



Historic Data Reflecting Additional Information Related to the Declaration of Independence

A Historical Research Project by:

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Presenting the: 15th May 1776 Resolution of Independence signed by John Hancock

The significance of the “15th May 1776 Resolution of Independence” signed by John Hancock, President of Continental Congress has not been identified because the document has been among Silas Deane’s personal papers and was not readily available to add its significance to the overall discussion of American Independency. In its totality, this document will modify the generally held public ideal associated with the Declaration of Independence, and enhance our understanding of the American Revolution and the War for Independence. Further, the document was presented to King Louis XVI by Deane and was not part of the orders that Deane was given on March 3, 1776, in Philadelphia by the Committee of Secret Correspondence. The actions by the Committee ascended Deane to the status of a secret go between to discuss an alliance with the French Crown while on his mission to France.

Deane’s letter of 18 August 1776, to the Committee of Secret Correspondence, refers directly to the May Resolution as follows: *“Without intelligence from April to this time, leaves me quite uncertain and extremely anxious about the line of conduct now pursuing by Congress, and consequently I cannot, without further intelligence and instructions, proceed in my negotiation either with safety or honor. The resolution of Congress of the 15th May is not considered by the ministry a **declaration of Independence**, but only a previous step, and until this decisive step is taken, I can do little more too any purpose. This taken, I dare pledge myself, the United Colonies may obtain all the countenance and assistance they wish for, in the most open and public manner, and the most unlimited credit with the merchants of this kingdom; I must therefore urge this measure, if not already taken, and that the **declaration** be in the most full and explicit terms.”*¹ The question now becomes, how could Silas Deane have known about the Declaration of Independence since, according to his correspondence, he had heard nothing from the Committee since April of 1776? Further, the May 15th Resolution of Independence is not mentioned as a formal document in the Journal of Continental Congress.

At this point, Deane relates that the Resolution of Independence adopted by Congress in May of 1776, is only a step in the right direction. The implication seems to be that the Congressional “Resolution” effort failed in Deane’s view. This is a diplomatic message, and the message back is to encourage, not discourage. The timing of this message means that it cannot play an informative role for the Congress. But it does confirm that the May 15th Resolution and the Declaration of Independence were each written to obtain French support and on a more practical level, supplies and Armament. A review of each document in conjunction with Deane’s letter of the 18th of August provides a contrast to the known story. That is, the direction received by American diplomats from the French has never been fully revealed.

¹ Silas Deane’ letter of August 18th 1776 as published in The Diplomatic Correspondence of the American Revolution, Vol. I by Jared Sparks, published in 1829, see pages 34 to 42 for entire letter. Portion of letter quoted is



With that in mind, how could Deane have written of the need for a Declaration of Independence without direct input and knowledge derived from his communications with the French. To understand this more fully, one has to search the correspondence to and from Silas Deane dated from the date he received his orders to represent American interests in France on March 3, 1776 through his letter of the 18th of August 1776 that Deane authored while in France. To that end, there are 92 microfilmed pages of documents that were returned to Silas Deane's family after his death on September 26, 1789 aboard a ship, which was carrying him back to America. The Deane family donated his documents to the Connecticut Historical Society. The Connecticut Society has cataloged the same by their date and microfilmed each document for posterity.

A search of the Silas Deane papers reveals ten (10) pages from Box 7, folder 18, a Scribed Copy of May 15th Resolution of Independence signed by John Hancock, President. The May 15th Resolution also contains preparatory comments and almost eight (8) pages of notes that had been dictated by Charles Gravier, Count Vergennes to prepare them for presentation to King Louis XVI. This discovery enables one to date the involvement of the French in the politics of the British Colonies in North America to 1761, as alluded to by Count Vergennes' comments.

The May 15th "Resolution of Independence" adopted in 1776 and Silas Deane's letter of 18 August, further reveal how important it was to obtain this early alliance with France, which was established by the signal of signing the Declaration of Independence. The immense nature of this support has been hidden by the successful secrecy involved. The secret cooperation and the manner in which Silas Deane was tasked to establish credit and trade was paved with success based upon the French ministry being intently interested in the success of the American Revolution which is rooted in involvement prior to King Louis XVI's ascent to the throne. King Louis XVI was only 18 years of age when he became King succeeding his grandfather, King Louis XV in 1774. This is reinforced when one thinks of the logistics, lead time and expense of producing additional arms, so that older surplus could be sold to the Americans. The notes of Count Vergennes and the length of time in becoming involved in the creation of the United States of America by the King Louis XV and his motive for involving the Spanish portion of the Bourbon family empire are covered up by steps that remain extremely secretive.

The early involvement of the French in Britain's North American Colonies parallels the development and achievements of the "Sons of Liberty". Historically the achievements of the Sons of Liberty are noted without written historical detail. The dismantlement of the "Sons of Liberty" would be an appropriate step to take when the next step was to replace it with another "Secret" form of leadership and cooperation. Anonymity to the extreme was maintained by the leadership of the "Sons of Liberty" as well as the secret operative, who appears to have supplanted this effort.

The fact that the May 15th Resolution of Independence did not have to wait for formal rejection by the French ministry is proof that an informed secret agent was present in America to make



sure the military items the French had wanted to see America accomplish were being completed and that a prearranged “Declaration of Independence” was the selected method for signaling the French that the changes were complete. Reading the Journal of Continental Congress and looking for these changes and the changes made to the actual Declaration of Independence as it progressed to completion and for signing on August 2, 1776, allow us to identify significant changes that are accomplished from the time of its initial draft. However, there is no record relating to French assistance during this process. Since the secret activity of the Continental Congress has been published, clandestine acts of the French operative were considered part of the pact that had been established with the Bourbon family. This would explain the difficulty in uncovering the same. Further, when the Journal of the Continental Congress is examined there is evidence of accomplishments that were completely unknown to the American Frontier, but were likely completed by European knowledge and experience. For example, the legislation for the Continental Dollar occurs in June 1775 and is a complex affair that suggests the aid of experience of a foreign power and its operative. Also, the Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence that was to be presented to Congress at this time, was instead quietly rolled up and taken back to Mecklenburg County, North Carolina where it remained hidden in the author’s home.

Thus, the signed Resolution of Independence from May 15th suggests that the resolution by John Adams of May 10, 1776 should be compared and contrasted with the resolution by Richard Henry Lee of June 7th of that year. In so doing, one discerns notable additions that occur to the base idea that can be traced as items required correction prior to the signing of the Declaration of Independence per Silas Deane’s letter. The Journal of the Continental Congress states that three members were assigned to write the May 15th Resolution using John Adams statement as a basis for the same. These members were John Adams, Edward Rutledge, and Richard Henry Lee. The reference in the Journal of the Continental Congress establishes the closeness of the parties authoring the Resolution and the statement also supports the Declaration of Independence. The statement of Independence offered by Richard Henry Lee on June 7, 1776 added two additional objectives. While the new statement started with the objective of Independence, it added the need for a written Articles of Confederation, and the need to write an alliance with a foreign government. Based on Deane’s August 18th letter, these are the objectives that fit within the needs expressed in the diplomatic discussions used to pass this message.

There are numerous incidents plagued by secrecy during the Revolution and the War for Independence that built resistance to the “Ratification of the Constitution”. The eventual evolution of the “Know nothing Party” and the “Anti-Masonic Party” are based upon Americans who complained about the fact that they did not have the entire story. The riots at the ratifications resulted in the loss of life. The story of the Anti-Masonic Party and the search that was unleashed in 1832 is undoubtedly traceable to the role of the secret Bourbon operative that was sent to guide the Revolution.



This extreme code of anonymity can be seen in the production of the US Constitution. Generally, it is well known that the “Federalist Papers” were authored as a means of assuring the public of the soundness of the proposed Constitution. The reason for the extreme anonymity about what actually occurred during the secret sessions of the Continental Congress, the drafting of the Declaration of Independence remains and the role of the secret Bourbon operative remains largely a mystery. By conducting the business during the dark session, the operative’s anonymity was left intact. The experience and the role were such that this operative potentially could have selected to lead the country as President. The Constitution sets forth that: “No Person except a natural born Citizen, or a Citizen of the United States, at the time of the Adoption of this Constitution, shall be eligible to the Office of President”. There is no experience or historical event that suggests the need for this parameter. While it is commonly quoted as a parameter that our Founding Father laid down, where is evidence to support its insertion? This is not a requirement for any other office listed under the Constitution. Moreover, it has been formally written that the public has never been told who the authored of the Constitution.²

One can understand how our government might find this information on this topic difficult to release as it involves history that they undoubtedly have difficulty presenting as they may lack vital pieces of this story. The revelation of the “May 15th 1776 Resolution of Independence” should help to prompt the archives to reveal any data it may poses relating to this situation. The difference in timing between the accomplishments of July 4th 1776 and the appeal by Silas Deane in his August 18th letter are a result of the difficulty of communication during the Colonial Period. Such timing also provides us with sound evidence and the need to further analyze the relevant events pertaining to this operative.

I have attached a typed copy of the “May 15th 1776 Resolution of Independence” labeled Exhibit A and notes that were attached by microfilm that are authored by Count Vergennes. The concept that a secret effort is already underway is confirmed by the discussion of Silas Deane in his letter and of his meeting with Count Vergennes. This concept is historically documented in Silas Deans letter as he quotes the Count “That as to Independency, it was an event in the womb of time, and it would be highly improper for him to say anything on that subject, until it had actually taken place.”³ Communications lag time and the discovery of the May 15th Resolution of Independence has provided us with proof that reveals the importance of the French role in the construction of our Declaration of Independence.

² The late Richard S. Rodney, the first Judge appointed to the Delaware Federal Court, past member of the Delaware Supreme Court, descendant of George Reed, signer of the Declaration and Constitution (signed for John Dickenson who was on his death bed at the time of the signing of the Constitution), descendant of George Ross signer of the Declaration, and descended from same family as Caesar Rodney (Caesar Rodney had no issue) has published an article establishing this fact.

³ The Diplomatic Correspondence of the American Revolution, Vol. I, by Jarred Sparks, published in 1829 see page 36. Silas Deane’ letter of 18th August 1776 is published in the book along with additional letters.



Exhibit A

15 May 1776

Messieurs

Messier Deane has received the following Intelligence which may be relied as being authentic –

“The Congress of the 15th May came to a Resolution of Independence copy of which-
Is below”

‘American United Colonies’

‘In Congress May 15, 1776’

Whereas his Brittannick Majesty in conjunction with the Lord of Commons of Great Britain, has by a late Act of Parliament excluded the Inhabitants of these United Colonies from the protection of the Crown, and Whereas no answer whatever to the humble petition of the Colonies for redress of grievances and reconciliation with Great Britain has been or is likely to be given; But the who force of the Kingdom aided by foreign Mercenaries, is to be exerted for the Destruction of the good People of these Colonies; And whereas it appears absolutely irreconcilable to Reason and good conscience for the people of these Colonies to take the Oaths and Affirmations necessary for the support of any Government of Great Britain, and is necessary for the Exercise of every kind of authority under said Crown should be totally suppressed, and all in the power of the Government exerted, under the Authority of the People of these Colonies, for the preservation of internal Peace, Virtue and good order, as well for the defense of ourselves, Liberties and properties, against the hostile invasion, and cruel depredations of our Enemies-

Therefore Resolve that it be recommended to the respective assemblies and Conventions of the United Colonies, where no Government sufficient to the exigencies of their Affairs has been hither to established, to adopt such Government as shall in the opinion of the Representatives of the People best conduce to the happiness and Safety of their Constituents, in particular and America in general.

By Order of Congress

Signed - **John Hancock, President**



Exhibit B

Page 1 of 3

The following information is attached to the document as stored on microfilm in the Connecticut Historical Society. Per Silas Deane' letter of 18 August 1776 this Memorandum has been written by Count Vergennes and added to prepare it for presentation to King Louis XVI. There are eight hand written pages that transcribed to three typed pages.

This intelligence affirms M. Deane that he will soon receive particular, and important Instructions in consequence of this resolution, from the Congress of the United Colonies whose eyes were fixed on the Court of France, for the Countenance, & encouragement in their great struggle, & to which their first application would be made_

M. Deane further learns, that the Colonies continue United, & resolute, that they had strongly fortified all their principal Ports, particularly Boston, Newport, New London, New York, Philadelphia & That their ships of War, & Privateers had been very successful; and taken many valuable prizes.

Prizes, among other the Lynn – and that the Chiefs of the Indians, on the Frontiers to a large number had met at Philadelphia, on the 3rd of June to confer with Congress, & confirm their Friendship & Alliance-

Thus far his intelligence is undoubtedly to be relied on- A report prevailed when the vessel came away that General Howe had met with a defeat, in attempting to land at Rhode Island, in which he suffered much-

This wants confirmation, but the time in which it is said to have happened agrees well with the Time General Howe might have been expected at that place, as he left Halifax the 10th of May- The critical situation of his Country, & the uncertainty issue of the most Just and well conceived War, make M. Deane anxiously attentive to everything, which may affect the present, and therefore he takes Liberty to mention that the Letter from London, and also from Amsterdam, he is told, that the British Court have sent to apply to the Court of France to have all Commerce with the United Colonies prohibited & even to propose their taking an active part against them—He dare not engage, for the truth of this report, but it is a fact , that British Ships of War, are cursing off the River of Bordeaux & some other ports to intercept all Commerce between the two countries. I have had the Assurance to ship the Ships belonging to the subjects of France on its own Coast to Great Britain, & remonstrance's of the Colonies & conscious of her own favorite, but ambitious views of facing an absolute, and boundless Empire in the Western World, has refused from the first event, to hear their most humble petitions, being predetermined, to carry this design to execution, knowing it could never be effected, but by reducing the Colonist to an absolute, & Military Government in the pursuit of this, they have not here tasted to sacrifice a Capital branch of their Commerce & source of National as well as individual Wealth, for a time at least, and the National Justice, honor, & humanity forever,-- Let the boldest of them deny, or the most humble attempt to evade the charge, and their whole conduct falls into the wildest inconsistency and madness.



Exhibit B

Page 2 of 3

To the impartial within, as well as without the Nation all has appeared mysterious, that a Court so attentive to its own Interest and grandeur should pertinaciously pursue measures obviously destructive of both, must ever so appear so neither out this clue which at once unravels the whole,

The absolute dominion of the Western World, must reform their present Expenses, in which they have advanced too far to retreat, without instant ruin – to effect this, whilst the United Colonies have had a recourse to prayers and in treaties, have appealed to the honor 5

The Justice of the Nation, & to that tender & mutual affection which from the first has subsisted, & ought ever to subsist between them, as well as to every sacred and Dearing Tie of civil society, Great Britain answered by a series of the most oppressive, & Cruel, as well as injurious and Acts private as well as public.

Driven to the last resource, to arms, the Colonies relied solely on the Justice of their cause, and their own fortitude – Whilst Great Britain stilling herself the mistress of the Ocean, & arbitress of Europe, has applied to every foreign power, with whom they had any hopes of succeeding, and has even debased herself so far as to treat with Savages & Slaves, for aid in a contest apparently as unequal as it is cruel and unnatural – in this Crisis the Colonies have no alternative, Death, or submission to Slavery, admits of none, they behold the Storm increasing, & this they view the gathering Tempest unapplied, yet Justice to themselves, and their posterity, & to mankind, interested in the event had them to consult & promise the most probable means of oppressing with success, in the situation with a resolution of applying to the court of France, and laying their Case undiesguisedly before it, they are confident that its well known humanity will not permit Encouragement, or countenance to be given to the Oppression- That its Interest will prevent any Aid to its inveterate, & hereditary Enemy- and its sacred regard to Justice permit the United Colonies she heard & their Cause Judges impartially which has from the first been their whole Domain

In the course of which, it will appear they have not been the Aggressor nor in any Instance, took a single step, or made a claim, beyond the Rights, & privileges, to which they were in titled, by the early, & repeats Acknowledged as genets of Great Britain, & which they had from their first Settlement enjoyed, in order the most solemn Compacts between the Crown, & them- on the other hand it will appear, they immediately after the close of the last War, in which they were involved solely by their Connection with Great Britain, & in which, without sharing any of the Ceded Territories, they had exerted themselves to the utmost of their abilities, and been so lavish of their Men & Money as to extort, even from Great Britain itself a Confession, that they had from their devices the Principal Sources for supporting a War, of the success of which the Britain still boast, that immediately after this War, when the whole attention of the Colonies was turned to their own Domestic Concerns, & were inconsepriciously settled down, at their old simple pursuits, the Cultivation of their Land, fondly hoping to enjoy in peace the fruits of their own Labors – This System pregnant with (what – they must ever consider as) their own immediate ruin & which must ultimately affect every person



Exhibit B

Page 3 of 3

Power in Europe, interested in America, was formed, & execution entered on as early as 1761s and that in the pursuit of it measures have been devised, & Acts passed to take from the Colonies, their dear bought rights, & privileges, & render their Persons & properties, absolutely subject to, & at the disposal of the Parliament, or in other Word the Ministry of Great Britain – To enumerate the whole of which proceedings would be tedious and unnecessary, in a way when they – found the Colonies too much, alarmed, and the time not ripe for their purpose, they needed & courted the confidence of the Colonies, which on a supposition of having gained, they again pursued with fresh steps their original design, & that it was no other but this, the establishing an exclusive & unbounded Dominion in America may be proved from a variety of Evidence, some of which has already been pointed out, - much more may be produced in the course of this enquiry, - It will further appear that finding Ten Years experience, the Colonies abhorrent to their systems, they took the Resolution of reducing them, by Arms, & all the horrors & barbarities of a War which will forever be a disgrace to the Authors & Stains in the annals of civilized Nations, confident of success rendered them regattas of their conduct, & the passion for Domination and wealth first urges the sons to concert this plan, proposing the unprecis ---- many, employs in the execution, produces the dreadful consequences of which we complain - Further on a full examination of the Care of the United Colonies, it will be formed evidently necessary for the Powers of Europe, interested in America, to interpose & prevent the reduction of the Colonies, if they wish to preserve their own settlements, in that quarter of the Globe, from falling under the power of Great Britain.

And if it should further appear that such assistance & interposition as is necessary for this purpose, may be offered the Colonies, without giving cause for disturbing the tranquility of Europe

The Colonies will undoubtedly be thought entitled to receive it, as those who bestow it will forever to the Gratitude, Friendship & good Offices of the United Colonies – But this extensive subject has already drawn out this Memorandum too far – A more proper time will soon come for processing it, to which refer many things on my mind.

IN CONGRESS,

MAY 15, 1776.

WHEREAS his Britannic Majesty, in conjunction with the Lords and Commons of Great-Britain, has, by a late Act of Parliament, excluded the inhabitants of these United Colonies from the protection of his crown: And whereas no answer whatever to the humble petitions of the Colonies for redress of grievances, and reconciliation with Great-Britain has been or is likely to be given; but the whole force of that kingdom, aided by foreign mercenaries, is to be exerted for the destruction of the good people of these Colonies: And whereas it appears absolutely irreconcilable to reason and good conscience, for the people of these Colonies now to take the oaths and affirmations necessary for the support of any government under the Crown of Great-Britain; and it is necessary that the exercise of every kind of authority under the said Crown should be totally suppressed, and all the powers of government exerted under the authority of the people of the Colonies for the preservation of internal peace, virtue, and good order, as well as for the defence of their lives, liberties and properties, against the hostile invasions and cruel depredations of their enemies: Therefore

R E S O L V E D, That it be recommended to the respective Assemblies and Conventions of the United Colonies, where no Government sufficient to the exigencies of their affairs has been hitherto established, to adopt such Government as shall in the opinion of the Representatives of the People best conduce to the happiness and safety of their Constituents in particular, and America in general.

Extract from the Minutes,

CHARLES THOMSON, SECRETARY.

This copy came from the North Carolina State Archives in Raleigh, NC. It is located in the Secretary of State archive files. All twelve Colonies received a copy - Delaware did not become recognized as a state until the Declaration of Independence was approved. This accounts for the change in the title of the Declaration of Independence. The Printed copy of the Declaration of Independence is titled "Declaration of Independence for the United States of America." The Sheepskin copies that were signed after August 2, 1776 are titled "The Declaration of The Thirteen States of the United States of America." As an act of Independence, the Thirteenth State was recognized.

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given; But the whole Force of the Kingdom
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these Colonies — And Whereas it appears abso-
lutely irreconcilable to Reason and good
conscience for the people of these Colonies
to ^{take} the Oaths & Affirmations necessary for
the support of any Government of Great Bri-
tain, and it is necessary the Exercise of every
kind of authority under the said Crown should
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Government exerted under the Authority of the
People of these Colonies, for the preservation of
internal Peace, Virtue & good order, as well
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Government sufficient to the exigencies of their
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By Order of Congress

signed - John Hancock
President

This Intelligence assures Mr. Deane that he will soon receive particular, and important Instructions in consequence of this resolution, from the Congress of the United Colonies whose Eyes were fix'd on the Court of France, for Countenance, & encouragement in their great struggle, & to which their first Application would be made.

M^r. Deane further learns, that the Colonies continue United, & resolute, that they had strongly fortified all their principal Ports, particularly Boston, Newport, New London, New York, Philadelphia &c. That their Ships of War, & Privateers had been very successful; and taken many valuable

Prizes, among others the Syren - And that the
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Thus far his intelligence is undoubtedly
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This wants Confirmation, but the time
in which it is said to have happened agrees
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War, make Mr Deane anxiously attentive to
every thing, which may effect the present, &
therefore He takes Liberty to mention, that
by Letters from London, and also from Amsterdam,
He is told, that the British Court have just
to apply to the Court of France to have all
Commerce with the United Colonies prohibited
& even to propose, their taking an active
part against them - He dare not engage,
for the truth of this report; but it is a
fact, that British Ships of War, are cru-
ising off the river Bordeaux & some other
Ports to intercept all Commerce between the
two Countries & have had this Assurance

to search Ships belonging to the subjects
of France. on its own Coasts — Great
Britain, sensible of the Justice of the
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& conscious of her own favorite, but ambi-
tious views of fixing an absolute, and bound-
less Empire in the Western World, has re-
fused from the first even, to hear their most
humble petitions, being predetermined, to carry
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To the impartial within, as well as without
the Nation all has appeared mysterious, that
a Court so attentive to its own Interests & grandeur
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The absolute Dominion of the Western World,
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5. The Justice of the Nation, & to that tender & mutual Affection which from the first had subsisted, & ought ever to subsist between them, as well as to every sacred and dearing Tie of civil society, Great Britain answered by a series of the most Oppressive, & Cruel, as well as injurious and Acts private as well as public.

Driven to the last resource, to Arms, the Colonies relied solely on the Justice of their cause, and their own Fortitude — whilst Great Britain styling herself the Mistress of the Ocean, & Arbitress of Europe, has applied to every foreign Power, with whom they had any hopes of succoring, and has even debased herself so far as to treat with Savages & Slaves, for Aid in a Contest apparently as unequal as it is cruel and unnatural — in this Crisis the Colonies have no Alternative, Death, or submission to Slavery, admits of none, they behold the Storm increasing, & tho' they view the gathering Tempest unappall'd, yet Justice to themselves, & to their posterity, & to Mankind, interested in the event lead them to consult & pursue the most probable means of opposing with success, in this situation with a resolution of applying to the Court of France, & laying their Case undisguisedly before it, they are confident that its well known Humanity will not permit Encouragement, or countenance to be given to the Oppressor That

That its Interest will prevent any Aid to its
inveterate, & hereditary Enemy — and its sacred
regard to Justice permit the United Colonies
to be heard & their Cause judged impartially which
has from the first been their whole Demand —

In the course of which, it will appear they have
not been the Aggressors nor in any Instance,
took a single step, or made a claim, beyond
the Rights, & privileges, to which they were
intituled, (by the early, & repeated Acknowledg-
-gements of Great Britain,) & which they had
from their first Settlement enjoyed, under the
most solemn Compacts between the Crown,
& them — on the other hand it will appear,
that immediately after the close of the last
War, in which they were involved solely by
their Connection with Great Britain, & in
which, without sharing any of the Ceded
Territories, they had exerted themselves to the
utmost of their abilities, and been so lavish
of their Men, & Money as to extort, even from
Great Britain itself a Confession, that they
had from them derived the principal Sources
for supporting a War, of the success of which
Britain still boasts, that immediately after
this War, when the whole attention of the Colonies
was turn'd to their own domestic concerns, & were
unsuspiciously settled down, at their old simple
pursuits, the Cultivation of their Land, fondly
hoping to enjoy in peace the fruits of their
own Labor, — This System pregnant with (what
they must ever consider as) their own immediate
Ruin & which must ultimately affect every

Power in Europe, interested in America, was
formed, & its execution entered on as early as
1764 and that in the pursuit of it measures
have been devised, & Acts passed to take from
the Colonies, their dear bought rights, & priv-
ileges, & render their Persons & properties,
absolutely subject to, & at the disposal of
the Parliament, or in other words the Ministry
of Great Britain. — To enumerate the whole
of which proceedings would be tedious and
unnecessary, in a word when they found
the Colonies too much alarmed, and the
times not ripe for their purpose, they
receded & courted the confidence of the
Colonies, which on a supposition of having
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their original design, & that it was no
other but this, the establishing an exclu-
sive & unbounded Dominion in America may
be proved from a variety of Evidence, some
of which has already been pointed out, —
much more may be produced in the course
of this enquiry, — It will further appear
that finding ~~themselves~~ Ten years experience, the
Colonies abhorrent to their system, they took
the resolution of reducing them, by Arms, &
all the horrors & barbarities of a War which
will forever be a disgrace to the Authors
& stain in the annals of civilized Nations,
confident of success rendered them regardless
of their conduct, & the passions for domination
and wealth, which first urged the few to
concert

Memorandum
 to the President
 on the subject of the
 15. May 1776. J. G. Thompson

concert this plan, proposing the unpri^{nci}pal
 many, employed in the execution, pro-
 duced the dreadful consequences, which we
 complain. — Further on a full exanimas
 = tion of the Case of the United Colonies, it
 will be found evidently necessary for the
 Powers of Europe, interested in America, to in-
 = terpose, & prevent the reduction of the Colon-
 = nies, if they wish to preserve their own settle-
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 falling under the power of Great Britain.
 And if it should further appear
 that such assistance & interposition as
 is necessary for this purpose, may be affor-
 = ded the Colonies, without giving cause
 for disturbing the tranquility of Europe.
 The Colonies will undoubtedly be
 thought intitled to receive it, as those who
 bestow it will forever to the Gratitude,
 Friendship & good Offices of the United
 Colonies — But this extensive subject,
 has already drawn out this Memorandum
 too far — A more proper time will
 soon come for ~~proceeding~~ pursuing it, to
 which refer many things on my mind.