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This nation has assumed before the world a grave responsibility for the future good government of Cuba. We have accepted a trust the fulfillment of which calls for the sternest integrity of purpose and the exercise of the highest wisdom. The new Cuba yet to arise from the ashes of the past must needs be bound to us by ties of singular intimacy and strength if its enduring welfare is to be assured. Whether those ties shall be organic or conventional, the destinies of Cuba are in some rightful form and manner irrevocably linked with our own, but how and how far is for the future to determine in the ripeness of events.—M'KINLEY.

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## THE ESTABLISHMENT OF FREE GOVERNMENT IN CUBA.

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COMPILED

IN THE

BUREAU OF INSULAR AFFAIRS

FROM THE

RECORDS OF THE WAR DEPARTMENT.

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APRIL 27, 1904.—Presented by Mr. Platt, of Connecticut,  
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LETTER FROM THE CHIEF OF THE BUREAU OF INSULAR AFFAIRS,  
WAR DEPARTMENT, TRANSMITTING A COMPILATION SETTING  
FORTH THE DOCUMENTARY HISTORY OF THE INAUGURATION  
OF THE CUBAN REPUBLIC, AND ALSO A REVIEW OF THE  
ADMINISTRATION OF THE GOVERNMENT OF INTERVENTION  
IN CUBA UNDER MILITARY OCCUPATION.

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WAR DEPARTMENT,  
BUREAU OF INSULAR AFFAIRS,  
*Washington, April 27, 1904.*

SIR: I have the honor to bring to your attention the compilation, prepared in the Bureau of Insular Affairs, setting forth in detail the documentary history of the inauguration of the Cuban Republic, and also a brief but comprehensive review of the administration of the government of intervention in Cuba under military occupation.

This document was prepared, by direction of the Secretary, to meet constant inquiries received by the Bureau respecting the late military government of Cuba. Secretary Taft intended sending this compilation to you and suggesting the advisability of having it printed as a public document. In his absence, and by his direction, I send you copy of said paper, and respectfully request that the same be printed as a public document.

Very respectfully,

CLARENCE R. EDWARDS,  
*Colonel U. S. Army, Chief of Bureau.*

Hon. O. H. PLATT, U. S. S.,  
*Senate Chamber.*



## DOCUMENTARY HISTORY OF THE INAUGURATION OF THE CUBAN REPUBLIC, ETC.

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### THE INTERVENTION BY THE UNITED STATES.

On April 20, 1898, the Congress of the United States adopted the following joint resolution (30 Stat. L., 738):

Whereas the abhorrent conditions which have existed for more than three years in the island of Cuba, so near our own borders, have shocked the moral sense of the people of the United States, have been a disgrace to Christian civilization, culminating, as they have, in the destruction of a United States battle ship with two hundred and sixty-six of its officers and crew, while on a friendly visit in the harbor of Habana, and can not longer be endured, as has been set forth by the President of the United States in his message to Congress of April eleventh, eighteen hundred and ninety-eight, upon which the action of Congress was invited: Therefore,

*Resolved, by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, First.* That the people of the island of Cuba are, and of right ought to be, free and independent.

Second. That it is the duty of the United States to demand, and the Government of the United States does hereby demand, that the Government of Spain at once relinquish its authority and government in the island of Cuba and withdraw its land and naval forces from Cuba and Cuban waters.

Third. That the President of the United States be, and he hereby is, directed and empowered to use the entire land and naval forces of the United States, and to call into the actual service of the United States the militia of the several States, to such extent as may be necessary to carry these resolutions into effect.

Fourth. That the United States hereby disclaims any disposition or intention to exercise sovereignty, jurisdiction, or control over said island except for the pacification thereof, and asserts its determination, when that is accomplished, to leave the government and control of the island to its people.

On April 25, 1898, the Congress of the United States passed an act, approved on the same date, entitled "An act declaring that war exists between the United States of America and the Kingdom of Spain," as follows (30 Stat. L., 364):

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, First.* That war be, and the same is hereby, declared to exist, and that war has existed since the twenty-first day of April, anno Domini eighteen hundred and ninety-eight, including said day, between the United States of America and the Kingdom of Spain.

Second. That the President of the United States be, and he hereby is, directed and empowered to use the entire land and naval forces of the United States, and to call into the actual service of the United States the militia of the several States, to such extent as may be necessary to carry this act into effect.

On August 12, 1898, three months and seventeen days after Congress had declared the war existing, a protocol was entered into between the United States and Spain, providing as follows (30 Stat. L., 1742):

### PROTOCOL.

William R. Day, Secretary of State of the United States, and His Excellency Jules Cambon, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Republic of France

at Washington, respectively possessing for this purpose full authority from the Government of the United States and the Government of Spain, have concluded and signed the following articles, embodying the terms on which the two Governments have agreed in respect to the matters hereinafter set forth, having in view the establishment of peace between the two countries; that is to say:

ARTICLE I. Spain will relinquish all claim of sovereignty over and title to Cuba.

ART. II. Spain will cede to the United States the island of Porto Rico and other islands now under Spanish sovereignty in the West Indies, and also an island in the Ladrones to be selected by the United States.

ART. III. The United States will occupy and hold the city, bay, and harbor of Manila pending the conclusion of a treaty of peace which shall determine the control, disposition, and government of the Philippines.

ART. IV. Spain will immediately evacuate Cuba, Porto Rico, and other islands now under Spanish sovereignty in the West Indies; and to this end each Government will, within ten days after the signing of this protocol, appoint commissioners, and the commissioners so appointed shall, within thirty days after the signing of this protocol, meet at Havana for the purpose of arranging and carrying out the details of the aforesaid evacuation of Cuba and the adjacent Spanish islands; and each Government will, within ten days after the signing of this protocol, also appoint other commissioners, who shall, within thirty days after the signing of this protocol, meet at San Juan, in Porto Rico, for the purpose of arranging and carrying out the details of the aforesaid evacuation of Porto Rico and other islands now under Spanish sovereignty in the West Indies.

ART. V. The United States and Spain will each appoint not more than five commissioners to treat of peace, and the commissioners so appointed shall meet at Paris not later than October 1, 1898, and proceed to the negotiation and conclusion of a treaty of peace, which treaty shall be subject to ratification according to the respective constitutional forms of the two countries.

ART. VI. Upon the conclusion and signing of this protocol hostilities between the two countries shall be suspended, and notice to that effect shall be given as soon as possible by each Government to the commanders of its military and naval forces.

Done at Washington in duplicate, in English and in French, by the undersigned, who have hereunto set their hands and seals the 12th day of August, 1898.

[SEAL.]  
[SEAL.]

WILLIAM R. DAY.  
JULES CAMBON.

On December 10, 1898, there was signed in the city of Paris a treaty of peace between the United States and Spain, the first article of which was as follows (30 Stat. L., 1755):

ARTICLE I. Spain relinquishes all claim of sovereignty over and title to Cuba.

And as the island is, upon its evacuation by Spain, to be occupied by the United States, the United States will, so long as such occupation shall last, assume and discharge the obligations that may under international law result from the fact of its occupation for the protection of life and property.

#### THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE CUBAN REPUBLIC.

On January 1, 1899, the Spanish evacuated Habana, the sovereignty of Spain withdrew from Cuba, and the government of the island was transferred to a military governor as the representative of the President of the United States. The conditions prevailing at that time are described by Secretary Root in his annual report for 1899 as follows:

The retiring army left a large Spanish population and the long war for independence had engendered and excited a bitter feeling between them and the Cubans. The country had long been with little governmental control, except that exercised in the immediate neighborhood of the troops, who were about departing. The ordinary social restraints had been destroyed, the cities were crowded with thousands of refugees and reconcentrados who were exasperated by suffering and the death of their families and friends, and it was deemed necessary to take especial precautions for the prevention of riot and bloodshed at the time when Spanish control was removed. It is gratifying to note that the transfer was accomplished with entire harmony and without disorder, the troops of the United States replacing those of Spain step by step, as the latter retired, until a complete substitution was effected.

The occupation of the island by the United States being established, it was necessary to enter upon the work of creating and establishing a stable government administered by the Cuban people, republican in form, and competent to discharge the obligations of the international relationship and be entitled to a place in the family of nations.

The first step was to ascertain the population of the several provinces of the island, the educational and other qualifications for participation in the elective franchise, and secure other data essential to fixing the representation and right of exercising the privilege of voting. This was accomplished by means of the Cuban census. The treaty of peace provided that the Spanish residents of the island might maintain their Spanish citizenship upon filing a declaration of intention so to do prior to April 11, 1900; it was therefore necessary to wait until that date before taking steps to inaugurate civil government based upon popular election.

The census having been completed and the period given for Spanish residents to make their election as to citizenship having expired, steps were immediately taken for the election of municipal governments by the people. In view of the fact that 66 per cent of the inhabitants of the island could not read and write, it was not deemed advisable that absolutely unrestricted suffrage should be established, and, after a full conference with leading Cubans, including all the heads of the great departments of state, a general agreement was reached upon a basis of suffrage which provided that every native male Cuban or Spaniard who had elected to take Cuban citizenship, of full age, might vote if he either could read and write, or owned real estate or personal property to the value of \$250, or had served in and been honorably discharged from the Cuban army; thus according a voice in the government of the country to everyone who had the intelligence to acquire the rudiments of learning, the thrift to accumulate property, or the patriotism to fight for his country.

On the 18th of April, 1900, an election law, which aimed to apply the best example of our American election statutes to the existing conditions of Cuba, was promulgated for the regulation and control of the proposed municipal elections.

On the 16th of June, 1900, an election was held throughout the island in which the people of Cuba in all the municipalities, which include the entire island, elected all their municipal officers. The boards of registration and election were composed of Cubans selected by the Cubans themselves. No United States soldier or officer was present at or in the neighborhood of any polling place. There were no disturbances.

After the newly elected officers had been installed and commenced the performance of their duties an order was made enlarging the powers of the municipal governments and putting into their hands as much of the government of the people as was practicable. As soon as the new municipal governments were fairly established the following call for a constitutional convention was issued:

HEADQUARTERS DIVISION OF CUBA,  
*Habana, July 25, 1900.*

The military governor of Cuba directs the publication of the following instructions:  
Whereas the Congress of the United States by its joint resolution of April 20, 1898, declared—

“That the people of the island of Cuba are, and of right ought to be, free and independent;”

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"That the United States hereby disclaims any disposition or intention to exercise sovereignty, jurisdiction, or control over said island, except for the pacification thereof, and asserts its determination, when that is accomplished, to leave the government and control of the island to its people;"

And whereas the people of Cuba have established municipal governments, deriving their authority from the suffrages of the people given under just and equal laws, and are now ready in like manner to proceed to the establishment of a general government, which shall assume and exercise sovereignty, jurisdiction, and control over the island: Therefore

*It is ordered,* That a general election be held in the island of Cuba on the third Saturday of September, in the year nineteen hundred, to elect delegates to a convention to meet in the city of Habana at twelve o'clock noon on the first Monday of November, in the year nineteen hundred, to frame and adopt a constitution for the people of Cuba, and, as a part thereof, to provide for and agree with the Government of the United States upon the relations to exist between that Government and the Government of Cuba, and to provide for the election by the people of officers under such constitution and the transfer of government to the officers so elected.

The election will be held in the several voting precincts of the island under and pursuant to provisions of the electoral law of April 18, 1900, and the amendments thereof.

The people of the several provinces will elect delegates in number proportionate to their populations as determined by the census, viz:

The people of the province of Pinar del Rio will elect 3 delegates.

The people of the province of Habana will elect 8 delegates.

The people of the province of Matanzas will elect 4 delegates.

The people of the province of Santa Clara will elect 7 delegates.

The people of the province of Puerto Principe will elect 2 delegates.

The people of the province of Santiago de Cuba will elect 7 delegates.

Under this call a second election was held on the 15th of September, 1900, under the same law and conditions as the municipal elections. The election was wholly under the charge of Cubans, without any participation whatever by officers or troops of the United States. The 31 members of the constitutional convention were elected, and they convened at Habana at the appointed time. The sessions of the convention were opened in the city of Habana on the 5th of November, 1900, by the military governor, who, by direction of the Secretary of War, communicated to them the following:

*To the Delegates of the Constitutional Convention of Cuba.*

GENTLEMEN: As military governor of the island, representing the President of the United States, I call this convention to order.

It will be your duty first to frame and adopt a constitution for Cuba, and when that has been done to formulate what, in your opinion, ought to be the relations between Cuba and the United States.

The constitution must be adequate to secure a stable, orderly, and free government.

When you have formulated the relations which, in your opinion, ought to exist between Cuba and the United States the Government of the United States will doubtless take such action on its part as shall lead to a final and authoritative agreement between the people of the two countries to the promotion of their common interests.

All friends of Cuba will follow your deliberations with the deepest interest, earnestly desiring that you shall reach just conclusions, and that by the dignity, individual self-restraint, and wise conservatism which shall characterize your proceedings the capacity of the Cuban people for representative government may be signally illustrated.

The fundamental distinction between true representative government and dictatorship is that in the former every representative of the people, in whatever office, confines himself strictly within the limits of his defined powers. Without such restraint there can be no free constitutional government.

Under the order pursuant to which you have been elected and convened you have no duty and no authority to take part in the present government of the island. Your powers are strictly limited by the terms of that order.

It will be seen that the Cuban constitutional convention was elected and convened (1) to frame and adopt a constitution; (2) to provide for and agree with the Government of the United States upon the

relations to exist between that Government and the Government of Cuba, and (3) to provide for the election, by the people, of officers under such constitution and the transfer of government to the officers so elected.

In February, 1901, as the convention appeared to be drawing near the conclusion of the first branch of its work, the following instructions were sent to the military governor of the island:

WAR DEPARTMENT,  
Washington, February 9, 1901.

SIR: As the time approaches for the Cuban constitutional convention to consider and act upon Cuba's relations with the United States, it seems desirable that you should be informed of the views of the Executive Department of our Government upon that subject in a more official form than that in which they have been communicated to you hitherto. The limitations upon the power of the Executive by the resolution of Congress of April 20, 1898, are such that the final determination upon the whole subject may ultimately rest in Congress, and it is impracticable now to forecast what the action of Congress will be. In the meantime, until Congress shall have acted, the military branch of the Government is bound to refrain from any committal, or apparent committal, of the United States to any policy which should properly be determined upon by Congress, and, at the same time, so far as it is called upon to act or to make suggestions bearing upon the course of events, it must determine its own conduct by reference to the action already taken by Congress, the established policy of the United States, the objects of our present occupation, and the manifest interests of the two countries.

The joint resolution of Congress of April 20, 1898, which authorized the President to expel the Spanish forces from Cuba, declared—

"That the United States hereby disclaims any disposition or intention to exercise sovereignty, jurisdiction, or control over said island except for the pacification thereof, and asserts its determination, when that is accomplished, to leave the government and the control of the island to its people."

The treaty of peace concluded at Paris on the 10th of December, 1898, and ratified by the Senate on the 6th of February, 1899, provides in the first article that "as the island is, upon its evacuation by Spain, to be occupied by the United States, the United States will, so long as such occupation shall last, assume and discharge the obligations that may, under international law, result from the fact of its occupation, for the protection of life and property."

It contains numerous obligations on the part of the United States in respect of the treatment of the inhabitants of the territory relinquished by Spain, such as the provision of the tenth article, that the inhabitants shall be secured in the free exercise of their religion; of the eleventh article, that they shall be subject to the jurisdiction of the courts, pursuant to the ordinary laws governing the same; and of the ninth article, that they shall retain all their rights of property, including the right to sell or dispose thereof, and the right to carry on their industry, commerce, and professions. The sixteenth article of the treaty provides that the obligations assumed in the treaty by the United States with respect to Cuba are limited to the time of its occupancy thereof, but that it shall, upon the termination of such occupancy, advise any government established in the island to assume the same obligations.

Our occupation of Cuba has been under the binding force both of the resolution and of the treaty, and the pacification mentioned in the resolution has necessarily been construed as coextensive with the occupation provided for by the treaty, during which we were to discharge international obligations, protect the rights of the former subjects of Spain, and cause or permit the establishment of a government to which we could in good faith commit the protection of the lives and property and personal rights of those inhabitants from whom we had compelled their former sovereign to withdraw her protection. It is plain that the government to which we were thus to transfer our temporary obligations should be a government based upon the peaceful suffrages of the people of Cuba, representing the entire people and holding their power from the people, and subject to the limitations and safeguards which the experience of constitutional government has shown to be necessary to the preservation of individual rights. This is plain as a duty to the people of Cuba under the resolution of April 20, 1898, and it is plain as an obligation of good faith under the treaty of Paris. Such a government we have been persistently and with all practicable speed building up in Cuba, and we hope to see it established and assume control under the provisions which shall be adopted by the present convention. It seems to me that

no one familiar with the traditional and established policy of this country in respect to Cuba can find cause for doubt as to our remaining duty. It would be hard to find any single statement of public policy, which has been so often officially declared by so great an array of distinguished Americans authorized to speak for the Government of the United States, as the proposition stated, in varying but always uncompromising and unmistakable terms, that the United States would not under any circumstances permit any foreign power other than Spain to acquire possession of the island of Cuba.

Jefferson and Monroe and John Quincy Adams and Jackson and Van Buren and Grant and Clay and Webster and Buchanan and Everett have all agreed in regarding this as essential to the interests and the protection of the United States. The United States has, and will always have, the most vital interest in the preservation of the independence which she has secured for Cuba, and in preserving the people of that island from the domination and control of any foreign power whatever. The preservation of that independence by a country so small as Cuba, so incapable, as she must always be, to contend by force against the great powers of the world, must depend upon her strict performance of international obligations, upon her giving due protection to the lives and property of the citizens of all other countries within her borders, and upon her never contracting any public debt which in the hands of the citizens of foreign powers shall constitute an obligation she is unable to meet. The United States has, therefore, not merely a moral obligation arising from her destruction of Spanish authority in Cuba and the obligations of the treaty of Paris for the establishment of a stable and adequate government in Cuba, but it has a substantial interest in the maintenance of such a government.

We are placed in a position where, for our own protection, we have, by reason of expelling Spain from Cuba, become the guarantors of Cuban independence and the guarantors of a stable and orderly government, protecting life and property in that island. Fortunately, the condition which we deem essential for our own interests is the condition for which Cuba has been struggling, and which the duty we have assumed toward Cuba on Cuban grounds and for Cuban interests requires. It would be a most lame and impotent conclusion if, after all the expenditure of blood and treasure by the people of the United States for the freedom of Cuba and by the people of Cuba for the same object, we should, through the constitution of the new government, by inadvertence or otherwise, be placed in a worse condition in regard to our own vital interests than we were while Spain was in possession, and the people of Cuba should be deprived of that protection and aid from the United States which is necessary to the maintenance of their independence. It was, undoubtedly, in consideration of these special relations between the United States and Cuba that the President said in his message to Congress of the 11th of April, 1898:

"The only hope of relief and repose from a condition which can no longer be endured is the enforced pacification of Cuba. In the name of humanity, in the name of civilization, in behalf of endangered American interests which give us the right and the duty to speak and to act, the war in Cuba must stop.

"In view of these facts and of these considerations I ask the Congress to authorize and empower the President to take measures to secure a full and final termination of hostilities between the Government of Spain and the people of Cuba, and to secure in the island the establishment of a stable government capable of maintaining order and observing its international obligations, insuring peace and tranquillity and the security of its citizens as well as our own, and to use the military and naval forces of the United States as may be necessary for these purposes."

And in his message of December 5, 1899:

"This nation has assumed before the world a grave responsibility for the future good government of Cuba. We have accepted a trust, the fulfillment of which calls for the sternest integrity of purpose and the exercise of the highest wisdom. The new Cuba yet to arise from the ashes of the past must needs be bound to us by ties of singular intimacy and strength if its enduring welfare is to be assured. Whether those ties shall be organic or conventional, the destinies of Cuba are in some rightful form and manner irrevocably linked with our own, but how and how far is for the future to determine in the ripeness of events. Whatever be the outcome, we must see to it that free Cuba be a reality, not a name, a perfect entity, not a hasty experiment bearing within itself the elements of failure. Our mission, to accomplish which we took up the wager of battle, is not to be fulfilled by turning adrift any loosely framed commonwealth to face the vicissitudes which too often attend weaker states whose natural wealth and abundant resources are offset by the incongruities of their political organization and the recurring occasions for internal rivalries to sap their strength and dissipate their energies."

And it was with a view to the proper settlement and disposition of these necessary

relations that the order for the election of delegates to the present constitutional convention provided that they should frame and adopt a constitution for the people of Cuba, and as a part thereof provide for and agree with the Government of the United States upon the relations to exist between that Government and the Government of Cuba.

The people of Cuba should desire to have incorporated in her fundamental law provisions in substance as follows:

1. That no government organized under the constitution shall be deemed to have authority to enter into any treaty or engagement with any foreign power which may tend to impair or interfere with the independence of Cuba, or to confer upon such foreign power any special right or privilege without the consent of the United States.

2. That no government organized under the constitution shall have authority to assume or contract any public debt in excess of the capacity of the ordinary revenues of the island after defraying the current expenses of government to pay the interest.

3. That upon the transfer of the control of Cuba to the government established under the new constitution, Cuba consents that the United States reserve and retain the right of intervention for the preservation of Cuban independence and the maintenance of a stable government, adequately protecting life, property, and individual liberty, and discharging the obligations with respect to Cuba imposed by the treaty of Paris on the United States and now assumed and undertaken by the Government of Cuba.

4. That all the acts of the military government and all rights acquired thereunder shall be valid and shall be maintained and protected.

5. That to facilitate the United States in the performance of such duties as may devolve upon her under the foregoing provisions and for her own defense the United States may acquire and hold the title to land for naval stations and maintain the same at certain specified points.

These provisions may not, it is true, prove to be in accord with the conclusions which Congress may ultimately reach when that body comes to consider the subject, but, as until Congress has acted, the Executive must necessarily, within its own sphere of action, be controlled by its own judgment, you should now be guided by the views above expressed.

It is not our purpose at this time to discuss the cost of our intervention and occupation or advancement of money for disarmament, or our assumption under the treaty of Paris of the claims of our citizens against Spain for losses which they had incurred in Cuba. These can well be the subject of later consideration.

Very respectfully,

ELIHU ROOT, *Secretary of War.*

On March 2, 1901, the Congress of the United States, on the passage of the army appropriation bill, attached thereto the following proviso, commonly known as the "Platt amendment:"

*Provided further*, That in fulfillment of the declaration contained in the joint resolution approved April twentieth, eighteen hundred and ninety-eight, entitled "For the recognition of the independence of the people of Cuba, demanding that the Government of Spain relinquish its authority and government in the island of Cuba and to withdraw its land and naval forces from Cuba and Cuban waters, and directing the President of the United States to use the land and naval forces of the United States to carry these resolutions into effect," the President is hereby authorized to "leave the government and control of the island of Cuba to its people" so soon as a government shall have been established in said island under a constitution which, either as a part thereof or in an ordinance appended thereto, shall define the future relations of the United States with Cuba, substantially as follows:

I. That the Government of Cuba shall never enter into any treaty or other compact with any foreign power or powers which will impair or tend to impair the independence of Cuba, nor in any manner authorize or permit any foreign power or powers to obtain by colonization or for military or naval purposes or otherwise, lodgment in or control over any portion of said island.

II. That said Government shall not assume or contract any public debt, to pay the interest upon which, and to make reasonable sinking fund provision for the ultimate discharge, of which the ordinary revenues of the island, after defraying the current expenses of Government shall be inadequate.

III. That the Government of Cuba consents that the United States may exercise the right to intervene for the preservation of Cuban independence, the maintenance

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of a government adequate for the protection of life, property, and individual liberty, and for discharging the obligations with respect to Cuba imposed by the treaty of Paris on the United States, now to be assumed and undertaken by the Government of Cuba.

IV. That all acts of the United States in Cuba during its military occupancy thereof are ratified and validated, and all lawful rights acquired thereunder shall be maintained and protected.

V. That the Government of Cuba will execute, and, as far as necessary, extend, the plans already devised, or other plans to be mutually agreed upon, for the sanitation of the cities of the island, to the end that a recurrence of epidemic and infectious diseases may be prevented, thereby assuring protection to the people and commerce of Cuba, as well as the commerce of the Southern ports of the United States and the people residing therein.

VI. That the Isle of Pines shall be omitted from the proposed constitutional boundaries of Cuba, the title thereto being left to future adjustment by treaty.

VII. That to enable the United States to maintain the independence of Cuba, and to protect the people thereof, as well as for its own defense, the Government of Cuba will sell or lease to the United States lands necessary for coaling or naval stations at certain specified points, to be agreed upon with the President of the United States.

VIII. That by way of further assurance the Government of Cuba will embody the foregoing provisions in a permanent treaty with the United States.

By direction of the Secretary of War the military governor of Cuba formally communicated these provisions to the convention and advised that body that the President awaited its action thereon.

On the 3d of April, 1901, the following dispatch was sent to the military governor, who communicated it to a committee of the convention:

Wood, *Habana*.

You are authorized to state officially that in view of the President the intervention described in the third clause of the Platt amendment is not synonymous with meddling or interference with the affairs of the Cuban Government, but the formal action of the Government of the United States, based upon just and substantial grounds, for the preservation of Cuban independence and the maintenance of a government adequate for the protection of life, property, and individual liberty, and adequate for discharging the obligations with respect to Cuba imposed by the treaty of Paris on the United States.

ELIHU ROOT, *Secretary of War.*

On the 12th of June, 1901, the convention adopted an ordinance making provisions identical with those quoted from the act of March 2, 1901, a part of the constitution of Cuba.

On October 1, 1901, the convention performed its remaining duty by adopting an electoral law providing for a general election throughout the island, to be held on the 31st day of December, 1901, to choose governors of provinces, provincial councilors, members of the house of representatives, and presidential and senatorial electors. The law also provided that on the 24th day of February, 1902, the several bodies of electors thus chosen should meet and elect a president, vice-president, and senators. The elections were to be held under the direct supervision of a central board of scrutiny, composed of the president of the convention and four other members selected for that purpose. The law was promulgated by a general order of the military governor on the 14th of October, 1901.

The constitution thus adopted and perfected was treated by the United States as an acceptable basis for the formation of the new government to which, when organized and installed, the control of the island was to be transferred.

In conformity to the Cuban constitution and electoral law, elections were held by the Cuban people on the 31st of December, 1901, and by

the electoral college on the 24th of February, 1902, when a president, vice-president, senate, and house of representatives were chosen.

The situation at this important juncture in the affairs of Cuba is described by Secretary Root in his annual report for 1902 as follows:

The whole governmental situation in Cuba was quite unprecedented, with its curious device of a suspended sovereignty given up by Spain, but not in terms vested in anybody else, and if vested remaining dormant, while a practical working government of military occupation in time of peace, deriving its authority from the sovereignty of another country, claimed temporary allegiance, made and enforced laws, and developed a political organization of the Cuban people to take and exercise the suspended or dormant sovereignty. It was important that in inaugurating the new government there should be no break in the continuity of legal obligation, of rights of property and contract, of jurisdiction, or of administrative action. It would not do to wait for the new government to pass laws or to create offices and appoint administrative officers and vest them with powers, for the instant that the new government was created the intervening government ceased, and the period of waiting would be a period of anarchy.

It was necessary, therefore, to take such steps that the new Government should be created as a going concern, every officer of which should be able to go on with his part of the business of governing under the new sovereignty without waiting for any new authority. That everything necessary to this end should be done, and that it should be done according to a consistent and maintainable legal theory, caused the Department a good deal of solicitude. It is gratifying to report that it was done, and that the Government which, until noon of May 20, was proceeding under the authority of the President of the United States, went on in the afternoon of that day and has ever since continued under the sovereignty which had been abandoned by Spain in April, 1899, without any more break or confusion than accompanies the inauguration of a new President in the United States. This could not have been done without the most perfect good understanding, mutual confidence, and sympathetic cooperation on the part of our officers, who were about to retire, and the newly elected officers of Cuba, who were about to take the reins of Government.

#### THE INAUGURATION OF THE CUBAN REPUBLIC.

One of the most interesting pages in history is that which records the peaceful withdrawal of the flag and forces of the United States from Cuba, and the inauguration of the Government of the Republic of Cuba. The story can not be told in more interesting form or manner than as it is presented in the orders of Secretary Root and the exchange of letters between the President of the United States, the Secretary of War, and the President of the Republic of Cuba. These documents are as follows:

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 24, 1904.

SIR: You are authorized to provide for the inauguration, on the 20th of May next, of the government elected by the people of Cuba; and, upon the establishment of said government, to leave the government and control of the island of Cuba to its people pursuant to the provisions of the act of Congress entitled "An act making appropriation for the Army for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1902," approved March 2, 1901.

Upon the transfer of government and control to the President and Congress so elected, you will advise them that such transfer is upon the express understanding and condition that the new government does thereupon, and by the acceptance thereof, pursuant to the provisions of the appendix to the constitution of Cuba, adopted by the constitutional convention on the 12th of June, 1901, assume and undertake all and several the obligations assumed by the United States with respect to Cuba by the treaty between the United States of America and Her Majesty the Queen Regent of Spain, signed at Paris on the 10th day of December, 1898.

It is the purpose of the United States Government, forthwith upon the inauguration of the new Government of Cuba, to terminate the occupancy of the island by the United States, and to withdraw from that island the military forces now in occupancy thereof; but for the preservation and care of the coast defenses of the island, and to avoid leaving the island entirely defenseless against external attack, you may leave in the coast fortifications such small number of artillerymen as may be necessary, for such reasonable time as may be required to enable the new Government to

## 14 THE ESTABLISHMENT OF FREE GOVERNMENT IN CUBA.

organize and substitute therefor an adequate military force of its own; by which time it is anticipated that the naval stations referred to in the statute and in the appendix to the constitution above cited, will have been agreed upon, and the said artillerymen may be transferred thereto.

You will convene the Congress elected by the people of Cuba in joint session at such reasonable time before the 20th of May as shall be necessary therefor, for the purpose of performing the duties of counting and rectifying the electoral vote for President and Vice-President under the fifty-eighth article of the Cuban constitution. At the same time you will publish and certify to the people of Cuba the instrument adopted as the constitution of Cuba by the constitutional convention on the 21st day of February, 1901, together with the appendix added thereto and forming a part thereof adopted by the said convention on the 12th day of June, 1901. It is the understanding of the Government of the United States that the government of the island will pass to the new President and Congress of Cuba as a going concern; all the laws promulgated by the government of occupation continuing in force and effect, and all the judicial and subordinate executive and administrative officers continuing in the lawful discharge of their present functions until changed by the constitutional officers of the new government. At the same moment the responsibility of the United States for the collection and expenditure of revenues and for the proper performance of duty by the officers and employees of the insular government will end, and the responsibility of the new government of Cuba therefor will commence.

In order to avoid any embarrassment to the new President, which might arise from his assuming executive responsibility with subordinates whom he does not know, or in whom he has not confidence, and to avoid any occasion for sweeping changes in the civil-service personnel immediately after the inauguration of the new Government, approval is given to the course which you have already proposed of consulting the President-elect, and substituting, before the 20th of May, wherever he shall so desire, for the persons now holding official positions, such persons as he may designate. This method will make it necessary that the new President and yourself should appoint representatives to count and certify the cash and cash balances and the securities for deposits transferred to the new Government. The consent of the owner of the securities for deposits to the transfer thereof you will of course obtain.

The vouchers and accounts in the office of the Auditor and elsewhere, relating to the receipt and disbursement of moneys during the government of occupation, must necessarily remain within the control, and available for the use, of this Department. Access to these papers will, however, undoubtedly be important to the officers of the new government in the conduct of their business subsequent to the 20th of May. You will accordingly appoint an agent to take possession of these papers and retain them at such place in the island of Cuba as may be agreed upon with the new government until they can be removed to the United States without detriment to the current business of the new government.

I desire that you communicate the contents of this letter to Mr. Palma, the President elect, and ascertain whether the course above described accords with his views and wishes.

Very respectfully,

ELIHU ROOT,  
*Secretary of War.*

Brig. Gen. LEONARD WOOD,  
*Military Governor of Cuba, Habana, Cuba.*

[First indorsement.]

The proposals included in this letter meet my personal approval.

T. ESTRADA PALMA.

WASHINGTON, [March] 25, 1902.

[Second indorsement.]

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 25, 1902.

Respectfully returned to the honorable the Secretary of War.

I have the honor to inform you that I have complied with the instructions in the last paragraph of the within letter, which I have the honor to return to you with the indorsement of Señor T. Estrada Palma, President-elect of Cuba. Señor Palma has also placed his signature on each page of the letter.

LEONARD WOOD,  
*Brigadier-General, U. S. Army, Military Governor of Cuba.*

WAR DEPARTMENT,  
Washington, March 27, 1902.

SIR: In the instructions already communicated to you as to the withdrawal of the army from Cuba there is a provision that you may leave a small force of artillery troops for certain purposes therein specified. The retention of these troops will require that special arrangements be made for the maintenance of discipline among the forces so remaining, with a view to limit their action to the ends proposed. From the evacuation provided for in the instructions already communicated, exception will therefore be made of the modern fortifications and of the barracks, quarters, buildings, and grounds appurtenant thereto, constituting a part of the seacoast defenses of the ports of Habana, Cienfuegos, and Santiago, which will continue to be garrisoned by the troops of the United States until a date to be hereafter agreed upon by the respective Governments of the United States and of Cuba.

The posts to be thus provisionally garrisoned by the military forces of the United States will be designated by you, and the boundaries of the tracts constituting the reservations pertaining to the same will be described, by metes and bounds, and will also be shown on maps and plans to be furnished by you to the Government of Cuba, and the lines of demarcation so described and shown will mark and define the limits of the jurisdiction of the Government of Cuba and of the military jurisdiction of the United States Government over the forces in its military service. The troops thus remaining as garrisons of the artillery defenses of Habana, Cienfuegos, and Santiago will enjoy all the privileges of exterritoriality to which vessels of war visiting the territorial waters of a friendly power are entitled under the generally accepted rules of international law.

The troops remaining in garrison in the island of Cuba will, on the date of evacuation, cease to constitute an occupying force, and will thereafter occupy a status of exterritoriality to be presently explained. The duties of the senior officer will be restricted to the command of the military forces under his orders, and he will under no circumstances exercise, or attempt to exercise, any authority whatever in the governmental affairs of Cuba; and, as to himself and the officers and men under his command, will carefully abstain from all interference in local or political affairs. You will ask from the proper governmental authority an assurance that it will refrain from the exercise of jurisdiction over the officers and men composing the garrisons of the defenses hereinbefore described, their armament and equipment, and the public property of the United States which is in their custody and control.

The troops of the United States so remaining in the island of Cuba, and there enjoying the privileges of exterritoriality, are to be under the exclusive military command and control of the senior officer stationed therewith; and you will obtain the necessary assurances that the right of transit of individuals, detachments, or military organizations to and from the United States and from one post to another in the island shall not be denied, impeded, or interfered with, and the right of the United States Government to inspect and communicate with the garrisons above named, and of its subordinate military commanders to communicate with each other and with their military superiors in the United States by mail, telegraph, telephone, or by special messenger shall be maintained and protected. You will also ask for similar assurances that the several military commands herein provided for shall have the right to procure supplies in the island of Cuba, to receive military stores and munitions of war from the United States, and to ship stores, military supplies, and public property of all kinds, and the private property and baggage of officers and enlisted men to the United States, or from one point to another in the island of Cuba; that such importations and exports shall be exempt from customs and inspections, from insular taxation, and from municipal impositions of all kinds; and that such stores, supplies, and munitions shall, during their transit from point to point in Cuba, be entitled to a similar immunity from local jurisdiction and from seizure by way of execution or otherwise.

The Government of Cuba should also be asked to pledge itself to protect individual officers and enlisted men, or detachments of troops under proper military commands, while on duty outside of the limits of the reservations hereinbefore described. The proper local authorities should similarly be instructed to protect individual officers and enlisted men who may find themselves without the limits of their respective reservations, while engaged in private business, in making or returning official or personal visits, or while engaged in travel.

You will endeavor to impress upon the commander of the artillery forces constituting the garrisons to be retained in the island the importance of refraining from even the appearance of interference in governmental or political affairs. He will render appropriate military honors to the Cuban flag and to all officers of the Cuban

Government who are entitled thereto, and will treat its representatives with whom he may come into personal or official contact with the greatest courtesy and consideration upon all occasions.

Very respectfully,

ELIHU ROOT,  
*Secretary of War.*

Brig. Gen. LEONARD WOOD,  
*Military Governor of Cuba, Habana, Cuba.*

WAR DEPARTMENT,  
*Washington, May 3, 1902.*

SIR: I inclose herewith four papers marked, respectively, "A," "B," "C," and "D," for your official action. You will perceive that these are papers which were prepared during my recent visit to Habana, with some slight verbal changes. They have now been submitted to and approved by the President and his cabinet. The paper marked "A" you will publish in the form of a law or order as soon as practicable after its receipt. The paper marked "B," with the blanks properly filled, you will promulgate by publication in the Official Gazette as soon as the Cuban Congress has examined the credentials, counted the votes, reached the decisions, and made the adjournment therein recited. At the same time such further steps as you think necessary should be taken to give the paper full publicity in all parts of Cuba before the 20th of May. The paper marked "C," with the blank properly filled, you will publish in the Official Gazette on the morning of the 20th of May instant.

At noon on the 20th of May, the newly elected President and Congress of Cuba being assembled in one place, you will publicly read to them the declaration of transfer marked "D," and at the same time deliver to the President the original thereof signed by you. This act will be the operative act to terminate the military government. At some convenient time before the day of this ceremony the President-elect, Mr. Palma, should be informally furnished with a copy of the papers which you propose to read and deliver, in order that he may have an opportunity to consider what reply, if any, he desires to make on the moment, and also have an opportunity, if he wishes to do so, to provide a translation for the information of those members of the Cuban Congress who do not understand English. It would seem appropriate that the Cuban flag should be raised by you immediately after any reply which Mr. Palma may make, and as a part of this same transaction. This is, however, to be arranged between you and Mr. Palma.

Very respectfully,

ELIHU ROOT, *Secretary of War.*

Brig. Gen. LEONARD WOOD,  
*Military Governor of Cuba, Habana, Cuba.*

A.

Whereas the seventh clause of the transitory rules contained in the constitution adopted by the constitutional convention of Cuba provides as follows:

"All laws, decrees, regulations, orders, and other rulings which may be in force at the time of the promulgation of this constitution shall continue to be observed in so far as they do not conflict with the said constitution until such time as they may be legally revoked or amended;" and

Whereas certain of the laws, decrees, regulations, orders, and other rulings made and promulgated by the military governor of Cuba and now in force, are in terms specifically applicable and apparently limited to the military government and the officers thereof;

Now, therefore, to the end that the foregoing provision may be fully operative and that none of the matters and things to which said laws, decrees, regulations, orders, and rulings relate shall be, or appear to be, without regulation and control after the termination of the military government and pending action thereon by the government established under the said constitution when the same shall have taken effect:

It is hereby declared and ordered that each and every of the said laws, decrees, regulations, orders, and other rulings made and promulgated by and under the military government of Cuba shall be deemed to be general and continuing in its character and to be applicable to and binding upon all officers of the Government of Cuba

under whatsoever names or titles who shall succeed the officers of the military government, and to continue in force and effect under whatsoever government shall exist in Cuba until such time as it may be legally revoked or amended pursuant to the provisions of the constitution aforesaid.

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## B.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF CUBA,  
Habana, May —, 1902.

It is hereby made known to the people of Cuba:

1. That the congress of Cuba, elected on December 31, 1901, and February 24, 1902, under the provisions of the electoral law published in orders No. 218, October 14, 1901, these headquarters, having been duly convened in Habana on the 5th day of May, 1902, pursuant to orders No. 101, April 14, 1902, these headquarters, has examined into the credentials and decided as to the validity of the election of its members and has found and decided that the following-named persons have been duly elected senators:

(Here will follow the list of senators.)

And the following-named persons have been duly elected representatives:

(Here will follow the list of representatives.)

2. That the Congress so convened, after counting and ratifying the electoral vote, has found and proclaimed to be elected President of the Republic of Cuba, Tomas Estrada Palma, and to be elected Vice-President of the Republic of Cuba, Luis Esteves Romero.

3. That the said Congress has adjourned to meet at Habana on the 20th of May, 1902, at 12 o'clock noon.

4. That on the said 20th day of May, 1902, at 12 o'clock noon, the constitution adopted by the constitutional convention at Habana on the 21st day of February, 1901, together with the appendix to the said constitution adopted by said convention on the 12th day of June, 1901, will be promulgated as the constitution of the Republic of Cuba, and will go into full force and effect; and thereupon and at that time the occupation of Cuba by the United States and the military government of the island will cease and determine, and the government and control of the island will be transferred to the President and Congress so elected, to be held and exercised by them under the constitution so promulgated.

Such transfer will be upon the understanding and condition that the new government does thereby and by the acceptance thereof, pursuant to the provisions of the said appendix to the constitution, assume and undertake all and several the obligations assumed by the United States with respect to Cuba by the treaty between the United States of America and Her Majesty the Queen Regent of Spain, signed at Paris on the 10th day of December, 1898.

— — — — —, *Military Governor.*

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## C.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF CUBA,  
Habana, May 20, 1902.

The following constitution, adopted by the constitutional convention of the people of Cuba on the 21st day of February, 1901, together with and including the appendix thereto, adopted by said convention on the 12th day of June, 1901, is hereby promulgated as the constitution of the Republic of Cuba and declared to be in full force and effect on and after this day.

(Take in the constitution, omitting date and signatures, as marked in pencil in the Gazette of April 14, 1902, marked "R.")

— — — — —, *Military Governor of Cuba.*

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## D.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF CUBA,  
Habana, May 20, 1902.

*To the President and Congress of the Republic of Cuba.*

Sirs: Under the direction of the President of the United States, I now transfer to you as the duly elected representatives of the people of Cuba the government and

control of the island, to be held and exercised by you under the provisions of the constitution of the Republic of Cuba heretofore adopted by the constitutional convention and this day promulgated, and I hereby declare the occupation of Cuba by the United States and the military government of the island to be ended.

This transfer of government and control is upon the express condition, and the Government of the United States will understand, that by the acceptance thereof you do now, pursuant to the provisions of the said constitution, assume and undertake all and several the obligations assumed by the United States with respect to Cuba by the treaty between the United States of America and Her Majesty the Queen Regent of Spain, signed at Paris on the 10th day of December, 1898.

All money obligations of the military government down to this date have been paid as far as practicable. The public civil funds derived from the revenues of Cuba transferred to you this day, amounting to \$—, are transferred subject to such claims and obligations properly payable out of the revenues of the island as may remain. The sum of \$100,000 has been reserved from the transfer of funds to defray anticipated expenses of accounting, reporting, and winding up the affairs of the military government, after which any unexpended balance of said sum will be paid into the treasury of the island.

The plans already devised for the sanitation of the cities of the island and to prevent a recurrence of epidemic and infectious diseases, to which the Government of the United States understands that the provision of the constitution contained in the fifth article of the appendix applies, are as follows:

1. A plan for the paving and sewerage of the city of Habana, for which a contract has been awarded by the municipality of that city to McGivney, Rokeby & Co.

2. A plan for waterworks to supply the city of Santiago de Cuba, prepared by Capt. S. D. Rockenbach, in charge of the district of Santiago, and approved by the military governor, providing for taking water from the wells of San Juan Canyon and pumping the same to reservoirs located on the heights to the east of the city.

3. A plan for the sewerage of the city of Santiago de Cuba, a contract for which was awarded to Michael J. Dady & Co. by the military governor of Cuba, and now under construction.

4. The rules and regulations, established by the President of the United States on the 17th of January, 1899, for the maintenance of quarantine against epidemic diseases at the ports of Habana, Matanzas, Cienfuegos, and Santiago de Cuba, and thereafter at the other ports of the island, as extended and amended and made applicable to future conditions by the order of the military governor, dated ——, published in the Official Gazette of Habana on the —— day of April, 1902.

5. The sanitary rules and regulations in force in the city of Habana (and in any other city having official rules, etc.).

(a) It is understood by the United States that the present government of the Isle of Pines will continue as a de facto government, pending the settlement of the title to said island by treaty, pursuant to the Cuban constitution and the act of Congress of the United States approved March 2, 1902.

(b) I am further charged by the President of the United States to deliver to you the letter which I now hand you.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Military Governor.

Pursuant to the instructions of Secretary Root the military governor filled in the blank spaces in the foregoing papers (A, B, C, and D) and signed and promulgated said documents.

The correspondence passing between President Roosevelt and President-elect Palma was as follows:

WHITE HOUSE,  
Washington, D. C., May 10, 1902.

To the President and Congress of the Republic of Cuba.

SIRS: On the 20th of this month the military governor of Cuba will, by my direction, transfer to you the control and government of the island of Cuba, to be thenceforth exercised under the provisions of the constitution adopted by your constitutional convention as on that day promulgated; and he will thereupon declare the occupation of Cuba by the United States to be at an end.

At the same time I desire to express to you the sincere friendship and good wishes of the United States, and our most earnest hopes for the stability and success of your Government, for the blessings of peace, justice, prosperity, and ordered freedom among your people, and for enduring friendship between the Republic of the United States and the Republic of Cuba.

[SEAL.]

THEODORE ROOSEVELT,  
President of the United States.

[Translation.]

HABANA, May 20, 1902.

Hon. Gen. LEONARD WOOD.

SIR: As President of the Republic of Cuba, I hereby receive the Government of the island of Cuba which you transfer to me in compliance with orders communicated to you by the President of the United States, and take note that by this act the military occupation of Cuba ceases.

Upon accepting this transfer I declare that the Government of the Republic assumes, as provided for in the constitution, each and every one of the obligations concerning Cuba imposed upon the United States by virtue of the treaty entered into on the 10th of December, 1898, between the United States and Her Majesty the Queen Regent of Spain.

I understand that, as far as possible, all pecuniary responsibilities contracted by the military government up to this date have been paid; that \$100,000, or such portion thereof as may be necessary, have been set aside to cover the expenses that may be occasioned by the liquidation and finishing up the obligations contracted by said government, and that there has been transferred to the Government of the Republic the sum of \$689,191.02, which constitutes the cash balance existing to-day in favor of the State.

In the belief that article 5 of the amendment to the constitution is applicable to the matter, the Government will take pains to facilitate the execution of the works of sanitation projected by the military government. Furthermore, it will procure, in so far as depends upon the same and corresponds thereto in the sanitary measures for the necessities of both countries, the observance of the system implanted by the military government of Cuba.

It is understood that the Isle of Pines is to continue de facto under the jurisdiction of the Government of the Republic of Cuba, subject to such treaty as may be entered into between the Government of the United States and that of the Cuban Republic, as provided for in the Cuban constitution and in the act passed by the Congress of the United States and approved on the 2d of March, 1901.

I receive with sincere gratification the letters which President Roosevelt addresses to the Congress of the Republic of Cuba and to me for the sentiments of friendship for the people of Cuba which inspire them.

I take this solemn occasion, which marks the fulfillment of the honored promise of the Government and people of the United States in regard to the island of Cuba, and in which in our country is made a ruling nation, to express to you, the worthy representative of that grand people, the immense gratitude which the people of Cuba feel toward the American nation, toward its illustrious President, Theodore Roosevelt, and toward you for the efforts you have put forth for the successful accomplishment of such a precious ideal.

T. ESTRADA PALMA.

HABANA, May 20, 1902.

THEODORE ROOSEVELT, President, Washington:

The government of the island having been just transferred, I, as Chief Magistrate of the Republic, faithfully interpreting the sentiments of the whole people of Cuba, have the honor to send you and the American people testimony of our profound gratitude and the assurance of an enduring friendship, with wishes and prayers to the Almighty for the welfare and prosperity of the United States.

T. ESTRADA PALMA.

WASHINGTON, May 20, 1902.

PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF CUBA:

Believe in my heartfelt congratulations upon the inauguration of the Republic which the people of Cuba and the people of the United States have fought and labored together to establish. With confidence in your unselfish patriotism and courage and in the substantial civic virtues of your people, I bid you godspeed, and on this happy day wish for Cuba for all time liberty and order, peace and prosperity.

ELIHU ROOT, Secretary of War.

HABANA, May 21, 1902.

ELIHU ROOT, Secretary of War, Washington:

I am deeply moved by your heartfelt message of congratulation on the inauguration of the Republic of Cuba, to the birth of which the people and the Government of the

United States have contributed with their blood and treasure. Rest assured that the Cuban people can never forget the debt of gratitude they owe to the great Republic, with which we will always cultivate the closest relations of friendship and for the prosperity of which we pray to the Almighty.

T. ESTRADA PALMA.

WASHINGTON, D. C., June 10, 1902.

The ADJUTANT-GENERAL, U. S. ARMY, *Washington, D. C.*

SIR: I have the honor to inform you that the Republic of Cuba was established at 12 o'clock noon, May 20, 1902. The transfer was made upon the lines indicated in the instructions of the honorable the Secretary of War, and the autograph letter of the President read to President Palma and presented to him. President Palma responded, expressing his sincere appreciation of the work done by the United States in Cuba, and the lasting gratitude of himself and the people of Cuba.

The transfer was made in the main reception hall of the palace of the military governor. There were present the President elect and his cabinet, the military governor and the officers of his staff, civil and military, the Cuban Congress, the judiciary, officers of the British and Italian navies, the captain and staff of the U. S. S. *Brooklyn*, and the consular representatives of foreign countries.

The document of transfer was read at exactly 12 o'clock. President Palma at once read his reply. During the reading of the document of transfer and the reply of President Palma a salute of 45 guns to our flag was being fired. Upon the conclusion of this salute the troops of the Seventh United States Cavalry, which had been formed in the Plaza de Armas in front of the palace, presented arms, the band played the national air, and the American flag was lowered by a special detail designated for this purpose and received by an officer of my staff. The Cuban flag was then hoisted and saluted with a national salute of 21 guns both by the fortress of Cabana and by the U. S. S. *Brooklyn*. The Cuban national air was played and our troops saluted the flag. This ceremony completed, the troops immediately embarked and were not allowed—either officers or men—to set foot again on shore.

I left the palace at twenty-five minutes past 12 o'clock accompanied by the officers of my personal and department staff. We were accompanied to the capitania del puerto by President Palma with his cabinet, the Cuban Congress, and all others who had been present at the ceremonies. President Palma bade us farewell at the wharf after again expressing his most sincere and lasting good will and appreciation.

Accompanied by my personal staff, I immediately embarked upon the U. S. S. *Brooklyn*. The officers of the department staff embarked on the S. S. *Moro Castle*, which sailed at a quarter past 3. The U. S. S. *Brooklyn* sailed at about 3.45.

There was immense interest and enthusiasm displayed in the transfer, and it would have been impossible for any people to have shown more friendship and cordiality to the representatives of another nation than was shown by the people of Habana of all classes to the representatives of the late military government of the United States in Cuba. It is safe to say that at least 100,000, probably 150,000, people were assembled along the water front within the harbor limits at the punta and along the sea front to see the troops off. Both the S. S. *Moro Castle* and the U. S. S. *Brooklyn* were escorted to sea by a large number of tugs and launches packed with people.

I proceeded on the U. S. S. *Brooklyn* directly to the mouth of the St. Johns River, below Jacksonville, and there transferred to the U. S. army transport *Kanawha* with the officers of my personal staff, Capt. H. L. Scott, adjutant-general, and Lieuts. M. E. Hanna, Frank R. McCoy, and Edward Carpenter, aids-de-camp.

From Jacksonville I proceeded directly to Washington, stopping at Charleston to coal, a few hours at Norfolk for supplies, and at Fortress Monroe to visit the works, arriving at Washington Wednesday morning, May 28.

Very respectfully,

LEONARD WOOD,  
Brigadier-General, U. S. Army.

THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE AFFAIRS OF CIVIL GOVERNMENT IN CUBA  
UNDER AMERICAN OCCUPATION.

After the Spanish evacuation of Cuba there were no strictly military operations. The officers of the United States Army in Cuba were largely occupied in conducting, under the direction of the military governor and the department commanders, a general civil administration for which no other governmental machinery existed and in

aiding the existing municipal governments in the performance of their duties. The first and imperative duties of the army under the condition of social disorganization which existed in the island were the maintenance of order, the immediate relief of prevailing distress among the starving reconcentrados, the sanitation of the towns, which had been left in a filthy condition and in which none of the precautions against disease known to modern sanitary science had ever been adopted, and the promotion of a return to peaceful industry on the part of the people whose homes and farms had been by force abandoned and laid waste.

The use of troops to maintain order was necessary for but a short period. Forces of civil police, organized from the people of the island, were substituted and performed their duties efficiently. The part played by the United States military forces in the maintenance of order was confined to the restraining influence of their presence. The relief from hunger and distress among the people crowded in the city of Habana was accomplished by dividing the city into districts for the distribution of rations and medicine under the direction of officers of the army. House-to-house inspection, in cooperation with a committee of citizens, a regular system of reporting all cases of destitution, and a wagon-train service to outlying points were established. Through these means and through the existing hospitals and asylums 1,644,000 rations were distributed in the province of Habana between the 1st of January and the 30th of June, 1899. In the Department of Santiago 1,699,366 rations were distributed between the 20th of November, 1898, and the 16th of May, 1899. In the provinces of Matanzas and Santa Clara 1,930,130 rations were distributed between the 1st of January and the 30th of June, 1899. After the latter date the amount required to be distributed steadily decreased, and by the end of 1899, it was practically confined to distribution to hospitals and asylums.

The total issuances of rations to destitute persons in Cuba through the agency of the officers of the Army amounted to 5,493,000 rations at a cost of \$1,417,554.07.

The condition of the soldiers of the Cuban army, who had long been separated from any productive industry and who upon the conclusion of hostilities were left substantially without homes or occupation and with no pay coming to them from any source, seemed to require that, in the interest of public order as well as of humanity, some relief should be afforded which would enable them to disband and return to peaceful employment. It was accordingly determined to apply so much as might be necessary of the three-million emergency fund provided by the act of January 5, 1899, for that purpose. Arrangements were made under which the sum of \$75 was paid to each Cuban soldier borne upon the duly authenticated rolls on his bringing in and depositing his arms. Two million five hundred and forty-seven thousand seven hundred and fifty dollars were paid out in this way, and upon the payment being completed the Cuban army separated and ceased to exist.

#### SANITATION.

The sanitary condition of the cities and towns throughout the island were found to be as bad as it is possible to conceive. Thorough and systematic inspections were made, sanitary corps were organized, streets were cleaned, sewers were opened, cesspools and sinks were emptied, public and private buildings were disinfected, methods of

disposing of refuse were adopted, water supplies were improved, and rules were established and enforced to prevent a recurrence of similar conditions. In the larger cities a thoroughly good sanitary condition required the establishment of grades, the construction of adequate sewer systems, and increase of water supplies. The work was entered upon immediately after the American occupation was established and prosecuted with the utmost vigor. The city of Habana was subjected to a house-to-house renovation and disinfection at the rate of from 120 to 125 houses per day, with the gratifying result that the number of deaths from yellow fever in the city of Habana in 1899 was 63, while the average death rate for the ten years prior to American occupation was 481.

The deaths from all causes in Habana during the first few months of our occupation were numerous, owing to the great number of sick and dying who were there at the time of the Spanish evacuation; but the rate steadily decreased under American occupation until in October, 1899, it was 26.6 per thousand.

Similar conditions existed at Santiago and were treated in a similar manner and with great thoroughness and effectiveness, and an outbreak of yellow fever was speedily controlled and overcome.

During the first six months of American occupation there was expended from the island revenues \$1,712,014.20 for sanitation.

One of the causes impelling the United States to intervene in the affairs of Cuba was the fact that the unsanitary conditions in the island were a constant menace to the health and commerce of the southern States of the Union. The dread scourge of yellow fever had frequently been communicated to our shores from Habana and other seaports of Cuba. During the continuance of American occupation of Cuba a systematic, scientific endeavor was made to eliminate this source of peril to both Cuba and the United States, and the results of the endeavor were most gratifying. The island of Cuba is apparently and entirely free from yellow fever, and this dread disease has passed from one of the leading causes of death to one of the least frequent, and Habana has changed its position from one of the most unhealthy cities to one of the most healthy. The control of yellow fever, owing to investigations as to its causes prosecuted under the direction of the military government, appears to be now practically absolute.

The Surgeon-General of the United States Army furnishes the following condensed statement concerning that investigation and its results:

In my last annual report I referred to the appointment of a board for the purpose of pursuing scientific investigations with reference to the acute infectious diseases prevailing on the island of Cuba. This board, consisting of Maj. Walter Reed, surgeon U. S. Army, and contract surgeons James Carroll, Aristedes Agramonte, and Jesse W. Lazear, U. S. Army, arrived at their station, Columbia Barracks, Quemados, Cuba, on June 25, 1900. Fortunately for the purposes of the board, an epidemic of yellow fever, which had begun in the adjacent town of Quemados, Cuba, during the latter part of the month of May, was still prevailing, so that an opportunity was afforded for bacteriological and pathological observations in this disease. The results obtained were especially valuable, showing that the bacillus icteroides (Sanarelli) bears no causative relation to yellow fever, and that the mosquito serves as an intermediate host for the parasite of this disease. Further experiments of a most interesting character demonstrated that yellow fever is transmitted to nonimmunes by the bite of a mosquito that has previously fed on the blood of those sick with this disease; that yellow fever can also be produced by the subcutaneous injection of blood taken from the general circulation during the first and second days of the disease; that an attack of yellow fever produced by the bite of a mosquito confers

immunity against the subsequent injection of infected blood; that yellow fever is not conveyed by clothing, bedding, or merchandise soiled by contact with those sick with the disease; that a house may be said to be infected with yellow fever only when there are present in it mosquitoes capable of conveying the parasite of the disease, and that the spread of yellow fever can be most effectually controlled by measures directed to the destruction of mosquitoes and the protection of the sick against the bites of these insects.

The importance and far-reaching consequences of the observations made by Major Reed and his associates at Quemados, Cuba, can hardly be overestimated. For the first time in the history of this widely prevalent tropical disease we are in possession of knowledge with regard to the manner of its propagation which will enable us, I believe, not only to check its ravages, but to effectually stamp it out whenever it may appear in any of our garrisons or cities.

With the view of promptly arresting the spread of the disease, full instructions were issued in a circular from headquarters, Department of Cuba, for the information and guidance of medical and commanding officers. Already the sanitary measures which have been put in force by the health authorities in the city of Habana, based on the work of Major Reed and his associates, have resulted in absolutely ridding that city of yellow fever for the first time in more than one hundred and forty years.

The amount expended for sanitation of the island under American occupation was \$9,706,258.20.

Both Cuba and the United States have been free practically from yellow fever since the completion of the work of sanitation performed under American occupation. The Platt amendment requires the Cuban Republic to continue and maintain these sanitary measures, and if the results shall be that yellow fever is eliminated or subjected to such control as to prevent it becoming the scourge it was in former years, it is impossible to fix the value or overestimate the beneficence of such accomplishment.

#### EDUCATION.

During American occupation of Cuba especial attention was given to the establishment of common schools and other educational institutions. The enrollment of the public schools of Cuba immediately before the last war shows 36,306 scholars, but an examination of the reports containing these figures indicates that probably less than half the names enrolled represented actual attendance. There were practically no separate school buildings, but the scholars were collected in the residences of the teachers. There were few books and practically no maps, blackboards, desks, or other school apparatus.

The instruction consisted solely in learning by rote, the catechism being the principal text-book, and the girls occupying their time chiefly in embroidery. The teachers were allowed to eke out their unpaid salaries by accepting fees from the pupils, and since less than one-tenth of the children of school age could be accommodated, the result of the fee system was that the children of the poor were either excluded or neglected. Even these poor apologies for public schools were, to a great extent, broken up by the war, and in December, 1899, the entire public school enrollment of the island numbered 21,435. At the end of the first six months of American occupation the public school enrollment of the island numbered 143,120. The schools were subjected to a constant and effective inspection and the attendance was practically identical with the enrollment.

The schools were separated from the residences of the teachers, and each schoolroom had its separate teacher. The courses and methods of instruction were those most approved in this country. The text-books were translations into Spanish of American text-books.

All over the island the old Spanish barracks and the barracks occupied by the American troops which had been withdrawn were turned into schoolrooms after thorough renovation. The pressure for education was earnest and universal. The appropriations from the insular treasury for that purpose during the first year of American occupation amounted to four and a half millions.

At the close of American occupation there were 121 boards of education elected by the people (the system was kept out of politics); the work of changing the old barracks throughout the island into schoolhouses had been completed; a thoroughly modern school building costing \$50,000 had been erected at Santiago; one school building in Habana had 33 rooms, with a modern kindergarten, manual-training branch, two gymnasiums, and baths; large schools had been established by changes in government buildings at Guineas, Pinar del Rio, Matanzas, Ciegoa de Avila, and Colon; over 3,600 teachers were subjected to examination, and approximately 6,000 persons applied for and received examination as teachers. For six weeks during the summer vacation of 1901 4,000 teachers were collected in teachers' institutes.

Generally, the schools were well supplied with modern books and the most modern furniture. The government of occupation upon a single order purchased 100,000 full sets of desks, text-books, scholars' supplies, etc.

#### PRISONS.

At the time Spanish sovereignty was withdrawn from Cuba the prisons in the island were full to overflowing with wretched creatures living in indescribable filth and squalor. An inspection of the women's prison in Habana disclosed the fact that the women had no other place to sleep than on the floor, and were unable to appear in a body because they were without clothes to cover their nakedness, and they came before the inspector one by one, passing their garments from one to another.

The cruelty of these conditions is made more impressive by the fact that many of the unfortunate inmates had never been tried or convicted of any offense. As the simplest way of dealing with the evil, a board of pardons was constituted in January, 1900, which visited all the prisons and examined the inmates. They found many who had been there for a long period waiting trial, and in one instance this period had extended for eleven years. So far as the offenses with which they were charged could be ascertained, a large part of these people had been punished far more severely, whether they were innocent or guilty, than they could have been upon conviction.

On recommendation of this board, 520 prisoners belonging to the class last described were released from confinement. The prisons were cleaned and renovated, a rigid system of inspection followed, and so far as practicable youths were separated from the adults, and those merely charged with crime from those under conviction.

The intolerable delays of criminal procedure, which thus punished the innocent equally with the guilty, and punishing both without any opportunity for trial, were obviated by the establishment of correctional courts throughout the island, in which petty offenses were summarily dealt with and disposed of and the innocent afforded an opportunity to be promptly relieved from prosecution.

As a further safeguard against the recurrence of the evils described an order was made providing for the writ of habeas corpus.

As a result of these changes of procedure it shortly resulted that many prisons in the island were wholly without inmates.

#### CHURCH PROPERTY.

For many years prior to American occupation the Spanish Government in Cuba had occupied and used for government purposes a large amount of valuable real estate which had been the property of the Roman Catholic Church, and was held by the Crown of Spain subject to the results of a long series of negotiations and agreement between the Crown of Spain and the Holy See. The Spanish Government held a large amount of "censos" or mortgages upon the property in different parts of the island which had been given to the church for various religious purposes, and which had been taken over by the Crown and held for purposes of administration. The Crown of Spain recognized and complied with an obligation to pay to the church a large annual sum for its maintenance and support of the island.

With American occupation the payment of this annual sum ceased, while the intervening Government entered into possession of the property and employed the greater part of the real estate for the same governmental purposes to which it has been devoted under Spanish control. The church thereupon claimed the right to be repossessed of its property. After long-continued discussion and investigation the various questions as to property rights raised by the church were submitted to a judicial commission, which commission decided in favor of the claims of the church, and the whole subject was adjusted to the satisfaction of all parties, as to the real estate, by the Government of intervention paying a rental of 5 per cent upon the appraised values of the property, amounting to about \$2,000,000, with a five years' option to the Government of Cuba, when organized, to buy the property at the appraised value, receiving credit against the purchase price for 25 per cent of the rental paid, and as to the "censos" the matter was adjusted by the Government of intervention taking them at 50 cents on the dollar and permitting the debtors to take them up at the same rate.

#### THE INDUSTRIAL SITUATION.

The revival of industry in Cuba was necessarily slow, but upon the establishment of American occupation many of the people who had been driven into the towns during the reconcentration period returned to the country and recommenced the cultivation of the land. In many parts of the island there was a demand for farm labor, owing to the large increase in the amount of tobacco planted. The principal agricultural product of Cuba is sugar, and the restoration of the sugar industry was severely hindered by the fact that the sugar plantations were heavily mortgaged, their machinery had been destroyed and the owners found it difficult to secure additional capital to restore the plant, because of the uncertainty which capitalists felt regarding the character of the future government of the island and the protection which it would afford to investments. Not only were the owners of the large estates affected by these circumstances, but many of the Cuban people who

were ready and anxious to resume the cultivation of their farms with their own hands were unable to do so, because they had not the means to purchase the necessary animals and the necessary implements for that purpose. To relieve this situation, the government of intervention expended \$104,500 for the purchase of such animals and sold them to Cubans engaged in agricultural pursuits.

The uncertainty which retarded the industrial development of Cuba and prevented the influx of capital resulted not only from doubt as to the character of the future government and safety of investments, but also the uncertainty as to the future market for the sugar product of the island. The competition of the bounty-fed beet-sugar product of Europe had reduced the price which could be realized from cane sugar to a point so near the cost of production that the cane producer could not pay expenses by the old method of production theretofore prevailing in the island. Only new and improved methods of production on a large scale and in the most economical manner and requiring large capital made a successful competition by the Cubans possible. The sugar producer of Cuba found himself confronted by two additional dangers—first, that the sugar of Porto Rico, like that of Hawaii, was admitted into the great market of the United States free of duty, while the Cuban sugar was required to pay a duty; and the other, the prospect of ratification by the Senate of the reciprocity treaties already negotiated, under which the sugar of the British West India Islands would be admitted to the United States at a 20-per-cent reduction of duties, while the Cuban sugar would continue to pay full duty.

Under these conditions, as the United States is the great market for Cuban sugar, it was manifest that, however competent and efficient might be the permanent Government of Cuba, the maintenance of the sugar industry in the island would depend upon the ability of that Government to make arrangements with the United States for a reduction of the tariff. The situation as it existed in 1901 is described by Secretary Root in his report for that year, as follows:

In reliance upon fair and generous treatment by the United States, the Cuban planters have made strenuous efforts to revive their great industry, and have raised their product of sugar from 308,000 tons in 1899, to 615,000 tons in 1900, while the output for the present year is estimated at something over 800,000 tons. Incited by our precept and trusting to our friendship they have struggled to retrieve the disasters under which their country had suffered. All the capital they had or could borrow has been invested in the rebuilding of their mills and the replanting of their land. More than half of the people of the island are depending, directly or indirectly, upon the success of that industry. If it succeeds, we may expect peace, plenty, domestic order, and the happiness of a free and contented people to reward the sacrifice of American lives and treasure through which Cuba was set free. If it fails, we may expect that the fields will again become waste, the mills will again be dismantled, the great body of laborers will be thrown out of employment, and that poverty and starvation, disorder and anarchy will ensue; that the charities and the schools which we have been building up will find no money for their support and will be discontinued; that the sanitary precautions which have made Cuba no longer a dreaded source of pestilence, but one of the most healthy islands in the world, will, of necessity, be abandoned and our Atlantic seaboard must again suffer from the injury to commerce and the maintenance of quarantines at an annual cost of many millions.

Cuba has acquiesced in our right to say that she shall not put herself in the hands of any other power, whatever her necessities, and in our right to insist upon the maintenance of free and orderly government throughout her limits, however impoverished and desperate may be her people. Correlative to this right is a duty of the highest obligation to treat her not as an enemy, not at arm's length as an aggressive commercial rival, but with a generosity which, toward her, will be but justice; to shape our laws so that they shall contribute to her welfare as well as our own.

President Roosevelt brought the matter to the attention of Congress in his message dated June 13, 1902, wherein he said:

*To the Senate and House of Representatives:*

I deem it important before the adjournment of the present session of Congress to call attention to the following expressions in the message which, in the discharge of the duty imposed upon me by the Constitution, I sent to Congress on the first Tuesday of December last:

"Elsewhere I have discussed the question of reciprocity. In the case of Cuba, however, there are weighty reasons of morality and of national interest why the policy should be held to have a peculiar application, and I most earnestly ask your attention to the wisdom, indeed to the vital need, of providing for a substantial reduction in the tariff duties on Cuban imports into the United States. Cuba has in her constitution affirmed what we desired, that she should stand in international matters in closer and more friendly relations with us than with any other power, and we are bound by every consideration of honor and expediency to pass commercial measures in the interest of her material well-being."

This recommendation was merely giving practical effect to President McKinley's words, when, in his messages of December 5, 1898, and December 5, 1899, he wrote:

"It is important that our relations with this people (of Cuba) shall be of the most friendly character and our commercial relations close and reciprocal. \* \* \* We have accepted a trust the fulfillment of which calls for the sternest integrity of purpose and the exercise of the highest wisdom. The new Cuba, yet to arise from the ashes of the past, must needs be bound to us by ties of singular intimacy and strength if its enduring welfare is to be assured. \* \* \* The greatest blessing which can come to Cuba is the restoration of her agricultural and industrial prosperity."

Yesterday, June 12, I received by cable from the American minister, in Cuba, a most earnest appeal from President Palma for "legislative relief before it is too late and (his) country financially ruined."

The granting of reciprocity with Cuba is a proposition which stands entirely alone. The reasons for it far outweigh those for granting reciprocity with any other nation, and are entirely consistent with preserving intact the protective system under which this country has thriven so marvelously. The present tariff law was designed to promote the adoption of such a reciprocity treaty, and expressly provided for a reduction not to exceed 20 per cent upon goods coming from a particular country, leaving the tariff rates on the same articles unchanged as regards all other countries. Objection has been made to the granting of the reduction on the ground that the substantial benefit would not go to the agricultural producer of sugar, but would inure to the American sugar refiners. In my judgment provision can and should be made which will guarantee us against this possibility, without having recourse to a measure of doubtful policy, such as a bounty in the form of a rebate.

The question as to which, if any, of the different schedules of the tariff ought most properly to be revised does not enter into this matter in any way or shape. We are concerned with getting a friendly reciprocal arrangement with Cuba. This arrangement applies to all the articles that Cuba grows or produces. It is not in our power to determine what these articles shall be, and any discussion of the tariff as it affects special schedules or countries other than Cuba is wholly aside from the subject-matter to which I call your attention.

Some of our citizens oppose the lowering of the tariff on Cuban products, just as three years ago they opposed the admission of the Hawaiian Islands, lest free trade with them might ruin certain of our interests here. In the actual event their fears proved baseless as regards Hawaii, and their apprehensions as to the damage to any industry of our own because of the proposed measure of reciprocity with Cuba seem to me equally baseless. In my judgment no American industry will be hurt, and many American industries will be benefited by the proposed action. It is to our advantage as a nation that the growing Cuban market should be controlled by American producers.

The events following the war with Spain and the prospective building of the isthmian canal render it certain that we must take in the future a far greater interest than hitherto in what happens throughout the West Indies, Central America, and the adjacent coasts and waters. We expect Cuba to treat us on an exceptional footing politically and we should put her in the same exceptional position economically. The proposed action is in line with the course we have pursued as regards all the islands with which we have been brought into relations of varying intimacy by the Spanish war. Porto Rico and Hawaii have been included within our tariff lines to their great benefit as well as ours, and without any of the feared detriment to our own industries. The Philippines, which stand in a different relation, have been given substantial tariff concessions.

Cuba is an independent Republic, but a Republic which has assumed certain special obligations as regards her international position, in compliance with our request. I ask for her certain special economic concessions in return, these economic concessions to benefit us as well as her. There are few brighter pages in American history than the page which tells of our dealings with Cuba during the past four years. On her behalf we waged a war of which the mainspring was generous indignation against oppression, and we have kept faith absolutely. It is earnestly to be hoped that we will complete in the same spirit the record so well begun, and show in our dealings with Cuba that steady continuity of policy which it is essential for our nation to establish in foreign affairs if we desire to play well our part as a world power.

We are a wealthy and powerful nation; Cuba is a young Republic, still weak, who owes to us her birth, whose whole future, whose very life, must depend on our attitude toward her. I ask that we help her as she struggles upward along the painful and difficult road of self-governing independence. I ask this aid for her because she is weak, because she needs it, because we have already aided her. I ask that open-handed help, of a kind which a self-respecting people can accept, be given to Cuba, for the very reason that we have given her such help in the past. Our soldiers fought to give her freedom; and for three years our representatives, civil and military, have toiled unceasingly, facing disease of a peculiarly sinister and fatal type with patient and uncomplaining fortitude, to teach her how to use aright her new freedom. Never in history has any alien country been thus administered with such high integrity of purpose, such wise judgment, and such single-minded devotion to the country's interests. Now, I ask that the Cubans be given all possible chance to use to the best advantage the freedom of which Americans have such right to be proud and for which so many American lives have been sacrificed.

THEODORE ROOSEVELT.

WHITE HOUSE, June 13, 1902.

Pursuant to the recommendation of the President, Congress on December 16, 1903, passed an act to carry into effect a convention between the United States and the Republic of Cuba signed on the 11th day of December, 1902, whereby provision was made that products of Cuba coming into the United States should receive the benefit of reductions in the tariff ranging from 20 per cent to 40 per cent of the regular duties on such products.

#### PUBLIC CHARITIES.

The issue of rations to needy persons, which characterized the first year of American occupation, was succeeded by an extensive reestablishment, renovation, and reorganization of the charitable institutions of the island. These were left at the close of the war without funds or supplies. Such of them as were not closed were dilapidated and insanitary. The hospitals were practically without apparatus, medicines, or physicians.

A comprehensive law governing the department of charities was adopted on the 7th of July, 1900, whereupon the Government of the island extended financial aid to 38 hospitals, 4 asylums for the aged, 12 orphan asylums, 2 dispensaries for the poor, 1 insane asylum, 3 leper hospitals, 2 reform schools, 1 training school for boys, 1 training school for girls, and 1 emergency hospital in Santiago.

In connection with the work of the orphan asylums a strong effort was made to secure the placing of children in private families throughout the island, and the effort met with great success.

As prosperity increased, many parents who had been unable to support their children and had left them in these institutions reclaimed them, and large numbers of other children were placed in private families under proper pledges for their care and education, secured by careful investigation beforehand and afterwards by systematic per-

sonal inspection. For the children remaining a thorough system of industrial education was adopted and carried out.

The hospitals were supplied with medicines and surgical apparatus, and medical attendants and trained nurses were brought from the United States to act as instructors of trained nurses in Cuba. These instructors were distributed in the hospitals throughout the island, and gave instruction to classes with gratifying results.

The condition of the insane was particularly distressing. They were confined in cells in jails all over the island and treated literally like wild beasts. A large insane asylum in Habana was put in order and these unfortunates were collected and taken thereto, where they were cared for. At the close of American occupation there were supported by the Cuban Government 34 hospitals, containing 2,844 beds; 6 training schools for female nurses under the tuition of American trained nurses, with Cuban women as pupils, with regular courses, examinations, and degrees. The Government training schools for boys and girls had been enlarged. The bureau for placing indigent children was thoroughly established and during the year 1901 returned over 1,200 children to their relatives, and 437 in other families. There were 2,010 orphans under the care and supervision of the State. The lepers of the island had been gathered into two institutions, and the total number under treatment was 134.

#### RAILROADS.

The people of Cuba had long realized their lack of railway transportation facilities. The situation as it existed at the time of the American occupation is described in Industrial Cuba as follows:

The railway system of Cuba, consisting of seven companies, the aggregate length of whose lines is only 1,467 kilometers, or 917 miles, is entirely inadequate in bringing the extreme ends of the island together, Santiago and Habana in point of time being as far apart as San Francisco and New York, though only separated by a distance of a few hundred miles. The facts gathered on this subject and the maps presented elsewhere point to the advisability of immediately constructing a trunk railway from end to end of the island, with branches extending north and south to the important cities and ports. From whatever standpoint it may be viewed, no one enterprise could do so much to improve the situation on the island. No revolution could have existed in Cuba if such a railroad had been completed by the former government, and nothing will so rapidly tend to the revival of commercial and general business as the facility for quick passage from one end of the island to the other and from the trunk line over branches to the seaboard cities. All political turbulence will be quieted thereby and prevented in the future. The entire country will be opened to commerce, lands now of practically no value and unproductive will be worked, the seaport towns will become active, and commerce between the island and the United States will soon be restored to the former figures of approximately \$100,000,000 per annum. Business enterprise, ever alert to conditions such as herein described, had already surveyed the route, and there are several projects on foot looking toward prompt action in this direction. After a careful study of the situation it would seem extremely doubtful if such an enterprise could be made a commercial success for many years to come without material assistance from those responsible for the industrial future of Cuba.

The cities and towns of the island were insistent in their appeals to the government of intervention to make provision for railway construction. The demand was complied with by the adoption of a railway law embodying the salient features of railway laws of the States of the Union, with many additional provisions safeguarding the rights and interests of the public and of the Cuban Government. Under this law a railroad connecting up the very short lines was constructed, and is in operation between Habana and Santiago.

## REVENUE.

The principal source of revenue for the government of intervention was the receipts from customs duties. The tariff laws first promulgated by the military government were practically the Spanish laws modified to meet the existing condition, but subsequently, and after careful study and investigation of the wants and necessities of the island and government, a revised tariff law was formulated and put in force.

The administration of the customs service, of which Brig. Gen. Tasker H. Bliss was the head, was a model of excellence and gave the people of Cuba a novel and much-needed lesson in the honest and efficient administration of public office.

The system of taxation enforced under Spanish domination was exceedingly burdensome; it imposed high taxes on necessities and low taxes on the luxuries. This system was changed under the American administration in such manner as to rest the burden of expenses upon those who were able to sustain it.

The construction of much-needed and long-deferred public improvements was prosecuted throughout the island. To enumerate the work thus entered upon would unduly extend this review, but the character and extent of the undertaking may be ascertained by examining the attached table of receipts and expenditures of the government of Cuba during the time of American occupation.

## EXPENDITURES DURING ENTIRE PERIOD OF AMERICAN ADMINISTRATION.

State and government .....	\$2,780,781.16
Justice and public instruction .....	11,108,187.46
Finance .....	990,586.71
Customs service .....	2,912,326.06
Postal service .....	1,625,762.03
Quarantine .....	694,024.81
Census .....	380,393.44
Auditor .....	312,758.42
Treasurer .....	581,700.10
Rural guard and administration .....	5,253,244.58
Agriculture, industry, and commerce .....	1,121,699.28
Public buildings, works, ports, and harbors .....	5,833,607.0
Jucaro and San Fernando Railroad .....	57,338.51
Barracks and quarters .....	2,525,483.78
Charities and hospitals .....	4,124,986.60
Sanitation .....	9,706,258.20
Municipalities (other than charities and hospitals and sanitation) .....	4,477,177.52
Miscellaneous .....	918,714.72
 Total .....	 55,405,031.28

*Summary of revenues and expenditures in Cuba during American administration, from July 18, 1898, to May 19, 1902, as certified by the Auditor for Cuba.*

## REVENUES.

July 18, 1898, to June 30, 1899:

Customs .....	\$7,228,460.60
Postal .....	151,585.40
Internal .....	347,431.89
Miscellaneous .....	234,345.66

\$7,961,823.55

Fiscal year 1900:

Customs .....	16,068,035.90
Postal .....	258,148.03
Internal .....	884,783.29
Miscellaneous .....	175,308.15

17,386,275.37

## Fiscal year 1901:

Customs .....	\$15,950,526.91
Postal .....	367,950.60
Internal .....	658,585.92
Miscellaneous .....	184,003.23
	<hr/>
	\$17,161,066.66

## July 1, 1901, to May 19, 1902:

Customs .....	13,402,917.15
Postal .....	335,956.61
Internal .....	688,581.67
Miscellaneous .....	260,519.79
	<hr/>
	14,687,975.22
	<hr/>
	\$57,197,140.80

## EXPENDITURES.

## July 18, 1898, to June 30, 1899:

Customs .....	\$372,732.57
Postal .....	223,492.75
Other .....	5,192,118.57
	<hr/>
	5,788,343.89

## Fiscal year 1900:

Customs .....	841,376.59
Postal .....	494,539.09
Other .....	14,325,469.79
	<hr/>
	15,661,385.47

## Fiscal year 1901:

Customs .....	910,993.66
Postal .....	524,198.85
Other .....	16,210,376.00
	<hr/>
	17,645,568.51

## July 1, 1901, to May 19, 1902:

Customs .....	787,223.24
Postal .....	383,531.34
Other .....	15,138,978.83
	<hr/>
	16,309,733.41
	<hr/>
	55,405,031.28

Excess of revenues over expenditures .....

1,792,109.52

## STATEMENT.

In the summary of revenues and expenditures in Cuba during American occupation the following figures appear, namely:

Revenues .....	\$57,197,140.80
Expenditures .....	55,405,031.28

Excess of revenues over expenditures .....

1,792,109.52

The conduct and service of the officers and men engaged in administering the government of intervention in Cuba was the subject of an order issued by the Secretary of War, from which order the following is quoted:

WAR DEPARTMENT, Washington, July 4, 1902.

To the Army of the United States:

The President, upon this anniversary of national independence, wishes to express to the officers and enlisted men of the United States Army his deep appreciation of the service they have rendered to the country in the great and difficult undertakings which they have brought to a successful conclusion during the past year.

He thanks the officers and enlisted men who have been maintaining order and carrying on the military government in Cuba, because they have faithfully given effect to the humane purposes of the American people. They have with sincere kindness helped the Cuban people to take all the successive steps necessary to the establishment of their own constitutional government. During the time required for that process they have governed Cuba wisely, regarding justice and respecting individual

liberty; have honestly collected and expended for the best interests of the Cuban people the revenues, amounting to over \$60,000,000; have carried out practical and thorough sanitary measures, greatly improving the health and lowering the death rate of the island. By patient scientific research they have ascertained the causes of yellow fever, and by good administration have put an end to that most dreadful disease which has long destroyed the lives and hindered the commercial prosperity of the Cubans.

They have expedited justice and secured protection for the rights of the innocent, while they have cleansed the prisons and established sound discipline and healthful conditions for the punishment of the guilty. They have reestablished and renovated and put upon a substantial basis adequate hospitals and asylums for the care of the unfortunate. They have established a general system of free common schools throughout the island, in which over 200,000 children are in actual attendance. They have constructed great and necessary public works. They have gradually trained the Cubans themselves in all branches of administration, so that the new government upon assuming power has begun its work with an experienced force of Cuban civil-service employees competent to execute its orders. They have borne themselves with dignity and self-control, so that nearly four years of military occupation have passed unmarred by injury or insult to man or woman. They have transferred the government of Cuba to the Cuban people amid universal expressions of friendship and good will, and have left a record of ordered justice and liberty, of rapid improvement in material and moral conditions, and progress in the art of government which reflects great credit upon the people of the United States.