

DOCUMENT 46 – RESOLUTION TO RECOGNIZE THE CUBAN PATRIOTS AS BELLIGERENTS

February 22, 1896

TRANSCRIPTION

Chicago, Feb'y ²²~~17~~th, 1896.

“Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty”

That liberty is bought at the price of blood, there is no doubt; that our forefathers paid the price, there is no doubt; that from the Battle of Bunker Hill to Cornwallis's surrender at Yorktown, Liberty was bought at the sacrifice of life, blood and treasure; that France rendered aid and assistance, and recognition as well, at a very critical moment, there is no doubt; that America should recognize the heroic efforts of the Cuban Patriots, who have bravely defied the foes of liberty, on the field of battle, for one year or more, there ought not to be any doubt; that America should materially aid any down-trodden people, on this Western Hemisphere, who bravely tries to throw off the yoke of thralldom, and establish a Republic such as the Cuban Patriots are now trying to do, there should be no question or doubt; and now

~~And now,~~ whereas, It has come within the range of our knowledge that a great Cromwellian butcher, named General Weyler, has arrived in this Western Hemisphere from Europe, and has assumed the title of Govenor and Captain General of the Island of Cuba, Generalissimo of the Army, etc
~~&c,~~ and

Whereas, The said General Weyler, has, through his career in the past, earned for himself the unenviable reputation of being a first-class man-killer, and his proclamations already issued demonstrate the fact that he is now on his onward march of human butchery and carnage;

Be it now therefore Resolved, That the Common Council of the City of Chicago in meeting assembled do request the Congressmen of Chicago, and all others throughout the State of Illinois as well, to sup-

port or introduce any measure brought up in Congress for the purpose of recognizing the Cuban Patriots as belligerents, and that their flag of truce be also recognized

RESOLVED That the City Clerk be instructed to send a copy of the foregoing preamble and resolutions to our members in Congress.

Respectfully submitted by

Maurice M. O'Connor

Alderman of the 17th Ward.