Separation and hold them as we hold the rest of mankind Enemies in War
in Peace friends
We therefore the Representatives of the United States of America in General Congress
assembled appealing to the Supreme Judge of the World for the rectitude of our
intentions do in the name and by authority of the good people of these Colonies
Solemnly publish and declare that these united Colonies are and of right
ought to be Free and Independent States that they are absolved from
all allegiance to the Brish Crown and that all political connexion
between them and the State of Great Britain is and ought to be
totally dissolved and that as Free and Independent States they have full
power to levy War conclude peace contract alleanes, establish commerce &
to do all other acts and things which Independent States may of
right do and for the support of this declaration with a firm reliance on the
protection of Divine Providence we mutually pledge to each
other our lives and Fortunes and our Sacred honour.

That a War was carried on between the United States and the King of
Great Britain from the fourth day of July in the year one thousand
Seven hundred and seventy six until the third day of September in the
year of our Lord one thousand Seven hundred and Eighty three on which
last day and year peace was concluded between the said States and
the said King of great Britain that the definitive Articles of Treaty
and peace between the King of great Britain and the United States
were made on the third day of September one thousand Seven hundred
and eighty three which follows in these words to wit

In the name of the most holy and undivided Trinity
It having pleased the Divine providence to dispose the hearts of the
most Serene and most potent Prince George the third by the grace
of god King of Great Britain France and Ireland defender of the
faith duke of Brunswich and Lunenburgh Arch Treasurer and prince
Elector of the holy Roman Empire &c and of the united States of
America to forget all past misunderstandings and differences that have
unhappyly interrupted the good correspondence and friendship which
they mutually wish to restore and to establish such a beneficial and
Satisfactory intercourse between the two Countries upon the ground
of reciprocal advantage and mutual convenience as may promote
and secure to both perpetual peace and harmony and having for
this desirable end already laid the foundation of peace and
reconciliation by the provisional articles signed Paris on the
thirtieth day of November one thousand seven hundred and eighty
two by the Commissioners empowered on each part which articles
were agreed to be inserted in and to constitute the treaty of peace
proposed to be concluded between the crown of Great Britain and
the united States but which treaty was not to be concluded until
terms of peace should be agreed upon between great britain and
France and his Britannic Majesty should be ready to conclude
such Treaty accordingly and the Treaty between Great Britain
and France having since been concluded his Britannic
Majesty and the United States of America in order to carry into full effect
the provisional articles above mentioned according to the tenor thereof
have constituted and appointed that is to say his Britannic Majesty on his part
David Hartley Esquire member of the parliament of Great Britain and the
United States on their part John Adams Esquire late a commissioner of the
United States of America at the court of Versailles late delegate in Congress
from the State of Massachusetts and Chief Justice of the said State and
Minister plenipotentiary of the said united States to their high
Mightinesses the States General of the United Netherlands Benjamin
Franklin Esquire late delegate in Congress from the State of Pensylvania
President of the Convension of the said State and minister plenipotentiary
from the United States of America at the court of Versailles John Jay Esquire
late President of Congress and chief Justice of the State of New York and
Minister plenipotentiary from the said United States at the court of
Madrid to be the plenipotentiaries for the concluding and Signing the
present definitive Treaty who after having reciprocally communicated
their respective full powers have agreed upon and confirmed the follow-
ing Articles

Article 1st His Britannic Majesty
acknowledges the said United States Viz New hampshire Massachusetts
Bay Rhode Island and providence plantations Connecticutt New York
New Jersey Pensylvania Delaware Maryland Virginia North Carolina
South Carolina and Georgia to be free Sovereign and independent
States that he treats with them as such and for himself his heirs and
successors relinquishes all claims to the Government propriety and
territorial rights of the same and every part thereof

Article 2nd And that all disputes which might arise in future
on the subject of the boundaries of the said United States may be
prevented it is hereby agreed and declared that the following are and
shall be their Boundaries Viz From the North West angle of Nova
Scotia Viz that angle which is formed by a line drawn due North from
the source of saint Croix river to the high lands along the said High
lands which divide those rivers that empty themselves into the
river Saint Lawrence from those which fall into the Atlantic Ocean
to the North westernmost head of Connecticutt River thence down
along the middle of that river to the forty fifth degree of north
latitude from thence by a line due West on said Latitude untill
it strikes the River Iroquois or Cataraquy thence along the middle
of said River into Lake Ontario through the middle of said lake
untill it strikes the communication by Water between that
Lake and Lake Erie thence along the middle of said
communication into Lake Erie through the middle of said Lake
untill it strikes the communication by water between that Lake
and Lake Erie thence along the middle of said communication
into Lake Erie through the middle of said Lake untill it arrives
at the Water communication between that Lake and Lake
Huron thence along the middle of said communication into
the Lake Huron thence through the middle of said Lake to the
Water communication between that Lake and Lake Superior