

Who Said That? Primary Document Quotes

Unit 3: Jacksonian America

Directions: Identify who said the quote and what was the quote about from this era. Include a brief explanation why you think that particular person said this.

1. After eight years as President I have only two regrets: that I have not shot Henry Clay or hanged John Calhoun.
2. An unlimited power to tax involves, necessarily, the power to destroy.
3. I am one of those who do not believe that a national debt is a national blessing, but rather a curse to a republic; inasmuch as it is calculated to raise around the administration a moneyed aristocracy dangerous to the liberties of the country.
4. He who tampers with the currency robs labor of its bread.
5. It is a damn poor mind indeed which can't think of at least two ways to spell any word.
6. I consider the Tariff, but as the occasion, rather than the real cause of the present unhappy state of things. The truth can no longer be disguised, that the peculiar domestick institution of the Southern States, and the consequent direction, which that and her soil and climate have given to her industry, have placed them in regard to taxation and appropriations in opposite relation to the majority of the Union; against the danger of which, if there be no protective power in the reserved rights of the States, they must in the end be forced to rebel, or submit to have their permanent interests sacraficed, their domestick institutions subverted by Colonization and other schemes, and themselves & children reduced to wretchedness. Thus situated, the denial of the right of the State to interfere constitutionally in the last resort, more alarms the thinking, than all other causes.
7. I had rather be right than be President.
8. ...the Indians residing within the United States are *so far independent*, that they live under their *own customs and not under the laws of the United States*; that their rights upon the lands where they inhabit or hunt, are *secured* to them by boundaries defined in *amicable treaties* between the United States and themselves; and that whenever those boundaries are varied, it is also by *amicable and voluntary treaties*, by which they receive from the United States ample compensation for every right they have to the land ceded by them That relation is neither asserted now for the first time, nor did it originate with the [1795] treaty of Greenville. These principles have been *uniformly recognized* by the Indians themselves, not only by that treaty, but in *all the other previous as well as the subsequent treaties* between them and the United States.
9. The bank is trying to kill me but I will kill the bank!