

THE CUBANS WERE WARNED

Advised by Secretary Root Their
Action Would Be Rejected.

DECISION IS IRREVOCABLE

Message Prepared for Gen. Wood to be
Communicated by Him to Con-
stitutional Convention.

Special to The New York Times.

WASHINGTON, June 1.—To-day's developments in the Cuban situation seem to show beyond doubt that the Cubans were advised before the vote was taken on the Platt amendment of the views of the Administration on that question and must have been aware that the action they took would meet with instant rejection.

On Tuesday Gen. Wood, learning the general nature of the appendix to the Constitution, telegraphed what he had ascertained to Secretary Root. As there was no time to communicate with the President and a vote was about to be taken, Secretary Root telegraphed to Gen. Wood to inform the convention that the action described would not be acceptable to the United States, and would not be regarded as a compliance with the law passed by Congress. This information appears to have reached Gen. Wood in time to be communicated to the convention or to the committee, and undoubtedly was communicated. In spite of it, the appendix was adopted in the same shape as that in which Mr. Root declared it would not be accepted by the United States.

At the Cabinet meeting yesterday Secretary Root reported his action, and it was fully indorsed by the President and the other members of the Cabinet. These facts explain why the Cabinet took such a decided stand, and why there was so much strong talk yesterday about the uselessness of mincing matters further with the Cubans. It also tends to throw some discredit upon the reports from Havana to the effect that the Cubans are surprised that the appendix is not satisfactory to President McKinley.

The talk among all the officials, Congressmen included, who have anything to do with the matter is to the effect that the present attitude of the Administration is irrevocable. A request for further explanations would probably be refused on the ground that when explanations are given to the Cubans they try to use them as amendments to American laws. The only power which can alter the Platt amendment to suit the Cubans is Congress, and it is certain that if Congress ever alters the Platt amendment it will be by substituting something stronger. It is hoped, however, that the matter will not go over until the reassembling of Congress, but that the Cubans themselves will see the advisability of complying with the Platt amendment.

Secretary Root was with the President for about an hour and a half to-day, discussing with him the cablegram which has been prepared to be sent to Gen. Wood at Havana. This message will be forwarded to Gen. Wood with the idea of having him communicate it to the Constitutional Convention. It will not be made public at this time, and probably not until the convention takes action. Secretary Root has received no official copy of the Cuban Constitution as adopted, the copy received being furnished by Gen. Wood, and consequently the action taken now is considered of the same unofficial character.