

a friendly or neutral State, when from its position and resources it is capable of being made use of to dangerous effect by an enemy, when there is a known intention on his part so to make use of it, and when, if he is not forestalled, it is almost certain that he will succeed, either through the helplessness of the country or by means of intrigues with a party within it.<sup>1</sup> Grotius, also, the founder of the science of modern International Law, allows the occupation of neutral territory in certain cases under his law of necessity.

Hall, however, to illustrate his proposition, discusses the British operations against Denmark, and the bombardment of Copenhagen, in 1807.

Can these violations of Luxemburg and Belgium be in any degree compared with the British action in 1807? In July 1807 Canning received information that, by secret articles of the Treaty of Tilsit, Denmark, Sweden, and Portugal were to be compelled by France and Russia to join in the war against Great Britain, thereby largely increasing the French fleet. Napoleon was in great need of ships for his proposed invasion of England. Denmark was certainly powerless to resist the demands of France, the possession of her fleet would have been of the greatest assistance to Napoleon, and would have provided him with the means of making a descent on the British coasts. Such were the facts which came to Canning's knowledge, and it was evident to his Government that Napoleon had to be forestalled. He therefore instructed his agent to demand from Denmark an explanation of their policy, a treaty of alliance with Great Britain, and the deposit of the Danish fleet. Denmark was offered the most solemn pledge that if the British demand was

<sup>1</sup> *International Law* (fifth edition), p. 272.