

of the constituted  
authorities, &c.

ing and invigorating all the measures which may be adopted by the constituted authorities for obtaining a speedy, a just, and an honorable peace.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand, and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed to these presents.

Done at the City of Washington, the thirteenth day of May, in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and forty-six, and of the Independence of the United States, the seventieth.

JAMES K. POLK.

By the President.

JAMES BUCHANAN,  
*Secretary of State.*

### 3. *Declaring Alexandria County to be retroceded to Virginia.*

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

#### A PROCLAMATION.

Ante, p. 35

WHEREAS, by the act of Congress, approved July 9, 1846, entitled "An Act to retrocede the County of Alexandria, in the District of Columbia, to the State of Virginia," it is enacted, That, with the assent of the people of the county and town of Alexandria, to be ascertained in the manner therein prescribed, all that portion of the District of Columbia ceded to the United States by the State of Virginia, and all the rights and jurisdiction therewith ceded over the same, shall be ceded and forever relinquished to the State of Virginia, in full and absolute right and jurisdiction, as well of soil as of persons residing or to reside thereon: And whereas, it is further provided, that the said act "shall not be in force until after the assent of the people of the county and town of Alexandria shall be given to it, in the mode therein provided;" and if a majority of the votes should be in favor of accepting the provisions of the said act, it shall be the duty of the President to make proclamation of the fact:

Statement of  
votes.

And whereas, on the 17th day of August, 1846, after the close of the late session of the Congress of the United States, I duly appointed five citizens of the county or town of Alexandria, being freeholders within the same, as commissioners, who, being duly sworn to perform the duties imposed on them, as prescribed in the said act, did proceed, within ten days after they were notified, to fix upon the first and second days of September, 1846, as the time, the court-house of the county of Alexandria, as the place, and *visa voce* as the manner of voting; and gave due notice of the same; and at the time, and at the place, in conformity with the said notice, the said commissioners presiding, and deciding all questions arising in relation to the right of voting under the said act, the votes of the citizens qualified to vote were taken *visa voce*, and recorded in poll-books, duly kept, and on the third day or [of] September instant, after the said polls were closed, the said commissioners did make out, and on the next day did transmit to me, a statement of the polls so held, upon oath, and under their seals; and of the votes so cast and polled, there were, in favor of accepting the provisions of the said act, seven hundred and sixty-three votes, and against accepting the same, two hundred and twenty-two — showing a majority of five hundred and forty-one votes for the acceptance of the same:

Act declared to  
be in full force.

Now, therefore, be it known, that I, James K. Polk, President of the United States of America, in fulfilment of the duty imposed upon me by the said act of Congress, do hereby make proclamation of the "result" of said "poll," as above stated, and do call upon all and singular the persons whom it doth or may concern, to take notice, that the act aforesaid, "is in full force and effect."

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand, and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed.

Done at the City of Washington, this seventh day of September, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty-six, and of the Independence of the United States, the seventy-first.

JAMES K. POLK.

By the President.

N. P. TRIST,  
*Acting Secretary of State.*

4. *Commercial Intercourse with French Vessels from Miquelon and St. Pierre.*

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

## A PROCLAMATION.

April 20, 1847.

WHEREAS, by an act of the Congress of the United States, approved the third day of March, one thousand eight hundred and forty-five, entitled "An Act regulating commercial intercourse within the Islands of Miquelon and St. Pierre," it is provided, that all French vessels coming directly from those islands, either in ballast or laden with articles the growth or manufacture of either of said islands, and which are permitted to be exported therefrom in American vessels, may be admitted into the ports of the United States on payment of no higher duties of tonnage, or on their cargoes aforesaid, than are imposed on American vessels, and on like cargoes imported in American vessels, provided that this act shall not take effect until the President of the United States shall have received satisfactory information that similar privileges have been allowed to American vessels and their cargoes at said islands by the government of France, and shall have made proclamation accordingly:

Preamble.  
1845, ch. 66.

And whereas satisfactory information has been received by me that similar privileges have been allowed to American vessels and their cargoes at said islands by the government of France:

Now, therefore, I, James K. Polk, President of the United States of America, do hereby declare and proclaim that all French vessels coming directly from the Islands of Miquelon and Saint Pierre, either in ballast or laden with articles the growth or manufacture of either of said islands, and which are permitted to be exported therefrom in American vessels, shall from this date be admitted into the ports of the United States on payment of no higher duties on tonnage, or on their cargoes aforesaid, than are imposed on American vessels, and on like cargoes imported in American vessels.

French vessels coming directly from the ports of Miquelon and St. Pierre admitted into the ports of the United States on the same footing with American vessels.

Given under my hand at the city of Washington, the twentieth day of April, A. D. one thousand eight hundred and forty-seven, and of the Independence of the United States the seventy-first.

JAMES K. POLK.

By the President.

JAMES BUCHANAN,  
*Secretary of State.*

5. *Suspension of Discriminating Duties on Vessels from Brazil, and on their cargoes.*

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

## A PROCLAMATION.

Nov. 4, 1847.

WHEREAS, by an act of the Congress of the United States of the twenty-fourth of May, one thousand eight hundred and twenty-eight, entitled "An Act in addition to an act entitled 'An Act concerning discriminating duties of tonnage and impost, and to equalize the duties on Prussian vessels and their cargoes,'" it is provided, that upon satisfactory evidence being given to the President of the United States, by the government of any foreign nation, that no discriminating duties of tonnage or impost are imposed or levied in the ports of the said nation upon vessels wholly belonging to citizens of the United States, or upon the produce, manufactures, or merchandise imported in the same from the United States, or from any foreign country, the President is thereby authorized to issue his proclamation, declaring that the foreign discriminating duties of tonnage and impost within the United States are, and shall be, suspended and discontinued, so far as respects the vessels of the said foreign nation, and the produce, manufactures, or merchandise imported into the United States in the same from the said foreign nation, or from any other foreign country, the said suspension to take effect from the time of such notification being given to the President of the United States, and to continue so long as the reciprocal exemption of vessels belonging to citizens of the United States, and their cargoes, as aforesaid, shall be continued, and no longer:

Preamble reciting act relative to discriminating duties.  
1828, ch. 111