

AMITY AND COMMERCE

Exchange of notes at Versailles and Passy August 27 and September 3 and 9, 1784, referring to articles 2 and 3 of treaty of amity and commerce of February 6, 1778

Entered into force September 9, 1784

Treaty declared abrogated by Act of Congress approved July 7, 1798¹

2 Miller 158

The French Minister and Secretary of State to the American Minister

[TRANSLATION]

VERSAILLES

27th August, 1784

SIR:

You have communicated to me an extract from the instructions which Congress addressed to you the 11th May last, which imports that the United States will in no case treat any other nation, with respect to commerce, more advantageously than the French. This disposition is much the wisest, as it will prevent those misunderstandings which might arise from the equivocal terms in which the second article of the Treaty of Amity and Commerce signed 6th February, 1778,² is conceived. But that the resolution of Congress on this subject may be clearly stated, it would be best, Sir, that you furnish me with it in the form of a declaration, or at least in an official note signed by yourself. I have no doubt, Sir, but that you will adopt one of these two forms.

I have the honor to be, etc.,

GRAVIER DE VERGENNES

The American Minister to the French Minister and Secretary of State

PASSY, Sept. 3, 1784

SIR,

I have the Honour to transmit to your Excellency by Order of Congress a Resolution of theirs, dated the 11th of May last, which is in the Words following, Viz,

¹ 1 Stat. 578. See footnote 1, *ante*, p. 763.

² TS 83, *ante*, p. 764.