

Citizens' Message.

Fellow-Citizens of the Senate and of the House of Representatives.

The Constitution of the United States provides that the President shall have the honor of proposing and recommending to Congress any bill which he may deem expedient to pass...

While relations of any kind continue to exist between the United States and all foreign powers, with some of these grave questions are pending, which may require the consideration of Congress.

In pursuance of this policy, the laws of the United States do not forbid their citizens to set sail to the belligerent powers, articles, contraband of war, or to take munitions of war or soldiers on board their private ships...

But our municipal law, in accordance with the law of nations, peremptorily forbids, not only foreigners, but our own citizens, to fit out, within the limits of the United States, any vessel intended for active hostilities against any state with which the United States are at peace...

What concern may have been felt by either the belligerent powers, or other vessels, in the ports of the United States, might be fitted out in the ports of this country to deprive us of the property of the other, all such fears have proved to be utterly groundless.

While the laws of the Union are thus peremptory in their prohibition of the equipment of an armament of hostile cruisers in our ports, they provide no less absolute that no person shall, within the territory or jurisdiction of the United States, enlist or engage himself, or hire or retain another person, as a soldier, or as a marine or seaman on board of any vessel of war, or as a privateer, or as a privateer.

Such being the public rights and the municipal law of the United States, no solicitude on the subject was entertained by the government, when, a year since, the British Parliament passed an act to provide for the enlistment of foreigners in the military service of Great Britain.

Nothing on the face of the act, or in its public history, or in the reports of the British government, or in the reports of the United States, or in the reports of the British government, or in the reports of the United States, or in the reports of the British government, or in the reports of the United States...

It is difficult to understand how it should have been supposed that troops could be raised here by Great Britain, without violating the rights of the United States. The unmistakable object of the law was to prevent every such act, which, if performed, must be either in violation of the law, or in studied evasion of it.

In the meantime, the matter acquired additional importance, by the requirements in the United States, and some progress was made in securing the redress of wrongs complained of by this government, Spain has not only disavowed and disapproved the conduct of the officers who had seized and detained the steamer *Clayton* at Havana, but has also paid the sum claimed as indemnity to the United States.

In consequence of a destructive hurricane which visited Cuba in 1854, the supreme authority of that island decreed, permitting the importation, for a period of six months, of certain building materials and provisions, free of duty, but revoked it when it was found that the importation would be injurious to the citizens of the United States.

With Spain peaceful relations are still maintained, and some progress is being made in securing the redress of wrongs complained of by this government, Spain has not only disavowed and disapproved the conduct of the officers who had seized and detained the steamer *Clayton* at Havana, but has also paid the sum claimed as indemnity to the United States.

I repeat the recommendation submitted to the last Congress, that provision be made for the appointment of a commissioner, in order to survey the boundary between the Territory of Washington and the Territory of Oregon.

It is the duty of the United States, in the event of any collision between the subjects of Great Britain and the citizens of the United States, including their respective authorities in that respect, to act in the manner which will best conduce to the preservation of peace and amicable relations between the two countries.

One other subject of discussion between the United States and Great Britain has grown out of the attempt, which the exigencies of the war in which she is engaged with France induced her to make, to draw recruits from the United States.

It is the traditional and settled policy of the United States to maintain impartial neutrality during the wars which from time to time occur among the nations of the world.

It is the duty of the United States, in the event of any collision between the subjects of Great Britain and the citizens of the United States, including their respective authorities in that respect, to act in the manner which will best conduce to the preservation of peace and amicable relations between the two countries.

It is the duty of the United States, in the event of any collision between the subjects of Great Britain and the citizens of the United States, including their respective authorities in that respect, to act in the manner which will best conduce to the preservation of peace and amicable relations between the two countries.

It is the duty of the United States, in the event of any collision between the subjects of Great Britain and the citizens of the United States, including their respective authorities in that respect, to act in the manner which will best conduce to the preservation of peace and amicable relations between the two countries.

It is the duty of the United States, in the event of any collision between the subjects of Great Britain and the citizens of the United States, including their respective authorities in that respect, to act in the manner which will best conduce to the preservation of peace and amicable relations between the two countries.

It is the duty of the United States, in the event of any collision between the subjects of Great Britain and the citizens of the United States, including their respective authorities in that respect, to act in the manner which will best conduce to the preservation of peace and amicable relations between the two countries.

It is the duty of the United States, in the event of any collision between the subjects of Great Britain and the citizens of the United States, including their respective authorities in that respect, to act in the manner which will best conduce to the preservation of peace and amicable relations between the two countries.

It is the duty of the United States, in the event of any collision between the subjects of Great Britain and the citizens of the United States, including their respective authorities in that respect, to act in the manner which will best conduce to the preservation of peace and amicable relations between the two countries.

It is the duty of the United States, in the event of any collision between the subjects of Great Britain and the citizens of the United States, including their respective authorities in that respect, to act in the manner which will best conduce to the preservation of peace and amicable relations between the two countries.

It is the duty of the United States, in the event of any collision between the subjects of Great Britain and the citizens of the United States, including their respective authorities in that respect, to act in the manner which will best conduce to the preservation of peace and amicable relations between the two countries.

It is the duty of the United States, in the event of any collision between the subjects of Great Britain and the citizens of the United States, including their respective authorities in that respect, to act in the manner which will best conduce to the preservation of peace and amicable relations between the two countries.

which would be the readiest means of terminating all questions, and with a view to this end, I present the subject to the attention of Congress.

The colony of Newfoundland, having enacted the laws required by the treaty of the 5th of June, 1854, is now placed on the same footing, in respect to the commercial intercourse with the United States, as the other British provinces.

The commission, which that treaty contemplated, for determining the rights of fishery in rivers and mouths of rivers, on the coast of the United States and the British North American provinces, has been organized and has commenced its labors; to the purpose which there is needed further appropriations for the service of another season.

In pursuance of the authority, conferred by a resolution of the Senate of the United States, passed on the 14th of April, 1855, was given to Denmark, on the 14th of April, of the intention of this government to avail itself of the stipulation of the subsisting convention of the 8th of August, 1842, and navigation between that kingdom and the United States, whereby either party might at any time terminate the same at the expiration of one year from the date of notice for that purpose.

The consideration which led me to call the attention of Congress to that convention, and induced the Senate to pass the resolution referred to, still continues in full force.

The convention contains an article, which, although it does not expressly engage the United States to submit to the jurisdiction of the United States on the vessels and cargoes of Americans passing into or from the Baltic sea, during the continuance of the convention, it is not intended either by the international or by our municipal law, and therefore does not compromise our neutral relations with Russia.

But our municipal law, in accordance with the law of nations, peremptorily forbids, not only foreigners, but our own citizens, to fit out, within the limits of the United States, any vessel intended for active hostilities against any state with which the United States are at peace, to increase the force of any foreign armed vessel intended for such hostilities against any state with which the United States are at peace.

I remain of the opinion that the United States ought to insist on the payment of the amount, which is a secondary matter, but because it is in effect the recognition of the right of the United States to the use of the highways of nations as a close sea, and the navigation of it as a privilege for which tribute may be imposed upon those who have occasion to use it.

This government, on a former occasion not unlike the present, signaled its determination to maintain the freedom of the seas, and to insist on the payment of tribute from all nations, whose ships were engaged in the trade of the Baltic Sea.

The balance in the Treasury at the beginning of the present fiscal year, July 1, 1855, was eighteen millions nine hundred and thirty-eight thousand eight hundred and thirty-six dollars; the receipts of the first quarter, and the estimated receipts for the remaining three quarters, amounting, together, to thirty-seven millions eight hundred and ten dollars.

If the manner of payment of the Round Dues differ from that proposed, the sum to be paid to the Barbary States, still their execution by Denmark has no better foundation in right. Each, in its origin, nothing more than a mere expedient for the purpose of extracting the free seamen and employment of it, but who no longer possess that power.

Denmark, while still a tributary to the Barbary States, had a freedom of the Baltic Sound and Belts, has indicated a readiness to make some new arrangement, when a year since, the British government, interested, including the United States, to be represented in a convention to assemble for the purpose of receiving and settling the claims of the Barbary States, and to submit for the capitalization of the Sound dues, and the distribution of the sum to be paid to the Barbary States.

It is not to be supposed that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States.

It is not to be supposed that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States.

It is not to be supposed that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States.

It is not to be supposed that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States.

It is not to be supposed that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States.

It is not to be supposed that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States.

It is not to be supposed that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States.

It is not to be supposed that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States.

It is not to be supposed that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States.

It is not to be supposed that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States.

It is not to be supposed that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States.

It is not to be supposed that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States.

It is not to be supposed that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States.

It is not to be supposed that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States.

It is not to be supposed that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States.

It is not to be supposed that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States.

It is not to be supposed that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States.

to maintain, in time of peace, a larger force of troops than can be employed in the duties pertaining to the service of the field and garrison.

The military staff in all its various branches, and the movements of the troops, and the efficiency of an army in the field would materially be improved, if the military staff were discharged. It is not, as in the case of the military staff, a specialty, but requires, also, an intimate acquaintance with the military staff, and it is not doubted that, to complete the education of an officer for either the line or the general staff, it is necessary that he should serve in both.

With this view, it was recommended that the former occasion that the duties of the staff should be separated from those of the line, and with conviction of the advantages which would result from such a change, it is again presented for the consideration of Congress.

The report of the Secretary of the Navy, heretofore submitted, exhibits in full the naval operations of the past year, and with the present condition of the service, and it makes suggestions of further legislation, to which your attention is invited.

The construction of the six steam frigates, for which appropriations were made by the last Congress, has proceeded in the most satisfactory manner, and with such expedition, as to warrant the belief that they will be ready for service early in the present year.

It is not to be supposed that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States.

It is not to be supposed that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States.

It is not to be supposed that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States.

It is not to be supposed that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States.

It is not to be supposed that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States.

It is not to be supposed that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States.

It is not to be supposed that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States.

It is not to be supposed that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States.

It is not to be supposed that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States.

It is not to be supposed that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States.

It is not to be supposed that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States.

It is not to be supposed that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States.

It is not to be supposed that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States.

It is not to be supposed that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States.

It is not to be supposed that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States.

It is not to be supposed that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States.

It is not to be supposed that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States.

It is not to be supposed that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States.

It is not to be supposed that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States.

It is not to be supposed that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States.

It is not to be supposed that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States.

It is not to be supposed that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States.

It is not to be supposed that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States.

It is not to be supposed that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States.

Such is the constitutional theory of our government, the practical observance of which has carried us up and as alone, among modern republics, through nearly three generations of time without a drop of blood shed in civil war.

With a secret of action, it has enabled us to contend successfully on the battle-field against foreign foes, has elevated the people of our country to the level of the richest and the greatest nations of Europe, and the admirable adaptation of our political institutions to their objects, combining local self-government with aggregate strength, has established the practicality of a government like ours to cover a continent with confederate States.

The Congress of the United States is, in effect, a congress of sovereigns, and the good men in the Old World have sought for, but could never attain, and which imparts to America an exemption from the mutability and vagaries of common action, from the mutual invasions, and vague aspirations after the balance of power, which convulse from time to time the governments of Europe.

Our co-operative action rests in the conditions of permanent confederation prescribed by the constitution. Our balance of power is in the separate reserved rights of the States, and their equal representation in the Senate. That independent sovereignty in every one of the States, with its reserved rights of local self-government, is the basis of our political system in the Senate, was the fundamental condition of the constitution. Without it, the Union would never have existed.

However diverse the systems might be, we organize the government so as to give to their population its proportionate weight in the common councils, they kept a negative authority on all the measures of the government, whether legislative or executive, through their equal representation in the Senate. Indeed, the larger States themselves could not have failed to perceive that the same power was equally necessary for the protection of the smaller States, and the smaller States themselves could not have failed to perceive that the same power was equally necessary for the protection of the larger States.

It is not to be supposed that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States.

It is not to be supposed that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States.

It is not to be supposed that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States.

It is not to be supposed that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States.

It is not to be supposed that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States.

It is not to be supposed that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States.

It is not to be supposed that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States.

It is not to be supposed that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States.

It is not to be supposed that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States.

It is not to be supposed that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States.

It is not to be supposed that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States.

It is not to be supposed that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States.

It is not to be supposed that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States.

It is not to be supposed that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States.

It is not to be supposed that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States.

It is not to be supposed that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States.

It is not to be supposed that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States.

It is not to be supposed that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States.

It is not to be supposed that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States.

It is not to be supposed that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States.

It is not to be supposed that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States.

It is not to be supposed that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States.

It is not to be supposed that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States.

It is not to be supposed that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States, or that the British government intended to give any intimation of such intention to the United States.