Wo Freemen of the Counties of Wayne,
Grecne, Lenoir, Jo
The period is fast approaching, when will be called on to select some one of your as an ilector, since been announced that a very respctgentleman, General Bryan whifield, trust. Deem me not presumptuous in ressing the wish that you would consider uiso as a candidate for the appointment, axious that my conduct should ever due to that frankness, which is ever due to
en: n , but which ought more especialne observed on occasions of great mo-
to tee observed request your attention to an
icit declaration of the matives hy which minfuenced in thus presentiog which I enin in relation to the next Presidency of
Union-and of the course which, if hon-
il deem it my duty to pursue. ye appointment $y$ others, a mere testimonial of personal em bestowed on one whom you delighted onour, and whose merits and ser pe from me to enter on this occasion, the $\mu$ as its sole object is the selection of a persute declare in your naines who ought to effil on him, whose suffrage will probably be sen to the most fitciaracters- Ceneral Whitfield spledged himself. if elected, to vote for unes Madison, of If in your judgement, Mr. Matrson be properly quelieve that his adminis in the peace, the honoue, the harmony, and permanent weiffare of roper regard for your own interests, ought uridoubtedly to induce you to promote his devation. Th on the contrary, atter deliserate cion and the use of such ach of nation as are winced, that he is destitute of some Hriously apprehend that his administration night not only jeopardise the best interests, istence of the nation, it would be an act of a placing him in the presidential ch am one of those who conscientiously enter-
tain the belief, and deeply feel the apprehenions last expressed. $r$ I have avowed them tiney thorght and felt with me. I have enDistrict, and found reason to believe it was not unlike my owt. Under these circum if chosen would unquestionably vote for Mr.
Madison, became the bounden duty of some ndividual amongst us. I could assign n reason for declining the task, which mig. Much
have been assigned by every other. of greater weight of character and of more pe:sonal infuence, 1 have comphied with the wishes of respectable friends, and resolved on
whis tender of may services. That the office of President of the United States, is of high dignity and consequence, an
of us know ; perhaps however, there are many of us know; perhaps however, there are
who do not perceive the complete extent of its importance and active iet is forbidden by examinatessary limits of this address.-One remark, however, may sulfice to make even on tie most thoughtless minds, a serious in-
pression. The federal government has been pression. The federal government has been
t. operation nineteen years, during whichs wo
and have had three Presiocnts of very
characters :--Yet scarcely aa instance can be pointed out, in whigh any
fate the President for the time being was Hown to have at heart, has not been adopted eed from the very nature of the power tonstirutionally vested in the Executive Ma
gistrate--from his right of solely negueiating with forcign nations, and with the ald ot the
Senate, forming treaties which are fo te cte laws withe land--rem information on the thein such measures, as be shail deem en in Hominating to every important fiational ap pintment, civil and military-or, whether it
piocced from the great weight of character, which his elevationpot the unbiassed suffrages
of miltions of Reputicans, to so pre-eminent a station naturally confers, and from an escesbers of the Legistature, and by the people who have so recendy elected him--certain it
is that the President aiways hitherto has been, a that the President always hitherto has been,
the prime mover, the main spring of the go-vernment-His opinions, his views, his designs, pervade the mass, animate, direct, and
almost controul the whole. Whether these things should be so, it is not now necessary to enquire. This is the reflection which I wish them to enforce. How exalted, how per fect, should be the intellectual, the moral, the personal qualifications of the man chosen for
this all important office! What caution ought this all important office ! What caution ough perly confide a trust that so essentially in volves all which can be dear to them on To ascertain with exact precision Mr. Ma dison's claims to the Presidency, is an under laking to which I advance no pretensions Yet, I feel it a duty incumbent on me, to a formed of his character, and which are at personal dislike or of strong party prejudice. been familiar, and to the productions of his pen have been accustomed to assign bespeak mind of natural acuteness, conversant wit physic learning, \& stored with historical know ledge. Whis style is perspicuous, neat, ofien Mr. Madison, too is a gentleman of mild tem per, pleasing deportment, and personal in
tegrity, I have always heard and believed Such qualifications, as these are certainly no lightly to be valued. They give him a cial
the respect and good will of his fetiow men.They fit him'for many uscful and honorable a Co-adjutor in a political controversy, a
iive resolutions. -
But when these are advanced as just pre-
tensions to the Chief Magistracy of the U-
nited States, I caanot but feel the vast insuf
ficiency of the claim, nor easily reptess my
astonishment at the extravagance of party zeal. sd indiscreet admiration. The nomentous duties of that exalted station, require ta-
lents of a nature far different firom those which would become a preceptor in "his chair, an
author in his closet, a chairman of a legistative coimmittee, or erea a Secretary of State George Wirshiegton could rot perhaps model write a controversal treatise
subtility as James Matlison.
ed that strones natural good sense, that cam manding and comprenensive mimat indiva
tical knowledge of men both in thet individy
al and collective capacities, and that invinc ble firminess of nerves, which marked him one destined by his Creator to watch orcr the
interests and to wield the strength of a nation or all of these qualities we may loek in vain
in James Madison. Tinid and irresolu'e, his administration would be destitute of th
inergy and decision, which should characte inergy and decise branch of government. Ac-
ise the executive
quainted with raankind more from books than from observation, more conversant with the thecries of political projectors than habituated
to think and juige for himself, better fitted to engage in the contentions of party controver-
sits, than to form liberal and practical plans of diplomatic finesse, often sacrifice the plain substantial intertsts of the nation, to visionary
schemes of fancied cood, and oficn be per plexed with refined speculations, till the moment of prompt
never to return.
Deficient however as I befieve Mr. Madison in the great qualities that ought to be
found in a President of the Uniked States, it is not this deficiency which forms my strong. ed by his-supporters, that he will steadily pursue the path which has been maiked ou
by Mr. Jefferson, and that fiom him may con fidently be expected a perse verasice in that system of measures by which the present ad sures my heart and my judgment revolt. . Af the secrecy obsezved by our rulers will per mit me to obtain, I have formed the geliberate judgment, that the evils of our present cond
tion have in no small degree resultedffrom the timid, time serving, and partial views of tho and that uless a rachical change take place our cistress terninate in ruin. Whether to Britain, unworihy of statesmen who should rezard all foreign jowers with an equal and impartial eye, or by an Mr . Jefierson and
ment to France, of which M . Mr. Madison, are both naturalized citizens, from the literary societies of which they ba
both received marks of attention, not a litle both received maing to their vanity; whether it be that gratifying to their vaned no. jealousy but of
they really entertained British maritime superiority, or that they sought by every conciliatory art to propitiate
the gigatic conqueror whom they dreaded to
offend, and who alreaty boasts that he "directs the interests of America; ;" their system appears to me distinctly marked by an unmanly spirit of irritation 10 the one nation,
Ind a still more unmanly spirit of concession 3nd a still more unmanty spitit of concession
the other. From the multitude of facts on the other. From the multuge of facts on Which I Tound this opinion, let me bring to
your recollection a few of the most prominent. LEvecy wrong committed by the British cruivers or our commerce, and in tuth too many have been committed, has been blazoned with all the arts of disingennous rhetorick Every claim advanced by us, and not assented neutret privileges, has been magnified into neutrat privileges, has been magninea an thoir sides. with respect to the lures held forth by us to tempt the desertion of their seamen, and the frauds of our covering cart tive ear. The treaty formed at London by Munroe and Pinckney, has been rejected by the Prestent, upon bare
out ah opportunity afforded to the Stnate, his constitutional council, to form an opimiocu-
its merits. Mark the contrast in the Execuits merits. Mark of France ! In the session of dent that Spain, then notoriously the vassal of France, had sanctioned the most infamous depredations on our commerce, had refused to
adjust the limits of Louisiana, and bad entered with an arined force. the known territy ore
the United States, seized and carried of seeve with closed doom and the puiblic expectation was raised to he liighest pitch. The secret An approptiation of two millions of dollars for the mysterious purposes of foreign inte his appropriation was the purchase of the if you wish to leatn the main, the rear. design of our ralers, listen to the language of
M. Madison himself as twice declared on the tivor of Congress and in the face of the world, y a gentleman of unquestionable veracity tither by Mr. Madison or by any under his all-
thority : "Mr. Madison told me" said Mr. R. that France would with us. Erance vountt money and que must give it to her or take both "a French and Spanish war." It was then to
bribe France to bully spain not to insult us,
that the aiplepration of two millions was whed for and voted, and this was the mode in
whinh the notional resentment was manifestd 1 K- In November 1806, at Beulin, the
apital of his late ally, but then subigegated oe, he King of Piussia, flushed with conion, Napolcon issued his insolent edict, pro-
claiming the Birtish Dominiuns in a state of claiming the Birtish Dommade, and of consequence denouncing a. Manst every neutral ship going to or return-
ing foon them, those penalties of confiscation bockades. The words of this edict were uniersal, without exception in favbr of any deu-
ral nation. And when it is considered that
america was then the principal, and, with America was then the principal, and, with
pe thaps one exception, the sole comurercia power disenyaged in the waf, and that on
neutrals alone could the edict of Weokade have a direct operation, it is apparent that
its oricinal aim was an attack on our nation al Independence and achnowledged commer-
cial rights. Genera! Armstrong, our ambassador at Paris, rine, requesting information, whether the
decree was designed to operate on American commerce. To this letrer an answer was re turned abounding with evasions and conjec tures, and tinally referring NH. Armstrong to the Pritice of Benevento, for that explanation Which the writer acknowledges himscil unau-
thorised to give, but which the Prince would be happy to-communicate. It can scarcely corningly apply to ralleyrand, and did obtain from him a deyelopement of the views of his government. Such a correspondence
ever, if it did take place, has never been permitted by our exccutive to see the hight. In May 1807 , the ship Horizon owned by Ameonly A mericain property, was wrecked on the
coast of France. Instead pf neeting with that friendly and hoopitable aiderwhich was due of positive ripht, and enjoined by humanity, she was seized and sequestered by the Officers of
the Freneh Government on the specific allegaion of he Berlin Decree
This act unequivocally manifested the sense there entertained of the construction to be put on this decree-the same construction which was declared in the letter of the Grand Judge the Cer to the imperial Attorncy General of ber 1807 , United States on the 12 th of November follow ing, to have been originally desigued by the

Emperor, viz, that as no exieption was ex, pressed in the decree, none whatever was to be made in its execution, On the 6 of of
October, afier various delays, folloived the fie nal condemnation of the cargo of the Horizon. During afl this time what were the vigorous
and indignant proceedings of our rulers? In and indignant proceedings of our rulers? In
what terins did they express their resentment what terins did they express their resen
at these scandalous riolations of our acknowledged and sacred rights? What measures did they pdopt to manifest to the arrogant Napo-
leon and to the wortd, that we would not condescend to be thus trodden under foot ? Nothing ivas dove! Nothing was said! On the contrary, in the month of Noveinber last, the President declared in his public communication to Congress, after noticing the disastrous affair of the Chesapeake and the unsetted nature of
our difierences with Spain, that with ALL THE our difierences with Spain, that with ALL THE harmony and friendship hatl been preserved inviolatl. Comed that an imparti al and enlightened catinet could really have been satisfied with the conjectural explanation of the Berlin Decree (if explanation it might be called, given by the I rench minister of marine, in opposition to its emphatick words and Armstrong, having faild to obtain from that minister the explicit infurmation which be solight, tregiected to apply to Talieyrand from
wifom he was assured it night be procared? Who can doubt but that upou making this ap plication he learned the original design of Na poleon, afterwards so haughtily proclamet, xecution? But at all esents who can hesitate the forizon, by the officers of the T. he frorizon, by the officers of the I. ench go-
vernment, in the month of May, was kinown to our govirnineth by the November foilowing?
He who can dcliberately answer all tions in the utfirmatiye, may justly be extolled for a faih in our Executive which no evidence ity which unequivocal testimony of a centray

Butlo proceed with the history of Executive But 10 proceed with the history of Executive
measures. On the 30th of December 1806, measures. On the 30th of December 1806,
our Ambassadors at London were apprised by the British governnent, that, if cont ary to e-
very expectation, America should submit to fie insolent mandates of Napoleon, and acquiEsee in list Alagrant usurpations, they might be compelled to adopt measures in retanation
of the Jutlia decree. America, as we have seen, did submit. America dio acquiesce, and
by stch subnibsion and acquiescence vircuailly by stch subnibsion and acquiescence viramly
sunendered her independence, or at Ieast a-
竍 bandoned her neutrality. Yet in December
following, upon the bare rumour that Britain was about 10 pass retaliating orders, at the ve ry moment when it was known that our minister Mr. Munroe had just arrived from London, and was on his way to the seat of government,
and that an envoy extraordinary from the Briand that an envoy extraordinary from the Bri-
tish cour dispatched expressly to atone for our insulted honor, in the attack on the Chesapeake, vas on the ocean, the President makes conddential commurication to Congress-
heir doors are olosed-and at his suggestion an unlimited Embargo is laid. The act, ei-
ber fiom the extrome haste or want of foer toon the extrune haste or want of skili of
its authors, being. clumsily fiamed, suple-
ment on supplement is added to it, tille as length even the necessary and harmless coasting traftic of our country is so hampered with
tyranuical restraints as to be neally annihilat-
$\sim$ Review these facts, and then pronounce whether they do not justify the remark, that
the inprovident conduct of our actministrativa (no: to give it a harsher epithet) has contributed to, it not brought upon $u$ s, the evils which
ve now endure? Had they man, festeda becom we now endure ? Had they man,festeda becom,
ing spilit of resisiance to the Bevlin decree; had they but cieclared to Napoleon, "solong had they hut ceclared to Napoleon, "so long
as you forthid us to trade with your enemy, so long we will have no cormmercial intercourse with any of your subjects,' the decree itstlf
would in all probability, have been repred at least favoratly modified. At all events such a resistance was due to the honor of the American name ; it would have effectually prevented the retaliating orders of Britain, and hus rendered a recourse to the tremendous expedient of an Embarga, unnecessary. Neained in the farewell address of the illat con* Wasungeton: "the Nation the illustrious towerds nuothet an habitual hrich indulges "bitual fondness, is in some degree a slave" What indeed hove we gained by an abandonment of that open, manly, direct and imparti-
al policy of which he gave the example, and at policy of which he gave the exandition, as a neutral and indepen-
which dent people, so obviously required
have we gained by all our concersions to Fraice, or by all our hectoring towards GreatBritain? We have increased the overbearing insolence of the one, and have irritated into other -To punish this insolence, and to sutother - due this pride, are now said to have been the Continued int he last tages.

