

At an adjourned meeting of the friends of the present administration, at the house of John C. Clark, in Vincennes, on Monday the 9th day of January, 1832, Dr. ELIAS McNAMEE was called to the chair, and WILLIAM L. WITHERS was appointed Secretary.

The hon. John Moore, on the part of the committee, heretofore appointed, reported the following Committees of Vigilance, for the several townships, and an address to the people:

For the township of Vincennes,

Samuel Wise, John D. Hay, George Scott, John B. Laplante, James Theriaque, William J. Heberd, Samuel Bruner, H. P. Brokaw, Andrew Gardner, and Martin Robinson.

For the township of Washington,

Thomas Hollingsworth, senior, Samuel Thompson, Andrew Burnsides, Geo. W. Sarter, and William V. Beckes.

For the township of Palmyra,

Thomas Scott, Charles Myers, Matthew McDonald, Robert McClure, and A. Berry.

For the township of Busseron,

John McCarty, Andrew Wiles, John Sprott, Jonathan Douglass, and George Clark.

For the Township of Widner,

John Johnson, Capt. McArthur, William McArthur, Philip Slaughter, Jesse Hollingsworth.

For the Township of Harrison,

James Thorn, John Reel, David Reel, Frederick Myers, and Asa Thorn.

For the Township of Johnson,

James S. Mays, Geo. Catt, Jacob Pea, Francis Roderick, and Randall Morgan.

For the Township of Decker:

Jacob Anthis, Thos. Kelly, James Stewart, Madison Crum, Nathaniel Kuykendall, and John Ramsay.

On motion of William L. Withers, the report of the committee was unanimously concurred in. And, on further motion, it was ordered that one thousand copies of the Address be printed in pamphlet form; that Hiram Decker, Martin Robinson, and H. P. Brokaw, Esqrs., be a committee to make collections, to contract for the printing, and superintend the distribution.

Resolved, That it be the duty of the several Township Committees of Vigilance to call public meetings of the Jackson men of their respective Townships, at some convenient place, on Wednesday, the 22d day of February next, to nominate not exceeding ten representatives, in each Township, as delegates to a county meeting, to be held at the Court-house, in Vincennes, on the first Monday in March next, at 12 o'clock, M. for the purpose of selecting by ballot, some proper person to be run as "Democratic Republican" candidate for representative of Knox county at the ensuing August election.

Resolved, That the proceedings of this meeting be signed by the President and Secretary, and be published in the "Western Sun."

Resolved, That this meeting do now adjourn.

ELIAS McNAMEE, Chairman.

W. L. WITHERS, Secretary.

FELLOW CITIZENS,

IN behalf of that portion of your countrymen who call themselves Democratic Republicans, and are commonly called Jackson-men—in behalf of these, and of the principles for which they contend—we respectfully invite your attention. That parties exist in the nation—in each state, and county, and town—need not, cannot be denied. Even the Vincennes Gazette, which so long, and so solemnly prated against party, and cried no party! no party! has at length dropped the mask—thrown off, if you please, its sheep skin—and has, not only advocated the cause, and boasted the triumphs, but even assumed to itself the name, of the National Republicans.

There are two principles in relation to government, which in every age and in every clime, have manifested themselves. The one or other influences each individual, and controls his opinions, his habits, and his conduct. The one is called the Democratic—the other, the Aristocratic principle. Hence it is that parties have existed, do exist, and will exist in all free governments. Hence it is that England has had, and now has her whigs and tories; that our fathers were divided into anti-federalists and federalists; and then into democrats and federalists; and that we are now democratic republicans, and national republicans, Jackson men and Clay men.

The excesses of party are oftentimes highly pernicious; so too, are often the excesses of the press. Yet in modern times, the freedom of the press—an unshackled press, is essential to the preservation of our rights and liberties. Such is the nature of every thing connected with man—such the constitution of our race—that the extremes of good and evil are ever commingling. We can only secure and enjoy the one by enduring a portion of the other. In relation to the press—although its excesses are oftentimes most disgraceful—we know that it works well. So in relation to party. We know that the parties of former times did well—that the Democrats of 1798 saved the constitution—that the Democrats of 1812 avenged the wrongs of thousands of our impressed fellow citizens, spread the star-spangled banner in triumph on every ocean, conquered the veterans of Wellington at New-Orleans, and established a most honorable reputation for our country in every nation. If more than this was not achieved; if the great principles touching the rights of neutrals, for which the United States then contended, were not recognized, the failure must be attributed to the machinations of the Federalists, and intrigues of the Hartford conventionists, continually labouring to embarrass the administration; and especially, to the unfortunate selection of the ambassadors who negotiated the treaty of Ghent—of whom, John Quincy Adams was one—Henry Clay another.

Fellow-Citizens, we admit that as party men we address you. We know that two great parties now exist in the United States; in this State—and in this county. We believe that each of you will attach himself, from necessity, to one or the other of these parties—and most earnestly we entreat you to pause—to think seriously and soberly before you further commit yourselves.

The most important position assumed by the Democratic Republican party is this.—That the general government, being a government of limited powers defined by the constitution, a strict construction of that constitution, is essential to the preservation of our liberties. This was the doctrine of Mr. Jefferson, of Mr. Madison—of Mr. Monroe. This is the doctrine of Andrew Jackson. This was the doctrine of the Democrats of 1798 and of 1812—and this is the doctrine for which we contend. We conscientiously believe, that upon the maintenance of this position, the permanence of our institutions, and the preservation of our liberties depend. The firm and unhesitating patriotism of President Jackson—his regard for the constitution—and his watchfulness over its just construction, were evinced in his veto message. If in opposition to this, the opinions of our opponents are to prevail—if it shall be settled, that the constitution is to receive a construction favorable to the exercise by the government of ALL useful or expedient or advantageous powers not expressly denied—in other words, if interest, whether personal, sectional or national, is to become the test of constitutional power—if every act, conducive to this interest—an interest, not regarding the preservation of our liberties and the permanent prosperity of our country, but only looking to present and temporary results—is to meet the public approbation—then indeed, our countrymen, you may prepare to bid farewell, a long, an eternal farewell to your boasted liberties.

Another position, assumed and at all times, and under all circumstances, advocated by the Democratic party, is economy, a rigid economy in all the branches of the administration—and

as connected with this, the limitation of the national revenue—the proceeds of taxation upon consumption—to the necessities of the government. But the aristocratic spirit delights in pomp and parade—rejoices in splendour—and gladdens at wealth, wrung from the many to be expended upon the few. The Democratic party does not view a treasury filled to overflowing by taxes upon articles of ordinary use—by duties upon the necessities of life, and the little comforts required by the sick and the feeble, essential alike to the rich and the poor—we do not, we cannot regard a treasury so filled, as an "unequivocal indication of the national prosperity." But so thinks the aristocrat—so thought John Q. Adams, when in 1825, elevated to the presidency by a combination of accident and intrigue, his imagination shadowed forth a long series of federal triumphs. The rich made richer, and the poor made poorer by the silent operation of revenue laws. The rights of the States—those best and safest depositories of our liberties—rapidly absorbed by the action of the general government, assuming to itself "the promotion of the improvement of agriculture, commerce and manufactures, the cultivation and encouragement of the mechanic, and of the elegant arts, the advancement of literature and the progress of the sciences, ornamental and profound," the whole circle indeed of governmental duties. A splendid consolidated government, established on the ruin of the constitution, the debasement of the States, and the annihilation of that grand basis of all our rights and liberties—the equality of men. So then thought John Q. Adams, and his partner in the government, the Secretary of State, Henry Clay.

Deep-laid schemes for the increase of the power and patronage of the administration—artful contrivances to enlist the feelings of men—were then developed and recommended to Congress. A national university; national observatories—termed in the chastened style of the President, light-houses in the sky; and last but not least, the representatives of the people were admonished not to hesitate in the gigantic course marked out for them—not to be deterred by a regard for the will of the people, for that it would be no excuse for them, "to fold up their arms and proclaim to the world that they were palsied by the will of their constituents." The Democratic party contend that the action of the national government should be confined to those objects which are designated in the constitution. That the expenditures of the government should be limited to those objects; and its revenue proportioned to this necessary expenditure—and that the revenue should be raised in such way, as to relieve all articles, which are essential, or which are used by all classes—poor and rich—from all unnecessary taxation, and at the same time, to afford a fair protection to the industry of the country, agricultural, manufacturing, and commercial—in fact, by a system of duties, forming a *judicious Tariff*.

Again: The Democratic party, with equality for its basis—the constitution for its guide—and the safety of our rights, and the security of our liberties, for its objects—has been, is, and ever will be, uniform in its policy, and consistent in its principles—and this, from necessity. It has no objects, it can entertain no desires, not consistent with the interests present and future, the permanent prosperity and happiness of the whole people. Have our opponents—the Federalists of former times—the National Republicans—the Clay men, and Adams men, and the Anti-Masons of the present time—have these been thus uniform and consistent? With them, names, and leaders, and principles are changed with an astonishing facility, and most admirable rapidity. The assertion can be proven, not only by the history of the nation—and of each State and county and town, but of every prominent individual who has been connected with them. We shall present a few facts, uncontroversial and undeniable facts, as illustrations. But first, justice requires us to observe, that there is one sentiment, in the possession of which, our opponents have been uniform and consistent. It is and at all times, and in all nations it has been, the sign of aristocracy; it is the mark of the Beast—by it each knows his fellow, by it, each may be known by others. Under all circumstances, it has been common and peculiar to our opponents. Whether in 1798, 1812, 1825, or 1832, whether calling themselves Federalists, Federal Republicans, or National Republicans—whether led by John Adams,—by Daniel Webster,—by John Q. Adams, or Henry Clay—Adams men, Clay men, and American System men, all unite in conscientiously entertaining, and sometimes honestly expressing, the belief, that their party contains within its ranks *all the political integrity and knowledge, and nearly all the talent* of the nation. Fellow-citizens, you know that this is not exaggeration. You know that this statement is the truth—and whenever you find an opponent of our venerable President, who does not so believe—rest assured that by some accident he has mustered in the wrong ranks—that in principle he is with us—and you may hope, soon to find him beside you, sustaining the cause of the constitution and country. But to return to the inconsistencies of our opponents. Ratliff Boon was bitterly denounced last Summer in the Vincennes Gazette and other Clay newspapers, in the hand-bill signed "Vox Populi" and circulated throughout his district, and in the speeches of his opponent, Mr. John Law, for having voted in favour of a resolution for an inquiry by a committee in Congress, as to the expediency of reducing the duty on Sugar. By referring to "The Proceedings of the Administration Convention held at Indianapolis, January the 12th, 1828, printed at the office of the Indiana Journal," you will find that Knox county was represented by John Law, J. C. S. Harrison, and Thomas McClure—that Mr. Law, and twelve others were appointed a committee to draft and report an address—and that Mr. Law did report an address, which follows, and in which, at page 9, you will read as follows:

"The Sugar crop of Louisiana is about 40,000 hogsheads, or 44,000,000 lbs.—the duty on which imported in exchange for bread-stuffs, would be \$1,320,000, and this sum divided between all the people of Louisiana, amounts to more than \$16 per head for every man, woman and child in that State, as a bounty. Every person in this State (Indiana) purchasing only two pounds per week of New Orleans Sugar for his family, pays a tax of \$3 10 (per year,) on this article a one to the people of Louisiana."

If this statement be true, and Mr. Law made it—with what consistency could he, or could the Clay party, charge Colonel Boon with unwise or improper conduct, in voting for an inquiry as to the propriety of reducing this enormous burden upon the people of Indiana, and other States? The explanation is not difficult. In 1828, the Adams and Clay men were labouring to extirpate the Middle and Western States against the South; but in 1831, Mr. Clay and his followers were courting the South against Gen. Jackson.

By turning to Niles' Register, Vol. 26, page 64, you will find that on the 24th March, 1824, Mr. Clay moved in the House of Representatives of the U. States, to raise the duty on Molasses to 12½ cents per gallon. Mr. Clay was then a candidate for the Presidency—the Western Candidate, and laboring to strengthen his claims upon the West. The Jackson Congress of 1828 did raise the duty on Molasses to 10 cents—and you all remember the virulence with which that increased duty was denounced in this State by the Clay party—every anti-Jackson newspaper, every anti-Jackson man, denounced it as being ruinous to the West India trade.

You are all conscious of the great, astonishing, and we are tempted to say, bare-faced difference between the conduct of National Republicans in this county and State, when candidates for office, and when elected to office. We have witnessed it too often—some of us have been deceived to often indeed.

But we will leave these small matters. Only a few months since, Mr. Clay was opposed to Gen. Jackson's tariff views. He was opposed to all modification of the Tariff. In his Cincinnati speech, he called upon the friends of the American System,

to allow no alteration, which would not render the system more efficacious; he advised them to adopt the revolutionary motto, "United we stand, divided we fall." He advised his friends to oppose every reduction of duty, as an insidious attack, Joab-like and fatal, upon the American System. And even now, Mr. Clay's near sighted followers in our own Legislature—men, too much engrossed in their own paltry schemes of personal ambition—to much engaged in the contemplation of their own importance, to notice accurately the tides of public opinion, and the consequent changes of opinions and measures in their leader, are pressing forward a strong resolution against modification. While, ales! in his place in the Senate of the United States Mr. Clay has declared himself in favor of modification in the tariff and economy in the administration—has admitted the propriety, and indeed, the necessity of "relieving consumption from unnecessary taxation"—and sustains the Jackson doctrine a "judicious tariff." As a matter of course, the American System will put on a new dress. Mr. Clay has changed—Mr. Clay's followers will change, and the American System men will change. But the principles of the Democratic party will remain unchanged; the opinions of the President will remain unchanged; and the administration, unaffected alike by the frowns of open enemies or cheers of pretended friends, will move forward in its glorious path of duty and usefulness and prosperity and honor.

In truth, fellow-citizens, the great leaders of the National Republicans have ascertained, that the hopes they entertained when elevated to power in 1825 were unfounded. The corruption of the people by the golden promises, brilliant projects, and splendid schemes of the late administration, was attempted in vain. Opposition to Gen. Jackson's leading measures has proved fruitless—and worse—in many states, has created a mighty re-action against those who made it. Mr. Clay and his colleagues, Messrs. Adams, Webster and Rush, have ascertained that as yet their is too much knowledge, too much integrity, and especially, too much disinterestedness in our happy country, to enable them to sustain themselves in opposition to Gen. Jackson's administration. As a matter of necessity then, these gentlemen will endeavor to acquire a share of the public confidence, by seizing upon the popular principles of the administration, and advocating them as their own. Even already, in relation to the tariff, Mr. Clay, finding the current of public opinion, setting with an increased and irresistible strength, in favor of the President's policy, has admitted its correctness, and has contrived to say as by accident, "relieve consumption, after the payment of the public debt, as much as possible, consistent with an economical administration of the government." But fellow-citizens, it cannot be necessary, further to trace the career of inconsistency, which the National Republicans pursue. It will be more pleasant to turn from the contemplation of such utter destitution of principles—such an inordinate ambition—such a grovelling thirst for power and office. It will be more agreeable to the patriot, to turn from all this, to the quiet and steady and prosperous course of the administration. To inquire what improvements have been made—what advantages have been secured—what blessing have been attained, in the short space of two years and ten months—since the 4th March 1829—since the day, on which Democracy and Jackson assumed the government.

In this short space of two years and ten months, a system has been developed of mercy and benevolence and justice to the Indian tribes. A home has been allotted to them beyond the limits of the states—a home in which, under the fostering protection of the nation, they may progress in civilization and improvement; a large and most liberal appropriation, has been made, to defray the expenses of their removal to and settlement in their new homes; and disregarding the clamor of hypocritical politicians, and of interested ligots, the President has faithfully progressed in his course, and already some thousands have exchanged their ancient residences for their new homes, and thousands more are preparing to follow.

Is this short time, of two years and ten months, more than forty millions of the national debt for principal and interest has been paid; as follows:

In 1829,	—	—	\$12,450,000
1830,	—	—	11,350,400
1831,	—	—	11,260,000

And the principal of the debt which in January 1829 was \$58,403,000 has been reduced to \$24,322,000, and the means are provided for the payment of the whole balance within the ensuing one year and two months. When Andrew Jackson's present term expires, on the 3d March 1833, the government will be out of debt.

In the short space of two years and ten months, advantageous treaties have been negotiated with eight foreign nations: Great Britain, France, Denmark, Brazil, Turkey, Colombia, Mexico and Austria. By each of these treaties great commercial advantages are secured. By that with England, the West India trade lost under the splendid diplomacy of Messrs. Adams and Clay, has been regained. By those with France, Denmark and Brazil upwards of \$7,000,000 has been obtained as indemnity for injuries done heretofore to our merchants. By that with Turkey a participation in the trade of the Black sea is secured.

In the short space of two years and ten months, results of the most astonishing nature, have been produced in the Post-Office Department, under the management of William T. Barry. In 1828, the last year of Mr. McLean's administration as appears by his report in Niles' Register vol. 35, p. 250, the revenue of the Post-Office Department was \$1,598,135,

The revenue for the year 1831 is 1,997,811,

\$399,676

Shewing a clear gain in revenue since Mr. Barry's administration of near \$400,000

In the year 1829—the first of Mr. Barry—you will find the revenue, see Niles' Register vol. 37, p. 283 \$1,707,418

The transportation of the mail in stages 6,507,818 miles.

And the whole transportation 13,706,000 miles.

And the revenue fell short of the expenses \$74,714

But the state of the department as reported in late report for 1831 is as follows:

Revenue ————— \$1,997,811

Transportation in stages and steam-boats 10,728,069 miles.

And the whole transportation is 15,468,692 miles.

The revenue exceeds the expenses \$33,252.

Hence then it appears, notwithstanding the ravings of reformed post-masters and of disreputable office seekers, that the democratic energy, economy, and accountability, infused by Mr. Barry into the Post-office, has since 1829, increased the transportation of the mail in stages from 6,507,818 miles to 10,728,069—being a gain of 4,220,182 miles; has increased the total transportation of the mail from 13,706,000 miles to 15,468,692 miles being a gain of 1,768,690 miles; has raised the revenue from \$1,707,418, to \$1,997,811, being a clear gain of \$290,393, and \$400,000 more than it was in the last year of Mr. McLean. But especially, the deficiency of \$74,714, is replaced by a surplus of \$33,252, making a difference in the result of \$136,960.

And these, fellow-citizens, are some of the results produced by Gen. Jackson's administration—some of the improvements made, some of the advantages secured, some of the blessings attained in the little space of two years and ten months. These

merit the approbation of the philanthropist—these are worthy indeed, of the contemplation of the Patriot—and these, would of themselves, secure to the President, the undivided support of the nation, but that the desire for office, the thirst for power, the aristocratic spirit, influences many of our fellow citizens.

Hence it is necessary that we should not trust to the silent operation, of the conclusive argument, furnished in these results, so prosperous and beneficial, upon the minds of the National Republicans. No, fellow-citizens, every Democratic Republican, every friend of our venerable President, should be up and doing—all should be watchful—to sustain the President, his measures and his friends. All should be on the alert—to prevent the success of his opponents continually striving to secure for themselves places of power and influence—and every office of honor or profit is a place of power and influence. The motto recommended by Mr. Clay to his friends is well worthy our attention—"United we stand, divided we fall." If we act upon it, we shall succeed in placing in the various offices of power and influence, men of our political opinions, Democratic Republicans. Such men will sustain the measures of the President—the administration will have a fair opportunity triumphantly to complete the career which has been so wisely commenced—and that sanction for our principles and that security for his measures which