

sen which this town was visited, sent a liberal sum of money to be applied in relieving distress among the poor, and others who had acquired no claim upon this community for assistance.

The Speaker and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly, the public accounts have been made up, in the month of September, but as I conceive it will be more seasonable to you to have the accounts of the whole year before you, I have ordered them to be continued to the 31st of December.

I trust that you will find the supplies granted to His Majesty last year have been faithfully applied. I have desired that an account of the expenses attending the Chelsea Hospital, for the year 1834, be submitted to you, I have no doubt but that the expenditure incurred you will readily sanction. I have also desired that the estimates for the year may be submitted to you, they are presented with the utmost attention to all necessary and useful economy.

Mr. Speaker and Members of the Council, My most anxious and earnest desire, and the first object of my solicitation, is to be useful to the Province, to cooperate with you in every measure to promote the public good; to have the benefit of your advice and experience, in correcting any abuses that may be found to exist, and to possess your confidence in support of my administration; and I am confident that the Legislature of New-Scotland, may continue to be distinguished for unanimity in its councils, for liberality in its proceedings, and for loyalty and attachment to His Majesty's Person and Government.

UNITED STATES.

EXTRACTS FROM THE

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE TO CONGRESS.

Fellow Citizens of the Senate,
and House of Representatives:

In performing my duty at the opening of your present session, it gives me pleasure to congratulate you again upon the prosperous condition of our beloved country. Divine Providence has favored us with general health, with rich rewards in the fields of agriculture and in every branch of labor, and with peace to cultivate and extend the various resources which employ the virtue and enterprise of our citizens. Let us trust that in surveying a scene so flattering to our free institutions, our joint deliberations to proscribe actions may be crowned with success.

Our foreign relations continue with but few exceptions, to maintain the favorable aspect which they have in my last annual message, and promise to extend those advantages which the principles that regulate our intercourse with other nations so regularly calculated to secure.

The question of the northeastern boundary is still pending with Great Britain, and the proposition made in accordance with the resolution of the Senate for the establishment of a line according to the treaty of 1783, has not been accepted by that government. Believing that every disposition is felt on both sides to adjust this perplexing question to the satisfaction of all the parties interested in it, I hope it is yet undisturbed that it may be effected on the basis of that proposition.

With the governments of Austria, Russia, Prussia, Holland, Sweden and Denmark, the best understandings exist. Commerce, with all its fostered and protected by reciprocal good will, under the sanction of liberal conventional or legal provisions.

In the midst of her internal difficulties the Queen of Spain has ratified the Convention for the payment of the claims of our citizens arising since 1819. It is in the course of execution on her part, and a copy of it is now laid before you for such legislation as may be found necessary to enable those interested to derive the benefit of it.

Yielding to the force of circumstances, and to the wise counsels of time and experience, that power has finally resolved no longer to occupy the unnatural position in which she stood to the new governments established in this hemisphere. I have the great satisfaction of stating to you that in preparing the way for the restoration of harmony between those who have sprung from the same ancestors, who are allied by common interests, profess the same religion, and speak the same language, the U. States have been actively instrumental.—Our efforts to effect this good work will be persevered in while they are deemed useful to the parties, and our entire disinterestedness continues to be felt and understood.

Internal tranquility is happily restored to Portugal. The distressed state of the country rendered unavoidable the postponement of a final payment of the just claims of our citizens. Our diplomatic relations will be soon resumed, and the long subsisting friendship with that power affords the strongest guarantee that the balance due will receive prompt attention.

The first instalment due under the convention of indemnity with the King of the Two Sicilies, has been duly received, and an offer been made to relinquish the whole by a prompt payment—an offer I did not consider myself authorized to accept, as the satisfaction provided is the exclusive property of individual citizens of the United States.

In consideration of this stipulation, which shall be binding on the United States for ten years, the French Government abandons the reclamations which it had formulated in relation to the article of the treaty of session of Louisiana. It engages, moreover, to establish on the long staple cereals of the United States, which, after the exchange of the ratifications of the present convention, shall be brought directly to France by the vessels of the United States, and by French vessels, the same duties as on short staple cereals.

This treaty was duly ratified in the manner prescribed by the constitutions of both countries and the ratification was exchanged at the city of Washington on the 24th of February, 1825. On account of its commercial stipulations it was, in five days thereafter laid before the Congress of the United States, which proceeded to enact such laws favorable to the commerce of France as were necessary to carry it into full execution; and France has, from that period to the present, been in the uninterrupted enjoyment of the valuable privileges that were thus secured to her, in the faith of the French nation having been thus solemnly pledged, through its constitutional organ, for the liquidation and ultimate payment of the long deferred claims of our citizens, as also for the adjustment of other points of great and reciprocal benefit to both countries, and the United States having with a fidelity and promptitude by which their conduct will I trust, be always characterized, done every thing that was necessary to carry the treaty into full and fair effect on their part, consistent with the most perfect confidence, and equal fidelity and promptitude on the part of the French Government. In this reasonable expectation we have been, I regret to inform you, wholly disappointed. No legislative provision has been made by France for the execution of the treaty, either as it respects the indemnity to be paid, or the commercial benefits to be secured to the United States, and the relations between the United States and that power, in consequence thereof, are placed in a situation threatening to interrupt the good understanding which has so long and so happily existed between the two nations.

Not only has the French Government been thus wanting in the performance of the stipulations it has so solemnly entered into with the United States, but its omissions have been marked by circumstances which would seem to leave without satisfactory evidence, that such performance will certainly take place at a future period.—Advice of the exchange of ratifications reached Paris prior to the 31st April, 1825. The French Chambers were then sitting and continued in session until the 21st of the month, and although one instalment of the indemnity was payable on the 21st of February, 1825, one year after the exchange of ratifications, no application was made to the Chambers for the required appropriation, and in consequence of no appropriation having then been

made, the draft of the United States Government for that instalment was disallowed by the Minister of Finance, and the United States thereby involved in much controversy. The next session of the Chambers commenced on the 13th April, 1825, and continued until the 24th April, 1825. Notwithstanding the omission to pay the first instalment had been made the subject of earnest remonstrance on our part, the treaty with the United States, and a bill making the necessary appropriations to execute were not introduced until the 21st April, and only introduced a few days before the close of the session. The bill was read and referred to a Committee, but there was no further action upon it.—The next session of the Chambers commenced on the 21st of April, 1826, and continued until the 11th June, 1826. A new bill was introduced on the 11th of June, but nothing important was done in relation to it during the session. In the month of April, 1827, nearly three years after the signature of the treaty, the final account of the French Chamber, upon the bill to carry the treaty into effect, was introduced, and resulted in a refusal of the necessary appropriations. The account was chiefly acquiesced in by the different branches of the French Government, whose action upon the treaty was required, since a sincere desire to avoid further collision upon this old and disturbing subject, and the constant expectation that the general relations between the two countries would be improved thereby.

The refusal to vote the appropriation, the news of which was received from our Minister at Paris, about the 15th day of May last, might have been considered the termination of the French Government's efforts to execute the stipulations of the treaty, and would have justified an immediate communication of the facts to Congress, with a recommendation of such ultimate measures as the interest and honor of the United States might seem to require. But with the news of the refusal of the Chamber to make the appropriations there conversed the Treaty of Commerce, a declaration that a national vessel should be forthwith sent out, with instructions to the French Minister to give the most ample explanations of the past, and strongest assurances for the future. After a long passage, the proposed dispatch vessel arrived.

The vessel, the French Minister, upon receipt of the instructions, was that as soon after the departure of the new members as the Chamber would permit, the Legislative Chamber of France should be called together, and the proposition for an appropriation laid before them; that all the constitutional authorities be convened by order of the King, to accomplish the object; and that the result shall be made known early enough to be communicated to Congress at the commencement of the present Session. Relying upon these pledges, and not doubting that the acknowledged justice of our claims, the promised aid of the King of the Two Sicilies, and the sacred regard for the national faith and honor, by which the French character has been so distinguished, would secure an early execution of the treaty in all its parts, I did not deem it necessary to call the attention of Congress to the subject at the last session.

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The executive branch of this government has, on its part, failed to execute the authority upon the subject with which it is invested, and which it had every reason to believe could be beneficially employed. The idea of acquiescing in the refusal to execute the treaty will, I am confident, be for a moment entertained by no branch of this government; and further negotiation is equally out of the question.

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It is undoubtedly in the power of Congress seriously to affect the agricultural and manufacturing interests of France, by the passage of laws relating to her trade with the United States.—Her products, manufactures, and tonnage may be subjected to heavy duties in our ports, or all commercial intercourse with her may be suspended. But there are powerful, and to my mind, conclusive objections to this mode of proceeding. We cannot embarrass or cut off the trade of France, without, at the same time in some degree, embarrassing or cutting off our own trade. The injury of such a warfare must fall, though unevenly, upon our own citizens, and could not but impair the means of our government, and weaken that united sentiment in support of the rights and honor of the nation, which must now pervade every heart.

Not is it impossible that such a course of legislation would introduce once more into our national councils, those disturbing questions in relation to the tariff of duties which have so recently been put to rest. Besides, every measure adopted by the Government of the United States with the view of injuring France, the clear perception of right which will induce our own people, and the rulers and people of all other nations, even of France herself, to pronounce our quarrel just, will be observed, and the support rendered to us in a final resort to arms, decisive measures, will be more limited and equivocal. There is but one point in the controversy, and upon that the whole civilized world must pronounce France to be in the wrong. We must she shall pay in a moment.

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Deeply sensible of the injurious effects resulting from the state of things upon the interests and character of both nations, I regard it as among my first duties to cause one more effort to be made to satisfy France, that a just and liberal settlement of our claims may be made in her own honor, as to their incontestable validity. The negotiations for this purpose were commenced with the late Government of France, and were presented with such success, as to leave no reasonable ground to doubt, that a settlement of a character quite as liberal as that which was subsequently made, would have been effected, had not the resolution, by which the present Government was taken place. The discussions were resumed with the present Government, and the result showed, that we were not wrong in supposing, that an event by which the two governments were made to approach each other as much nearer in their political principles, and by which the motives for the liberal and friendly intercourse were so greatly multiplied, could exist, no other than a salutary influence upon the negotiation. A letter the most dispassionate and thorough examination of the whole subject, a treaty between the two Governments was concluded and signed at Paris on the 15th of July, 1825. It was stipulated that "the French Government, in order to insure the execution of the stipulations therein contained, shall be bound to make known early enough to be communicated to Congress at the commencement of the present Session."

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The history of the unqualified and unprovoked aggressions upon our commerce, committed by the army of the existing Government of France, between the years 1823 and 1827, has been rendered too painfully familiar to Americans to make its repetition either necessary or desirable. It will be sufficient here to remark, that there has, for many years, been scarcely a single administration of the French Government by which the justice and legality of the claims of our citizens to indemnity, were not, to a very considerable extent, admitted; and yet near a quarter of a century has been wasted in fruitless negotiations to secure it.

Deeply sensible of the injurious effects resulting from the state of things upon the interests and character of both nations, I regard it as among my first duties to cause one more effort to be made to satisfy France, that a just and liberal settlement of our claims may be made in her own honor, as to their incontestable validity. The negotiations for this purpose were commenced with the late Government of France, and were presented with such success, as to leave no reasonable ground to doubt, that a settlement of a character quite as liberal as that which was subsequently made, would have been effected, had not the resolution, by which the present Government was taken place. The discussions were resumed with the present Government, and the result showed, that we were not wrong in supposing, that an event by which the two governments were made to approach each other as much nearer in their political principles, and by which the motives for the liberal and friendly intercourse were so greatly multiplied, could exist, no other than a salutary influence upon the negotiation. A letter the most dispassionate and thorough examination of the whole subject, a treaty between the two Governments was concluded and signed at Paris on the 15th of July, 1825. It was stipulated that "the French Government, in order to insure the execution of the stipulations therein contained, shall be bound to make known early enough to be communicated to Congress at the commencement of the present Session."

Relying upon these pledges, and not doubting that the acknowledged justice of our claims, the promised aid of the King of the Two Sicilies, and the sacred regard for the national faith and honor, by which the French character has been so distinguished, would secure an early execution of the treaty in all its parts, I did not deem it necessary to call the attention of Congress to the subject at the last session.

I have, however, not only called your attention to the subject, but also to the fact that the Minister of Finance have not been authorized by the new Chambers assembled on the 12th July last, although the subject of fulfilling treaties was alluded to in the speech from his Majesty, no attempt was made by the King or his Cabinet to procure an appropriation to carry the treaty into execution. The reasons given for this omission, which might be considered sufficient in an ordinary case, are not consistent with the expectations founded upon the assurances given here, for there is no constitutional obstacle to entering into legislative business at the first meeting of the Chambers, and the Minister, however, had been called to meet us on the 12th July, that the result of their deliberations might be communicated to me before the meeting of Congress, then proposed to be held on the 23rd of the present month.—I am so late that they have not been made known to me, until this Congress, prior to its dissolution. To avoid this delay, our Minister in Paris, in virtue of the assurance given by the French Minister in the United States, strongly urged the convocation of the Chambers at an earlier day, but without success. It is proper to remark that a conventional bill has been accompanied with the most positive assurances, on the part of the Executive Government of France, of their intention to press the appropriation at the ensuing session of the Chambers.

The executive branch of this government has, on its part, failed to execute the authority upon the subject with which it is invested, and which it had every reason to believe could be beneficially employed. The idea of acquiescing in the refusal to execute the treaty will, I am confident, be for a moment entertained by no branch of this government; and further negotiation is equally out of the question.

It is my duty to inform you that, in awaiting the further action of the French Chambers, no further consideration of the subject will, at this season, probably be required at your hands. But if, from the original delay in asking for an appropriation, from the refusal of the Chambers to grant it when asked, from the failure to inform the French Minister of the fact that the session, there have been five different occasions when the appropriation might have been made, and from the delay in convoking the Chambers until some weeks after the meeting of Congress, it was well known that a conventional bill would be presented to Congress at the last session was prevented by assurances that it should be disposed of before its present meeting, you should feel yourselves constrained to doubt whether it be the intention of the French Government in all its branches to carry the treaty into full and fair execution, as the measure so repeatedly and so solemnly pledged to be deemed to call for, should be now adopted the important question arises what those measures shall be.

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