

two were equally divided. It was necessary that a majority of the states should cast their votes for one person, in order to effect an election. * * * *

“It can scarcely be necessary to add that on the seventeenth of February [1801], Mr. Jefferson was, by the states in congress, elected president. * * * * The news of the result was received by the republicans in every part of the nation with acclamations of joy, but, perhaps, nowhere with more heartfelt exultation than in the state of New York. On the fourth of March, meetings were held, processions were formed, and orations were delivered in almost every city and village in the state. The republican members of the legislature and the citizens of Albany, and citizens from other parts of the state, joined in the general festivity. A splendid dinner was provided and toasts were drank. * * * * The *Albany Register*, then the organ of the republican party in the state, in reference to this celebration, says: ‘In rejoicing on this occasion they [the company] did not forget the important success of the republicans in the choice of that firm and tried patriot Aaron Burr as vice-president of the United States.’

“Among the regular toasts drank, the next after the toast to Mr. Jefferson, was—‘Aaron Burr, vice-president of the United States—His uniform and patriotic exertions in favor of republicanism eclipsed only by his late disinterested conduct.’”¹

On March 27, 1801, President Jefferson appointed John Swartwout United States marshal of the district of New York. He held the office until June 27, when he was succeeded by Harmanus H. Wendell, whom he succeeded by a reappointment on July 8, 1802, and discharged the duties of his office until May 14, 1805, when Peter A. Schenck was appointed his successor.

Among the leading journals, published in the city of New York at that time was the *Evening Post*, which had been established there on November 16, 1801, by Alexander Hamilton and other active members of his party, who had selected William Coleman to be the editor-in-chief of the influential newspaper.

“Immediately after the result of the election [in the spring of 1802] was known, the war between Aaron Burr and his partisans, and the Clintons and Livingstons, the materials for which had for a long time been gathering, burst forth, and was carried on with extreme asperity and bitterness.

“A daily paper had been established in New York, called the *American Citizen*, which was considered the organ of the majority of the democratic party; but was understood to be more especially under the influence of DeWitt Clinton. That paper first broke ground against Colonel Burr, and openly and bitterly denounced him as a traitor to the republican cause, and in proof of his

¹ The history of political parties in the state of New York. By Jabez D. Hammond, vol. i., pp. 129, 130, 134, 135, 137, 139, 160, 161.