

rest, nor at a loss to see their way to it, whenever any preliminary treaty shall have opened the way for them.

To sum up all, they do in fact feel all these matters and reasoning; and persons *are authorized* by them *to treat of peace*, and these persons have declared that any reasonable measures to that end shall have every assistance in their power, whenever Great Britain shall be disposed to it.

It does not appear to your Memorialist (with the most humble deference he speaks it) possible, that any Minister from your Majesty, after the offers of cessions made by the Commissioners, and after the demands made by the Congress thereupon, can meet with the Congress upon ground of treaty, until some preliminary terms be settled, as they may be best settled, under the conditions of a truce as above stated.

Your Memorialist, from his experience in this business; from information of the state of things, being convinced that a preliminary negotiation may be commenced; from his knowledge of the persons with whom such matters must be negotiated, as men with whom it was once his duty to act, with whom he has acted, with whom he has negotiated business