

# CUBA.

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## Proposed Formation of a Constabulary Force Composed of Foreign Residents in Havana.

HAVANA, Oct. 28, 1863.

A member of the committee appointed by the foreign residents in Havana in order to offer their services in a constabulary force to be composed of foreigners only for the protection of property in the city, on presenting the respective petition to the Captain General, on the 25th inst., addressed his Excellency, after a few introductory words, in the following manner, viz:—

The petitioners, being men of business, came to this island with the intent to work and there are those among them who have been working on this Spanish soil during the quarter part of a century, under a political and social condition of things which allowed many of them to increase their fortunes and under which all could live quiet and contented. Could these men fail to incline gracefully toward the Spanish people of Havana who always met them with urbanity in public, with probity in business and with cordiality in their private relations?

There are also younger men among the petitioners, whose arrival in Havana is of a comparatively recent date, but these, too, have embraced the cause of order, defended by all the Peninsulars and loyal Cubans and identified by your Excellency, to whose well directed measures we owe, not only the prospect of an early pacification of this country, but also, in the meanwhile, some excellent results of administration. We point with preference to the absolute suppression of smuggling, which result, after achieving some years ago the suppression of the slave trade, follows very properly in the wake of that great moral triumph.

And what signify these manifestations by a limited number of foreigners? Well, even if, signifying nothing, we obey the dictates of our conscience in making them. Surely the cause of Spain does not want the help of strangers in order to triumph over those who in this island have risen in arms against their own race; but abroad, where there are others at work imposing upon public opinion—abroad, before the tribunal of that opinion, the intelligent and impartial testimony of these foreign residents in Havana may count for something when declaring that they place full confidence in this government, the representative of the liberal principles of September, and whose advances in favor of the liberties of this country were so cruelly repulsed by a party of "irreconcilables," that they sympathize with this government and with all this noble Spanish nation, including the vast number of its loyal offsprings born in Cuba, and that they hold Spanish rule and an intimate union with the mother country to be the only guarantee for liberty, peace and prosperity in this island.

His Excellency expressed himself much pleased with these overtures and promised his support.