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Topic 1: Barbary Wars

I believe that this is a pivotal time in our history and that we must choose between an incredibly costly war and making peace with the Barbary States, namely Tripoli which has already declared war on us. To buy peace with the Tunis, it would cost 30,000 English guineas, or \$120,000 and Tripoli would charge the same. Although this is a lot of money, we would lose even more if we decided to go to war. The cost of money and blood combined would be too high for us to pay. We must continue to negotiate with Pasha Yusuf Qaramanli, the ruler of Tripoli. We must increase our budget for such treaties to over the current \$80,000, as that number is not realistic to buy the favours of all four Barbary States. By avoiding war, we can show the world that the United States of America sees the benefits of peace, and does not needlessly go to war with foreign nations; that is what this would be, a completely needless war that would prove nothing. We would sacrifice the lives of our soldiers to accomplish what? Whether we chose to go to war or not, the outcome will be the same. If we decide to pay tribute, our merchants will gain passage through the Barbary Coast. If we decide to go to war and win, we will also gain passage through the Barbary Coast. However there is no guarantee that we will win even if we decide to go to war with these people. The Barbary States are supported by the vast Ottoman Empire, and it would be very unwise for our newborn country to take on such a powerful political opponent. It would be foolish for us to start a conflict that France and Britain, nations that are much larger than us, have avoided for years. These two countries have instead decided to pay tribute to the Barbary states, and it would be wise for us to follow suit. Therefore, we should immediately send diplomats to Morocco, the Algiers, and Tunis to discuss our free passage through their coasts. We must also end our war with Tripoli, and pay the money that they have asked for. In order to pay for this, we will have to temporarily place our expansion westward on hiatus, which will allow us to have the resources to pay the tributes.

Topic 2: Federal Judiciary System

The Judiciary Act of 1801 must be kept intact if we want our country to continue to run efficiently and effectively. Allowing the judicial branch to have more power secures that our government will run smoothly, as it allows for both the Senate and House of Representatives to be kept in check. If they are not allowed to deem any bills passed unconstitutional, then a majority by any party in both the senate and house would give them an unlimited amount of power. By having this check in place, we can ensure that our government only passes bills that

are favourable to the people and that we do not return to the monarchy that is so feared by our nation. By having a court that can oversee the Senate and House, it ensures that what is best for our country is what comes to fruition and that laws are not passed to fit the needs of the wealthy few. Judicial review is one of the most important checks and balances that our country has, and removing it could have far reaching ramifications that would change our countries course of history for the worse.

Topic 3: Louisiana Purchase

The purchase of the French territory known as Louisiana would greatly hurt our country. If we decide to purchase this land, we will be opening our borders to people who speak completely different languages than us, as well have hold very contrasting values to our own. They will not want to be integrated into our society, and it will be tough to force it upon them. We would also have to accept these people into our political system, and that could upset the balance of power in ways that no man sitting in this room would like. By adding more states, we also decrease the power that our states have, which thereby gives us less say in what our country does. As we continue to expand our borders, we open ourselves up to losing touch with our people as the larger the nation becomes, the harder it becomes to control. By expanding, we will leave ourselves vulnerable to attack, both from our people and from foreign nations, as we will be spreading our already dwindling resources on a larger plot of land. This land has little to no value, and will therefore be a waste of our money. The purchase of this land will also turn us against one another, as we will be forced to decide which states will become slave states and which slaves will become non-slave states. In doing this, we will create a great divide among our people as we continue to argue over slavery. We also get to see the true colours of Mr. Jefferson through this whole ordeal, as he has been one to If we ratify the purchase of Louisiana, then we will be betraying our duty to our people to offer them a safe and stable future.

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