

principles emulating those that marked and dignified the settlement of Pennsylvania by *William Penn*. It was beyond doubt that the President and Congress sincerely desired to treat the Indians with kindness and justice, and to establish peace, order, and good neighbourhood with all the savage tribes with whom they came in contact, and not to carry war or violence among any of them who appeared peaceably disposed.

A few years before the period of which we have spoken, our government had acquired by purchase the vast and valuable Territory of Louisiana from the renowned *NAPOLEON BONAPARTE*, at that time the Chief of the French Nation. Considering his previous intentions, and actual preparations under his famous General *Bernadotte*, nothing could be more fortunate for these United States than this purchase. Our possession of Louisiana was so grievous a sore to the very jealous Spaniards, that they have, till lately, done all in their power to debar and mislead us from pursuing discoveries in that quarter, or in the Arkansas, Missouri, or *Oregon*. Yet few or none of them probably believed that we should, during the present generation, or the next, attempt the exploration of the distant *Oregon Territory*, which extends from the *Rocky Mountains* to the shores of the Pacific Ocean, or in other words, from the Missouri and Yellow Stone rivers to that of the river Columbia or *Oregon* which pours into the Ocean by a wide mouth at the immense distance from us of about four thousand miles; yet one and twenty men, chiefly farmers and a few mechanics had the hardihood to undertake it, and that too with deliberation and sober calculation. But what will not a New-England