

COMMERCIAL RELATIONS WITH RESPECT TO CUBA AND PUERTO RICO

Agreement signed at Madrid January 2, 1884
Entered into force January 2, 1884
*Superseded by agreement of February 13, 1884*¹

23 Stat. 751; Treaty Series 336²

The Government of the United States of America and the Government of His Majesty the King of Spain, desiring to improve the commercial relations between said States and the Spanish Provinces of Cuba and Porto-Rico, John W. Foster, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of said Republic at Madrid, and His Excellency Servando Ruiz Gomez, His Catholic Majesty Minister of State, duly authorized by their respective Governments have agreed upon the following Articles:

ARTICLE 1^o

In virtue of the authorization given to the Spanish Government by Article 3 of the law of the 20th of July, 1882, the duties of the third column of the Customs Tariffs of Cuba and Porto-Rico, which implies the suppression of the differential flag duty, will at once be applied to the products of, and articles proceeding from, the United States of America.

ARTICLE 2^o

In consequence of this Agreement the Royal Order of the 13th March 1882, which imposes a special duty on live fish imported into Cuba under a foreign flag, is void for the United States.

ARTICLE 3^o

The Spanish Consular officers in the United States will cease to impose or collect tonnage fees on the cargoes of vessels leaving the ports of the United States for Cuba and Porto-Rico.

¹ TS 337, *post*, p. 573.

² Originally printed in the Treaty Series as an adjunct to TS 337.

ARTICLE 4 °

The Government of the said United States will remove the extra duty of ten per cent *ad valorem* which it has imposed on the products and articles proceeding from Cuba and Porto-Rico under the Spanish flag.

ARTICLE 5 °

Perfect equality of treatment between the said Spanish Provinces and the United States is established, thus removing all extra duties or discrimination not general as to other countries having the treatment of the most favored nation.

ARTICLE 6 °

The Custom Houses of the United States will furnish to the respective Spanish Consuls, whenever they may request them, certificates of the cargoes of sugar and tobacco brought in vessels proceeding from both the Spanish Antilles, stating the quantities of said articles received.

ARTICLE 7 °

The preceding stipulations shall go into effect both in the United States and in the Provinces of Cuba and Porto-Rico on the first day of March, 1884.

ARTICLE 8 °

Both Governments bind themselves to begin at once negotiation for a complete Treaty of Commerce and Navigation between the United States of America and the said Provinces of Cuba and Porto-Rico.

Executed in duplicate at Madrid on this Second day of January A.D. one thousand eight hundred and Eighty-four.

JOHN W. FOSTER [SEAL]
SERVANDO RUIS GOMEZ [SEAL]