Thomas Hart Benton

Benton

He took a prominent part in the deliberation of the Senate, on all public Measures then discussed. that he did not participate in.

He was distinguished for his iron will. as a public Speaker, he was not interesting

Senator Benton was the author of the expunging Resolution: which I was an Witness to, in the Senate, he was distinguished for his learning. he had a practical

Miend and a Strong Memory
as. a public Speeker he
was not Intresting. but his
Speeches were read with grate
Intreaest, and his inffluence
war widly felt—
I rember on one Accasion When
I was quite a Boy. he wanted
to See a friend. hee was on the
flower of the Senate. and requested
me to fiend him. I found him
and pointed him out on one
of the Soffies. I made Youse of
the Word. Seting insted of Sitting
he Stoped and put his hand on my
head, and Say My Boye. dout—

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~~Say that a gane. Pens, Set-Smyting and went wher his friend. Was.~~ in January 1836 a resolution was passed by the effort of Senator Benton, by which the resolution of Censure was Cancelled. the Cancellation was done by drawing black lines arouend it and Mr Benton Carried away the pen, as. a. trophy — 140

from the moment, of, the Condemnation, of Genl Jackson, Senator Benton gave notice of his intention to move the expunction of the Sentence from the Journal — Periodically —

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and Continually untill the Object Should be effected or his poletical, life Come to its end, he Made his formal Motion at the Session 34-35 The Crimating resolution which was his Object to expung was presented to the Senate December 26. 1833, — the vote was taken upon it 28. of March —
About a fortnight therafter he announced to the Senate his intention to Commence a Serices of Motions for expunging the resolution from the Journal on the 28. of December the third anniversary of the day on which Mr Clay, had Moved, the

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Condemnatory Resolution Mr
Benton laid upon the table
the ~~Resolution~~ resolve to expunge it,
followed by his third and last
Speech on that Subject,.
Mr Benton gave orders to have
an ample supply of Cold hams,
turky, Wines, and Cups of hot
Coffie, ready on the afternoon
of Monday, as the darkness of
the Night Came on and the
Chandelier was lit, of the Chamber
then Crowded with Members of
the House, and the Lobbies and
Galleries filled, — the Committee room
had been resorted to but the
grate part of the Senate Were not
in a humer to eate
Midnight was now approaching

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the floor of the Senate was Crammd. with persons and it Seemed that all Congress was there
the vote. was then taken and the resolution past, the passage of the resolution, was then Announced from the Chair

Mr Benton then arose and. Said, Nothing now remaind but to excute the order of the Senate. the Secretary therefore produced the Oregenal Manuscript, Journal, of the Senate and opning at the Page, Which Containe the Condemnation Sentence of March 28, 1834. proceide in open Senate to draw a

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IE 177

Square of broad black lines, around the Sentence and to write across it face in strong letter this Words expunged by order of the Senate this 16 day of March 1837

up to this Moment the Croud in the Circeler Gallery looked down upon the Senate Menacing in ther looks, it Afferance became Such, that Senator Linn, Benton and outh. Senator Lent, out and had brought in Armes, outher friend, gathered about him —

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IE 178

Among them was Mrs. Benton
She wish to be Near him
in this Concluding Scen —
as Soon as the Secrtary of the
Senate began to preform the
Expunging process. — instantly
a Storm. of hisses groans arose
from the left wing of the
Circeler gallery over the
head, of Senator Benton, the
Doisedi Officer of the Senate gave
the order to Clear the gallerys
Mr Benton Opposed the order
to Clear the gallerys the order
was Revocked — the order to
Seeze the disturbers. was given and

executed by the Sargent, at, Armes (John Shackford)
and his assistants. they Waer seized
and brout to the bar. of the Senate
the expunging process. then Went
on quiety

Mr Benton Was Comened (Called) Could
the illuminated. Senator
and the Ould Buckeye. hard Money Man

in the Senate July ~~22~~ 21, 1848. the Naval
appropation bill. being up no quoram voted
Mr Benton insisted that the Sargent, at, armes
Call in the Senate.

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1 E 180