

1815 by the Congress of Vienna, and the newly-established kingdom of the United Netherlands was declared neutral by the Powers party to that Treaty. This arrangement, which neglected all the sentiments of language and religion and the traditional hostility of the Belgians and Dutch, was destined to fail, as all artificial attempts to work out a mathematical balance of forces among the nations must, and in 1830 a revolution broke out in Belgium. The Dutch were expelled, the Powers which had established the new kingdom in 1815 met in conference, and, after lengthy and dangerous delays, they were able to solve in a peaceful way, under circumstances peculiarly difficult, a singularly complicated problem. The kingdom of Belgium was established, it was to form an independent and perpetually neutral State, it was bound to observe such neutrality towards all other States (Art. 7). This was provided by the Treaty of London of 1831, and finally ratified by the Treaty of London of 1839, to which Great Britain, France, Austria, Prussia, and Russia were parties. The object of the Powers first in creating the United Netherlands, then in creating the kingdom of Belgium, and again, in 1867, in neutralizing the Grand Duchy of Luxemburg, was to provide for the continued existence of these small States as buffers between adjacent Great Powers which, apart from such guarantee, might be tempted to acts of aggression against them to the detriment of the peace of Europe. The neutralization of Belgium was undoubtedly inspired by the fear which Europe had of seeing Belgium united with France, to the detriment of the balance of power.

There is, I venture to think, considerable misunderstanding of the meaning of this expression, and it is associated in some minds with 'an accompanying