Delegate: Mr. Spencer Lindenthal

School: Saint Edward’s School

Committee: 8th Congress United States (1803)

Position: George Logan, Democratic Republican from Pennsylvania

I, George Logan, began my career as a physician, after being educated in England. I have been considered a loyalist for much of my life due to my education and family background. I spent much of my time during the American Revolution in England, finishing my training in medicine. Upon return to the America’s, I began to live in my family mansion of Stenton in Pennsylvania. In order to maintain this historic property, I gave up my career in medicine in order to pursue a different avenue in agriculture and politics. Despite my loyalist background, I have joined the Democratic Republican party, and was once a prominent member in Philadelphia Legislature and but now in the US Senate. I was elected into Philadelphia Legislature in the mid 1780’s and late 1790’s, while also being elected for the state of Pennsylvania into the US Senate at the beginning of the 1800’s for a six-year term. Because of my background in medicine and the sciences, I am a revolutionary farmer, combining aspects of my careers to become a prominent farmer in the North. My good friend, Thomas Jefferson, considers me to be one of the best farmers of the time. I also represent and stand for the other farmers of Pennsylvania and their common political views. Once I was removed from the Society of Friends, a Quaker organization in Pennsylvania, I went on to form other political organizations in Pennsylvania, such as the Democratic Republicans societies or the Pennsylvania Society for the Promotion of Agriculture. Because of my good relations with Thomas Jefferson, I agree with the president on a number of issues, but also differ in my own opinion, especially when it affects the agricultural society.

One of my primary disagreements with Thomas Jefferson comes in terms of the Barbary Pirates, a collection of crews from the North African nations of Algiers, Tripoli, Tunis, and Morocco, who disturb American trade with European countries within the Mediterranean Sea. Initially, Democratic Republicans were against the building of an army and navy in times of peace, as allocating money in defense is wasteful when it could be used in other matters such as furthering the economy or the acquisition of new territory. I, along with fellow Democratic Republicans, oppose Jefferson and believe in this tribute because it allows for money to be allocated in other matters, such as westward expansion.

I also agree with westward expansion instead of fighting wars in Europe primarily because of my career as a farmer. Most of Pennsylvania's citizen’s products, along with my own, are not sold in the trade across the atlantic, but are primarily sold nearby or within the Americas. Westward expansion would allow for the expansion of my business, as it would provide more consumers within the Americas, and more land for the production of local goods. This is why when the Louisiana Purchase is brought up, I agree with Jefferson in terms of purchasing this land. Acquisition of this land would allow for more protection of the Western citizens of the United States from foreign powers (such as France and Europe) and Native Americans. Also it could reduce the dispute over slavery, as the new land could be where African Americans could go once they were considered free. Acquisition of the Louisiana territory, would also increase the trade within America, reducing the need for European trade, as control over the Mississippi would make transportation more accessible.

Finally, I disagree with giving the power of judicial review to the Supreme Court, as this right was not specifically given to the Supreme Court in the Constitution. The power to completely reject a law gives too much power to the single judicial branch, and has no balance between the other branches. For example, if the Executive branch were to veto a new law, the veto can be reverted by the Legislative branch. Similarly, I believe a system should be put in place where if the Judiciary branch were to develop this power, it should not be absolute within the Judiciary branch, and should be balanced by powers in the other two branches.

I follow the belief of many of the other Democratic Republicans in terms of the solutions for the Barbary pirates. Since for the past decades a payment towards the Barbary pirates has ensured safety for Atlantic traders, I believe in continuing this tribute, and keeping the army and navy small until a time where defense becomes necessary. A reduced army and navy will keep the national debt small, which will allow for both the payments towards the pirates along with the continued focus on improving trade within the American. Acquisition of the Louisiana Territory is one avenue which these funds, instead of going to development of the navy and army, can be sent to. Purchase of the Louisiana Territory would reduce the threat of European nations in the Americas and would provide opportunities to make trade and transportation more accessible for states not directly on the coast of the Atlantic, such as Pennsylvania. Judicial review in only the Judiciary branch centers too much power on this section of the federal government, and either be split up among the branches, or have balances within the other branches.