

flesh, salted fish, cheese and butter, beer, oils, wines, sugars, and all sorts of salts, and in general all provisions which serve for the nourishment of mankind and the sustenance of life; furthermore, all kinds of cotton, hemp, flax, tar, pitch, ropes, cables, sails, sail-cloths, anchors, and any parts of anchors, also ships-masts, planks, boards and beams, of what trees soever, and all other things proper either for building or repairing ships, and all other goods whatsoever, which have not been worked into the form of any instrument or thing prepared for war, by land or by sea, shall not be reputed contraband, much less such as have been already wrought and made up for any other use; all which shall be wholly reckoned among free goods, as likewise all other merchandizes and things, which are not comprehended and particularly mentioned in the foregoing enumeration of contraband goods, so that they may be transported and carried in the freest manner by the subjects of both confederates, even to places belonging to an enemy, such towns or places being only excepted, as are at that time besieged, blocked up, or invested.

ARTICLE XXVII. To the end that all manner of dissensions and quarrels may be avoided and prevented, on one side and the other, it is agreed, that in case either of the parties hereto should be engaged in war, the ships and vessels belonging to the subjects or people of the other ally must be furnished with sea letters or passports, expressing the name, property and bulk of the ship, as also the name and place of habitation of the master or commander of the said ship, that it may appear thereby that the ship really and truly belongs to the subjects of one of the parties; which passport shall be made out and granted according to the form annexed to this treaty. They shall likewise be recalled every year, that is, if the ship happens to return home within the space of a year; it is likewise agreed, that such ships being laden, are to be provided not only with passports as abovementioned, but also with certificates, containing the several particulars of the cargo, the place whence the ship sailed, and whither she is bound, that so it may be known whether any forbidden or contraband goods be on board of the same; which certificates shall be made out by the officers of the place where the ship set sail, in the accustomed forms; and if any one shall think it fit or adviseable to express in the said certificates the person to whom the goods on board belong, he may freely do so.

ARTICLE XXIX. If the ships of the said subjects, people or inhabitants of either of the parties shall be met with, either sailing along the coasts, or on the high seas, by any ships of war of the other, or by any privateers, the said ships of war, or privateers, for the avoiding of any disorder, shall remain out of cannon shot, and may send their boats on board the merchant ship which they shall so meet with, and may enter her to the number of two or three men only, to whom the master or commander of such ship or vessel shall exhibit his passport concerning the property of the ship, made out according to the form inserted in this present treaty; and the ship, when she shall have showed such passport, shall be free and at liberty to pursue her voyage, so as it shall not be lawful to molest or search her in any manner, or to give her chase, or force her to quit her intended course.

Form of the passports and letters, which are to be given to the ships and barques, according to the 27th article of this treaty.

To ALL who shall see these presents GREETING.

It is hereby made known, that leave and permission has been given to the master and commander of the ship called _____ of the town of _____ burthen _____ tons or thereabout, lying at present in the port and haven of _____ and bound for _____ and laden with _____ after that his ship has been visited, and before sailing he shall make oath before the officers who have the jurisdiction of maritime affairs, that the said ship belongs to one or more of the subjects of _____ the act whereof shall be put at the end of these presents, as likewise that he will keep, and cause to be kept by his crew on board, the marine ordinances and regulations, and enter in the proper office a list, signed and witnessed, containing the names and surnames, the places of birth and abode of the crew of his ship, and of all who shall embark on board her, whom he shall not take on board without the knowledge and permission of the officers of the marine;— and in every port or haven where he shall enter with his ship, he shall shew this present leave to the officers and judges of the marine, and shall give a faithful account to them of what passed and was done during his voyage; and he shall carry the colours, arms and ensigns of the King, or United States, during his voyage. In witness whereof, we have signed these presents, and put the seal of our arms thereunto, and caused the same to be countersigned by _____ at _____ the _____ day of _____ Anno Domini _____

NOW THEREFORE, to the end that the said treaty may be well and faithfully performed and kept on the part and behalf of these United States, **RESOLVED,** That all captains, commanders, and other officers and seamen, belonging to any of the vessels of war of these United States, or any of them, or of any private armed vessels commissioned by Congress, and all other the subjects of these United States, do govern themselves strictly in all things according to the above recited articles, and that they do afford the same aid and protection to the persons, commerce and property of the subjects of his most christian ma-

jeffy, as is due to the persons, commerce and property of the inhabitants of these United States. **AND FURTHER,** it is recommended to all the inhabitants of these states, to consider the subjects of his most christian majesty as their brethren and allies, and that they behave towards them with the friendship and attention due to the subjects of a **GREAT PRINCE,** who, with the highest magnanimity and wisdom, hath treated with these United States on terms of perfect equality and mutual advantage, thereby rendering himself **THE PROTECTOR OF THE RIGHTS OF MANKIND.**

Extract from the minutes,

CHARLES THOMSON, Sec.

Y O R K T O W N, May 13.

From a Philadelphia paper, of May 9, 1778, printed by James Humphrey's, junior, we have extracted the following.

By the Porcupine frigate, arrived in the river yesterday morning from London, we are favoured with the following advices.

L O N D O N, March 17

PARLIAMENTARY PROCEEDINGS.

HOUSE of LORDS.

The following is the message delivered by Lord Weymouth to the house of lords last Tuesday.

George R.

HIS majesty having been informed, by order of the French King, that a treaty of amity and commerce has been signed between the court of France and certain persons employed by his majesty's revolted subjects in North-America, has judged it necessary to direct, that a copy of the declaration delivered by the French ambassador to Lord Viscount Weymouth be laid before the house of lords; and at the same time to acquaint them, that his majesty has thought proper, in consequence of this offensive communication on the part of the court of France, to send orders to his ambassador to withdraw from that court.

His majesty is persuaded that the justice and good faith of his conduct towards foreign powers, and the sincerity of his wishes to preserve the tranquillity of Europe, will be acknowledged by all the world; and his majesty trusts that he shall not stand responsible for the disturbance of that tranquillity, if he should find himself called upon to resent so unprovoked and unjust an aggression on the honour of his crown and the essential interests of his kingdoms, contrary to the most solemn assurances, subversive of the law of nations, and injurious to the rights of every sovereign power in Europe.

His majesty relying with the firmest confidence on the zealous and affectionate support of his faithful people, is determined to be prepared to exert, if it shall become necessary, all the force and resources of his kingdoms, which he trusts will be found adequate to repel every insult and attack, and to maintain and uphold the power and reputation of this country.

G. R.

The Lord Viscount Weymouth also (by his majesty's command) laid before the house a copy of a paper delivered to Lord Viscount Weymouth by the marquis de Noailles the 13th of March 1778, and translation, which is as follows:

The under signed ambassador of his most christian majesty has received express orders to make the following declaration to the court of London:

THE United States of North-America, who are in possession of independence, as pronounced by them on the 4th of July 1776, having proposed to the King, to consolidate by a formal convention the connection begun to be established between the two nations, the respective Plenipotentiaries have signed a treaty of friendship and commerce, designed to serve as a foundation for their mutual good correspondence.

His majesty being determined to cultivate the good understanding subsisting between France and Great-Britain, by every means compatible with his dignity, and the good of his subjects, thinks it necessary to make this proceeding known to the court of London, and to declare at the same time, that the contracting parties have paid great attention, not to stipulate any exclusive advantages in favour of the French nation; and that the United States have reserved the liberty of treating with every nation whatever, upon the same footing of equality and reciprocity.

In making this communication to the court of London, the king is firmly persuaded, she will find new proofs of his majesty's constant and sincere disposition for peace; and that his Britannic majesty, animated by the same sentiments, will equally avoid every thing that may alter their good harmony; and that he will particularly take effectual measures to prevent the commerce between his majesty's subjects and the United States of North-America from being interrupted, and to cause all the usages received between commercial nations to be in this respect observed, and all those rules which can be said to subsist between the two crowns of France and Great Britain.

In this just confidence, the under signed ambassador thinks it superfluous to acquaint the British minister that the King his master, being determined to protect effectually the lawful commerce of his subjects, and to maintain the dignity of his flag, his Majesty has, in consequence, taken eventual measures in concert with the United States of America.

Signed

Le M. DE NOAILLES.