

RIGHTS OF NEUTRALS AT SEA

Convention signed at Lima July 22, 1856

Senate advice and consent to ratification March 12, 1857

Ratified by Peru May 14, 1857

Ratified by the President of the United States October 22, 1857

Ratifications exchanged at Washington October 31, 1857

Entered into force October 31, 1857

Proclaimed by the President of the United States November 2, 1857

11 Stat. 695; Treaty Series 277 ¹

The United States of America, and the Republic of Peru, in order to render still more intimate their relations of Friendship and good understanding, and desiring, for the benefit of their respective commerce and that of other nations, to establish an uniform system of maritime legislation, in time of war, in accordance with the present state of civilization, have resolved to declare, by means of a formal Convention, the principles which the two Republics acknowledge, as the basis of the rights of neutrals at sea, and which they recognize and profess as permanent and immutable, considering them as the true and indispensable conditions of all freedom of navigation and maritime commerce and trade.

For this purpose, the President of the United States of America has conferred full powers on John Randolph Clay, their Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to the Government of Peru: and the Liberator, President of the Republic of Peru has conferred like full powers on Don José Maria Seguin, Chief officer of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, in charge of that Department: who, after having exchanged their said full powers, found to be in good and due form, have agreed upon and concluded the following Articles.

ARTICLE I

The two High Contracting Parties recognize as permanent and immutable the following principles.

1st That free ships make free goods: that is to say, that the effects or merchandize, belonging to a Power or Nation at war, or to its citizens or sub-

¹ For a detailed study of this convention, see 7 Miller 417.