

States and Great Britain, France, and Spain were referred to commissioners, by whose award the parties agreed to abide. Several cases of arbitration occurred before 1812, when came the war with Great Britain to decide a question which after the war was still undecided; for the Treaty of Ghent said not a word about the right of impressment, though it provided that certain claims existing before the war, together with some questions of boundary, should be referred to different boards of commissioners. Though the United States were thus enabled to settle some disputes, yet all the friends of peace were not satisfied. By the efforts of Noah Worcester, William Ellery Channing, William Ladd, and others like them, the idea contained in the letter of Samuel Adams was kept before the people.

In 1828 several small societies united to form the American Peace Society. The members of this society desired to bring about a Congress of Nations, to which all differences between nations should be referred. As they did not expect to accomplish this general congress at first, they laboured to induce the government to settle each particular difficulty, as it arose, by arbitration. To give legislative sanction to their endeavours they petitioned Congress; and in the session of 1837-38, Mr. Legaré reported from the Committee on Foreign Affairs in the House of Representatives, "recommending the reference to a third power of all such controversies as can safely be confided to any tribunal unknown to the constitution of our country. Such a practice will be followed by other powers, and will soon grow up into the customary law of civilised nation."

PEACE CONGRESS.

But not alone in the United States were the advocates of peace at work. A Peace Society had been formed in London in 1816; similar societies afterwards came into existence in France and Germany, and the representatives of these and other societies held a Peace Congress at Brussels in 1848.

The following resolution was passed by this Congress:—

"It is of the utmost importance to urge upon the different governments of Europe and America the necessity of introducing into all international treaties an arbitration clause, by which war shall be avoided in the settlement of disputes." In this resolution we have embodied what is known as stipulated arbitration. Mr. Cobden wrote to the President of this meeting, "I