**8th Congress: Jonathan Dayton**

**Barbary wars**

           With the continuous conflicts occurring in North Africa, I believe the best choice for this country is to begin negotiating with these pirate states with the goal of developing a peace treaty. Our current short term plan of hiding behind Britain and using their flags on our ships will no longer work. Though Jefferson is strongly stating that our country should build a navy and retaliate, our nation is simply too young and ill equipped. Our citizens would be reluctant to fund a war, nor would they be willing to enlist and fight. War is also an unpredictable solution as there is no guarantee that it would be short enough to meet our financial requirements, nor a guarantee that we will win. The longer the war goes on the more money it will cost the United States and its proud citizens. There is also no assurance that the United States will win the war. Considering the fact that in the past European countries had made efforts to go to war with the Barbary States yet failed, this should be an indication for us to not make the same mistake.

Instead, I believe that we should enter into negotiation to defray the pirates. This will provide a long-term and stable solution towards deescalating this conflict. Engaging in peace talks is most definitely a less dangerous course of action then declaring war. Congress can set a budget for the agreement, and if the Barbary States refuse, then we will have no other option but to commence hostilities, and enter into another war.

**The Federal Judiciary System**

I believe that the Federal Judiciary Act of 1801 was a necessary step in order to protect our government. By decreasing the number of justices on the Supreme Court and creating sixteen judgeships for six judicial circuits, we extended the judiciary branch, making the government appear stronger to enemies and to our people. The expansion of the federal judiciary is an effective method to counteract those who question the strength of the government. As the government appears stronger, less people will criticize or question the government. Having an extensive judiciary branch has also helped balance out the executive and legislative branches, thus bringing balance to our government. It is important to keep this balance so that no one branch has the power to veto the other, which would give an unfair advantage to certain people. By declaring the legislation unconstitutional we have brought balance into our government system. Therefore I am strongly against the repeal of this act.

**Louisiana Purchase**

The United States would greatly benefit from the purchase the Louisiana territory. This territory contains one of the most valuable ports; New Orleans. This port is important as it is the main trading harbour which connects us to other states and internationally. Whoever controls this port has great power and will have unlimited access to the port. With the potential threat from France of being cut off from this port, it would be beneficial for our nation to purchase this port. These territories are also filled with riches such as tar, lumber, pitch, gold, iron, and silver. These resources would help our nation economically and can help us build a navy. Buying this territory will also eliminate the competition from other European nations in fur trading. The Spanish, the French, and the British all have significant power in these regions and by buying this land, we can ensure our economic and political dominance in these regions. By expanding our country, we will also be making a statement to European countries.

Although the purchase of this land would cost a tremendous amount of money, I feel that the United States would benefit greatly from this deal. We also would not need to pay for the land entirely with money. If France is willing, we are likely able to negotiate a plan through protection, alliances, and/or deals. Perhaps we can form a deal where in return for the Louisiana territory, the United States will vow to protect and aid France in war, as long as it is not against Britain. We can also erase current debts France has to the US, or guarantee that in the future France will not have to pay for certain resources.