

We shall retain in our hands, more than we should have done, had we made peace upon our own terms the preceding year. Besides, the proposed acquisitions of that year, we shall have an immense tract of country lying between the lakes *Superior* and *Michigan*, the river *Ouabache* to its junction with the *Ohio*, and the *Ohio* from thence to the *Mississippi* on the one side, and the head of the *Mississippi* to its forks on the other. This tract contains many thousand square miles, and runs from *North* to *South* near as low as *North Carolina*. We have the free navigation of the river *Mississippi*, so that this tract might be made useful to us, could we tell how to people it. But the navigation of the *Mississippi* is of the greatest importance, as it opens an easy communication with the *Ouabache*, the *Ohio*, and the *Hogobegee* or *Cherokees*, whereby all the objections made against improving the lands adjoining to one or other of these rivers, by reason of their lying beyond the mountains, and so far back from the coast, are removed. The lands of the *Ohio* will be greatly increased in value by means of this inland navigation down to the gulph of *Mexico*. We are farther to have all that the *French* claimed or possessed to the east of the *Mississippi* at the back of the *Carolina's* and *Georgia*, excepting the town of *New Orleans*, and the island in which it is situated, containing a prodigious large tract of country, though not equal to that beforementioned, but likely to be much more useful, by reason of
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