

"The inhabitants, whether English, French, or others, shall be maintained in the free exercise of their religion.

"The present unhappy contention between Great Britain and her colonies, puts it out of his power to engage for a freedom of trade to the Mother Country ; nor can he make a general promise of passports. As far as it consists with the safety of the troops and the public good, he shall be happy to promote commerce ; and for that purpose promises to grant passports to the Upper Countries when required.

"The General hopes to see such a virtuous provincial convention assembled, as will enter with zeal into every measure that can contribute to set the civil and religious rights of this and her sister colonies on a permanent foundation. He promises for himself that he will not compel the inhabitants of the town to take up arms against the Mother Country, or contribute towards the expenses of carrying on the present war.

The continental army came into this Province for its protection ; they therefore cannot consider its opposers as taking up arms for its defence.

"It is not in the General's power to engage for the return of prisoners. Motives of humanity will induce him to use his interest for their return to their families, provided it can be done without endangering the public safety. Speedy measures shall be taken for establishing Courts of Justice upon the most liberal plan, conformable to the British Constitution.

"The inhabitants shall not be burdened with troops, but when necessity requires it ; of which necessity, the General must be the judge.

"The inhabitants of the country, and savages, shall not enter the town till the guards are posted.

"To-morrow morning, at nine o'clock, the continental troops shall take possession of the Recollet Gate. The proper officers must attend with the keys of all public stores,