MESSAGE OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES.

DECEMBER, 1845.

Fellow Citizens of the Senate and House of Representatives:

It is to me a source of unaffected satis faction to meet the Representatives of the States and the peop e in Congress assembled, as it will be to receive the aid of their combined wisdom in the administration of public affairs. In performing, for the first time, the duty imposed on me by the constitution, of giving to you infor mation of the state of the Union, and recommending to your consideration such measures as in my judgment are necessa ry and expedient, I am happy that I can congratulate you on the continued pros perity of our country. Under the blessings of Divine Providence and the benign influence of our tree institutions, it stands before the world a spectacle of national happiness

With our unexampled advancement in all the elements of national grea ness, the European governments may learn how affection of the people is confirmed for the union of the States, and for the doctrines of popular liberty, which lie at the foundation of our government.

It becomes us, in humility, to make our devout acknowledgments to the Supreme Ruler of the Universe, for the inestimable eivil and religious blessings with which we are favored.

In calling the attention of Congress to our relations with foreign Powers, I am gratified to be able to state, that, though Lition. with some of them there have existed since your last session serious causes of irritation and minunderstanding, yet no actual hostilities have taken place. Adopting the maxim in the "conduct of our foreign affairs, to "ask nothing that is not right, and submit to nothing that is wrong.' it has been my anxious desire to preserve peace with all nations; but, at the same time, to be prepared to resist aggression, and to maintain all our just rights.

In pursuance of the joint resolution of Congress, "for annexing Texas to the the rights of Mexico, and, in consequence United States." my predecessor, on the third day of March, 1845. elected to submit the first and second sections of that resolution to the republic of Texas, as an overture, on the part of the United States. for her admission as a State into our U-nion. This election 1 approved, and accordingly the charge d'affairs of the United States in Texas. under instructions of the tenth of March, 1845, presented these sections of the resolution for the acceptance of that republic. The executive government, the Congress, and the people of that of Mexico relations of peace and good Texas in convention, have successively complied with all the terms and condi-tions of the joint resolution. A constitu-and assurances, abruptly terminated his tions of the joint resolution. A constitution for the government of the State of mission, and shortly afterwards left the Texas, formed by a convention of deputies, is herewith laid before Congress. It is well known, also, that the people of refused all official intercourse with that Texas at the polls have accepted the terms government, and, after remaining several of annexation, and ratified the constitution. months, by the permission of his own gov-I communicate to Congress the corres- ernment, he returned to the United States.

adence between the Secretary of State Thus, by the acts of Mexico, all diplomat

Florida, and been pencefully extended to ity to prescribe restriction as to the form the Del Norte. In contemplating the of government which Texas might after grandeur of this event, it is not to be forwards choose to assume.

But though Mexico cannot complain of gotten that the result was achieved in despite of the diplomatic interference of Euthe United States on account of the annexation of Texas, it is to be regretted that ably avoid any heatile collision with her. ropean monarchies. Even France-the country which had been our ancient ally, serious causes of misunderstanding between the two countries continue to exist, growthe country which has a common interest ing out of unredressed injuries inflicted by | to adopt or enforce adequate remedies for with us in maintaining the freedom of the seas. the country which, by the cession of the Mexican authorities and people on the persons and property of citizens of the U-Louisiana, first opened to us access to the Gulf of Mexico, the country with which nited States, through a long series of years. Mexico his admitted these injuries, but we have been every year drawing more and more closely the bonds of successful has neglected and refused to repair them. Such was the character of the wrongs, and commerce, most unexpectedly, and to our unfeighned regret, took part in an effort such the insults repeatedly offered to Amerto prevent annextion and to impose on ican citizens and the American flag by Mexico, in palpable violation of the laws of Texas, as a condition of the recognition nations and the treaty between the two this view, I caused steps to be taken, in of her independence by Mexico, that she would never join herself to the United countries of the fifth of April, 1831, that States. We may rejoice that the tranquil hey have been repeatedly brought to the and pervading influence of the American principle of self government was sufficient notice of Congress by my predecessors. As early as the eighth of February, 1837, | were; whether it was their intention to deto defeat the purposes of British and French the President of the United States declared, interference, and that the almost unaniin a message to Congress, that "the length mous voice of the people of Texas has of time since some of the injuries have given to that interference a peaceful and been committed, the repeated and unavaileffective rebuke. From this example, ng applications for redress, the wanton haracter of some of the outrages upon the vain diplomatic arts and intrigues must persons and property of our citizens, upon ever prove upon this continent, against the officers and flag of the United States, that system of self-government which independent of recent insults to this seems natural to our soil, and which will govenment and people by the late Extraordinary Mexican minister, would justify Towards Texas, I do not doubt that a in the eyes of all nations immediate war. liberal and generous spirit will actuate fle did not, however, recommend an Congress in all that concerns her interests immediate resort to this extreme measure, and prosperity, and that she will never which, he declared, "should not be have cause to regret that she has united used by just and generous nations, confiding her 'lone star" to our gorious constel. in their strength for injuries committed, if it can be honerably avoided," but, in a spirit of forbearance, proposed that another I regret to inform you that our relations with Mexico, since your last session, have demand be made on Mexico for that redress not been of the amicable character which which had been so long and unjustly withit is our desire to cultivate with all foreign held. In these views, committees of the nations. On the sixth day of March last, two Houses of Congress, in reports made to their respective bodies, concurred .the Mexican envoy extraordinary and Since these proceeding more than eight minister plenipotentiary to the United States made a formal protest, in the name years have elapsed, during which, in addiof his government, against the joint reso tion to the wrongs then complained of, lution passed by Congress, "for the anothers of an aggravated character have been nexation of Texas to the United States," committed on the persons and property of which he chose to regard as a violation of our citizens. A special agent was sent to Mexico in the summer of 1838, with fall of it, he demanded his passports. He authority to make another and final demand was informed that the government of the for redress. The demand was made; the United States did not consider this joint Mexican government promised to repair the wrongs of which we complained; and resolution as a violation of any of the rights of Mexico, or that it afforded any just after much delay, a treaty of indemnity with cause of offence to his government; that that view was concluded between the two the Republic of Texas was an independent Powers on the eleventh of April, 1839, Power, owning no allegiance to Mexico. and was duly ratified by both governments. and constituting no part of her territory or By this treaty a joint commission was crerightful sovereignty and jurisdiction He ated to adjudicate and decide on the claims of American chizens on the government of was also assured that it was the sincere desire of this government to maintain with Mexico. The commission was organized at Washington on the twenty-fifth day of August, 1840. Their time was limited to understanding. That functionary, howev eighteen months; at the expiration of which. they had adjudicated and decided claims amounting to two millions twenty-six thoucountry. Our Envoy Extraordinary and sand one hundred and thirty nine dollars Minister Plenipotentiary to Mexico was and sixty-eight cents in favor of citizens of the United States against the Mexican government, leaving a large amount of claims undecided. Of the latter, the American commissioners had decided in favor of our uzens, claims amounting to nine hund and twenty-eight thousand six hundred and wenty seven dollars and eighty eight cents, 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 cents. decided by the board, was a liquidated and ascertained debt due by Mexico to the claim ants, and there was no justifiable reason for delaying its payment according to the terms of the ueaty. 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 con cluded. By this treaty it was provided, that the interests due on the awards in fa vor of claimants under the convention of the eleventh of April, 1830. should be paid on the thirtieth of April, 1843, and that "the principal of the said awards, and the inter est arising thereon, shall be paid in five years, in equal instalments every three nonths; the said term of five years to com mence on the thirtieth, day of April, 1843, as aforesaid." The interests due on the thictieth 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 millious of dollars, together with other claims for spoliations on the property of our citizens, were subsequently present ed to the Mexican government for payment, and were so far recognised, that a treaty, providing for their examination and settle ment by a joint commission, was concluded and signed at Mexico on the twentieth day of November, 1843. This treaty was rati fied by the United States, with certain a mendments, to which no just exception could have been taken; but it has not yet received the ratification of the Mexican gov ernment. In the meantime, our citizens who suffered great losses, and some of whom have been reduced from affluence to bankruptcy, are without remedy, unless their rights be enforced by their government. Such a continued and unprovoked series of wrongs could never have been tolerated by the United States, had they been committed by one of the principal nations of Europe. Mexico was, however a neighboring sister republic, which, following our example, had chieved her independence, and for whose success and prosperity all our sympathies were early enlisted. The United States were the first to recognise her indepen shall be competent, however, to either of dence, and to receive her into the family of the contracting parties, in case either should nations, and have ever been desirous of cul- think fit, at any time after the twentieth of ponsibility which may follow the failure to

on the Atlantic, has passed the Capes of 1 ico herself, and she had no right or author , tivating with her a good understanding. We have, therefore, borne the repeated wrongs she has committed, with great pa tience, in the hope that a returning sense of justice would ultimately guide her coun sils, and that we might, if possible, honor

With ut the previous authority of Congress, the Executive possessed no power the injuries we had suffered, or to do more than be prepared to repel the threatened aggression on the part of Mexil o. After our army and navy had remained on the frontier and c at. of Mexico for many weeks, without any hos ile movement on her part, though her menaces were continued, I deemed it important to put an end, if possible, to this state of things. With the month of September last, to ascertain distinctly, and in an authentic form, what the designs of the Mexican government clare war, or invade Texas, or whether they were disposed to adjust and se the. in an amicable manner, the pending differences between the two countries. On the ninth of November an official answer was received, that the Mexican govern ment consented to renew the diplomatic relations which hid been suspended in March last, and for that purpose were willing to accredit a minister from the United States. With a sincere desire to preserve peace, and restore relations of good understanding between the two republics, I waived alt erremony as to the manner of renewing diplomatic intercourse between them; and, assuming the initiative, on the tenth of November a distinguish ed citizen of Louisiana was appointed En y Extraordinary and Minister Plenipo tentiney to Mexico, clothed with full powers to adjust and definitively settle, all pending differencies between the, two countries, including those of boundary between Mexico and the State of Texas. The minister appointed has set out on his mission, and is probably by this time near the Mexican capital. He has been instruc ted tobring the negotiation with which he is charged to a conclusion at the earliest practicable period; which, it is expected, will be in time to enable me to communi cate the result to Congress during the pres ent session. Until that result is known. I forbear to recommend to Congress such ulterior measures of redress for the wrongs and injuries we have so long borne, as it would have been proper to make had no such negotiation been instituted.

Congress appropriated, at the last session, the um of two hundred and seventy five thousand dollars for the payment of the April and July instalments of the Mexican indemnities for the year 1844: " Provided it shall be ascertained to the satisfaction of the American Government that said instalments have been paid by the Mexican government to the agent appointed by the United States to receive the same, in such manner as to discharge all claim on the Mexican government, and said agent to be delinquent in emitting the money the United States. The unsettled state of our relations with Mex-

ico 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 This is contained in a letter, November last. 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 nity. In the same communication, however, 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 eventu ally obtain the money. As these instalments appear never to have been actually paid by the everoment 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 fur ther legislation. Their case is undoubtedly one of much hardship, and it remains for Congress to decide whether any, and what, relief ought to be gran ed to them. Our minister to Mexico has been instructed to ascertain the facts of the case from the Mexican government, in an au thentic and official form, and report the result with as little delay as possible. My attention was early directed to the nego tion, which, on the 4th of March last, I found pending at Washington between the United States and Great Britain, on the subject of the Oregon territory. Three several attempts had been previously made to settle the questions in dispute between the two countries, by negotia tion, upon the principle of compromise, but each had proved unsuccessful. These negotiations took place at London, the years 1818, 1824, and 1826; the two first under the administration of Mr. Monroe, and the last under that of Mr. Adams. The negoti ation of 1818 having failed to accomplish its object, resulted in the convention of the 20th of October of that year. By the third article of that convention, it was " agreed that any country that may be claimed by either party on the north west coast of America, westward of the Stony mountains, shall, together with its harbors, bays and creeks, and the navigation of all rivers within the same, be free and open for the term of ten years from the date of the signa ture of the present convention, to the vessels. citizens and subjects of the two powers; it be ing well understood that this agreement is not to construed to the prejudice of any claire which either of the two high contracting parties may have to any part of the said country. nor shall it be taken to affect the claims of any other power or State to any part of the said coun try; the only object of the high contracting par ies in that respect being, to prevent disputes and differences among themselves." The negotiation of 1824 was productive of no

October, 1828, on giving due notice of twelve months to the other contracting par- it been nies the duty of Congress to consi ty, to annul and abrogate this convention; er what measures if may be proper to ador and it shall, in such case, be accordingly for the security and protection of our en entirely annulled and abrogated after the ex- zens now inhabiting, or who mus hereafter piration of the said term of notice." these attempts to adjust the controversy, our just title to that territory. In miliping the parallel of the forty-moth degree of north latitude had been offered by the United States to Gr at Bri ain and in those of 1818 and 1826, with a further conces- which is still in force. The faith of treariver south of that latitude. The parallel of the forty-mnth degree, from the Rocky mountains to its intersection with the north easternmost branch of the Columbia, and be given by either party to the other, bethence down the channel of that river to the fore the joint occupancy shall terminate sea, had been offered by Great Britain, and before either can rightfully assente with an addition of a small detached territory north of the Columbia. Each of pertion of the territory. This notice a these propositions had been rejected by the parties respectively.

In October, 1843. the Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States in London was authorized to make a similar offer to those made in 1818 and 1826. That stood the question, when the negotiation was shortly afterwards transferred to Washington; and, on the twenty-third of August, 1844, was formalty opened, under the direction of my im mediate predecessor. Like all the previous negotiations, it was based upon principles of "compromise;" and the avowed purpose of the parties was, "to treat of the respective claims of the two coun'ries to the Oregon territory, with the view to establish a permanent boundary between them westward of t e Rocky mountains to the Pacific ocean." Accordingly, on the twenty-six of August, 1844, the British plenipotentiary offered to divide the Oregon erritory by the forty-ninth parallel of north latitude, from the Rocky mountains to the point of its intersection 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 : detached territory, north of the Columbia extending along 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 gov-

ernment in the negotiation of 1826. This proposition was properly rejected by the American plenipotentiary on the day it was submitted This was the only propo was submitted This was the only propo-sition of compromise offered by the British plenipotentiary. The proposition on the part of Great Britain having been rejected, the British plenipotentiary requested that a egon territory , subject to a reservation that it proposal should be made by the United States for "an equitable adjustment of the uestion."

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 puble law recognised by nations, yet, in deference to what had been done by my predecessors, and especially in consideration that propo sitions of compromise had been thrice made by two preceding administrations, to adjust the question on the parallel of forty-nine degress, and in two of them vielding to Great Britain the free navigation of the Columbia, and that the pending negotiation had been commenced on the basis of compromise. I deemed it to be my duty not abruptly to break it off. In consideration. too, that under the conventions of 1818 and 1827, the citizens and subjects 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 proposit on was accordingly made, which was rejected by the British plenipotentiary, who, without submitting any other proposition, suffered the negotiation on his part to drop, expressing his trust that the United States would offer what he saw fit to call some further proposal for the settlement of the Oregon question, more consistent with fairness and equity, and with the reasonable expectations of the British government" The proposition thus offered and rejected repeated the offer of the parallel of forty-nine degrees of north latitude, which had been made by two preceding administrations, but without proposing to surrender to Great Britain, as they had done, the free navigation of the tolumbia river. The right of any foreign Power to the free navigation of any of our rivers, through the heart of our country, was one which 1 was unwilling to concede. It also embraced a provision to make free to Great Britain any port or ports on the cap of Quadra and anconver's island, south of this parallel. Had this been a new question, coming un der discussion for the first time, this proposition would not have been made. The extraordinary and wholly inadmissible demands of the British government, and the rejection of the proposition made in deference alone to what had been done by my predecessors, and the implied obligation which their acts seemed to impose, afford satisfactory evidence that no compromise which the United States ought to accept, can be effected. With this conviction, the proposition of compromise which had been made and rejected, was, by my direction, subsequently withdrawn, and our title to

All attempts at compromise having faile inhabit Oregon, and for the maintenance measures for this purpose, care should be taken that nothing be done to violate the stipulations of the convention of 1827, ties, in their letter and spirit, has ever bee and, I trust, will ever be, scraphouly ob-served by the United States. Under that convention, a year's notice is required to exercise exclusive jurisdiction over my would, in my judgment, be proper to give, and I recommend that provision to be made by law for giving it accordingly, and termi nating, in this manner, the convention of the sixth of August, 1827.

It will become proper for Congress to determine what legislation they can, in th mean time, adopt without violating this convention. Beyond all question, the protect tion of our laws and our juriadiction, civil and criminal, ought to be immediately ex. tended over our citizens in Oregon. They have had just cause to complain of our long neglect in this par icular, and have, in consequence, been compelled, for their own security and protection. to establish a provisional government for themselves Strong in their allegiance and ardent in their at tachment to the United States, they have been thus cast upon their own resources. They are anxions that our laws should be extended over them, and I recommend that this be done by Congress with as little delay as possibe, in the full extent to which the British Partiament have proceeded in regard to British subjects in that territory, by their act of July the second, 1821, "for regarding the fur trade, and establishing a criminal and eivil jurisdiction within cer-tain parts of North America." By this act Great Britain extended her laws and jurisdiction, civil and criminal, out her subjects, engaged in the fur-trade in that territory. By it, the courts of the province of Upper Catada were empowered to take cognizance of causes civil and criminal. Justices of the peace and other judicial officers were authorized to be appointed in Oregon, with power to exercise all process issuing from the courts of that province, and to with and hold course of record for the trial of criminal offences and misdemeanors," not made the subject of capital punishment, and also of civi cases, where the cause of action shall not "exceed in value the amount or sum two hundred pounds."

shall not operate to the exclusion "of the sub jects of any foreign States who, under er by force of any convention for the time being, hetween 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 unde this act British subjects have enjoyed the pro tection of British laws and British judicial bunals throughout the whole of Oregon, Amen can citizens, in the same territory, have enjoy no such protection from their government. the same time, the result illustrates the chara ter of our people and their institutions. In spite of this neglect, they have multiplied, and their number is rapidly increasing in that te-ritory. They have made no appeal to arms, but have peacefully fortified themselves in the new homes, by the adoption of republican in stitutions for themselves; furnishing another m ample of the truth that self-government is inherent in the American breast, and must prevail. It is due to them that they should been braced and protected by our laws. It is deemed important that our laws regula ting trade and intercourse with the Indian trib east of the Racky mountains, should be exten ded to such tribes as dwell beyond them. The increasing emigration to Oregon, m the care and protection which is due from the government to its citizens in that distant region make it cur duty, as it is our interest, to cul vate amicable relations with the Incian triber of that territory. For this purpose, I recommended that provision be made for establishing an la dian agency, and such sub-agencies as mity b deemed necessary, beyond tha Rocky me tains. For the protection of emigrants whilst a their way to Oregon, against the attacks of the Indian tribes occupying the country through which they pass, 1 recommend that a suitable number of stockades and block-house forts be erected along the usual route between our from tier settlements on the Missouri and the Rocky mountains; and that an adequate force of mos ted riflemen be raised to guard and protoci them on their journey. The immediate adop tion of these recommendations by Congress will not violate the provisions of the existing treaty. It will be doing nothing more for Amer can citizens than British laws have long sind done for British subjects in the same territory It requires several months to perform the voyage by sea from the Atlantic States to Oregon; and although we have a large number of whale ships in the racific, but few of them af-ford an opportunity of interchanging intelli-gence, without great delay, between our set-tlements in that distant region and the United States. An overland mail is believed to be entirely practicable; and the importance of a tablishing such a mail, at least once a mon submitted to the favorable consideration of Co It is submitted to the wisdom of Con gress to determine whether, at their preof the year's notice, any other measures may be adopted, consistently with the convention of 1827, for the security of our rights, and the government & the protection of our citizens in Oregon. That i will ultimately he wise and proper to mak liberal grants of land to the patriotic po neers, who, amidst privations and danger lead the way through savage tribes inhat tung the vast wilderness intervens between our frontier settlements and Or gon, and who cultivate, and are ever real to defend the soil, I am fully antiafer To doubt whether they will obtain m grants as soon as the convention between

also the correspondence of the latter with the authorities of Texas; together with the official documents transmitted by him to his own government.

The terms of annexation which were offered by the United States having been accepted by Texas, the public faith of both parties is solumnly pledged to the compact of their union. Nothing remains to consummate the event, but the passage of an act by Congress to admit the State of Texas into the Union upon an equal footing with the original States. Strong reasons exist why this should be done at an early period of the session. It will be observed that, by the constitution of Texas, the existing government is only continued temporarily till Congress can act; and that the third Monday of the present month is the day appointed for holding the first general election. On that day a governor, a lieutenant governor, and both branches of the legislature, will be chosen by the people. The President of Texas is required, immediately after the receipt of official in. formation that the new State has been ad mitted into our Union by Congress, to convene the legislature; and, upon its meeting, the existing government will supersoded, and the State government organized. Questions deeply interesting to Texas, in common with the other States; the extension of our revenue laws and judicial system over her people and territo ry, as well as measures of a local character, will claim the early attention of Congress; and, therefore, upon every principle of republican government, she ought to be represented in that body without unnecessary delay. I cannot too carnestly recommend prompt action on this important subject.

As soon as the act to admit Texas as a State shall be passed, the union of the two own voluntary consent.

This accession to our territory has been a bloodless achievement. No arm of force has been raised to produce the result. The sword has had no part in the victory. We have not sought to extend our territorial possessions by conquest, or our republican institutions over a reluctant people. It was the deliberate bomage of each people to the great principle of our federative union.

If we consider the extent of territory in volved in the annexation - its prospective uffuence on America, the means by which It has been accomplished, springing pure-ly from the choice of the people themselves to share the blessings of our union, the history of the world may be challenged to furniso a parallel.

The jurisdiction of the United States, which at the formation of the federal con-stitution was bounded by the St. Mary's,

and out charge d'affaires in Texas; and ic intercourse between the two countries was suspended.

ever resist foreign interference.

Since that time Mexico has, until recently, occupied an attitude of hestility towards the Unitedted States, has been mar-

shalling 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 ter ritory, to protect and defend them against the menaced at'ack. 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 courtry, as to make it our duty to afford such protection and defence. I therefore deemed fit proper, as a precautionary measure, to order a strong squadron to the coasts of Mexico, and to concentrate an efficiet 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 ordered to co-operate with the army. But though our army and navy were placed in a position to defend our own, and the rights 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 disturbed.

Texas had declared her independence, and maintained it by her arms for more than nine years. She has had an organi republice will be consummated by their zed 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. Treatie's 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 vain, Even Mexi co herself had become satisfied of this fact;

and whilst the question of annexation was pending before the people of Texas, during the past summer, the government of Mexico by a formal act, agreed to recognise the independence of Texas on condi tion that she would not annex herself to any other Power. The agreement to ac knowledge the independence of Texas,

whether with or without this condition, is conclusive against Mexico. The indepen dence of Texas is a fact conceded by Mex

esult, and the convention of 1818 was left an chauged.

The negotiation of 1826, having also failed to effect an adjustment by compromise, resulted in the convention of August the sixth, 1827, by which it was agreed to continue in force, for an indefinite period, the provisions of the third article of the convention of the twentieth of October. 1818; and it was further provided, that "it

as is believed, maintained by irrefragable facts and arguments. The civilized world will see in these proce-dings a spirit of liberal concession on the part of the United States; and this government will be relieved from all resseule the controversy.

the whole Gregon territory asserted, and,