# THE EVENING TIMES.

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ST. JOHN, N. B., TUESDAY, MARCH 28, 1905.

PEACE PROPOSALS.

ONE CENT.

### PRES. CASTRO IS DEFIANT.

Says There Is No Reason For United States Interference---Movements Of Rebels---History Of Venezuelan Troubles.

New York, March 28.—A despatch from Caracas, dated Monday, to the Herald says that President Castro states that there is no ground for complaint against Venezuela and no reason for intervention, such as Mr. Bowen pretends. He says the attacks of the American press against Venezuela and its government, indicate complete ignorance of the facts concerning the debts of Venezuela, and the settlements thereof. The debts are relatively small, the whole amount not exceeding 150,000,000 bolivars (\$30,000,000.) All these debts have been punctually paid since the protocols were signed. Nearly five million bolivars, (\$1,000,000), were peremptorily claimed by Germany, England and Italy and were paid. Since then 10,000,000 bolivars (\$2,200,000), have also been paid. The other (exterior) debts held in England and Germany are, according to the provisions of the protocole, being settled between the bond-

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## THE REAL CAUSE OF WAR SET FORTH.

e care to return them in good condition as

The Exact Text of Russia's Final Reply to Japan on Feb. 3 1904, Which Led to the Outbreak of Hostilities.

Paris, Mar. 28:—The Associated Press is in a position to complete the diplomatic history of the Russo-Japanese relations resulting in the war, by giving to the world the exact text of Russia's final reply to Japan, dated Feb. 3, 1904, which has never been published. Baron Rosen, former Russian minister to Japan, did not have an opportunity of presenting the note to Baron Komura, Japanese foreign minister, as it was not delivered to him until February 7, the day after he had been informed of the rupture.

Russia has always claimed that the Japanese government, having decided to break off negotiations and begin hostilities, deliberately held up the message at Tokio until M. Kurino, former Japanese minister at St. Petersburg could deliver the instructions sent him February 5 to sever diplomatic relations.

Japanese, on the contrary, contended that the contents of the reply having been substantially communicated by Foreign minister Lamsdorff