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CHAPTER I.V.

As Spain had been the ally and dupe of France throughout this contest it was natural to suppose that her interests would be strictly attended to, inasmuch as she endangered her Colonial Empire, lost much in the contest, and risked a great deal more; but from some cause or another her interests were entirely neglected, and the doubtful acquisition of the Floridas did not compensate for the loss of treasure at Omea, or the fleet under Don Juan de Langara. The following is the text of this remarkable treaty with that power:

"In the name of the most Holy Trinity.

"The King of Great Britain and the King equally animated with a desire of putting an end to the calamities of a destructive war, and of reestablishing union and good understanding between them, as necessary for the good of mankind in general as well as for that of their respective kingdoms, states, and subjects have named for this purpose, viz., on the part of His Majesty the King of Great Britain, Mr. Alleyne FitzHerbert, Minister Plenipotentiary to his said Majesty, and on the part of his Majesty the King of Spain, Don Peter Paul Abarca de Bolea Xanines d'Umea, etc., Count of Aranda and Castel, Florida, Marquis of Torres of Villanan, and Rupuiet, Viscount of Rereda, and Yorh, Baron of the Baronies of Gavin, Suctana, Clamosa, Erepol, Trazmoz, La Mata de Castil-Viego, Antillon, La Almoda, Cortes, Jorva, St. Genis, Rabouvillet, Arcan, and St. Colomo de Farnes, Lord of the Tenanco and Honor of Alcalaten, the valley of Rodellar, the castles and towns of Maella, Mesones, Tuirana de Villa Plana, Jaradel and Viladeau, etc., Rico Hombre in Arragon by birth, Grandeo of Spain of the first class, Knight of the Order of the Golden Fleece and that of the Holy Ghost, Gentleman of the King's bedchamber, in employment Captain-General of his armies and his Ambassador to His Most Christian Majesty; who, after having duly communicated to each other their full powers in good form, have agreed on the following preliminary articles:

Article I.—As soon as the preliminaries

shall be signed and ratified sincere friendship shall be re-established between his Britannic Majesty and his Catholic Majesty, their kingdoms, states, and subjects, by sea and by land, in all parts of the world; orders shall be sent to the armies and squadrons, as well as to the subjects of the two powers to stop all hostilities, and to live in the most perfect union, forgetting what has passed, of which their Sovereigns give them the order and example, and for the execution of this article sea-passes shall be given on each side for the ships which shall be dispatched to carry the news of it to the possessions of the said powers.

"Art. II.—His Catholic Majesty shall keep the Island of Minorca.

"Art. III.—His Britannic Majesty will cede to His Catholic Majesty East Florida, and his Catholic Majesty will keep West Florida,—provided that the term of eighteen months, to be computed from the time of the ratification of the definitive treaty, shall be granted to the subjects of his Britannic Majesty who are settled in the island of Minorca, as in the two Floridas, to sell their estates to recover their debts, and to transport their effects as well as their persons without being restrained on account of their religion, or under any pretence whatsoever, except that of debts and criminal prosecutions; and his Britannic Majesty, shall have power to cause the effects that may belong to him in East Florida, whether artillery or others, to be carried away.

"Art. IV.—His Catholic Majesty shall not for the future suffer the subjects of his Britannic Majesty, or their workmen, to be disturbed or molested under any pretence whatsoever in their occupation of cutting, loading or carrying away logwood in a district of which the boundaries shall be fixed, and for this purpose they may build without hindrance, and occupy without interruption the houses and magazines necessary for them, for their families, and for their effects, in a place to be agreed upon either in the definitive treaty, or within six months after the exchange of the ratifications, and his said Catholic Majesty assures to them by this article the entire enjoyment of what is above stipulated. Provided that those stipulations shall not be considered as derogatory in any respect from the right of his sovereignty.

"Art. V.—His Catholic Majesty shall restore to Great Britain the Islands of Providence and the Bahamas without exception, in the same condition in which they were conquered by the King of Spain.

"Art. VI.—All the countries and territories which may have been or may be con-

quered in any part of the world whatsoever by the arms of his Britannic Majesty or by those of his Catholic Majesty, and which are not included in the present articles, shall be restored without difficulty and without requiring compensation.

"Art. VII.—By the definitive treaty all those which have existed till now between the two high contracting parties, and which shall not be derogated from either by the said treaty or by the present preliminary treaty, shall be renewed and confirmed, and the two Courts shall name commissioners to enquire into the state of commerce between the two nations, in order to agree upon new arrangements of trade on the footing of reciprocity and mutual convenience. The said two Courts shall together amicably fix a competent term for the duration of that business.

"Art. VIII.—As it is necessary to assign a fixed epoch for the restoration and the evacuations to be made by each of the high contracting parties it is agreed that the King of Great Britain shall cause East Florida to be evacuated three months after the ratification of the definitive treaty, or sooner if it can be done.

"The King of Great Britain shall in like manner, at the end of three months after the ratification of the definitive treaty, or sooner if it can be done, enter again into the possession of the Bahama Islands without exception. In consequence whereof the necessary orders shall be sent by each of the high contracting parties with reciprocal passports for the ships which shall carry these immediately after the ratification of the definitive treaty.

"Art. IX.—The prisoners made respectively by the arms of his Britannic Majesty and his Catholic Majesty, by land and by sea, shall be restored reciprocally and *bona fide* immediately after the ratification of the definitive treaty without ransom and on paying the debts they may have contracted during their captivity, and each crown shall respectively reimburse the sums which shall have been advanced for the subsistence and maintenance of the prisoners by the Sovereigns of the country where they shall have been detained, according to the receipts and attested accounts and other authentic titles which shall be produced on each side.

"Art. X.—In order to prevent all causes of complaint and dispute which may arise on account of prizes which may be made at sea after the signing of these preliminary articles it is reciprocally agreed that the vessels and effects which may be taken in the channel and in the North Seas after the space of twelve days, to be computed