

of our present difficulties to obtain hard terms from us, but Copy such has been the Kings Magnanimity & Goodness, that he has proposed none which we might not readily have agreed to in a state of full prosperity and establish'd power. The Principal laid down as the basis of the Treaty being as declared in the preamble "the most perfect Equality Reciprocity the privileges in Trade &c. are mutual & none are given to France but what we are at liberty to grant to any other Nation" By the second Treaty France has renounced forever possession to any part of the Continent lately or now in the possession of Great Britain, or acceded to her by the Treaty of Paris & to the Island of Bermuda.

The account of General Burgoin's defeat was received in Paris the beginning of Decem<sup>r</sup> our Commissioners immediately pressed for the Conclusion of the Treaty, and a Council was called the 12<sup>th</sup> in which it was decided to acknowledge and support our Independency.

Our Commissioners are of opinion "That the Treaty with France will certainly be followed by the whole house of Bourbon, and probably by Holland The preparations for War continue daily, & France is determined to protect her Commerce with you" The King of Prussia is well disposed towards you & on application prevented the Hesse & Hanau Troops from passing thro' his Dominions & now waits the Measures of France.

Very considerable supplies sailed from France in February under Convoy, and may be hourly expected. M<sup>r</sup> Carmichael is on board.

I do most cordially and sincerely congratulate you on this most important Intelligence America has now taken her rank among the Nations & has it in her power to secure her Liberty & Independance. let us be grateful to our God for this singular unmerited mark of his favour & protection and continue to exert every means in our power to support the war, this can only be effectually done by speedy and liberal Loans of money to the Continent and a respectable Army. Congress some time past recommended that subscriptions should be opened in each County.

I am &c.  
Sam<sup>l</sup> Chase

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> May 1778

C. B.

Present as on Saturday  
Ordered that the Commissary of Stores deliver to Doct. John Johnson Casmire for a pair of Breeches & Waistcoat with Trimings suitable