

*Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That the President be respectfully requested to open such negotiations with France, Spain, Austria, and Italy, as he may deem advisable, with a view to removing the restrictions on the importation of tobacco into the countries named and securing to our citizens an open market therein for the same.

Tobacco, negotiations for importation of into foreign countries.

Approved, June 9, 1880.

[No. 51.] Joint resolution providing for the printing of the Reports of the Commissioner of Education for the years eighteen hundred and seventy-eight and eighteen hundred and seventy-nine.

June 11, 1880.

*Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That of each of the Reports of the Commissioner of Education for the respective years eighteen hundred and seventy-eight and eighteen hundred and seventy-nine, there be printed four thousand copies for the use of the Senate; eight thousand copies for the use of the House of Representatives and thirteen thousand copies for distribution by the Commissioner.

Reports of Commissioner of Education for 1878 and 1879; printing and distribution.

Approved, June 11, 1880.

[No. 52.] Joint resolution for the relief of certain persons in respect of duties demanded of them upon the import of certain articles named therein.

June 14, 1880.

Whereas, by a circular of the Secretary of the Treasury issued in eighteen hundred and seventy-eight, after a decision of a case between the United States and an importer in the circuit court of the United States for the southern district of New York, all the articles named in the following resolution were directed to be imported on payment of a duty of thirty-five per cent ad valorem: and

Preamble.

Whereas, the Secretary of the Treasury by letter of March twelfth, eighteen hundred and eighty, to the House of Representatives has communicated his purpose to revoke said circular, and subject said articles to the specific duty imposed by existing law on all band, hoop and scroll iron; and

Whereas, it is represented, that confiding in the said circular of the year eighteen hundred and seventy-eight parties have contracted for such articles to be imported under the duty of thirty-five per centum ad valorem, and it is right and proper to relieve them from the effect of the change of orders by the Secretary of the Treasury upon his construction of the existing law, but without intending to alter existing law, or to interpret by legislative act the effect thereof, leaving that to the judicial tribunals, except as to the special cases herein provided for: Therefore,

*Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That the Secretary of the Treasury be, and he is hereby authorized and directed to cause to be levied upon all articles under the designation of "cut hoops", "hoops cut to length", "hoops cut and punched", and "barrel hoops", the duty of thirty-five per centum ad valorem, which shall be shown to the satisfaction of the Secretary of the Treasury to have been ordered under bona fide and absolute contracts made and entered into prior to March twelfth, eighteen hundred and eighty, and which shall be imported from any foreign country into the United States, prior to the first day of January, eighteen hundred and eighty-one.

Contracts prior to March 12, 1880, for cut hoops, barrel hoops, &c., made subject to duty of 35 per cent. ad valorem.

And the amount of any duties in excess of thirty-five per centum ad valorem, paid since the twelfth day of March, eighteen hundred and eighty, upon any of the articles hereinbefore named, which shall be shown as aforesaid to have been imported under such contracts, shall be refunded to the parties entitled thereto out of any money in the Treasury, not otherwise appropriated.

Duties paid in excess of 35 per cent. ad valorem refunded.

Approved, June 14, 1880.