

## DISCONTINUANCE OF SOUND DUES

*Convention signed at Washington April 11, 1857*

*Ratified by Denmark October 15, 1857.*

*Senate advice and consent to ratification January 5, 1858*

*Ratified by the President of the United States January 7, 1858*

*Ratifications exchanged at Washington January 12, 1858*

*Entered into force January 12, 1858*

*Proclaimed by the President of the United States January 13, 1858*

11 Stat. 719; Treaty Series 67 <sup>1</sup>

The United States of America and his Majesty the King of Denmark, being desirous to terminate amicably the differences which have arisen between them in regard to the tolls levied by Denmark on American vessels and their cargoes passing through the Sound and Belts, and commonly called the Sound Dues, have resolved to conclude a Convention for that purpose, and have named as their plenipotentiaries, that is to say, the President of the United States, Lewis Cass, Secretary of State of the United States, and his Majesty the King of Denmark, Torben Bille, Esquire, Knight of the Dannebrog and decorated with the Cross of Honor of the same order, his said Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires near the Government of the United States; who, after having communicated to each other their full powers, in due form, have agreed to and signed the following articles:

### ARTICLE I

His Majesty the King of Denmark declares entire freedom of the navigation of the Sound and the Belts in favor of American vessels and their cargoes, from and forever after the day when this Convention shall go into effect as hereinafter provided. And it is hereby agreed that American vessels and their cargoes after that day shall not be subject to any charges whatever in passing the Sound or the Belts, or to any detention in the said waters, and both Governments will concur, if occasion should require it, in taking measures to prevent abuse of the free flag of the United States by the shipping of other nations which shall not have secured the same freedom and exemption from charges enjoyed by that of the United States.

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<sup>1</sup> For a detailed study of this convention, see 7 Miller 519.