

address which he published in 1827, when candidate for the Legislature, shows his views at that time and also the part he performed as a patriotic citizen in the War of 1812, although he was physically unable to enter the service. It is an interesting fact that among the troops he made provision for were those under command of his brother, Major Thomas Speed :

“Justice to my own reputation as a man and justice to such of my fellow citizens as have expressed themselves favorable to my success as a candidate, imposes on me the duty of noticing, thus publicly, reports which have been put in circulation to my prejudice.

“They are these : That I was opposed to the declaration of the late war (1812) ; that I was an enemy to its success, and that I was an old Federalist.

“When a man is brought before the tribunal of human judgment for approval or condemnation, all will agree that his *acts* form the best and safest practical test for sound and just decision. ‘The tree is best known by its fruit.’ By this test I am willing to be tried.

“The call made by General Harrison, then Governor of Indiana, to resist a numerous body of Indians, is known by most of you. It will also be recollected that this took place in the fall preceding the declaration of war. I was in a condition for years, both before and after this period, which forbade my performing a journey of any distance, either on foot or horseback. I, however, immediately equipped, at my own expense, a nephew, the son of a widowed mother, whom I had raised, and started him as a horseman in the company of Colonel Davies’ blues. I furnished the late Colonel Spruiger Augustus, then a young man, another horse. I equipped our schoolmaster, the much-lamented Mr. Somerville, who was killed in action, with a rifle, etc., etc. They were all in the battle of Tippecanoe.

“When it was announced that they were approaching the river on their return, at my instance and by my active exertions, a most respectable number of the citizens of Louisville mounted their horses and we met them on the bank of the river. There, at my request, they were formed into a square. Frederick W. S. Grayson, Esq., with but a few minutes’ preparation, advanced on horseback and delivered them a neat, patriotic and appropriate speech, closing with the thanks and twirling hats and huzzas of the surrounding citizens to the brave defenders of their country.

“The next year, in the fall after the declaration of war, it is known to you that troops were assembled and rendezvoused at Beargrass, near Louisville, under General Winlock, of Shelby, to proceed under the command of General Hopkins against the Indians. The expedition was called Hopkins’ Campaign.