

**TREATY OF FRIENDSHIP, COMMERCE, AND RECIPROCAL  
ESTABLISHMENT BETWEEN GREAT BRITAIN  
AND SWITZERLAND**

*Signed at Berne, September 6, 1855\**

Her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and the Swiss Confederation, being animated with the desire to maintain and strengthen the ties of friendship which happily subsist between the two countries, and to promote by every means in their power the commercial relations between their respective subjects and citizens, have resolved to conclude a Treaty of Friendship, Commerce, and reciprocal Establishment, and have for that purpose named as their Plenipotentiaries, that is to say:

Her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, George John Robert Gordon, Esquire, Her Minister Plenipotentiary to the Swiss Confederation;

And the Federal Council of the Swiss Confederation, Jonas Furrer, Doctor of Laws, President of the Swiss Confederation; and Frederick Frey Herosee, Federal Colonel, Member of the Swiss Federal Council;

Who, after having communicated to each other their respective full powers, found in good and due form, have agreed upon and concluded the following Articles:

Art. I. The subjects of Her Britannic Majesty shall be admitted to reside in each of the Swiss Cantons on the same conditions, and on the same footing, as citizens of the other Swiss Cantons. In the same manner, Swiss citizens shall be admitted to reside in all the territories of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland on the same conditions, and on the same footing, as British subjects.

Consequently, the subjects and citizens of either of the two Contracting Parties shall, provided they conform to the laws of the country, be at liberty, with their families, to enter, establish themselves, reside, and remain in any part of the territories of the other. They may hire and occupy houses and warehouses for the purposes of residence and commerce, and may exercise, conformably to the laws of the country, any profession or business, or carry on trade in articles of lawful commerce by wholesale or retail, and may conduct such trade either in person or by any brokers or agents whom they may think fit to employ, provided such brokers or agents shall themselves also fulfil the conditions necessary for being admitted to reside in the country. They shall not be subject to any taxes, charges, or conditions, in respect of residence, establishment, passports, licences to reside, establish themselves, or to trade, or in respect of permission to exercise their profession, business, trade, or occupation, greater or more onerous than those which are or may be imposed upon the subjects or citizens of the country in which they reside; and they shall, in all these respects, enjoy every right, privilege, and exemption which is, or may be, accorded to subjects or citizens of the country, or to subjects or citizens of the most favoured nation.

II. The subjects or citizens of either of the two Contracting Parties residing or established in the territories of the other, who may wish to return to their country, or who may be sent back thither by a judicial sentence, by a

\*Ratifications were exchanged at Berne, March 6, 1856.