The American System and Henry Clay.

Pursuant to public notice, a respectable portion of the freeholders of the township of St. Charles, in the County of St. Charles, assembled in the town of St. Charles, on Saturday, the 28th day of January, for the purpose of considering the expediency of adopting some system of action, whereby they may most conveniently cooperate with the friends of the American System and of Henry Clay, in other parts of the county and state, in such measures as may be necessary to preserve and firmly establish the policy of said system, and with that view to promote the election of Henry Clay to the presidency, at the next approaching presidential election.

Col. Reuben Easton was called to the chair, and Wm. G. Pettus, Esq., appointed secretary. On motion of Mr. Thos. Lindsay, not a committee consisting of Maj. G. C. Sibley, M. G. Pettus, Andrew Wilson, Thomas P. Copes and Thomas L. Anderson, was appointed to prepare a preamble and resolutions, to be reported to the meeting at three o'clock, this evening, and then the meeting adjourned until that hour.

At the time appointed, the people again assembled, and having received and considered the report of the committee, the following preamble and resolutions were unanimously adopted:

The preamble.

The present administration of the General Government have, at length, taken their declared stand in relation to the American System. They are now openly and avowedly opposed to it. On coming to this decision, the President, referring to the measures which he has taken, distinctly declares, that he has been satisfied to such an extent that if the wishes and interests of the people, the constitution, the means of sound, sound, redressing the error, by selecting for that place their choice has been bestowed on him. These applications may accord with their own.

The question is thus left undetermined, and it may be safely referred to the people in their various capacities, for the Federal Government shall not be the guarantors of the American System. Whether the people shall return to the National Government, according to a fair and national control.
The stimulus, to agriculture, and to promote the great
interests of the soil, is evident in every direction. The
National funds to aid the poor. We are told in the
news, to construct roads and canals, to build
streets, to light houses, to build hospitals, to
provide for the education of the people, to
encourage the manufacture of iron, to provide
facilities for the transport of goods, and to
make it more easy to obtain a living. These
are but a few of the many things that are
being done to promote the welfare of the
people. The question is when. The decision
will not be easy, and it is not easy to know
when to take action, or when to delay.
The question is indeed momentous.

Did the occasion justify our entire
action? Could we have done better?
It might be clearly demonstrated
that the future prosperity of our young
state, as well as the prosperity of the
nation, depends upon the fact that the
people are willing to contribute to the
welfare of others. We are told that the
people are interested in our commercial
intercourse with other countries, and
that they are willing to support our
manufacturers by purchasing our goods
and services. This is not a matter that
should be left to chance, but should be
agreed upon by a common consent.

On this point we have found that
the people are not so willing to
buy from us as they are to buy from
other countries. This is not because
we do not have the goods, but because
we do not have the facilities to
transport them. The people are
willing to buy from us, but they do not
know how to get the goods to them.

In the past, our factories have
been supplied with goods that were
produced in other countries. This
has been done to our disadvantage,
because we have been unable to
compete with the lower prices of
other countries. However, we have
now made strides in this area, and
the people are willing to buy from
us. We have made improvements in
our transportation system, and we
are now able to transport our goods
to the people. This is a matter that
we should be proud of, and we
should continue to work on it.

The Tariff, materially aided by
improvements in transportation,
has made possible the development
of new industries. We have seen
many new factories open up, and
we are now able to produce goods
that were previously imported.

In conclusion, we have
achieved great things, and we
have shown that we are capable of
producing goods for the people.
We have made strides in this area,
and we are proud of our
accomplishments. We have
achieved a new level of
prosperity, and we are
proud to be a part of it.
If, as some contend, the pursuit and accomplishment of these high objects, are forbidden to the Federal Government by the constitution, sadly indeed have those great and good men who formed that instrument, failed in effecting their purposes for which they were delegated by the people; "To form a more perfect union, establish
justic, insure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity. 

Being entirely dependent as the United States are, for their existence on the state sovereignity, the executive, and most numerous branch of the Legislature emanating from them, and existing within their bounds, it seems reasonable to look to the people of the several states, who seem to afford to those who alarm themselves so unnecessarily about the rights of the state, the most efficacious means of redress. 

While the friends of the American System demand and regard for the just rights of the states, as far as they can defend them, those which the sovereignty of that system, they are convinced, under the right, the power, and the duty belonged to the Federal Government, to preserve our independence, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity, as prescribed by the Constitution, they expect the adopters of the same to be effectual in the execution of the policy they recommend.

In conformity with the recommendations and principles above set forth, it is this meeting,

Resolved. That the clause does not, in our opinion, extend the construction of the word of the Act of Congress, as it is no more than in Missouri. That the clause is not applicable to the purposes of that system to fix on certain persons in whom they may indirectly consider, to be nominated for the next Presidency, without any unnecessary delay.

Resolved. That we cordially approve the contemplated General Convention at Washington City in February next, and have the pleasure of encouraging our friends in other parts of the county and state, in the necessary means to effect the objects of said Convention.

Resolved. That we have the fullest confidence in the talents and experience of HENRY CLAY of Kentucky, who now occupies the first place in the minds of all, and who will be the first choice in every State on the Union—and we have the highest hopes, and the highest trust that free people may properly be said to be citizens of such a country.

Resolved. That G. C. SIRBLY, Montgomery Perry, Loom, E. Powell, Lewis T. Tompkins, and D. A. Powell of the Missouri Republican, St. Louis Times, and Missouri Intelligence for publication.

RUFUSEASTON. Chairman. WM. G. PETER, Secretary.