To all to whom these presents shall come, we send the following:

Whereas a number of the United States in Congress assembled, on the 12th day of September, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and seventy-six, and in the second year of independence of United States of America, did adopt the following Articles of Confederation and perpetual Union.

The Articles of Confederation and perpetual Union are as follows:

Article I. The States of the Confederate Union are free and independent States with equal rights.

Article II. The States shall maintain a common defense, and shall be one and undivided union, exercising the same authority, and capacity, in all cases whatsoever.

Article III. The States shall have the power to tax and to borrow money on the credit of the United States.

Article IV. The States shall have the power to declare and establish religions, and to make and enforce the laws necessary for the promotion of a good government.

Article V. The States shall have the power to make treaties and conclude alliances, and to make war and peace with foreign states.

Article VI. The States shall have the power to raise armies, and to maintain a navy, and to make laws necessary for the defense of the States.

Article VII. The States shall have the power to coin money, and to regulate the value thereof.

Article VIII. The States shall have the power to regulate commerce between the States, and with foreign states.

Article IX. The States shall have the power to organize the militia, and to maintain a national army, and to make laws necessary for the defense of the States.

Article X. The States shall have the power to declare war, and to make peace with foreign states.

Article XI. The States shall have the power to make laws for the promotion of the general welfare.