

would consist of demands and pretensions put forward by some and resisted by others; and, there being no supreme authority in such an assembly to enforce the decisions of the majority, the Congress would probably separate, leaving many of its members on worse terms with each other than they had been when they met. But if this would be the probable result, it follows that no decrease of armaments is likely to be effected by the proposed Congress. M. Drouyn de L'Huys refers to a proposal made by Lord Clarendon in one of the last sittings of the Congress of Paris. But Her Majesty's Government understand that proposal to have reference to a dispute between two Powers to be referred to the good offices of a friendly Power, but in no way to the assembling of a General Congress.

Not being able, therefore, to discern the likelihood of those beneficial consequences which the Emperor of the French promised himself when proposing a Congress, Her Majesty's Government, following their own strong convictions, after mature deliberation, feel themselves unable to accept His Imperial Majesty's invitation.

You are instructed to give a copy of this despatch to M. Drouyn de L'Huys.

I am, &c.
(Signed) RUSSELL.

Aberdeen, October 13, 1863.

The Queen was this day pleased to confer the honour of Knighthood upon Alexander Anderson, Esq., Lord Provost of Aberdeen.

Windsor Castle, November 23, 1863.

The Queen was this day pleased to confer the honour of Knighthood upon Robert Porrett Collier, Esq., M.P., Her Majesty's Solicitor-General.

Windsor Castle, November 23, 1863.

The Queen was this day pleased to confer the honour of Knighthood upon Peter Stafford Carey, Esq., Bailiff of Guernsey.

War Office, November 27, 1863.

The Queen has been graciously pleased to give orders for the appointment of Edward St. John Neale, Esq., Acting Chargé d'Affaires in Japan during the absence of Her Majesty's Minister, to be an Ordinary Member of the Civil Division of the Third Class, or Companions of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath.

Foreign Office, November 24, 1863.

The Queen has been pleased to approve of Mr. Richard Williams as Vice-Consul at Waterford for His Royal Highness the Grand Duke of Mecklenburgh Schwerin.

Whitehall, November 6, 1863.

THE Queen has been pleased to issue a new Commission of Lieutenancy for the city of London, constituting and appointing the several persons undermentioned to be Her Majesty's Commissioners

for that purpose, viz.:—William Anderson Rose, Esquire, Lord Mayor of the city of London, and the Lord Mayor of the said city for the time being; William Taylor Copeland and Samuel Wilson, Esquires, Sir James Duke, Baronet, Sir John Musgrove, Baronet, Thomas Challis, and Thomas Sidney, Esquires; Sir Francis Graham Moon, Baronet, David Salomons and Thomas Quedsted Finnis, Esquires, Sir Robert Walter Carden, Knight, and John Carter, Esquire, Aldermen of the city of London; Russell Gurney, Esquire, Recorder of the city of London, and the Recorder of the said city for the time being; William Lawrence, Warren Stormes Hale, Benjamin Samuel Phillips, Thomas Gabriel, William Ferneley Allen, John Joseph Mechi, Edward Conder, James Abbiss, James Clarke Lawrence, Thomas Dakin, Robert Besley, Sills John Gibbons, Sydney Hedley Waterlow, and Andrew Lusk, Esquires, Aldermen of the city of London, and the Aldermen of the said city for the time being; Benjamin Scott, Esquire, Chamberlain of the city of London, and the Chamberlain of the said city for the time being; Frederick Woodthorpe, Esquire, Town Clerk of the city of London, and the Town Clerk of the said city for the time being; Thomas Chambers, Esquire, Common Serjeant of the city of London, and the Common Serjeant of the said city for the time being; John Lorkin, Thomas Pewtress, Daniel Cork, Edward Harrison, Robert Obbard, Samuel Unwin, Thomas Lott, Eugenius Fenning, Benjamin Bower, William Hawtreay, Herbert Lloyd, George Virtue, William Rathbone, Frederick Farrar, Septimus Read, Thomas Henry Fry, William Jones, Thomas Turnbull, Charles Gammon, Henry De Jersey, Blomfield Burnell, Charles Edward Fuller, Thomas Scambler Owden, John Humphreys, John Hawkins Elliott, Joseph Perkins, Charles Reed, George Scamell, and John Annis, Esquires, Deputies of the city of London, and the Deputies of the said city for the time being; Thomas Farncomb, Esquire, formerly Alderman of the said city of London, John Southby Bridge, Thomas Watkins, Jeremiah Evans, George Meadway, William Tylor, William Humphery Pilcher, Thomas White, Henry Kebbel, Thomas Corney, William Christie, Robert Butler Whiteside, and John Britten, Esquires, formerly Deputies of the city of London, Henry Alworth Merewether, Doctor of Civil Law and Serjeant-at-Law, formerly Town Clerk of the city of London, Thomas Baring, Henry Wollaston Blake, Henry Hulse Berens, John William Birch, Travers Buxton, Arthur Edward Campbell, Stephen Cave, Edward Henry Chapman, Robert Wigram Crawford, William Cotton, James Pattison Currie, Bonamy Dobre, Benjamin Buck Greene, Charles Pascoe Grenfell, Henry Hücks Gibbs, John Saunders Gilliat, George Joachim Göschen, James Alexander Guthrie, Thomson Hankey, John Benjamin Heath, Kirkman Daniel Hodgson, Henry Lancelot Holland, John Gellibrand Hubbard, Thomas Newman Hunt, Charles Frederick Huth, Alfred Latham, George Lyall, Thomas Masterman, Alexander Matheson, James Morris, Sheffield Neave, George Warde Norman, Edward Howley Palmer, Thomas Charles Smith, Clifford Wigram, Thomas Matthias Weguelin, and Ross Donnelly Mangles, Esquires, Sir Frederick Currie, Baronet, Charles Mills, Russell Ellice, and Martin Tucker Smith, Esquires, Sir James Weir Hogg, Baronet, Colonel William Henry Sykes, Elliot Macnaghten, William Joseph Eastwick, John Harvey Astell, Henry Thoby Prinsep, and John Pollard Willoughby, Esquires, Sir Henry Creswicke Rawlinson, Knight Commander of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath, Lieutenant-Colonel in the Army, Sir Robert