

the treaty cannot take effect until approved by a joint resolution of both Houses. Another amendment provides for a reduction of 40 per cent. from Cuban rates upon American cattle. A third amendment has reference to the 20 per cent. reduction from the Dingley rates upon Cuban sugar imported into the United States. It requires that no change be made in the American tariff on sugar from other countries so long as the Cuban treaty is in force. The latter amendment is supposed to have been injected by beet sugar interests.

As a consequence of these amendments, the treaty must be again ratified (p. 776) by the Cuban Senate; and on the 21st President Palma called it to meet in extra session for that purpose on the 24th. Upon convening, the Senate listened to a message from President Palma, in which he explained that he considered the treaty advantageous to Cuba, and that as the time for ratification would expire on March 31, he had felt obliged to call the special session in order to submit the amendments adopted by the American Senate. After discussion it was unanimously decided to submit the treaty to the committee on foreign relations, which will report on the 27th.

Over in Santo Domingo, the revolution that was suppressed last Fall (p. 472) has again broken out. Or, maybe it is a new one; for the news records are not very precise. At any rate reports of successful revolutionary operations under Gen. Zeno began to reach this country in February. These reports told of Zeno's capture of Guayubin, in the northwest, and of his advance upon Puerto Plata. A month having elapsed, the rebels were reported on the 23d to be in possession of San Domingo, the capital city, having gained this advantage after furious fighting. On the 24th quiet had been restored in the city and the rebels were in control of the government offices. Vague news of fighting at San Carlos was reported on the 24th.

Venezuela has been in the midst of another crisis. President Castro delivered his resignation to the president of the Venezuelan congress on the 21st. On the 22d the resignation came before that body, which by a unanimous vote refused to accept it

and requested Castro to reconsider it and remain in office. This he refused to do, but at the earnest solicitation of his political supporters he consented to deliver one more presidential message to the congress. His motives for resigning are not known and are the subject of many conjectures. In his message, however, delivered on the 23d, he seemed to intimate that he wished to deprive the revolutionists of their excuse for fighting, namely, that they objected to him as president. These are his words:

I now deliver my abdication in order that you may proceed legally to call on him who should take my place so that there may remain to no Venezuelan the slightest pretext for hostility to his country or for connivance with foreigners who, without any other right than their might, fell upon unfortunate Venezuela.

The revolutionary leader, Gen. Matos, lent color to this interpretation of Castro's resignation by cabling from Willemstad to the vice president of Venezuela as follows:

Gen. Castro has resigned the presidency. Considering that his being in power renders impossible all peace and prosperity in Venezuela, if Congress will accept his abdication I will promise you to use all my influence with the commanders of the revolutionary arms to put an immediate end to the war.

The matter was temporarily settled on the 25th. Congress having again refused to accept Castro's resignation, he addressed to that body a second message in which, after reciting the circumstances and stating his conviction that his resignation was necessary he withdrew it with this explanation:

I bow before the desire of Congress and resign myself to the new obligations imposed by my country, but only until the work of pacifying the nation shall be complete and order reestablished in the public administration. Remember it well, senators and deputies, I believe my separation necessary; you think otherwise. I hope the future will prove you right. Accept an expression of my supreme thanks for the generous demonstration of which you have made me the object.

The news of the withdrawal of the resignation was hailed with enthusiasm in Caracas.

Regarding the rebellion (p. 695) mentioned by Gen. Matos and alluded to by President Castro in his message, there has been no news since about the middle of the month, when two fragmentary reports were

received. One of these told of the defeat of a body of revolutionists under Gen. Riera at Coro prior to the 13th. The other told of another revolutionary defeat, this time at Carupano.

A remarkable address from American Negroes to the emperors and kings of the old world was made public at Cleveland on the 21st. It had been adopted at a secret session of the Equal Rights association at Cleveland on the 9th of February. This address is an appeal for foreign intervention in behalf of Afro-Americans in the United States, who are described in it as being—

brutally and barbarously maltreated and basely compelled, for no crime or misdemeanor, to suffer every indignity, cruelty and murder that inhuman, fiendish nature can invent, by some of those who once held the Afro-Americans in bondage and slavery, or the descendants of those who once held the Afro-Americans in slavery and bondage in the United States, and who still without cause harbor in their hearts a deadly hatred against the Afro-American race.

Becoming specific, the address asserts of Afro-Americans that from— one to five or more are either tortured, hung, shot or butchered and driven from their homes daily, while others are burnt to death at the stake. . . . And while the victims are writhing in pain in the fire, their ears, eyes and fingers are cut out and off for souvenirs, and pieces of their sizzling, frying and burning flesh are slashed from their burning bodies and are auctioned off to the highest bidder after this fashion, holding it up: 'Who wants a piece of nigger meat? Who wants a piece of nigger meat?' 'It is sold at 10 cents.' The heart is divided into quarters and is sold at 25 cents each.

For these atrocities the address asserts that there is no redress in their own country:

We have time and again pleaded and appealed to Presidents, to Congresses of the United States, to enforce the laws and to stop that inhuman wholesale murder, that discrimination and slaughter of an innocent people, but every plea and appeal has been ignored. Then comes the appeal to Europe for intervention:

We, therefore, now, in the name of God Almighty, do hereby appeal to the Powers of Europe and to every civilized nation of the old world, through their representatives at Washington, D. C., to interfere in some way in behalf of the poor, downtrodden, outraged Afro-