

# 1

**“... We had not been unaware of the danger to which our peace would be perpetually exposed while so important a key to the commerce of the western country remained under foreign power. Difficulties, too, were presenting themselves as to the navigation of other streams, which, arising within our territories, pass through those adjacent.”**

*-Jefferson's Third Annual Message to Congress*

## 2

**“... our Republican government derives its authority & momentum from the frequent meetings of the mass of people in towns & country assemblies. An extension of the body politic will enfeeble the circulation of its powers & energies in the extreme .... the ratification of the treaty & the possession of that immense territory will hasten the dissolution of our present government.”**

*-Senator William Plumer*

# 3

**“... The treaty between the United States and the French Republic, professing to cede Louisiana to the United States, appears to me to contain such an exceptionable stipulation – a stipulation which cannot be executed by any authority now existing. It is declared in the third article, that ‘the inhabitants of the ceded territory shall be incorporated in the Union of the United States.’ But neither the President and Senate, nor the President and Congress, are competent to such an act of incorporation. I believe that our Administration admitted that this incorporation could not be effected without an amendment of the Constitution; and I conceive that this necessary amendment can not be made in the ordinary mode by the concurrence of two-thirds of both Houses of Congress, and the ratification by the Legislatures of three-fourths of the several states. I believe the assent of each individual State to be necessary for the admission of a foreign country as an associate in the Union ....”**

***-Senator Timothy Pickering***

# 4

**“The gentlemen from Delaware and Massachusetts both contend that the third article of the treaty is unconstitutional and our consent to its ratification a nullity, because the United States cannot acquire foreign territory. I am really at a loss how to understand gentlemen .... If the authority to acquire foreign territory be not included in the treaty-making power, it remains with the people; and in that way all the doubts and difficulties of gentlemen may be completely removed; ....”**

*-Senator John Breckinridge*

# 5

**“... And I do say that under existing circumstances, even supposing that this extent of territory was a desirable acquisition, fifteen millions of dollars was a most enormous sum to give. Our Commissioners were negotiating in Paris – they must have known the relative situation of France and England – they must have known at the moment that a war was unavoidable between the two countries, and they knew the pecuniary necessities of France and the naval power of Great Britain. These imperious circumstances should have been turned to our advantage, and if we were to purchase, should have lessened the consideration.”**

*-Senator Samuel White*

*Should the Louisiana Purchase Be Approved?*

	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>
<b>Thomas Jefferson</b>		
<b>William Plumer</b>		
<b>Timothy Pickering</b>		
<b>John Breckinridge</b>		
<b>Samuel White</b>		