resist foreign interference.

I regret to inform you that our relations with Mexico, since your last session, have not been of the amicable character which it is our desire to cultivate with all foreign nations. On the sixth day of March last, the Mexican envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary to the U. States made a formal protest, in the name of his government, against the joint resolution bassed by Congress, " for the annexation of Texas to the United States." which hechose to regard as a violation of the rights of Mexico, and, in consequence of it, he demanded his passports. He was informor that it afforded any just cause of offence to his government ; that the Republie of Texas was an independent Power. owing no allegiance to Mexico, and constituting no part of her territory or rightful sovereignty and jurisdiction. He was also assured that it was the sincere desire of this government to maintain with that of Mexico relations of peace and good understanding. That functionary, however, notwithstanding these representations and assurances, abruptly terminated his mission, and shortly afterwards left the country. Our Euvoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to Mexico was refused all official intercourse with that government, and, after remaining several months, by the permission of his own government, he returned to the United States. Thus, by the acts of Mexico, all diplomatic intercourse between the two countries was suspended. Since that time Mexico has, until recently, occupied an attitude of hostility towards the United States-has been marshalling and organizing armies, issuing proclamations, and avowing the intention to make war on the United States, either by an open declaration, or by invading Texas. Both the Congress and Convention of the people of Texas invited this Government to send an army into that territory, to protect and defend them against the menaced attack. The moment the terms of annexation, offered by the United States, were accepted by Texas, the latter became so far a part of our own country, as to make it our duty to afford such protection and defence. I therefore deemed it proper, as a precautionary measure, to order a strong squadron to the coasts of Mexico, and to concentrate an efficient military force on the western frontier of Texas. Our army was ordered to take position in the country between the Nueces and the Del Norte, and to repel any invasion of the Texan territory which might be attempted by the Mexican forces.' Our squadron in the gulf was orderd to co-operate with the army. But though our army and navy were placed in a position to defend our own, and the ghts of Texas, they were ordered to commit no act of hostility against Mexico, unless she declared war, or was herself the aggressor by striking the first blow. The result has been, that Mexico has made no aggressive movement, and our military and naval commanders have executed their orders with such discretion, that the peace of the two republics has not been usturbed. exas had declared her independence, and maintained it by her arms for more than nine years. She had an organized government in successful operation during that period. Her separate existence, as an independent State, had been recognised by the United States and the principal Powers of Europe. Treaties of commerce and navigation had been concluded with her by different nations, and it had become manifest to the whole world that any forther attempt on the part of Mexico to conquer her, or overthrow her government, would be in vain. Even Mexico herself had become satisfied of this fact: and whilst the question of annexation was or without this condition, is conclusive a-

he diplomatic interference of European rious causes of misunderstanding between any hostile collision with her. nonarchies. Even France-the country the two countries continue to exist, growwhich had been our ancient ally-the ing out of the unredressed injuries inflicted gress, the Executive possessed no power of no result, and the convention of 1818 which had been made and rejected, was, changing intelligence without great del by my direction, subsequently withdrawn, between our settlements for ountry which has a common interest with by the Mexican authorities and people on to adopt or enforce adequate remedies for was left unchanged. country which has a common interest with by the Mexican authorities and people on to adopt or enforce adopt of enforce adopt or enforce adopt of enforce adopt of enforce adopt or enforce adopt of enforce adopt or enforce adopt of enforce adopt the persons and property of citizens of the mail is believed to be entirely practicable aggression on the part of Mexico. After mise, resulted in the convention of August by irrefragable facts and arguments. The negotiation of and the importance of establishing such and the importance Louisiana, first opened to us access to the years. Mexico has admitted these inju- aggression on the part of Mexico. After mise, resulted in the convention of August by irrefragable facts and arguments. Louisiana, first opened-to us access to the years. Mexico has admitted these inju-Gulf of Mexico-the country with which ries, but has neglected and refused to re-Gulf of Mexico-the country with which ries, but has neglected and refused to re-we have been every year drawing more pair them. Such was the character of the character of the provisions of the third article of the provisions of the third article of the on the part of the United States; and this It is submitted to the windand more closely the bonds of successful the wrongs, and such the insults repeat- weeks, without any hostile movement on the provisions of the third article of the on the part of the United States; and this and more closely the bonds of successful the wrongs, and such the insuits repeat-commerce-most unexpectedly, and to our edly offered to American eitizens and the her part, though her menaces were con-commerce-most unexpectedly, and to our edly offered to American eitizens and the her part, though her menaces were con-1818 ; and it was further provided, that sponsibility which may follow the failure sion and until after the present see commerce-most unexpectedly, and to our edly ouered to American citizens and the ner part, thought it is possibility which may follow the failure sion, and until after the expiration of the unit of things - to settle the controversy. prevent annexation, and to impose on olation of the laws of nations and the trea- end, if possible, to this state of things .- "it shall be competent, however, to either to settle the controversy. prevent annexation, and to impose on olation of the laws of nations and the trea-Texas, as a condition of the recognition of the between the two countries of the fifth With this view, I caused steps to be taken, of the contracting parties, in case either All attempts to compromise having fail-the between the two countries of the fifth with this view, I caused steps to be taken, of the contracting parties, in case either the ed, it becomes the duty of Congress to con-Texas, as a condition of the recognition of ty between the two countries of the fifth with this view, reduce to be fifth with this view, reduce to be fifth with this view, reduce to be fifth of our rights and the her in the month of September last, to ascer-her independence by Mexico, that she of April, 1831, that they have been re-her in the month of September last, to ascer-her independence by Mexico, that she of April, 1831, that they have been re-her in the month of September last, to ascer-her in the month of September last, to ascer-twentieth of October, 1828, on giving due sider what measures it may be proper to government and protection of her independence by Mexico, that she of April, 1831, that they have been re-would never join herself to the U. States. peatedly brought to the notice of Congress tain distinctly, and in an authentic form, twentieth of October, 1828, on giving due adopt for the security and protection of in Oregon. That it will altimate the designs of the Mexicon govern-We may rejoice that the tranquil and per-by my predcessors. As early as the 8th what the designs of the Mexican govern-tracting party to annul and abrogate this our citizens now inhabiting or who may rading influence of the American princi- of February, 1837, the President of the vading influence of the American princi-of February, 1837, the President of the bereafter inhabit Oregon, and for the main-to the patriotic pioneers, who, amidst principal and abro-the the states, declared, in a message to the the states and dangers lead the ple of self-government was sufficient to United States, declared, in a message to unit to uterate whether they were disposed to adjust and accordingly entirely annulled and abro-defeat the purposes of British and French Congress, that " the length of time since whether they were disposed to adjust and accordingly entirely annulled and abro-tenance of our just title to that territory. vations and dangers, lead the way through interference, and that the almost unani- some of the injuries have been committed, settle, in an amicable manner, the pend- gated after the expiration of the said term In adopting measures for this purpose, savage tribes inhabiting the vast wilder interference, and that the almost unani- some of the injuries have been committed, settle, in an antervening the vast wilder, mous voice of the people of Texas has giv- the repeated and unavailing applications ing differences between the two countries. of notice." In these attempts to adjust the people of Texas has giv- the repeated and unavailing applications of the controverse the parallel of the forty. mous voice of the people of Lexas has giv- the repeated and unavailing applications of some on the ninth of November an official an- the controversy, the parallel of the forty- to violate the stipulations of the conven- the the stipulations of the conven- the stipulation of the stipulatio fective rebuke. From this example, Eu- of the outrages upon the persons and proropean governments may learn how vain perty of our citizens, upon the officers and vernment consented to renew the diplodiplomatic arts and intrigues must ever flag of the United States, independent of matic relations which had been suspend- ain. and in those of 1818 and 1826, with has ever been. and, I trust, will ever be, obtain such grants as soon as the convenprove upon this continent, against that recent insults to this government and peo- ed in March last, and for that purpose a further concession of the free navigasystem of self-government which seems ple by the late Extraordinary Mexican were willing to accredit a minister from tion of the Columbia river south of that Under that convention, a year's notice is Britain shall have ceased to exist, would be natural to our soil, and which will ever minister, would justify in the eyes of all the United States. With a sincere desire des nations immediate war." He did not, to preserve peace, and restore relations of degree, from the Rocky mountains to its other, before the joint occupancy shall ding the year's notice, it is worthy of con-Towards Texas, I do not doubt that a however, recommend an immediate resort good understanding between the two re- intersection with the northeasternmost terminate, and before either can rightful- sideration whether a stipulation to this efiberal and generous spirit will actuate to this extreme measure, which, he de-Congress in all that concerns her interests clared, "should not be used by just and manner of renewing diplomatic intercourse the channel of that river to sea, had been over any portion of the territory. This spirit of that convention. and prosperity, and that she will never generous nations, confiding in their strength between them; and, assuming the initia- offered by Great Britain, with an addition notice it would, in my judgment, be proper The recommendations which I have have cause to regret that she united her for injuries committed, if it can be bonor- tive, on the tenth of November a distin- of a small detached territory north of the to give; and I recommend that provision made, as to the best manner of securing our "lone star" to our glorious constellation. ably avoided ;" but, in a spirit of forbear- guished citizen of Louisiana was appoint- Columbia. Each of these propositions had be made by law for giving it accordingly, rights in Oregon, are submitted to Congress ance, proposed that another demand be ed Envoy Extraordinary and Minister been rejected by the parties respectively. and terminating, in this manner, the con- with great deference. Should they, in their made on Mexico for that redress which Plenipotentiary to Mexico, clothed with In October, 1843, the Envoy Extraordi- vention of the sixth of August, 1827. had been so long and unjustly withheld. full powers to adjust, and definitively set- nary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the In these views, committees of the two tle, all pending differences between the United States in London was authorized Houses of Congress, in reports made to two countries, including those of bounda- to make a similar offer to those made in their respective bodies, concurred. Since ry between Mexico and the State of Tex- 1818 and 1826. Thus stood the question. these proceedings more than eight years as. The minister appointed has set out when the negotiation was shortly afterhave elapsed, during which, in addition to on his mission, and is probably by this wards transferred to Washington; and, the wrongs then complained of, others of time near the Mexican capital. He has on the twenty-third of August, 1844, was an aggravated character have been com- been instructed to bring the negotiation formally opened, under the direction of They have had just cause to complain of maintained. That they cannot be aband mitted on the persons and property of our with which he is charged to a conclusion my immediate predecessor. Like all the citizens. A special agent was sent to at the earliest practicable period : which. previous negotiations, it was based upon Mexico in the summer of 1838, with full it is expected, will be in time to enable principles of "compromise;" and the aauthority to make another and final de- me to communicate the result to Congress vowed purpose of the parties was, " to ed that the government of the United States mand for redress. The demand was made; during the present session. Until that re- treat of the respective claims of the two did not consider this joint resolutions as a and after much delay, a treaty of indem- sult is known, I forbear to recommend to countries to the Oregon territory, with the violation of any of the rights of Mexico, nity with that view was concluded be- Congress such ulterior measures of redress view to establish a permanent boundary States, they have been thus cast upon now in existence. For the grounds on tween the two Powers on the eleventh of April, 1839, and was duly ratified by both governments. By this treaty a joint commission was created to adjudicate and decide on the claims of American citizens on the government of Mexico. The commission was organized at Washington on the twenty-fifth day of August, 1840.-Their time was limited to eighteen months; ican indemnities for the year 1844: "Proat the expiration of which, they had adju- vided it shall be ascertained to the satisdicated and decided claims amounting to faction of the American government that two millions twenty-six thousand one hun- said instalments have been paid by the dred and thirty nine dollars and sixty-eight Mexican government to the agent appoincents in favor of citizens of the United ted by the United States to receive the States against the Mexican government, same, in such manner as to discharge all leaving a large amount of claims undecided. Of the latter, the American commissioners had decided in favor of our citizens. claims amounting to nine hundred and twenty-eight thousand six hundred and twenty-seven dollars and eighty-eight cts. which were left unacted on by the umpire authorized by the treaty. Still further claims, amounting to between three and four millions of dollars, were submitted to the board too late to be considered, and were left undisposed of. The sum of two millions twenty-six thousand one hundred and thirty nine dollars and sixty-eight cts., decided by the board, was a liquidated and ascertained debt due by Mexico to the claimants, and there was no justifiable reason for delaying its payment according to the terms of the treaty. It was not, however, paid. Mexico applied for further indulgence; and, in that spirit of liberality and forbearance which has ever marked the policy of the United States towards that republic, the request was granted : and, on the thirtieth of January, 1843, a new treaty was concluded. By this treaty it was provided, that the interest due on the awards in favor of claimants under the convention of the eleventh of April, 1839, should be paid on the thirtieth of April, 1843; and that "the principal of the said awards, and the interest arising thereon, shall be paid in five years, in equal instalments every three months; the said term of five years to commence on the thirtieth day of April, 1843, as aforesaid." The interest due on the thirtieth day of April, 1843. and the three first of the twenty instalments, have been paid. Seventeen of these instalments remain unpaid, seven of which are now due. The claims which were left undecided by the joint commission, amounting to more than three millions of dollars, together with other claims for spoliations on the property of our citizens, were subsequently presented to the Mexican government for payment, and were so far recognised, that a treaty, providing for their examination and settlement by a joint commission, was concluded and signed at Mexico on the twentieth day of November, 1843. This treaty was ratified by the United States, with certain amendments, has committed, with great patience, in the Power or State to any part of the said by my predecessors, and the implied obli-

ation of Texas, it is to be regretted that se- that we might, if possible, honorably avoid prevent disputes and differences among promise which the United States ought to Oregon; and although we have a any hostile collision with her. The negotiation of 1824 was productive viction, the proposition of compromise few of them afford an opportunity of int for the wrongs and injuries we have so between them westward of the Rocky long borne, as it would have been proper mountains to the Pacific ocean." Accordto make had no such negotiation been in- | ingly, on the twenty-sixth of August, 1844, stituted.

themselves.

ment were; whether it was their inten- tracting party, to annul and abrogate this our citizens now inhabiting, or who may and proper to make liberal grants of land

It will become proper for Congress to to accomplish the same object, it shall determine what legislation they can, in meet with my hearty concurrence. the mean time, adopt without violating At the end of the year's notice, should this convention. Beyond all question, the Congress think it proper to make provision protection of our laws and our jurisdiction, for giving that notice, we shall have reach. civil and criminal, ought to be immediate- ed a period when the national rights in O. ly extended over our citizens in Oregon. egon must either be abandoned or firmly our long neglect in this particular, and oned without a sacrifice of both national have, in consequence, been compelled, for honor and interest, is too clear to admit of their own security and protection, to es- doubt. tablish a provisional government for them- Oregon is a part of the North American

selves. Strong in their allegiance and continent, to which, it is confidently affirmardent in their attachment to the United ed, the title of the United States is the best their own resources. They are anxious which that title rests. I refer you to the corthat our laws should be extended over respondence of the late and present Secrethem, and I recommend that this be done | tary of State with the British Plenipotenby Congress with as little delay as possi- tiary during the negotiation. The British ble, in the full extent to which the British proposition of Compromise, which would Parliament have proceeded in regard to make the Columbia the line south of 49 British subjects in that territory, by their degrees, with a triffing addition of detachact of July the second, 1821. " for regula- ed territoty to the United States north of ting the fur trade, and establishing a crim- that river, and would leave on the British nal and civil jurisdiction within certain side two-thirds of the whole of Oregon terparts of North America." By this act ritory, including the free navigation of the Great Britain extended her laws and ju- Columbia and all the valuable harbors on risdiction, civil and criminal, over her sub- the Pacific, can never, for a moment, be enjects, engaged in the fur trade in that ter- | tertained by the United States, without an ritory. By it, the courts of the province abandonment of their just and clear terriof Upper Canada were empowered to take | torial rights, their own self-respect, and the ritory, north of the Columbia, extending cognizance of causes civil and criminal. national honor. For the information of Justices of the peace and other judicial Congress. I communicate herewith the corofficers were authorized to be appointed respondence which took place between the in Oregon, with power to execute all pro- two Governments during the late negotiacess issuing from the courts of that province, and to " sit and hold courts of record for the trial of criminal offences and misdemeanors," not made the subject of capital punishment, and also of civil cases, where the cause of action shall not "exceed in value the amount or sum of two hundred pounds." Subsequent to the date of this act of Parliament, a grant was made from the "British crown" to the Hudson's Bay Company, of the exclusive trade with the with all nations, cannot in silence permit Indian tribes in the Oregon territory, subject to a reservation that it shall not operate to the exclusion " of the subjects of interference be attempted, will be ready to any foreign States who, under or by force of any convention for the time being, between us and such foreign States respectively. may be entitled to, and shall be engaged in, the said trade." It is much to be regretted, that, while under this act British subjects have enjoyed the protection of British laws and British judicial tribunals throughout the whole of Oregon, American citizens, in the same territory, have enjoyed no such protection from their government. At the same time, the result illustrates the character of our people and their institutions. In spite of this neglect, they have multilied, and their number is rapidly increasng in that territory. They have made no appeal to arms, but have peacefully fortified themselves in their new homes, by the adoption of republican institutions for themselves: furnishing another example of the truth that self-government is inherent in the American breast, and must prevail. It is due to them that they should be embraced and protected by our laws. It is deemed important that our laws regulating trade and intercourse with the Indian tribes east of the Rocky mountains,

cept, can be effected. With this con- number of whale ships in the Pacific by my direction, subsequently withdrawn, between our settlements in that distant n

It is submitted to the wisdom of Congress year's notice, any other measures may b

wisdom, devise any mode better calculated

tion. The rapid extension of our settlements over territories heretofore unoccupied : the expansion of our principles, and our rising greatness as a nation, are attracting the attention of the powers of Europe; and lately the doctrine has been broached in some of them of a "balance of power" on this continent, to check our advancement. The United States, sincerely desirous of preserving relations of good understanding any European interference on the North American continent; and should any such resist it at any and all hazards. It is well known to the American people and to all nations, that this Government has never interfered with the relations subsisting between other Governments. We have never made ourselves parties to their wars or their alliances; we have not sought their territories by conquest; and believing our own form of government to be the best, we have never attempted to propagate it by intrigues, by diplomacy, or by force. We may claim on this continent 4 like exemption from European interference. The nations of America are equally sovereign and independent with those of Europe. They possess the same rights, independent of all foreign interposition, 10 make war, to conclude peace, and to regulate their internal affairs. The people of the United States cannot, therefore, view with indifference attempts of European Powers to interfere with the independent action of the nations on this continent. The American system of government is entirely different from that of Europe. Jealousy among the different sovereigns of Europe, lest any one of them might become too powerful for the rest, has caused them anxiously to desire the establishment of what they term the "balance of Power." It cannot be permitted to have any application on the North American continent, and especially to the United States. We must ever maintain the principle that the people of this condestiny. Should any portion of them, constituthat European Powers shall interfere to prevent such a union, because it might disturb the "balance of power" which they may desire to maintain upon this continent. Near a quarter of a century ago, the principle was distinctly announced to the world, in the annual message of one of my predecessors, that "the American continents, by the free and independent condition which they have assumed and maintain, are henceforth not to be considered as subjects for future colonization by any European power." This principle will apply with greatly increased force, should any European power attempt to eftablish any new colony in North America. sent is deemed a proper occasion to reiterate and American citizens than British laws have long since done for British subjects in the same territory. It requires several months to perform the voyage by sea from the Atlantic States to

sion, the sum of two hundred and seventy- parallel of north latitude, from the Rocky five thousand dollars for the payment of mountains to the point of its intersection the April and July instalments of the Mexclaim on the Mexican government, and said agent to be delinquent in remitting the money to the United States."

The unsettled state of our relations with Mexico has involved this subject in much mystery. The first information, in an authentic form, from the agent of the United States, appointed under the administration of my predecessor, was received at the State Department on the ninth of November last. This is contained in a letter, dated the seventeenth of October, addressed by him to one of our citizens then in Mexico, with the view of having it communicated to that department. From this it appears that the agent, on the twentieth of September, 1844, gave a receipt to the treasury of Mexico for the amount of the April and July instalments of the indem-In the same communication, hownity. ever, he asserts that he had not received a single dollar in cash; but that he holds such securities as warranted him at the time in giving the receipt, and entertains no doubt but that he will eventually obtain the money. As these instalments appear never to have been actually paid by the government of Mexico to the agent, and as that government has not therefore been released so as to discharge the claim, I do not feel myself warranted in directing payment to be made to the claimants out of the treasury, without further legislation. Their case is, undoubtedly, one of much | yielding to Great Britain the free navigahardship; and it remains for Congress to tion of the Columbia, and that the penddecide whether any, and what, relief ought ing negotiation had been commenced on to be granted to them. Our minister to the basis of compromise, I deemed it to be Mexico has been instructed to ascertain my duty not abruptly to break it off. In the facts of the case from the Mexican government, in an authentic and official tions of 1818 and 1827, the citizens and form, and report the result with as little delay as possible.

My attention was early directed to the negotiation, which, on the fourth of March last, I found pending at Washington between the United States and Great Britain, on the subject of the Oregon territory.

the British plenipotentiary offered to di-Congress appropriated, at the last ses- vide the Oregon territory by the forty-ninth with the northeasternmost branch of the Columbia river, and thence down that river to the sea; leaving the free navigation of the river to be enjoyed in common by both parties-the country south of this line to belong to the United States, and that north of it to Great Britain. At the same time, he proposed, in addition, to yield to the United States a detached teralong the Pacific and the Straits of Fuca, from Bulfinch's harbor inclusive, to Hood's canal, and to make free to the United States any port or ports south of latitude forty-nine degrees, which they might desire, either on the main land, or on Quadra and Vancouver's island. With the exception of the free ports, this was the same offer which had been made by the British. and rejected by the American government in the negotiation of 1826. This proposition was properly rejected by the American plenipotentiary on the day it was submitted. This was the only proposition of compromise offered by the British plenipotentiary requested that a proposal should be made by the United States for "an equitable adjustment of the question."

> When I came into office, I found this to be the state of the negotiation. Though entertaining the settled conviction, that the British pretensions of title could not be maintained to any portion of the Oregon territory upon any principle of public law recognised by nations, yet, in deference to what had been done by my predecessors, and especially in consideration that propositions of compromise had been thrice made by two preceding administrations, to adjust the question on the parallel of forty-nine degrees, and in two of them consideration, too, that under the convensubjects of the two Powers held a joint occupancy of the country, I was induced to make another effort to settle this long pending controversy in the spirit of moderation which had given birth to the renewed discussion. A proposition was accordingly made, which was rejected by

submitting any other proposition, suffered

But though Mexico cannot complain of hope that a returning sense of justice country; the only object of the high-con- gation which their acts seemed to impose,

the British plenipotentiary, who, without Three several attemps had been previously made to settle the questions in dispute the negotiation on his part to drop, exbetween the two countries, by negotiation. upon the principle of compromise; but each had proved unsuccessful.

further proposal for the settlement of the These negotiations took place at Lon- Oregon question, more consistent with fairto which no just exception could have don, in the years 1818, 1824, and 1826; ness and equity, and with the reasonable been taken; but it has not yet receiv- the two first under the administration of expectations of the British government." ed the ratification of the Mexican go- Mr. Monroe, and the last under that of Mr. The proposition thus offered and rejected vernment. In the meantime, our citizens Adams. The negotiation of 1818 having repeated the offer of the parallel of fortywho suffered great losses, and some of failed to accomplish its object, resulted in nine degrees of north latitude, which had whom have been reduced from affluence the convention of the twentieth of October been made by two preceding administrato bankruptcy, are without remedy, unless of that year. By the third article of that tions, but without proposing to surrender their rights be enforced by their govern- convention, it was "agreed that any coun- to Great Britain, as they had done, the free ment. Such a continued and unprovoked try that may be claimed by either par- navigation of the Columbia river. The series of wrongs could never have been ty on the northwest coast of America, right of any foreign Power to the free navpending before the people of Texas, during tolerated by the United States, had they westward of the Stony mountains, shall, igation of any of our rivers, through the the past summer, the government of Mexi-been committed by one of the principal together with its harbors, bays, and creeks, heart of our country, was one which I was a suitable number of stockades and block-together with its harbors, bays, and creeks, heart of our country, was one which I was a suitable number of stockades and blocknations of Europe. Mexico was, howev- and the navigation of all rivers within the unwilling to concede. It also embraced a she would not annex herself to any other o she would not annex herself to any other following our example, had achieved her ten years from the date of the signature any port or ports on the cap of Quadra Power. The agreement to acknowledge independence, and for whose success and of the present convention, to the vessels, and Vancouver's Island, south of this parthe independence of Texas, whether with prosperity all our sympathies were early citizens, and subjects of the two Powers; allel. Had this been a new question, comenlisted. The United States were the first it being well understood that this agree- ing under discussion for the first time, this gainst Mexico. The independence of Texas is a fact conceded by Mexico her- ceive her into the family of nations, and dice of any claim which either of the two The extraordinary and wholly inadmissiself, and she had no right or authority have ever been desirous of cultivating high contracting parties may have to any ble demauds of the British government, to prescribe restrictions as to the form of with her a good understanding. We have, part of the said country, nor shall- it be and the rejection of the proposition made overnment which Texas might after therefore, borne the repeated wrongs she taken to affect the claims of any other in deference alone to what had been done

be United States on account of the annex- would ultimately guide her councils; and tracting parties in that respect being, to afford satisfactory evidence that no com- voyage by sea from the Atlantic States to ey which no European Power should cherish the

should be extended to such tribes as dwell beyond them.

The increasing emigration to Oregon, pressing his trust that the United States and the care and protection which is due would offer what he saw fit to call "some from the government to its citizens in that distant region, make it our duty, as it is our interest, to cultivate amicable rela- tinent alone have the right to decide their own tions with the Indian tribes of that territory. For this purpose, I recommend that ting an independent State, propose to unite themprovision be made for establishing an In- selves with our Confederacy, this will be a quesdian agency, and such sub-agencies as tion for them and us to determine, without any may be deemed necessary, beyond the foreign interposition. We can never consent Rocky mountains.

For the protection of emigrants whilst on their way to Oregon against the attacks of the Indian tribes occupying the country through which they pass. I recommend that house forts be erected along the usual route Missouri and the Rocky Mountains, and be raised to guard and protect them on their journey. The immediate adoption of these recommendations by Congress will not violate the provisions of the existing the existing circumstances of the world, the pretreaty. It will be doing nothing more for