

AN  
O R A T I O N,

PRONOUNCED AT

A B I N G T O N,

JULY 4, 1807,

IN COMMEMORATION OF

AMERICAN INDEPENDENCE;

AT THE REQUEST OF A COMMITTEE OF

**Young Democratic Republicans,**

FROM THE TOWNS OF

*ABINGTON AND BRIDGEWATER.*

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BY ELIHU HOBART.

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*Amos Dewey*



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# ORATION.

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FROM the first settlement of our country, and before the idea of civil and religious liberty had originated, it inspired our noble and virtuous ancestors with principles of independence; it prompted them to undertake the great and arduous work of emigration. Encouraged by the idea of finding a NEW WORLD in the West, they hazarded their lives and property to obtain it; to obtain a residence, where they could enjoy, unmolested, law, liberty and religion.

PERSECUTED in their native country, they were under the necessity, either to renounce their religion and become supporters of the established church, or abandon it. Reduced to this state, America was the object of their wishes. To obtain a residence there, was their ultimate object. Accordingly, they emigrated from England, from under a kingly government, to this then howling wilderness, inhabited by beasts of prey, and by more savage men; to establish society and government; to exercise rights and privileges destined them by the GOD of nature, uncontrolled by British faction or power. The hardships they had to encounter, while crossing the Atlantic, and after their arrival to this our native land, were of

the most distressing kind; exposed not only to the inclemency of the weather, but to most of the evils to which human nature is liable. It was with difficulty they defended themselves against the savage foe. It was with difficulty they obtained a settlement for themselves and posterity. In short, their situations were truly deplorable, owing to the depredations made on their frontiers by the savage scalping-knife.

BUT, in passing from what has been said, we shall proceed to notice some of the events in which our country were more immediate actors; and also to notice some of the means of our safety.

AT a period when we were rapidly increasing in wealth and population; when our Indian wars, in which we were almost continually involved, had in a great measure abated; and when the prospects of peace and general tranquillity were sensibly realized, hostilities commenced,\* which, for a time, damped our prosperity, and threatened our country with serious consequences.

BUT previous to the commencement of hostilities, the French and their Indian allies distressed our frontiers, and most inhumanly butchered its inhabitants. To behold the savage and civilized leading our countrymen to the slaughter-house of punishment, excited pity and a spirit of resentment, not only in the American colonies, but throughout Great Britain. To put a period to the barbarity of civilized and savage alliance, was not only desirable, but a duty. To prevent future depredations, and to secure the life and property of the individual unmolested, the acquisition of

\* Between the English and French nations in Canada.

Canada, by conquest, was resorted to. At that period Great Britain and her American Colonies were uniformly governed by the same laws and standing rules of political faith. They were generally united in sentiment, and sought to promote the general safety and prosperity. With one voice they pronounced the necessity of vanquishing that country, in order to the restoration of general tranquillity on our frontiers. Accordingly the Colonies put themselves in as defensive a state as their relative situation would permit. Although remote from the parent country, they received many necessary war implements, which not only gave spring and stability to the soldiery, but generally enforced the idea of their ability to defend themselves. The exigency of the times, however, soon demanded their presence at the theatre of war. They, ever ready to defend themselves and their country, proceeded to the place of destination; and after a regular inspection and organization of the army had passed, and the probable consequences of war and the modes of attack considered, we were better able to execute the proposed project \* than at the commencement of hostilities. Year after year, however, successively rolled away, without any apparent advantage being gained on either side. Battles were successively fought, in which we were generally victorious; but nothing decisive took place, till the surrender of the strongly fortified city of Quebec, by the French; on the taking of which hostilities ceased. Thus, by the joint co-operation of Great Britain and her American colonies, a period was put to

\* The conquest of Canada.

that war, which issued in establishment of general tranquillity on the continent.

BUT previous to the close of this war, a suspicion had arisen on the part of Britain, concerning the rising greatness of her Colonies. It was but little known, however, till the year 1765, when the authors of it, to appearance destitute of every principle of justice, played the part of tyrants. It was at this period the memorable Stamp-Act first made its appearance. When this arbitrary, unconstitutional act was proclaimed throughout the Colonies, it met with an opposition hardly equalled in ancient or modern times. A spirit of respect for the parent State was generally cherished; notwithstanding they remonstrated in bold and pointed language against such acts of injustice, as were about to be put in execution against them.

THE idea of a separation was not cherished, so long as they could enjoy unmolested their rights and privileges. In earlier times, a dependence on the parent State for protection, in case of an invasion, was manifested. A sense of their inability to defend themselves was clearly understood: they acknowledged it. But Britain, possessing corrupt notions of civil liberty, brought up and nurtured in the school of aristocracy, thought light of the principles of justice and humanity. Lost to all sense of feeling for the welfare of her "brethren in America," she acted inconsistent with rational principles.

PARLIAMENT at that time awoke to a sense of her authority, and exercised the iron rod of oppression over her shuddering children. Unauthorized by the principles of justice, she imposed bur-

dens too heavy to be borne by those who had arrived to a state of manhood ; much more to impose it on those who, in a state of infancy, could hardly support themselves. A continual imposition of taxes was resorted to, the payment of which would have established a precedent, both tyrannical and unconstitutional. To pay taxes for the support of a government in which we were not represented, was considered as tyranny and political robbery. However, they met with such spirited opposition, Parliament repealed all of them, except three pence per pound on *tea*. To subject us to the payment of this duty, and to carry their tyrannical plans into more complete operation, they transported successively large fleets and armies.

SUCH was the state of alarm at that time, when we, by repeatedly petitioning to his Majesty,\* found, the more we endeavoured to bring about a reconciliation, the more oppressive and inhuman measures were inflicted upon us. So, ample cause being given for us to renounce our allegiance, we declared ourselves a free, sovereign, and independent nation.

BUT previous to the declaration of the sovereignty and independence of the United States, George Washington had been appointed to the command of the continental army, by Congress. Upon which appointment, the standard of American liberty was reared ; and to support it, thousands of our most vigorous and active citizens devoted themselves to the service of their country : besides, a considerable number of forces from France were employed in our revolution, to obtain

\* King George III. "*Defender of the Faith, &c.*"

our liberties, and fought as faithful soldiers, to the benefit of our country.

To the honour of Frenchmen, then, be it recorded, that while war was declared against us, and amidst the struggles of our infant nation, they contributed to our relief. Mutual love and unabating friendship toward the American people, seemingly characterized that nation. Among those, however, who distinguished themselves in the cause of republican freedom, was the Marquis la Fayette; who, as a General, did honour to himself, to his country, to mankind; and to whom, in some measure, we owe the establishment of our independence.

At that time we were allowed to form no political connexion with Great Britain, but to fight in our own defence and that of our country. To behold us engaged in a war with that nation, was astonishment: astonishment was that state of the soul, in which most of our countrymen were involved. Unprepared and untutored as we were, almost destitute of war implements, we saw fit to make a spirited opposition, and, if possible, obtain our independence.

BEFORE the accomplishment of that happy period, Warren, Mercer and Montgomery fell victims before the persecuting hand of power, never more to rise to avenge their country's wrongs, and whose names will be handed with applause to posterity; while a Washington, with superior qualifications, conducted with steady firmness the helm of war.

THOUSANDS of lives were lost in the contest to obtain our liberties, and more on the side of our

oppressors were slain, while in the dishonourable service of a king, queen and nobles. But to their mortification, they were obliged to withdraw their forces from America, and acknowledge her freedom and sovereignty.

THUS we obtained a complete victory, which placed us in a situation superior to any independent nation, notwithstanding there were many obstacles which undoubtedly prevented its speedy accomplishment.

THE *torics* were instruments to impede our success, and would, if possible, have effected our overthrow. They formed a chain of connexion from one part of the continent to the other; the links of which were less numerous in the southern than in the New England States. They were bound in joint confederacy with Britain, and ready to help her to such things as they could obtain, to carry on the war; which encouraged her to continue hostilities, and render us subjects, if possible, to his Britannic Majesty.

SUCH were the ways devised to conquer us; but in vain: we were impelled by the best of motives, to maintain the principles of civil and religious liberty. And considering ourselves in a cause lawful and right for us to defend, added stability to, and inspired a spirit of perseverance in, the American councils. And considering with what deliberation our revolution was conducted, evinces a design, that we were impelled by rational motives, to maintain that liberty for which our fathers emigrated.

WE, however, amidst the scenes of disorder and commotion, amidst the clashing interests of party,



and amidst all opposition, in a state of infancy, as it relates to our experience in war discipline, burst the bands of oppression and tyranny, and established our INDEPENDENCE ;\* and took rank with the nations of the earth ; which commenced an era in the annals of history, to be recorded in the catalogue of events.

SINCE which we behold the American people in convention, forming constitutions of civil government, for their common defence, as well as rising into a state of eminence, beyond a parallel ; all the result of that patriotism, which deserves the countenance, support and protection of a mighty people.

To behold our country thus risen to a state of eminence, to behold her thus forming her own constitutions of civil government, will strengthen the idea of her ability to perform all moral and political obligations. Without which, however, and combining the privileges of a people, there can no equality of national liberty exist.

To transmit, unimpaired, this equal liberty of man, unembarrassed by civil and religious feuds, will require the attention of our fellow-citizens. Legislators also, with whom are entrusted the management of our public affairs, should be men of fidelity and principle. They should keep a jealous eye to those who are unfriendly to our representative systems of government ; and they should always conduct in such a manner as that the result of their joint co-operations will not only prove an

\* The Independence of the United States was generally acknowledged by the nations of Europe antecedent to the relinquishment of hostilities ; but by Great Britain just before the close of the year 1782.

individual but a collective benefit. By so doing they will be instrumental, under the wise administration of a Jefferson, in perpetuating our liberties and present prosperity. On the contrary, if a majority of them should lose their accountability to the people ; if they should prove regardless of their own and others' privileges, and appear unconcerned for their future respectability ; if they should conduct not from an opinion, founded on the laws of general as well as self-preservation ; the exertions of the minority to preserve, unimpaired, our religious, judicial and political establishments, would be vain ; and the dissolution or annihilation of them, in this case, would be strictly applied to the majority.

It becomes us then, fellow-citizens, to watch, with a vigilant eye, those who are entrusted with the management of our public concerns. By so doing, if we discover in the administration of our rulers, any thing indicative of the establishment of tyranny, let us, upon such conviction, displace from office all such as are connected in conspiracies of this kind, to bring their country into subjection to their despotic policy.

This policy, originating with the ambitious, has proved the death warrant of republics. And history furnishes evidence, where the most ancient States and kingdoms have become subservient to, and sunk under, their all-crushing power. Even the States of mighty Greece and Rome, together with their orators, statesmen and philosophers, have become their prey, and tumbled into obscurity.

AMERICANS, shall we then, having the history of ages before us, be persuaded to trample on our liberties, in the face and eyes of experience? Shall we sacrifice to present interest and personal aggrandizement, all those rights and privileges which stand connected with civil government? Shall we embark in the field of contention, and thereby lay waste the happiness and friendship of society, at the expense of private gratification? No, let us act according to the dictates of reason, and ever maintain a reciprocal regard for the welfare of our country's rights. Let us cherish a respect for those in authority, so long as they continue to contribute to the public safety and prosperity. Let us never suffer an amendment of the constitution to be made, until our prosperity requires it; and then let us proceed constitutionally to obtain it. The moment we proceed unconstitutionally, in the discharge of political duty, we are not only establishing a bad precedent, but laying the foundation of our national ruin. By successively adopting unconstitutional measures, we might not at first be apprized of the injury; but our march to ruin would be inevitable. Let us then, if we wish to perpetuate our republican systems, never lessen our attachment to the Federal Constitution; but let us uniformly regard it, as the ark of our political and religious safety. Let us also maintain that liberty our fathers so valiantly won, with the staff of justice extended, as a shield, as an armour of defence.

If we should fail in this, and the means used on the part of good and influential men, are ineffectual to preserve a treasure of political worth, what

source of security can be established, that will perpetuate those blessings arising from unimpaired political union? Union of opinion, unshackled by political clamour, is infinitely necessary for the safety and prosperity of a democratic government; without it republics would totter on their foundation, and the aid of the most skilful statesmen would be in vain, to uphold them; it is the main pillar that supports a free government, as well as the most popular bar to prevent the penetration of an enemy into our towns, cities and frontiers. Should the intelligence of the declaration of war by Great Britain, against the United States, arrive to-day, and to-morrow the arrival of an army of 200,000 men from that nation should sanction the report, would not the necessity of union “*stare us full in the face?*” Would not every inhabitant of the American continent pronounce the infinite necessity of union in such an event? Would not the necessity of union be irresistibly forced upon us? Would not every individual, who is capable of encountering the vicissitudes of war, honourably go forth in defence of his country, and defend it at the point of the bayonet? Would not union be proclaimed among the soldiery, as necessary for their own and their country’s safety? Would they consider themselves, their property or their country secure, while dissension and a multiplication of evils pervaded their ranks? No; an answer in the affirmative, would be perfectly groundless and conjectural. The necessity then of union, in our military as well as in our political councils, is evident. Let us then, as members of the great political family, as Independent Americans, use our utmost

endeavours to promote it : for it is as necessary to the preservation of liberty, society and popular government, as air to the human species. Without this union, the establishment, prosperity and permanency of a republican government would be impossible.

ANOTHER source of our safety, and equally calculated to uphold our importance in the political scale, is education. Where a due attention is paid to this, it inspires a people with lofty ideas of independence ; their false notions of monarchy and aristocracy, instead of degenerating into more tyrannical ones, vanish. And as it gives dispatch to our public official characters, the necessity of a general diffusion of it throughout our country will not be doubted. We, then, as parts of the public system, ought to encourage youth in the science of literature ; which, since the establishment of our independence, has flourished beyond that of any former period. Our colleges and academies have also arisen into celebrity and importance. The poor as well as the rich participate in the advantages arising from establishments of this kind. But when we reflect upon the superior advantages of the poor children of our country to those in the kingdom of Great Britain, we are struck with the contrast, and wish they were equally as good as our own. How many, under that government, are debarred of the privilege of education ? How many, scattered over the different parts of the globe, are immersed in the gloom of ignorance, while our own are enjoying all the privileges imaginable ? Inconceivable the number !

To behold our country thus possessed of the means of information, and those means fast approaching to a state of perfection, will occasion no inconsiderable degree of satisfaction to all true friends of our country ; for society, immersed in ignorance, manifests itself to be wholly incapable of preserving the least vestige of freedom or right political opinion.

THE wisdom of ages also, has given currency to the report, that mankind when in a state of ignorance, are as likely to subvert the constitution and laws, and more so, than aid and protect them. What then would be our situation, should men of this stamp hold the scales of justice in the Executive and Legislative Departments of our country? Would not infidelity, vice and every false principle, however dishonourable to a republican people, spread with unabating rapidity? Would not the scene appear as dishonourable to the cause of liberty and the rights of man, as the event would prove destructive to a free people? If so, the necessity of having those of ability, integrity and patriotism, to legislate in our State and Federal Legislatures, is of infinite importance. If, for instance, the President of the United States should be of this description, (ignorant and illiterate) could you, fellow-citizens, repose that confidence in him, which you so evidently manifest? Should those in subordinate authority be of the same description, could you think yourselves well represented; could you repose yourselves on your pillow, and think the administration of your country to be such as would secure, untarnished, your rights and privileges? No,

America with such an Executive and Legislators would be like a ship at sea, the captain and hands of which in a state of intoxication, momentarily liable to be devoured by the watry element. But thank Heaven, this is not our case; at the helm of State is the illustrious Jefferson, whose patriotism and administration commands applause and respect from all at home and abroad. The economy pursued by this distinguished Statesman since the commencement of his administration, has enabled us to discharge a considerable part of our national debt, and to regulate our internal concerns in a manner highly honourable to a republican people. Our Legislators, wise and patriotic, will undoubtedly contribute to the safety and interest of their constituents; well versed in the art of political government, they are capable of rendering innumerable services to their country. But should they adopt measures which are not calculated for our safety as a people, they would then violate the most sacred ties of political duty; for the grand object of legislation is, to secure general as well as personal privileges and protection; whenever they fail in this, and become wholly actuated by selfish motives; whenever they neglect a faithful discharge of political duty, by privately countenancing or openly advocating that, which would increase their own and lessen the public interest, our liberties will be in danger, and government subject to change.

In a republican government, if those chosen to legislate, prove themselves unworthy of their delegated power, there is a noble alternative, the

people have the right of electing others, giving them equal power. The farmer and mechanic are placed on the same equal political standing with the most wealthy of their fellow-men. In point of privileges, they all share equally. Taxation, which under different governments is carried to the very stretch of arbitrary power, operates equally throughout the mass of the people. No tyrannical laws are suffered to take place to aggrandize a part, while the rest are reduced to a state of poverty and oppression. But the noble and honourable maxim, that the people are qualified to choose their rulers, to frame laws, and to do all acts and things, which are necessary for the support of a free government, is by all true Americans acknowledged. Freedom of speech is the most precious of privileges it disseminates, through the medium of the press, a spirit of liberty or tyranny, which would otherwise remain unknown. Unknown to but a few, and those perhaps, ambitious of self-aggrandizement, would establish themselves in power, not at their own, but at their country's expense; to prevent which, freedom of speech and of the press, are most eminently calculated. A total sacrifice of these, would throw our country into a ruinous state, into the arms of tyrants, whose apparel, lined with thorns, would prick us to the soul; the principal props in the edifice of republicanism, the ornaments of our country would be no more; a total banishment of every privilege connected with the support of our liberty and independence, would be the consequent result, and Columbia, the last resort or residence of the rights of man,



would, amidst the acclamation of tyrants, and like the ancient republics, be buried in obscurity.

BUT notwithstanding the superior privileges resulting to the mass of the people, from the establishment of a democratic government, there are those among us, who give a preference to the English form, as the most complete system of government. In this government, the people, comparatively, have no more power in directing the measures of government, than in an absolute monarchy. They have the right of choosing their Commoners, which constitute the inferior branch of the Parliament, or Court of England. This is the only elective right the constitution of that nation will permit the people to exercise.

To commit the reins of government wholly to the management of one man, in whom is vested the power of adopting and carrying into effect laws, without the advice or consent of his subjects, or any legislative body, is sacrificing all the rights of freemen; for if under such a government, the Ruler is disposed to inflict the most severe punishment, having little or no foundation; if he is disposed to make and execute laws, calculated to reveal the power of a tyrant; or even, if he is disposed to inflict the sentence of death, by exercise either of the gibbet or guillotine, no one dares to oppose the execution of his sentence, for fear of involving himself in the same fate. This fear of arbitrary resentment reduces men to a state truly deplorable; it serves to embarrass their understanding, to destroy the active principles of men, and to hold them up in the capacity of tyrant and slave. Finally, such a government is

destructive to the rights and privileges of the people, and is calculated only to uphold and aggrandize the family and favourites of him who is vested with supreme national authority. Let us then erase such unjust and oppressive systems of government from the empire of our memorials, and cherish the idea of transmitting our republican systems unimpaired to posterity. Never let us adopt the language of the followers of Hamilton.

“ SHOULD the ancient governments of Greece  
 “ and Rome have continued untarnished down  
 “ to the present time, maintained their republican  
 “ forms of government, it would have presented  
 “ to us ideas favourable towards those ancient in-  
 “ stitutions. We should then have felt willing to  
 “ have adopted them for our present form of gov-  
 “ ernment ; but as those governments experienced  
 “ a change, from republican to hereditary, we are  
 “ fully of the opinion, that there is not *religion,*  
 “ *wisdom,* or *money* enough, to ensure a transmit-  
 “ tance of them in our own. Taking into consid-  
 “ eration also, the importance of the English Con-  
 “ stitution, we cannot hesitate to express, it is the  
 “ most *complete* in the world.”

BUT, fellow-citizens, shall a recollection of ancient events, ancient ignorance, ancient corruption or licentiousness, put a period to our republican institutions, in this enlightened country ? Shall the problem, that Columbia is capable of maintaining her liberty and independence, be forever solved or answered in the negative ? No ; the language of three quarters of the American people is decidedly in the affirmative. They feel themselves bound by the ties of natural friendship,

and regard they owe their country, never to part with their liberty, or native birthright, until He “whose right it is to reign, reigns universally.”

To consider our military establishments as fast approaching to a state of perfection, no one will deny. Let us then encourage the establishment and organization of military systems, so far as will be consistent with the safety and interest of freemen. Never let them be so trained and established, as to sacrifice any other part of our defence to support them. But let them be duly organized, in such a state of military discipline and regulation, as will secure our general and individual safety. Then will our militia, without the aid of a standing army, be an ample mean of defence.

BUT if the United States should manifest a neglect of her privileges, and appear unconcerned for her future respectability; if she should consent to a separation of the confederated States and thereby unlink the chain that had heretofore connected the American Republic, then would the Republics of other nations be instrumental in bringing about a war in our own, and by joining one would complete the downfall of both. Our rights and privileges also, obtained by the blood and treasure of our ancestors, would, in this case, be completely bartered away; and all our hopeful prospects of transmitting, unimpaired, the liberties of America, achieved by the wisdom and patriotism of our sages and heroes, would be annihilated.

## YOUNG REPUBLICANS,

WITHOUT a particular address to you, I cannot feel willing to close the exercises of the day. Thirty-one years have successively rolled away since the declaration of independence, penned by Jefferson, and subscribed by Hancock, was formed and published to the world. During this period America has established liberty and law; contributed not a little to the extinguishment of our national debt, and rose into respectability, beyond that of any other nation. This day, then, which brings to recollection events worthy of remembrance, is a day of general rejoicing with all true patriots. It leads them to prize the blessings, which arose from the proceedings of that day, on which this glorious instrument was formed. It inspires them with just ideas of independence; ideas, which, so long as memory holds her seat, will not be forgotten.

BUT notwithstanding the present prosperous and happy state of our country, the time may not be far distant, when, by our inattention to the right of suffrage, and the intrigues of demagogues, our liberties will vanish at noon-day; and when the disease, which originates from the latter, being given by inoculation, will prove equally as destructive as when taken the natural way.

LET us then guard against the intrigue of the demagogue, and resent every attempt, aimed at the overthrow of our liberty. Never suffer ourselves to countenance that, which would tend to mar the peace and happiness of our country. But let us conduct in such a manner, as to be instrumental in perpetuating our national freedom.

Ever keep in remembrance, and venerate the names of those revolutionary patriots, Greene, Gates and Lincoln, who were instrumental in achieving it. And not forget that many of our brave countrymen, whose patriotism and abilities shone with meridian splendor, fell lifeless on the field of battle. Even Warren and Montgomery, the voluntary defenders of our revolution, died in the cause of republican freedom. Their blood, the pure blood of patriotism, issued in copious streams, never to return to give life and activity to those systems from which it flowed. While a Washington, the saviour of our country, led forth the armies of Columbia, not to obtain conquests for, or to aggrandize himself, but to secure the rights and privileges of his country; to place the whole on the same equal political standing.

How many of different political sentiments from this distinguished character, have, by the force of arms, put in jeopardy the liberties of a people? How many by their sophistry and art have led astray the soldiery; excited prejudices against government, and pronounced themselves the most skilful navigators of State? Where is Bonaparte? View him in his military career, at the head of a formidable army, spreading war and devastation in his marches. On the other hand, view him exalted to the highest pinnacle of fame, as Emperor of a powerful and numerous people. Complimented with the title of Emperor, an inquiry naturally arises, how he obtained it. The answer is, through the instrumentality of a military force. By this force he paved the way, on which he could walk in safety to the throne of France.

And having established his authority throughout the neighboring nations, an internal regulation of the army and government of that nation, was his prime object. Regardless of his enemies, with the sword in one hand, and the constitution in the other, he gives laws to France. How different then is the character of Bonaparte from that of the illustrious Washington. Washington never acted the part of a tyrant. While Commander in Chief of the Continental Army, he not only secured the confidence and esteem of his fellow-soldiers, but liberated his country from European oppression. Buoyed up by the rectitude of his conduct, his enemies, instead of tarnishing, polished his character. Called by his country to aid in forming her constitution of civil government, he obeyed. In that great and important work, no man was more eminently qualified. He was first among those who brought it to a speedy and honorable decision. While President of the United States, his administration commanded the applause and approbation of his country. In this dignified and elevated station he continued eight years; when he resigned the office of Chief Magistrate, and returned to Mount Vernon, to spend the remainder of his days in repose and retirement.

As a General, he is a most finished example for you. As a Statesman, he is first on the list of patriots. Imitate then, if possible, both the military and political principles of this great Hero and Statesman. Show to the world, that you have taken this distinguished luminary for your guide and directory. By thus countenancing the military and political principles of the Father of

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America, you will never lose sight of his virtues ; but you will forever remain of the opinion, that his precepts and examples, if faithfully cherished, will best perpetuate our civil and religious privileges.

FELLOW-CITIZENS,

LET us disunite all our unpleasent prejudices, and have recourse to such means and measures, as will best promote our individual and collective happiness. Never let our prejudices so far overpower our reason, as not to view impartially the merits and good qualities of those in opposition to our particular tenets ; but let us unite in promoting the general good ; never suffer any internal commotion or unnatural jealousy to be disseminated among us ; never give loose to those wild passions and prejudices, which are the result of deranged reason ; but let us conduct from the noble scale of benevolence, and ever maintain a reciprocal regard for the preservation of our common country. By so doing, party spirit, which is instrumental in bringing about the destruction and downfall of republics, will be done away. Then will the principles of civil and religious liberty be faithfully cherished, and receive the lasting sanction of every genuine American.

F I N I S .