

and jealous of their rights, the government is safe, and the cause of freedom will continue to triumph over all its enemies.

But it will require steady and persevering exertions on your part to rid yourselves of the iniquities and misdeeds of the paper system, and to check the spirit of monopoly and other abuses which have sprung up with it, and of which it is the main support. No man interested in the rights of the people will allow himself to be misled by the false and unscrupulous assertions of the paper system, nor will he be content with a mere nominal support of the government, but he will demand the constitutional currency of gold and silver, and something in trust, has been done towards the accomplishment of this most desirable object. But enough yet remains to require all your energy and perseverance.

This power, however, is in your hands, and it will require but a little more of your determination to pass over, without notice, the important considerations which should govern your policy towards foreign powers. It is, unquestionably, our true interest to cultivate the most friendly understanding with every nation, and to avoid, by every honorable means, the calamities of war; and we should not attain this object by treachery and duplicity in our foreign intercourse, by the prompt and faithful execution of treaties, and by justice and impartiality in our conduct to all. But no nation, however desirous of peace, can hope to escape occasional collisions with other powers; and the soundest dictates of policy require that we should place ourselves in a condition to assert our rights, if a resort to force should ever become necessary.

Our local situation, our long line of coast, and our numerous bays, with deep rivers opening into the interior, as well as our extended and still increasing commerce, point to the navy as our natural means of defense. It will in the end, be found to be the cheapest and most effectual; and now is the time, in a season of peace, and with an overflowing revenue, that we can, year after year, add to its strength, without increasing the burdens of the people. It is your true policy, for your navy will not only protect your rich and thriving commerce in distant seas, but will enable you to repel and annoy the enemy, and will give to defense its greatest efficiency, by meeting danger at a distance from home. It is impossible, by any line of fortifications, to guard every point from attack against a hostile force advancing from the ocean and settling its object; but they are indispensable to protect cities from bombardment; dock yards and naval arsenals from destruction; to give shelter to merchant vessels in time of war, and to single ships or weaker squadrons when pressed by a superior force.

Fortifications of this description may be too soon completed and armed, and placed in a condition of the most perfect preparation. The abundant means we now possess cannot be applied in a manner more useful to the country; and when this is done and our naval force sufficiently strengthened, and our militia armed, we need not fear that any nation will wantonly insult us, or needlessly provoke hostilities. We shall well understand that we are prepared for war.

In presenting to you, my fellow citizens these parting counsels, I have brought before you the leading principles upon which I endeavored to administer the government in the high office with which you have twice honored me. Knowing that the path of freedom is continually beset with enemies, who often assume the disguise of friends, I have warned the last hours of my public life to warn you of the dangers. The progress of the United States, under our free and happy institutions, has surpassed the most sanguine hopes of the founders of the Republic. Our growth has been rapid beyond all former example, in numbers, in wealth, in knowledge, and all the useful arts which contribute to the comfort and convenience of man; and from the earliest ages of history to the present day, there never have been thirteen millions of people associated together in one political body, who enjoyed so much freedom and happiness as the people of these United States. You have no longer any cause to fear danger from abroad; your strength and power are well known throughout the civilized world, as well as the high and gallant bearing of your sons. It is from within, among yourselves, from cupidity, from corruption, from disappointed ambition, and from the thirst for power, that factions will be formed and liberties endangered. It is against such designs, whatever they are, that we should be especially on our guard, and it is especially to yourselves, that we have the highest and most anxious trusts committed to your care. Providence has showered on this favored land blessings without number, and has chosen you as the guardians of freedom to preserve for the benefit of the human race. May He, who holds in his hands the destinies of nations, make you worthy of the favors he has bestowed, and enable you, with pure hearts and pure hands, and sleepless vigilance, to guard and defend to the end of time, the great charge he has committed to your keeping.

My own race is nearly run; advanced age and falling health warn me that before long I must pass beyond the reach of human events, and cease to feel the vicissitudes of human affairs. I thank God that my life has been spent in a land of liberty, and that he has given me a heart to love my country with the affection of a son. And filled with gratitude for your constant and unwavering kindness, I bid a last and affectionate farewell.

ANDREW JACKSON.

Dr. Webster's Case.—So much has been already said and written on this extraordinary case that very little remains for us to say on the subject, except that a very general feeling of disapprobation is entertained against the verdict. We know that in this case the judges of the different courts, save of the bar, have expressed a very decided opinion of its illegality, and we also have reason to know that the Bench and Bar of Philadelphia, as well as those of other large cities, share in this opinion, and will they may, for never before was any man found guilty of murder on such slender testimony.—N. Y. Weekly Universe.

THE DEMOCRAT.

Thursday, April 18, 1850.

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