

already subsisting as the Americans have with the French King, and to which they referred in the late proposals) both opportunity and right to negotiate separately without France; as such preliminary negotiation would in no way contravene nor even bring into question treaties already subsisting.

This memorial taking up the consideration of your Majesty's service in the affairs of America in this point of procedure, the Memorialist presumes to offer his services to undertake a negotiation for the purpose only of settling a truce with the Americans, as a preliminary measure, in order the better to treat of peace in future; either separately or in any general congress of the Powers of Europe.

The Americans, although they have hitherto declined offers of conciliation, and even of treaty, are yet, at this time, even since the advantages gained for them by the arms of the French King, ready and willing to treat.

The character of all nations, where the power of deliberation lies with the people, fluctuates between the extremes of confidence and jealousy. The peculiar characteristic of the Americans is, jealousy to the extreme. Great Britain hath
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