Character: DeWitt Clinton

Committee: 8th US Congress

Delegate’s Name: Justin Miller-Clarke

In the 19th century, the United States of America was still a very young country and had to face its share of geopolitical problems, as well as issues at home. Abroad, the United States had to face the issue of their economic trade routes being cut off by the pirates from the Barbary States. At home, there was the political issue of the Federal Judiciary system and the economic issue of the Louisiana purchase. Being a new country, the United States has to choose how it wants to enter the geopolitical stage. Does it want to use diplomacy to solve their issues or should it instead try to solve its problem through war? However the United States chooses to solve these problems will set the tone for all future issues that will come to confront it.

**Barbary Wars**

DeWitt Clinton was a member of the Democratic-Republican party and supported Thomas Jefferson. This party believed that the Barbary pirates were interfering with the economic success of the recently formed United States of America and the natural liberty of its citizens. The Democratic-Republican party wanted to deal with the pirates two ways; the first was to blockade their ports and supply centers, and the second was through military might. The pirates had been extorting the United States for money for years before Jefferson became President and they needed to be dealt with in the same manner as the tyrants of the Revolutionary War, through military force. Seeing as how the United States is till very young, this not only gives it the chance to flourish economically, but through defeating these pirates it can establish itself as a powerful country in the world stage.

**Louisiana Purchase**

Seeing as how DeWitt Clinton was a Democratic-Republican, his views on the Louisiana Purchase fell in line with those of Thomas Jefferson. Clinton believes that the United States of America should buy the territory of Louisiana, it would provide the United States with a valuable piece of American territory that is rich in natural resources, fur, and access to the Mississippi river. Not only that, but it would nearly double the territory of the United States. The acquisition of the Louisiana territory would be a major advantage to the newly formed United States of America.

DeWitt Clinton was very involved with the Freemasons, in fact, from 1806 until 1819, he was the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of New York. Additionally, the Grand Lodge of New York awards the DeWitt Clinton Award to individuals who go above and beyond to serve their community, and both show a genuine concern for the well-being of Mankind and firmly believe in the brotherhood of Man. Therefore, when it comes to the issue of slavery, African or Native, Clinton would vehemently oppose it.

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