

RELATIONS OF BRAZIL AND PORTUGAL

Explanation of the Events Resulting in the Recall of De Paraty.

RIO DE JANEIRO, May 19.—Referring to the severing of the diplomatic relations between Brazil and Portugal, the recent address to the Chamber of Deputies gives the following information:

“On the 2d of April the Portuguese Minister, Conde de Paraty, sent a note to the Brazilian Foreign Minister informing him that instructions had been issued by his Government to insure the disembarking of the rebels who had sought refuge on board the two Portuguese cruisers in Portuguese territory as soon as possible. This note was not replied to, as the President of Brazil judged it necessary to await the outcome of the new situation created by the two cruisers making for the River Plate.

“While there 254 of the insurgents, including Saldanha himself, escaped out of the 493 which had been conveyed South. Thus, notwithstanding the assurances given by the Conde and his Government, exactly what had been expected by Peixoto occurred, and the rebels, once ashore, were in a position to join their allies in Rio Grande do Sul.

“This, Peixoto thinks, aggravated the fact of asylum having been granted where there existed no right for doing so. Anyway, he thinks that, once having taken them aboard, measures should have been taken to prevent their escaping.

“Peixoto claimed the restitution of the rebels, but he says he did not delude himself with the expectation of a favorable answer; so he afterward proposed that the Portuguese Government should declare that it did not approve the action of the commander of its naval force.

“This not being replied to, he considers that the Portuguese Government assumed the responsibility for the action of its commanders. True, both were demitted from their posts, but this in no way diminishes the responsibility of the Portuguese Government; therefore it is compelled to answer personally.

“In view of no notice being taken by the Portuguese Government of the claims, he is compelled to sever the relations existing between the two countries, and he delivers the necessary passports to the Conde de Paraty, at the same time cabling the Brazilian representative at Lisbon to withdraw.”

Regarding the Portuguese question, very little has been done, though the British Minister has the affair in hand. A cable has been received here from Lisbon stating that 148 rebel officers and men that found refuge aboard the Portuguese corvettes in this harbor had been landed and distributed in Peniche and Caxias.

Saldanha da Gama has sailed for Barcelona, and it is now reported that the “Comite” in Buenos Ayres have resolved to recall him.

Mello is stated to be completely deserted by all of his former partisans, who attribute the failure of the revolution to his gross mismanagement.