

Pudding of maize flour is 2½d. When sugar and cocoa are present the proportion of each duty is levied.

Rice, whole and cleaned, pays 5d. cwt.; when whole not more than 50 per cent., 4d.; and when not more than 10 per cent., 3d.; uncleaned rice, 3d.

Rice meal is usually imported as offals for cattle at 1½d., but no broken rice must be mixed with the meal.

Rice shudes are free.

Rye, 3d. cwt.

Remoulage, or bean offals, 1½d.

Seeds, like sweet pea, are taxed 3d. The Government botanist determines whether imported seeds are dutiable "grain" or otherwise.

Screenings, broken wheat and tares, pay on percentage of wheat at 3d.

Size or dextrine pays duty as a preparation of starch at 5d. on percentage used in manufacture.

Ships sweepings and warehouse sweepings pay tax as grain.

Starch is liable to the 5d. duty when no husk is shown by microscope. Starch from potatoes is also dutiable although potatoes are free.

Tares, urhur peas and vetches are free.

Wheat pays 3d. cwt.

Wheat germ meal for making brown bread, is charged the meal duty of 5d., because it is not used as an offal for feeding cattle.

Wheat middlings pay 1½d. as offals.

Wheat screenings, 3d. on percentage of broken wheat present.

Wheat offal, when containing less than 50 per cent. of starch, 1½d.

Yeast, free.

#### VENEZUELA.

A few years ago, Grover Cleveland, president of the United States, fanned up a little breeze in a matter in which Great Britain and Venezuela were the parties most directly interested. Thanks to the better judgment and forbearance of Great Britain no bloodshed resulted, but the incident left the impression upon the minds of the people of the pugnacious and quarrelsome South American Republic that it could twist the tail of the British lion with impunity, and, more than that, could treat Germany in the same manner. They have tried it, and are finding out that they have reached a point where forbearance has ceased to be a virtue. Another man is now president of the United States, and that country is now looking on—a mere spectator—at the threshing Venezuela is receiving at the hands of those whom she has so seriously offended.

The forbearance that more highly civilized nations have been showing to the effete republics of South America is phenomenal, and has lasted longer than might have been expected; and we can only look with amazement upon the foolishness of Venezuela, which is a fair representation of the other states, in deliberately ignoring the protests that had been made to her by Great Britain and Germany, and plunging into a war that can have but one ending. She was notified by the United States that no Monroe doctrine interference would be made in her behalf, but President Castro evidently believes, or hopes, that the spirit of Grover Cleveland still inhabits the White House at Washington. Poor fool, he is reaping the whirlwind resulting from Mr. Cleveland's little breeze.

Reference to the tergiversations of Venezuelan government in the past few years shows the mercurial temperament of the people. In 1858 the republic adopted a new constitution, and

in the same year enjoyed a revolution. Jose Castro was elected president in March of that year, and held office until August, 1859, when, through the revolution, he was succeeded by Pedro Gera. This latter patriot kept himself in office until 1861, when he was revolut out, and Jose Paaz revolut in, where he remained until June, 1863, when he was revolut out and Juan Falcon revolut in, where he remained but a few months, when a rival government was instituted at Puerto Cabello under General Cordero. Another revolution in 1865 brought General Falcon to the front as president, but he in turn, after three months of turmoil, was driven out of the country. In 1870 General Blanco fought his way to the presidential chair, or, as might be more correctly stated, to the throne of a dictator. Between 1870 and 1899 Venezuela suffered under the rule of eight so-called presidents. In this latter year Senor Palarzio was elected president, but before the expiration of the year he was revolut out by General Crispo. One of the usual revolutions was in activity in 1894 in which the rebel forces were victorious, as a result of which a gang of adventurers obtained power, one of the outcomes of which were the infringements upon the rights of resident Britishers, Germans and Frenchmen, for which the country now finds its navy captured and its soil invaded by hostile foes.

Referring to the claims against Venezuela, which Great Britain and Germany are employing such strident means to collect, the Pittsburg Gazette alludes to the fact that there is only a hazy notion in the public mind, perhaps, of the nature of the claims that have caused Great Britain and Germany to engage in what is really a war with Venezuela, and a word of explanation is, therefore, proper at this time. The moneys due, about which all the trouble has occurred, are not owed to the British and German governments, but to citizens, or subjects of Great Britain and Germany, who invested their money under specific guarantees of the Venezuelan government in railways and other enterprises for the development of the country, and who also made a loan to the government amounting to \$10,000,000 on which no interest has been paid for four years. The British and German governments have taken up these claims on behalf of their citizens, and after failures to arrange for payment or any terms of settlement, determined to collect them forcibly by seizing ports of entry and collecting and appropriating the customs revenue to payment of the debt. There may be objection to this procedure on the part of persons who see in it an invasion of the sovereignty of a state that has been racked by revolution, and there is a great deal that could be said on that phase of the question. But will, in the end, be a good thing for the people of Venezuela to be brought face to face with their responsibilities in this rude manner. It may cure them of the habit of revolution, in which they have indulged for a long term of years, to their own hurt and to the injury of all who have dealings with them. Castro is an offender himself in that he came into power by means of revolution; and Venezuela has suffered ever since because of others who have been fired by his example to endeavor to succeed him by similar means. Through the later revolutionary period obligations to German and British investors have been evaded and revolution offered as an excuse, and there is little doubt that the claims would have been in time repudiated in whole or in part, or permitted by the Venezuelan government to lapse, had not force been used as a last resort. If the claims of the people of one nation could be gotten rid of in this way other investors would have no guarantee worth the paper it was written on. Present investments would, therefore, be