

up, that it shall be done decidedly, so as to avoid all future risk of enmity, and by the foundation of a new connection better adapted to the present temper and interests of both countries."

In the making of the Treaty of Paris the French were strong opponents of the Americans. De Vergennes was quite willing that the Colonies should be independent; but he desired to shut them in between the Alleghanies and the Atlantic. He would prevent them from having fishing rights on the shores of Newfoundland. He demanded large concessions for France in return for assistance afforded, and supported Spain in the contention that the possession of "Florida" involved the territory between the Alleghanies and the Mississippi as far as the Great Lakes. The defeat by Rodney of the French Fleet under De Grasse put an end to these pretensions, and secured this region for the United States.

Under force of circumstances and for reasons which at the time seemed adequate, England, in order to ensure the continuity of her institutions, was obliged to place the kingship in a line which had long been bred in Germany, and was indoctrined with German thought. England herself was in bondage and striving to mould this new line of kings to her needs. The struggle between England and her kings lasted for a hundred years, and the American war was merely an incident arising out of that struggle.

The best part of England was on the side of the Americans, because they also were seen to be striving for liberty. When the Stamp Act was repealed the joy in London was as great as the joy in Boston. The people were no party to the war; it was declared in opposition to the intelligence of Burke, and Fox, of Rockingham, of Chatham, and even of Parliament itself. It was a King's war, encouraged by the servility of North and the perversity of Hillsborough. As a result it left little animosity as a legacy to a later generation, and all that has long since passed away.

On November 30th, 1782, a preliminary Treaty was arranged with the thirteen Colonies, which was designed "to lay the foundation of future good-will, and to leave as few