

COMMERCIAL RELATIONS WITH RESPECT TO CUBA AND PUERTO RICO

Memorandum of agreement signed at Washington October 27, 1886

Entered into force October 27, 1886

*Terminated April 14, 1903, by treaty of July 3, 1902*¹

Treaty Series 338

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE GOVERNMENT OF SPAIN FOR THE RECIPROCAL AND COMPLETE SUSPENSION OF ALL DISCRIMINATING DUTIES OF TONNAGE OR IMPOSTS IN THE UNITED STATES AND IN THE ISLANDS OF CUBA AND PORTO RICO UPON VESSELS OF THE RESPECTIVE COUNTRIES AND THEIR CARGOES

First: It is positively understood that from this date an absolute equalization of tonnage and impost duties will at once be applied to the products of and articles proceeding from the United States or from any foreign country in vessels owned by citizens of the United States to the Islands of Cuba and Porto Rico, and that no higher or other impost or tonnage duties will be levied upon such vessels and the merchandise carried in them as aforesaid than are imposed upon Spanish vessels and their cargoes under the same circumstances.

Under the above conditions the President of the United States will at once issue his proclamation² declaring that the foreign discriminating duties of tonnage and imposts within the United States are suspended and discontinued so far as respects Spanish vessels and the produce, manufactures or merchandise imported in them into the United States from Spain or her possessions aforesaid or from any foreign country.

This Memorandum of Agreement is offered by the Government of Spain and accepted by the Government of the United States as a full and satisfactory notification of the facts above recited.

Secondly: The United States Minister at Madrid will be authorized to negotiate with the Minister for Foreign Affairs either by an Agreement or treaty, so as to place the commercial relations between the United States and Spain on a permanent footing advantageous to both countries.

¹ TS 422, *post*, p. 628.

² Oct. 27, 1886; 24 Stat. 1030.