

1814

**TREATY OF PEACE AND AMITY, BETWEEN HIS BRITANNIC
MAJESTY AND THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.¹**

SIGNED AT GHENT, THE 24TH DECEMBER, 1814.

(Ratifications exchanged 17 February, 1815.)

His Britannic Majesty and The United States of America, desirous of terminating the War which has unhappily subsisted between the two Countries, and of restoring, upon principles of perfect reciprocity, peace, friendship, and good understanding between them, have for that purpose appointed their respective Plenipotentiaries, that is to say:

His Britannic Majesty, on his part, has appointed the Right Hon. James Lord Gambier, late Admiral of the White, now Admiral of the Red Squadron of His Majesty's fleet; Henry Goulburn, Esquire, a member of the Imperial Parliament, and Under Secretary of State; and William Adams, Esquire, Doctor of Civil Laws;

And the President of the United States, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate thereof, has appointed John Quincy Adams, James A. Bayard, Henry Clay, Jonathan Russell, and Albert Gallatin, citizens of the United States;

Who, after a reciprocal communication of their respective Full Powers, have agreed upon the following Articles:

Article I. There shall be a firm and universal Peace between His Britannic Majesty and the United States, and between their respective Countries, Territories, Cities, Towns and People of every degree, without exception of Places or Persons. All hostilities, both by sea and land, shall cease as soon as this Treaty shall have been ratified by both parties, as hereinafter mentioned. All Territory, Places and Possessions whatsoever taken by either party from the other during the War, or which may be taken after the signing of this Treaty, excepting only the Islands hereinafter mentioned, shall be restored without delay, and without causing any destruction, or carrying away any of the Artillery or other public property originally captured in the said Forts or Places, and which shall remain therein upon

¹ From British & Foreign State Papers, Vol. 2, p. 357.