; for the establishment of post-office savings banks; and for the increase of the salaries of the heads of bureaus. I have heretofore recommended the abolition of the franking privilege, and see no reason now for changing my views on that subject. It not having been favorably regarded by Congress, however, I now suggest a modification of that privilege to correct its glaring and costly abuses. I would recommend also the appointment of a committee or commission to take into consideration the best method (equitable to private corporations who have invested their time and capital in the establishment of telegraph-lines) of acquiring the title to all telegraph-lines now in operation, and of connecting this service with the postal service of the nation. It is not probable that this subject could receive the proper consideration during the limits of

a short session of Congress, but it may be initiated, so that future action may be fair to the Government and to private parties concerned.

There are but three lines of ocean steamers, namely, the Pacific Mail Steamship Company, between San Francisco, China, and Japan, with provision made for semi-monthly service after October 1, 1873; the United States and Brazil line, monthly; and the California, New Zealand. and Australian line, monthly, plying between the United States and foreign ports, and owned and operated under our flag. I earnestly recommend that such liberal contracts for carrying the mails be authorized with these lines as will insure their continuance.

If the expediency of extending the aid of Government to lines of steamers which hitherto have not received it should be deemed worthy of the consideration of Congress, political and commercial objects make it advisable to bestow such aid on a line under our flag between Panama and the Western South American ports. By this means much trade, now diverted to other countries, might be brought to us, to the mutual advantage of this country and those lying in that quarter of the continent of America.

The report of the Secretary of the Treasury will show an alarming falling off in our carrying-trade for the last ten or twelve years, and even for the past year. I do not believe that public treasure can be better expended in the interest of the whole people than in trying to recover this trade. An expenditure of \$5,000,000 per annum for the next five years, if it would restore to us our proportion of the carrying-trade of the world, would be profitably expended.

The price of labor in Europe has so much enhanced within the last few years that the cost of building and operating ocean-steamers in the United States is not so much greater than in Europe, and I believe the time has arrived for Congress to take this subject into serious consideration.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE.

Detailed statements of the disbursements through the Department of Justice will be furnished by the report of the Attorney-General, and though these have been somewhat increased by the recent acts of Congress "to enforce the rights of citizens of the United States to vote in the several States of the Union," and "to enforce the provisions of the fourteenth amendment to the Constitution of the United States," and the amendments thereto, I cannot question the necessity and salutary effect of those enactments. Reckless and lawless men, I regret to say, have associated themselves together, in some localities, to deprive other citizens of those rights guaranteed to them by the Constitution of the United States, and to that end have committed deeds of blood and violence; but the prosecution and punishment of many of these persons have tended greatly to the repression of such disorders. I do not doubt that a great majority of the people in all parts of the country favor the

full enjoyment by all classes of persons of those rights to which they are entitled under the Constitution and laws; and I invoke the aid and influence of all good citizens to prevent organizations whose objects are by unlawful means to interfere with those rights. I look with confidence to the time, not far distant, when the obvious advantages of good order and peace will induce an abandonment of all combinations prohibited by the acts referred to, and when it will be unnecessary to carry on prosecutions or inflict punishment to protect citizens from the lawless doings of such combinations.

Applications have been made to me to pardon persons convicted of a violation of said acts, upon the ground that clemency in such cases would tend to tranquillize the public mind, and to test the virtue of that policy I am disposed, as far as my sense of justice will permit, to give to these applications a favorable consideration; but any action thereon is not to be construed as indicating any change in my determination to enforce with rigor such acts so long as the conspiracies and combinations therein named disturb the peace of the country.

It is much to be regretted, and is regretted by no one more than myself, that a necessity has ever existed to execute the "enforcement act." No one can desire more than I that the necessity of applying it may never again be demanded.

INTERIOR DEPARTMENT.

The Secretary of the Interior reports satisfactory improvement and progress in each of the several bureaus under the control of the Interior Department. They are all in excellent condition. The work which in some of them, for some years, has been in arrears, has been brought down to a recent date, and in all the current business is being promptly dispatched.

INDIANS.

The policy which was adopted at the beginning of this administration with regard to the management of the Indians has been as successful as its most ardent friends anticipated within so short a time. It has reduced the expense of their management; decreased their forays upon the white settlements; tended to give the largest opportunity for the extension of the great railways through the public domain and the pushing of settlements into more remote districts of the country; and at the same time improved the condition of the Indians. The policy will be maintained without any change excepting such as further experience may show to be necessary to render it more efficient.

The subject of converting the so-called Indian Territory south of Kansas into a home for the Indian, and erecting therein a territorial form of government, is one of great importance as a complement of the existing Indian policy. The question of removal to that territory has, within

the past year, been presented to many of the tribes resident upon other and less desirable portions of the public domain, and has generally been received by them with favor. As a preliminary step to the organization of such a territory it will be necessary to confine the Indians, now resident therein, to farms of proper size, which should be secured to them in fee; the residue to be used for the settlement of other friendly Indians. Efforts will be made in the immediate future to induce the removal of as many peaceably-disposed Indians to the Indian Territory as can be settled properly, without disturbing the harmony of those already there. There is no other location now available, where a people who are endeavoring to acquire a knowledge of pastoral and agricultural pursuits can be as well accommodated as upon the unoccupied lands in the Indian Territory. A territorial government should, however, protect the Indians from the inroads of whites for a term of years, until they become sufficiently advanced in the arts and civilization to guard their own rights, and from the disposal of the lands held by them for the same period.

LANDS.

During the last fiscal year there were disposed of, out of the public lands, 11,864,975 acres, a quantity greater by 1,099,270 acres than was disposed of the previous year. Of this amount, 1,370,320 acres were sold for cash; 389,460 acres located with military warrants; 4,671,332 acres taken for homesteads; 693,613 acres located with college scrip; 3,554,887 acres granted to railroads; 465,347 acres granted to wagon-roads; 714,255 acres given to States as swamp-land; 5,760 acres located by Indian scrip. The cash receipts from all sources in the Land-Office amounted to \$3,218,100. During the same period 22,016,608 acres of the public lands were surveyed, which, added to the quantity before surveyed, amounts to 583,364,780 acres, leaving 1,257,633,628 acres of the public lands still unsurveyed.

The reports from the subordinates of the Land-Office contain interesting information in regard to their respective districts. They uniformly mention the fruitfulness of the soil during the past season, and the increased yields of all kinds of produce. Even in those States and Territories where mining is the principal business, agricultural products have exceeded the local demand, and liberal shipments have been made to distant points.

PATENTS.

During the year ending September 30, 1872, there were issued from the Patent-Office 13,626 patents; 233 extensions; and 556 certificates and registries of trade-marks. During the same time 19,587 applications for patents, including re-issues and designs, have been received, and 3,100 caveats filed. The fees received during the same period amounted to \$700,954.86, and the total expenditures to \$623,553.90, making the net receipts over the expenditures \$77,400.96.

Since 1836, 200,000 applications for patents have been filed, and about 133,000 patents issued. The office is being conducted under the same laws and general organization as were adopted at its original inauguration, when only from one hundred to five hundred applications were made per annum. The Commissioner shows that the office has outgrown the original plan, and that a new organization has become necessary. This subject was presented to Congress in a special communication in February last, with my approval and the approval of the Secretary of the Interior, and the suggestions contained in said communication were embraced in the bill that was reported to the House, by the Committee on Patents, at the last session. The subject of the re-organization of the Patent-Office, as contemplated by the bill referred to, is one of such importance to the industrial interests of the country that I commend it to the attention of Congress.

The Commissioner also treats the subject of the separation of the Patent-Office from the Department of the Interior. This subject is also embraced in the bill heretofore referred to. The Commissioner complains of the want of room for the model-gallery, and for the working force and necessary files of the office. It is impossible to transact the business of the office properly without more room in which to arrange files and drawings, that must be consulted hourly in the transaction of business. The whole of the Patent-Office building will soon be needed, if it is not already, for the accommodation of the business of the Patent-Office.

PENSIONS.

The amount paid for pensions in the last fiscal year was \$30,169,340, an amount larger by \$3,708,434 than was paid during the preceding year. Of this amount \$2,313,409 were paid under the act of Congress of February 17, 1871, to survivors of the war of 1812. The annual increase of pensions by the legislation of Congress has more than kept pace with the natural yearly losses from the rolls. The act of Congress of June 8, 1872, has added an estimated amount of \$750,000 per annum to the rolls, without increasing the number of pensioners. We cannot, therefore, look for any substantial decrease in the expenditures of this Department for some time to come, or so long as Congress continues to so change the rates of pension.

The whole number of soldiers enlisted in the war of the rebellion was 2,688,523. The total number of claims for invalid pensions is 176,000, being but six per cent. of the whole number of enlisted men. The total number of claims on hand at the beginning of the year was 91,689; the number received during the year was 26,574; the number disposed of was 39,178, making a net gain of 12,604. The number of claims now on file is 79,085.

On the 30th of June, 1872, there were on the rolls the names of 95,405 invalid military pensioners, 113,518 widows, orphans, and dependent

relatives, making an aggregate of 298,923 Army pensioners. At the same time there were on the rolls the names of 1,449 Navy pensioners, and 1,730 widows, orphans, and dependent relatives, making the whole number of naval pensioners 3,179. There have been received, since the passage of the act to provide pensions for the survivors of the war of 1812, 36,551 applications, prior to June 30, 1872. Of these there were allowed, during the last fiscal year, 20,126 claims; 4,845 were rejected during the year, leaving 11,580 claims pending at that date. The number of pensions of all classes granted during the last fiscal year was 33,838. During that period there were dropped from the rolls, for various causes, 9,104 names, leaving a grand total of 232,229 pensioners on the rolls on the 30th of June, 1872.

It is thought that the claims for pensions on account of the war of 1812 will all be disposed of by the 1st of May, 1873. It is estimated that \$30,480,000 will be required for the pension service during the next fiscal year.

THE CENSUS.

The ninth census is about completed. Its early completion is a subject of congratulation, inasmuch as the use to be made of the statistics therein contained depends very greatly on the promptitude of publication.

The Secretary of the Interior recommends that a census be taken in 1875, which recommendation should receive the early attention of Congress. The interval at present established between the federal census is so long that the information obtained at the decennial periods as to the material condition, wants and resources of the nation, is of little practical value after the expiration of the first half of that period. It would probably obviate the constitutional provision regarding the decennial census, if a census taken in 1875 should be divested of all political character, and no re-apportionment of congressional representation be made under it. Such a census, coming as it would in the last year of the first century of our national existence, would furnish a noble monument of the progress of the United States during that century.

EDUCATION.

The rapidly increasing interest in education is a most encouraging feature in the current history of the country, and it is, no doubt, true that this is due in a great measure to the efforts of the Bureau of Education. That office is continually receiving evidences, which abundantly prove its efficiency, from the various institutions of learning, and educators of all kinds throughout the country.

The report of the Commissioner contains a vast amount of educational details of great interest. The bill now pending before Congress, providing for the appropriation of the net proceeds of the sales of public lands for educational purposes, to aid the States in the general education

of their rising generation, is a measure of such great importance to our real progress, and is so unanimously approved by the leading friends of education, that I commend it to the favorable attention of Congress.

TERRITORIES.

Affairs in the Territories are generally satisfactory. The energy and business capacity of the pioneers who are settling up the vast domains not yet incorporated into States are keeping pace, in internal improvements and civil government, with the older communities. In but one of them, Utah, is the condition of affairs unsatisfactory, except so far as the quiet of the citizen may be disturbed by real or imaginary danger of Indian hostilities. It has seemed to be the policy of the legislature of Utah to evade all responsibility to the Government of the United States, and even to hold a position in hostility to it.

I recommend a careful revision of the present laws of the Territory by Congress, and the enactment of such a law (the one proposed in Congress at its last session, for instance, or something similar to it) as will secure peace, the equality of all citizens before the law, and the ultimate extinguishment of polygamy.

Since the establishment of a territorial government for the District of Columbia, the improvement of the condition of the city of Washington and surroundings, and the increased prosperity of the citizens, is observable to the most casual visitor. The nation, being a large owner of property in the city, should bear, with the citizens of the District, its just share of the expense of these improvements.

I recommend, therefore, an appropriation to re-imburse the citizens for the work done by them along and in front of public grounds during the past year; and liberal appropriations in order that the improvement and embellishment of the public buildings and grounds may keep pace with the improvements made by the Territorial authorities.

AGRICULTURE.

The report of the Commissioner of Agriculture gives a very full and interesting account of the several divisions of that Department—the horticultural, agricultural, statistical, entomological, and chemical, and the benefits conferred by each upon the agricultural interests of the country. The whole report is a complete history, in detail, of the workings of that Department in all its branches, showing the manner in which the farmer, merchant, and miner is informed, and the extent to which he is aided in his pursuits.

The Commissioner makes one recommendation—that measures be taken by Congress to protect and induce the planting of forests, and suggests that no part of the public lands should be disposed of without the condition that one-tenth of it should be reserved in timber where it

exists, and, where it does not exist, inducements should be offered for planting it.

CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION.

In accordance with the terms of the act of Congress, approved March 3, 1871, providing for the celebration of the one hundredth anniversary of American independence, a commission has been organized, consisting of two members from each of the States and Territories. This commission has held two sessions, and has made satisfactory progress in the organization and in the initiatory steps necessary for carrying out the provisions of the act, and for executing also the provisions of the act of June 1, 1872, creating a centennial board of finance. A preliminary report of progress has been received from the president of the commission, and is herewith transmitted. It will be the duty of the commission at your coming session to transmit a full report of the progress made, and to lay before you the details relating to the exhibition of American and foreign arts, products, and manufactures, which, by the terms of the act, is to be held under the auspices of the Government of the United States, in the city of Philadelphia, in the year 1876.

This celebration will be looked forward to by American citizens with great interest, as marking a century of greater progress and prosperity than is recorded in the history of any other nation, and as serving a further good purpose in bringing together, on our soil, peoples of all the commercial nations of the earth, in a manner calculated to insure international good feeling.

CIVIL SERVICE.

An earnest desire has been felt to correct abuses which have grown up in the civil service of the country, through the defective method of making appointments to office. Heretofore Federal offices have been regarded too much as the reward of political services. Under authority of Congress, rules have been established to regulate the tenure of office and the mode of appointments. It cannot be expected that any system of rules can be entirely effective, and prove a perfect remedy for the existing evils, until they have been thoroughly tested by actual practice, and amended according to the requirements of the service. During my term of office it shall be my earnest endeavor to so apply the rules as to secure the greatest possible reform in the civil service of the Government; but it will require the direct action of Congress to render the enforcement of the system binding upon my successors, and I hope that the experience of the past year, together with appropriate legislation by Congress, may reach a satisfactory solution of this question, and secure to the public service, for all time, a practical method of obtaining faithful and efficient officers and employés.

U. S. GRANT.

EXECUTIVE MANSION, *December 2, 1872.*

SPAIN.

| No. | From whom and to whom. | Date. | Subject. | Page. |
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| | | 1871. | | |
| 416 | Mr. Adee to Mr. Fish | Sept. 2 | Amnesty for political offenses. Incloses copy of a general decree. | 548 |
| 417 | Mr. Sickles to Mr. Fish | Nov. 20 | Abolishment of slavery in the island of Porto Rico. Transmits copy of address presented to the government of Spain by the people of that island. | 550 |
| | | 1872. | | |
| 418 | Mr. Fish to Mr. Adee | April 1 | Atrocities practiced in the island of Cuba. Measures taken by Spain for their suppression. | 551 |
| 419 | Mr. Adee to Mr. Fish | April 18 | Same subject. Case of the students murdered in the island of Cuba. | 551 |
| 420 |do | April 22 | Political disturbances; an insurrection apprehended; arrest and imprisonment of a number of Carlists. | 552 |
| 421 | Mr. Sickles to Mr. Fish | June 8 | Same subject. Formation of a new cabinet. | 553 |
| 422 |do | June 12 | Same subject. Cuban affairs; difficulty in negotiating a loan for prosecuting the war in Cuba. | 554 |
| 423 |do | June 19 | Cuban affairs. Transmits a copy of an article taken from the <i>Epoca</i> , describing the military and economical situation in Cuba. | 556 |
| 424 |do | June 20 | Formation of another new cabinet. Dissolution of the Cortes and a new election ordered. A new series of reforms promised. | 559 |
| 425 |do | July 11 | States that he held a reception on the occasion of the anniversary of our national independence; who were present. | 561 |
| 426 |do | Aug. 16 | Cuban affairs. Transmits copy of decree authorizing Cuba to issue bonds amounting to sixty millions of dollars. Provisions made in the decree for leasing embargoed estates for a term of years. | 562 |
| 427 |do | Aug. 18 | Emancipation law in Cuba and Porto Rico. Will forward copy of same when published. | 566 |
| 428 |do | Aug. 27 | Same subject. Incloses copy of decree promulgating regulations for enforcing emancipation law in Cuba and Porto Rico. | 566 |
| 429 | Mr. Fish to Mr. Sickles | Aug. 31 | Same subject. Instructs him to express the gratification of the United States Government at the steps taken by Spain in this direction. | 574 |
| 430 | Mr. Sickles to Mr. Fish | Oct. 6 | Same subject. Transmits copy of extracts from an address to the Crown on the subject. | 574 |
| 431 |do | Oct. 8 | Standing army for the provinces of Cuba and Porto Rico. Transmits copy of decree organizing the same. | 576 |
| 432 | Mr. Fish to Mr. Sickles | Oct. 29 | Extensive reforms to be put in operation in the Spanish colonies by the new ministry. | 580 |
| 433 | Mr. Sickles to Mr. Fish | Nov. 12 | Slavery in Cuba and Porto Rico. Incloses tabular statement showing the population of both white and colored of those islands. Also list of owners who have voluntarily manumitted slaves in Porto Rico. | 584 |

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SPAIN—Continued.

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| | | 1872. | | |
| 434 | Mr. Sickles to Mr. Fish | Nov. 23 | Colonial policy of the Spanish cabinet. Transmits copy of resolutions adopted with regard to Porto Rico. | 56 |
| | | 1871. | | |
| 435 | Articles of armistice | Apr. 11 | Articles of armistice between Spain and the allied republics of South America. | 56 |

SWEDEN AND NORWAY.

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| | | 1872. | | |
| 436 | Mr. Andrews to Mr. Fish | Jan. 18 | Incloses copy of the King's speech made at the opening of the Diet. Prosperity of the country. | 56 |
| 437 | do | Feb. 28 | Incloses a statement of grain, live stock, and dairy exports for previous year. Flourishing condition of the agricultural districts. | 56 |
| 438 | do | Mar. 20 | His treatment of Swedes in Chicago by contractors. Incloses copy of an article taken from a Chicago paper relative thereto. | 56 |
| 439 | do | Mar. 25 | Manufactures and business of Sweden. Incloses his report on the subject. | 56 |
| 440 | do | April 2 | Neutrality law of Sweden. Transmits copy for use at Geneva. | 56 |
| 441 | do | May 10 | Prosperity of Sweden. Wages increased 25 per cent. | 56 |
| 442 | do | Aug. 5 | Forest and forest culture in Sweden. Transmits a copy of his report concerning the same. | 56 |

SWITZERLAND.

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| | | 1872. | | |
| 443 | Mr. Rublee to Mr. Fish | Sept. 12 | The members of the Tribunal of Arbitration make an excursion. Banqueted by the Federal Council. Speech of the President of Switzerland. | 56 |
| 444 | Mr. Fish to Mr. Rublee | Oct. 10 | Closing of the session of the Tribunal. Instructs him to express the thanks of this Government for the hospitality extended to the arbitrators, and also its appreciation of the eminent services rendered by the gentlemen appointed by the Swiss Government to take part in the proceedings. | 56 |
| 445 | Mr. Rublee to Mr. Fish | Nov. 4 | Same subject. Transmits copy of his note to the minister for foreign affairs. | 56 |

TURKEY.

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| | | 1870. | | |
| 446 | Mr. Fish to Mr. Morris | June 4 | Persecution of Jews in Roumania. Instructs him to ascertain facts concerning alleged recent murders, and to use efforts to prevent bloodshed. | 56 |
| 447 | Mr. Morris to Mr. Fish | June 8 | Same subject. Occurrences greatly exaggerated. Reasons why disturbances occur there. | 56 |

Mr. Biddle to Don Manuel Cusuman.

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES,

San Salvador, September 4, 1872.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your note conveying the sad intelligence of the death by assassination of the illustrious citizen Señor Don Manuel Mendez, vice-president of the republic, and minister of public instruction, justice, and ecclesiastical affairs, and requesting me to communicate the information to my Government.

In complying therewith, I shall inform it of his public virtues and his private worth; how that Salvador has lost a distinguished son, an able statesman, jurist, and scholar; but, above all, a citizen of incorruptible integrity and honor, whose life was a model of excellence, and whose death will be deplored, not only by his afflicted country, but by the lovers of republican liberty in all lands.

Tendering my deepest sympathy with your government in this public calamity, with assurances of the highest consideration, I have the honor to subscribe myself, your obedient servant,

THOMAS BIDDLE.

SPAIN.

No. 416.

Mr. Adee to Mr. Fish.

No. 54.]

UNITED STATES LEGATION TO SPAIN,
Madrid, September 2, 1871. (Received September 20.)

SIR: I have the honor to inclose herewith a copy of a decree of general amnesty, dated and published on the 30th ultimo, prior to the commencement of the present journey of His Majesty through the provinces, which event it is intended to celebrate. Like the previous decree of August 9, 1870, a copy of which was transmitted with General Sickles's No. 143, the apparently unqualified provisions of the present amnesty will probably be held applicable only to the peninsula and the adjacent possessions.

I am, &c.,

A. AUGUSTUS ADEE,
Chargé d'Affaires, ad interim.

[From *La Gaceta de Madrid*, August 30, 1871.—Translation.]

PRESIDENCY OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS—STATEMENT.

SIR: The government of Your Majesty authorized by the law of July 31, of the present year, to grant an amnesty to all persons sentenced, prosecuted, or held responsible on account of political offenses, thinks that the proper time has arrived to make use of this important authorization. There are usually in such offenses, which are, for the most part, punished very severely, some errors of the head rather than any perversity of the heart, and the state, which would be wanting in the performance of its duty should it fail to repress them with energy, (since this is required by justice and a proper regard for the public good,) cannot carry its rigor further than is required by the fulfillment of its lofty duties. When severity and the duration of the penalties designed to repress these offenses are carried to an imprudent extreme, the punishment is not an expression of justice, but of revenge, and the supreme power is rather the representative of party rancor than of right. When the offenders have

ceased to be a source of danger, to persevere in the continuation of the punishment is to create the danger anew, because public opinion does not busy itself with the offense which it does not fear, but with the hardships of those who suffer.

To open the doors of the country is not only an act of clemency; it is also one of prudent and wise policy. The tears of joy shed by the children in the arms of their father, who has returned to the delights of home and family, signify not only the termination of a great misfortune; they are also a guarantee of peace and repose, because they will ever serve to call to mind the consequences produced by disturbances of public order.

It would, however, be an act of very questionable wisdom to endanger society by yielding to the impulses of an imprudent generosity, which, without duly considering the exigencies of the time and place, should serve to collect and strengthen those elements which are inimical to public tranquillity. Clemency, then, is, or seems to be, weakness, and amnesty, far from being gratefully accepted, is used as a weapon against those who were short-sighted enough to grant it.

Fortunately, sir, our circumstances are different. The government knows the secrets and the resources of the adversaries of the situation created by the September revolution; it possesses data which enable it fully to appreciate their weakness and impotency, and it has more than sufficient force at its command to enable it to quell any act of rebellion which may be attempted against the constitution and the dynasty of Your Majesty.

Should there be rash persons, who, fascinated by chimerical hopes, should dare to rise in arms against the institutions which the nation, in the exercise of its sovereignty, has adopted, the repression will be as prompt as energetic, and the punishment following the crime will be speedy and inexorable. The political situation of to-day is strong, and its enemies are weak; acts of clemency may, therefore, not be gratefully accepted, but they will be neither imprudent nor liable to give rise to serious dangers.

It would be more dangerous for the emigrants to lose all hope of soon returning to their country, and to remain united, exciting each other under the pressure of their leaders, and to continue organized and ready for battle. Let them all return to their country; let them soften the harshness of political rancor in the bosom of their families; let them tranquilly enjoy the benefits of liberty; let them acquire or regain habits of industry, and let them become convinced that liberty and order are in harmony with the constitution of 1869, and the rule of Your Majesty; that all legitimate interests are secure, and that guarantees are furnished to all possible progress in the various spheres of human activity. Let there be an animated and patriotic contest between individuals and between parties for the triumph of their doctrines and their aspirations, but let it be a peaceful and tranquil one, for thus alone can it conduce to the welfare of the nation. The government of Your Majesty believes that such a contest, far from being formidable, is indispensable to human progress, and that the combatants should not be separated, but rather that the obstacles in the way of the combat should be removed.

In view of these considerations, the council of ministers has the honor to lay before Your Majesty the following proposed decree.

Madrid, August 30, 1871.

MANUEL RUIZ ZORILLA,

President of the Council of Ministers and Minister of Government.

FERNANDO FERNANDEZ DE CORDOVA,

Minister of War, and Minister of State pro tem.

JOSÉ MARIA BERANGER,

Minister of Marine.

SERVANDO RUIZ GÓMEZ,

Minister of Finance.

SANTIAGO DIEGO MADRAZO,

Minister for the Encouragement of Agriculture, Manufactures, &c.

TOMAS MARIA MOSQUERA,

Minister of the Colonies, and Minister of Justice pro tem.

DECREE.

By virtue of the authorization granted to the government by the law of the 31st of July last, and by the advice and consent of the council of ministers, I decree as follows:

ARTICLE 1. Absolute, full, and general amnesty, without distinction of class or station, is hereby granted to all persons sentenced, prosecuted, or held responsible for political offenses of any kind whatever, committed up to the aforesaid date of July 31st last past.

ARTICLE 2. In consequence thereof all cases pending on account of the aforesaid offenses shall be dismissed without costs.

ARTICLE 3. Persons detained for such offenses, or under arrest or imprisonment therefor, shall at once be set at liberty by the courts having jurisdiction in the respective cases, or which may have decided the same, and expatriated persons may freely return to Spain.

ARTICLE 4. Persons having claim to salary or other money due from the state, or any provincial or municipal government, including officers of the army or soldiers, will be required before receiving such money to prove that they have taken the oath to support the constitution, before a competent court.

ARTICLE 5. The following are also considered as political offenses, within the purview of this decree, viz: those committed with intent to falsify, impede, or coerce the freedom of suffrage, those referred to in case 3, article 331, of the provisional law regarding the organization of the judicial power, the incidents of political offenses, and finally those committed by means of the press, except those of slander, for which action is brought by the party aggrieved.

ARTICLE 6. The civil responsibility incurred by the accused parties, together with claims for damages suffered by individuals, on account of the offenses referred to in Articles 1 and 3, remains unaltered, and action may be brought by the parties interested.

ARTICLE 7. Suitable measures will be taken by the proper ministries for the immediate and exact enforcement of this decree.

Done at the palace on the thirtieth day of August, one thousand eight hundred and seventy-one.

AMADEO.

MANUEL RUIZ ZORILLA,
President of the Council of Ministers.

No. 417.

Mr. Sickles to Mr. Fish.

No. 368.]

UNITED STATES LEGATION TO SPAIN.
Madrid, November 20, 1871. (Received December 12.)

SIR: I have the satisfaction to forward to you herewith for your information a copy of an address recently presented to the King by deputies from Porto Rico, in which it will be observed that, for themselves and in behalf of their constituents, they express very earnestly the desire that slavery may be speedily and effectually abolished in that province. This action was almost immediately followed by the presentation of a bill to the Cortes providing for the emancipation, within six months after the passage of the act, of all slaves in Porto Rico; indemnity to the owners not to exceed seven millions of dollars, to be raised and paid by the colony.

It is unfortunate that the suspension and probable dissolution of the congress postpones action on this excellent proposal.

It is said that the Cuban slave-holders, anticipating the vigorous agitation of this question during the recently interrupted session, are represented here by zealous and able agents, provided with ample means to obtain aid in the press as well as in the legislature, to defeat the passage of any further measure of enfranchisement. It is at least certain that a league of Madrid and provincial journals has been formed with the avowed object of opposing the "filibusters and internationalists," and it is believed that the real business of this association is to maintain slavery in the Antilles at all hazards and at whatever cost.

I am, &c.,

D. E. SICKLES.

[Inclosure 1 in No. 368.—Translation.]

[From the *Diario Político*, November 4, 1871.]

The progressive democratic deputies and senators from Porto Rico called yesterday to pay their respects to His Majesty the King, by whom they were received with characteristic affability. Mr. Acosta, in the name of all his companions, addressed the King as follows:

"Sir: After so many years which have elapsed since the island of Porto Rico has enjoyed the high honor of being represented in the council-chambers of the nation, now that it has been happily re-instituted, as a consequence of the September revolution in this ancient and precious right, and that the throne of St. Ferdinand and Isabel the Catholic is worthily occupied by Your Majesty, the liberal and reform senators and deputies of that province think that they are performing a duty in coming to offer Your Majesty the expression of their most profound respect, and in giving you a new and solemn evidence of the earnest adhesion of Porto Rico both to our common country and to the dynasty of Your Majesty.

"This profession is loyal and sincere, because the peaceable and order-loving people of Porto Rico hope, by maintaining the closest union with the mother country and with Your Majesty's dynasty to see their most constant and earnest aspirations speedily realized, to live in perfect political harmony with the other provinces of the monarchy under the ægis of the democratic constitution of 1869, and radically to exterminate the unfortunate and abominable institution of slavery.

"May the Almighty prolong Your Majesty's precious life for many years, so that, continuing the glorious traditions of your august father, you may succeed, through liberty, in drawing ever closer the bonds of love and fraternity which should unite all the sons of the noble Spanish nation to which we belong."

No. 418.

Mr. Fish to Mr. Adee.

[Extract.]

No. 67]

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, April 1, 1872.

SIR: * * * * * The President is gratified to learn that the Spanish government at length is awaking to the necessity of marking with its displeasure some of the atrocities of which Cuba has been so long the theater, and that a pardon is to issue to the unfortunate young students whose companions were so cruelly murdered under the sanction of a pretended judicial decree, which outraged humanity, defied civilization, and put justice to scorn. * * *

I am, &c.,

HAMILTON FISH.

No. 419.

Mr. Adee to Mr. Fish.

No. 144.]

UNITED STATES LEGATION TO SPAIN,
Madrid, April 18, 1872. (Received May 7.)

SIR: With reference to your instruction No. 67, of the 1st. instant, and the expression conveyed therein of the President's gratification on learning "that the Spanish government is at length awaking to the necessity of marking with its displeasure some of the atrocities of which Cuba has so long been the theater, and that a pardon is to issue to the

unfortunate young students whose companions were so cruelly murdered under the sanction of a pretended judicial decree, which outraged humanity, defied civilization, and put justice to scorn," I have the honor to observe that, although the language condemnatory of that occurrence used by Mr. de Blas in our conference of the 12th ultimo was even stronger and more unequivocal than the words of my report, his excellency has not since seen fit to allude to the circumstance on the several occasions on which we have met, nor has any official action in the premises yet been made public. A ministerial journal, (not an official organ, however,) in a recent issue, alluding to the rumor that a pardon of the students was contemplated, confined its remarks to a statement that full details had been asked for from Havana, and an opinion that no imputation could be fixed on the "chivalrous and patriotic volunteers."

I shall take an early opportunity to mention to Mr. de Blas the pleasure with which the President has learned of his frank expressions, communicated to you under reserve, in accordance with his permission.

I am, &c.,

A. AUGUSTUS ADEE,
Chargé d'Affaires ad interim.

No. 420.

Mr. Adee to Mr. Fish.

No. 147.]

UNITED STATES LEGATION TO SPAIN,
Madrid, April 22, 1872. (Received May 9.)

SIR: A well-founded apprehension exists that a rising of the adherents of Don Carlos is imminent. Rumors of the likelihood of such a course have been long current, and were strengthened by the disturbances which took place, without result, however, in the northern part of Catalonia during and immediately after the recent congressional elections. It seemed probable, nevertheless, until within a few days, that the Carlist leaders would confine their action for a time to combating the existing situation, in the legislative chambers, where they were able to present a compact and determined group of adherents.

This anticipation was dispelled, however, by the publication in the legitimist journals of the 20th instant of an order emanating from the Duke of Madrid, directing the withdrawal of the Carlist minority from the Cortes. In this document the traditionalist aspirant to the throne states that his followers had accepted the electoral contest chosen by their enemies, although denying its legality, and the result having shown the appeal to popular suffrage to be "a ridiculous farce of a liberalism which only operated to constrain the national will, to override the rights it proclaimed, and to carry a lie to the Cortes and mourning to the fireside," he has decreed the retirement of his representatives, thus protesting to-day before the nation, leaving for to-morrow the protest in the "field demanded by the oppressed country and by the aspirations of his Spanish heart."

This reckless *pronunciamento* was at once accepted by the government as a declaration of civil war. The members of the central Carlist committee were arrested and imprisoned the same night, among them being a deputy-elect; military precautions were taken in the disaffected provinces, the railways summoned to hold their rolling-stock at the disposi-

tion of the authorities, and every preparation made to combat the looked-for uprising.

There appears to be little doubt that a general insurrectionary movement is at hand. The Duke of Madrid is reported to be at Perpignan awaiting his opportunity to cross the French frontier and head the rebellion. Already the telegraph brings news of small bands of armed peasants taking to the hills, under the leadership, in most instances, of the village priests, who seem eager to revive the militant spirit of the church of the middle ages.

The fate of an unaided Carlist rebellion can hardly be doubtful. The army cannot be counted upon in its aid. Unless a corresponding movement be inaugurated by the republicans, its speedy suppression is probable. The future attitude of these is uncertain. Although the tendency of the party is in favor of withdrawal from the Cortes, its cooler leaders discountenance the wish of the extremists to raise a further issue in the field. Should their more moderate counsels prevail, it is probable that the prestige of the new dynastic government of Spain will be strengthened by the overthrow of an insurrection of an alarming character. Indeed, appearances indicate that the present government contemplates the issue with satisfaction.

I am, &c.,

A. AUGUSTUS ADEE,
Chargé d'Affaires ad interim.

CENTRAL CATHOLIC MONARCHICAL JUNTA,
Geneva, April 15, 1872.

MOST EXCELLENT SIR: The Duke of Madrid has been pleased to order that the Carlist minority should refrain from taking their seats in congress.

The great national party appealed to the ballot-box, accepting a legality which its principles reject, in order to admit the struggle in the very field chosen by its enemies.

The results have shown that the ridiculous farce of liberalism only serves to restrain the national opinion, to override the rights which it proclaims, and to carry a lie into the Cortes and mourning to the fireside.

The Duke of Madrid, seeing the mischief, now protests before the country by withdrawing his representatives.

To-morrow he will protest in the field demanded by his oppressed country and the aspirations of his Spanish heart.

God guard your excellency many years.

EMILIO DE ARJONA,
Secretary of the Duke of Madrid.

His Excellency the VICE-PRESIDENT
Of the Central Catholic Monarchical Junta.

A correct copy of the original now in our possession.

CANDIDO NOCEDAL.
VICENTE DE LA HOZ Y DE LINIERS.

No. 421.

Mr. Sickles to Mr. Fish.

No. 383.]

UNITED STATES LEGATION TO SPAIN,
Madrid, June 8, 1872. (Received June 25.)

Sir: My arrival in Madrid was coincident with the fall of the Sagasta cabinet. The late president of the council was allowed to go through the form of a resignation, but in reality he surrendered his office to the peremptory demands of offended public opinion, expressed in the jour-

nals, in the congress, and in social circles. The immediate cause of his resignation was the discovery of the abstraction of a considerable sum of public money, held in trust by the government for the families of troops serving in Cuba. This money is believed to have been used to carry the elections for the present congress, and to support a secret police which seems to have practiced a scandalous espionage upon many prominent personages, including ladies of the highest rank, and even the King himself. The impeachment of the ex-minister is loudly demanded, but it might form an inconvenient precedent, and will not be conceded.

Marshal Serrano was chaged with the formation of a cabinet, a duty not easily performed, as he was at the moment in the Pyrenees at the head of the forces operating against the Carlists. The duties of president of the council were temporarily assumed by Admiral Topete, the secretary of the navy, in the new ministry. It was expected this arrangement would last until the conclusion of the campaign permitted the general-in-chief to assume in person his place at the head of affairs. An unforeseen phase in the situation was suddenly caused by an order issued by the marshal, granting extremely liberal terms to the Carlists in Navarre, in which it was stipulated that they should immediately cease hostilities and give up their arms.

This act of clemency on the part of the general commanding, assumed to be the result of an understanding with the Carlist chiefs in the Basque provinces, was at once characterized and denounced as the "convention of Amore-Vieta," and so violent and universal were the expressions of disapproval it encountered, that even the president of the council *ad interim*, Admiral Topete, yielded to the pressure so far as to admit, in his place in the chamber of deputies, that public opinion had found just occasion for alarm in the reported terms of the transaction. This declaration was immediately followed by the resignation of Marshal Serrano, not only of his military command, but also of the presidency of the council of ministers.

The return of the marshal to the capital at once restored his prestige. His late colleagues heard his explanations and assured him of their support. The chamber of deputies received his brief statement, made in his place as a member of the popular branch of congress, with an emphatic vote of approbation. Thereupon the marshal yielded to the wishes of his colleagues and of the King, and resumed the portfolio of war, with the presidency of the council.

The new cabinet takes office in the presence of the most critical situation yet confronted by the present dynasty. The King has unfortunately alienated the friendship of the party that placed him on the throne. The various elements of the opposition, re-enforced by this defection of the radicals under Zorrilla, become bolder in their demands every day. The Carlists are still in the field in great numbers. It is true that several bands availed themselves of the generous terms of surrender granted by Marshal Serrano at Amorevieta, but the rising is by no means pacificated even in the Pyrenees, and it is said to be taking serious proportions in Catalonia. The republicans are kept tranquil by the firm attitude of their leaders, who are understood, however, only to await a more favorable moment for a hostile demonstration. The radical chief, Mr. Zorrilla, has retired from the chamber of deputies and renounced the parliamentary leadership of the progressista democrats, to which he succeeded on the death of General Prim. Several explanations are given of this incident, none of which are plausible to an observer of Spanish politics. It is doubtless one of those forms of abnegation

which are so often the precursor of hostilities in this country, and this impression is confirmed by a recent call, emanating from the prominent men of the same party, Martos, Cordova, Becerra, and others, for a convention, to be composed of representatives of all the provinces in Spain, to consider and determine on the line of conduct to be pursued.

The indications at this moment incline me to the opinion that the present dynasty has seen its best days. It will be probably succeeded before long by a provisional government, in which the republicans, largely re-enforced from the ranks of the radicals, will contend with the partisans of the young Prince Alfonso for supremacy. If Marshal Serrano should be reconciled to the old dynasty by the offer of the regency during the minority of Alfonso, or if he were satisfied with the concession of the regency to his friend the Duke of Montpensier, the uncle of the prince, such an arrangement might hold out a fair promise of success; nevertheless it cannot be doubted that the republicans have much to justify their anticipated triumph. The failure of the monarchical parties to satisfy the exigencies of the country, or even the requirements of a successful party organization; the prevailing belief in the necessity of reforms, which can only be effected by a revolution more thorough than that of 1868; the apparent incompatibility between the democratic constitution adopted in 1869, representing the advanced ideas of this epoch, and the monarchy ingrafted on it as a concession to Spanish traditions; the profound disappointment of the liberal party in the results of their effort to reconcile the throne with a government essentially popular and free outside of the executive department; the inability of the country to maintain the enormous expenditure entailed upon it by the monarchical establishment, and its accessories in the army, church, and civil list; and last, not least, the stability of the popular situation represented in France by M. Thiers—these, and other considerations I need not mention, support the views of those who predict that the successor of Amadeus may be a President chosen by the Spanish people.

The suffrages of the people of this country are divided mainly between the Carlists, the radicals, and the republicans. The first is the party of tradition and reaction. In the rural portions of Spain it is especially strong, and it counts on the support of the larger part of the clergy. The towns are nearly all radical or republican. Outside of the army and navy, and a circle of clever politicians supported by a goodly number of persons in office or on the pension-list, there is no considerable popular strength belonging to the conservative party led by Marshal Serrano. The late dynasty has few advocates outside of a fraction of the aristocracy, which has little influence in Spanish politics. It is said, however, that several battalions of the army have been gained over to the cause of the Prince Alfonso by means often found effectual in the Spanish military service.

If we pass beyond the frontier, it is easy to see that France takes little pains to conceal the indifference with which she regards the fortunes of the present dynasty. The alliance understood to exist between the King of Italy and the German Emperor is a sufficient explanation of this coolness, without assuming that France desires a republican neighbor. Apart from the German sympathies of the reigning house, it is perhaps more in accord with England than any of the other powers, as you must have observed from the hesitation of the British cabinet to second our earnest appeals to Spain for the abolition of slavery and for a more humane colonial policy.

I am, &c.,

D. E. SICKLES.

No. 422.

Mr. Sickles to Mr. Fish.

No. 386.]

UNITED STATES LEGATION TO SPAIN,
Madrid, June 12, 1872. (Received June 26.)

SIR: Among the topics of political interest that now occupy the attention of the cabinet and the press of Madrid there is scarcely one more prominent than the financial, administrative, and military situation of Cuba. Even the organs of the reactionary party, usually inclined to discredit or to suppress whatever may be said to discourage the hopes or diminish the prestige of those who maintain the *statu quo* in Cuba, point out the unsatisfactory condition of affairs in the island, and invoke the speedy adoption of measures to arrest the downward tendency of Spanish interests in the colony.

It is reported upon good authority that Count Valmaseda has tendered his resignation as captain-general. This was not unexpected, since it is confessed that the last campaign, like those which have preceded it, has made no serious impression on the insurgents, who still keep the field in undiminished numbers, and with the advantage that their chiefs have more experience and their troops are more accustomed to active service.

In the present condition of affairs in the peninsula, it will be difficult to raise and dispatch the re-enforcements required every autumn to make up the heavy losses usually sustained by the royal army of Cuba in each successive campaign. And it is intimated by the organs of the present colonial *régime* that unless the government finds some means to liquidate the large and increasing floating debt in Cuba, exceeding fifty millions of dollars, and most of which is in notes of the Bank of Havana, it will be impossible to prosecute the war with much vigor without Spain herself pays a considerable part of the cost. The resources of this government for such an emergency may be inferred from the circumstance that it has recently negotiated with much difficulty a loan of a million and a half of dollars, at the rate of 21 per cent. per annum, to which commissions and exchange must be added, as it is a foreign transaction.

It is understood that the government desires to borrow a much larger sum, to meet its current expenditures, and for which negotiations have been for some time pending.

I am, &c.,

D. E. SICKLES.

No. 423.

Mr. Sickles to Mr. Fish.

No. 388.]

UNITED STATES LEGATION TO SPAIN,
Madrid, June 19, 1872. (Received July 9.)

SIR: I have the honor to forward for your perusal a translation of a letter published last evening in the *Epoca*, from its correspondent in Havana, describing the present military and economical situation in Cuba. The *Epoca* is the oldest and one of the ablest and most discreet of the journals published at this capital. It is the organ of the reactionary policy in Cuba, the opponent of emancipation, and the firm supporter of the traditional colonial policy of this country. The editors

vouch for the high character of their correspondent, his excellent means for obtaining trustworthy information, and they commend his representations to the immediate notice of the government, if it would save the colony from even graver disasters than it has yet suffered.

You will observe in the communication to which I refer a confirmation of the views heretofore expressed in my dispatches; and as this testimony comes from sources known to be favorable to the past administration in Cuba, which until within a month or two have concealed and denied the facts now confessed and disclosed, it is safe to assume them as a basis for the obvious reflections they suggest.

I am, &c.,

D. E. SICKLES.

APPENDIX B, No. 388.

[From *La Epoca*, Madrid, June 18, 1872.]

[Translation.]

LETTERS FROM CUBA.

HAVANA, May 30, 1872.

When it is generally understood that patriotism consists in hiding the truth and spreading error, in inventing victories and concealing disasters, sad and embarrassing, indeed, is the position of a correspondent who holds the firm conviction that the story of the rebellion of Yara, for forty-four mortal months, has been a lie, and nothing less than a lie; a farce, and nothing less than a farce; a deception, and nothing less than a deception.

To be ignorant of the extent of the evil, and to seek to apply a remedy thereto, is an absurdity; and the national government has never known the extent of the evil because it has been willfully concealed for the purpose of leading the nation to believe that it would be completely extinguished within a given time; that it would be overcome with given resources, and, above all, that the greater part of the road had been already safely passed, and that but one final step was needed to grasp the laurel crown of victory.

This system has cost the peninsula the eighty thousand men it has sent us, and the treasury of this province sixty or seventy millions of dollars, three-fourths of which it owes. This system has cost the peninsula much gold and many tears, much blood and mourning.

Why has this course been so systematically followed? It has been followed because private interests have ever overshadowed the public good; because noisy intrigues have been more potent than silent good faith; because ambition has sought companionship and aid in vanity and greed; because petulance has overruled prudence. Some have grown rich under this system, but the nation and the province have suffered, and we have given our enemies the chance to smite us in the face with the continued vitality of the moribund insurrection.

The "year V of the Cuban republic" is a *sambenito* (robe of infamy) for the valor of our soldiers and sailors, for the sublime abnegation of our volunteers, and for the drossless patriotism of all Spaniards on either side of the ocean. And we wear this *sambenito* still, because, when your correspondent cried for thirty thousand soldiers to be sent at once, and fearlessly showed the obstacles to a restoration of peace, others called the rebellion mere brigandage, and the camps of the enemy were picket-stations, and said that we only had to close our hands to crush between our fingers those who hid their impotence in the wildernesses of our forests. May God pardon these false prophets all the evil they have wrought, for they should never hope for pardon from the outraged justice of the nation.

I have felt this preamble necessary, in order that I may enter with less embarrassment on the subject-matter of my letter.

I said in my last, of the 30th of April, that we had made little or no progress since November, up to that time, and to-day I am forced to say that we have gained nothing—absolutely nothing—from that day to this. Within the vast domain, seventy leagues in length and thirty-six in breadth, which stretches from the *trocha* (cross-path) to Las Tunas, and from sea to sea, Ignacio Agrimonte marches freely with his Camagileans; Villamil leads his skirmish bands, and Vicente Garcia guides his mountain rangers, re-enforced by a band of deserters. Each of these bands is composed of some three hundred or four hundred men, half naked, but generally well armed, and now abundantly supplied with munitions of war. They only face our troops when they have an overwhelming advantage. They oftenest seek to wear them out, because fatigue

things our ranks more than bullets. Powerless to carry out operations of any importance, they have strength enough to keep the troops from moving in columns less than two hundred strong; they hold our detachments in check, and prevent agricultural operations from being carried on outside of the military lines. This is the state of Camaguey, and he who says the contrary either does not know its true situation, or does not wish it to be known.

In the eastern district, moving from place to place at will, are Cespedes, the so-called government and house of representatives, Modesto Diaz, Maximo Gomez, Figueredo, Calixto Garcia Yñiguez, Inclau, and several other leaders, with a number of followers which neither I nor any one else can fix, but which our extreme optimists estimate at four thousand. These forces, which always occupy the fastnesses of the Guantanamo chain, and the hills of Santiago de Cuba and Jiguani, have established a system of rotation in such a way, that, supposing that Modesto Diaz quits the neighborhood of Holguin, he goes by way of Mayaré to Guantanamo, Santiago de Cuba, Jiguani, Manzanillo, Bayamo, and Las Tunas, to return to Holguin while other forces occupy in succession the points he abandons, although with some irregularity. It is needless to say that these pre-arranged marches also take place in the reverse direction.

The pirate steamer *Edgard*, recently seized at Kingston, has been set at liberty, and has landed the arms, munitions, and filibusters she carried on the Guantanamo coast. A gun-boat met her and fired into her, but at the first discharge her cannon became useless. Could there be a greater misfortune?

Having thus hastily sketched the military situation, which has been in no wise bettered by the winter campaign, I turn to the financial question, which has grown worse in a most notable manner. Pounds sterling were yesterday sold at 27½ premium at sixty days' sight; bills on Spain at 17; francs at 12; and gold bills on the United States at 14. Thus much for exchange. The premium on gold has here reached 12 per cent.; and discontent is general among the poorer classes. Much alarm exists, since a turbulent demonstration against the money-brokers, and even against the bank, is apprehended. I repeat the rumor, but I think that nothing unpleasant will occur, since, although there are ungovernable elements (*discolos*) always ready to create disturbances, the great majority are anxious to maintain order. It is indispensable, absolutely indispensable, that the Cortez should immediately decide the economical question of Cuba, and that it should be settled in such a way that twenty or twenty-five millions in gold may be speedily sent here to replace an equal amount in bank notes, since this is the only remedy.

I shall now treat of the captain-general. The latter has quitted his encampment at El Canto, just as the house he was building there was completed, and has gone to Santiago de Cuba. From that city he has dated his resignation, which goes by to-day's mail, founding it, according to my information, on the fact that he has not been able to restore peace to the island within the time he himself had fixed. I have not read his resignation, and consequently I cannot vouch for the terms in which it is couched; but I am told that he says that, if the government will retain him in command, he will finish up matters very soon; that the hopes of the enemy have been kept up by the prospect of his recall; that Las Villas, Sancti Spiritus, and Camaguey are already pacified, and that there are only three or four hundred bandits left in the eastern district. I have been told this, but I am far from believing it, for it seems to me every way impossible that the Count de Valmaseda, who knows better than I what is going on in Camaguey, should announce its pacification, still less that he should reduce to three or four hundred bandits the three or four thousand which exist in the eastern department. The Count de Valmaseda has proclaimed to all the world that, conqueror or conquered, he would resign the 30th of May, and quit the island immediately, and it is impossible that he should not keep his word. In view of his resignation, it is necessary that the government should send us a general capable of cutting this military, economical, and political Gordian knot.

I have already said that the true remedy for the monetary crisis and the rates of exchange is to bring hither twenty or twenty-five millions of dollars in gold; but this would help us very little if the expenses of the contest should render indispensable fresh emissions of treasury notes.

If the strife is much longer protracted, want of confidence will become greater, and the gold which might come in on one hand would go out on the other, without our feeling the good effects of its presence.

It is high time that the government should leave off temporizing here and there, and rising to the due height of its mission, command what it may deem expedient, and make its commands obeyed. The immense majority in this island, and the bulk of its generous volunteers, almost without exception, desire nothing but a lasting peace, the maintenance of order, respect for authority and for honest men, and will stand by any government which has no other criterion than that of law, and is firmly disposed to dispense justice.

This is the general wish, the only popular wish, and the day that it is fulfilled will give us a better Island of Cuba than we had at the breaking out of the rebellion.

No. 424.

Mr. Sickles to Mr. Fish.

No. 389.]

UNITED STATES LEGATION TO SPAIN,
Madrid, June 20, 1872. (Received July 9.)

SIR: The cabinet of Marshal Serrano left office after the very brief tenure, even in Spain, of seven days. It appears that, in view of the extremely critical state of affairs reported in my No. 383, the president of the council of ministers advised the King that it was necessary to suspend those articles of the constitution guaranteeing personal rights. His Majesty declined to sanction this measure, and declared that when he found he could no longer rule in accordance with the constitution he had sworn to maintain, he would resign his office. The announcement of this decision to the council of ministers over which His Majesty presided was followed by their resignation on the spot. The King did not hesitate a moment in accepting the situation thus suddenly presented, and, until an hour afterward, when Admiral Topete, the minister of marine, surprised the chamber of deputies with a brief statement of what had occurred, no intimation of a cabinet crisis had transpired.

Remarkable as Spain is for political changes, nobody was prepared for the transformation that followed. The King went through the customary form of consulting the presiding officers of the two houses of congress, both of whom belong to the conservative party, and, putting aside their advice, immediately sent for Lieutenant-General Fernandez de Cordova, the leader of the radicals since the recent withdrawal of Mr. Ruiz Zorrilla from politics, who was asked to form a cabinet. It seems that, after a conference among the chiefs of the radical party, Rivero, Martos, Cordova, and others, they agreed to take office on condition that Mr. Zorrilla should be named president of the council, with the portfolio of the department of the interior, and that the present Cortes, chosen under the auspices of Mr. Sagasta, should be dissolved, and a new election ordered. These arrangements were accepted by the Crown, and on the following day the cabinet was announced, as follows:

Presidency of the council and home office, Mr. Manuel Ruiz Zorrilla.

Foreign affairs, Mr. Cristino Martos.

Grace and justice, Mr. Eugenio Montero Rios.

Treasury, Mr. Servando Ruiz Gomez.

War, Lieutenant-General Fernando Fernandez de Cordova.

Navy, Rear-Admiral José Beranger.

Colonies, Mr. Eduardo Gasset y Artime.

Public works, Mr. José Echegaray.

You will remember Mr. Martos as the minister of state in the coalition cabinet of Marshal Serrano, formed early in 1871, and with which we succeeded in adjusting several of the questions then pending between the two countries. Mr. Ruiz Zorrilla and Admiral Beranger were also of the same cabinet. Mr. Gasset y Artime, who now takes the colonies, is the director of the *Imparcial*, a radical journal of large circulation, and heretofore regarded as the organ of the Martos group of liberals. Mr. Gasset y Artime has not, I believe, heretofore held office.

It must be admitted that this ministry takes office in the presence of the gravest difficulties. On the first of next month the half-yearly interest on the public debt, amounting in round numbers to twenty-five millions of dollars, becomes due, and there is not a dollar in the treasury to pay it. The financial situation in Cuba is so critical that it causes

even more disquietude than the insurrection, which remains defiant at the close of the fourth campaign. The Carlists' revolt holds out in the north against an army of twenty-two thousand regular troops. General Moriones, lately assigned to the command of these forces, is the third officer who has filled that post within three months. In Catalonia, called the New England of Spain, for the thrift, industry, and independence of its inhabitants, the Carlists' movement is combining so rapidly that General Baldrich, lately appointed to the command of the forces operating in that principality, demands a re-enforcement of no less than ten thousand men. The Duke of Montpensier announces to-day his reconciliation with the Spanish Bourbons, represented by his nephew the young Prince Alfonso, and this publication is accompanied by a manifesto signed by two hundred and thirty generals, deputies, senators, and grandees of Spain, in favor of the Prince, with Montpensier as regent. And although the republican leaders still restrain the impatience of the great body of that party, professing a purpose to pause awhile longer, at least until the struggle between the several monarchical elements becomes yet more pronounced, there is, nevertheless, a numerous body of republicans following the counsels of the *Ignaladad* and the *Combate*, two of the most popular journals of that party, who insist on taking arms and trying their fortunes in the civil war that seems unhappily to be really inaugurated.

No authorized statement of the purposes of the new cabinet has appeared. The usual manifesto of the president of the cabinet is looked for at an early day. The *Official Gazette* announces a new set of governors for all the provinces, forty-seven, some of which have already had the benefit of a dozen or more of these dignitaries since my residence at this capital.

It remains to be seen whether the radical ministry, summoned at the eleventh hour to the councils of the King, can deal with a situation so grave, and for which they need not only statesmen, but military talent of no common order. The main current of public opinion runs in their favor. The prestige of the Crown is once more on their side. They lose no time in taking advantage of an opportunity afforded by the resignation of nearly all the incumbents of the principal offices, to fill up the vacant places with their partisans, thus securing the large and profitable patronage of the Spanish government. They promise, through their newspaper organs, to put in operation at once a series of reforms, embracing a large reduction of expenditures, the suppression of useless offices, the separation of church and state, the abolition of conscription for the regular army, trial by jury, the emancipation of slavery, and the extension of the Spanish constitution to the colonies. Whether these promises will be kept—whether, if fulfilled, the resistance such a development of the programme of the revolution of 1868 must encounter will be overcome by the support it should bring to the party that has the courage and the constancy to undertake it in earnest, I shall not venture to predict. To-morrow, I am to offer my felicitations to Mr. Martos, the secretary of state for foreign affairs, and I may then be better able to acquaint you with the views of the new cabinet, so far at least as they concern American interests.

I am, &c.,

D. E. SICKLES.

No. 425.

Mr. Sickles to Mr. Fish.

No. 403.]

UNITED STATES LEGATION,
Madrid, July 11, 1872. (Received July 30.)

SIR: I deem it worth mentioning for your information that on the occasion of the recent anniversary of our national independence, I had the honor to receive at my residence not only the diplomatic body and a notable representation of the society of Madrid, usually present at such festivities, but also all the members of the cabinet, except Mr. Marten Rio, who had been for some days confined to his apartments by illness. Mr. Ruiz Zorrella and his colleagues tendered through me their felicitations and good wishes to the President.

The incident being exceptional in the official courtesies interchanged at this capital, it may be taken as an indication of the desire of this government to cultivate friendly relations with the United States.

The colonial secretary, Mr. Gasset y Artime, alluding, doubtless, to some misgivings I had expressed to his friends about the apparent tendencies of the recent appointments made for Cuba and Porto Rico, intimated that I need have no mistrust of the real purpose of this cabinet to proceed in earnest with the long-contemplated reforms in Cuba and Porto Rico; that with reference to the emancipation act of 1870, he was already occupied in revising the "regulations" for the execution of that measure; that they would soon be published in the Official Gazette, and he was sure I would find them to be an amplification of the law rather than restrictive of it.

This last remark was perhaps effected by a hint I had thrown out to Mr. Martos, the minister of state, to the effect that, unless critically examined by friendly eyes, it might happen that these "regulations," which have been so long in the hands of the council of state, would be made so numerous, complicated, and mischievous as to diminish if not nullify the beneficial features of the statute. I had pointed out that this did occur not long since in the execution of the act to legalize civil marriages, which was afterward encumbered with several hundred supplementary articles under the name of "regulations;" and I had expressed apprehensions that these familiar tactics would be employed by the slaveholders and their supporters, who had already succeeded in suspending the emancipation act for more than two years, on the pretense that, until convenient "regulations" could be devised for the guidance of the authorities, the act could not be put in operation.

Mr. Moret, recently appointed Spanish minister in London, and who, as minister of the colonies in 1870, was the author of the emancipation act, was also present on the evening of the 4th instant, and confirmed the hopes held out by the assurances of the colonial secretary.

If I do not misapprehend the cordiality manifested in the intercourse between the republican leaders, Catelan and others, and the present cabinet, it is not improbable they may co-operate in measures of colonial reform. It is expected that the republicans will have a larger representation than heretofore in the Cortes to be chosen next month.

Mr. Layard informs me that, in his conversation with ministers, they assure him of their purpose to adhere to the policy of emancipation and reform in the colonies, although Mr. Martos protested that any precipitation in that direction might be fatal to any cabinet.

I am, &c.,

D. E. SICKLES.

No. 426.

Mr. Sickles to Mr. Fish.

No. 415.]

UNITED STATES LEGATION,
San Sebastian, August 16, 1872. (Received September 3.)

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith, for your information, an official publication of a decree, accompanied by a report of the colonial minister, authorizing the treasury of the island of Cuba to issue bonds amounting to sixty millions of dollars, bearing 8 per cent. interest, and pledging for the payment of the interest and principal of the loan the proceeds of the war-tax, estimated at five millions of dollars annually, and the surplus derived from all other sources of revenue, ordinary and extraordinary.

It appears in the report of the minister that the Cuban treasury owes the Bank of Havana fifty millions of dollars. Twelve millions of this sum were borrowed to pay the expenses of the several expeditions against San Domingo and Mexico, and the remaining thirty-eight millions have been advanced by the bank toward the expenditure incurred in the present war in Cuba. The whole amount of fifty millions was loaned by the bank in paper money, and this large addition to the ordinary paper issue of the bank—ten millions—has, it seems, brought about, in conjunction with other causes, a grave financial crisis in that portion of the island held by the Spanish forces. It further appears that the amount raised in Cuba by taxes and imposts during the last fiscal year was twelve millions of dollars. The loan is to be negotiated in two parts. The proceeds of the first issue of thirty millions are to be applied, first, to re-imburse the Bank of Havana the amount it advanced to the Cuban treasury to pay the cost of the Spanish contingent for the expedition against Mexico; second, to repay the amount advanced by the bank toward the expenditure incurred in the attempted re-conquest of San Domingo; third, to redeem in specie eight millions of dollars in bills of the Bank of Havana, the same being a part of the sum loaned to the treasury for war expenses, so as to reduce the outstanding paper money of the bank, issued on government account, to thirty millions of dollars; fourth, the balance, say ten millions of dollars, to be paid into the treasury to meet appropriations made for the prosecution of the war, and for the ordinary expenses of the next fiscal year.

The decree also provides for leasing the embargoed estates for a term not exceeding six years, the proceeds of which, together with certain treasury credits and the income of the crown property in Cuba, are applicable to the redemption of the remaining thirty millions of paper money issued by the bank on government account. These sources of revenue have not hitherto, it is understood, produced anything, so that it may be presumed that the second issue of bonds is reserved for the gradual redemption of the outstanding paper and the prosecution of the war.

Subscriptions to the loan are to be invited on the 1st of January, 1873, in Havana, Madrid, Paris, and London. The negotiation, the application of the proceeds, and the administration of the revenues appropriated to the payment of the principal and interest are confided to a commission of fifteen persons, three of whom are to be chosen by the bondholders.

You will remark in article 20 of the decree a provision characteristic of all Spanish legislation for Cuba. The captain-general is authorized

to suspend at pleasure any determination made by the loan commissioners.

It will thus be seen that, after four years of war, without quarter, in Cuba, and having exhausted the resources of that rich and productive commonwealth to sustain a cruel conflict, Spain is about to appeal to the civilized world to lend money on a pledge of the revenues of the island, to continue a struggle intended to perpetuate the slavery of the greater part of the colored inhabitants, and compel the unwilling allegiance of a large majority of the sorely-oppressed native population.

In this relation I may state that it appears from a recent publication in the *Imparcial*, a semi-official journal in Madrid, of which the colonial minister was director until he entered the present cabinet, that, "from the beginning of hostilities in Cuba, thirteen thousand six hundred insurgents have been killed in battle, (*acciones de guerra*), and forty-three thousand five hundred taken prisoners; four thousand eight hundred and nineteen fire-arms, three thousand two hundred and forty-seven shards, machets, and other side-arms, and nine thousand nine hundred and twenty-one horses, have been captured. Sixty-nine thousand six hundred and forty insurgents have voluntarily surrendered."

As it is believed that all prisoners of war taken are shot or garroted, it would appear, taking the total of killed in battle and prisoners captured, that more than fifty-seven thousand insurgents have fallen since the war began. The Spanish loss is not stated, but it is known from official sources that their force under arms in Cuba exceeds one hundred thousand men, and, as more than half of these troops are unacclimated, their casualties cannot be estimated at less than 15 per cent., or fifteen thousand men annually; making an aggregate Spanish loss of sixty thousand since the declaration of independence pronounced at Yara, in October, 1869. Trustworthy sources of information in Madrid tend to show that this estimate would be exceeded by the official returns if they were published.

I am, &c.,

D. E. SICKLES.

DECREE.

In accordance with the suggestion of the minister of the colonies, and by the advice and consent of the council of ministers, I decree as follows:

ARTICLE 1. The treasury of the island of Cuba is authorized to emit bonds to the amount of \$60,000,000, in two issues. The first issue shall be to the amount of \$30,000,000, and shall take place on the 1st day of January, 1873. The subsequent issues for the remaining \$30,000,000 shall take place when the government shall so order, in view of the necessities of that treasury. The issues shall take place simultaneously at Havana, Madrid, Paris, and London, by public subscription, which shall be opened for the first issue on such day as shall be appointed by the board which is created by this decree to have charge of the loan.

ARTICLE 2. This loan shall be represented by bonds of \$500 each, payable to bearer, with thirty-four coupons attached, payable on the 30th of June and 31st of December of each year. The bonds shall pay an annual interest of 8 per cent., and shall be redeemable semi-annually by lot.

ARTICLE 3. The following revenue shall be specially appropriated to the payment of the interest on this loan and its redemption:

First, the entire proceeds of the extraordinary war-tax, computed at \$5,000,000 per annum. If the actual tax shall not be equal to this sum it shall be increased to such an amount that it shall in no case fail to produce it.

Second, all surplus revenues in Cuba, both ordinary and extraordinary.

ARTICLE 4. These bonds shall be receivable in payment of all governmental taxes in the island of Cuba for the fiscal year preceding that of 1872-73. It shall likewise in all cases be receivable as bail or security by the government in the island of Cuba.

ARTICLE 5. Interest on this loan shall be paid in Havana, Madrid, Paris, and London,

and the bonds shall be redeemable in the said cities, for which purpose bonds which shall have been taken by subscription in each of the aforesaid cities shall be considered domiciled in the same. In all operations with foreign coin, such coin as may be equivalent to the hard dollar shall be considered the standard.

ARTICLE 6. The proceeds of the first issue shall be applied—

First, to paying to the Spanish bank of Havana, after presentation of its account with the treasury, the amount which it advanced to the said treasury in order to pay the cost of the Spanish contingent for the expedition against Mexico, and to repay the amount advanced by the bank toward the expenditure incurred in the Santo Domingo campaign. This operation, however, shall only take place on condition of the bank receiving the bonds at a rate which will make amends for the difference of interest between the same and that paid by its certificates of indebtedness against the treasury.

Second, to redeem \$8,000,000 in bills of the bank of Havana, the same being a part of the sum loaned to the treasury for war expenses, so as to reduce the outstanding paper money of the bank to \$30,000,000. The redemption of notes shall be made in coin, and in such a manner that coin shall be substituted for them in circulation.

Third, to the treasury of Cuba to meet appropriations made for the prosecution of the war and for the ordinary expenses of the next fiscal year.

ARTICLE 7. After the publication of this decree the issue of notes by the Spanish bank of Havana for the account of the treasury shall cease, and the reduction shall be commenced to the \$30,000,000 to which the circulation of said notes is to be reduced, according to article 6.

ARTICLE 8. For the redemption of the bills remaining in circulation the following revenue shall be appropriated:

First, the proceeds of property belonging to the Crown in the island of Cuba.

Second, sums due to the treasury for taxes and imports as well as treasury credits which the Crown at any time acquire in that island.

Third, the proceeds of property belonging to insurgents and disloyal persons which may have been or may hereafter be embargoed by order of a competent court.

ARTICLE 9. For the execution of this decree a board shall be created having charge of the Cuban treasury loan, which shall have control—

First, of the issue and redemption of the loan provided for by this decree.

Second, of the redemption of \$8,000,000 in notes of the Spanish bank, which are to be exchanged for coin by the proceeds of the issue of the loan.

Third, of the subsequent redemption of the thirty millions in bank notes issued for the account of the treasury, which shall remain in circulation.

Fourth, of the collection of the war-tax.

Fifth, of the management of embargoed property in Cuba, as well as of the collection of other funds appropriated to the redemption of the notes referred to in number two of this article.

Sixth, of the liquidation of debts and credits between the Spanish bank of Havana and the treasury of Cuba.

ARTICLE 10. This board shall be composed of fifteen persons, whose qualifications and the manner of whose election shall be as follows:

Three shall be takers of the treasury loan, and shall be chosen by the other takers of the loan residing in Cuba.

Two shall be merchants, and two manufacturers, appointed by the board of trade of Havana.

Five shall be land-holders, two of them lawyers, chosen by the municipal government of Havana.

One shall be a stockholder of the Spanish bank of Havana, chosen by the board of directors of said bank.

Two shall be functionaries of the government, to be chosen by the superior civil governor.

The offices of president and vice-president (without vote) of the board shall be held by the superior civil governor, and the intendant of finance of Cuba, respectively.

ARTICLE 11. The board shall be formed and shall commence the legal discharge of its duties previously to the issue of the loan. When this shall take place the takers of the loan shall select the three persons who are to form part of the board. If they shall not do so within six months after the closing of the subscription, the government may fill the places of said three persons with others of its own choice; but no public functionaries shall be chosen for this purpose.

ARTICLE 12. The superior civil governor shall proceed to the installation of the board immediately after the persons of whom it is to be composed (excepting the three takers of the loan) shall have been appointed and shall have accepted their appointments. Information shall at once be sent, both of the appointment and acceptance, to the superior civil governor.

Appointments shall be made within fifteen days after the publication of this decree in the *Gaceta de la Habana*; and if, within this time, they shall not have been made by the persons to whom it belongs to do so, they shall be made by the government.

Acceptance on the part of the appointees must be signified within eight days subsequent to their appointment, it being understood that any person who shall not have signified his acceptance to the superior civil governor within eight days, shall be considered as declining the appointment. When this shall take place a new appointment shall be made in due form; and if it shall not be made, or the appointees shall not accept within the period above mentioned, the government shall make any appointments which may be necessary, always of persons belonging to the classes which are to be represented in the board.

ARTICLE 13. The board, after the first issue of Cuban treasury bonds, and after having received the proceeds of the same, shall proceed—

First, to balance the account of the treasury with the bank in the form provided for in article 6.

Second, to redeem the notes of the bank issued for the account of the treasury, in the proportion and form prescribed in numbers 2 and 3 of article 7.

Third, to deposit the rest in the treasury.

ARTICLE 14. The board shall, moreover, as soon as it shall be installed, proceed to take charge of funds appropriated to the redemption of the loan and of the notes, and also of the management of embargoed property. To this effect the superior civil governor shall order that the proper authorities and departments deliver to the board such documents, books, and other articles as may be necessary. The superior civil governor shall adopt all necessary measures for the most speedy and thorough collection by the board of the war-tax, and of the funds appropriated to the loan and to the redemption of notes.

ARTICLE 15. The management of embargoed property shall be performed by the board in conformity with the following bases:

First, formation of partial inventories of the property within six months (which term shall in no case be extended) from the day of installation of the board.

Second, leasing of the property at public auction, which shall be advertised three months previously in the *Gaceta de la Habana*, for a term not to exceed six years, and at a rate suited to the appraisement which shall be made in the inventory.

Third, appraisement by experts, for the fixing of the amount of rent to be paid, when a proposal shall be made for property, the inventory of which shall not have been finished.

ARTICLE 16. One-half of the members of the board shall be changed every year. For the first renewal, the persons belonging to each class shall draw lots, the minority of those represented by an odd number being renewable. The persons constituting this board shall not be re-elected unless a period shall have elapsed during which they have not formed a part thereof.

ARTICLE 17. The officers shall be appointed by the government on proposal of the board, and shall be functionaries of the administration who have served for three years in the peninsula.

The subalterns shall be appointed by the board, according to a classification which shall be approved by the government.

ARTICLE 18. The expenses of the board, as well as those of the issue of the loan, shall be defrayed from the fund known as the "Cuban treasury loan fund," which shall be included in the budget for the island.

ARTICLE 19. The board shall form regulations for its own government, and the instructions necessary for the execution of the services intrusted to it, and shall submit them to the approval of the government through the superior civil governor. The regulations and instructions adopted by the board shall go into operation at once, but shall be considered as provisional until they shall have been approved or modified by the government.

ARTICLE 20. The superior civil governor may suspend any determination of the board reporting at once to the minister of the colonies, by whom such measures will be adopted with regard to the suspension as may be deemed proper.

ARTICLE 21. The minister of the colonies will adopt all necessary measures for the due execution of this decree.

Done at Bilbao, on the ninth day of August, one thousand eight hundred and seventy-two.

AMADEO.

EDUARDO GASSET Y ARTIME,
Minister of the Colonies.

No. 427.

Mr. Sickles to Mr. Fish.

No. 411.]

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES,
Madrid, August 18, 1872. (Received August 26.)

SIR: The following is the text of a cable message forwarded to-day from this legation:

"HAMILTON FISH, *Secretary of State, Washington:*

"King has signed regulations enforcing emancipation law in Cuba and Porto Rico.

"SICKLES."

I have reason to hope, from the repeated assurances given me by the minister of the colonies, Mr. Gasset y Artime, that these regulations will appear to have been framed with a sincere purpose to execute the law. If published in the Gazette, I shall lose no time in forwarding a copy for your perusal. In any event I presume a copy will be given to me, although perhaps unofficially, as the minister of the colonies kindly intimated a wish a few days ago that I would read the draught of the document which was then under consideration.

My impression is that, if the election for the congress appointed to meet on the 1st of September proximo prove favorable to the liberal party, the law of 1870 will be made a more comprehensive and satisfactory measure.

Following the tenor of your repeated instructions, I shall regard it as my duty to renew the representations I have so often made in the name of the President on this subject.

I am, &c.,

D. E. SICKLES.

No. 428.

Mr. Sickles to Mr. Fish.

No. 417.]

UNITED STATES LEGATION TO SPAIN,
San Sebastian, August 27, 1872. (Received Sept. 12.)

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith an official publication of a decree, dated August 5, 1872, promulgating regulations for the execution of the act of July 4, 1870, concerning slavery in the islands of Cuba and Porto Rico. It appears that the measure was proposed by the colonial minister, with the sanction of the cabinet council, after hearing the suggestions of the authorities in those islands, and in conformity with the advice of the council of state.

No more forcible illustration could be given of the imperfect and unsatisfactory character of the act of 1870 than the perusal of this complicated code of procedure for its execution. It embraces, in chapters, articles, and clauses of articles, about one hundred paragraphs. You will observe that the main feature of the scheme is the organization of a board of seven commissioners in each of the civil districts, jurisdictions, or, as we might perhaps call them, counties. All persons residing within such sub-division of territory, and declared free by the law, are placed under the "protection" of the local board. The governor or lieutenant-governor of the jurisdiction, (in Cuba,) or the mayor of the

District, (in Porto Rico,) and the presiding officer of the town council, will be *ex-officio* members. Four members are to be chosen, two of whom must not be slave holders, and a secretary will be appointed, who will not vote. The four members appointed will hold office for two years, and serve gratuitously. They will be named by the captain-general from a list of sixteen of the largest tax-payers in the locality, no matter whether or not residents of the jurisdiction or district, one-half of whom shall not be slave-holders. This list is to be made by the chief officer of the jurisdiction or district, and submitted to the captain-general. The boards may delegate to the members thereof executive authority in the localities where they reside, respectively. A central board of commissioners, of twenty-one members, named by the captain-general, invested with appellate and supervisory powers, will sit at Havana.

I have not at hand for comparison a copy of the act of 1870, without which I shall not venture any extended criticism of these arrangements. I may, however, remark that in confiding the execution of this law to those whose unsatisfactory methods of administration have so frequently been the subject of complaint in Cuba and Porto Rico, the government has evidently yielded to the suggestions of the slave-holders, who will of course profit by the opportunities afforded through the complicated machinery created by this decree to diminish the few ameliorations promised by the original measure. I do not see any provision made for a large class of freedmen called "emancipadors"—persons rescued by the authorities from the hands of slave-traders—whose situation especially called for the intervention of the Crown. There is no reason to believe that any considerable number of these people have yet realized the liberty assured to them by a succession of treaties and decrees anterior to the act of 1870. They are now leased for long terms of years to proprietors, many of whom soon report them dead, and then confound them with their herds of slaves.

The Spanish Emancipation Society have published an energetic protest against the refusal of the minister to acquaint them with the outlines of his scheme of regulations. They point out that, while the slave-holders had every opportunity afforded them to present their views, neither the slaves nor anybody in their behalf were allowed a hearing.

I am not without hope that the Cortes now chosen may take up the question of emancipation, and resolve it on a more radical basis. The neglect of the government and the authorities in Cuba to execute the "preparatory" act of 1870 may expedite the passage of a better measure. I shall not fail to make proper representations on the subject to this government.

I am, &c.,

D. E. SICKLES.

[Appendix to No. 417.]

[From *La Gaceta de Madrid*.—Translation.]

MADRID, August 24, 1872.

MINISTRY OF THE COLONIES.

Some errors having occurred in the decree published in the *Gaceta*, as above, of the 18th instant, it is republished below duly corrected :

DECREE.

In accordance with the suggestion of the minister of the colonies, in view of the reports of the superior civil governor of the islands of Cuba and Porto Rico, in conformity with the opinion of the council of ministers and that of the council of state, all the

members being present, I approve the following regulation for the execution of the law of July 4, 1870, concerning the abolition of slavery in the islands of Cuba and Porto Rico.

CHAPTER I.—*Of protective boards.*

ARTICLE 1. According to article 13 of the law, and of other articles referring to patronage, there shall be established in each one of the jurisdictions of the island of Cuba, and in each one of the civil districts of that of Porto Rico, a protective board for the freedmen, under whose protection all those declared free by the provisions of the aforesaid law shall be. In the capital of each island there shall be, moreover, a central board.

ARTICLE 2. The jurisdictional protective boards shall be composed of the governor or lieutenant-governor of the jurisdiction; of the corregidor of the district of Porto Rico, who shall be president; of the first syndic of the municipal government of the capital, or of the only one belonging to said government; of four voting members, proprietors, (two of them not owners of slaves;) of four vice-members, (two of whom shall not be owners of slaves,) in case of sickness, absence, or any other impediment, and of a secretary, who shall have no vote. The supplying of the places of the proprietors shall take place in such a manner that the number of non-slaveholding voting members shall in no case be less than two.

ARTICLE 3. The office of voting member of these boards shall be gratuitous, and shall not be resigned save by those above sixty years of age and those physically incapacitated.

The following members shall not serve as voting members:

First. Foreigners, unless they shall have obtained naturalization papers.

Second. Minors.

Third. Persons unable to read and write.

Fourth. Military men and public functionaries in active service.

Fifth. Persons who have suffered corporal punishment.

Sixth. Those who on account of a judicial sentence are under the surveillance of the authorities.

Seventh. Those who at any time have been condemned for infraction of the regulations concerning slavery, or for offenses whose punishment is provided for by the decree for the suppression of the slave-trade.

The office shall be of two years' duration, and half of the members shall be renewed each year. The two proprietors and the two vice-members who are to retire at the close of the first of said years shall be determined by lot.

ARTICLE 4. For the formation of jurisdictional boards, the governors or lieutenant-governors in Cuba, and the corregidores in Porto Rico, of the chief towns, shall form a list comprising the sixteen largest tax-payers of the jurisdiction, whether they reside in the jurisdiction or not, half of them to own no slaves, in order that the superior civil governor may select from them the four voting members, proprietors, of the boards aforesaid. In subsequent years the lists shall comprise eight persons in a similar position, in order that the superior authorities may select the two who are to replace those retiring.

ARTICLE 5. The jurisdictional boards having been formed of the two ex-officio members, referred to in article 2, and the four proprietors chosen according to article 4, they shall proceed to form a list of eight tax-payers residing in the jurisdiction, half of them owning no slaves, and shall submit it to the superior civil governor, that he may select the four vice-members who are to act as substitutes for the proprietors. For the annual and successive renewals of the half of the vice-members, the board shall only propose four similar tax-payers, that the superior authority may select two. The boards shall adopt no resolution unless three of the four voting members shall be present.

ARTICLE 6. It shall be the duty of the jurisdictional protective boards—

First. To see to the fulfillment of the obligations imposed upon patrons by article 7 of the law concerning the freedmen, referred to in articles 1 and 2 of said law, according to what may be permitted in each case by the state of culture and local conditions, and according to the labor, which they are subsequently to perform, either in town or country.

Second. To endeavor to cause payment to be made of the wages provided for in article 8 of the law for freedmen who have attained the age of eighteen years, taking part in the fixing of the amount, and receiving the half which is to go to form the capital of said freedmen. For the fixing of the pay of the freedmen, the wages assigned to them shall be equal to one-half of the wages earned by free men of their class and occupation.

Third. To endeavor to cause the termination of patronage on the person's reaching the age of twenty-two years, according to article 9 of the law, to produce all its effects. When the patronage terminates by reason of any of the three causes mentioned in article 10 of the law, the boards shall, in the first case, have married persons under

their protection until the husband shall have attained his majority, and they shall seek, without doing violence to their will, to cause them to remain, as laborers, with the patron of the wife. In the other two cases they shall place minors under the patronage of such persons as they may think proper, adhering, for the fixing of their wages, to the provisions of the second *atribucion*.

Fourth. To assist the freedmen referred to in articles 3 and 5 of the law, and those who may not be under patronage, endeavoring to cause such contracts or stipulations as they may make to be best suited to their interests, to the development of agriculture, and the necessities of public order.

Fifth. To exercise the functions of guardianship, according to law, over freedmen under twenty-two years of age, who are not under patronage, and over those who, being also under twenty-two years of age, exercise rights contrary to those of their patrons, representing them, in law and out, through such persons as they may appoint for the purpose.

Sixth. To give or refuse their necessary approbation in stipulation and transfers of patronage, and also in acts whose object is to secure to free parents the patronage of their sons, and to approve such indemnities as they may consider just, as will be hereinafter provided for.

Seventh. To keep lists of the persons whose protection is intrusted to them, and of such changes as may take place in their situations and residence, keeping a separate list of those under patronage, and of freed laborers.

Eighth. To take care, according to provisions of article 14 of the law, that patrons fulfill their obligations to such freedmen above sixty years of age who may remain in the houses or on the estates of their former owners, and to settle such disputes as may arise between them.

Ninth. To deposit, in the name of each party interested, such sums as may be received for the formation of his capital, in the public savings-banks established in Havana, and in San Juan de Porto Rico, or their branches.

Tenth. To take cognizance of resignation of patronage, admitting such as may be based upon causes which the boards may consider sufficient; but such resignations shall never result in the separation of a child less than fourteen years of age from his or her slave mother. Nor shall any such separation be permitted in the case of a transfer of patronage.

Eleventh. To order a change of patronage, granting a hearing to the patron, when a minor who displays some very special aptitude shall demand, either by himself or through another person in his name, a change of occupation, whenever this may require his removal to another place where the patron may not be able to exercise his function, or when the latter may not consent to the change of occupation.

Twelfth. To form such lists as may be necessary for the enforcement of the law, or as may be provided for in these regulations, performing all that is therein prescribed in relation to such documents.

Thirteenth. To propose the appointment of a secretary and other necessary officers, which shall be made by the governor or lieutenant-governors in Cuba, and the corregidores in Porto Rico, and must be approved by the superior civil governor.

Fourteenth. To classify the officers employed in the jurisdiction, fixing their salaries and that of the secretary, submitting it to the approbation of the superior civil governor, who shall hear before giving it to the central board.

Fifteenth. To settle disputes which may arise in relation to admission into or exclusion from the lists of freedmen.

Sixteenth. To settle all questions which may arise between patrons and clients, and all others which may occur in regard to the application of these regulations, acting in conformity with the provisions of such special regulations as may be ordered according to article 18.

ARTICLE 7. In case the disputing parties shall be unwilling to abide by the decision of the jurisdictional boards, they shall have a right to appeal to the central board within thirty days, which shall decide without appeal in administrative order.

ARTICLE 8. Any person feeling aggrieved by a decision of the central board may take such contentious-administrative or contentious-judicial proceedings against them as he may think proper.

ARTICLE 9. Proceedings in the cases referred to in the foregoing article shall be, in contentious-administrative cases, in accordance with the provisions in force for others of their kind; and in contentious-judicial cases they shall conform to the provisions of title 24, part 1st, of the law of civil trials now in force in the islands of Cuba and Porto Rico.

ARTICLE 10. Slaves declared free by article 17 of the law shall be under the care of the protective boards, who shall proceed in respect to them, in the same manner as is ordered for others in the regulations, principally in No. 4 of article 6.

ARTICLE 11. The jurisdictional protective boards may delegate their powers in each of the districts of their jurisdiction to some of the persons included in the list referred to in article 5, designating also another for the office of vice-member, both to be residents

of the district; they shall be nominated by the boards, and the nomination shall be confirmed by the governor or lieutenant-governor in Cuba, and the corregidor in Porto Rico, the appointment then being submitted to the superior civil governor for his approbation. The delegates and vice-members shall always act under the authority of the boards, so that the latter alone shall decide all disputes that may arise, the delegates merely executing their orders.

ARTICLE 12. Persons holding such offices shall be considered as public functionaries, with administrative powers, and shall be subject to the gubernative and judicial responsibility which attaches to their character. The aforesaid officers shall perform their duties gratuitously, and shall not resign their office save in those cases in which the resignation of voting members is permitted.

ARTICLE 13. The central protective board shall reside in the capital, and shall be composed of the superior civil governor, who shall be its president; of a vice-president appointed by said officer of the first syndics of the municipal government of the capital; of sixteen voting members, proprietors, half of them not to be owners of slaves, selected by the superior civil governor from among the one hundred and fifty largest tax-payers of the whole island, whether they reside in the capital or not; of sixteen vice-members, eight of whom shall not own slaves, for cases of absence or sickness, and of the secretary proposed by the board and appointed by the superior civil governor. The latter officer may delegate his functions as president, in special cases, to such person as he may think proper. The places of proprietors shall be filled in such a manner that the number of voting members not holding slaves shall never be less than eight.

ARTICLE 14. As soon as the board shall have been formed, it shall form a list of thirty-two tax-payers, who must be residents of the capital, in order that the superior civil governor may select the sixteen vice-members who are to act in the case of absence or withdrawal of the proprietors.

ARTICLE 15. One-half of the board shall be renewed each year, those members whose functions are to cease at the end of the first year being determined by lot.

The appointments of new voting members, proprietors, shall be made by the superior civil governor, according to article 13, and the vice-members shall be selected by the same superior officer according to article 14. The office of voting member shall not be resigned save in cases provided for in article 3.

No person shall serve as a voting member who may be comprised in any of the cases preceding the seven of the article aforesaid.

ARTICLE 16. The following powers shall belong to the central board :

First. The formation of the general census of slaves.

Second. That of such lists and registers of freedmen in the whole island as it may be necessary to form, or as may hereafter be provided for, with the approval of the superior civil governor; and a general recapitulation of the aforesaid lists and registers shall be published in the *Gaceta de la Capital*.

Third. To take cognizance of and decide complaints which may be presented to it against the decisions of the jurisdictional boards, and in cases in which the latter may consult it.

Fourth. To give due instruction to the jurisdictional boards, taking care that they punctually fulfill the obligations imposed upon them by these regulations.

Fifth. To state to the minister of the colonies, through the superior civil governor of the island, whatever it may deem conducive to the better enforcement of the law, and to the removal of such difficulties as might produce disturbances or injuries both to slaves and freedmen and to owners or patrons.

Sixth. To keep in legal form an account of such sums as each one of the jurisdictional boards may receive as one-half of the wages which are to form the capital of the freedmen.

Seventh. To propose to the superior civil governor, for his approbation, the appointment of a secretary and other indispensable officers, the salaries which they are to receive, and to submit an estimate of necessary expenses.

Eighth. To recapitulate the necessary expenses of all the jurisdictional boards, to take part in the rendering of the accounts of the same, and to prepare a general account, sending it, in the form established by the provisions governing the matter, to the tribunal competent to approve it.

ARTICLE 17. For the procurement of the means necessary for the indemnities provided for in the law, and in order to cover the estimated expenses of all the protective boards, the central board, after having computed the total amount of the indemnities and expenses, shall propose to the superior civil governor of the island the tax to be levied upon slaves between the ages of eleven and sixty years.

The superior civil governor shall send with his report the aforesaid proposed tax to the minister of the colonies, that he may adopt such decision as he may think proper.

ARTICLE 18. The superior civil governor, after having granted a hearing to the central board and the council of administration in Cuba, or to the provincial house of deputies of Porto Rico, shall dictate regulations for the government of the first, the

jurisdictional boards, and the delegates of the districts, in their various protective functions, and in their relations to the superior civil government; conforming his prescriptions strictly to those of the law of July, 1870, and to those of the present regulations.

ARTICLE 19. Slaves who have served under the Spanish flag during the insurrection in the island of Cuba, and who afterward continue in active service, shall not be under the care of the protective boards so long as they remain as freedmen in such situation, concerning which a report shall be made by the superior civil governor to the jurisdictional board which would otherwise have had the care of such persons. Similar information shall be given to the same board when they shall be discharged from military service. The foregoing provisions shall not be applicable to minors, who, in everything not relating to military matters, shall be protected by the boards.

ARTICLE 20. Freedmen who, on account of their bad disposition, manifest an aversion to labor, or are incorrigible, shall be abandoned by the boards to which they belong; and the latter, with the approbation of the central board, shall withdraw from them their protection, reporting the matter to the authorities.

ARTICLE 21. Freedmen for whom, by virtue of the provisions of article 3 of the law, indemnities may be payable to their former owners, shall not receive their papers as freedmen until their situation shall have been examined, in order to fix the amount of the indemnities before the protective board of the jurisdiction to which they belonged as slaves. The boards shall take care that such amounts be fixed, and that the examination aforesaid be made immediately, in order not to delay for a moment the declaration of freedom and the delivery of the proper papers.

ARTICLE 22. The value of persons for whom an indemnity is to be paid shall always be fixed before the proper jurisdictional board, after hearing the opinion of two experts, one named by the department of public finance for each case which may arise, and another by the person to whom the indemnity may be due, or his representative. In case of disagreement between both experts, the board, first granting a hearing to a third party appointed by it, shall decide, as in the previous case, with regard to the amount of the indemnity. All proceedings relative to the same individual shall be limited to a single act, the evaluations made by the boards being subject to the approval of the proper administrator of finance.

ARTICLE 23. Those who, still being in military service, may be stationed as soldiers in another jurisdiction, shall present themselves, with the consent of their officers, before the board of said jurisdiction, that it may be able to fix the amount payable as indemnity, duly reporting at once to the former owner of the freedman or his representative, that he may appoint an expert on his part to be present at the appraisal, although this shall take place even though the party interested fail to appear or to be represented.

ARTICLE 24. In case the owner shall not be represented, the board shall fix irrevocably, and with the approval of the proper administrator or officer of finance, the amount of the indemnity, after having heard the expert appointed by the department of public finance, and another appointed by the board itself. The decision adopted by the board shall be communicated to the owner or his representative, and likewise to the protective board of the jurisdiction to which the freedman belonged as a slave.

ARTICLE 25. Owners whose slaves have served under the Spanish flag, and been killed while in active service, or who may have died of their wounds since the publication of the law in the *Gaceta de Madrid*, and before these regulations were adopted, shall have a right to the indemnity provided for in article in said law, and shall receive on such ground the sum of fifteen hundred pesetas for each slave.

ARTICLE 26. The indemnities to be paid by free parents, either legitimate or natural, on obtaining patronage of their children referred to in articles 1 and 2 of the law, shall be regulated in such a manner as to represent the difference between the amount of the expense for maintenance and instruction which the patron has incurred for the freedman, and the value of the services which the latter may have rendered gratuitously to his patron.

CHAPTER II.—*Of censuses, lists, and registers, under the charge of the central and jurisdictional protective boards, and of the issuance of free papers to freedmen.*

ARTICLE 27. Those only shall be considered as slaves who may be inscribed as such in the general censuses prepared in the islands of Cuba and Porto Rico by the simple protective board of each; said census shall be considered as definitive whenever it may be in accordance with the provisions contained in the law of July 4, 1870, and the instructions issued by the minister of the colonies for their execution.

ARTICLE 28. The jurisdictional boards shall keep a special list of persons born subsequent to July 4, 1870, which is the date of the publication of said law. In this list, in addition to the circumstances mentioned in the general list of slaves, and which may be applicable to them, the name shall be given, as well as the occupation and residence of the patron who is to fulfill the duties of a guardian to them.

ARTICLE 29. Persons born of a mother who is under patronage, according to the law, shall be included in the list referred to in the foregoing article.

ARTICLE 30. Complaints with regard to the application of the benefits of the law to individuals whose names have been omitted in the proper census or list, may be presented at any time. Those on account of exclusion shall only be received if presented within thirty days from the publication of the list to be formed in each jurisdiction; it being understood that these measures shall not affect the responsibility which it may be necessary to require according to previous legislation. Slaves whose names do not appear in the census formed in the island of Porto Rico on the 31st of December, 1869, which date was prior to that of the publication of the law, although their names were contained in that of December 31, 1867, shall be considered as free; but to their owners shall be reserved the proper indemnities when the Cortes shall have granted them this right.

ARTICLE 31. The superior civil governor shall take care that the jurisdictional protective boards, through one of their voting members, deliver, as soon as possible, (if they have not already done so,) the necessary free papers, both to freedmen above sixty years of age, and to the patrons of minors. The voting member who shall be delegated for this purpose, shall take note of the delivery, which shall be authorized by his signature, that of the patron, or his representative, and those of two witnesses.

ARTICLE 32. The delivery of papers to persons born subsequently to July 4, 1870, shall take place in the form provided for by the preceding article.

ARTICLE 33. The census referred to in article 19 of the law shall in no wise affect the responsibilities and rights referred to in the decree, with force of law, of September 29, 1866, and in the regulations of June 18, 1867.

ARTICLE 34. The protective boards, comparing the aforesaid law of 1866 with the general slave-census, shall endeavor to cause the exclusion from this latter of all those not comprised as slaves of the old one, excepting only those born subsequently up to the time at which by law they are to be free.

ARTICLE 35. The aforesaid boards shall likewise form a list of all persons declared free by the law of July 4, 1870.

ARTICLE 36. The proof of services referred to in article 3 of the aforesaid law shall be intrusted to the protective boards, in order that they may take measures with the authorities for the liberty of the slave. The superior civil governor shall decide finally, such measures being reserved to the parties as they may deem beneficial to themselves against the decisions of the aforesaid officer.

CHAPTER III.—Of patronage.

ARTICLE 37. All freedmen who, according to articles 1 and 2 of the law, have been born since December 17, 1868, and who may be born subsequently, shall be subject to the patronage of the owners of their mothers. In like manner, those who have reached the age of sixty years shall remain under patronage, in the case of article 14 of the law, unless they shall elect to be free.

ARTICLE 38. The powers granted by our laws to the guardians of minors shall be exercised by patrons over their freedmen, they being the legal representatives of the latter.

ARTICLE 39. Freedmen owe obedience to their patrons as to their fathers, and they shall not, without their consent, buy, sell, cede, or alienate, under pain of having such transactions declared null and void.

ARTICLE 40. Patronage is transferable by all the means known in law, and may be resigned for just causes, according to article 11 of the law. No transfer or resignation shall be made in such a manner as to separate a child less than fourteen years of age from its mother.

ARTICLE 41. Patrons are under obligations to maintain their clients, clothe them, and assist them in case of sickness, and to instruct them in the principles of religion and morality, seeking to inspire them with a fondness for labor, submission, and respect to the laws, and love toward their fellow-men. It shall also be their duty to pay the expenses of their baptism and burial. These duties of the patron to the freedmen referred to in articles 1 and 2 of the law.

ARTICLE 42. They shall likewise give their clients the instruction necessary for the practice of a trade or handicraft, instructing them in that one for which they may display most aptitude and inclination, as soon as they arrive at the age of puberty. Any zeal which may be shown by patrons in this matter will be considered as a special and meritorious service.

ARTICLE 43. The patron, as a just remuneration for the duties imposed upon him by the foregoing articles, and for the expenses to be incurred by him in favor of the freedman, shall have a right to the benefit of his labor, without any remuneration, until his client shall have attained the age of eighteen years.

ARTICLE 44. From the age of eighteen to that of twenty-two the freedman shall receive from his patron one-half of the wages of the freedman of his class and occupation, the provisions of the second division of article 6 being observed in fixing the

amount of such wages. These wages shall be divided into two parts, one of which shall be delivered to the freedman, and the other to the protective board of the jurisdiction, in order to form his capital.

ARTICLE 45. The patron of any minor, who shall not have given him the necessary instruction for the practice of a trade or handicraft, according to what may be allowed by the state of culture of the country and the local condition, and suited to the labor which may be performed by the freedman in town or country, shall be obliged to pay to said minor, from the age of eighteen to that of twenty-two, the entire wages of a freedman, whenever this omission may be due to negligence on the part of the patron.

ARTICLE 46. Whenever freedmen sixty years of age shall have chosen to continue in the families or on the estates of their former owners, the latter shall be considered as their patrons.

ARTICLE 47. In case of refusal on the part of the freedman, or of the former master, to comply with the provisions of article 14 of the law, the protective board, after hearing both parties, shall adopt suitable means to insure the execution of said provisions, and shall endeavor to procure work for the freedman according to circumstances.

ARTICLE 48. The protective boards shall take special care that freedmen be not contracted for labors dissimilar to those previously performed by them, keeping on rural estates such as shall previously have been there, but without restricting their liberty.

ARTICLE 49. It shall be the duty of patrons to correct the faults committed by freedmen. The superior civil governor, after hearing the central protective board, shall provide, in a list of regulations, such punishments as shall be imposed by patrons.

CHAPTER IV.—*Of the manner of shipping the freedmen referred to in articles 3 and 5 of the law.*

ARTICLE 50. When persons referred to in article 3 of the law shall receive their free papers, and those referred to in article 5 of the same shall receive their special papers, they shall be consulted by the board delivering said papers with regard to their desire to return to Africa. Their choice shall be stated at once in the list in which their names are enrolled, and in the papers delivered to them. The privilege of choice which is granted to these freedmen shall be exercised only once, and within seventy days after the delivery of their free papers.

ARTICLE 51. Those who may desire to return to Africa shall be at the disposal of the protective board of the jurisdiction until, all persons belonging to the jurisdiction and making the same choice having been assembled, the superior civil governor, having been informed with regard to their number and circumstances, shall order their conveyance to such place of shipment as he may appoint.

ARTICLE 52. The emigrants from the jurisdictions for which a place of shipment shall have been appointed, having been assembled in the port whence they are to embark, shall be taken on board of the vessel which is to convey them, the commander of which shall receive them from the governmental authorities of said place, said authorities being deputed for this purpose by the superior civil governor, the papers of shipment, containing the names of the emigrants, being made out in triplicate. Each copy of this document shall bear the signature of the officer delivering the freedmen, that of the naval officer, or of the captain of the port, and of the commander of the port receiving them. The latter shall keep a copy until he shall have performed the duty intrusted to him, and the two others shall be sent to the superior civil governor, one to be kept in the office of his secretary and the other to be forwarded to the minister of the colonies, authorized copies of said document being delivered to the regent and attorney of the audiencia of the territory.

ARTICLE 53. Emigrants may ship their effects and property, together with such tools and agricultural implements as may belong to them, to the order of the commander of the vessel.

ARTICLE 54. The conveyance of emigrants shall take place to such a point in Africa as may be determined by the superior authorities, according to the instructions of His Majesty's government, the necessary means being adopted to prove that they have been landed at the port appointed.

ARTICLE 55. As soon as the emigrants shall have been landed at the port of destination they shall be absolutely free.

ARTICLE 56. The superior civil governors of the islands of Cuba and Porto Rico shall submit to the minister of the colonies such doubts as may arise in their minds with regard to the enforcement of the law and of these regulations, whenever a legislative or governmental measure may be required, such orders as they may think proper to issue for the due execution of said law and regulations being submitted, in like manner, to the approval of the supreme government.

Done at San Sebastian on the fifth day of August, one thousand eight hundred and seventy-two.

AMADEO.

EDUARDO GASSET Y ARTIME,
Minister of the Colonies.

No. 429.

Mr. Fish to Mr. Sickles.

No. 247.]

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,

Washington, August 31, 1872.

SIR: I have to acknowledge the receipt of your dispatch of the 8th instant, No. 411, containing a copy of a telegram of same date received from you, in regard to the enforcement of the emancipation law in Cuba and Porto Rico.

This intelligence is especially gratifying to this Government, and it is hoped that efficient and practical regulations for carrying out this humane and beneficent object may be enforced.

You will omit no proper occasion to enforce upon the Spanish government the expediency, the humanity, and the justice of making their laws for the abolition of slavery more efficient and more immediately operative, and you will make manifest the strong interest felt by this Government in the adoption of a humane and practical system of emancipation.

I am, &c.,

HAMILTON FISH.

No. 430.

Mr. Sickles to Mr. Fish.

No. 442.]

UNITED STATES LEGATION IN SPAIN,
Madrid, October 6, 1872. (Received October 24.)

SIR: I have the honor to forward herewith a translation of the paragraphs relating to Cuba and Porto Rico, which I find in the address to the Crown reported by a committee of congress. They may be regarded as the expression of the views of the majority in the Cortes, and likewise of the executive, since the address is always a cabinet question.

The declaration that there is no reason why slavery may not be abolished, and ample political rights enjoyed in Porto Rico, justifies the hope expressed in my No. 428 that, upon these topics, the Cortes would be found somewhat in advance of the ministry. It remains to be seen if I am too sanguine in believing that the cabinet is not unwilling to yield to the liberal tendencies of the legislature in hastening these measures. At all events, however slow the movement, it is at least evident that some progress is made in this country toward the suggestions so diligently urged by the United States upon the attention of this government for the amelioration of its colonial system.

Concessions made to Porto Rico cannot long be withheld from Cuba.

It appears that the more radical views expressed in the address, compared with the royal speech at the opening of the Cortes, do not satisfy the left of the chamber. An amendment is proposed by Orense, (Marquis de Albaida,) Castilar, De Labra, Marquis de Sardoal, Nuñez de Velasco, Fernando Gonzalez, and Luis Vidart, distinguished names in the republican and ministerial ranks, avowing sentiments touching the insurrection in Cuba and its relation to emancipation that have not hitherto found such formal expression in the Cortes. The debate growing out of this proposition can scarcely fail to involve an interesting discussion of the Cuban question.

In proceeding with reform measures in Porto Rico, without waiting for the pacification of Cuba, the government has seriously alarmed the powerful slave interest in the latter province.

The reactionary press of Madrid hastens to show that an insurrection is imminent in Porto Rico. Failing to hold this cabinet to the fallacy of postponing the redress of grievances in one colony, because in another too much delay had provoked sedition, the conservative opposition now shift their ground, and assert that, since the loyalty of Porto Rico is the offspring of slavery, emancipation will precipitate the tendency toward independence, already formidable in both islands.

It seems that the apprehensions expressed in my No. 397, founded on the Carlist antecedents of General de la Torre and his unfortunate administration of Santiago de Cuba, in 1869, are not borne out by his conduct in Porto Rico. The reactionary party, after commending his nomination, are disappointed by the firmness he shows in resisting their demands, and offended at the freedom he has allowed to the people in the choice of their deputies to the Cortes, most of whom are radical reformers and abolitionists.

He appears, notwithstanding, to retain the confidence of the government.

I am, &c.,

D. E. SICKLES.

APPENDIX A, No. 442.

Extracts from the address to the Crown in reply to the speech from the throne, reported by the house committee of the Cortes, October 2, 1872.

[Translation.]

Colonial affairs claim, in truth, the greatest attention and the most circumspect action, and the congress considers it a most prudent stroke of policy to have brought a remedy to bear on the economical crisis under which Cuba is laboring, by regulating at the same time the administration and the government of our provinces beyond the seas.

It is to be desired that we may continue henceforth to devise and establish measures tending to strengthen the action of the government, raising, with increasing vigor, the moral tone of all branches of its administrative service to such a grade as to avoid all complaints, thus closing the pathway to those evil forebodings and lack of confidence that weaken our mutual ties.

Meanwhile, the course of our valiant and long-suffering army, the skill of our navy, which shares its just deserts, and the patriotism of our resolute and persevering volunteers, shall restore peace to Cuba, curbing the evil designs of those who attack the sacred integrity of our territory.

The congress of deputies desires a speedy termination to the fratricidal strife that wastes the fields of our great Antilla, and it will join with enthusiastic decision in whatever may operate to this end, without regard to the sacrifices which may be necessary in treasure and in blood, rendered imperative by the holy duty of assuring the safety of our cause and the triumph of our rights. This end being attained, the island pacified, and our honor saved, reforms and freedom will no longer be deemed and ridiculed as evidences of weakness on our part, or as concessions exacted and wrested from us, and the congress and the government will seek to give Cuba the enjoyment of her liberties and rights, in loyal fulfillment of the solemn promises made by the constituent Cortes.

In our other Antilla, where peace has not been disturbed, and where the full enjoyment of political rights and the abolition of slavery cannot operate, to disturb it, there will doubtless be no delay, as congress hopes, in seeing the promises of the revolution completely realized.

If the practical demonstration of the efficiency of the new régime through past dangers leaves nothing to be desired, an equal advantage must accrue by the overthrow of ancient evils and the radical reform of our laws and institutions now incumbent upon congress, in order that the ideal of justice and liberty, welcomed by the revolution of September, may be a living fact, restoring vitality to our social fabric.

[Translation.]

APPENDIX B, No. 442.

Amendment of Señor Orense to the report of the committee on the house reply to the royal speech.

The undersigned deputies have the honor to propose to the house that the ninth paragraph of the reply to the speech read as follows: "In the other Antilla, wherein peace has not been disturbed, and where the full enjoyment of political rights cannot operate to disturb it, there will doubtless be no delay, as congress hopes, in seeing the promises of the revolution completely realized.

"There is, nevertheless, a question, respecting which there can be no hesitation or postponement of any kind. Slavery is in every way incompatible, not only with the interests of the revolution, but also with the honor of Spain.

"It is also in antagonism with the truly noble attitude of the inhabitants of Porto Rico, who, in anticipation of the work of their legislators, have already begun the spontaneous manumission of their slaves; and with the extremely grave situation in Cuba, where the continuance of slavery may turn the war, until now political and civil, into a terrible and disastrous social war.

"We are urged, therefore, to abolish slavery at a single blow, adopting all necessary measures for the maintenance of order and the salvation of all interests worthy of respect."

House of Deputies, October 5, 1872.

JOSE MARIA DE ORENSE.
EMILIO CASTELAR.
RAFAEL MARIA DE LABRA.
MARQUIS DE SARDOAL.
VICENTE NUNEZ DE VALASCO.
JOSE FERNANDO GONZALEZ.
LUIS VIDART.

No. 431.

Mr. Sickles to Mr. Fish.

No. 443.]

UNITED STATES LEGATION IN SPAIN,
Madrid, October 8, 1872. (Received October 24.)

SIR: I have the honor to forward herewith an official publication of a decree, dated 2d instant, organizing a standing army for the provinces of Cuba and Porto Rico, respectively. The term of enlistment is six years, three of which must be in active service and the remainder in reserve, unless in case of war or insurrection; the whole force is required to remain under arms. These troops are to be raised in Spain; first, from the army of the peninsula; second, from the reserves of that army; and third, by recruiting at large. Besides the extra pay allowed for service beyond the seas, each man receives a bounty of \$150, with clothing and transportation home for himself and family at the expiration of his full term of enlistment. The reserves are likewise borne on the rolls of the local militia, or "volunteers," where they reside, and may be armed if employed on plantations.

It is said that, besides the heavy losses in the army of Cuba during the last campaign, the term of service of some seven or eight thousand men has expired, so that in order to keep up the active strength of the organization a re-enforcement of at least twenty thousand is required. In the present condition of affairs in Spain it will be difficult to send any considerable part of these before the close of the year. A law is now pending in the Cortes authorizing a conscription of forty thousand men for the Spanish army, and I presume it will be among these conscripts that most of the "volunteers" for Cuba will be found. This

measure, however, encounters serious opposition, and may not become a law before the end of the month; nor will it be easy in the present temper of the people to enforce another conscription in this country, based as this is on an unequal and unjust system of enrollment, which the present cabinet acknowledges and stands pledged to reform.

Nothing could better illustrate the difference between the colonial policy of Great Britain and Spain than the fact that at a moment when Canada is without a garrison of British troops, a permanent army is found necessary to constrain the unwilling allegiance of Cuba and Porto Rico.

The rumor of the appointment of Lieutenant-General Cordova, at present secretary of war, to be captain-general of Cuba, is again revived, with some foundation, I suspect. The minister of state remarked to me last Friday, however, that no change would be made at present, as General Cordova could not be spared from the war department pending the re-organization of the army, for which he has presented a project to the Cortes. This appointment, if made, would be in all respects excellent.

I am, &c.,

D. E. SICKLES.

[Translation.]

[From *La Gaceta de Madrid*, Madrid, October 4, 1872.]

MINISTRY OF WAR.—STATEMENT.

SIR: The manner of supplying the places of troops whose terms of service have expired in the armies of Cuba and Porto Rico has been a subject of special attention with all preceding governments; there exists no plan, however, as yet, which is both safe and convenient, and at the same time furnishes guarantees of order to those loyal inhabitants, and security to the mother country, which is no less interested in their prosperity than in the strengthening of the bonds which unite her to them.

If, until no very remote period, the difficulty of communication, the erroneous ideas entertained by our people in regard to those provinces, and other circumstances and even prejudices, combined to render harmony between the army of the colonies and that of the peninsula impossible, now that these errors and these difficulties have disappeared, and that communications are rapid, easy, and convenient, the government of Your Majesty thinks that the time has arrived for the reform which it proposes, viz, to furnish said islands with a suitable and sufficient military force, to be maintained by a definite and permanent system.

The want of such a system hitherto has rendered recruiting for the colonial army dependent upon different elements; the conditions of the men who enlisted were also different, and enlistment was even sometimes accepted as a penalty for various offenses, but neither persons sentenced for common crimes, nor those who have been punished for desertion, nor those who have disgraced themselves by bad conduct, nor any other element ill-suited to military service, or capable of corrupting it in its source, should serve as the nucleus of an army, the sacred object of which is to maintain inviolate the honor of the national flag and the integrity of the national soil.

The government which now enjoys Your Majesty's confidence, more fortunate if not more zealous than its predecessors, thinks it has found means to supply this important want by adopting, with some modifications, the system proposed to the Cortes for the maintenance of the peninsular army.

The protracted war now dying out which is kept up in Cuba, also renders it very necessary to increase the national element, better guarantees being thus furnished for tranquillity and order, which have, on more than one occasion, been disturbed by men who were few in number, indeed, but fatal to public peace and prosperity by reason of their turbulent spirit and their hostility to the rule of Spain.

The advantages afforded by the system of dividing the armies of those islands into active and reserve forces are evident, since it thus becomes possible always to have an increase of force ready without imposing any considerable pecuniary sacrifices upon the treasury; this system regulates, in a fixed manner, the rewards offered to the volunteers for their service, exempting them from the discounts which they have hitherto suffered for various reasons; it offers them, at the close of their engagement, a little

property, which will be a benefit to their families, or serve as a foundation of their own fortunes in such rich countries; it secures at all times a return to those who may not desire to remain after the expiration of their term of service, they and their families, should they have any, being conveyed home at the expense of the state; and, finally, it promotes the settlement of those islands with acclimated national elements, thus opening an easier future to the young men who now emigrate to various parts of America, and who will hereafter be able to do so with greater advantage to our own colonial provinces, taking to them the various talents, arts, trades, and other occupations which, finding immediate application in the army, must subsequently become an inexhaustible source of wealth when employed in industry, agriculture, and commerce.

To facilitate means to honest toil, to open up ways to intelligent activity, and to enterprising youth to attain a good position in life, and to give at the same time to our colonial provinces and their army the enthusiasm of patriotic love, the strength and the sap of that same youth which is to defend the flag of Spain, and prosper under its shadow and its protection—such, sir, is the object proposed by the undersigned minister on submitting to the high consideration of Your Majesty, with the approval of the council of ministers, the following draught of a decree for the maintenance of the armies of Cuba and Porto Rico.

FERNANDO FERNANDEZ DE CORDOVA,
Minister of War.

MADRID, *October 2, 1872.*

DECREE.

Pursuant to the suggestion of the minister of war, with the approval of the council of ministers, I hereby decree as follows:

ARTICLE 1. The armies of the islands of Cuba and Porto Rico shall hereafter be formed by means of voluntary enlistments, to which shall be admitted, first, persons belonging to the active army of the peninsula; second, those belonging to the first and second reserves of the same army; and third, men of from twenty to thirty-five years of age, who, while belonging neither to the army nor to the reserves, may desire to enlist, and who are able to furnish satisfactory evidence of good conduct, and who possess the qualifications required by the legislative enactments now in force.

ARTICLE 2. The duration of military service in the armies of Cuba and Porto Rico shall be six years, reckoning from the day of embarkation of the parties enlisted; these shall serve for three years in the active army and for the three remaining years in the reserve.

ARTICLE 3. Persons belonging to the reserve will be required to render active service when called to arms in case of war.

ARTICLE 4. At the expiration of the six years of service, for which the volunteer enlists, he shall be entitled to a full discharge in time of peace, unless he shall have contracted a new engagement; but such discharge may be withheld for six months following the expiration of the engagement if vacancies in the army shall not have been filled by re-enforcements from the peninsula.

ARTICLE 5. In time of war all transfers from the active to the reserve force shall cease; but at the expiration of the six years of service, those who shall have served their full time shall receive their final discharge, unless an order of the government shall require their continuance in the army, on account of this being demanded by the defense of the country or the integrity of the territory.

ARTICLE 6. Volunteers for the armies of Cuba and Porto Rico shall receive 750 pesetas for the three years for which they engage to remain in active service; of these they shall receive 250 at the time of embarking, or before if they can furnish a sufficient guarantee, (which will no longer be required after their embarkation,) and the 500 pesetas remaining on their entering the reserve, after having been for three years in active service.

ARTICLE 7. Persons belonging to the active force or to the reserves of the peninsula, who may desire to be transferred to the colonial army, shall have the time which they have already served in Spain placed to their credit, provided that the time which they have still to serve in Spain, or for which they engage to serve in the colonies, be not less than three years, in which they shall receive the 750 pesetas, paid in the manner provided in the foregoing article.

ARTICLE 8. The volunteers shall begin to draw pay for service in America from the day of their enrollment, receiving moreover the necessary outfit of clothing for the voyage without charge, and being furnished with transportation to the port of embarkation at the expense of the government. No charge shall be made to volunteers for the medical examination which is required previous to their admission.

ARTICLE 9. The government guarantees all pay not drawn and all savings which may be deposited by the troops of the colonial armies in the Cuba and Porto Rico fund,

and all balances standing to the credit of volunteers shall be paid on their embarkation for the peninsula.

ARTICLE 10. Any money belonging to persons deceased shall be placed in the colonial fund within two months after the decease, so that families and heirs may receive it promptly and without any discount. To this end every volunteer, before embarking, must leave at the colonial office a sworn statement, signed by himself, giving the name of the place of his birth, together with the names of his parents, brothers, and sisters, and nearest relatives, to the end that those having legal claims to his property may be known in case of his decease.

ARTICLE 11. On being transferred to the reserve force, after having been for three years in the active service, volunteers may engage in agricultural or any other kind of labor, changing their residence within the territory as it may suit their interests, being only obliged to inform the commanding officer of the regiment or body to which they belong, still being under obligations, however, to return to their standards when summoned in case of war.

ARTICLE 12. Any volunteer, on being transferred to the reserve, may contract matrimony, but this shall not exempt him from the obligation of returning to the ranks in case of war, as provided by the foregoing article. When such summons is made, volunteers shall again receive compensation at the rate of 250 pesetas per annum for such time as they may remain under arms.

ARTICLE 13. Volunteers, at the expiration of their six years of service, shall be entitled to return to the peninsula at the expense of the state, together with their wives, and the children that may have been born to them during the time of their service in the reserve force. They shall retain this right without regard to the number of years that they may remain in the island after receiving their discharge, and although they may have married subsequently to their discharge.

ARTICLE 14. Volunteers, after having completed their six years' engagement in the colonial armies, may contract a new engagement, for three and six years, as they did the first, in which case they shall receive 250 pesetas for each year of service.

ARTICLE 15. Volunteers who, after having completed the first three years of their engagement in active service, may desire to remain in it without being transferred to the reserve, may continue in the ranks, receiving the same compensation of 250 pesetas per annum, and those who may voluntarily solicit it may, in such case, enter the reserve, even though they may not have served more than two years. In this case a discount will be made from the compensation of those entering the reserve before the regular time, according to the time for which they fail to serve in the active force.

ARTICLE 16. Those forming the staff of the army shall likewise enjoy the same advantages as are granted to the volunteers; but first sergeants who aspire to promotion cannot be transferred to the reserve.

ARTICLE 17. Corporals and sergeants of all branches of the army of the peninsula who may desire to be transferred to the army of Cuba or of Porto Rico may do so with the same advantages as private soldiers, in the proportion of one sergeant and two corporals to every one hundred men. To this end they will address their applications through their superior officers to the director-general of infantry, who will designate those who have been longest in the service, if the number of applicants shall exceed the proportion above indicated. Cornet-players and garrison-musicians may enlist in the same proportion as corporals.

ARTICLE 18. Volunteers who have learned one of the professions of medicine, pharmacy, or veterinary surgery, shall perform no duties in the active force, save those connected with their professions, if they shall so elect. These volunteers shall be assigned to the divisions, sanitary companies, ambulances, and hospitals, as auxiliaries of the military board of health. After three years of active service they may undergo competitive examinations for vacancies in the military board of health, pharmacy, or veterinary surgery of the island, or be at full liberty to practice their professions if they enter the reserve.

ARTICLE 19. The advantages referred to in the foregoing article shall be extended to all workmen, masters of mechanic arts or trades which may be useful in the various branches of service of the armies of Cuba and Porto Rico, as well as to the industrial establishments under the charge of the state, the superior authorities taking care that they be assigned in such manner as may best promote the object of utilizing their services in the army.

ARTICLE 20. The captains-general of Cuba and Porto Rico shall establish such schools and academies as may be necessary in time of peace to educate the troops, and their officers shall be held responsible if, at the expiration of the three years of active service, the volunteers shall be unable to read and write correctly.

ARTICLE 21. The captains-general of the two Antilles may summon to arms whenever they may think proper, on account of war, either the whole or any part of the reserve, either by years, arms, divisions, or departments, whether it be to increase the peace or to complete the war footing, making a report of such action to the government.

ARTICLE 22. Volunteers belonging to the reserve shall enroll themselves in the ranks of the divisions of volunteers established in the country when they reside in towns where such divisions exist. Those who are employed on estates or farms may be furnished with a suitable authorization from the captains-general without, for this reason, ceasing to belong to the respective bodies in which they have served, in case of being summoned to arms, according to Article 21.

ARTICLE 23. All advantages which, by the present decree, are granted to volunteers enlisting for service in the armies of Cuba and Porto Rico shall be extended to soldiers of the permanent or expeditionary army of the island of Cuba, so far as applicable to them, if they desire to continue in the service.

ARTICLE 24. All previous provisions relative to enlistment for the armies of Cuba and Porto Rico are hereby repealed, so far as they may conflict with the present decree.

Done at Madrid on the second day of October, one thousand eight hundred and seventy-two.

AMADEO.

FERNANDO FERNANDEZ DE CORDOVA.
Minister of War.

No. 432.

Mr. Fish to Mr. Sickles.

No. 270.]

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, October 29, 1872.

SIR: The present ministry in Spain has given assurance to the public, through their organs of the press, and have confirmed the assurance to you personally, (as you have reported in recent dispatches,) of their intention to put in operation a series of extensive reforms, embracing among them some of those which this Government has been earnest in urging upon their consideration in relation to the colonies which are our near neighbors.

Sustained, as is the present ministry, by the large popular vote which has recently returned to the Cortes an overwhelming majority in its support, there can be no more room to doubt their ability to carry into operation the reforms of which they have given promise, than there can be justification to question the sincerity with which the assurance was given. It seems, therefore, to be a fitting occasion to look back upon the relations between the United States and Spain, and to mark the progress which may have been made in accomplishing those objects in which we have been promised her co-operation. It must be acknowledged with regret that little or no advance has been made. The tardiness in this respect, however, cannot be said to be in any way imputable to a want of diligence, zeal, or ability in the legation of the United States at Madrid. The Department is persuaded that no persons, however gifted with those qualities and faculties, could have better succeeded against the apparent apathy or indifference of the Spanish authorities, if, indeed, their past omission to do what we have expected should not be ascribable to other causes.

The Spanish government, partly at our instance, passed a law providing for the gradual emancipation of slaves in the West India colonies. This law, so far as this Department is aware, remains unexecuted, and it is feared that the recently issued regulations professedly for its execution are wholly inadequate to any practical result in favor of emancipation, if they be not really in the interest of the slaveholder and of the continuance of the institution of slavery. While we fully acknowledge our obligation to the general rule, which requires a nation to abstain

from interference in the domestic concerns of others, circumstances warrant partial exceptions to this rule. The United States have emancipated all the slaves in their own territory, as the result of a civil war of four years, attended by a vast effusion of blood and expenditure of treasure. The slaves in the Spanish possessions near us are of the same race as those who were bondsmen here. It is natural and inevitable for the latter to sympathize in the oppression of their brethren, and especially in the waste of life occasioned by inhuman punishments and excessive toil. Nor is this sympathy confined to those who were recently in bondage among us. It is universal as it is natural and just. It rests upon the instincts of humanity, and is the recognition of those rights of man which are now universally admitted. Governments cannot resist a conviction so general and so righteous as that which condemns as a crime the tolerance of human slavery, nor can governments be in fault in raising their voice against the further tolerance of so grievous a blot upon humanity. You will, consequently, in decisive but respectful terms, remonstrate against the apparent failure of Spain to carry into full effect the act referred to. We acknowledge that this may be a difficult task. The reproaches, open or covert, of those whose supposed interests may be affected by it, to say nothing of other underhand proceedings, must be trying to the patience and highly embarrassing to the statesmen who may be the best disposed toward the measure. All, however, who countenance lukewarmness or neglect in carrying it into effect must, more or less, be liable to the charge of duplicity or bad faith, a charge which every man of honor in high station ought to endeavor to avoid.

By the enactment of the law of July, 1870, the government of Spain is practically committed to the policy of emancipation. It is true that the law was far from being as comprehensive a measure as was hoped for by the friends of emancipation both in Spain and throughout Christendom, but it was regarded as the entering wedge and the first step toward the extermination of a great wrong, and as the inauguration of a measure of justice and of peace, whereby Spain, to her high honor, declared herself in harmony with the general sentiment of modern civilization and with the principles of unquestioned human rights. It is so manifestly due to that sentiment and to those principles that their recognition, as thus evidenced, be made practical and effective by the enforcement of the law, that it cannot be questioned that Spain, with the pride and the honor that mark her history, will no longer delay the execution of the law and the observance of the pledge to humanity and to justice which was implied in the enactment.

There is another view which may be taken of this subject. The Spanish government and the Spanish people are understood to be almost unanimously adverse to the independence of Cuba. It will not be denied that the resistance to the enforcement of the emancipation law proceeds almost entirely from those interested in slave property in the island of Cuba, who have, through the successive ministries to which the government of Spain has been intrusted since the enactment of the law in July, 1870, been enabled hitherto to delay and to defeat its execution by preventing the promulgation of regulations effective for the end to which the law was directed.

An important law is thus nullified through the influence and agency of a class in Cuba who are the most loud in profession of devotion to the integrity of the Spanish territory and to the continuance of Spanish dominion over the island. The example of disregard to laws thus set cannot be without its influence. If Spain permits her authority to be

virtually and practically defied in that island by a refusal or neglect to carry into effect acts of the home government of a humane tendency, is not this tantamount to an acknowledgment of inability to control? If she refuse to enforce her authority in one instance, why may it not be spurned in others, and will not her supremacy, sooner or later, become nominal only, with no real advantage to herself or her colonies, but to the serious detriment of both, as well as of those other powers whose relations, whether of neighborhood or of commerce, give them special interest in the welfare of those possessions?

It is also represented that the grasping cupidity of sugar-planters in Cuba has succeeded in enabling them virtually to annul their contracts with coolies for a limited term of service, coupled with the privilege of returning to their homes at its close, and that those unfortunate Asiatics, under regulations for an enforced re-engagement when their former contract may have expired, are being practically reduced to the same abject condition as the African slaves. If this be true, it is impossible for the government of any civilized country to be indifferent to so atrocious a proceeding. You will mention this subject to the Spanish minister for foreign affairs, and will not conceal the view which we take of it.

The insurrection in Cuba has now lasted four years. Attempts to suppress it, so far futile, have been made probably at a sacrifice of more than a hundred thousand lives and an incalculable amount of property. Our commercial and other connections with that island compel us to take a warm interest in its peaceful and orderly condition, without which there cannot be prosperity.

Cuba being separated from this country by a narrow passage, the temptations for reckless adventurers here to violate our law and embark in hostile expeditions thither is great, despite the unquestioned vigilance of this Government to maintain its duty and the efforts with which the approaches to the island have been guarded by the Spanish cruisers. The said proximity has led Cubans and others, partisans of the insurgents, to take up their abode in the United States, actuated by the hope that that proximity would enable them advantageously to plot and act for the advancement of their cause in the island. We certainly have reason to expect that the great strain upon our watchfulness to thwart those schemes occasioned by the long duration of hostilities in Cuba, should have some termination through a cessation of the cause which hitherto has been supposed to make it necessary for the discharge of our duties as a neutral.

Ever since the insurrection began, we have repeatedly been called upon to discharge those duties. In the performance of them we are conscious of no neglect, but the trial to our impartiality by the want of success on the part of Spain in suppressing the revolt is necessarily so severe that unless she shall soon be more successful it will force upon this Government the consideration of the question, whether duty to itself and to the commercial interests of its citizens may not demand some change in the line of action it has thus far pursued.

It is intimated, and is probably true, that the corruption which is more or less inseparable from such protracted contests is itself a principal agent in prolonging hostilities in Cuba. The extortions incident to furnishing supplies for the troops, the hope of sharing in the proceeds of insurgent or alleged insurgent property, would of course be put an end to by the restoration of tranquillity. These must be powerful agencies in fettering the arm which ought to strike home for peace, for order, and the quiet enjoyment of the citizen. It is reasonable to suppose, too,

that the saving of the public money which must result from a termination of the conflict would alone be a sufficient incentive for a patriotic government to exert itself to the utmost for that purpose.

Besides a measure for the abolition of slavery, and assurances of the speedy termination of the contest in Cuba, we have been assured that extensive municipal reforms would be introduced in the colonies, and that their government would be liberalized. Certainly the Spanish government, with its experience of the past, and with the knowledge which it cannot fail to have of the tendencies of the age, can never expect peaceably to maintain the ancient colonial system in those islands. The abuses of that system press heavily upon the numerous educated natives of the same race, and, if not reformed, must be a constant source of bitter antipathy to the mother country. The repeated assurances of the intention of the government to abolish slavery and to grant liberal reforms in the administration of the island are admissions by Spain of the wrong of slavery, and of the existence of evils which need reform, but are still allowed on the illogical and indefensible ground that concession cannot be made while resistance continues.

A nation gives justification to resistance while admitted wrongs remain unredressed; resistance ceases to be justifiable when no wrongs are either admitted or alleged. Redress wrongs and resistance will cease.

Spain is too great a power to fear to do what she admits to be right, because it is asked vehemently; or because its attainment is sought improperly, she need not apprehend that the reforming of abuses and of wrongs, which she admits to exist, and declares herself ready to correct, will be attributed to an unworthy motive, while delay in removing admitted wrongs which it is within her power to remove places her in a false position, and goes far to justify and to attract sympathy to those who are sufferers from the unredressed wrongs.

Spain itself has been the scene of civil commotion, but prisoners taken in arms have not been put to death as they are in Cuba, nor have amnesties been regarded as dangerous in the peninsula; why should they be so regarded in the colonies? or why should concessions be dishonorable in Cuba that are not so considered at home? The suggestion that they would be is the offspring of the selfishness of those interested in prolonging the contest for private gain.

A just, lenient, and humane policy toward Cuba, if it would not bring quiet, and order, and contentedness, would at least modify the judgment of the world that most of the evils of which Cuba is the scene are the necessary results of harsh treatment, and of the maladministration of the colonial government.

You are aware that many citizens of the United States, owners of estates in Cuba, have suffered injury by the causeless seizure, in violation of treaty-obligations, of those estates, and by the appropriation of their proceeds by those into whose hands they had fallen. Though in some one or two instances the property has been ordered to be restored, so far there has been no indemnification for the damage sustained. In other instances, where restitution has been promised, it has been evaded and put off in a way which cannot fail to excite the just resentment of the sufferers and of their Government, whose duty it is to protect their interests.

The decree of 31st August last, prescribing regulations for the proceedings concerning sequestrated property in Cuba, so far as it recognized the embargo or confiscation of the property of those charged with complicity in the insurrection, as a judicial proceeding, in which

the parties are entitled to be fairly heard, may be regarded as a concession to the frequent remonstrances of this Government, as well as to the requirements of justice. But, unless the action of the board to be constituted under that decree exhibit a very different measure of promptness and of activity from that which has been given to the remonstrances of this Government against the proceedings whereby the property of citizens of the United States has heretofore been seized, the organization of the board will serve only to increase the very just causes of complaint of this Government. It is hoped that it will not be allowed to become the means or the excuse of further procrastination, or of delaying beyond the extremest limits of patience, which have already been reached, the decision upon the many cases which have been the subject of protracted diplomatic correspondence. There will readily occur to you several cases, which need not be specifically enumerated, which have been referred backward and forward between Madrid and Havana to the very verge of the exhaustion of all patience. In the mean time the property of citizens of the United States has been held in violation of the treaty between this country and Spain.

In some of these cases you have been promised the release of the embargo. It is expected that the tardy redress thus promised will not be further delayed by any alleged necessity of reference to this newly-constituted board.

It is hoped that you will present the views above set forth, and the present grievances of which this Government so justly complains, to the government to which you are accredited, in a way which, without giving offense, will leave a conviction that we are in earnest in the expression of those views, and that we expect redress, and that if it should not soon be afforded Spain must not be surprised to find, as the inevitable result of the delay, a marked change in the feeling and in the temper of the people and of the Government of the United States. Believing that the present ministry of Spain is in a sufficiently confirmed position of power to carry out the measures which it announces, and the reforms which have been promised, and to do justice by the removal of the causes of our well-founded complaints, and not doubting the sincerity of the assurances which have been given, the United States look confidently for the realization of those hopes which have been encouraged by repeated promises that all causes for estrangement, or for the interruption of those friendly feelings which are traditional, as they are sincere, on the part of this Government toward Spain, will be speedily and forever removed.

I am, &c.,

HAMILTON FISH

No. 433.

Mr. Sickles to Mr. Fish.

No. 471.]

UNITED STATES LEGATION IN SPAIN,
Madrid, November 12, 1872.

SIR: I have the honor to forward herewith some interesting information, respecting slavery in Cuba and Porto Rico, recently communicated to me by the colonial minister. I also inclose a copy of a private note to Mr. Gasset, pointing out the importance of obtaining periodical

returns from Cuba as a means of ascertaining how far the emancipation act of 1870 answers its avowed purpose.

I transmit also a copy of the Gazette containing an official expression of the thanks of the King in recognition of the voluntary manumission of a number of slaves in Porto Rico. It is due to the present cabinet to state that it has inaugurated this method of giving public sanction and praise to such acts, which have before found no favor in the eyes of this government.

I am, &c.,

D. E. SICKLES.

[Inclosure A in No. 471.]

General table of the population of the island of Cuba for the year 1869, classified according to race, condition, and state in life, (married or single,) prepared in obedience to the order of His Highness the Regent of the Kingdom, dated February 1, 1870.

| Districts. | White population. | | | | Free colored population. | | | | Colored slave population. | | | | Total colored population. | | | | Asiatic population. | Grand total of population. | | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------|----------------------|---------|-----------------------------------|----------|----------------------|---------|-----------------------------------|----------|----------------------|---------|-----------------------------------|----------|----------------------|---------|---------------------|-----------------------------------|----------|----------------------|-----------|
| | Unmarried per-sons of both sexes. | Married. | Widowers and widows. | Total. | Unmarried per-sons of both sexes. | Married. | Widowers and widows. | Total. | Unmarried per-sons of both sexes. | Married. | Widowers and widows. | Total. | Unmarried per-sons of both sexes. | Married. | Widowers and widows. | Total. | | Unmarried per-sons of both sexes. | Married. | Widowers and widows. | Total. |
| Bahia Honda | 3,311 | 1,075 | 159 | 4,545 | 634 | 135 | 36 | 805 | 6,430 | 38 | 4 | 6,472 | 7,064 | 173 | 40 | 7,277 | 190 | 10,565 | 1,248 | 199 | 12,012 |
| Bejucal | 9,195 | 3,870 | 918 | 13,981 | 1,682 | 333 | 125 | 2,140 | 5,442 | 121 | 87 | 5,650 | 7,124 | 454 | 212 | 7,790 | 284 | 16,603 | 4,324 | 1,128 | 22,055 |
| Cardenas | 16,242 | 6,506 | 1,379 | 24,127 | 1,869 | 349 | 103 | 2,321 | 26,422 | 776 | 125 | 27,323 | 22,291 | 1,125 | 212 | 23,628 | 5,795 | 50,322 | 7,631 | 1,617 | 59,576 |
| Cienfuegos | 19,774 | 7,231 | 1,742 | 28,747 | 5,851 | 1,254 | 311 | 7,416 | 16,866 | 271 | 33 | 17,172 | 22,719 | 4,525 | 344 | 24,562 | 1,162 | 43,655 | 8,756 | 2,086 | 54,497 |
| Colon | 15,485 | 5,418 | 992 | 21,895 | 2,741 | 492 | 142 | 3,375 | 32,457 | 1,051 | 449 | 33,957 | 35,198 | 1,543 | 449 | 37,190 | 5,862 | 56,545 | 6,961 | 1,441 | 64,947 |
| Guanabacoa | 10,047 | 3,921 | 705 | 14,763 | 4,155 | 551 | 303 | 5,009 | 4,445 | 69 | 35 | 4,549 | 8,600 | 620 | 342 | 9,568 | 271 | 18,918 | 4,541 | 1,143 | 24,602 |
| Guantanamo | 12,275 | 4,373 | 761 | 17,409 | 2,380 | 451 | 126 | 2,957 | 14,872 | 996 | 270 | 16,138 | 17,252 | 1,447 | 396 | 19,095 | 1,072 | 30,599 | 5,820 | 1,157 | 37,576 |
| Guines | 20,569 | 8,457 | 1,219 | 30,245 | 3,807 | 594 | 198 | 4,599 | 23,470 | 1,089 | 2,082 | 27,361 | 27,277 | 1,683 | 3,000 | 31,960 | 2,382 | 50,228 | 10,140 | 4,219 | 64,587 |
| Habana | 102,936 | 26,160 | 3,308 | 132,404 | 32,174 | 5,787 | 1,405 | 43,366 | 27,273 | 2,007 | 639 | 29,919 | 65,447 | 7,794 | 2,044 | 75,285 | 4,067 | 172,390 | 33,954 | 5,352 | 211,696 |
| Jaruco | 15,811 | 6,091 | 755 | 22,657 | 2,501 | 703 | 172 | 3,376 | 9,145 | 555 | 66 | 9,766 | 11,646 | 1,258 | 238 | 13,142 | 493 | 27,950 | 7,349 | 993 | 36,292 |
| Matanzas | 26,264 | 12,098 | 2,665 | 41,027 | 6,670 | 970 | 358 | 7,998 | 30,661 | 915 | 345 | 31,621 | 36,971 | 1,885 | 703 | 39,559 | 4,111 | 67,346 | 13,983 | 3,364 | 84,697 |
| Pina del Rio | 34,444 | 9,796 | 1,533 | 45,773 | 10,042 | 1,464 | 361 | 11,867 | 15,569 | 307 | 71 | 15,947 | 25,611 | 1,771 | 432 | 27,814 | 744 | 60,799 | 11,567 | 1,985 | 74,351 |
| Remedios | 22,836 | 8,552 | 1,118 | 32,006 | 4,717 | 925 | 253 | 5,895 | 9,154 | 194 | 77 | 9,425 | 13,871 | 1,119 | 330 | 15,320 | 1,998 | 38,205 | 9,671 | 1,448 | 49,324 |
| Sagua la Grande | 20,233 | 7,558 | 687 | 28,478 | 2,741 | 325 | 69 | 3,135 | 18,129 | 233 | 22 | 18,384 | 20,870 | 558 | 91 | 21,519 | 3,432 | 44,535 | 8,116 | 778 | 53,429 |
| San Antonio | 16,361 | 6,095 | 1,184 | 23,640 | 1,947 | 339 | 112 | 3,448 | 8,952 | 813 | 228 | 9,993 | 10,899 | 1,202 | 340 | 12,441 | 568 | 27,824 | 7,297 | 1,524 | 36,649 |
| Santa Clara | 26,407 | 9,311 | 1,171 | 36,889 | 7,663 | 2,031 | 363 | 10,257 | 6,930 | 14,793 | 2,031 | 363 | 17,187 | 326 | 41,526 | 11,342 | 1,534 | 54,402 | | | |
| San Cristobal | 11,828 | 3,653 | 558 | 16,039 | 1,795 | 313 | 76 | 2,184 | 5,992 | 269 | 61 | 6,322 | 7,787 | 582 | 137 | 8,506 | 71 | 19,686 | 4,235 | 695 | 24,616 |
| Sta. Ma. del Rosario | 3,616 | 1,346 | 228 | 5,190 | 636 | 65 | 13 | 714 | 2,071 | 6 | 1 | 2,078 | 2,077 | 71 | 14 | 2,162 | 20 | 6,343 | 1,417 | 242 | 8,002 |
| Sancti Spiritus | 7,844 | 4,252 | 454 | 12,550 | 1,685 | 570 | 144 | 2,399 | 3,909 | 857 | 181 | 4,947 | 5,594 | 1,427 | 325 | 7,346 | 254 | 13,692 | 5,679 | 779 | 20,150 |
| Santo Espiritu | 21,442 | 7,032 | 1,135 | 29,609 | 6,254 | 1,412 | 247 | 7,913 | 7,171 | 105 | | 7,276 | 13,425 | 1,511 | 247 | 15,189 | 169 | 35,036 | 8,549 | 1,382 | 44,967 |
| Trinidad | 13,068 | 3,921 | 726 | 17,715 | 7,813 | 1,156 | 278 | 9,247 | 9,459 | 34 | | 9,493 | 17,262 | 1,190 | 278 | 18,740 | 219 | 30,559 | 5,111 | 1,004 | 36,674 |
| Tila de Pina | 832 | 227 | 72 | 1,131 | 220 | 12 | 4 | 236 | 266 | | | 266 | 486 | 12 | 4 | 502 | 19 | 1,337 | 239 | 76 | 1,652 |
| Total | 430,320 | 146,913 | 23,577 | 600,810 | 116,177 | 20,281 | 5,219 | 141,677 | 284,787 | 10,706 | 5,496 | 300,989 | 400,274 | 30,987 | 10,573 | 441,834 | 33,449 | 864,673 | 177,930 | 34,150 | 1,076,753 |
| Nuevitras | 2,495 | 1,051 | 229 | 3,775 | 335 | 136 | 36 | 507 | 1,439 | 135 | 46 | 1,620 | 1,771 | 271 | 82 | 2,127 | 109 | 4,378 | 1,322 | 311 | 6,011 |
| Puerto Principe | 27,581 | 12,114 | 41,488 | 7,960 | 2,508 | 635 | 11,113 | 11,668 | 952 | 257 | | 12,875 | 19,626 | 3,400 | 892 | 23,978 | 197 | 47,404 | 15,574 | 2,685 | 65,663 |
| Tunas | 2,687 | 505 | 89 | 3,371 | 2,043 | 344 | 64 | 2,451 | 389 | 4 | 1 | 394 | 2,432 | 348 | 65 | 2,845 | 34 | 5,153 | 943 | 154 | 6,250 |
| Total | 32,763 | 13,760 | 2,111 | 48,634 | 10,338 | 2,084 | 735 | 14,001 | 13,404 | 1,001 | 304 | 14,809 | 23,832 | 4,078 | 1,039 | 28,950 | 340 | 58,035 | 17,839 | 3,150 | 77,024 |

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|------------------|--------|--------|-------|---------|--------|--------|-------|--------|--------|-------|-----|--------|---------|--------|-------|---------|-------|---------|-----------|---------|---------|-----------|
| Barceon | 3,720 | 1,417 | 311 | 5,344 | 3,817 | 1,003 | 254 | 5,137 | 1,534 | 300 | 11 | 1,584 | 3,351 | 1,101 | 900 | 6,793 | 15 | 9,071 | 2,514 | 460 | 12,065 | |
| Bayamo | 6,967 | 2,236 | 482 | 9,895 | 9,826 | 2,117 | 435 | 12,308 | 2,923 | 70 | 289 | 2,304 | 13,031 | 2,187 | 444 | 14,702 | 15 | 19,033 | 4,422 | 1,156 | 34,613 | |
| Cuba | 15,473 | 6,433 | 1,081 | 23,037 | 26,612 | 8,324 | 2,259 | 37,199 | 26,946 | 1,960 | 521 | 24,727 | 39,458 | 10,988 | 2,720 | 65,020 | 428 | 68,561 | 10,771 | 3,861 | 89,593 | |
| Guantanamo | 4,013 | 1,213 | 255 | 5,418 | 3,082 | 960 | 258 | 5,220 | 8,509 | 323 | 5 | 8,386 | 12,491 | 1,008 | 263 | 13,762 | 71 | 16,565 | 2,221 | 518 | 19,314 | |
| Holguin | 29,111 | 12,523 | 1,159 | 42,793 | 5,733 | 1,445 | 273 | 7,451 | 3,751 | 100 | 22 | 3,873 | 9,444 | 1,515 | 255 | 11,324 | 52 | 38,647 | 14,068 | 1,454 | 54,169 | |
| Tiguan | 9,390 | 3,206 | 440 | 13,042 | 2,634 | 960 | 231 | 4,013 | 909 | 32 | 10 | 506 | 3,343 | 922 | 250 | 4,581 | | 12,733 | 4,194 | 800 | 17,623 | |
| Manzanillo | 10,384 | 3,234 | 492 | 14,110 | 9,270 | 2,156 | 337 | 11,763 | 1,755 | 56 | 9 | 1,820 | 11,025 | 2,212 | 346 | 13,583 | 65 | 21,474 | 5,446 | 832 | 27,752 | |
| Total | 79,058 | 30,308 | 4,336 | 113,702 | 62,074 | 17,064 | 4,051 | 83,189 | 44,529 | 2,265 | 616 | 47,410 | 106,603 | 19,329 | 4,657 | 130,589 | 631 | 186,494 | 49,637 | 9,003 | 245,134 | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 34,420 | 1,107,950 | 245,406 | 46,453 | 1,399,811 |

RECAPITULATION.

| | Unmarried. | Married. | Widowers and widows. | Total. |
|-------------------------------|------------------|----------------|----------------------|------------------|
| White population | 542,131 | 191,011 | 30,034 | 763,176 |
| Free colored population | 182,589 | 40,333 | 10,005 | 232,927 |
| Slave population | 342,810 | 14,062 | 6,416 | 363,288 |
| Asiatic population | | | | 34,420 |
| Total | 1,073,530 | 245,406 | 46,455 | 1,399,811 |

HAVANA, May 29, 1870.

AUGUSTIN GENON.

[Inclosure B in No. 471.]

PROVINCE OF PORTO RICO.

Slavery returns for 1870 and 1871.

| | Under 12 years. | From 12 to 60 years. | Total. |
|-------------------------|-----------------|----------------------|--------|
| SEPTEMBER, 1871. | | | |
| Domestic servants: | | | |
| Males | 204 | 962 | 1,166 |
| Females | 81 | 3,677 | 3,758 |
| Field hands: | | | |
| Males | 266 | 11,802 | 12,068 |
| Females | 209 | 8,127 | 8,336 |
| Without occupation: | | | |
| Males | 3,747 | 52 | 3,799 |
| Females | 3,699 | 77 | 3,776 |
| Total | 8,206 | 24,697 | 32,903 |
| Totals: | | | |
| Males | 4,217 | 12,816 | 17,033 |
| Females | 3,989 | 11,881 | 15,870 |
| Total | 8,206 | 24,697 | 32,903 |
| JULY, 1872. | | | |
| Domestic servants: | | | |
| Males | 43 | 990 | 1,033 |
| Females | 88 | 3,287 | 3,375 |
| Field hands: | | | |
| Males | 176 | 11,572 | 11,748 |
| Females | 108 | 8,072 | 8,180 |
| Without occupation: | | | |
| Males | 3,270 | 92 | 3,362 |
| Females | 3,252 | 92 | 3,344 |
| Total | 6,937 | 24,105 | 31,042 |
| Totals: | | | |
| Males | 3,489 | 12,655 | 16,144 |
| Females | 3,448 | 11,450 | 14,898 |
| Total | 6,937 | 24,105 | 31,042 |

COMPARISON.

| | | | |
|----------------------------------|---------|-------------------|--------|
| Census 1870 | 39,069 | Census 1870 | 39,069 |
| Census 1871 | 32,903 | Census 1871 | 32,903 |
| Census 1872 | 31,042 | Difference | 6,166 |
| White population, 1869-'70 | 346,437 | Census 1871 | 32,903 |
| Free colored, 1869-'70 | 270,822 | Census 1872 | 31,042 |
| | | Difference | 1,861 |

MADRID, October 1, 1872.

Comparative statement of the number of slaves in this province, as shown by the census of 1872, and that of 1871.

| Departments. | Census 1871. | Census 1872. | Decrease. |
|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------|
| Capital..... | 3,996 | 3,825 | 171 |
| Arecibo..... | 2,973 | 2,801 | 172 |
| Aguadilla..... | 3,136 | 3,033 | 103 |
| Mayagüez..... | 6,750 | 6,323 | 427 |
| Ponce..... | 7,542 | 7,238 | 304 |
| Guayama..... | 5,260 | 4,728 | 532 |
| Humacao..... | 3,205 | 3,093 | 112 |
| Total..... | 32,862 | 31,041 | 1,821 |

PORTO RICO, July 22, 1872.

NOTE.—The total of the census of 1871 should be 32,903 instead of 32,862. The difference is explained by the fact that 41 slaves are either in prison or in the almshouse. These were not included in the census, their names not appearing in the register, but only as emancipated.

Table showing the number of slaves who on the 31st of December, 1871, were fugitives, or serving out sentence, or demanding civil rights.

| Departments. | Fugitives. | In prison serving out sentence. | Demanding civil rights. | Total. |
|-------------------|------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------|--------|
| 1. Capital..... | 84 | 45 | 6 | 135 |
| 2. Arecibo..... | 42 | | 1 | 43 |
| 3. Aguadilla..... | 27 | | 2 | 29 |
| 4. Mayagüez..... | 112 | | 2 | 114 |
| 5. Ponce..... | 153 | | | 153 |
| 6. Guayama..... | 52 | | 2 | 69 |
| 7. Humacao..... | 106 | | 13 | 110 |
| Total..... | 576 | 45 | 32 | 653 |

PORTO RICO, July 22, 1872.

Table showing the decrease in the number of slaves, from all causes, according to the census of September 1, of the present year.

| | |
|---|-----|
| On account of voluntary manumission..... | 553 |
| On account of compulsory manumission..... | 40 |
| On account of purchase of freedom..... | 38 |
| On account of death..... | 185 |
| Total..... | 516 |

PORTO RICO, July 22, 1872.

Table showing the number of slaves who, according to their cédulas, have attained the age of fifty-nine years, which number should be counted as a decrease in the rectification of the census to be published December 1, of the present year.

| Departments. | Slaves. |
|-------------------|---------|
| 1. Capital..... | 30 |
| 2. Arecibo..... | 17 |
| 3. Aguadilla..... | 5 |

| Departments. | Slaves. |
|------------------|---------|
| 4. Mayagüez..... | 13 |
| 5. Ponce..... | 38 |
| 6. Guayama..... | 44 |
| 7. Humacao..... | 13 |
| Total..... | 117 |

PORTO RICO, July 22, 1872.

Table showing the amount of fines imposed on account of violations of the regulations in regard to slaves from the month of October, 1871, up to date.

| | Pesetas. |
|--|----------|
| On account of offenses committed by functionaries..... | 833 |
| For infraction of laws and regulations..... | 8,200 |
| Fines remitted, which are deducted..... | 6,250 |
| Amount of fines paid..... | 2,773 |

PORTO RICO, July 22, 1872.

The 6,250 pesetas which appear under the head of remitted fines are a fine of 6,000 pesetas imposed upon Doña Marciala Sanchez for infraction of article 87 of the regulations concerning slaves. This lady not having the means to pay it, and there being no purchaser for the four negroes who were taken from her, they were set at liberty. The remaining 250 are the half of the fine imposed upon the registrar of Ponce, which was remitted from motives of equity.

Table showing the decrease from all causes, as shown by the census of the present year compared with that of the past.

| Departments. | Set free by voluntary manumission. | Set free by compulsory manumission. | Liberated by purchase of freedom. | Decrease by death. | Decrease in consequence of removal. | Persons whose claims are pending. | Not entered in the census of 1872. | Total. |
|----------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|--------|
| Capital..... | 14 | 5 | 13 | 29 | 69 | | 41 | 171 |
| Arecibo..... | 52 | 5 | 20 | 44 | 33 | 2 | 16 | 172 |
| Aguadilla..... | 68 | | 1 | 32 | 2 | | | 103 |
| Mayagüez..... | 68 | 24 | | 45 | | | 290 | 427 |
| Ponce..... | 190 | | 20 | 129 | 26 | | 126 | 491 |
| Guayama..... | 67 | | 25 | 84 | 79 | | 277 | 532 |
| Humacao..... | 38 | | | 23 | 15 | | 36 | 112 |
| Total..... | 497 | 34 | 79 | 386 | 224 | 2 | 786 | 2,002 |

PORTO RICO, July 22, 1872.

NOTE.—The difference which is observed in the department of Ponce, where the decrease amounts to 491, whereas it should be 304, is due to the fact that by transfers from other places the returns of the previous year were increased by 187, which added to 7,542 forms a total of 7,729, from which if we deduct 7,238, the figures shown by the returns of the present year, there is a difference of 491, which is the decrease in that department, the real decrease in the number of slaves being 182, as is proved.

[Inclosure C in No. 471.—Translation.]

The superior civil government of the island of Porto Rico has informed this ministry that the owners of slaves whose names appear in the following list have manumitted the slaves mentioned in the same; and His Majesty the King (whom God preserve) has ordered that thanks be presented in his royal name to the said owners.

List of owners who have voluntarily manumitted slaves.

Don Ramon Irizarry y Nazario, his slave Monserrate.
 Doña Margarita Alers, residing in Añasco, six slaves belonging to her.
 D. Miguel Rodriguez, residing in Sabana la Grande, his slave José Dolores.
 D. José Antonio Amaral, his slave Maria Domingo.
 D. Francisco J. Gonzalez, of La Moca, his slave Juana.
 D. Manuel Solistra, of Aguadilla, his slave Manuela.
 D. Juan Buzó, of Naguabo, his slave Pedro.
 D. Antonio Arana, of Arecibo, his slave Ignacia.
 Doña Belen Torres, of Vega, her slave Ana Maria.
 D. Ambrosio Angleró, of San German, his slave Catalina.
 Doña Juana E. Goicóchea, of Quebradillas, her slave Petrona.
 D. Juan Ferrer, of San German, his slave Leonor.
 D. Serafin Noya, of Humacao, his slave Natalia.
 D. Pablo J. Curbelo, of Hatillo, his slave Clemencia.
 D. Francisco Prieto, of Ponce, his slave Jacinto.
 D. Bernardino Fernandez Sanjurjo, D. Gabriel Pitar Cabrera, and D. Maximo de los Santos Gil, their slaves Juliana Arizabalo, Adelina, and Carmen.
 D. Eduardo Quiñones, of San German, his slaves Eustaquio, Tomás, José, Dolores, and Carlos.
 Doña Maria Asuncion Vizcarrondo, of San German, her slave Fabras.
 The nephews of Llera é Isla, of Cayey, their slave Sabina.
 Doña Juana Francisca de la Fuente, of Arroyo, their slave Marcelina.
 D. Jaime Iglesias, of Quebradillas, his slave Teodoro.
 D. José Maria Nazario and the Nazario estate, their slave Ramon Gonzales.
 D. Juan B. Isern, of the capital, his slaves Angel and Ramon.
 Doña Carlota Colon, of Arecibo, her slave Belen.

[Inclosure D in No. 471].

Mr. Sickles to Mr. Cassett.

Unofficial.]

UNITED STATES LEGATION,

Madrid, November 11, 1872.

SIR: I thank you sincerely for the statistics showing the particulars of the slave population of Cuba and Porto Rico, which I had the pleasure to receive from you on Friday. I observe that the returns for Cuba are for 1869, while those for Porto Rico are brought down to 1872. Allow me to suggest that it would be well, in order to assure yourself of the faithful execution of the law of 1870, to have returns annually from Cuba. Deducting all born since September, 1868, and those who passed sixty years of age after July, 1870, together with the *emancipadors*, the returns from Cuba for 1872 ought to show a considerable reduction in the number of slaves as compared with 1869.

Sincerely yours,

D. E. SICKLES.

No. 434.

[Telegram.]

MADRID, *November 23, 1872.*

HAMILTON FISH,

Secretary of State, Washington:

Minister of state put in my hands last night a memorandum of the colonial policy of the cabinet agreed upon this week, which he desired me to communicate to you; it is as follows:

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED.

First. The military government in Porto Rico shall be replaced by civil authority, an important personage to be named civil governor, the captain-general confining himself to functions purely military.

Second. A decree shall be issued establishing in Porto Rico the municipal law of Spain, with such modifications as are indispensable, in conformity with which free town councils and officers will be chosen.

Third. The law establishing a provincial assembly, of which you have a copy in my No. 158, shall be put in full and exact execution. Heretofore this act has remained inoperative for the lack of town officers.

Fourth. Slavery shall be abolished in Porto Rico. To-day the question is decided in principle, and it only remains to be settled whether the emancipation shall be immediate or gradual. This will be done by means of a bill submitted to congress.

Fifth. These reforms are the fulfillment of the pledges made by the radical party to public opinion in Spain, and will be immediately carried out in Porto Rico, where, happily, in the peaceful condition of that island, they are practicable; and in so doing the radical party gives proof of what it will do in Cuba as soon as its pacification can be obtained.

I am also authorized to state that the views expressed in your number two hundred and seventy, concerning the decree of August last, with reference to embargoed estates, are accepted without reserve by the minister of state. Instructions in this sense will at once be sent to Cuba, and to the Spanish legation in Washington. I am satisfied these guarantees are offered with sincerity, in the hope that they will be satisfactory to the President.

SICKLES,
Madrid.

No. 435.

Articles of armistice between Spain, on the one hand, and the allied republics, Bolivia, Chili, Ecuador, and Peru, on the other.

The mediation of the United States having been offered and accepted toward relieving Spain and the allied republics of the Pacific from the technical state of war which has existed since the hostilities of 1866, the President of the United States has for this purpose conferred full powers upon Hamilton Fish, Secretary of State.

His Catholic Majesty has conferred like powers on Mauricio Lopez Roberts, knight grand cross of the royal Order of Isabel the Catholic; knight grand cross of the Order of Christ of Portugal; grand officer of those of the Conception of Portugal, and of Leopold of Belgium; knight commander of the Legion of Honor of France; superior chief of administration, deputy in various legislatures, envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary of His Majesty Amadeo I, King of Spain, to the United States of America.

The President of the republic of Bolivia has conferred like powers on Colonel Manuel Freyre, envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary of Peru to the United States of America.

The President of the republic of Chili has conferred like powers on Joaquin Godoy, envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary of that republic to the United States of America.

The President of the republic of Ecuador has conferred like powers on Antonio Flores, a senator of that republic, and its minister plenipotentiary *ad hoc*.

And the President of the republic of Peru has conferred like powers on Colonel Manuel Freyre, envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary of that republic to the United States of America. And the said plenipotentiaries having exchanged their full powers, which were found in due and proper form, have agreed upon the following articles:

ARTICLE I.

The suspension of hostilities existing *de facto* between Spain on the one hand and the allied republics of Bolivia, Chili, Ecuador and Peru on the other, is converted into a general armistice or truce.

ARTICLE II.

This armistice shall continue indefinitely, and cannot be broken by any of the belligerents, save in three years after having expressly and explicitly notified the other of its intention to renew hostilities. In this case such notification must be made through the Government of the United States.

ARTICLE III.

Each of the belligerents, during the continuance of this armistice, shall be at liberty to carry on commerce freely with neutral nations in all articles in which trade is considered lawful in a state of peace, all restriction on neutral commerce therefore ceasing.

ARTICLE IV.

The present agreement shall be ratified by the respective governments, and the instruments of ratification shall be exchanged at the Department of State, at Washington, within four months from date.

ARTICLE V.

Those governments which shall not have sent their ratification within the time fixed in the preceding article may make the exchange separately in the two months following.

ARTICLE VI.

If any one of the governments, on account of circumstances over which it has no control, shall not be able to effect the exchange of the ratifications within the terms fixed in the foregoing articles, such delay shall be granted it as it may request from the other party, without necessity for a new agreement.

ARTICLE VII.

The proceedings for the ratification and exchange shall not interfere with the continuation of the conferences designed for the negotiation of a peace.

In testimony of the stipulations made in the foregoing seven articles, the undersigned, Secretary of State of the United States, in the character of mediator, and the plenipotentiaries of Spain, Bolivia, Chili, Ecuador, and Peru, have signed the foregoing agreement at the Department of State, at Washington, on the eleventh day of April, 1871.

HAMILTON FISH.

MAURICIO LOPEZ ROBERTS,

Plenipotenciario de España.

MAN'L FREYRE,

Plenip. del Peru.

JOAQUIN GODOY,

Plenip. de Chile.

ANTONIO FLORES,

Plenipot. del Ecuador.

MAN'L FREYRE,

Plenip. de Bolivia.