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His Majesty's Declaration of War against the French King:

George. Th.

The unwarrantable proceedings of the French in the West
India, and North America since the Conclusion of the Treaty of Aix la Chapelle
and the Usurpations and Encroachments made by them upon our Territories,
and the Settlements of our Subjects in those parts, particularly in our Province
of Nova Scotia, have been so notorious and so frequent, that they cannot but
be looked upon as a sufficient Evidence of a formed Design and Resolution
in that Court, to pursue invariably such Measures, as should most effectually
promote their ambitious Views, without any Regard to the most solemn Treaties
and Engagements. We have not been wanting on our part, to make, from time to
time, the most serious Representations to the French King, upon these repeated
Acts of Violence, and to endeavour to obtain Redress and Satisfaction for the
Injuries done to our Subjects; and to prevent the like Causes of Complaint for
the future; but though frequent Assurances have been given that everything
should be settled agreeable to the Treaties subsisting between the two Crowns,
and particularly that the Evacuation of the four neutral Islands in the West
India should be effected which was expressly promised to our Ambassador
in France; the Execution of these Assurances, and of the Treaties on which they
were founded, has been evaded under the most frivolous Pretences; and the
unjustifiable Practices of the French Governours, and of the Officers acting
under their Authority, were still carried on till at length in the Month of April
one thousand seven hundred and fifty four they broke out in open Acts of
Hostility when in time of profound Peace without any Declaration of War, and
without any previous Notice given, or Application made a Body of French
Troops under the Command of an Officer bearing the French Kings Commissions
attached in a hostile manner and possessed themselves of the English Post
in the Ohio in North America.

But notwithstanding this Act of Hostility which could not be looked upon
as a Commencement of War yet from our earnest Desire of Peace, and in hopes
the Court of France would disavow this Violence and Injustice, we contented
ourselves with sending such a Force to America as was indispensably
necessary for the immediate defence, and Protection of our Subjects, against
fresh Attacks and Injuries.

In the mean time great naval Armaments were preparing, in the
Ports of France, and a considerable Body of French Troops embarked
for North America; and though the French Ambassador was sent back
to England with ostensible professions of a Desire to accommodate these
Differences, yet it appeared, that their real design was only to gain time
for the Passage of those Troops to America, which they hoped would
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