

The Articles of Confederation (page 1)

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First page of the Articles of Confederation

Go all to whom

these Records shall come, we the undersigned Delegates of the States
affixed to the Records sent greeting. Whereas the Delegates of the
United States of America in Congress assembled on the first day
of November in the Year of our Lord One Thousand seven hundred and
Seventy seven, and in the second Year of the Independence of America
agreed to certain Articles of Confederation and perpetual Union between the
States of New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Providence
Planters, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware,
Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia
in the Words following, viz. Articles of Confederation and perpetual
Union between the States of New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island
and Providence Planters, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Penn-
sylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina
and Georgia.

Article I. The said States hereby certify that the
United States of America.

Article II. That said States retain their sovereignty, freedom and
independence, and every Power, Jurisdiction and right, which is not by
this Confederation expressly delegated to the United States in Congress
assembled.

Article III. The said States hereby severally enter into a firm
League of friendship with each other, for their common defense, the security
of their Liberties, and their mutual and general welfare, binding them-
selves to assist each other, against all force opposed to, or attacks made upon
them, or any of them, on account of Religion, Sovereignty, Trade, or any other
pretence whatever.

Article IV. The said States to secure and perpetuate mutual friendship
and intercourse among the people of the different States in this Union, the
free inhabitants of each of these States, paupers, vagabonds and fugitives
from Justice excepted, shall be entitled to all Privileges and Immunities of
free Citizens in the several States; and the people of each State shall have
free ingress and egress to and from any other State, and shall enjoy therein
all the Privileges of Trade and Commerce, subject to the same duties, im-
positions and Restrictions as the inhabitants thereof respectively, provided
that such Restriction shall not extend so far as to prevent the removal of
property imported into any State, to any other State of which the Owner
is an Inhabitant; provided also that no Impost, duty or Restriction
shall be laid by any State, on the property of the United States, or either of
them.

If any Person guilty of or charged with treason, Felony, or
other high misdemeanors in any State, shall flee from Justice, and be found
in any of the United States, he shall, upon demand of the Governor or
executive power of the State from which he fled, be delivered up and re-
moved to the State having Jurisdiction of his offense.

Full faith and
credit shall be given in each of these States to the records, acts and judicial
proceedings of the courts and magistrates of every other State.

Article V. For the more convenient management of the general

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