Joshua Sands Position Paper

Joshua Sands was born in 1757 Cow Neck, New York. Before he served as a federalist representative in the 8th United States Congress representing New York he held many important positions in both the federal government and in his own business endeavours. He fought on the side of the patriots during the Revolutionary war as a captain of the 4th New York Regiment. Then in 1776 he served as an auditor general of New York until 1782. He founded and was a director, along with Alexander Hamilton, in the Bank of New York. Joshua became a member of the New York Senate in 1792 and in 1796 he was a part of the Council of Appointment. Sands held the prestigious position of the second Collector of the Port of New York from 1797 to 1801, five years, when Thomas Jefferson removed him from the profession. Despite having a low level of education Joshua Sands clearly held a long list of qualifications when he was serving congress in 1803 until 1805.

The position my character hold on the Barbary Pirates is to fight in the war. The Federalist Party as a whole sees the Barbary War as a stage to put American dominance on. As a young country, creating a global respect would greatly benefit us when it came to conflict, allies, and trade. As a party we federalists had the slogan, “Millions for defence, but not one cent for tribute.” Elitists make up the mass majority of the party, meaning that we did not see the benefits of hiding behind tributes and instead wish to fight for the improvement of our country’s standing on a federal scale. Paying tribute would allow the European powers to overlook our country as any other trade partner, as they too for the majority have established territory or trade partners from America it is important to set ourselves a part. The paying of the tribute is also costly and in a developing country it can be detrimental to our economic growth.

The federal government should have much more power than it currently does. The judicial system cannot be telling the senate, house, congress or president how to run the country. Municipalities and state systems have advantageous components but on the whole the federal government should always remain strong and independent. It is important for the national government to uphold the constitution and be the arbitrary of it beyond the judicial system. As Joshua, I believe that the federalist representatives appointed by John Addams should remain in their positions, despite the late decisions on his behalf. The fact that they were appointed last minute does not negate the importance of abiding by presidential word and the duty of serving their country to the best of their ability. As the obvious best candidates for the positions the removal and replacing of these men would be a waste of time, resources and against the trust we have placed upon our past presidents.

I, Joshua Sands, am opposed to the Louisiana Purchase, as the majority of Federalists are. The doubling of national debt that would surely occur if the purchase were to be made is unneeded on the scale that is being proposed by the president. If we wish to gain the prosperous territory of Louisiana then we should use the large Navy and army we already have to do this instead of exhausting our supply of funds that is already failing. This would increase not only the territory of the United States, but also force large powers such as France, England and Spain to respect us as an equal dynamism. Even more beneficial to the country would be for the Louisiana Purchase to not occur at all and instead focus on the current economy. With the purchase of the territory comes also a long list of issues, almost as much as the gains of the territory. Other than the port and trade that can be overcome by treaty, the federalists see very little to be earned. The issues with slavery and the possible wars this could cause is insurmountable, slave rebellions are a threat and as such should be avoided by all means necessary. It is crucial to not divide the country on the scale that would occur should the southern expansion befall us. Are the benefits of the purchase or dominance of the territory worth national debts and a mockery of our diplomatic trading within the region? The area of Louisiana is also greatly unexplored, therefore the cost of mapping and exploring the area could be greater than predicted. We do not know how many tribes inhabit the territory nor the hostility of the people.