correspondence they, too have been deaf to the voice of justice and of consanguinity, we must therefore acquiesce in the necessity, which denounces our seperation 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 the 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 British Crown and that all political connection between them and the State of Great Britain is and ought to be totally, dissolved and that as free and independant States they have full power to levy, war conclude peace contract alliances establish commerce 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 year one thousand seven hundred and seventy six untill 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 United States were made on the third day of September in the 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 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 advantages and mutual convenience as may promote and secure to both perpetual peace and harmony and having for this

this desirable end already laid the foundation peace and reconciliation by the provisional 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 not to be post concluded untill 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 Parliment 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 Deligate 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 and 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 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 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