

the citizen President of the republic on the 10th ult. I issue a copy of the same for the purposes which may be deemed opportune. The country and liberty!

SABANILLA, June 14, 1899.

At a session held on the 7th inst., the House resolved upon the following decree:—

ARTICLE 1. Free commerce is hereby declared in the Cuban republic with all nations.

ART. 2. Masters of vessels will only be required to give, immediately upon their arrival and on their own responsibility to the nearest authority to their landing place, an exact and minute manifest of their cargo and vessel, no matter how insignificant it may be. The same report will be made by them when ready again to sail, all of which is intended not to facilitate the statistical reports.

ART. 3. All authorities of the republic are hereby authorized to receive from and exact of masters of vessels the report of entry and clearance referred to in the foregoing article; said authorities will report such data to their nearest superiors, and these latter successively in their order until they are transmitted to the supreme government of the nation.

ART. 4. This decree will go into force from the date of its approval and the same having been sanctioned on the 10th inst. by the citizen President of the republic, I now give the present copy for the uses and purposes therein mentioned.

The country and liberty!
SABANILLA, June 14, 1899.

POWERS OF THE EXECUTIVE.

At a session held the 7th inst., the House of Representatives resolved the following:—

1. The Executive shall lack the faculty of proposing laws or of the initiative of legislation.

2. The Executive may address messages to the legislative power, recommending to it, with such explanations as may be convenient, the subjects to be objects of a law.

3. The individuals of which the executive is composed, as citizens, and not as functionaries, may make use of the right of petition; and the present law being approved on the 10th inst., in conformity with article 18 of the constitution, I send you this testimony for the consequent ends.

The country and liberty!
SABANILLA, June 18, 1899.

Inasmuch as the foregoing laws have been sanctioned by the Executive, and the promulgation of the same expedient, in order that they may produce in the country the important results which are of them expected, therefore I order and command that they be made public by this means, so that coming to the knowledge of all the inhabitants of the republic in general they be respected, observed and practiced in all their parts, under the penalties, in cases contrary which the laws designate.

Given at Desada de Cascorro this 2d day of August, 1899, the second year of the independence.
C. M. DE CESPEDES.

The Cuban Loan—Amnesty to Political and Military Prisoners—An Internal Loan—The Division of the Republic into States—Relative to Claims and Transfers Made by Spain—Commercial Regulations—Powers of the Executive.

We have received copies of the journal published at Camaguey, in the interest of the patriots, called *El Cubano Libre*, of the dates 15th and 20th of July and 5th of August. They contain interesting matter, of which we make the following extracts:—

THE APPOINTMENT OF AN ENVOY TO THE UNITED STATES—THE TWO MILLION LOAN.

CARLOS MANUEL CESPEDES, President of the Republic of Cuba:—

That whereas the House of Representatives has issued, under the dates hereinafter mentioned, the following laws, which read as follows:—

In the ordinary public sessions, held on the 1st ult., the House resolved to approve of the measures adopted by you during the last recess from its duties; to ratify the authorizations which you have conferred upon our Envoy Plenipotentiary in the United States, the citizen Jose Morales Lemus; to impart to you likewise the necessity of your giving the necessary instructions in order to put in circulation \$2,000,000 in the currency of the republic, and, finally, to rest in you the power of taking such steps as you may deem to be the best interest of the country, provided it were absolutely impossible to call together the members of the House or urgent matters are being treated of. The country and liberty!

GUAIMARO, April 23, 1899.

PARDON TO POLITICAL AND MILITARY PRISONERS. EDUARDO MACHADO Y GOMEZ, Secretary of the House, *ad interim*:—

I certify that there exists in the archives of this office of the Secretary the following document:—

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, May 12, 1899.

At a session held this day the House has resolved:—That considering the proclamation of the Cuban republic, and desiring to solemnize the same by an act of clemency, grants amnesty to all political and military prisoners not yet sentenced. The House resolved, likewise, that the Executive be authorized to designate the place of residence of certain persons comprehended in the amnesty. All of which is reported to you for your sanction, in conformity with the political constitution of the republic. The country and liberty!

The President,
SALVADOR CISNEROS Y BETANCOURT.

I sanction the present decree, and order the same to be published.

The President of the republic,
CARLOS MANUEL DE CESPEDES.

A true copy of the original. The country and liberty!

HOW THE HOME LOAN IS TO BE RAISED.

EDUARDO MACHADO Y GOMEZ, Secretary *ad interim* of the House:—

I certify that in the archives of this office of the Secretary there exists the following document:—

CUBAN REPUBLIC,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
HENOCAI, May 24, 1899.

TO CIVILIAN THE SECRETARY OF STATE, Department of the Interior:—

At the public session held the sixth day of this month the House of Representatives resolved to authorize the Executive to effect an internal loan, for which purpose he should address the patriot citizens, whose love to the country and decision in favor of the cause were publicly known, offering them in compensation for the same the annual interest of five per cent, and that as soon as the loan will have been effected in the neighboring republic to be realized by the citizen Jose Morales Lemus, that the capital, together with interest accrued on the same, be paid to them should they so desire it. I should also advise you that should it be indispensable in order to contract said loan to use coercive measures towards some bad patriots, you are also hereby authorized by the House to enforce them. The salvation of the republic thus requires it.

The President,
SALVADOR CISNEROS Y BETANCOURT.

The Secretary, ANTONIO ZAMBRANA.

I sanction this resolution, and order the return of the same.

The President of the republic,
CARLOS MANUEL DE CESPEDES.

In conformity with the original.

THE REPUBLIC DIVIDED INTO STATES.

At a session held this day a report was presented of the sanction by you of the following resolution of the House:—

The Cuban republic is divided into four States:—

The Eastern, which comprehends the jurisdictions of Baracoa, Guantamo, Sagua de Tanamo, Santiago de Cuba, Manigua, Jguali, Manzanillo and Bayamo.

The Camaguey, which comprehends the jurisdictions of Tunua, Nuevas and Puerto Principe.

The Villa, which comprehend the jurisdictions of Santi Spiritu, Remedios, Trinidad, Villa Clara, Cienfuegos y Colon.

The Western, which comprehends the jurisdictions of Cardenas, Matanzas, Guines, Jauco, Habana, Santa Maria del Rosario, Guanabacoa, Santiago de las Vegas, Bejucal, San Antonio, Guanajay, San Cristobal, Bahia Honda, Pinar del Rio and Mantua. The adjacent islands and keys will belong to the State where they geographically are located.

At the same session the House resolved that a certified copy of this resolution be transmitted to you, in order that you may be pleased to promulgate it and cause the same to be obeyed and complied with. The country and liberty!

SABANILLA, June 10, 1899.

At a session held this day it has been announced that you have sanctioned the following resolution of the House:—

That the Executive of the republic be authorized to notify, in the manner most practicable to him, all landed proprietors who up to the present have been in favor of the Spanish government, that they are either to abstain from being the sustainers of the unqualified war which the government of Spain wages upon us, lending all their efficacious aid to the Cuban revolution, or this latter will be put to the necessity of attacking their said properties, either destroying those situated in the territory occupied by the enemy, and the products of which we cannot use, or rendering useless those we have already under our control; and you are hereby empowered to carry into practice the foregoing, provided the good issue of the revolution thus demands it.

At the same session the House resolved to send you a copy of this resolution in order that you may be pleased to promulgate and cause the same to be obeyed and complied with.

SABANILLA, June 9, 1899.

THE CREDIT OF THE REPUBLIC.

At a session held this day it has been reported that you have sanctioned the following resolution by the House:—

1. That a circular be addressed to all the civil and military authorities of the republic, in order that they be instructed to place at the disposal of the Executive such amounts or papers of credit, which, through any channel whatever, they may have collected, rendering also an amount of such of the funds as they may have invested.

2. That as soon as there sums or documents of credit will have been collected by the Executive, a report be made of the same to the House, in order that this body may know the amounts of the active credit of the republic.

At the same session the House ordered that a copy of this resolution be sent to you in order that you may be pleased to promulgate and cause the same to be obeyed and complied with. The country and liberty!

SABANILLA, June 9, 1899.

THE POWER OF SPAIN IGNORED.

At a session held this day it has been reported that you have approved of the following resolution of the House:—

That the properties belonging to citizens or friends of the republic cannot be affected in any manner by the dispositions dictated by the Spanish government, and any transfer or cession made by the latter will be held as null and void, those persons who accept or purchase said properties being considered as enemies to the republic, and will be held responsible for all claims, damages and losses which they may suffer from destruction.

The House orders a copy of this resolution to be sent to you, in order that you may promulgate and cause the same to be obeyed and complied with.

The country and liberty!
SABANILLA, June 9, 1899.

HOW TO NEUTRALIZE SPANISH INFLUENCE.

At a session held this day the House of Representatives has adopted the following resolutions:—

That, considering that it is a matter of the greatest importance to prevent the Spanish government receiving assistance from such parties as are interested in the continuation of the old regime, and that besides, in strict justice, it is proper to impose upon the properties of our enemies the pecuniary chastisements to which they have become entitled, as also to cause them to effect certain payments of debts contracted by them in favor of certain patriots, as also the indemnifications to which the report of the House refers, dated 28th of the month last past, the House of Representatives resolves:—

1. All property belonging to the enemies of the republic is hereby declared embargoed, to take effect from the moment the Executive approves of this decree.

2. That the republic will carry into effect the pecuniary chastisements (fines) or indemnifications which are necessary.

3. The republic will bear and stand in due form to such claims as any patriot may present with regard to such property.

4. All transfers of the aforesaid properties which may be even attempted by the owners are prohibited and hereby declared annulled, and all persons intervening in a direct or indirect manner will be subject to criminal responsibility.

And this Decree having been sanctioned on the 10th ult. by the citizen President of the republic, I issue the present testimony for the necessary purposes. The country and liberty!

SABANILLA, June 14, 1899.

FREE COMMERCE.

At a session held on the 20th of last month the following resolution was adopted by the House of Representatives:—To confer upon the Executive ample facilities in order that he may provide for and maintain a navy, this House reserving the right to legislate hereafter on the subject. Sanctioned by