Our congress addresses a nation and people in trying times. After four years of a government grossly expanding far beyond its proper role, the American people’s rights are under siege like never before since the revolution. President Jefferson is now restoring this country to the confederation of states filled with small agricultural families that it was always meant to be. Primary in this mission is to limit the power of the federal government at all costs, as not would be to promote tyranny and oppression. I, Nathaniel Macon, as speaker of the house intend to help him in this noble quest.

In North Africa, hostile nations built on the petty act of piracy seek to disrupt trade routes that are essential to our economy. It is clear that this threat must be dealt with in some manner, and swiftly. However, the creation of a navy would be an egregious expense that would only open this government to moneyed interests. Moreover, the creation of such a force would undoubtedly lead to the oppression of the American people at some point.

The effective balancing of power in the government is also threatened by the current direction of the Supreme Court. Now that the justices of this court feel that they have the power to change law as they seem fit, our country may soon be ruled by an unelected board of elite monarchs. If we are to maintain the integrity of state governments and courts, we have to make it clear that the Supreme Court’s place is not to overturn the will of the American People.

Our nation now faces the remarkable opportunity to expand its boundaries and subsequently the opportunities available to its people. The addition of Louisiana will undoubtedly serve our economy well, as controlling the port of New Orleans would allow for tax free trade once again. Americans could dominate the trade of furs, and the purchase would increase our prestige abroad. I believe we should purchase Florida as well, as it would open up greater trade capabilities with the Caribbean. These purchases should also be undertaken with the expansion of slavery in mind, as there is no other way to run such a territory economically.

My goad in these times is merely to protect the true interests of the American people by keeping the national government as small as possible. The best kind of government is no government, and now that the constitution has been passed the lease I can do is do my part to protect my fellow citizens.

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Congressman from North Carolina’s 6th District

Speaker of The House of Representatives