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 our 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 of our Lord 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 said King of Great Britain and the United States of America were made on the day and year last mentioned, which follow 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 Brunswick and Luneburgh, 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 unhappily 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 grounds of reciprocal advantages 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 provision Articles signed at Paris on the thirtieth 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 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 Esqr member of the Parliament of Great Britain; and the United States on their part, John Adams Esquire 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 Pennsylvania president of the convention 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 & confirmed the following Articles

Article 1st His Britannic Majesty acknowledges the said United States viz. New Hampshire, Massachusetts Bay, Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pensylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia to be free and 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 Highlands, along the said Highlands 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 Connecticut 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 until it strikes the River Iroquois or Cataraquy; thence along the middle of said River into Lake Ontario through the middle of said Lake until 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 until it arrives at the Water communication between that Lake and Lake Huron thence along the middle of said Water communication into the Lake Huron, thence through the middle of said Lake to the Water communication between that Lake and Lake Superior; thence through Lake Superior northward of the Isles Royal and Philipeaux to the long Lake thence through the middle of said Long Lake and the Water communication between it and the Lake of the Woods to the said Lake of the Woods thence through the said Lake to the most north western point thereof and from thence on a due west course to the River Mississippi thence by a line to be drawn along the middle of said Mississippi until it shall intersect the northernmost part of the thirty first degree of North latitude South by a line to be drawn due east from the determination of the line last mentioned in the latitude of thirty one degrees North of the Equator to the middle of the River Apalachicola or Catahouche: thence along the middle thereof to its junction with the Flint River thence straight to the head of Saint Mary's River and thence (down along)