VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS, October, 1778.

ARTICLE

Ir the ships of the said subjects, people or inhabitants of either of the parties shall be met with. either failing along the coasts or on the high seas, by any ship of war of the other, or by any privateers, the faid ships of war or privateers, for the avoiding of any disorder, shall remain out of cannon shot, and may send their boats on board the merchant ship which they shall so meet with, and may enter her to the number of two or three men only, to whom the mafter or commander of fuch ship or vessel shall exhibit his passport concerning the property of the ship, made out according to the form inferted in this present treaty, and the ship, when she shall have shewed such paffport, shall be free and at liberty to pursue her voyage, so as it shall not be lawful to molest or fearch her in any manner, or to give her chace or force her to quit her intended course.

ARTIC

It is also agreed, that all goods, when once put on board the ships or vessels of either of the two contracting parties, shall be subject to no farther visitation, but all visitation or search shall be made before hand, and all prohibited goods shall be stopped on the spot before the same be put on board, unless there are manifest tokens or proofs of fraudulent practice; nor shall either the persons or goods of the subjects of his Most Christian Majesty or the United States, be put under any arrest or molested by any other kind of embargo for that cause, and only the subject of that State to whom the said goods have been or shall be prohibited, and who shall presume to sell or alienate such fort of goods, shall be duly punished for the offence.

ARTICLE

THE two contracting parties grant mutually the liberty of having each in the ports of the other, Contuls, Vice-Consuls, Agents and Commissaries, whose functions shall be regulated by a particular agreement.

ARTICLE

AND the more to favour and facilitate the commerce which the subjects of the United States m ay have with France, the Most Christian King will grant them in Europe one or more free ports, where they may bring and dispose of all the produce and merchandize of the Thirteen United States; and his Majesty will also continue to the subjects of the said States, the free ports which have been and are open in the French islands of America, of all which free ports the said subjects of the United States shall enjoy the use, agreeable to the regulations which relate to

> ARTICLE XXXIII.

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 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 thereto atfixed their feals.

DONE at PARIS this fixth Day of February, One Thousand Seven Hundred and Seventy-(L. S.) C. A. GERARD.

(L. S.) B. FRANKLIN. (L. S.) SILAS (L. S.) ARTHUR LEE.

Form of the passports and letters which are to be given to the ships and barques, according to the 27th article of this treaty.

TO ALL who shall see these presents greeting. It is hereby made known, that leave and permission. , master and commander of the ship called has been given to

of the town of burthen tons or thereabouts, lying at present in the port and haven of and bound for and laden with

After that his ship has been visited and before sailing, he shall make oath before the officers who have the jurisdiction of maritime affairs, that the said ship belongs to one or more of the subjects of

the act whereof shall be put at the end of these presents; as likewise that he will keep and cause to be kept by his crew on board, the marine ordinances and regulations, and enter in the proper office a lift figned and witnessed, containing the names and sirnames, the places of birth and abode of the crew of his ship, and of all who shall embark on board her, whom he shall not take on board without the knowledge and permission of the officers of the marine, and in every port or haven where he shall enter his ship, he shall shew this present leave to the officers and judges of the marine, and shall give a faithful account to them of what passed and was done during his voyage, and he shall carry the colours, arms and ensigns of the King, or United States, during his voyage. In witness whereof we have signed these presents and put

the seal of our arms thereunto and caused the same to be countersigned by the Anno Domini-

Thomas

DEANE.