(CONTINUED FROM OPPOSITE SIDE)

Nor have we been wanting in attentions to our British brethren. we have warned them from time to time of attempts by their legislature to extend an unwarrantable jurisdiction over [these our states]. we have reminded them of the circumstances of our emigration & settlement here, [no one of which could warrant so strange a pretension: that these were effected at the expence of our own blood & treasure, unassisted by the wealth or the strength of Great Britain: that in constituting indeed our several forms of government, we had adopted one common king, thereby laying a foundation for perpetual league & amity with them: but that submission to their

independence. Declaration original Rough draught

credited: and] we have appealed to their native justice & magnanimity, [as well as to] & we have conjured them by the ties of our common kindred to disavow these usurpations which [were likely to] inevitably interrupt our connection & correspondence. ~~& connection~~. they too have been deaf to the voice of justice & of consanguinity. [& when We must therefore occasions have been given them, by the regular course of their laws, of removing from their councils the disturbers of our harmony, they] have by their free election re-established them in power. at this very time too they are permitting their chief magistrate to send over not only soldiers of our common blood, but Scotch & foreign mercenaries to invade & ~~destroy~~ destroy us. these facts pronounce the last state to agonizing affection and manly spirit bids us to renounce for ever these unfeeling brethren. we must endeavor to forget our former love for them, and to hold them as we hold the rest of mankind, enemies in war, in peace friends. we might have been a free & a great people together; but a communication of grandeur & of freedom it seems is below their dignity. be it so, since they will have it: the road to ~~glory~~ & to glory & happiness, is open to us too, we will ~~climb~~ tread it apart from them, and] acquiesce in the necessity which ~~pronounces our war~~ denounces our ~~enemies in war~~ and hold them as we hold the rest of mankind enemies in war, in peace friends. ~~[a total separation]~~ separation!

We therefore the ~~representatives~~ reps of the United States of America in General Congress assembled, appealing to the supreme judge of the world for the rectitude of our intentions, do, in the name & by authority of the good people of these [states, colonies] reject and renounce all allegiance & subjection to the kings of Great Britain & all others who may hereafter claim by, through, or under them; we utterly dissolve ~~& break~~ all political connection ~~which may have heretofore~~ hereto subsisted between us & the people or parliament of Great Britain; and finally we do assert and declare these colonies to be free and independent states, and that as free & independent states they ~~shall hereafter~~ have full power to levy war, conclude peace, contract alliances, establish commerce, & to do all other acts and things which independent states may of right do. And for the support of this declaration] we mutually pledge to each other our lives, our fortunes, & our sacred honour.

a different phrase selecting inserted