

ARBITRATION OF CLAIMS

Convention signed at Caracas April 25, 1866

Senate advice and consent to ratification July 5, 1866

Ratified by the President of the United States August 8, 1866

Ratifications exchanged at Caracas April 17, 1867

Entered into force April 17, 1867

Proclaimed by the President of the United States May 29, 1867

*Commission adjourned August 3, 1868*¹

*Convention revived and modified by convention of December 5, 1885*²

18 Stat. 806; Treaty Series 370

The conclusion of a convention similar to those entered into with other republics, and by which the pending American claims upon Venezuela might be referred for decision to a mixed commission and an umpire, having been proposed to the Venezuelan Government on behalf of the United States of America, as a means of examining and justly terminating such claims; and it having been thought that the adoption of the contemplated course will secure at least some of the advantages attending arbitration, so strongly recommended in article the 112th of the Federal Constitution of Venezuela, while it will preserve unimpaired, as reciprocally desired, the good understanding of both nations: The Citizen First Vice-President in charge of the Presidency has accepted the above proposal, and authorized the Minister for Foreign Relations to negotiate and sign the proper convention. Thereupon said Minister and Mr. E. D. Culver, Minister Resident of the United States of America, also duly empowered for that purpose, have agreed upon the following articles of convention:

ARTICLE I

All claims on the part of corporations, companies, or individuals, citizens of the United States, upon the Government of Venezuela, which may have been presented to their Government, or to its legation in Caracas, shall be submitted for examination and decision to a mixed commission, consisting of two members, one of whom shall be appointed by the Government of the United States, and the other by that of Venezuela. In case of death, absence, resignation, or incapacity of either of the Commissioners, or in the event of either of them omitting or ceasing to act, the Government of the United

¹ The Mixed Commission met at Caracas Aug. 30, 1867, and adjourned Aug. 3, 1868, awarding claims totaling \$1,253,310.30 to the United States (II Malloy 1858).

² TS 371, *post*, p. 1085.