full power to levy War, conclude peace contract alliances, establish com-
-merce and 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, 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 said year last mentioned
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 King of Great Britain and the said United
States. — That the Definitive Articles of Treaty and peace between the
said King of Great Britain and the United States were made on the
day and year last mentioned 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
Brunswick 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 unhappily in-
-terrupted 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
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 provisional Articles signed at Paris on the thirteeth 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 Hartly
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 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 communi-
-cated their respective full powers, have agreed upon and confirmed
the following Articles. — Article 1st His Britannic Majesty acknow-
-ledges the said United States Viz. New Hampshire, Massachusetts Bay
Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, Connecticutt, New York, New
Jersey, Pennsylvania, 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, property
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 follow-
-ing 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 them-
-selves 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, 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 communi-
-cation into the Lake Huron, thence through the Middle of said