circumstances of cruelty and perfidy scarcely parralleled in the most barbarous ages and totally unworthy the head of Civilized nation.

He has constrained our fellow Citizens taken captive on the high seas to bear arms against their Country to become the Executioners of their friends and brethrein or to fall themselves by their hands.

He has excited domestic insurrections amongst us and has endeavoured to bring on the Inhabitants of our frontiers the mercilefs Indian Savages whose known rule of warefare is an undistinguished distruction of all ages sexes and Conditions.

In every State of these oppressions we have petitioned for redress in the most humble terms our repeated petitions have been answered only by repeated injury.

A Prince whose character is thus marked by every act which may define a tyrant is unfit to be the ruler of a free people.

Nor have we been wanting in attention to our British Brethren, we have warned them from time to time of attemps by their Legislature to extend an unwarantable jurisdiction over us we have reminded them of the circumstances of our emigration and Settlement here, we have appeaded to their native Justice and magnaninnty and we have conjured them by the ties of our Common kindred to disavow these usurpations which would inevitably interrupt our connexions and 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 State 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 ought 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 Independent 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

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 of year peace was made and 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 in the year last aforesaid 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 Luxenburgh 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 desirable end already laid the foundation of peace and reconciliation by the provincial Articles signed at Paris on the thirteenth 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 untill terms of peace should be agreed upon between Great Britain and France and his Britanic 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 force 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 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