

## COMMERCIAL RELATIONS WITH RESPECT TO CUBA AND PUERTO RICO

*Agreement signed at Madrid February 13, 1884*

*Entered into force February 13, 1884; operative March 1, 1884*

*Terminated April 14, 1903, by treaty of July 3, 1902*<sup>1</sup>

23 Stat. 750; Treaty Series 337

As the commercial agreement for the improvement of the mercantile relations between the United States of America and the islands of Cuba and Porto Rico, signed in this capital on the second day of January of the present year,<sup>2</sup> embraces, besides the stipulations which the Government of His Catholic Majesty may, in virtue of legal authorization, put into execution at once, others which require the examination and approbation of the legislative power, which on account of special circumstances is unable to deliberate upon them in proper time to put them in execution on the first day of March next, as agreed upon; the Government of the United States of America and the Government of His Majesty the King of Spain, and in their name John W. Foster, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of said Republic in Madrid, and His Excellency José Elduayen, Marques del Pazo de la Merced, Minister of State, duly authorized, have decided to modify the Commercial Agreement of the second of January last, and have agreed upon the following articles:

### ARTICLE 1

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 be applied to the products of, and articles proceeding from the United States of America.

### ARTICLE 2

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

<sup>1</sup> TS 422, *post*, p. 628.

<sup>2</sup> TS 336, *ante*, p. 571.

## ARTICLE 3

The customs-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 4

The preceding stipulations shall go into effect both in the United States of America and the Islands of Cuba and Porto Rico on the first day of March, 1884; and to this effect the Government of the United States of America and that of Spain will at once issue the proper orders.

Executed in duplicate in Madrid on this 13th February, one thousand eight hundred and eighty-four.

JOHN W. FOSTER [SEAL]  
J. ELDUAYEN [SEAL]

The Government of His Catholic Majesty will submit in due time to the deliberations of the Córtes, the suppression of the tonnage fees on merchandise at present paid on the cargoes of vessels leaving the ports of the United States for Cuba and Porto Rico, as well as the special duty which is imposed on live fish imported into Cuba under a foreign flag in accordance with the Royal Order of 13th of March, 1882.

Executed in duplicate in Madrid on this 13th February, one thousand eight hundred and eighty-four.

JOHN W. FOSTER  
J. ELDUAYEN