

relations, of the practice of speaking plainly, dealing justly, and requiring truth and justice in return, as the best conservatives of the peace of nations; a strict impartiality in our manifestations of friendship, in the commercial privileges we concede, and those we require from others; these, accompanied by a disposition as prompt to maintain, in every emergency, our own rights, as we are from principle averse to the invasion of those of others, have given to our country and government a standing in the great family of nations of which we have just cause to be proud, and the advantages of which are experienced by our citizens throughout every portion of the earth to which their enterprising and adventurous spirit may carry them. Few, if any, remain insensible to the value of our friendship, or ignorant of the terms on which it can be acquired, and by which it can alone be preserved.

A series of questions of long standing, difficult in their adjustment, and important in their consequences, in which the rights of our citizens and the honour of the country were deeply involved, have, in the course of a few years, (the most of them during the successful administration of my immediate predecessor), been brought to a satisfactory conclusion; and the most important of them are, I am happy to believe, in a fair way of being speedily and satisfactorily adjusted.

With all the Powers of the world our relations are those of honorable peace. Since your adjournment, nothing serious has occurred to interrupt and threaten this desirable harmony. If clouds have lowered above the other atmosphere, they have not cast their portentous shadows upon our happy shores. Bound by no entangling alliances, yet linked by a common nature and interest with the other nations of mankind, our aspirations are for the preservation of peace, in whose solid and civilizing triumphs all may participate with a generous emulation. Yet it behoves us to be prepared for any event, and to be always ready to maintain those just and enlightened principles of national intercourse, for which this government has ever contended. In the shock of contending empires, it is only by assuming a resolute bearing, and clothing themselves with defensive armor, that neutral nations can maintain their independent rights.

The excitement which grew out of the territorial controversy between the United States and Great Britain having in a great measure subsided, it is hoped that a favourable period is approaching for its final settlement. Both Governments must now be convinced of the danger with which the question is fraught; and it must be their desire, as it is their interest, that this perpetual cause of irritation should be removed as speedily as practicable. In my last annual message you were informed that the proposition for a commission of exploration and survey promised by Great Britain had been received, and that a counterproject, including a sole provision for the certain and final adjustment of the limits in dispute, was then before the British Government for its consideration. The answer of that Government, accompanied by additional propositions of its own, was received through its minister here, since your separation. These were promptly considered; such as were deemed correct in principle, and consistent with a due regard to the just rights of the United States and of the State of Maine, concurred in; and the reasons for dissenting from the residue, with an additional suggestion on our part, communicated by the Secretary of State to Mr. Fox. That minister, not feeling himself sufficiently instructed upon some of the points raised in the discussion, felt it to be his duty to refer the matter to his own Government for its further decision. Having now been for some time under its advisement, a speedy answer may be confidently expected. From the character of the points still in difference, and the undoubted disposition of both parties to bring the matter to an early conclusion, I look with entire confidence to a prompt and satisfactory termination of the negotiation. Three commissioners were appointed shortly after the adjournment of Congress, under the act of the last session providing for the exploration and survey of the line which separates the States of Maine and New Hampshire from the British Provinces; they have been actively employed until their progress was interrupted by the inclemency of the season, and will resume their labors as soon as practicable in the ensuing year.

It is understood that their respective examinations will throw light upon the subject in controversy, and serve to remove any erroneous impressions which may have been made elsewhere prejudicial to the rights of the United States. It was, among other reasons, with a view of preventing the embarrassments which in our peculiar system of government, impede and complicate negotiations involving the territorial rights of a State, that I thought it my duty, as you have been informed on a previous occasion, to propose to the British Government, through its minister at Washington, that early steps should be taken to adjust the points of difference on the line of boundary from the entrance of Lake Superior to the most northern point of the Lake of the Woods, by the arbitration of a friendly Power, in conformity with the Seventh Article of the Treaty of Ghent—No answer has yet been returned by the British Government to this proposition.

With Austria, France, Prussia, Russia, and the remaining Powers of Europe, I am happy to inform you, our relations continue to be of

the most friendly character. With Belgium, a treaty of commerce and navigation, based upon liberal principles of reciprocity and equality, was concluded in March last, and, having been ratified by the Belgian government, will be duly laid before the Senate. It is a subject of congratulation that it provides for the satisfactory adjustment of a long standing question of controversy; thus removing the only obstacle which could obstruct the friendly and mutually advantageous intercourse between the two nations. A messenger has been despatched with the Hanoverian treaty to Berlin, where according to stipulation, the ratifications are to be exchanged. I am happy to announce to you that, after many delays and difficulties, a treaty of commerce and navigation, between the United States and Portugal, was concluded and signed at Lisbon, on the 26th August last, by the plenipotentiaries of the two Governments. Its stipulations are founded upon those principles of mutual liberality and advantage which the United States have always sought to make the basis of their intercourse with foreign powers, and it is hoped they will tend to foster and strengthen the commercial intercourse of the two nations.

Under the appropriation of the last session of Congress, an agent has been sent to Germany, for the purpose of promoting the interest of our tobacco trade.

The commissioners appointed under the convention for the adjustment of claims of citizens of the United States upon Mexico having met and organized at Washington, in August last, the papers in the possession of the Government, relating to those claims, were communicated to the board. The claims not embraced by the convention are now the subject of negotiation between the two Governments, through the medium of our minister at Mexico.

Nothing has occurred to disturb the harmony of our relations with the different Governments of South America. I regret, however, to be obliged to inform you that the claims of our citizens upon the late Republic of Columbia have not yet been satisfied by the separate Governments into which it has been resolved.

The charge d'affaires of Brazil having expressed the intention of his Government not to prolong the treaty of 1828, it will cease to be obligatory upon either party on the 12th day of December, 1841, when the extensive commercial intercourse between the United States and that vast empire will no longer be regulated by express stipulations.

It affords me pleasure to communicate to you that the Government of Chili has entered into an agreement to indemnify the claimants in the case of the Macedonian, for American property seized in 1819; and to add, that information has also been received which justifies the hope of an early adjustment of the remaining claims upon that Government.

The commissioners appointed in pursuance of the convention between the United States and Texas, for making the boundary between them, have according to the last report received from our commissioner, surveyed and established the whole extent of the boundary north along the western bank of the Sabine river, from its entrance into the Gulf of Mexico to the thirty second degree of north latitude. The commission adjourned on the 16th June last, to reassemble on the 1st of November, for the purpose of establishing accurately the intersection of the thirty second degree of latitude with the western bank of the Sabine, and the meridian line thence to Red River. It is presumed that the work will be concluded in the present season.

The present sound condition of their finances and the success with which embarrassments in regard to them, at times apparently insurmountable, have been overcome, are matters upon which the people and Government may well congratulate themselves. An overflowing treasury, however it may be regarded as an evidence of public prosperity, is seldom conducive to the permanent welfare of any people; and experience has demonstrated its incompatibility with the salutary action of political institutions like those of the United States. Our safest reliance for financial efficiency and independence has, on the contrary, been found to consist in ample resources unencumbered with debt; and, in this respect, the Federal Government occupies a singularly fortunate and truly enviable position.

## European News.

BY THE ACADIA.

From British Papers to the 4th December.

London Gazette Extraordinary. BUCKINGHAM PALACE, Nov. 21, 1840. ACCOUCHEMENT OF THE QUEEN—BIRTH OF A PRINCESS ROYAL.

This afternoon, at ten minutes before two, the QUEEN was happily delivered of a Princess. His Royal Highness Prince Albert, her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent, several Lords of her Majesty's Privy Council, and the Ladies of her Majesty's Bedchamber being present. The great and important news was immediately made known to the town by the firing of the Tower Guns; and the Privy Council being assembled as soon as possible thereupon, at the Council Chamber, Whitehall, it was ordered, that a form of Thanksgiving for

the Queen's safe delivery of a Princess, be prepared by his Grace the Archbishop of Canterbury, to be used in all Churches and Chapels throughout the Kingdom.

Her Majesty and the young Princess are, God be praised, both doing well.

Immediately after the birth of the young Princess, summonses were issued for holding a Privy Council at the Council Office, at four o'clock. The Council sat nearly an hour, and was attended by his Royal Highness Prince Albert, the Lord Chancellor, Viscount Melbourne, Lord John Russell; the Lord Chief Justice of the Queen's Bench, the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Bishop of London, and several other Councillors. Up to six o'clock her Majesty and the Royal Infant were informed, were doing well. The Princess, it is said, is a fine healthy child. The bells of St. Margaret's Church, and the other Churches in the Metropolis, communicated the happy event by ringing merry peals during the afternoon and in the evening.

The intelligence of her Majesty's safe accouchement, and the birth of the Princess Royal spread like wildfire through the metropolis, and the crowd, which for an hour or two before, had assembled round the gates of the Palace, was soon augmented by the numbers who came running from all directions to ascertain the fact.

From the Court Newsmen.

Her Majesty was taken unwell at an early hour on Saturday morning, and the medical gentlemen were in consequence summoned to Buckingham Palace.

The Duchess of Kent was sent for at half past eight o'clock by his Royal Highness Prince Albert. Her Royal Highness immediately went to the Palace and remained with her Majesty throughout the day until 6 o'clock in the evening.

Sir James Clark left the Palace to give the requisite information to Viscount Melbourne. The Noble Viscount and the Lord Chancellor arrived at the Palace before 10 o'clock. Summonses were sent to the principal Cabinet Ministers and Great Officers of State in town, and expresses were forwarded to the Marquess of Lansdowne, Lord President of the Council, at his seat, Bowood Park, Wilts, and to the Earl of Clarendon, Lord Privy Seal, at Watford.

Some Cabinet Ministers and the Great Officers of State, arrived before 12 o'clock, and between 12 and 1 o'clock, the Archbishop of Canterbury and the Bishop of London, arrived at the Palace.

Her Majesty was safely delivered of a Princess at 10 minutes before two o'clock. Their Royal Highnesses Prince Albert and the Duchess of Kent were in the room together with Sir James Clark, Dr. Locock, Dr. Ferguson and Mr. Blagden, the medical attendants on her Majesty.

In the adjoining room, the door being open, were the following Privy Councillors—His Grace the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Lord Bishop of London, the Lord High Chancellor, Viscount Melbourne, the first Lord of the Treasury; the Earl of Erroll, Lord Steward of the Household; Viscount Palmerston, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs; Lord John Russell, Secretary of State for the Colonies; and the Earl of Albemarle, Master of the Horse.

In the ante-room, the Countess of Sandwich, Lady of the Bedchamber in Waiting; Lord Byron, Lord in Waiting; Colonel the Hon. Henry Cavendish (clerk Marshal) Equerry in Waiting; Sir Frederick Stovin, Groom in Waiting; Colonel Wilde, Equerry to Prince Albert; and Captain Seymour, Groom in Waiting on Prince Albert.

The infant Princess having been brought into the room were the Ministers and Great Officers of State were assembled, their Lordships took their departure from the palace directly afterwards.

LONDON, Dec. 3.

Court Circular.—The following bulletin of Her Majesty's health was issued yesterday:—

'Buckingham Palace, Dec. 1, 1840,

Half past Nine, a. m.

'The Queen and the Princess Royal continues in a most satisfactory state. Her Majesty's convalescence is so far advanced no more bulletins will be issued.

"JAMES CLARK, MD.  
CHARLES LOCOCK, MD.  
ROBERT FERGUSON, MD.  
RICHARD BLAGDEN."

It is fully expected, in consequence of the convalescent state of her Majesty, that the Court will arrive at Windsor two or three days anterior to Christmas day. It is likewise expected that Her Majesty will make a lengthened stay at

the castle, merely proceeding to town, for a day or two, to open Parliament in February next.

It is believed that the ceremony of christening the Princess Royal will take place at Buckingham Palace on the 22d inst., and that Her Majesty will take Her departure for Windsor on the following day. The private apartments at the Castle have been commanded to be prepared for the reception of the Sovereign by the day above named.

London Times, Dec. 3.

Spain.—The Madrid journals and letters from our correspondent of the 24th ult. have reached us by express.

Madrid continued to enjoy perfect tranquillity. The authorities had adopted energetic measures to prevent the occurrence of the cries in favour of the Infante Don Francisco de Paula, which had produced a certain agitation during the night of the 22d in the direction of the gate of Atocha.

The authorities of Valencia had ordered the removal of the figures and statues of virgins and saints which were placed in niches at the corners of nearly every street of that city.

Royal College of Surgeons.—(From the Medical Gazette.)—Mr Lawrence has been elected into the Court of Examiners in place of Sir A. Carlisle; and the vacancy which that gentleman's decease caused in the Council of the College is now filled by Mr Liston.

Her Majesty, we understand, is now able to leave her room. The answer to inquiries at Buckingham Palace this morning was, that the Queen and the Princess Royal were going on most satisfactorily. It is said the christening of the Princess will take place during the month of January, and that the Royal infant will receive the names of Adelaide Victoria Alexandria.—Standard.

It is reported that Dr. Locock received the sum of £1000, for his services at the accouchement of her Majesty.

London Atlas, Nov. 28.

Floods in France.—A second inundation accompanied with a sea swell, deluged the south and the coasts of France.

At Armayeux, near Mont Blanc, 150 persons are said to have been surprised and covered by the inundation. The mountains of Wache, the Fort de l'Ecluse, near Geneva, is split, and menaces to fall into the Rhone.

A tempest swept over Paris in the afternoon of Saturday. Mr. A. ago was very nearly blown off the Observatoire upon which he had ventured.

Up to the 24th, the Rhone was not in the increase, whilst that of the Saone was, owing to several storms and showers. The suburb of Vaise was again under water. At Nismes on the 19th the Rhone rose about two feet. Numbers of houses, ruined by the first inundation, crumbled under the effects of the second. Bread is exceedingly dear, and from the loss of so much provisions, fear of a famine might be entertained, if not to send a speedy supply was not taken.

The Courier Francais states that the floods having again retarded the arrival of the mail from Marseilles, the directors of the post-office despatched two inspectors to Moulins and Macon in order to establish provisional coaches on the line interrupted by inundations, and to facilitate the prompt arrival of the mails.

The Journal de l'Ain of the 20th states that 455 houses had been completely destroyed in the districts of Pont de Veys and Bage, and 620 in the arrondissement of Trevoux, along the banks of the Saone.

The latest accounts received in Paris from the departments continued to speak of frightful disasters occasioned by the inundations, but they also state that the waters were subsiding.

The creations and promotions on the birth of an heir apparent, of which extravagant expectations have been as usual entertained, will, we have reason to believe, be on a very limited scale.

The rejoicing on the safe delivery of the Queen have been general throughout the country.

Niger Expedition.—The three steam-ships which have been built by Mr. Laird, for her Majesty's service for exploring the river Niger, are now ready for sea. One of them is expected to leave this port very shortly, and the other two will probably soon follow. Liverpool Advertiser.

London Shipping Gazette, Nov. 27.

An awful earthquake took place at the ill-fated island of Zante on Friday 30th ult. Sir Howard Douglas's suite are still there, and have during the last week felt upwards of 100 shocks.