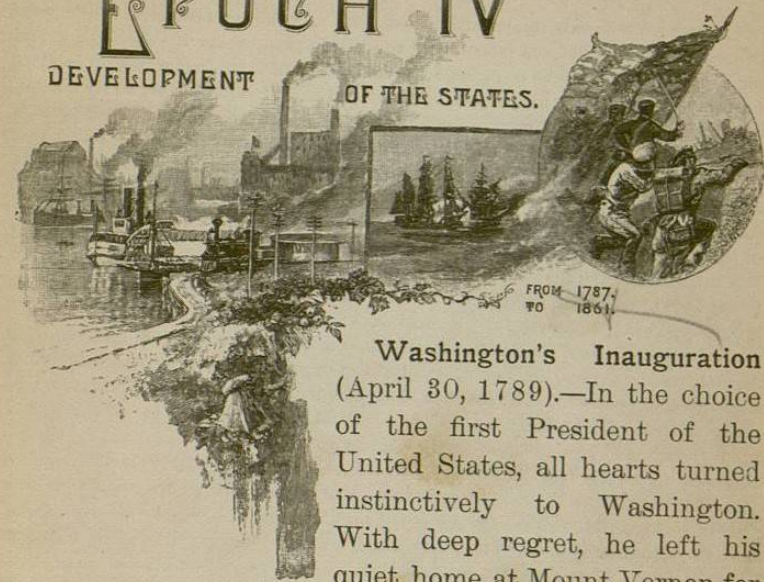


## EPOCH IV

DEVELOPMENT OF THE STATES.



**Washington's Inauguration**  
(April 30, 1789).—In the choice of the first President of the United States, all hearts turned instinctively to Washington. With deep regret, he left his quiet home at Mount Vernon for the tumults of political life. His journey to New York was a continual ovation. Crowds of gayly-dressed people bearing baskets and garlands of flowers, and hailing his appearance with shouts of joy, met him at every village.

*Questions on the Geography of the Fourth Epoch.*—Locate New York. Philadelphia. Baltimore. Detroit. York. St. John's. Montreal. Plattsburg. Sackett's Harbor. Frenchtown. Chippewa. New Orleans. Sacramento. San Francisco. Santa Fe. Queenstown Heights. Chrysler's Field. Horseshoe Bend. Lundy's Lane. Locate Fort Malden. Fort Erie. Fort Meigs. Fort Stephenson. Fort Mimms. (Mims). Fort McHenry. Fort Brown. Fort Schlosser.

Describe the Maumee River. Hudson River. Tippecanoe River. Niagara River. St. Lawrence River. Raisin River. Thames River. Rio Grande River. Nueces River. Locate Sandusky Bay. Lake Champlain.

Locate Palo Alto. Point Isabel. Resaca de la Palma. Matamoras. Monterey. Buena Vista. Vera Cruz. Puebla. Cerro Gordo. The Cordilleras. Mexico.

The following names of places can be found on map, Epoch VI. Locate Stonington, Conn. Palmyra, N. Y. Nauvoo, Ill. Mount Vernon. Fort King. Columbia River. Tampa Bay. Cuba. Havana.

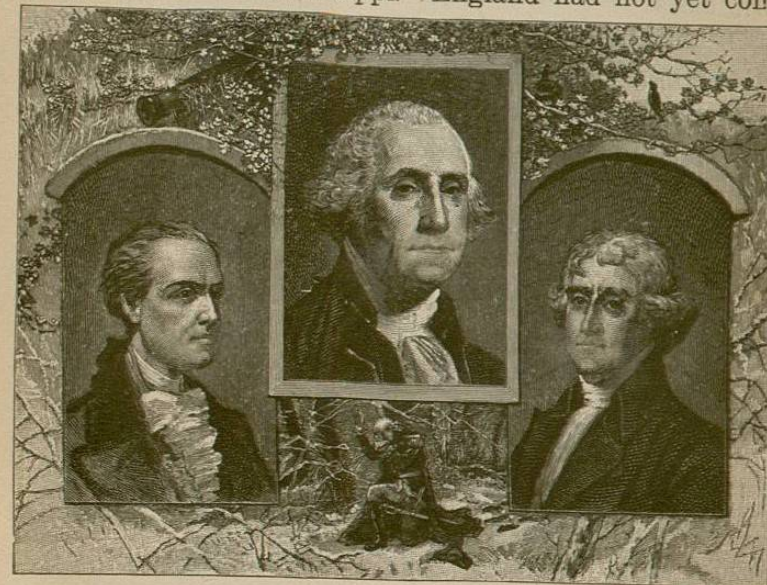


On the balcony of old Federal Hall, New York City,\* he took the oath to support the Constitution of the United States.†

\* New York was only temporarily the capital. At the second session of Congress, the seat of government was transferred to Philadelphia, where it was to remain for ten years, and then (1800) be removed to the District of Columbia, a tract of land ten miles square ceded for this purpose by Maryland and Virginia. Here a city was laid out in the midst of a wilderness, containing only here and there a small cottage. The "Father of his Country" laid the corner-stone of the capitol (1793). The part of this District on the Virginia side of the Potomac was ceded back to that State (1846).

† George Washington was born February 22, 1732; died December 14, 1799. Left fatherless at eleven years of age, his education was directed by his mother, a woman of strong character, who kindly, but firmly, exacted implicit obedience. Of her, Washington learned his first lessons in self-command. Although bashful and hesitating in his speech, his language was clear and manly. Having compiled a code of morals and good manners for his own use, he rigidly observed all its quaint and formal rules. Before his thirteenth year he had copied forms for all kinds of legal and mercantile papers. His manuscript school-books, which still exist, are models of neatness and accuracy. His favorite amusements were of a military character; he made soldiers of his playmates, and officered all the mock parades. He inherited great wealth, and the antiquity of his family gave him high social rank. On his Potomac farms he had hundreds of slaves, and at his Mount Vernon home he was like the prince of a wide domain, free from dependence or restraint. He was fond of equipage and the appurtenances of high life, and although he always rode on horseback, his family had a "chariot and four", with "black postilions in scarlet and white livery". This generous style of living, added perhaps to his native reserve, exposed him to the charge of aristocratic feeling. While at home, he spent much of his time in riding and hunting. He rose early, ate his breakfast of corn-cake, honey, and tea, and then rode about his estates; his evenings he passed with his family around the blazing hearth, retiring between nine and ten. He loved to linger at the table, cracking nuts, and relating his adventures. In personal appearance, Washington was over six feet in height, robust, graceful, and perfectly erect. His manner was formal and dignified. He was more solid than brilliant, and had more judgment than genius. He had great dread of public life, cared little for books, and possessed no library. A consistent Christian, he was a vestryman and regular attendant of the Episcopal Church. A firm advocate of free institutions, he still believed in a strong government and strictly enforced laws. As President, he carefully weighed his decisions; but, his policy once settled, pursued it with steadiness and dignity, however great the opposition. As an officer, he was brave, enterprising, and cautious. His campaigns were rarely startling, but always judicious. He was capable of great endurance. Calm in defeat, sober in victory, commanding at all times, and irresistible when aroused, he exercised equal authority over himself and his army. His last illness was brief, and his closing hours were marked by his usual calmness and dignity. "I die hard", said he, "but I am not afraid to go." Europe and America vied in tributes to his memory. Said Lord Brougham, "Until time shall be no more, a test of the progress which our race has made in wisdom and virtue will be derived from the veneration paid to the immortal name of Washington." Wash-

Difficulties beset the new government on every hand. The treasury was empty, and the United States had no credit. The Indians were hostile. Pirates from the Barbary States attacked our ships, and American citizens were languishing in Algerine dungeons. Spain refused us the navigation of the Mississippi. England had not yet con-



HAMILTON.

WASHINGTON.

JEFFERSON.

descended to send a minister to our government, and had made no treaty of commerce with us. We shall see how wisely Washington and his cabinet\* met these difficulties.

**Domestic Affairs.—Finances.**—By the advice of Alexander Hamilton, Secretary of the Treasury, Congress agreed to assume the debts contracted by the States during the Revolu-

tion left no children. It has been beautifully said, "Providence left him childless that his country might call him Father."

\* Three executive departments were now established—the Department of Foreign Affairs (now the Department of State), the Department of War, and the Department of the Treasury. The heads of these departments were called Secretaries, and, with the Attorney-General, formed the President's cabinet.



tion, and to pay the national debt in full, including the Continental money. To provide funds, taxes were levied on imported goods and the distillation of spirits. A mint and a national bank were established at Philadelphia. By these measures, the credit of the United States was put upon a firm basis.\*

*Whiskey Rebellion* (1794).—Great opposition was made to raising money by taxation. In western Pennsylvania, it was agreed that no tax should be paid on whiskey. The rioters were so numerous and so thoroughly organized that fifteen thousand of the militia were ordered out to subdue them. Finding the government in earnest, the malcontents laid down their arms.

*Indian Wars*.—Two armies sent against the Indians of the north-west were defeated. At last, General Wayne—"Mad Anthony"—was put in command. Little Turtle, the Indian chief, now advised peace, declaring that the Americans had "a leader who never slept". But his counsel was rejected, and a desperate battle was fought on the Maumee (Aug. 20, 1794). Wayne routed the Indians, chased them a great distance, laid waste their towns for fifty miles, and compelled them to make a treaty† giving up about 25,000 square miles of land north of the Ohio.

*Foreign Affairs.—England*.—Hardly had the war closed when complaints were made in England that debts could not be collected in America. On the other hand, the Americans charged that the British armies had carried off their negroes, that posts were still held on the frontier, and that our seamen

\* The credit of these plans belongs to Hamilton. Daniel Webster has eloquently said of him, "He smote the rock of the national resources, and abundant streams of revenue burst forth. He touched the dead corpse of public credit, and it sprang upon its feet."

† He told them, it is said, that if they ever violated this agreement he would rise from his grave to fight them. He was long remembered by the western Indians.

were impressed. Chief Justice Jay was sent as envoy extraordinary to England. He negotiated a treaty, which was ratified by the Senate (1795), after a violent opposition.\*

*Spain and Algiers*.—The same year, a treaty was made with Spain, securing to the United States the free navigation of the Mississippi, and fixing the boundary of Florida, still held by that nation. Just before this, a treaty had been concluded with Algiers, by which our captives were released and the Mediterranean commerce was opened to American vessels.

*France*.—The Americans warmly sympathized with France, and when war broke out between that country and England, Washington had great difficulty in preserving neutrality. He saw that the true American policy was to keep free from European alliances. Genet (zhěh nā'), the French minister, relying on the popular feeling, went so far as to fit out, in the ports of the United States, privateers to prey on British commerce. He also tried to arouse the people against the government. At length, at Washington's request, Genet was recalled. But, as we shall see, the difficulty did not end.

*Political Parties*.—During the discussion of these various questions, two parties had arisen. Jefferson, Madison, and Randolph† became leaders of the republican party, which opposed the United States Bank, the English treaty, and the assumption of the State debts. Hamilton and Adams were the leaders of the federalist party, which sup-

\* This treaty enforced the payment of the English debts, but did not in turn forbid the impressment of American seamen. Its advocates were threatened with violence by angry mobs. Hamilton was stoned at a public meeting. Insults were offered to the British minister, and Jay was burned in effigy.

† John Randolph of Roanoke was not prominent in the republican (or democratic-republican, as it was often called) party until a later administration, being elected representative in 1799. About 1806, however, he became estranged from Jefferson, and opposed the election of Madison. He was a descendant of Pocahontas.



ported the administration.\* Washington having declined to serve a third term, issued his famous Farewell Address. So close was the contest between the rival parties that Adams, the federalist candidate, was elected President by a majority of only two electoral votes over Jefferson, the republican nominee, who became Vice-President.

### ADAMS' ADMINISTRATION.†

(SECOND PRESIDENT: 1797-1801.)

**Domestic Affairs.—*Alien and Sedition Laws.***—Owing to the violent denunciations of the government by the friends and emissaries of France, the ALIEN AND SEDITION LAWS were

hontas, of which fact he often boasted, and was noted for his keen retorts, reckless wit, and skill in debate. His tall, slender, and cadaverous form, his shrill and piping voice, and his long skinny fingers—pointing toward the object of his invective—made him a conspicuous speaker. For thirty years, says Benton, he was the “political meteor” of Congress (see “A Thirty Years’ View,” by Thomas Hart Benton).

\* The federalists favored the granting of power to the general government, which they thought should be made strong. The republicans, fearing lest the republic should become a monarchy, and the President, a king, opposed this idea and advocated State rights. In this election, the republicans were accused of being friends of France, and the federalists of being attached to Great Britain and its institutions. This Republican party was the forerunner of the present Democratic party (p. 173), and must not be confounded with the present Republican party.

† John Adams was born 1735; died 1826. He was a member of the first and the second Congress, and nominated Washington as commander-in-chief. Jefferson wrote the Declaration of Independence, but Adams secured its adoption in a three-days debate. He was a tireless worker, and had the reputation of having the clearest head and firmest heart of any man in Congress. As President, he lost the reputation he had gained as Congressman. His enemies accused him of being a bad judge of men, of clinging to old unpopular notions, and of having little control over his temper. They also ridiculed his egotism, which they declared to be inordinate. He lived, however, to see the prejudice against his administration give place to a juster estimate of his great worth and exalted integrity. As a delegate to the Constitutional Convention, he was honored as one of the fathers of the republic. Adams and Jefferson were firm friends during the Revolution, but political strife alienated them. On their return to private life they became reconciled. They died on the same day—the fiftieth anniversary of American independence. Adams’ last words were, “Thomas Jefferson still survives.” Jefferson was, however, already lying dead in his Virginia home. Thus, by the passing away of these two remarkable men, was made memorable the 4th of July, 1826.

passed. Under the former, the President could expel from the country any foreigner whom he deemed injurious to the United States; under the latter, any one libeling Congress, the President, or the government, could be fined or imprisoned. This was a most unpopular measure, excited the bitterest feeling, and was soon repealed.

**Foreign Affairs.—*France.***—French affairs early assumed a serious aspect. Our flag was insulted, our vessels were captured, and our envoys were refused audience by the French Directory unless a bribe should be paid.\* The news of this insult aroused the nation, and the friends of France were silenced. Orders were issued to raise an army, of which Washington was appointed commander-in-chief. Hostilities had commenced on the sea, when Napoleon became the First Consul of France, and the war was happily arrested.

**Political Parties.**—An intense party feeling prevailed during the entire administration. The unpopularity of the alien and sedition laws reduced the vote for Adams and Pinckney, the federal candidates. The republican nominees, Jefferson and Burr, received the majority of votes; but, as each had the same number, the election went to the House of Representatives, which chose Jefferson for President, and Burr for Vice-President.

### JEFFERSON'S ADMINISTRATION.‡

(THIRD PRESIDENT—TWO TERMS: 1801-1809.)

**Domestic Affairs.—*Purchase of Louisiana (1803).***—The most important event of Jefferson's administration was the

\* Charles C. Pinckney—our minister to France—is reported to have replied to this insulting demand, “Millions for defense, but not one cent for tribute.”

† Thomas Jefferson was born 1743; died 1826. “Of all the public men who have figured in the United States,” says Parton, “he was incomparably the best scholar



purchase of Louisiana from Napoleon. Over one million square miles of land and the full possession of the Mississippi were obtained for \$15,000,000 (see Map, VIth Epoch).

*Aaron Burr*, the Vice-President, was Alexander Hamilton's bitter rival, both in law and in politics, and at last challenged him to a duel. Hamilton accepted. The affair took place at Weehawken (July 11, 1804). Hamilton fell at the first fire, on the very spot where his eldest son had been killed shortly before in the same manner. His death produced the most profound sensation. Burr afterward went west and organized an expedition with the avowed object of forming a settlement in northern Mexico. Being suspected, however, of a design to break up the Union and found a separate confederacy beyond the Alleghanies, he was arrested and tried

and the most variously accomplished man." He was a bold horseman, a skillful hunter, an elegant penman, a fine violinist, a brilliant talker, a superior classical scholar, and a proficient in the modern languages. On account of his talents he was styled "The Sage of Monticello". That immortal document, the Declaration of Independence, was, with the exception of a few words, entirely his work. He was an ardent supporter of the doctrine of State rights, and led the opposition to the federalists. After he became President, however, he found the difficulty of administering the government upon that theory. "The executive authority had to be stretched until it cracked, to cover the purchase of Louisiana;" and he became convinced on other occasions that the federal government, to use his own expression, must "show its teeth". Like Washington, he was of aristocratic birth, but his principles were intensely democratic. He hated ceremonies and titles; even "Mr." was distasteful to him. These traits were the more remarkable in one of his superior birth and education, and peculiarly endeared him to the common people. Coming into power on a wave of popularity, he studiously sought to retain this favor. There were no more brilliant levees or courtly ceremonies as in the days of Washington and Adams. On his inauguration day, he dressed in plain clothes, rode unattended down to Congress, dismounted, hitched his horse, and went into the chamber to read his fifteen-minutes inaugural. Some of the sentences of that short but memorable address have passed into proverbs. The unostentatious example thus set by the nation's President was wise in its effects. Soon, the public debt was diminished, the treasury was replenished, and the army and navy were reduced. A man of such marked character necessarily made bitter enemies, but Jefferson commanded the respect of even his opponents, while the admiration of his friends was unbounded. The last seventeen years of his life were passed at Monticello, near the place of his birth. By his profuse hospitality, he had, long before his death, spent his vast estates. He died poor in money, but rich in honor. His last words were, "This is the fourth day of July."

(1807) on a charge of treason.\* Although acquitted for want of proof, he yet remained an outcast.†

*Fulton's Steam-boat.*—The year 1807 was made memorable by the voyage from New York to Albany of Robert Fulton's steam-boat, the *Clermont*. For years, the Hudson could boast of having the only steam-boat in the world. ‡

✧ *Foreign Affairs.—War with Tripoli.*—The Barbary States, of which Tripoli is one, for many years sent out cruisers which captured vessels of all Christian nations, and held their crews as slaves until ransomed. The United States, like the European nations, was accustomed to pay annual tribute to these pirates to secure exemption from their attacks. The Bashaw (ba shaw) of Tripoli became so haughty that he declared war (1801) against the United States. Jefferson sent a fleet which blockaded† the port and repeatedly bombarded the city of Tripoli. The frightened Bashaw was at last glad to make peace.

*England and France.*—During this time, England and France were engaged in a desperate struggle. England tried to prevent trade with France, and, in turn, Napoleon forbade all commerce with England. As the United States was neutral, we did most of the carrying trade of Europe. Our

\* While awaiting his trial, Burr was committed to the common jail. There, among its wretched inmates, stripped of all his honors, lay the man who once lacked but a single vote to make him President of the United States.

† Closely connected with Burr's conspiracy is the romantic story of Blennerhassett and his beautiful wife. Having settled on an island in the Ohio River, they had transformed the wilderness into a garden of beauty, and had clustered about their home every luxury which wealth could procure. Into this paradise, Burr came, winning their confidence, and engaging them in his plans. On Burr's downfall, Blennerhassett was arrested, and, before his release, every thing had been sold by his creditors, the grounds turned into a hemp-field, and the mansion converted into a store-house.

‡ During this blockade, a valiant exploit was performed by Lieutenant Decatur. The frigate *Philadelphia* had unfortunately grounded and fallen into the enemy's hands. Concealing his men below, he entered the harbor with a small vessel, which he warped alongside the *Philadelphia*, in the character of a ship in distress. As the two vessels struck, the pirates first suspected his design. Instantly he leaped aboard,



vessels thus became the prey of both the hostile nations. Besides, England claimed the right of stopping American vessels on the high seas, to search for seamen of English birth,\* and press them into the British navy. The feeling, already deep, was intensified when the British frigate *Leopard* fired into the American frigate *Chesapeake*, off the coast of Virginia. The American vessel, being wholly unprepared for battle, soon struck her colors. Four of the crew, three being Americans by birth, were taken, on the pretense that they were deserters. Jefferson immediately ordered all British vessels of war to quit the waters of the United States. Though England disavowed the act, no reparation was made. Congress then passed an EMBARGO ACT forbidding American vessels to leave port. This was so injurious to our commerce that it was removed, but all intercourse with England or France was forbidden.

**Political Parties.**—While the country was in this feverish state, Jefferson's second term expired. James Madison, the republican candidate, who was in sympathy with his views, was elected as his successor by a large majority. The republicans generally favored a war with England,† while the federalists bitterly opposed the war policy.

### MADISON'S ADMINISTRATION.‡

(FOURTH PRESIDENT—TWO TERMS: 1809-1817.

**Domestic Affairs.**—*Battle of Tippecanoe* (November 7, 1811).—British emissaries had been busy arousing the In-

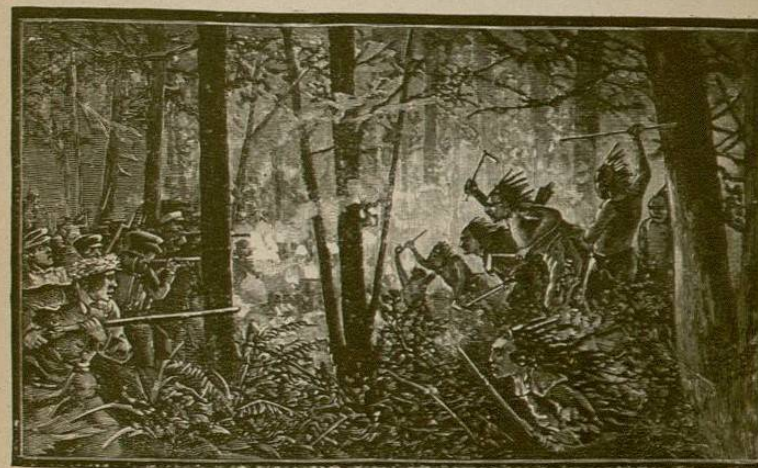
with his men, swept the affrighted crew into the sea, set the ship on fire, and, amid a tremendous cannonade from the shore, escaped without losing a man.

\* The American doctrine was that a foreigner naturalized became an American citizen; the British, "Once an Englishman, always an Englishman."

† Madison and Monroe both followed Jefferson's policy; Josiah Quincy once called them James I. and James II.

‡ James Madison was born in Virginia in 1751; died 1836. In the Convention

dians to war. Te cum'seh, a famous chief, seized the opportunity to form a confederacy of the north-western tribes. General Harrison, who was sent against them with a strong force, was treacherously attacked by night near the Tippecanoe. The Indians, however, were routed with great slaughter.



BATTLE OF TIPPECANOE.

of 1787, he was one of the strongest advocates of the Constitution, and did much to secure its adoption. From his political principles he was obliged, though reluctantly, to oppose Washington's administration, which he did in a courteous and temperate manner. He led his party in Congress, where he remained till 1797. The next year he drafted the famous "1798-'99 Resolutions", enunciating the doctrine of State rights, which, with the accompanying "Report" in their defense, have been the great text-book of the democratic party. He was Secretary of State to Jefferson. After his Presidential services, he retired from public station. Madison's success was not so much the result of a great natural ability as of intense application and severe accuracy. His mind was strong, clear, and well-balanced, and his memory was wonderful. Like John Quincy Adams, he had laid up a great store of learning, which he used in the most skillful manner. He always exhausted the subject upon which he spoke. "When he had finished, nothing remained to be said." His private character was spotless. His manner was simple, modest, and uniformly courteous to his opponents. He enjoyed wit and humor, and told a story admirably. His sunny temper remained with him to the last. Some friends coming to visit him during his final illness, he sunk smilingly back on his couch, saying: "I always talk better when I lie." It has been said of him: "It was his rare good fortune to have a whole nation for his friends."



**Foreign Affairs.—England.**—This war aroused the people of the West against England. The impressment of our seamen and the capture of our ships continued. The British government went so far as to send war vessels into our waters to seize our ships as prizes. The American frigate *President* having hailed the British sloop-of-war *Little Belt*, received a cannon-shot in reply. The fire was returned, and the sloop soon disabled; a civil answer was then returned. The British government refusing to relinquish its offensive course, all hope of peace was abandoned.\* Finally (June 19, 1812), war was formally declared against Great Britain.

#### SECOND WAR WITH GREAT BRITAIN (1812-'14).

**Surrender of Detroit (August 16, 1812).**—As in the previous wars, it was determined to invade Canada. General William Hull accordingly crossed over from Detroit and encamped on Canadian soil. While preparing to attack Fort Malden (maw'l'den), he learned that the enemy were gathering in force, and had already captured Fort Mackinaw. He, therefore, retreated to Detroit. The British under General Brock and the Indians under Tecumseh followed thither, and, landing, advanced at once to assault the fort at that place. The garrison was in line, and the gunners were standing with lighted matches awaiting the order to fire, when Hull, apparently unnerved by the fear of bloodshed, ordered the white flag—a table-cloth—to be raised. Amid the tears of his men, it is said, and without even stipulating for the honors of war, he surrendered not only Detroit, with its garrison and stores, but the whole of Michigan.

\* Madison, whose disposition was very pacific, hesitated so long, that one of the federalists declared in Congress that "he could not be kicked into a fight". This expression passed into a proverb.

