

From the Albany Argus.  
Life of a Patriot Citizen.

**MARTIN VAN BUREN,**

The son of an humble farmer, was born at Kinderhook, December 5, 1782.

At the age of fourteen he commenced the study of the law.

In 1803 he was admitted to the bar and began practice in Kinderhook.

In 1804 he gave his first vote and acted with the democratic party in supporting Morgan Lewis as Governor against Aaron Burr.

In 1806, on account of the increase of his business, he removed from Kinderhook to Hudson.

In 1812 he was elected to the Senate of the State of New York.

In November, 1812, he reported an address to the Senate, expressive of confidence in GOVERNOR TOMPKINS, and avowing a determination to support him in the prosecution of the war.

In the winter session of 1813, he made a report, signally rebuking the federal party who opposed the war.

At the close of that session, he penned the address of the democratic members of the legislature, which re-animating the true-hearted democracy of New York, and secured the triumphant re-election of the patriot TOMPKINS.

In 1814, he reported an address pledging the best exertion of the Senate to support the energetic war measures of Governor Tompkins.

In the same year he introduced a bill to raise 12,000 troops for two years, and place them at the disposal of the General Government.

In 1815, in behalf of the Legislature, he penned a series of eloquent resolutions of gratitude and applause to ANDREW JACKSON, for the glorious victory of New Orleans.

In the same year he was appointed Attorney General of the State of New York, and one of the Regents of the University. He was also re-elected to the State Senate for four years.

While in the Senate he opposed every one of the numerous banks then chartered except the bank at Buffalo, which was established for the relief of the citizens of that town after it was destroyed by the British during the war.

In the Senate he commenced a series of efforts to abolish imprisonment for debt—which were continued until that great and philanthropic object was accomplished in this State.

In the Senate he advocated the Erie Canal project of Governor Clinton, and aided in carrying through that noble work.

In 1810 he was removed from the office of Attorney General by the Federal party.

In 1820 he was elected by the democracy of Otsego, to represent that county in the State Convention that formed the new Constitution.

In that Convention he opposed vigorously the freehold qualification of electors; and contended successfully for an extension of the franchise by his revolutionary Pensioners, and to abolish imprisonment for debt.

In 1828 he was elected Governor of the State of New York.

In 1829 he was chosen by President Jackson Secretary of State, and was soon afterwards appointed by the President, Minister to England.

In December, 1831, his nomination as Minister to England was rejected by the federal majority of the Senate; he was recalled.

In 1832 he was elected Vice President of the United States.

In 1836 he was elected President.

In 1837 he recommended to Congress the Independent Treasury System.

July 4th, 1840, he signed the Independent Treasury Bill, which thereby became the law of the land.

**A Short Biography of WILLIAM H. HARRISON**

A FEDERALIST:

Born Feb. 9, 1772, at Berkeley, in Va: Will be, on the 9th of Feb. next, if his trembling limbs and tottering steps survive the rigors of another Ohio winter, SIXTY EIGHT YEARS OLD;

And will be before the end of the next Presidential term, if a kind Providence shall so lengthen out his days, SEVENTY-TWO YEARS OLD.

His early life is not distinguished by anything worthy of remark or admiration, except at the age of 18 he "became a member of

**AN ABOLITION SOCIETY."**

In 1798, he was a delegate in Congress from the Northwest Territory; was

**A BLACK COCKADE FEDERALIST IN THE REIGN OF TERROR,**

A supporter of the Alien and Sedition Law Administration of John Adams.

**OPPOSED**

To the election of Thomas Jefferson, the great Apostle and Champion of American Democracy.

Was appointed,

During that great struggle between Black Cockade Federalism and Democracy, by JOHN ADAMS, GOVERNOR

Of the Territory of Indiana,

As a reward for services rendered to his Alien and Sedition Law Administration.

While Governor of that Territory, he approved and signed a Law for

**SELLING FREE WHITE MEN AND WOMEN INTO SLAVERY.**

For Debts incurred by fines and costs, with a penalty of

THIRTY-NINE LASHES

If the white slave, male or female, sought liberty by absconding from servitude. He also approved and signed a law imposing a

**PROPERTY QUALIFICATION**

Upon voters, Supporting the principle that none but such as owned a freehold of

FIFTY ACRES OF LAND, Ought to be entitled to the right of suffrage.

In 1812, He received the appointment of Commander-in-Chief of the Northwestern army.

In 1814, in the DARKEST PERIOD OF THE WAR

With Great Britain, When rapine and conflagration were wasting the fairest portions of our country—when the blood of unoffending women and children was reeking from the hands of the

MURDEROUS SAVAGE, and rolling its crimson tide over the land!

when the "roof of the poor man was given to the flames, and his flesh to the eagles"—when

MARTIN VAN BUREN was in the Senate of the State of New-York urging with all the powers of his giant mind and masterly eloquence, his

CLASSIFICATION BILL, for the immediate raising of troops, to stay the death-march of British robbers and plunderers, and to drive back to their forests the infernal

DEMONS OF BRITISH POWER, (Gen. HARRISON) (whether from cowardice or private quarrel, is immaterial.)

RESIGNED HIS COMMISSION! and sought safety at home! Fortunate for the country that he retired! He was succeeded by that "Brave old Soldier,"

GEN. ANDREW JACKSON, To whose valor (not Gen. Harrison's) is our country indebted for the glorious triumph of its arms.

The "Hero of New Orleans," who has filled the measure of his country's renown, in the Field and in the State, IS NOW

the ardent friend and supporter of Martin Van Buren and a living witness and an enthusiastic admirer of his sterling abilities, devoted patriotism, and known and tried principles.

While on the other hand, he is the opponent of the representative of "federal principles,"

GEN. MUM. "Knowing that he has never been identified with the republican party in any of its great struggles."

HE KNOWS HIM to be a vain and superficial man.

He knows the absurdity of his claims and as he always did, to appropriate laurels won by their valor to gratify his own

NARROW AMBITION. On motion of Abner Loeck, of Penn., "the name of Harrison" was

STRICKEN FROM A RESOLUTION, introduced in the Senate of the U. S. proposing to present him, among others, WITH A MEDAL AND A VOTE OF THANKS.

The Common Council of the city of New York, by a vote of 12 to 5,

Refused to Harrison the honor of the freedom of the city,

Although such men as Decatur and Perry had unanimous vote.

In 1817, after having obtained a seat in Congress, and a chance to thrust his hand into the

PURSE OF THE NATION,

and handle the

PEOPLE'S CASH,

He endeavored to enlist a Standing Army, consisting of 200,000 men.

The combined operations of this measure and a National Bank, with the use and control of the Public Revenue, would have enabled him to destroy the liberties

OF HIS COUNTRY.

In 1821, He begged himself into the Legislature of Ohio, where he again exhibited his love for poor men by voting for a law that placed the poor man's liberty and the rich man's money upon an equal footing—a law that would authorize the

SALE of a poor Revolutionary Soldier, whose property and health had been freely sacrificed in achieving his country's Freedom, if in his declining years he should be unable to pay some paltry fine that had been imposed upon him, or the cost of some petty law suit—that too into degrading servitude, and to the rascal whose money was the protection of his liberty, or perhaps

to the TOBY who had butchered his children before his eyes, or to the rascally Negro whose means to purchase the Patriot's liberty.

HARRISON has been styled a "Hero"—he is the hero of

DEFEATS.

In the year Indiana was admitted into the Union, he was the federal candidate for Governor of that state, and was

DEFEATED!

In 1820, he was the federal candidate for Governor of Ohio, and was

DEFEATED!

In 1822, he was the federal candidate for Congress, for the district in which he re-

sides, and was DEFEATED!!!

In 1824, ran on the Federal Electoral Ticket of Ohio, and was DEFEATED!!!

In 1831, he was on the federal ticket for member of the legislature of Ohio, for Hamilton county, and was DEFEATED!!!!

In 1832, he was again the federal candidate for Congress, and was DEFEATED!!!!

In 1836, he was the federal candidate for President, and was DEFEATED!!!!!!

In 1840, he is again the federal candidate for President, withholding from the people all knowledge

of his present principles and designs; and who can doubt that in November next he will be again DEFEATED!

Although he owns one of the wealthiest plantations in Ohio, and realizes the clean salary of

SIX THOUSAND DOLLARS

a year, as the emoluments of a sinecure office, he is called by his friends for electioneering effect, the roon

"LOG CABIN CANDIDATE," who drinks

"HARD CIDER"!!

From the Goshen (Indiana) Democrat.

Mr Van Buren and the War.

Perhaps no subject has Mr Van Buren been more vilely and grossly misrepresented by the federal party, than in relation to his course during the war. He has been stigmatized as its opponent, even by those who themselves plotted treason against the country, and the sacred ashes of the dead have been violated for the purpose of attaching to his name the odium of federalism.

De Witt Clinton, one of the greatest men and purest patriots of that dark and gloomy period, has been denounced as a federalist, and Mr Van Buren has been classed with the same party on account of his support of that distinguished citizen. To place this matter right before the people, several of our citizens addressed a letter to Mr Van Buren, containing certain inquiries relative to that subject. His reply is contained below; and while it fastens the falsehood upon his calumniators, its bold, frank, and manly style will fix its author deeper in the affections of his fellow-citizens.

MR VAN BUREN'S LETTER. WASHINGTON, Oct. 3, 1840.

Gentlemen: Your letter of the 13th ult. did not reach me until last evening.

Sensible of the trouble to which my friends in remote parts of the Union are exposed by persevering misrepresentations of my course in relation to the war—misrepresentations as to which it would be an abuse of charity to suppose that many of those who are most industrious in giving them circulation are themselves deceived—and, entertained no desire to comply with your request.

I was in favor of the restrictive and denotive measures of the administrations of Thomas Jefferson and James Madison, which resulted in the declaration of war, and which are referred to in your first question.

The misrepresentations of my opponents have led to the publication of some of the political proceedings of that early day, in which I participated, affording contemporaneous evidence of the statement here made. I regret that it is not in my power to send you a copy of the full statements which have been made upon this subject. The enclosed extract will, however, supply you with a portion of them, from which you will perceive that as early as January, 1809, (during the administration of Mr Jefferson,) I prepared and united in adopting a resolution, at a public meeting held in my native county, in which we "solemnly, engaged to support the Government in the measures they had adopted, or might adopt, to obtain redress for our national injuries, and protection to our national rights—that we never would be driven from the fair and manly support of that resolution by the power of our enemies or the threats of faction; and that, should Government be found to abandon the pacific policy it had pursued, and to unsheath the sword, we would be found at our posts, ready and willing to sacrifice our lives and fortunes in our country's cause."

You next ask me, "under what circumstances, and by what party, De Witt Clinton was nominated and supported for the Presidency, in 1812, in New York?" and you state that it is represented that he was at that time, a federalist, and was supported by me as such.

I will precede my reply to your second questions, with a denial that Mr Clinton was at that time, or had ever before been, a federalist. He was the reverse in all things, and had, for many years previous, and down to that period, been the leader of the democratic party in New York. He was a private Secretary of his uncle, George Clinton—was a member of the Legislature in 1797 and 1800, and sustained the democracy in the "reign of terror" against the "black cockade" party. He was chosen U. S. Senator in 1801 by the former, occupied by their choice various public stations in New York; was in the State Senate for several years before the war; elected Lieutenant Governor by them in 1811, which he still held in 1812; acted with his party to that period, in support of the measures of the General and State administrations, under Madison and Tompkins; was to that period abused with unsparing bitterness by the federalists, and in return, he applied to them his well remembered description of "a party who would rather rule in Hell than serve in Heaven."

The Republican members of the Legislature, chosen in the spring of 1811, and who held their seats until July, 1812, and most of the Senators for a longer period, met, with the exception of perhaps half a dozen, in caucus at Albany, in May, 1812, and nominated Mr Clinton for the Presidency. He was nominated by men who were in favor of pushing the assertion and maintenance of

our rights to the extremity of war; was elected as one entertaining the same sentiments and was subsequently supported by them as a friend to the war, after it was declared, and in favor of its more vigorous prosecution.

War was declared in June following. The same democratic Senators, who had united in the nomination of Mr Clinton, passed a resolution the next day after the declaration of war, but before information of that event had reached Albany, on the last day of the session, (19th June,) declaring that "the existing state of the country demanded an unequivocal expression of sentiment from every member of the Union; and that under this impression the Senate pledged themselves to support such measures as shall be adopted by the General Government for the vindication of our violated rights and honor"—and to a man voted against an amendment proposed by Judge Platt, a leading federalist, (which amendment received the votes of the seven federalists in the Senate,) declaring that "neither the honor nor the interests of the United States require that a war should be declared against either of the belligerent nations of Europe; and that the system of non-intercourse and embargo, as lately practiced by the Government of the United States, is hostile to the best interests of the country." A copy of the resolution of the Senate was sent to Mr Madison.

I was not in the Senate when Mr Clinton was nominated, or when the proceedings last alluded to took place, and had no agency in either. My Senatorial term commenced in November, 1812, and at the session for the choice of Presidential electors, I voted for electors in accordance with the democratic nomination of the previous May. There were three tickets; the regular republican ticket for Mr Clinton, agreed upon at a caucus of democratic members, which had in its favor a majority of the democratic members of each branch of the Legislature, and which, on joint ballot, had seventy-four votes—the republican ticket opposed to Mr Clinton, which had twenty-six votes; and the federal ticket, which had forty-eight votes; and there were seven blanks and scattering. Those who composed the ticket for Mr Clinton were republicans; and those who voted for it, (except in joint ballot, when a few federalists threw their votes in its favor), were, every man, elected as democrats.

In supporting the nomination of Governor Clinton for the Presidency, I consulted what I believed to be the wishes of the republicans of the State. My efforts in his behalf were confined to the State of New York. With those made by his friends in other States, I had no concern. The relation which I then occupied towards the federal party being the same in which I had always before, and have ever since stood, was not for any period, nor in any degree, changed by what took place in the Presidential election of 1812, nor has it been changed at any period of my political career.

At the ensuing session of the Legislature, which commenced in January, 1813, the political relations previously existing between Mr Clinton and myself were dissolved, and never again resumed.

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