

TREATY OF ALLIANCE

Between the United States of America and His Most Christian Majesty. (a)

Feb. 6, 1778.

TREATY OF ALLIANCE.

Annulled by act of Congress of July 7, 1798, ch. 67, vol. 1, 578.

The Most Christian King and the United States of North America; to wit: New-Hampshire, Massachusetts-bay, Rhode-Island, Connecticut, New-York, New-Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North-Carolina, South-Carolina, and Georgia, having this day, concluded a treaty of Amity and Commerce, for the reciprocal advantage of their subjects and citizens, have thought it necessary to take into consideration the means of strengthening those engagements, and of rendering them useful to the safety and tranquility of the two parties; particularly in case Great Britain, in resentment of that connection and of the good correspondence which is the object of the said treaty, should break the peace with France, either by direct hostilities, or by hindring her commerce and navigation in a manner contrary to the rights of nations, and the peace subsisting between the two crowns: And his Majesty and the said United States, having resolved in that case to join their counsels and efforts against the enterprises of their common enemy, the respective plenipotentiaries empowered to concert the clauses and conditions proper to fulfil the said intentions, have, after the most mature deliberation, concluded and determined on the following articles :

ART. I.

If war break out with Great Britain, to be a common cause.

If war should break out between France and Great Britain during the continuance of the present war between the United States and England, his Majesty and the said United States shall make it a common cause and aid each other mutually with their good offices, their counsels and their forces, according to the exigence of conjunctures, as becomes good and faithful allies.

(a) The treaties and conventions between the United States and France, have been :

1. Treaty of alliance between the United States of America and his Most Christian Majesty, concluded at Paris the 6th day of February, 1778. Annulled by act of Congress, passed July 7, 1798. Ch. 67, vol. 1, 578.
2. Treaty of amity and commerce between the United States of America and his Most Christian Majesty, concluded at Paris the 6th day of February, 1778; post, 12. Annulled by act of Congress, passed July 7, 1798. Ch. 67, vol. 1, 578.
3. Contract between his Most Christian Majesty and the United States of America, entered into at Paris by the Count de Vergennes and Mr. Franklin, the 16th July 1782, and ratified by Congress the 22d January 1783; post, 596.
4. Convention between his Most Christian Majesty and the United States of America, for the purpose of defining and establishing the functions and privileges of their respective consuls and vice-consuls. Entered into at Paris the 14th day of November 1788, post, 106. Annulled by act of Congress passed July 7, 1798. Ch. 67, vol. 1, 578.
5. Convention between the French Republic and the United States, done at Paris the 30th of September 1800; the Senate of the United States concurring on the 3d day of February 1801, with the exception of the second article, and substituting another article, limiting the continuance of the treaty to twelve

TRAITÉ D'ALLIANCE

*Entre les Etats Unis d'Amérique et Sa Majesté Tres
Chretienne.*

TRAITÉ D'ALLIANCE,

éventuelle et défensive.

Le Roi très Chrétien et les Etats Unis de l'Amérique Septentrionale, favoir, New-Hampshire, la Baye de Massachuset, Rhode-Island, Connecticut, New-York, New-Jersey, Pensylvanie, Delaware, Maryland, Virginie, Caroline Septentrionale, Caroline Meridionale, et Georgia; ayant conclu ce jourd'huy un traité d'amitié, de bonne intelligence et de commerce, pour l'avantage réciproque de leurs sujets et citoyens, ils ont cru devoir prendre en considération, les moyens de refferer leurs liaisons, et de les rendre utiles à la sureté et à la tranquillité des deux parties, notamment dans le cas où la Grande Bretagne, en haine de ces mêmes liaisons et de la bonne correspondance qui forment l'objet du dit traité, se porteroit à rompre la paix avec la France, soit en l'attaquant hostilement, soit en troublant son commerce, et sa navigation, d'une maniere contraire au droit des gens et à la paix subsistante entre les deux couronnes: Et sa Majesté et les dits Etats Unis ayant résolu éventuellement d'unir, dans le cas prévu, leurs conseils et leurs efforts contre les entreprises de leur ennemi commun, les plenipotentiaires respectifs, chargés de concerter les clauses et conditions propres à remplir leurs intentions, ont, après la plus mure délibération conclu et arrêté les points et articles qui s'ensuivent.

ARTICLE PREMIER.

Si la guerre éclate entre la France et la Grande Brétagne, pendant la durée de la guerre actuelle entre les Etats Unis et l'Angleterre, sa Majesté et les dits Etats Unis seront cause commune et s'entr'aideront mutuellement de leurs bons offices, de leurs conseils et de leurs forces, selon l'exigence des conjonctures, ainsy qu'il convient à de bons et fideles alliés.

years; and afterwards by France, limiting the continuance of the treaty to eight years; and the United States on the 31st July 1801; which ratifications were concurred in by the Senate on the 19th of December 1801, as set forth in the proclamation of the President of the United States, under the date of 21st December 1801; post, 178.

6. Treaty between the United States of America and the French Republic; done at Paris, on the 30th April 1803; post, 200.

7. Convention between the United States of America and the French Republic; done at Paris, on the 30th April 1803; post, 206.

8. Convention between the United States of America and the French Republic; done at Paris, on the 30th April 1803; post, 208.

9. Convention of navigation and commerce between the United States of America, and His Majesty the King of France and Navarre; with a separate article. Signed at Washington, on the 24th day of June 1822; and ratified as stated in the proclamation of the President of the United States, dated the 12th day of February 1823; post, 278.

10. Convention with France, done at Paris, July 4, 1831; post, 430.

11. Convention for extradition of criminals; post, 580, 617.

ART. II.

Object of the treaty, independence of the United States.

The essential and direct end of the present defensive alliance is to maintain effectually the liberty, sovereignty and independance absolute and unlimited, of the said United States, as well in matters of gouvernement as of commerce.

ART. III.

Both parties to make every effort to attain that end.

The two contracting parties shall each on its own part, and in the manner it may judge most proper, make all the efforts in its power against their common enemy, in order to attain the end proposed.

ART. IV.

Concurrence in enterprise.

The contracting parties agree that in case either of them should form any particular enterprise in which the concurrence of the other may be desired, the party whose concurrence is desired, shall readily and with good faith, join to act in concert for that purpose, as far as circumstances and its own particular situation will permit; and in that case, they shall regulate, by a particular convention, the quantity and kind of succour to be furnished, and the time and manner of its being brought into action, as well as the advantages which are to be its compensation.

ART. V.

Conquests that shall belong to the U. States.

If the United States should think fit to attempt the reduction of the British power, remaining in the northern parts of America, or the islands of Bermudas, those countries or islands in case of success, shall be confederated with, or dependant upon the said United States.

ART. VI.

France relinquishes all claim to certain countries, if conquered.

The Most Christian King renounces for ever the possession of the islands of Bermudas, as well as of any part of the continent of North America, which before the treaty of Paris in 1763, or in virtue of that treaty, were acknowledged to belong to the crown of Great Britain, or to the United States, heretofore called British colonies, or which are at this time, or have lately been under the power of the king and crown of Great Britain.

ART. VII.

Conquests that shall belong to France.

If his Most Christian Majesty shall think proper to attack any of the islands situated in the Gulph of Mexico, or near that Gulph, which are at present under the power of Great Britain, all the said isles, in case of success, shall appertain to the crown of France.

ART. VIII.

Neither party to conclude a treaty without the other's consent, &c.

Neither of the two parties shall conclude either truce or peace, with Great Britain, without the formal consent of the other first obtained; and they mutually engage not to lay down their arms until the independence of the United States shall have been formally or tacitly assured, by the treaty or treaties that shall terminate the war.

ART. IX.

No claim of compensation after the war.

The contracting parties declare, that being resolved to fulfil each on its own part, the clauses and conditions of the present treaty of alliance, according to its own power and circumstances, there shall be no after claim of compensation on one side or the other, whatever may be the event of the war.

ARTICLE SECOND.

Le but essentiel et direct de la présente alliance défensive, est de maintenir efficacement la liberté, la souveraineté, et l'indépendance absolue et illimitée des dits Etats Unis, tant en matière politique que de commerce.

ARTICLE TROIS.

Les deux parties contractantes feront chacune de leur côté, et de la manière qu'elles jugeront plus convenable, tous les efforts, qui seront en leur pouvoir, contre leur ennemi commun, afin d'atteindre au but qu'elles se proposent.

ARTICLE QUATRE.

Les parties contractantes sont convenues que dans le cas où l'une d'entre elles formeroit quelqu' entreprise particulière, pour laquelle elle désireroit le concours de l'autre, celle-ci, se prêteroit de bonne foi à un concert sur cet objet, autant que les circonstances et sa propre situation pourront le lui permettre, et dans ce cas, on réglerá, par une convention particulière, la portée des secours à fournir, et le tems et la manière de le faire agir, ainsy que les avantages destinés à en former la compensation.

ARTICLE CINQ.

Si les Etats Unis jugent à propos de tenter la réduction des isles Bermudes et des parties septentrionales de l'Amérique, qui sont encore au pouvoir de la Grande Bretagne, les dites isles et contrées, en cas de succès, entreront dans la confédération ou seront dépendantes des dits Etats Unis.

ARTICLE SIX.

Le Roi très Chrétien renonce à posséder jamais les Bermudes, ni aucune des parties du continent de l'Amérique septentrionale, qui, avant le traité de Paris de mil sept cent soixante trois, ou en vertu de ce traité, ont été reconuës appartenir à la couronne de la Grande Bretagne, ou aux Etats Unis, qu'on appelloit ci-devant colonies Britanniques, ou qui sont maintenant, ou ont été récemment sous la jurisdiction et sous le pouvoir de la couronne de la Grande Bretagne.

ARTICLE SEPT.

Si sa Majesté très Chrétienne juge à propos d'attaquer aucune des isles situées dans le golphe de Mexique ou près du dit golphe, qui sont actuellement au pouvoir de la Grande Bretagne, toutes les dites isles, en cas de succès, appartiendront à la couronne de France.

ARTICLE HUIT.

Aucune des deux parties ne pourra conclure ni treve ni paix avec la Grande Brétagne, sans le consentement préalable et formel de l'autre partie, et elles s'engagent mutuellement à ne mettre bas les armes, que lorsque l'indépendance des dits Etats Unis aura été assurée formellement ou tacitement par le traité ou les traités qui termineront la guerre.

ARTICLE NEUF.

Les parties contractantes déclarent, qu'étant résolues de remplir chacune de son côté les clauses et conditions du présent traité d'alliance selon son pouvoir et les circonstances, elles n'auront aucune répétition, ni aucun dedommagement, à se demander réciproquement, quelque puisse étre l'évenement de la guerre.

ART. X.

To admit other powers to accede to the alliance.

The Most Christian King and the United States agree, to invite or admit other powers who may have received injuries from England, to make common cause with them, and to accede to the present alliance, under such conditions as shall be freely agreed to, and settled between all the parties.

ART. XI.

Mutual guaranty.

The two parties guarantee mutually from the present time, and forever against all other powers, to wit: The United States to his Most Christian Majesty, the present possessions of the crown of France in America, as well as those which it may acquire by the future treaty of peace: And his Most Christian Majesty guarantees on his part to the United States, their liberty, sovereignty and independence, absolute and unlimited, as well in matters of government as commerce, and also their possessions, and the additions or conquests, that their confederation may obtain during the war, from any of the dominions now, or heretofore possessed by Great Britain in North America, conformable to the 5th and 6th articles above written, the whole as their possessions shall be fixed and assured to the said states, at the moment of the cessation of their present war with England.

ART. XII.

Guaranty when to commence.

In order to fix more precisely the sense and application of the preceding article, the contracting parties declare, that in case of a rupture between France and England, the reciprocal guarantee declared in the said article, shall have its full force and effect the moment such war shall break out; and if such rupture shall not take place, the mutual obligations of the said guarantee shall not commence until the moment of the cessation of the present war, between the United States and England, shall have ascertained their possessions.

ART. XIII.

Ratification.

The present treaty shall be ratified on both sides, and the ratifications shall be exchanged in the space of six months, or sooner if possible.

In faith whereof the respective plenipotentiaries, to wit: On the part of the Most Christian king, Conrad Alexander Gerard, Royal Syndic of the city of Strasbourgh, and Secretary of his Majesty's Council of State; and on the part of the United States, Benjamin Franklin, Deputy to the General Congress from the state of Pennsylvania and President of the Convention of the same state; Silas Deane, heretofore Deputy from the state of Connecticut, and Arthur Lee, Councillor at Law, have signed the above articles both in the French and English languages, declaring nevertheless, that the present treaty was originally composed and concluded in the French language, and they have hereunto affixed their seals.

Done at Paris, this sixth day of February, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-eight.

C. A. GERARD, (L. S.)
 B. FRANKLIN, (L. S.)
 SILAS DEANE, (L. S.)
 ARTHUR LEE, (L. S.)

ARTICLE DIX.

Le Roi très Chretien et les Etats Unis sont convenus d'inviter de concert ou d'admettre les puissances, qui auront des griefs contre l'Angleterre, à faire cause commune avec eux, et à accéder à la présente alliance, sous les conditions qui seront librement agréées et convenuës entre toutes les parties.

ARTICLE ONZE.

Les deux parties se garantissent mutuellement dès à present et pour toujours envers et contre tous, savoir, les Etats Unis à sa Majesté très Chrétienne les possessions actuelles de la couronne de France en Amérique, ainsy que celles qu'elle pourra acquérir par le futur traité de paix ; Et sa Majesté très Chrétienne, garantit de son côté aux Etats Unis leur liberté, leur souveraineté et leur indépendance absolue et illimitée, tant en matière de politique que de commerce, ainsy que leurs possessions et les accroissemens ou conquêtes que leur confédération pourra se procurer pendant la guerre, d'aucun des domaines maintenant ou ci-devant possédés par la Grande Bretagne dans l'Amérique septentrionale, conformément aux articles cinq et six ci-dessus, et tout ainsy que leurs possessions seront fixées et assurées aux dits Etats, au moment de la cessation de leur guerre actuelle contre l'Angleterre.

ARTICLE DOUZE.

Afin de fixer plus précisément le sens et l'application de l'article précédent, les parties contractantes déclarent qu'en cas de rupture entre la France et l'Angleterre, la garantie réciproque enoncée dans le susdit article, aura toute sa force et valeur du moment où la guerre éclatera, et si la rupture n'avoit pas lieu, les obligations mutuelles de la dite garantie, ne commenceroient, que du moment susdit, où la cessation de la guerre actuelle entre les Etats Unis et l'Angleterre aura fixé leurs possessions.

ARTICLE TREIZE.

Le present traité sera ratifié de part et d'autre et les ratifications seront échangées dans l'espace de six mois ou plutôt si faire se peut.

En foi dequoi les plenipotentiaires respectifs, savoir, de la part du Roi très Chretien le Sr Conrad, Alexandre Gerard, Sindic Royal de la Ville de Strasbourg et Secrétaire du Conseil d'Etat de sa Majesté, et de la part des Etats Unis les S^{rs} Benjamin Franklin, Deputé au Congrès Général de la part de l'état de Pensylvanie et President de la Convention du meme etat ; Siles Deane cy-devant Deputé de l'état de Connecticut, et Arthur Leé *Conseiller es Loix*, ont signé les articles ci-dessus, tant en langue Françoisé qu'en langue Angloise, déclarant néanmoins, que le present traité, a été originairement redigé et arrêté en langue Françoisé, et ils les ont munis du cachet de leurs armes.

Fait à Paris, le sixieme jour du mois de Fevrier, mil sept cent soizante dix-huit.

C. A. GERARD,	(L. S.)
B. FRANKLIN,	(L. S.)
SILAS DEANE,	(L. S.)
ARTHUR LEE,	(I. S.)