

the breach of neutrality which they allege to be involved in supplying contraband to the belligerents, that it may be well to point out that, if trade in contraband were prohibited by law, it would lead to this inevitable result—that all States would be compelled to fight on their own resources, and, inevitably, the small States would be rapidly absorbed by a powerful State bent on achieving world-dominion.

Exigencies of space prevent this essay from being as complete as it should be. There are at least three important questions in the history of the subject which it has been impossible to elaborate: (i) the policy of Louis XVI in 1778, which led to the passing of the law of July, in which "free ships free goods" was first adopted; (ii) the maritime law of France; and (iii) the general scheme of the old commercial treaties in which the maxim "free ships free goods" was agreed to between the parties to them as a corollary to their acceptance of "enemy ship enemy goods."