

**THE MONROE
DOCTRINE, AND
OTHER ADDRESSES**

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The Monroe doctrine, and other addresses by Alfred A. Stockton

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ALFRED A. STOCKTON

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AND

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BY

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ST. JOHN, N. B.

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BY ALFRED A. STOCKTON, LL.D., D. C. L.,

In the office of the Minister of Agriculture at Ottawa.

PREFACE.

When the addresses contained in this volume were delivered I had no thought that they would ever be published. They were prepared for special occasions; the subjects were assigned by those asking for their preparation and delivery; and the articles as now printed are substantially as delivered. Several friends, to whose judgment I have deferred, suggested that it would be advantageous to put these articles in permanent form, and hence this volume. It is notorious that many people, especially in the United States, have hazy and incorrect views as to what the Monroe Doctrine really is, and by whom originated. The hope is expressed that the article on that subject may at least prove useful in stimulating a desire for full and correct information. I trust the reader may find something in the following pages of interest and profit. My thanks are tendered to Mr. Reginald R. Fairweather, student-at-law, for his kindness in preparing the Index. It will facilitate easy reference to the topics discussed.

A. A. STOCKTON.

ST. JOHN, N. B.

18 Charles Street,

February 8, 1898.

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I.

THE MONROE DOCTRINE.

AN ADDRESS DELIVERED BEFORE THE FACULTY AND STUDENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW BRUNSWICK, AT FREDERICTON, N. B., NOVEMBER 5, 1896.

The seventh annual message of President Monroe, delivered December 2, 1823, contained, among other things, the following declarations:

“At the proposal of the Russian Imperial Government, made through the minister of the Emperor residing here, a full power and instructions have been transmitted to the minister of the United States at St. Petersburg to arrange, by amicable negotiation, the respective rights and interests of the two nations on the north-west coast of this continent. A similar proposal had been made by his Imperial Majesty to the government of Great Britain, which has likewise been acceded to. The government of the United States has been desirous, by this friendly proceeding, of manifesting the great value which they have invariably attached to the friendship of the Emperor, and their solicitude to cultivate the best understanding with his government. In the discussions to which this interest has given rise, and in the arrangements by which

they may terminate, the occasion has been adjudged proper for asserting, as a principle, in which the rights and interests of the United States are involved, that the American continents, by the free and independent condition which they have assumed and maintain, *are henceforth not to be considered as subjects for future colonization by any European powers.*"

"It was stated at the commencement of the last session that a great effort was then making in Spain and Portugal to improve the condition of the people of those countries, and that it appeared to be conducted with extraordinary moderation. It need scarcely be remarked that the result has been, so far, very different from what was then anticipated. Of events in that quarter of the globe, with which we have so much intercourse, and from which we derive our origin, we have always been anxious and interested spectators. The citizens of the United States cherish sentiments the most friendly in favor of the liberty and happiness of their fellow men on that side of the Atlantic. In the wars of the European powers, in matters relating to themselves, we have never taken any part, nor does it comport with our policy to do so. It is only when our rights are invaded or seriously menaced that we resent injuries or make preparations for our defence. With the

movements in this hemisphere we are, of necessity, more immediately connected, and by causes which must be obvious to all enlightened and impartial observers. The political system of the allied powers is essentially different in this respect from that of America. This difference proceeds from that which exists in their respective governments. And to the defense of our own, which has been achieved by the loss of so much blood and treasure, and matured by the wisdom of their most enlightened citizens, and under which we have enjoyed unexampled felicity, this whole nation is devoted. We owe it, therefore, to candor, and to the amicable relations existing between the United States and those powers, to declare that we *should consider any attempt on their part to extend their system to any portion of this hemisphere as dangerous to our peace and safety. With the existing colonies or dependencies of any European power we have not interfered, and shall not interfere; but with the governments who have declared their independence, and maintained it, and whose independence we have, on great consideration and on just principles, acknowledged, we could not view any interposition for the purpose of oppressing them, or controlling in any other manner their destiny, by any European power, in any other light than as the manifestation of*