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PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

REPUBLICAN MEETING

OF THE

Citizens of Albany and Colonie,

AT

JARED SKINNER'S LONG ROOM,

MARCH 13th, 1810.

Albany:

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W. W. W. W.
J. J. J. J.
M. M. M. M.

REPUBLICAN MEETING

OF THE
CITIZENS OF ALBANY AND COLONIE.

At the most numerous and respectable meeting of the Republican Citizens of Albany and the Colonie, ever held in this city, at FARED SKINNER's Long Room, on Tuesday Evening, March 13th, 1810.

GEORGE MERCHANT, Esq. Chairman.
CHARLES D. COOPER, Esq. Secretary.

The business of the meeting was introduced by SOLOMON SOUTHWICK, Esq. who delivered the following ADDRESS:—

MR. CHAIRMAN,

WE are called upon, sir, to nominate a Governor and Lieutenant-Governor for this respectable state, and also to declare our opinions of the conduct of the government of the United States. In the performance of duties so important and so binding, I feel confident this meeting can be swayed by no other motive than the love of country, that ruling passion in the breast of every genuine republican.

We find our country divided unhappily into two great parties, and however lamentable such a state of things may be, it appears to have been the lot of humanity from the earliest ages. How painful the reflection to the bosom of philanthropy, that since the expulsion of our first parents from the Garden of Eden, no period can be pointed to, when mankind were linked in the bonds of harmony, and when social intercourse was undisturbed by the clashings of interest, the bickerings of prejudice, the madness of ambition, and the rage of bigotry and superstition. Hence it is, that a free constitution may be compared to a solitary traveller in the deserts of Africa, surrounded on all sides by wily serpents and ferocious beasts of prey, and depending upon ever-watchful vigilance alone to preserve him from the poisonous fangs of the one, and the devouring jaws of the other.

To this country, sir, the eyes of the world have been directed as the only resting place of liberty; but so far from being secure, she has been constantly beset with enemies, from the time that our fa-

thers chose her as the "cloud by day and pillar of fire by night," to lead them out of bondage, and to guide their course through the stormy mazes of a dark and bloody revolution.

In that eventful period, the parties arose which have ever since agitated this community, and which it is to be feared will continue to agitate it; WHIG and TORY were then the appellations by which the defenders of freedom were designated on the one hand, and her enemies on the other. The Whigs were the friends of freedom, and eventually triumphed, establishing, as they fondly hoped and anticipated, the liberties and independence of their country upon a solid and lasting foundation. We have as yet, thank God, preserved our liberties, but through many perils and alarms. The enemy is still in our camp, where we have permitted him to get a foot-hold, and like the ungrateful viper, may yet punish us for our rash credulity, by the destruction of our freedom.

In the revolution the Whigs went forward and fought the battles of their country, devoting their time and exhausting their wealth, as well as risking their lives, to effect her salvation; while the Tories, excepting a few of the boldest among them, looked quietly on, and preserved their property unimpaired, and in many cases increased it by speculating on the distresses of the Whigs. The consequence was, that at the close of the revolution the Whigs were impoverished, the Tories were enriched: And as property is too universally the basis of influence, the Tories soon took the lead in our affairs; their brethren who had been expelled from our shores, returned to take advantage of our magnanimous clemency, and to strengthen the party against liberty. Some distinguished apostates from the whig ranks went over to this party—by this artful combination the people were deluded; and even under the administration of the father of his country, so powerful had this tory influence become, that many honest men trembled for the safety of the constitution. In this state the venerable CLINTON had led the whigs during the struggle for independence; the close of the contest found him in possession of the executive chair, and the offices of the state were filled with the men who had shared with their veteran chief the toils and dangers of the war. But a new era was soon to succeed. The pillars of the old confederation were too weak to sustain the fabric of our union; a new federal code became necessary. A convention was called—a constitution was formed—but it partook too much of the spirit of monarchy to suit the palates

of the genuine whigs. The sage Clinton contended for such amendments as would render it congenial with the spirit of freedom; while Mr. Jay, who had also been a whig in the revolution, became the zealous advocate of its immediate and unqualified adoption. Mr. Hamilton took the same side. These gentlemen were for a government of energy. Indeed the form proposed, which Clinton and his compatriots thought too energetic, was not enough so for Messrs. Hamilton and Jay—and as the tory principle is that of arbitrary power, it was natural for the friends of that principle to side with the ranks of these latter gentlemen. This party shortly after prevailed in this state—and the consequence was that Mr. Jay was elected to the office of Governor. His administration, it was soon perceived, would strengthen the tory influence. Those whigs who had opposed his elevation, and had supported the amendments to the constitution, under the banners of Clinton and liberty, were systematically excluded from places of trust and confidence, and it was finally determined that those of that description who were found in office when he took the helm, should be dismissed to the ranks of private life. Thus and then it was, Mr. Chairman, that the system of turning men out of office on political grounds only, commenced in this state. The whigs were the first victims to this system, which has since alternately prevailed; and however its consequences are to be regretted, so far as it may serve to inflame party animosity and generate faction, those only are responsible for its evils to whom it owes its origin. But I owe it to Mr. Jay to state, that though his mind had been so far warped by his new associates (many of whom would have hung him when he was contending for the independence of his country in the revolution) as to exclude his opponents from being appointed to office—yet he never consented to the removal of those who were turned out. No, sir, the honor of that proscriptive measure is due to a man who had then but just emerged from obscurity, and who, without a spark of revolutionary merit, applied the scourge of his influence to men who had spent the flower of their age in fighting the battles of liberty. His influence with the council of appointment was paramount at that day, as it now is, to that of the Governor, and the whigs were, in every county, removed from office. In one county in particular, an honest old veteran of the revolution was removed, and a man who had assisted the Indians in burning Schoharie was selected to fill his place on the bench of justice! These measures, together with the

rainous policy of the then federal administration, produced a revolution in the minds of the people, and paved the way for the restoration of the patriotic Clinton to the chair of state. Mr. Jay resigned in disgust, and the whigs with one accord hailed the name of Clinton as that which should once more redeem them from political thralldom. Our revolutionary ~~Chieftain~~ ^{Chieftain} has since been called to preside in the councils of the Union ; but fortunately for the cause of freedom, his mantle now rests in the executive chair of this state, upon a man so much like him in talents, principles, habits and manners, that hereafter the names of CLINTON and TOMPKINS may afford a happy parallel in the pages of some American Plutarch.

And now let me ask, Mr. Chairman, are there any in this meeting who are dissatisfied with the administration of TOMPKINS? Three years have elapsed since in this very hall, he was the choice of a band of freemen, composed of many if not all who have here assembled on this night to pass judgment upon his public conduct, to determine whether it has been such as to justify their former choice, and to entitle him to a renewal of their confidence. If there be one who has any objections to offer, let him step forward, and I trust I shall be able to obviate every objection he can raise either to the public or private conduct of our patriotic and faithful chief magistrate—our worthy, generous, hospitable and benevolent fellow-citizen.—This meeting is called, sir, for free discussion, and before we resolve to support any candidate, let us weigh his pretensions to our suffrages, in the scales of candor, truth and justice, and if he be found wanting, let us not hesitate to discard him from our confidence. I for one, believe, that the freemen of this state cannot do better than to re-elect Mr. Tompkins for their Governor, and in this belief I indulge the pleasing anticipation that a majority of the electors will agree with me. Is there, sir, in this vast assemblage, one man who can say that Tompkins is not the friend of his country? Is there one who can charge him with a single intentional dereliction from duty in his executive trust? His administration, sir, invites inquiry: it will not shrink from any investigation, and the more we enquire, the firmer will be our conviction that it has been guided by the dictates of an honest heart and a sound head: that the public good, the sole end of all legitimate government, has been ever uppermost in his thoughts, the Polar Star of all his labors and deliberations; that neither selfishness nor ambition has swayed him, or led him for a moment from the paths of integrity and

patriotism; that he is not only able and faithful in public, but virtuous and amiable in private life; beloved and revered by his family, esteemed and respected by his neighbors, secure in the admiration and attachment of his friends.—How many in this city can testify to the benevolence of his heart—how many are there who know him as the patron of enterprize—the benefactor of the poor, the father of the fatherless, and the widow's friend? Yet even this man, pure and unblemished as he is, cannot go through the ordeal of an election without being scorched by the flames of calumny; charges will be brought both against his public and private character, but no one will be found base enough to father them, unless it be some abandoned hireling, the wretched instrument of a Jacobinical Junto, who would rather “ruin than not rule the state.”

And who is he, sir, that we are called upon to vote for in preference to the excellent character I have described? And what are the reasons that will justify the preference claimed at our hands? I have heard but one gentleman spoken of as a competitor with Tompkins for the executive chair; of this gentleman I know but little—but what little I do know of him is not calculated to win my attachment. In private life I have no objection to grant, nay, I believe, he is highly respectable and unimpeachable, but the very little I have seen of his public conduct is sufficient to convince me, that so long as we wish to preserve the freedom of our constitution, so long we ought to guard most sacredly against clothing men, who possess the principles which he professes, with the smallest degree of power or political influence. I am the political adversary of JONAS PLATT because I deem his political tenets subversive of the constitution under which we live, and indeed of every constitution founded on the doctrines of liberty, the reciprocal and equal rights of mankind. Fortunately, in relation to Mr. Platt, I have not to exclaim in the language of Job—“O! that mine adversary had written a book!” For Mr. Platt has once felt the inspiration of an author, and from his book we shall be able to judge how far the spirit which inspired him is related to that spirit of liberty with which the people have inspired the constitution of our country, and with which I trust in God they themselves will never cease to be inspired and animated, even to martyrdom, if necessary, in defence of that constitution. That instrument, sir, is the bulwark of our liberties. It recognizes the majesty of the people, for it purports on the face of it to have been created by the people for

their sole benefit and advantage, to secure to themselves and posterity the blessings of liberty. But what says Mr. Platt in his book? He therein declares, that "THE MAJESTY OF THE PEOPLE IS A MONSTROUS DEITY!" And he goes on to ridicule it to the utmost extent of his wit. "Its properties (says he) are wonderful and inexplicable. It has a thousand heads, and as many tongues; these heads are all actuated by different wills, and these tongues all speak different languages; and yet these are not a thousand wills, but one will—not a thousand languages, but one clear and distinct voice. Its parts are infinitely divisible, and yet each part is equal to the whole, for where two or three are met together for factious purposes, even there is the *Majesty of the people* in the midst of them. To a man of common sense and honesty it is a stumbling block; to a man without ambition it is foolishness; but the man who does not firmly believe and clearly comprehend all this, has never been initiated into the sublime mysteries of Democracy."

This passage, Mr. Chairman, I have quoted literally from the book which our political "adversary" hath written, and I cannot conceive a more outrageous or flagrant satire upon the constitution of this land; nor can I conceive of a more atrocious libel upon the people who framed & adopted that constitution as the sacred bond of their national union, and the charter of their religious, civil and political rights.—There is a smack of wit in it, I confess, but whoever will look into the christian creed of St. Athanasius, and the epistle of Paul to the Corinthians, will find that Mr. Platt has parodied and perverted those evangelical writers for the very laudable purpose of ridiculing the constitution of his country. And when we reflect that this phillippic upon the constitution, this satire upon the understanding of the people, is contained in a pamphlet on the petty subject of establishing the scite for a court-house in the county of Oneida, and has reference only to that local and unimportant question; a question plain, simple, and easy of decision, and which the meanest capacity could find no difficulty in deciding; we perceive at once with what sovereign contempt the author must view a government like ours, in which the will of the people is the supreme law; for the prejudice that would deny to the inhabitants of a county discernment enough to fix the scite of their court-house, must view as a monstrous absurdity, the idea of a great commonwealth, like the state of New-York, being capable of self-government, and

of framing laws and institutions for the protection of its various complicated and important interests. To such illiberal, contracted and unfounded opinions of the people, we may trace the usurpations of every tyrant that ever rose upon the ruins of liberty; for he who seriously entertains them can never be contented with the exercise of any power short of absolute despotism. Clothe such a man with power, and all his efforts are necessarily directed to entrench himself in the ramparts of tyranny, and to reduce his fellow-citizens to a degraded state of passive obedience and non-resistance. Such, then, being Mr. Platt's opinion of the *majesty of the people*, it is not strange that he should expect that "*monstrous deity*" to fall down and worship him who is so pre-eminently blessed with the gifts of genius, talents and wisdom. But whatever careless observers, and men wrapped up in their own importance may think to the contrary, the people collectively is not quite so silly a monster as to commit itself into the guardianship of him who avowedly reviles and despises it. To such a man the "majesty of the people" will indeed deservedly become a "*stumbling block*" over which, instead of stepping to the executive chair, he will justly fall into the mire of political insignificance, with the miserable consolation of owing his fall to his own vanity and self-sufficiency. But I must do Mr. Platt the justice to say that he is consistent in error. The man who ridicules and reviles the "MAJESTY OF THE PEOPLE" is consistent with himself when he indulges his darling passion for monarchy, in eulogising the MAGNANIMITY of an ignorant, bigotted and brutal KING! We are not therefore surprised to find Mr. Platt, in the Senate, moving that honorable body to sanction by their votes the most unparalleled absurdity, to say the least of it, that was ever proposed in a deliberative assembly. He called upon the Senate, sir, to "acknowledge the magnanimity and honorable sense of justice which induced a prompt and spontaneous disavowal" of the outrage committed upon the Chesapeake, "by the KING OF GREAT-BRITAIN." And pray, sir, where was the magnanimity of that disavowal, unconnected as it was, and as it still is, and I fear, forever will be, with the smallest reparation or atonement for one of the most barbarous outrages that ever stained the annals of civilized man! The magnanimity of that King did indeed induce him to declare that the act of the Admiral was unauthorised; and to shew his "HONORABLE SENSE OF JUSTICE," and by way of *punishing* that abandoned wretch, he transferred him from a winter

station on a rough coast, to a higher command, in a milder latitude, and a less dangerous position. The men killed in and captured from our ship were Americans, and the prisoners have not only not been restored, but one of them, a native of Pennsylvania, was hung in chains at Halifax !

“Alas! nor wife, nor children more shall he behold,
“Nor friends, nor sacred home!”

For this unparalleled act of piracy and murder no honorable atonement has ever been offered; and indeed we have some men among us who go so far as to say, that the British Admiral was right!—The men (say they) had deserted from the British navy, and Berkley had therefore a right to seize them. The fact I believe is false, and if it were not, the argument is unfounded. It is a base dereliction of every sentiment that becomes an American—for it gives to Great-Britain a right which she would not allow any foreign power to exercise within her own borders. “The genius of the British law (says Curran) makes liberty commensurate with and inseparable from the British soil.” It “proclaims even to the stranger and the sojourner, the moment he sets his foot on British earth, that the ground on which he treads is holy and consecrated by the genius of universal emancipation.” “No matter with what solemnities he may have been devoted upon the altar of slavery; the moment he touches the sacred soil of Britain, the altar and the God sink together in the dust.” This, sir, is the proud boast of a British subject—and it is undoubtedly the ancient spirit of the British law, as it was before the corruptions of that triple-headed monster, the monarchy, nobility and hierarchy, destroyed both the spirit and the letter—and granting this, we may surely contend, that the soil of America, and the decks of our ships are our soil as much as the earth we tread upon, and especially within our own waters; we may surely, I say, contend, that the soil of America is as “sacred” and as “holy” as that of England, and that here also, not only the native citizen, but “even the stranger and the sojourner” are protected by the “genius of universal emancipation.” Where, then, was the right of Berkley to attack, kill and capture the crew of the Chesapeake? And where is the magnanimity which Mr. Platt wished the Senate to acknowledge? Were the days of the revolution forgotten—had we lost all recollection of the savage proclamations of Burgoyne, and the still more savage deeds of blood and rapine which grew out of them—had the massacres of Wyom-

ing and Paoli been blotted from the page of history—had the Jersey prison-ship no longer a place in our memories—did the spirits of our murdered countrymen, whose martyrdom was sealed on the plains of Abraham and of Monmouth, no longer revisit the dreams of the patriot, and could we not point to a thousand spots on the “sacred soil” of America which are still whitened by the bones of our fathers who fell beneath the tomahawk of the savage or the bayonet of the British myrmidon!—When, sir, I forget all these things—when the ghosts of Arnold, Lawrence and Sharkley, who were murdered in the Chesapeake, shall no longer “walk unrevenged among us”—when that wanton violation of truth, honor and justice, that cold blooded act of royal villainy, the **PERFIDIOUS DISAVOWAL of ERSKINE’S ARRANGEMENT**, shall be atoned for—and when the recent, audacious, unprovoked and unparalleled insult, so repeatedly hurled in the face of our federal executive, by the infamous **JACKSON**, shall have been wiped away by honorable reparation:—When all these things shall have happened, sir, it is possible that I may vote for a man, for our chief magistrate, who extols the magnanimity of the King of Great-Britain, the author of so many crimes against the laws of God, the liberties of this country, and the welfare and happiness of mankind—of that King who is so justly described as a tyrant in our declaration of independence, and whose “tyrannical and oppressive usurpations” were written in characters of fire and blood on the portals of our state constitution.

So far, then, as I know any thing of the political principles, or public conduct of Mr. Platt, I feel bound to oppose his election—and my feelings on this occasion are strengthened when I reflect by whom and in what manner he was first nominated in opposition to Mr. Tompkins. It will be recollected, that **ABRAHAM VAN VECHTEN**, the man who under Jay’s administration first kindled the flames of political persecution in this state, by procuring the removal of almost every revolutionary whig from office, was chairman of the meeting that first nominated Mr. Platt; and as that man now occupies high ground in our state councils, and is playing deeply at his old game of putting down the friends and elevating the enemies of liberty, it may not be amiss to review for a moment the resolutions of that meeting; and as the third resolution contains the pith and marrow of the whole, it will be sufficient for our purpose. It is as follows:

“Resolved, That the growing discontents among our citizens originate in a just sense of public grievances; and that the safety, honor and prosperity of the state require that these grievances should be redressed and its character restored by a free exercise of the sovereign will, according to the constitution.”

With all due deference to so great and exalted a character as Mr. Van Vechten, I ask my fellow-citizens here assembled, if any of them have felt the grievances complained of in this resolution? I pause for a reply. I see in this assemblage all classes of citizens—and if grievances of any kind have existed, they could not have failed to have visited the heads of many who are now within the reach of my voice. I ask you, fellow-citizens, have you been denied the freedom of conscience? Have your altars been profaned, or has the free exercise of your religious worship been disturbed? Has the freedom of speech, or the liberty of the press been attacked? Have you been borne down by the weight of taxes? In short, has the constitution been violated, or your rights infringed in a single instance, by your republican rulers? As honest men, you must answer, that you have no grievances to complain of, and that your rights have been duly respected. If the resolution therefore, has any meaning, it must be this—that the writer of it had been long aggrieved by the want of an office; this is the only rational meaning; and I believe the same grievance had prest so long and so heavily upon the head of the chairman, that both he and the author of the resolution began really to conceive themselves in a land of slavery! The character of the state, therefore, was lost in the eyes of these gentlemen—and the only way to restore it was to elevate themselves to office by means of Mr. Platt's election. But human resolutions are rarely immutable, and so it happened in this case—for these gentlemen soon after resolved in their own minds, that if they waited for the election of Mr. Platt to deliver them from their mighty grievances, that the day of their deliverance might never arrive: And how it happened is not for me to tell, nor can any but the initiated unravel the mystery, but certain it is, that they hit upon a successful expedient, a very refined process, no doubt, and entirely beyond the ken of the vulgar; and by means of this very happy contrivance, they got possession of the council of appointment, that fountain of honor, in which the patriotic chairman was among the first to drown his grievances by quenching his thirst for office—and the writer of the resolution has since been admitted to

take a sweet and consoling draught—their grievances are therefore removed, and the character of the state most happily restored! And let it not be forgotten, though it may not “tell well in history,” that to the “honorable Robert Williams” these flaming patriots, so long and so sorely oppressed, owe the redress of their grievances—and that to him the state, so long degraded by the prevalence of republicanism, is to be grateful for the restoration of its character! O happy! thrice happy state! to possess such pure and disinterested patriots, and so immaculate and glorious a redeemer!—

FELLOW-CITIZENS,

A more important election than that which is approaching we have never witnessed since the days of the revolution; and he who can look forward without anxiety for the issue, is illy fitted to sustain the character of an American citizen.—You are called upon to dismiss your republican chief magistrate, and you are told that the welfare of the state demands the sacrifice.—But pause, I beseech you, before you consent to immolate a tried and faithful public servant upon the altar of faction. You will be assailed by every art of flattery, sycophancy and falsehood—but remember that the wily serpent of Eden pourtrayed to the mother of mankind the illusive prospect of bliss unmingled with alloy, at the moment when he was beguiling her unwary steps into the paths of ruin, misery and despair: And thus has every impostor, from the appearance of the arch-deceiver, down to the present moment, invariably flattered to destroy, concealing under the mask of a friendly solicitude, the blackest purposes of pride, ambition and revenge. If you would save the liberties of your country, stand fast in your republican creed, and turn a deaf ear to all who would sap the foundation of your faith. The stale cry of FRENCH INFLUENCE will be rung in your ears, and you will be called upon to arrest its progress by electing the man who extols “BRITISH MAGNANIMITY;” but if you ask where this Gallic monster is to be seen, they will point you to some phantom of their own creation; you will seek in vain for the substance. But not so with BRITISH INFLUENCE. You have long witnessed, and have in vain lamented, the rapid strides of this destroying Angel of our peace, union and prosperity. During the embargo, which even the most deluded now perceive was a wise and salutary measure, and ought to have been continued, we saw the convulsive efforts of this hydra-headed monster, in the vibra-

tions of popular opinion in certain districts, in the violation of the laws, the distraction of our public councils, and finally in the humiliation of our national character abroad. Do you ask for further proof of the existence of **BRITISH INFLUENCE**? If you do—read the letters of **JOHN ADAMS**, in which he shows conclusively that the principal evils of his administration arose from the insidious, dark and secret exercise of that influence, which he found it impossible to control. In the ninth letter, dated May, 1809, speaking of the time when **LISTON** was the resident British minister at Philadelphia, Mr. Adams says—

“ There were not wanting insinuations and instigations to me, to confer with Mr. Liston on the subject of an **ALLIANCE WITH GREAT-BRITAIN**. And Mr. Liston himself repeatedly suggested to me, in very modest and delicate terms however, his readiness to enter into any explanation on that head. I always waved it with as easy a politeness as I could. But my system was determined, and had been so for more than twenty years, that is, to enter into no alliance with any power in Europe.”

In this passage we find, that not only Mr. Liston, the British minister, but some other persons, who are not named, were endeavoring to instigate the President to promote an alliance with Great-Britain. In the tenth letter, dated also in May, 1809, Mr. Adams, speaking of the nomination of Mr. Murray, as minister to France, says:—

“ By making the nomination on my own authority, I believed that the heads of departments would have some discretion; although I knew that the **BRITISH FACTION** would excite a clamor, and that some of the Senators, Representatives, and heads of departments would make no exertions to discountenance it, if they did not secretly or openly encourage it.”

Here we have the highest evidence—the assertion of a President of the United States, whose situation enabled him to know the fact—that our country is exposed to the insidious arts of a British faction. Yes, fellow-citizens, there is a **BRITISH FACTION** in the heart of your country. Its cloven foot cannot be concealed; you cannot be at a loss to discover it—for whenever the honor and the interest of Britain are opposed to American glory and prosperity, you will perceive the movements of this faction directed to elevate and uphold the former—to humble and depress the latter.—But let us hope, however, that we shall finally triumph over the arts

of our enemies, whether foreign or domestic—and to ensure a result so desirable to all real Americans, I cannot but express once more the ardent wish I feel, that this meeting, and that our republican fellow-citizens throughout the state, may be animated by no common zeal in support of the re-election of DANIEL D. TOMPKINS, who is not only a whig and a republican, but a genuine federalist of the Washington school—who regards the Union of the states as the sheet-anchor of the patriot's hope for the future glory of his country, and state jealousy and foreign influence as twin-monsters, combined to destroy the vital energies of our body politic—and in the prostration of American freedom and independence to blast the hopes of millions who have turned their wishful eyes to this highly favored land—this *Ararat*, that amid the universal wreck of Empires, presents an unshaken base to the stormy deluge, and offers its proud summit as the only resting place to the ark of freedom.

After which the following resolutions were unanimously adopted :

Resolved, That it is the great privilege and prerogative of freemen, in the exercise of their elective franchise, to pronounce on the public acts and the political characters of the men whom the people have entrusted with the powers of government; and to investigate freely and openly the opinions, principles and qualifications of those who aspire to offices of trust and confidence.

Resolved, That the unparalleled aggressions upon our national rights, committed by the European belligerents, authorise a system of retaliation on the part of our government; calculated, not only to chastise the unprincipled tyrants, but furnish evidence to the world, that Americans will never deserve the contempt that would flow from a servile submission, either to usurped power, or an open attack upon their national independence.

Resolved, That the *false pretences* set up by the belligerents, that their *orders* and *decrees* have their origin in a system of self-defence and retaliation, fixes upon the authors a degree of infamy that has no parallel, except in a policy of unrestrained plunder.

Resolved, That we cordially approve the dignified conduct of the President of the United States, in refusing to receive any further communications from his Britannic majesty's minister, Mr. Jackson, after he had offered a flagrant insult to the government and to the nation—an insult which perhaps no other independent power would have treated with such moderation and forbearance. And

we regret that there should be any of our countrymen so blind and infatuated as not to see and to feel the indignity until it was pointed out to them by the editors of news-papers in Great-Britain, who, on this occasion, have shewn more discernment than their partizans on this side the atlantic.

Resolved, That we view with a mixture of pride and pleasure, the constellation of public and private virtues that encircle and brighten the character of the present chief magistrate of this state; by the mildness of his manners, the purity of his morals, the benevolence of his heart, and the rectitude of his conduct—By the lustre of his talents, the soundness of his principles, and the ardor of his patriotism—by his sacred regard for the liberty of his country—by his firm attachment to the union of the states—by his zealous support of the national government, and by his unceasing exertions to promote the welfare of the state, he has deservedly gained the love and the affections of the people, and he is eminently entitled to their warmest support.

Resolved, That we disapprove of the conduct of Jonas Platt, the person selected by the federalists as a candidate for the office of governor, in making a proposition to the Senate of this state, to applaud the "*magnanimity and honorable sense of justice of the British king,*" for *disavowing* the bloody attack made by one of his ships of war on the American frigate Chesapeake; and for *offering reparation* on such terms as could not be accepted without disgrace; at the same time that one of our seamen, forcibly taken from the frigate, was hung, and the British commander promoted—And this proposition, so unbecoming the spirit of an American, to applaud the British king, was made at a period when that king, by his navy, was committing depredations on our commerce, and by his minister, reviling our government.

Resolved, That we consider the political opinions of the said Jonas Platt, contained in his political pamphlet, opposed to the fundamental principles of our republican institutions, derogatory to the rights of representative government, and insulting to the good people of this state.—The following are Mr. Platt's own words as published by himself—"The majesty of the people," says he "is a monstrous deity! Its properties are wonderful and inexplicable. It has a thousand heads, and as many tongues. These heads are all actuated by different wills, and these tongues all speak different languages; and yet these are not a thousand wills, but one will:

nor a thousand languages, but one clear and distinct voice—its parts are infinitely divisible, and yet each part is equal to the whole ; *for where two or three are met together for factious purposes, even there is the majesty of the people in the midst of them*—To a man of common sense and honesty it is a stumbling block : To a man without ambition it is foolishness : But the man who does not firmly believe and clearly comprehend all this, has never been initiated into the sublime mysteries of democracy.—For my own part I take occasion here to declare, that I hold no opinion more firmly than this, that no instructions are binding upon a man in his legislative character, and by this maxim my political conduct will be governed—as a free agent on your behalf, within the limits of the constitution, I may occasionally be willing to be employed, but the office of your *servant* I will never submit to.”—Such is the avowed political creed of Jonas Platt.

Resolved, That the man who extols the magnanimity of any foreign prince or potentate, habitually violating our rights and destroying our property—who at the same time condemns the conduct of the constituted authorities of his own country and government—who pronounces a deliberate satire on the majesty of the people, from whom, in a free government, all power emanates—who ridicules that sovereignty on whose voice he depends for his elevation—who denies that the people delegate power when they elect to office—who refuses to be governed by the will of the people in executing the duties of their representative—who will not submit, in a public capacity, to be the servant of the people—and who, in using a scripture form of expression, ironically substitutes the name of the *majesty of the people* for that of the most high God!—That man is utterly unworthy to be the governor of a great state ; and unfit to be the ruler of a free and independent people, who understand their own rights and know how to exercise them.

Resolved, therefore, That we will support

DANIEL D. TOMPKINS

for the office of Governor, and

JOHN BROOME

for the office of Lieutenant-Governor, at the ensuing election.

Resolved unanimously, That the thanks of this meeting be presented to SOLOMON SOUTHWICK, Esq. for his patriotic address, and that he be requested to furnish a copy for publication.

A committee was then appointed to nominate a suitable person as a candidate to be supported by the Republicans for Member of Assembly, who returned and reported to the meeting the name of SOLOMON SOUTHWICK.

Thereupon, *Resolved unanimately*, That

SOLOMON SOUTHWICK

be reported to the county Convention as a candidate in whose support the Republicans of Albany and Colonic will unite with vigor and cordiality.

Resolved unanimately, That Henry Quackenbush, Ebenezer Foote, Benjamin Knowler, John Stafford, Elisha Dorr, Isaac Deniston, Daniel Rodman, Henry Shaw, Samuel North, John Bryan, and Isaiah Townsend, together with the chairman and secretary, be a committee of correspondence, and that they have power to select and appoint delegates to attend the county meeting, at the house of William Christie, in Bethlehem, on Saturday the 7th of April next, at 12 o'clock.

John Tayler
 John Bryan
 Cornelius Van Schelluyne
 John Stilwell
 Willard Walker
 Charles P. Christian
 Thomas Dawson
 Lawrence Morgan
 Jacob Lansing
 Thomas Newland
 Patrick Matthews
 Matthew Burton
 Daniel Morrell
 Samuel Bates
 Samuel North
 Thomas Rawleigh
 Robert Ellison,
 Asahel Hall
 John Gordon
 Barent Smith
 Richard Hilton
 William D'Ermet
 Philip Waggoner
 Daniel Ward
 Josiah Kerr
 Samuel Edgar
 Isaac Van Buskirk
 Isaac Sturges

Benjamin De Witt
 John Heermans
 David Dick
 Nicholas Radley
 Darby Noon
 Joseph S. Gould
 Frederick D. Wallace
 Benjamin Hansen, jun.
 Isaac Hansen
 John Hansen
 Patrick M'Koy
 Richard Hicks
 Noadiah Potter
 Gawin Patterson
 Hamilton Patterson
 Jonathan Morrell
 Jacob Best
 Cornelius Van Huisen
 Hugh Begley
 Andrew Rodgers
 Robert Cameron
 Isaac Denniston
 Francis Bloodgood
 Henry Donnelly
 Benjamin Van Benthuyzen
 James P. Van Benthuyzen
 Edward M'Faden
 John Turner

James Crow
 Hugh Harrison
 William Mynderse
 Patrick Code
 Andrew M. Mullen
 Cornelius Truax
 James Anderson
 Elisha Crane
 William Carlisle
 John Sickles
 Richard C. Skinner
 James Seely
 Charles Hill
 James O'Bryan
 Garret Leyster
 Patrick Bannin
 Noah Clark
 Maltby Howell
 Simeon V. Bradt
 William Randal
 Samuel Knower
 John Lyons
 George Stanwix
 Merrit Tuttle
 William W. Crannel
 Matthew Crannel
 James Hart
 Peter Brooks
 John W. Barry
 James Radley
 Walter Weed
 Richard Dusenbury
 George Weed
 Harmanus Hinderer
 Samuel Norton
 Moses Allen
 Thomas Oliver
 Richard Hoy
 Marmaduke Hoy
 Abiel D. Holkins,
 Dennis Laney
 Robert Packard
 Elisha Jenkins
 Benjamin D. Packard
 George Forbes
 James Mott
 Amos Halker
 John D. Groesbeek
 John M. Cue

Calvin Walker
 John Mills
 Christian Miller
 Isaac Lucas
 Nicholas Brower
 Lindal Briggs
 Derick Hunn
 Joseph Jewell
 John L. Clark
 Lewis Clark
 Dyer Newton
 John F. Doty
 William Fowler
 Benjamin Knower
 Solomon Allen, jun.
 Andrew Donnely
 Ebenezer Catlin
 Lawrence Tierney
 Jacob Eaton,
 Peter H. Hilton
 John Eaton
 Isaac Packard
 Edward Morgan
 Anthony M. Murdy, jun.
 Hugh Harrison
 George Carlisle
 George Demick
 Jason Rudes
 Richard Duncan
 Jesse Potts
 George Guest
 Alexander Vedder
 John Evertsen
 Anthony M. Murdy
 Spencer Stafford
 William Hagerty
 John Townsend
 James Thorn
 Anthony Lamb
 Christopher Oley, jun.
 David Malcom
 Isaac H. Tiffany
 Horatio Merchant
 John Champlin
 Aaron Clark
 Jacob D. Groesbeek
 Alexander Cochran
 Benjamin Wallace
 Nicholas Jerolamin

William Collins	George Randall
John Van Ness	Lyman Stanford
Levi Steele	Jared Lockwood
James Martin	John Brooks
Hezekiah Rickhow	Jacobus Vredenburg
Joseph Nelliger	John Hun
Benjamin Hansen	Thomas Hun
Archibald McClallen	John Stafford
John I. Wendell	Andrew Anderson
Peter Van Tassel	John Hewson
John Lush	William Giles
Abraham B. Hall	John W. Fryer
Zebediah Allen	Henry Radley
Israel Tuff's	Thomas Hewson
George Knower	John Hilton
Justus Van Huiscn	Peter Donnelly
Richard Waring	Rynier Vandenberg
Thomas Campbell	Benjamin Olmstead
John Shaw	David Lumsden
Henry Quackenboss	Jacob Hutchins
Henry R. Lansing	Abraham Benson
Richard Lush	David Bromlee
Robert Hurst	Peter Donnelly, jun.
Robert Hurst, jun.	George W. Stanton
Thomas S. Donnelly	Henry Ennals
Horace Lockwood	Henry Cakes
M. D. Mann	Jacob Vosburgh
George Charles	John Vernor, jun.
John Nelliger	Henry Shaw
Robert Lowther	Samuel Harbeck
John Dodge	Augustus Harbeck
Daniel M'Bride	Daniel Sickels
James Wynkoop	Jeremiah Johnson
John T. Witbeck	Derick Deforest
Timothy Mills	George Landon
Henry Q. Bradt	John Cooper
Peter Dox	Norman Ward
Elisha Dorr	Peter Drake
Peter P. Dox	James Cornelia
James Gourlay	Allen Brown
John A. Lansing	Beriah Palmer, jun.
Volkert D. Hilton	George Milton
John Baldwin	Nicholas Jeroliman, jun.
George B. Spencer	Elias Davis
Timothy Donovan	Abraham Yates
Robert Dunbar	Lemuel Price
Joshua Babcock	John Gowey
John I. Wilson	Jonathan Brooks, jun.
Teunis Visscher	Anthony Brooks

James Sickels
 John Simonds
 Henry Guest, jun.
 Henry Suydam
 Ezra Bugbie
 Abraham Brooks
 James Collins
 Francis Costigan
 Thomas Whallon
 Smith Cogswell
 John R. Tillman
 David Williams
 William Williams
 Chauncey Humphrey
 William M. Diamond
 Peter Murphy
 William Radley
 John N. Quackenbush
 James Cameron
 Abm. Pettinger
 Nicholas Hilton
 Sybrant Kittle
 Abraham Quackenbush
 David Lynch
 Thomas Doyle
 John Kierney
 Hugh Flinn
 Francis M'Cabe
 William Skinner
 William James
 Caleb Russel
 Peter Allanson
 Salem Dutcher
 Corns. Dunn
 Sebastian Visscher
 William I. Hilton
 James Blake
 James Hilton
 Henry Bradt
 James Bradt
 Timothy W. Skinner
 Jonah Sherman
 Derick Van Schelluyn
 Derick Van Schaick
 Phineas Brown
 John Van Bergen
 David Van Bergen
 James M'Murry
 Samuel M'Murry

Thomas Newland
 Robert Schoon
 William Schoon
 James M'Elroy
 Isaac Hempstead
 Isaiah Townsend
 John Mahar
 William Duffie
 George M'Lean
 John Vandervoort
 William D. Carroll
 James Mahar
 William Campbell
 Zackariah Sickels
 Garret Plum
 Patrick Hector
 Alexander M'Evitt
 James Bell
 Dennis Doyle
 Thomas M'Daniel
 William Maxwell
 William Longstair
 Philip Farrell
 Patrick Welsh
 John M'Nally
 Patrick Cassidy
 George Barney
 Garret R. Van Zandt
 Dan Aldrich
 Joseph R. Van Zandt
 John Brown
 Hessel Brower
 Jacob Bogart
 Patrick Glenn
 John Eps
 William Eps
 John Hinkley
 Edmond Hatfield
 Stephen Gay
 Samuel Carr
 Thomas Lennington
 John Vernor
 Matthew Tappen
 Stephen Lockwood
 Seth Hayden
 Ezra Brush
 Jonathan Warner, jun.
 Henry B. Cobb
 James Greer

Joseph Thayer
John Rickhow
James M^cMullen
Buckridge Webb
William Webb
Obadiah Cooper
William Field

Peter G. Ryckman
George Newton
John Johnson
John A. Bradt
Isaac Bradt
Richard Griffin
John Sipp^l

George Merchant, Chairman.

Charles D. Cooper, Secretary.

