



Hand of the Crown which runs W
to the Super of them

A MAP of the
United States
of N. AMERICA

United. "Carved by H. J. Bayle"

INTRODUCTION

TO THE.

HISTORY OF AMERICA.

CONTAINING,

The History of Columbus.
An Account of the discovery and
settlement of North-America.
Geography of the United States.
History of the American War.
Declaration of Independence.
Gen. Washington's circular Letter.
Addresses of Congress, and other
papers relative to the Revolution.

A short Account of the Constitution of each of the States.
The temporary Form of Government established by Congress for the New States laid off in the vacant territory.
Account of some of the most curious Curiosities in America.
Chronological Table of the most remarkable events in America.

Designed to instruct American Youth in the Elements of the
History of their own Country.

With a correct Map of the United States of America.

PHILADELPHIA:

Printed and sold by YOUNG and McCULLOCH, at the Corner
of Second and Chestnut-streets.

M. DCC. LXXX. VII.



I do certify, that on this tenth day of August, one thousand seven hundred and eighty-seven, a volume intituled, " Introduction to the History of America," &c printed at Philade'phia, by Young and M'Culloch, was entered by them according to an Act of Assembly, in the office of the Prothonotary of Philadelphia county, in behalf of said Young and M'Culloch, as proprietors.

J. B. SMITH, *Prothonotary.*





INTRODUCTION

TO THE

HISTORY OF AMERICA.



THE HISTORY *of* COLUMBUS.

EVERY circumstance relating to the discovery and settlement of America, is an interesting object of enquiry. Yet it is presumed, from the present state of literature in this country, that many persons, are but slightly acquainted with the character of that man, whose extraordinary genius led him to the discovery of the continent, and whose singular sufferings ought to excite the indignation of the world.

The Spanish historians, who treat of the discovery and settlement of South-America, are very little known in the United States; and Dr. Robertson's history of that country, which, as is usual in the works of that judicious writer, contains all that is valuable on the subject, is not yet reprinted in America, and therefore cannot be supposed to be in the hands of American readers in general: and perhaps no other writer in the English language has given a sufficient account of the life of Columbus to enable them to gain a competent knowledge of the history of the discovery of America.

Christopher Columbus was born in the republic of Genoa about the year 1447; at a time when the navigation of Europe was scarcely extended beyond the limits

of the Mediterranean. The mariner's compass had been invented and in common use for more than a century ; yet with the help of this sure guide, prompted by the most ardent spirit of discovery, encouraged by the patronage of princes, the mariners of those days rarely ventured from the sight of land. They acquired great applause by sailing along the coast of Africa and discovering some of the neighboring islands ; and after pushing their researches with the greatest industry and perseverance for more than half a century, the Portuguese, who were the most fortunate and enterprising, extended their discoveries southward no further than the equator.

The rich commodities of the East had for several ages been brought into Europe by the way of the Red Sea and the Mediterranean ; and it had now become the object of the Portuguese to find a passage to India, by sailing round the southern extremity of Africa and then taking an eastern course. This great object engaged the general attention of mankind, and drew into the Portuguese service adventurers from every maritime nation of Europe. Every year added to their experience in navigation and seemed to promise a reward to their industry. The prospect, however, of arriving in the Indies, was extremely distant ; fifty years perseverance in the same track, had brought them only to the equator, and it was probable that as many more would elapse before they could accomplish their purpose. But Columbus, by an uncommon exertion of genius, formed a design no less astonishing to the age in which he lived, than beneficial to posterity. This design was to sail to India by taking a western direction. By the accounts of travellers who had visited India, that country seemed almost without limits on the east ; and by attending to the spherical figure of the earth, Columbus drew this conclusion, that the Atlantic ocean must be bounded on the west, either by India itself, or by some great continent not far distant from it.

This extraordinary man, who was now about twenty-seven years of age, appears to have united in his character every trait, and to have possessed every talent requisite

quisite to form and execute the greatest enterprizes. He was early educated in all the useful sciences that were taught in that day. He had made great proficiency in geography, astronomy, and drawing, as they were necessary to his favourite pursuit of navigation. He had now been a number of years in the service of the Portuguese, and had acquired all the experience that their voyages and discoveries could afford. His courage and perseverance had been put to the severest test, and the exercise of every amiable and heroic virtue rendered him universally known and respected. He had married a Portuguese lady, by whom he had two sons, Diego and Ferdinand; the younger of whom is the historian of his life.

Such was the situation of Columbus, when he formed and thoroughly digested a plan, which, in its operation and consequences, unfolded to the view of mankind one half of the globe, diffused wealth and dignity over the other, and extended commerce and civilization through the whole. To corroborate the theory which he had formed of the existence of a western continent, his discerning mind, which always knew the application of every circumstance that fell in his way, had observed several facts which by others would have passed unnoticed. In his voyages to the African islands he had found, floating ashore after a long western storm, pieces of wood carved in a curious manner, canes of a size unknown in that quarter of the world, and human bodies with very singular features. Fully confirmed in the opinion that a considerable portion of the earth was still undiscovered, his genius was too vigorous and persevering to suffer an idea of this importance to rest merely in speculation, as it had done in the minds of Plato and Seneca, who appear to have had conjectures of a similar nature. He determined, therefore, to bring his favorite theory to the test of actual experiment. But an object of that magnitude required the patronage of a Prince; and a design so extraordinary met with all the obstructions, delay and disappointments, which an age of superstition could invent, and which personal jealousy and malice could magnify and

and encourage. Happily for mankind, in this instance, a genius capable of devising the greatest undertakings, associated in itself a degree of patience and enterprize, modesty and confidence, which rendered him superior, not only to these misfortunes, but to all the future calamities of his life. Prompted by the most ardent enthusiasm to be the discoverer of new continents, and fully sensible of the advantages that would result to mankind from such discoveries, he had the mortification to waste away eighteen years of his life, after his system was well established in his own mind, before he could obtain the means of executing his designs. The greatest part of this period was spent in successive and fruitless solicitations, at Genoa, Portugal and Spain. As a duty to his native country, he made his first proposal to the senate of Genoa; where it was soon rejected. Conscious of the truth of his theory, and of his own ability to execute his design, he retired without dejection from a body of men who were incapable of forming any just ideas upon the subject; and applied with fresh confidence to John the second, King of Portugal, who had distinguished himself as a great patron of navigation, and in whose service Columbus had acquired a reputation which entitled him and his project to general confidence and approbation. But here he suffered an insult much greater than a direct refusal. After referring the examination of his scheme to the council who had the direction of naval affairs, and drawing from him his general ideas of the length of the voyage, and the course he meant to take, that great monarch had the meanness to conspire with his council to rob Columbus of the glory and advantage he expected to derive from his undertaking. While Columbus was amused with this negotiation, in hopes of having his scheme adopted and patronized, a vessel was secretly dispatched, by order of the king, to make the intended discovery. Want of skill and perseverance in the pilot rendered the plot unsuccessful: and Columbus, on discovering the treachery, retired with an ingenuous indignation from a court capable of such duplicity.

Having now performed what was due to the country that gave him birth, and to the one that had adopted him as a subject, he was at liberty to court the patronage of any prince who should have the wisdom and justice to accept his proposals. He had communicated his ideas to his brother Bartholomew, whom he sent to England to negotiate with Henry seventh; at the same time that he went himself into Spain, to apply in person to Ferdinand and Isabella, who governed the united kingdoms of Aragon and Castile. The circumstances of his brother's application in England, which appears to have been unsuccessful, is not to my purpose to relate; and the limits prescribed to this sketch will prevent the detail of all the particulars relating to his own negotiation in Spain. In this negotiation Columbus spent eight years, in the various agitations of suspense, expectation, and disappointment; till, at length his scheme was adopted by Isabella, who undertook, as Queen of Castile, to defray the expences of the expedition; and declared herself, ever after, the friend and patron of the hero who projected it.

Columbus, who, during all his ill success in the negotiation, never abated any thing of the honors and emoluments which he expected to acquire in the expedition, obtained from Ferdinand and Isabella a full stipulation of every article contained in his first proposals. He was constituted high Admiral and Vice-roy of all the Seas, Islands and Continents which he should discover; with power to receive one tenth of the profits arising from their productions and commerce. These offices and emoluments were to be hereditary in his family.

These articles being adjusted, the preparations for the voyage were brought forward with rapidity; but they were by no means adequate to the importance of the expedition. Three small vessels, scarcely sufficient in size to be employed in the coasting business, were appointed to traverse the vast Atlantic; and to encounter the storms and currents that might be expected in so lengthy a voyage, through distant and unknown seas. These vessels,

as might be expected in the infancy of navigation, were ill constructed, in a poor condition, and manned by seamen unaccustomed to distant voyages. But the tedious length of time which Columbus had spent in solicitation and suspense, and the prospect of being able soon, to obtain the object of his wishes, induced him to overlook what he could not easily remedy, and led him to disregard those circumstances which would have intimidated any other mind. He accordingly equipped his small squadron with as much expedition as possible, manned with ninety men, and victualled for one year. With these, on the 3d of August, 1492, amidst a vast croud of anxious spectators, he set sail on an enterprize, which, if we consider the ill condition of his ships, the inexperience of his sailors, the length and uncertainty of his voyage, and the consequences that flowed from it, was the most daring and important that ever was undertaken. He touched at some of the Portuguese settlements in the Canary Isles; where, although he had but a few days run, he found his vessels needed refitting. He soon made the necessary repairs, and took his departure from the westernmost Islands that had hitherto been discovered. Here he left the former track of navigation and steered his course due west.

Not many days after he had been at sea, he began to experience a new scene of difficulty. The sailors now began to contemplate the dangers and uncertain issue of a voyage, the nature and length of which was left entirely to conjecture. Besides fickleness and timidity natural to men unaccustomed to the discipline of a seafaring life, several circumstances contributed to inspire an obstinate and mutinous disposition, which required the most consummate art as well as fortitude in the admiral to control. Having been three weeks at sea, and experienced the uniform course of the trade winds, which always blow in a western direction, they contended that, should they continue the same course for a longer period, the same wind would never permit them to return to Spain. The magnetic needle began to vary its direction. This being
the

the first time that phenomenon was ever discovered, it was viewed by the sailors with astonishment, and considered as an indication that nature itself had changed her course, and that Providence was determined to punish their audacity, in venturing so far beyond the ordinary bounds of man. They declared that the commands of their sovereign had been fully obeyed, in their proceeding so many days in the same direction, and so far surpassing the attempts of all former navigators, in quest of new discoveries. Every talent, requisite for governing, soothing and tempering the passions of men, is conspicuous in the conduct of Columbus on this occasion. The dignity and affability of his manners, his surprising knowledge and experience in naval affairs, his unwearied and minute attention to the duties of his command, gave him a complete ascendancy over the minds of his men, and inspired that degree of confidence which would have maintained his authority in almost any possible circumstances. But here, from the nature of the undertaking, every man had leisure to feed his imagination with all the gloominess and uncertainty of the prospect. They found, every day, that the same steady gales carried them with great rapidity from their native country, and indeed from all countries of which they had any knowledge. Notwithstanding all the variety of management with which Columbus addressed himself to their passions, sometimes by soothing them with the prognostics of discovering land, sometimes by flattering their ambition and feasting their avarice with the glory and wealth they would acquire from discovering those rich countries beyond the Atlantic, and sometimes by threatening them with the displeasure of their sovereign, should timidity and disobedience defeat so great an object, their uneasiness still increased. From secret whispering, it arose to open mutiny and dangerous conspiracy. At length they determined to rid themselves of the remonstrances of Columbus, by throwing him into the sea. The infection spread from ship to ship, and involved officers as well as common sailors. They finally lost all sense of subordination,

B

and

and addressed their commander in an insolent manner, demanding to be conducted immediately back to Spain; or, they assured him, they would seek their own safety by taking away his life. Columbus, whose sagacity and penetration had discovered every symptom of the disorder, was prepared for this last stage of it, and was sufficiently apprized of the danger that awaited him. He found it vain to contend with passions he could no longer control. He therefore proposed that they should obey his orders for three days longer; and, should they not discover land in that time, he would then direct his course for Spain. They complied with his proposal; and, happily for mankind, in three days they discovered land. This was a small island, to which Columbus gave the name of San Salvador. Their first interview with the natives was a scene of amusement and compassion on the one part, and of astonishment and adoration on the other. The natives were entirely naked, simple and timorous, and they viewed the Spaniards as a superior order of beings, descended from the Sun, which, in that island and in most parts of America, was worshipped as a Deity. By this it was easy for Columbus to perceive the line of conduct proper to be observed toward that simple and inoffensive people. Had his companions and successors, of the Spanish nation, possessed the wisdom and humanity of that discoverer, the benevolent mind would feel no sensations, of regret, in contemplating the extensive advantages arising to mankind from the discovery of America.

In this voyage, Columbus discovered the islands of Cuba and Hispaniola; on the latter of which, he erected a small fort, and having left a garrison of thirty-eight men, under the command of an officer by the name of Arada, he set sail for Spain. Returning across the Atlantic, he was overtaken by a violent storm, which lasted several days and increased to such a degree, as baffled all his naval skill, and threatened immediate destruction. In this situation, when all were in a state of despair, and it was expected that every sea would swallow up the crazy vessel, he manifested a serenity and presence of mind, per-

haps never equalled in cases of like extremity. He wrote a short account of his voyage, and of the discoveries he had made, wrapped it in an oiled cloth, enclosed it in a cake of wax, put it into an empty cask, and threw it overboard; in hopes that some accident might preserve a deposit of so much importance to the world.

The storm however abated, and he at length arrived in Spain; after having been driven by stress of weather into the Port of Lisbon, where he had opportunity, in an interview with the King of Portugal, to prove the truth of his system by arguments more convincing than those he had before advanced, in the character of a humble and unsuccessful suitor. He was received every where in Spain with royal honors, his family was ennobled, and his former stipulation respecting his offices and emoluments was ratified in the most solemn manner, by Ferdinand and Isabella; while all Europe resounded his praises and reciprocated their joy and congratulations on the discovery of a new world.

The immediate consequence of this was a second voyage; in which Columbus took charge of a squadron of seventeen ships of considerable burthen. Volunteers of all ranks and conditions solicited to be employed in this expedition. He carried over fifteen hundred persons, together with all the necessaries for establishing a Colony, and extending his discoveries. In this voyage he explored most of the West-India Islands; but, on his arrival at Hispaniola, he found the garrison he had left there had been totally destroyed by the natives, and the fort demolished. He however proceeded in the planting of his colony; and, by his prudent and humane conduct towards the natives, he effectually established the Spanish authority in that island. But while he was thus laying the foundation of their future grandeur in South America, some discontented persons, who had returned from the colony to Spain, together with his former enemies in that kingdom, conspired to accomplish his ruin.

They represented his conduct in such a light at court, as to create uneasiness and distrust in the jealous mind of Ferdinand,

Ferdinand, and made it necessary for Columbus again to return to Spain, in order to counteract their machinations, and to obtain such further supplies as were necessary to his great political and benevolent purposes. On his arrival at court, and stating with his usual dignity and confidence the whole history of his transactions abroad, every thing wore a favorable appearance. He was received with usual honors, and again solicited to take charge of another squadron, to carry out farther supplies, to pursue his discoveries, and in every respect to use his discretion in extending the Spanish Empire in the new World. In this third voyage he discovered the Continent of America at the mouth of the river Oronoke. He rectified many disorders in his government of Hispaniola which had happened in his absence; and every thing was going on in a prosperous train, when an event was announced to him, which completed his own ruin, and gave a fatal turn to the Spanish policy and conduct in America. This was the arrival of Francis de Bovadilla, with a commission to supersede Columbus in his government; and with power to arraign him as a criminal, and to judge of his former administration.

It seems that by this time the enemies of Columbus, despairing to complete his overthrow by groundless insinuations of mal-conduct, had taken the more effectual method of exciting the jealousy of their sovereigns. From the promising samples of gold and other valuable commodities brought from America, they took occasion to represent to the King and Queen, that the prodigious wealth and extent of the countries he had discovered would soon throw such power into the hands of the Viceroy, that he would trample on the royal authority, and bid defiance to the Spanish power. These arguments were well calculated for the cold and suspicious temper of Ferdinand, and they must have had some effect upon the mind of Isabella. The consequence was the appointment of Bovadilla, who had been the inveterate enemy of Columbus, to take the government from his hands. This first tyrant of the Spanish nation in America began

gan his administration by ordering Columbus to be put in chains on board a ship, and sending him prisoner to Spain. By relaxing all discipline, he introduced disorder and licentiousness throughout the colony. He subjected the natives to a most miserable servitude, and apportioned them out in large numbers among his adherents. Under this severe treatment perished, in a short, time many thousands of those innocent people.

Columbus was carried in his fetters to the Spanish court, where the King and Queen either feigned or felt a sufficient regret at the conduct of Bovadilla towards this illustrious prisoner. He was not only released from confinement, but treated with all imaginable respect. But, although the king endeavored to expiate the offence by censuring and recalling Bovadilla, yet we may judge of his sincerity from his appointing Nicholas de Ovando, another bitter enemy of Columbus, to succeed in the government, and from his ever after refusing to reinstate Columbus, or to fulfil any of the conditions on which the discoveries were undertaken. After two years solicitation for this or some other employment, he at length obtained a squadron of four small vessels to attempt new discoveries. He now set out, with the ardor and enthusiasm of a young adventurer, in quest of what was always his favorite object, a passage into the South Sea, by which he might sail to India. He touched at Hispaniola, where Ovando, the governor, refused him admittance on shore even to take shelter during a hurricane, the prognostics of which his experience had taught him to discern. By putting into a small creek, he rode out the storm, and then bore away for the continent. Several months, in the most boisterous season of the year, he spent in exploring the coast round the gulph of Mexico, in hopes of finding the intended navigation to India. At length he was shipwrecked, and driven ashore on the Island of Jamaica.

His cup of calamities seemed now completely full. He was cast upon an island of savages, without provisions, without any vessel, and thirty leagues from any Spanish

fettlement. But the greatest providential misfortunes are capable of being imbittered by the insults of our fellow creatures. A few of his hardy companions generously offered, in two Indian canoes, to attempt a voyage to Hispaniola, in hopes of obtaining a vessel for the relief of the unhappy crew. After suffering every extremity of danger and hardship, they arrived at the Spanish colony in ten days. Ovando, through personal malice and jealousy of Columbus, after having detained these messengers eight months, dispatched a vessel to Jamaica, in order to spy out the condition of Columbus and his crew; with positive instructions to the Captain not to afford them any relief. This order was punctually executed. The Captain approached the shore, delivered a letter of empty compliment from Ovando to the Admiral, received his answer and returned. About four months afterwards a vessel came to their relief; and Columbus, worn out with fatigues and broken with misfortunes, returned for the last time to Spain. Here a new distress awaited him, which he considered as one of the greatest he had suffered, in his whole life. This was the death of Queen Isabella, his last and greatest friend.

He did not suddenly abandon himself to despair. He called upon the gratitude and justice of the King, and, and in terms of dignity, demanded the fulfilment of his former contract. Notwithstanding his age and infirmities, he even solicited to be farther employed in extending the career of discovery, without a prospect of any other reward but the consciousness of doing good to mankind. But Ferdinand, cold, ungrateful, and timid, dared not to comply with a single proposal of this kind, lest he should encrease his own obligations to a man, whose services he thought it dangerous to reward. He therefore delayed and avoided any decision on these subjects, in hopes that the declining health of Columbus would soon rid the court of the remonstrances of a man, whose extraordinary merit was, in their opinion, a sufficient occasion of destroying him. In this they were not disappointed. Columbus languished a short time, and gladly
 resigned

resigned a life, which had been worn out in the most essential services perhaps that were ever rendered, by any human character, to an ungrateful world.

Discovery and Settlement of NORTH-AMERICA.

ALTHO' Columbus was the first discoverer of America, and ought to have had the honor of giving it his name, yet one Americus Vesputius, a native of Florence, who made a voyage hither, some years after Columbus, gave name to this vast continent. Columbus however, confined his discoveries to the Islands in the gulf of Mexico, and to the southern continent.

North America was discovered, some years after Columbus's first voyage, by Sebastian Cabot, an Englishman, who obtained a commission from Henry seventh, for discovering, settling, and possessing heathen countries. The first land he made, was Nova-Scotia.

1583 Sir Humphrey Gilbert took possession of Newfoundland and St. Lawrence, and began the fishing trade.

1606 The first settlement of Canada, was made by Monsieur du Mont, a Frenchman: Quebec was

1629 once taken by some English adventurers; but was

1632 resigned to the French by treaty, and continued in their possession, till it was taken by the English,

1758 under the command of general Wolf.

VIRGINIA.

1584 The first grant of territory, within the the present limits of the United States, was made to Sir Walter Raleigh. It included all the lands, from thirty three, to forty degrees of north latitude; to which he gave the name, *Virginia*, in honor of queen Elizabeth, who was never married. This grant was vacated by Sir Walter's attainders.

King.

April King James, the first, by his letters patent,
1606 divided Virginia, into North and South Virginia. The latter, comprehended between the thirty fourth and forty first degrees of latitude, he granted to the London company. This patent was vacated by desire of the company, and a new grant was made to them, bounded by the fortieth degree of latitude.

While the property of Virginia was in Sir Walter, he made several fruitless attempts to settle it. Nearly half the first colony, was destroyed by the savages, and the rest, consumed and worn down, by fatigue and famine, returned to England in despair. The second colony was totally destroyed, probably by the savages. The third suffered a similar fate; and the fourth quarreling among themselves, neglecting their lands, to hunt for gold, and provoking the Indians, by their insolent behavior, lost several men, and the famished remains of them would have returned home, had they not met Lord Delaware, at the mouth of Chesapeek Bay, with a squadron loaded with provisions for their relief. The attention which this nobleman paid to this infant settlement, will enroll his name among the founders of the western empire, and the benefactors of mankind.

1606 The first permanent settlement was made on James River and called James Town. It is now an inconsiderable village.

N E W - Y O R K

1608 Captain Henry Hudson, in his second voyage, in search of a north west passage to the East Indies, discovered the river which takes his name. The Dutch soon after established a small settlement at New-York, and another at Albany. They kept possession about fifty years, when upon the breaking out of the war between the English and the Dutch, king Charles, the second, granted to his brother James, duke of York, the tract of land which

which now includes New-York, New-Jersey, and part of Pennsylvania. The duke sent a body of troops, under the command of Sir Robert Car, and took possession of New-York, without much resistance. The Dutch, by way of reprisal, took the English settlement in Surinam. They afterwards conquered New-York; but at the treaty of peace, 1667 signed at Breda, it was ceded to the English in exchange for Surinam, and continued an English government, till the late revolution.

NEW-ENGLAND.

Before the settlement of Virginia, or of New-
 1602 York, captain Gosnold had explored the eastern shore of New-England,—he discovered and gave name to Elizabeth's Island, and Martha's Vineyard, in Bolton bay. When king James divided
 1606 Virginia, by his letters patent, the territory between the thirty eighth and forty fifth degrees of latitude, was called *North Virginia*. Several
 1620 years afterwards, he incorporated a number of persons, among whom, were the duke of Lenox, the marquisses of Buckingham and Hamilton, and the earls of Arundle and Warwick, by the name of the "Council established at Plymouth." To this company, he made an absolute grant of all the lands in America, between the fortieth and forty eighth degrees of north latitude, throughout the main land, from sea to sea; excepting such lands as were, at that time, actually possessed by some other christian prince or state.

MASSACHUSETTS.

The same year, in which this grant was made, a number of Puritans, who had experienced some severities from the intolerant spirit of James and archbishop Laud, sought a retreat in the wilds of America. They, to the
 number

number of one hundred and fifty, arrived in the month of November, and seated themselves at Plymouth, in Massachusetts-Bay. Here they suffered all the inconveniencies of cold, poverty and sickness. Many of them died, during the winter; but the free enjoyment of their religion, reconciled the survivors to their new situation. They bore their hardships with unexampled patience; and, by their industry, soon procured a comfortable subsistence.

Within eight years from the first planting of Plymouth, the colony had become respectable, by new emigrations from England. They proceeded to enlarge their settlements, and built Salem* and Boston†. These settlements were made in consequence of a grant from the Plymouth company, to Henry Rolwell, Sir John Young and others, of all that part of New-England, which lies between a line drawn three miles north of Merrimack river, and another drawn three miles south of Charles river, from the Atlantic to the South Sea. These were the ancient limits of Massachusetts-Bay. In the year 1629 following, this grant was confirmed by Charles the first.

*1628
†1630

C O N N E C T I C U T.

1631 Three years after, Robert, Earl of Warwick, president of the council of Plymouth, granted to lord Say and Seal, to lord Brook and others, a tract of land, extending, from Naraganset river, forty leagues on the sea coast; and thence, through the main land, from the Western Ocean to the South Sea. This is the first grant of Connecticut. Smaller grants, from the first patentees, were afterwards made to particular people; in consequence of which Mr. Fenwick made a settlement at the mouth of Connecticut river, and 1634 gave it the name of Saybrook, in honor of the lords

lords Say and Seal, and Brook. Soon after, Mr. Haynes and Mr. Hocker left Massachusetts-Bay, and settled Hartford; near which had been a small Dutch settlement, the remains of which are still to be seen, on the bank of Connecticut river. The following year, Mr. Eaton and Mr. Davenport seated themselves at New Haven. Connecticut and New-Haven were separate governments, till the reign of Charles the second; when by agreement they were both incorporated, by the name of "the governor and company of Connecticut." The charter by which these colonies were united still continues to be the basis of their government.

R H O D E - I S L A N D.

Notwithstanding the Puritans, who settled New-England, fled from their native country to avoid persecution, yet they possessed the same persecuting spirit themselves. This spirit discovered itself by the banishing of the Quakers and Anabaptists from Boston; who retired southward and built the town of Providence. These peaceable people, driven by the cruel and sanguinary rigor of the puritans, to seek a refuge abroad, extended their settlements to Rhode-Island, and in the reign of Charles the second, obtained a charter which continues to be the constitution of the state.

N E W - H A M P S H I R E.

Soon after the settlement of Plymouth, in Massachusetts, captain John Mason, obtained from the council, a grant of land, from the river Naumkeag, now Salem, round cape Ann, to Merrimack river, and from the sea to the heads of those rivers; with the islands lying within three miles

miles of the coast. This district was called *Mas-
sachusetts*. The next year, another grant was made
to Mason and Sir Ferdinand Gorges, jointly, of
the whole territory, from Merrimack to Sagada-
hok river, and from the ocean, to the lakes and
rivers of Canada. This district, which includes
the other, was called *Laconia*.

Under the authority of this grant, a settlement
1623 was made, near the mouth of Piscataqua river,
at a place called Little-Harbor, about a mile from
Portsmouth, the present capital of New-Hamp-
1629 shire. Six years afterwards, a purchase was made
of the natives, who gave a deed of the tract of
land, lying between the Merrimack and Piscata-
qua rivers.

The same year, Mason procured a new patent, under
the common seal of the council of Plymouth, of the lands
between the same rivers: which patent covered the whole
Indian purchase. This district is called New-Hampshire.

Some years after the settlements on the Pisca-
1641 taqua, New-Hampshire was, by agreement, unit-
ed to the government of Massachusetts. It con-
tinued under this jurisdiction, till the heir of
John Mason set up his claim to it, and procured
a confirmation of his title. It was then separated
from Massachusetts, and erected into a distinct go-
1679 vernment. The heirs of Mason, sold their title
to the lands in New-Hampshire, to Samuel Allen
of London, for seven hundred and fifty pounds.
1691 This produced new controversies, concerning the
property of the lands, which embroiled the pro-
vince for many years.

The inhabitants about this time, suffered ex-
tremely by the cruelty of the savages: The towns
of Exeter and Dover, were frequently surprized
in the night—the houses plundered and burnt—
the men killed and scalped—and the women and
children, either killed, or led captives into the
wilderness. The first settlers in other parts of
New-

New England, were also harrassed by the Indians, at different times; and it would require volumes to enumerate their particular sufferings.

1635 The Plymouth company resigned their grant to the king; but this resignation, did not materially affect the patentees under them; as the several grants to companies and individuals, were mostly confirmed, at some subsequent period, by charters from the crown.

N E W - J E R S E Y.

about 1614 It is not certain at what time the Swedes and Dutch settled upon the lands about the Hudson and Delaware; but it must have been after the settlement of Virginia, and before the settlement of New-England. The claims of these nations extended from the thirty eighth to the forty first degree of latitude. To this tract of country, they gave the name of New-Netherlands. It continued in their hands, till the reign of Charles the second, when it was given to the duke of York. 1663 A part of this territory was called New-York, in honor of the duke; and the whole as has been already mentioned, passed first by conquest, and afterwards by treaty, into the hands of the English.

1664 That part which lies between the Hudson and the Delaware, was granted to lord Berkeley and Sir George Carteret, and called New-Jersey*. The first grant however, was merely a lease for one year. The proprietors appointed Philip Carteret the first governor, and directed the land to be purchased of the Indians. 1672

1674 After the New-Netherlands had been conquered by the Dutch, and again restored to the English by treaty, the grants both of king Charles to his brother the duke of York, and of the duke to the proprietors, were renewed. Lord Berkeley

C

had

- 1673 had sold his share of the territory, to John Fenwick, Esq. who soon after conveyed it to
 1674 William Penn, Gawn Lawry, and Nicholas Lucas.
 1676 Two years after the proprietors divided their property, which they had before held, as joint-tenants. Sir George Carteret had the east division, called East New Jersey: Penn, Lawry, and Lucas, took the west division, called West New-Jersey. The line of division was drawn from Little-Egg-Harbor, to Hudson's river, at the forty first degree of latitude. Each party gave to the other quit-claim deeds of its own division.
- 1678 Two years after this partition, Carteret, by his last will, vested all his property in East Jersey in certain trustees, to be sold for the payment of his
 1682 debts. The trustees conveyed it to twelve proprietors, who disposed of their rights at pleasure. The government continued in the proprietors, till
 1702 the reign of queen Anne; when it was resigned to the crown. The government was then annexed to New-York—the people chose their assemblies; but the governor of New-York, used to attend them. The government was however detached from that of New-York, before the late revolution, when the two Jerseys became an independent state.

A considerable part of the state, still remains in the heirs or assigns of the proprietors. New-Jersey takes its name from the island of that name in the English channel, where Sir George Carteret had considerable possessions.

P E N N S Y L V A N I A.

The first grant of Pennsylvania was designed by Charles the second for the famous admiral Penn, as a reward for his services. But the admiral dying before the grant was completed, it
 1680 was made to William Penn, and included a tract

tract of land extending from twelve miles north of New-Castle along the Delaware, to the beginning of the forty third degree of latitude, and from the Delaware westward five degrees of longitude.

Wm. Penn, who was distinguished as a *good* as well as a *great* man, took care to acquire the best of titles to his lands, by legal purchases from the natives, the sole proprietors of the soil. He introduced into his settlement a most liberal plan of civil and religious policy—he tolerated all religious sects, and thus invited not only his own sect, the *Friends*, to remove from England, but also vast numbers of all denominations from Ireland and Germany.

The government continued in the descendants of Wm. Penn, till the late revolution; when the people assembled, formed a republican constitution of government, and gave the proprietors a sum of money* in lieu of all quit-rents.

In one century from the date of the charter of Pennsylvania, its inhabitants amounted to almost four hundred thousand souls. Its situation is favorable for commerce, and it has the singular felicity of being peopled principally by Quakers and Germans, whose habits of industry and frugality are adapted to the accumulations of wealth.

D E L A W A R E.

The Swedes and Dutch were among the first settlers in North America. They had planted themselves on the banks of the Delaware, many years before Wm. Penn obtained his grant; and their descendents remain there to this day. Their settlements were comprehended in the grant to the duke of York; and when W. Penn came to take possession of his lands in America, he purchased the three counties, now state of Delaware, of the duke, and united them to his government. They were afterwards separated, in some measure, from Pennsylvania. They had their own assemblies, but the governor of Penn-

* £. 130,000 Sterling.

sylvania used to attend, as he did in his own proper government. At the late revolution, the three counties were erected into a sovereign state.

M A R Y L A N D.

1632 During the reign of Charles the first, lord Baltimore applied for a patent of lands in Virginia, and obtained a grant of a tract upon Chesapeek Bay, containing nearly one hundred and forty miles square. This tract was named *Maryland*, in honor of queen Henrietta Maria. Lord Baltimore was a Roman Catholic, and, with a number of that denomination, began a settlement in Maryland. The rigor of the laws in England against this religion drove many of the best families from that country, and greatly promoted the settlement of Maryland. Lord Baltimore procured an act of assembly, giving free liberty for all denominations of Christians to enjoy their religious opinions. But, upon the revolution in England, the penal laws against the Catholics were extended to the settlements in Maryland; and the Episcopal Church was established, both here and in Virginia. This establishment continued till the late revolution.

Maryland was a proprietary government, and, at the commencement of the late war, was in the hands of lord Harford, a natural son of the late lord Baltimore. But upon the revolution in America, the people assembled and formed a constitution of civil government, similar to those of the other states. Lord Harford was an absentee during the war, and his property was confiscated. Since the war, he has applied to the legislature for his estate, but could not obtain even a compensation, or the quit-rents, which were due before the commencement of the war.

THE CAROLINAS.

The French, under the direction of Admiral Chastillon, made an early discovery of the southern coast of North America. They first landed near the river, now called Albemarle, in North-Carolina; but not being in a situation to establish a settlement, they returned to France.

1564 The admiral, pleased with the account they gave of the country, fitted out a small fleet, with about five hundred men, to begin a colony where their countrymen had landed on the first expedition. Here they built a fort, called Fort Charles; and in honor of Charles the ninth, then king of France, they called the whole country *Carolina*. But the Spaniards obtained information of their proceedings, and sent a body of troops, which reduced the colony, and put the people to the sword.

No further attempts to effect a settlement here, were made by the French; nor were any attempts made by the English, until Sir William Raleigh projected an establishment on this coast.*

about 1663 In the reign of Charles the second, the earl of Clarendon, the duke of Albemarle, and others obtained a grant of the lands between the thirty-first and thirty sixth degrees of latitude; they were constituted lords proprietors, and invested with powers to settle and govern the country. They began a settlement, between Ashley and Cooper rivers, and called it Charlestown. The model of a constitution, and the body of laws which they introduced, were framed by the celebrated Mr. Locke.

This constitution was aristocratical; establishing orders of nobility. The Landgraves, or first rank, had forty eight
C 2 thousand

* Sir Walter's first attempts, it is said, were made within the present limits of North-Carolina.

thousand acres of land—the Cassiques, or second order had twenty four thousand acres—the Barons, or lower rank, had twelve thousand acres. The lower house was to be composed of representatives chosen by the towns or counties, and the whole legislature was denominated, a *parliament*. The lords proprietors stood in the place of *king*.

They gave unlimited toleration of religion, but the Episcopalians, who were the most numerous, attempted to exclude the dissenters from a place in the legislature. This produced tumults and disorder among the settlers, and finally between the people and the lords proprietors. These dissensions checked the progress of the settlement and induced the parliament of England to take the province under their immediate care. The proprietors accepted about twenty four thousand pounds sterling for the property and jurisdiction; except the earl Granville, who kept his eighth of the property. The constitution was new-modelled, and the district divided into North and South Carolina. These remained separate royal governments, till they become independent by the late revolution.

G E O R G I A . *

1732 The whole territory between the rivers, Savannah and Altamaha was vested, by the parliament of Great Britain, in trustees, who were to promote a settlement of the country. Mr. Oglethorpe was appointed the first governor, and he began a settlement on Savannah river, with about a hundred and sixteen poor people. But the original plan of settlement was extremely injudicious, and could not fail to disappoint the expectations of the projectors.

The grant to the trustees was therefore revoked, and the

* Georgia was so named in honor of George the second.

the province erected into a royal government. It had just begun to recover from the low state, to which it had been reduced by the narrow policy of the English government, when the late war commenced. Georgia contains vast tracts of valuable land—its present government is liberal—and the settlement of it, by emigrations from other states, is uncommonly rapid.

G E O G R A P H Y.

EXPLANATION of the TERMS in GEOGRAPHY.

THE *terracæus globe* is the world or earth, consisting of land and water.

About three-fifths of the surface of the earth is covered with water.

The land is divided into two great continents, the eastern and western.

The eastern continent is divided into Europe, Asia and Africa. The western continent is divided into North and South America.

A *Continent* is a vast tract of land, not separated into parts by seas.

An *Island* is a body of land, less than a continent, and surrounded with water.

A *Cape* is a point of land, running some distance into the sea.

A *Peninsula* is a narrow neck of land, running far into the sea.

A *Promontory*, or head-land, is a high point of land jutting into the sea.

A small rise of land, is called a *Hill*—a large rise is called a *Mountain*.

An *Isthmus* is a neck of land, which joins large divisions of the earth.

An *Ocean* is the largest division of water, and not enclosed by land.

That

That which washes the western shore of America, is called the *Pacific Ocean*. It is ten thousand miles wide, and separates America from Asia.

That which washes the eastern shore of America, is called the *Atlantic Ocean*. It separates America from Europe and Africa, and is generally three thousand miles wide.

That which washes the southern coast of Asia, is called the *Indian Ocean*.

A *Sea* is the next largest division of water. It is commonly a branch of an ocean, extending into a continent*.

The passage of water, by which a sea communicates with an ocean, is called a *Strait*.

Lakes are large bodies of water, surrounded by land. When these bodies of water are small, they are called *Ponds*.

A *Bay*, is a part of the sea, extending into the land, and not wholly surrounded by it.

When a bay is very large, penetrates far into the land, and is almost enclosed by it, it is denominated a *Gulf*.

A passage of water, between an island and the continent, and communicating with the ocean, is called a *Sound*.

Waters arising in small quantities out of the earth, are called *Springs*. The small streams flowing from springs, lakes and ponds, are called *Rivulets*, *Rills*, *Runs*, or *Brooks*. When numbers of these are united and form large streams, the streams are called *Rivers*.

Latitude is the distance from the equator, either north or south.

Longitude is the distance from any meridian, either east or west.

WESTERN CONTINENT.

America is about nine thousand miles in length, and generally three thousand miles in breadth; although in one place, at the isthmus of Darien, it is only sixty.

North

* In common discourse we use *sea* instead of *ocean*. The distinction between these terms, is principally confined to geographical treatises.

North America, the country which we inhabit, is about five thousand miles in length, from north to south, and from one to three thousand miles in breadth, from east to west.

Mountains.

In all countries, the land rises as we depart from the waters of the sea or rivers; so that the highest land is nearly at an equal distance from two rivers, or from the sea on one side, and from a river on the other.

Between the Atlantic and the Mississippi run several vast ridges of mountains, in a direction with the sea coast; that is, from north-east to south-west. They extend from about the latitude 42, in the back parts of New-York or Pennsylvania, to the middle of Georgia nearly in latitude 31, where they all converge to a single ridge, and subside gradually into a level country, giving rise to some of the rivers which fall into the gulph of Mexico. The southern part of this ridge is called the *Apalachian mountains*, from a tribe of Indians living on a river, which has its source in the mountains, and is called *Apalachicola*. The first ridge in Pennsylvania and Virginia, is called the *Blue Ridge*, about one hundred and thirty miles from the Atlantic. This is about four thousand feet high, measuring from its base. Between this and the North Mountain is a large fertile vale. The latter is the ridge of the greatest extent; but the principal ridge is the *Alleghany*, which divides the territory between the Atlantic and Mississippi, and is the height of land between them, although not so high from its base as the *Blue Ridge*. All the ridges are broken through by rivers, except the *Alleghany*. The passage of the *Potomak*, through the *Blue ridge*, is one of the most stupendous scenes in nature. It is thus described by a gentleman perfectly acquainted with this country *.

“ You stand on a very high point of land. On your right comes up the *Shenandoah*, having ranged along the
right

* Mr. Jackson.

foot of the mountain one hundred miles to seek a vent. On your left approaches the Potomak, in quest of a passage also. In the moment of their junction, they rush together against the mountain, rend it asunder, and pass off to the sea. The first glance of this scene hurries our senses into the opinion, that, at the creation, the mountains were formed first, that the rivers began to flow afterwards, that in this place particularly they have been dammed up by the Blue Ridge of mountains, and have formed an ocean, which filled the whole valley; that continuing to rise they have at length broken over at this spot, and have torn the mountain down from its summit to its base. The piles of rock on each hand, but particularly on the Shenandoah, the evident marks of their disrapture and avulsion from their beds, by the powerful agents of nature, corroborate the impression. But the distant finishing which nature has given to the picture, is of a very different character. It is a true contrast to the fore-ground. It is as placid and delightful, as that is wild and tremendous. For the mountain being cloven asunder, she presents to your eye, through the cleft, a small catch of smooth blue horizon, at an infinite distance in the plain country, inviting you, as it were, from the riot and tumult roaring around, to pass through the breach and participate of the calm below.

Here the eye ultimately composes itself; and that way too the road happens actually to lead. You cross the Potomak above the junction, pass along its side through the base of the mountain for three miles; its terrible precipices hanging over you, and within about twenty miles reach Frederick's Town*, and the fine country round that. This scene is worth a voyage across the Atlantic. Yet here, as in the neighborhood of the natural bridge, are people who have passed their lives within half a dozen miles, and have never been to survey these monuments of a war between rivers and mountains, which must have shaken the earth itself to its center."

Between

* In Maryland, fifty-five miles west of Baltimore.

Between the Delaware and the Hudson, the mountains are not so high. But near the Hudson, below Albany, the Kaats-kill mountains rise to a great height, and make a majestic appearance.

Between the Hudson and Connecticut rivers, the land rises into hills, near the sea, which hills run northward, and form the Green Mountain in the state of Vermont. This ridge has the Hudson, and lake Champlain on the west, and Connecticut river, on the east. It extends from the ocean to Canada.

Between Connecticut river and the sea on the east, there is a ridge of high land, but no considerable mountains, till we arrive in the western parts of New-Hampshire, and the province of Main, nearly three hundred miles from the mouth of the river.

Rivers.

The river St. Lawrence flows out of the vast lakes which are on the north west of the United States, and running north east, falls into the Atlantic Ocean. It is very large, and navigable for vessels of burden to Quebec, three hundred miles from its mouth; but the navigation is obstructed by the ice, at least five months in the year.

Penobscot is a considerable river, which rises in Canada, and running south, falls into the bay of Fundy.

Kennebek has its source in the same country, and taking a southern direction falls into the same bay.

The river Piscataqua rises in the mountains, in the west of the province of Main, and running south east, divides that country from New-Hampshire, and empties into the sea, at Portsmouth.

Merrimak river rises in the highlands, in the back parts of New-Hampshire, and bending its course south east, becomes navigable for small vessels at Haverhill, twelve miles from its mouth, which forms the harbor of Newbury-Port.

Connecticut river has its source in the confines of Canada:

Its

Its course is southerly, and after running about four hundred miles, it falls into Long Island sound. This river, like the Nile, overflows its banks, in the month of April or May, and forms a rich meadow on one side or other, for a length of three hundred miles, almost without any interruption. It is navigable for vessels of eighty or one hundred tons, to Hartford, forty miles from its mouth. It is navigable for boats, three hundred miles, except several falls, which are impassible. This river, like most others in America, abounds with fish; and it is remarkable, that no salmon were ever seen southward of this river.

The river Hudson, which takes its name from the discoverer, forms a large bay, navigable for ships of burden, one hundred and thirty miles to the city of the same name. The tide flows to Albany, one hundred and sixty miles from the mouth. This river rises in the country west of lake Champlain, and nine miles above Albany receives the Mohawk, a large stream, which above the falls, is navigable for boats. The falls, or as they are usually called, in the language of the natives, Kohoez, are a great curiosity; being a perpendicular descent, of at least thirty feet, from one side of the river to the other. The large rivers to the southward of the Hudson, have their sources in the vast mountains, that extend from the lakes to Florida, which have been described.

The Mississippi rises in the unexplored regions to the north west of the United States. It runs south, dividing the continent, at nearly equal distances from the Atlantic and Pacific oceans, and falls into the gulf of Florida: Its course is almost four thousand miles. A bar at the mouth and a very rapid current, renders the navigation of this river difficult.

It is remarkable, that almost all the rivers in America, as well as many places now settled by English Americans, preserve the names given them by the natives of the country. This is paying a tribute of respect to the Indians, who formerly possessed these fertile regions; and the names are a kind of history of the savage settlements.

Islands.

The principal islands on the American coast are, Newfoundland, which lies in the gulf of St. Lawrence, and whose banks furnish the best fishery in the world.

Cape Breton and St. John's, which lie to the southward of Newfoundland.

Rhode-Island, which is small but fertile, and lies at the mouth of Providence river.

Long-Island, which stretches along the coast of Connecticut and New-York.

Besides these, there are great numbers of small islands, some of which are inhabited, and very fertile. Such are Staten-Island, Block-Island, Fisher's Island, and Martha's Vineyard.

Capes.

Cape Race is the south east point of the island of Newfoundland. Another point of the same island on the east is called Cape *Bonaville*. On the north is Cape *Hamilton*.

Cape *Sable* is the southernmost point of land between the Bay of Fundy and the ocean. This is a dangerous place for ships.

Cape *Anne* is a point of land extending into the sea, on the north of Boston harbor.

Cape *Cod* extends a great distance into the sea, on the south of Boston harbor. It is a place of dangerous navigation, by reason of the banks of sand which run into the ocean, and render the water shallow, for two hundred miles.

Montauk point is the east end of Long Island.

Cape *May* and Cape *Henlopen* are the two points of land formed by the mouth of Delaware river: Cape *May* upon the north, and *Henlopen* upon the south.

Cape *Charles* and Cape *Henry* are formed at the entrance of Chesapeek Bay: The first upon the north, and the last upon the south.

But the most remarkable and dangerous cape on the coast of North America is, *Hatteras*, which is a point of land extending far into the ocean, from the coast of North-Carolina. The water is very shoal at a great distance from the land. The gulf stream almost washes this point of land. The cape is remarkable for sudden squalls of wind, and for the most severe storms of thunder, lightning, and rain, which happen almost every day, during one half the year.

To the southward of Hatteras, are Cape *Lookout*, Cape *Fear*, and Cape *Roman*. The shoals, which extend off the latter cape, render the navigation near the coast, very dangerous.

Cape *Florida* is the southernmost point of land, on the east of the gulf of Mexico.

Bays.

The bay of *Fundy* between New-England and Nova-Scotia, is remarkable for its tides, which rise to the height of fifty or sixty feet, and flow with such rapidity as to overtake animals which feed upon the shore.

The *Chesapeak* is one of the largest bays in the known world. Its entrance is in Virginia, and it extends two hundred and seventy miles to the northward, dividing Virginia and Maryland. Its width is generally eighteen miles, and its navigation is easy and safe. This bay receives the waters of some of the largest rivers in America; the Susquehanna—the Potomak—the Rappahannock—York and James rivers.

Besides these, there are great numbers of smaller bays, that form harbors—such is Casco Bay, at the mouth of the Kennebek. Chebukto Bay, in Nova-Scotia, is distinguished by the loss of a French fleet, destined for that port in a former war between France and England.

Straits.

Straits.

The straits of *Belisle* divide the island of Newfoundland from the Labrador coast.

The straits of *Canso* separate the island of Cape Breton from Nova-Scotia.

The strait, called Hell Gate, between Long-Island and the main, near New-York, is remarkable for whirlpools, occasioned by the meeting of the tides from the east and west, which render its passage unsafe, except at high or low water.

The Gulf Stream.

The Gulf stream is a remarkable phenomenon. It is a current in the ocean, which runs along the coast from the Gulf of Mexico to the banks of Newfoundland. It is generally about sixty leagues from shore, and its rapidity, three miles an hour. It is supposed to be occasioned by the trade winds that are constantly driving the water to the westward; which being compressed in the Gulf of Mexico, finds a passage between Florida and the Bahama Islands, and runs to the north east along the American coast. This hypothesis is confirmed by another fact: It is said that the water in the Gulf of Mexico is many yards higher, than on the western side of the continent, in the Pacific Ocean.

Lakes.

No country furnishes such Lakes as America. Lake Champlain which is almost the smallest, is one hundred and thirty miles long, and generally twenty miles broad.

Lake Ontario, Erie, Huron and Michigan are from three to five hundred miles in circumference. But Lake Superior exceeds all the others; being fifteen hundred miles in circumference and containing many large islands. These lakes abound with fish.

Between.

Between the Lakes, Erie and Ontario, is the great cataract, called, the falls of Niagara. Here a vast body of water descends almost perpendicularly one hundred and fifty feet; producing the most terrible noise, and a fog or mist that covers the country for many miles.

These vast lakes are connected by streams navigable for boats; and thro' the middle of them runs the northern limit of the United States.

Cascade in Virginia.

There is a remarkable cascade or water-fall in Augusta, called the *Falling-Spring*. It is a branch of the James, where it is called *Falling-River*, rising in the mountain twenty miles south-west of the warm spring. The water falls over a rock two hundred feet, which is about fifty feet farther than the fall at Niagara. Between the sheet of water and the rock below, a man may walk across dry.

Caves.

Maddison's cave is a curiosity. It is on the north side of the Blue Ridge and extends into the earth three hundred feet. The vault or opening is from twenty to forty feet high, of solid limestone, through which water is continually percolating. This trickling down of the water has formed an incrustation on the sides of the cave; and the dropping from the top has formed solid spars, hanging like icicles; and on the bottom it has formed figures like a sugar loaf.

In another ridge, at the Panther Gap, is the *Blowing Cave*; from which issues a constant stream of air, sufficient to prostrate weeds at the distance of twenty yards. The air is strongest in dry frosty weather.

There are in Virginia some medicinal springs, particularly the *Warm Spring*, which issues in a stream sufficient to turn a grist mill—its water, which is of a blood heat, is efficacious in the rheumatism. The *Hot Spring* is smaller

smaller—its heat has boiled an egg, and the water has relieved persons when the warm spring has failed.

GEOGRAPHY of the UNITED STATES.

THE United States of America, are Thirteen; New-Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode-Island, Connecticut, (which four are usually called New-England) New-York, New-Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia. Vermont is an independent state.

The territory granted to these states, extends from Canada and the lakes, to Florida; and from the Atlantic Ocean, to the river Mississippi: It is about fourteen hundred miles in length, from north east to south west; and from east to west, its breadth at the northern extremity, is about twelve hundred miles; but at the southern, not more than seven hundred.

The northern part of this land upon the sea, is called the *province of Maine*; but it belongs to the state of Massachusetts. It extends from the river Piscataqua, to Nova-Scotia, and from the ocean to Connecticut river. It contains three counties, and the large rivers Penobscot and Kennebec. Its principal settlements, are Old-York, Scarborough, and Falmouth: The last, which was the largest settlement, was burnt by the British troops, during the late war; but is rebuilt, and now called *Portland*.

The sea shore is barren land; but at a distance from the sea, and on the rivers, the land is tolerably fertile. The principal article of exportation is lumber.

N E W - H A M P S H I R E

Is a tract of land, originally carved out of Massachusetts. It lies on the south side of the Piscataqua, between the sea and Connecticut river. Its form is nearly that of a sugar loaf, or pyramid, the base of which,

stretches nearly two hundred miles on Connecticut river; but its breadth is contracted to sixteen miles only on the sea.

Its principal town, Portsmouth, lies near the mouth of the Piscataqua; where the river forms a good harbor, navigable for large ships. The town contains nearly five hundred houses, and about four thousand five hundred inhabitants. The principal articles of exportation, are lumber, and vessels, which are built at Exeter, a very pleasant settlement, fifteen miles from the mouth of the river.

At Hanover, in the western part of the state, there is a college, founded by the late Dr. Wheelock, which consists of about one hundred students. It is called Dartmouth college, in honor of lord Dartmouth, one of its principal benefactors. The institution is in a very flourishing state.

M A S S A C H U S E T T S

Extends from the ocean on the east, to the bounds of New-York, on the west; being about one hundred and fifty miles in length. It has Rhode-Island and Connecticut on the south, and New-Hampshire and Vermont on the north; being about sixty miles in breadth.

Its capital, Boston, contains two thousand two hundred houses, and about eighteen thousand inhabitants. It stands on a peninsula which is joined to the main land by a neck, about a mile in length, leading to Roxbury. On the opposite or north part of the town, a bridge, covering Charles river, leads from Boston to Charlestown. This bridge which was built by a company of gentlemen, in the years 1785 and 1786, is more than one thousand three hundred feet in length, and the noblest structure in America.

The harbor of Boston is capacious and safe. The principal wharf, which extends about two hundred yards into the sea, and is covered on one side, with large and convenient

convenient stores, far surpasses any thing of the kind in the United States.

About two miles from town, is the castle, which commands the entrance of the harbor. Here are mounted about forty heavy pieces of artillery, besides a large number of a smaller size. The fort is garrisoned by a company of soldiers, who also guard the convicts, that are sentenced to labor. These are all employed in making nails—a manufactory that is useful to the state.

On the west side of the town is the Mall, a very beautiful public walk, adorned with rows of trees, and in view of the common, which is always open to refreshing breezes from the sea.

Fifteen miles eastward of Boston, lies Salem, which contains seven hundred and thirty houses, and almost seven thousand inhabitants. Forty five miles from Boston lies Newbury-Port, near the mouth of Merrimack river; the harbor of which is safe, but of difficult entrance. This town contains nearly five hundred houses, and about five thousand inhabitants. These towns, with Cape Anne, and Marblehead, and Beverly, carry on the fishery, which furnishes the principal article of export in Massachusetts. The distance from Boston to Portsmouth, is sixty five miles.

The university of Cambridge, is the first literary institution on this continent. Its buildings are large and elegant—its library and philosophical apparatus, are the most complete of any in America. It is liberally endowed, and furnished with able professors in the principal branches of science. Its students are about one hundred and eighty.

R H O D E - I S L A N D State

Includes the island of that name, and Providence plantations. It has Massachusetts on the north; Connecticut on the west; and the ocean upon the east and south.

The city of Newport, upon the island, contains nearly eight hundred houses, and but five thousand inhabitants

tants; although before the war it contained nine thousand. Its harbor is one of the largest and safest in the world, and of easy entrance.

Providence, situated at the head of navigation, on a large river or arm of the sea, thirty miles from Newport, is at present in a flourishing condition. It contains almost six hundred houses. The business of this state consists principally in the whale fishing, and in the West India trade.

The college at Providence is a magnificent building, and stands upon the heights, east of the town, where it commands an extensive and beautiful prospect. It is an infant institution, and wants funds to support suitable professors.

C O N N E C T I C U T

Is bounded by Rhode-Island on the east, by Long-Island Sound on the south, by Massachusetts on the north, and New York on the west. Its extent is about one hundred miles from east to west, and sixty from north to south.

Its two capital towns, Hartford and New-Haven are the seats of government. Part of these towns have been lately incorporated. The city of Hartford contains about three hundred houses; it is situated at the head of navigation, on Connecticut river, about forty miles from the sound. The city of New-Haven contains four hundred houses; it lies on the sea shore, about forty miles west from Connecticut river. It is one of the most regular and beautiful settlements in America: In the center of the city, there is a spacious green, three hundred yards square, adorned with a row of trees on every side.

On the west side of this square, and in an elevated situation stands Yale College, an institution founded in the year 1701, and which has produced a great number of distinguished literary characters. Its usual number of students is about one hundred and seventy.

The principal articles of export, are horses, cattle,
provision

provision, and lumber, which are sold in the West India islands.

The inhabitants of New-England are mostly the descendants of the first English settlers. There are no French, Dutch, or Germans, and very few Scotch and Irish in New-England. The increase, almost solely by natural population, including Vermont, is almost a million of whites.

N E W - Y O R K State

Extends from the ocean to Lake Champlain and Canada, and comprehends about twenty miles on the east, and forty on the west of the river Hudson. It has Connecticut, Massachusetts, and Vermont on the east, and New Jersey and Pennsylvania on the west.

The city of New-York is situated upon a peninsula, or rather upon an island; for the water flows around it, and it is connected with the continent by a small bridge only, called Kings-Bridge, fifteen miles from the city. The city contains nearly three thousand five hundred houses. It is an excellent situation for trade—having a safe spacious harbor, which is seldom or never obstructed by ice.

Hudson's river is navigable for ships of almost any size, to the city of Hudson, which is about one hundred and thirty miles from New-York—and small vessels go to Albany, thirty miles higher. Most of the trade on this river centers in New-York. The principal articles of exportation are wheat or flour, and lumber. New York imports most of the European goods consumed in Connecticut, and this and the other New-England supply the New-York market with West India produce.

This state was settled first by the Dutch; and a very considerable part of the inhabitants are their descendants. The principal Dutch settlements are at New-York, Albany, Esopus, Claverak, and Senectady. Albany is the only city which exhibits the Gothic taste in building: It is almost the oldest town in America, and there are houses still standing, the bricks of which were brought from

from Holland. It contains almost six hundred houses.

Long-Island also belongs to this state; although part of it formerly belonged to Connecticut, and was settled by the English. It extends from New-York eastward one hundred and twenty miles, and is generally twenty miles wide.

The college in New-York, called Columbia College, is well endowed and furnished with professors; but its students are not numerous.

N E W - J E R S E Y

Has the river Hudson and the ocean on the east, and the Delaware on the west. It extends from Cape May at the entrance of the Delaware on the south, to the limits of New-York state, west of the Hudson, about twenty miles from the mouth of that river.

There are no large towns in this state. Trenton, the present seat of government, contains nearly two hundred houses and is pleasantly situated, near the Delaware, and thirty miles from Philadelphia.

Princeton, a delightful situation, forty-two miles from Philadelphia, is the seat of a college, called Nassau Hall; an institution, which has produced a great number of eminent scholars. Its students amount to about one hundred.

The inhabitants are mostly descendants of the English and Dutch.

P E N N S Y L V A N I A

Extends from the Delaware on the east, five degrees of longitude, or about three hundred and fifty miles west; and from Maryland on the south, to New-York on the north, about one hundred and fifty miles.

The inhabitants consist of English, Germans, Irish, and Scotch. The *Friends*, who were the first settlers, form a numerous and respectable body of its inhabitants.

The city of Philadelphia, is situate on the west bank of the

the Delaware, and extends, according to the plan, from Delaware to Skuylkill. The improved part of the city reaches only about half a mile from the Delaware, but along that river the buildings extend two miles, including Kensington and Southwark, which are the suburbs of the city.

It is the largest and most regular city in America. Its streets all cross each other at right angles, and form the whole city into squares.

Near the center is Market street, which is wider than the others, and contains the largest and best supplied market in America, or perhaps in the world.

The Statehouse is a magnificent structure, and the garden belonging it, has been lately improved and laid out in agreeable walks, for the recreation of the citizens.

The hospital, the poor house, and prison, the two former of brick, and the latter of stone, are noble buildings, and exceed any of the kind in this country. The new German reformed church, is the most magnificent structure of the kind in America, and was built at the expence of ten thousand pounds.

This city contains almost five thousand houses, and fifty thousand inhabitants. It is at the head of navigation, about one hundred and fifty miles from the mouth of the Delaware.

Lancaster, situated twelve miles from Susquehanna, and sixty six miles west of Philadelphia, is the largest inland town in America.

Besides the Delaware, this state boasts of the Skuylkill and the Su-quehanna, a large and noble river which rises in the north western parts of New York, runs through Pennsylvania, forms a large tract of fertile meadow, and empties itself into Chesapeek Bay within the borders of Maryland.

The University of Pennsylvania is liberally endowed, furnished with able professors in the different branches of science. During the winter, students of physick resort thither from different parts of the country, to attend the medical lectures.

A College has lately been founded at Carlisle, west of Susquehanna, and one hundred and twenty miles from Philadelphia. It is called Dickenson College, in honor of the late President Dickenson and bids fair to be a very useful institution under its learned president Dr. Nesbit. Its students are nearly one hundred.

A German College has been lately founded at Lancaster; which is called Franklin, in honor of the great statesman and philosopher Dr. Franklin, one of its principal benefactors.

The Protestant Episcopal Academy, lately founded in Philadelphia, is incorporated and endowed. It consists of about one hundred and fifty scholars and bids fair to be a valuable institution.

Flour is the staple article of produce in Pennsylvania. This with many other valuable articles, and the trade of its neighboring states, enables Pennsylvania to carry on a very extensive commerce with foreign nations.

D E L A W A R E State

Comprehends three counties only, which extend from Pennsylvania to the entrance of the river Delaware, on the west bank of that river. The seat of government at present is Dover, a small inland town, on the peninsula, between the Delaware and Chesapeek. The largest town in the state, is Wilmington, a beautiful settlement, thirty miles below Philadelphia. It contains four hundred houses, well built, and in a very pleasant situation.

Its principal exports are flour and corn.

M A R Y L A N D

Is bounded by Pennsylvania on the north, by the ocean on the east, and by Virginia on the south and west. It is divided into two parts, called the eastern and western shores, by the great bay of Chesapeek.

The largest town in the state is Baltimore, which contains almost two hundred houses. It lies upon an arm of the Chesapeek, at a small distance from the mouth of
 Potapsc

Petapscow river. It has one of the best harbors in America. From the head of Elk, which is at the head of the bay, to Baltimore, is about sixty miles.

The seat of government is Annapolis, thirty miles below Baltimore; a small city of about two hundred and sixty houses, but pleasantly situated on the bay. The houses are generally large and elegant—an indication of great wealth. The Stadt-house is the noblest structure of the kind in America.

The principal rivers are, the Susquehanna which passes through the north part of the state, and the Potomak, which separates it from Virginia; which is one of the finest rivers on this continent.

There is a college founded upon the eastern shore, called *Washington* college, in honor of that illustrious character. A college is also to be erected on the western shore.

The staple commodity of this state is tobacco, of which great quantities are exported to Europe. The northern parts of the state also furnish great quantities of flour of an excellent quality. Corn is another considerable article of produce.

V I R G I N I A.

This state is bounded by the Atlantic on the east; by Maryland, Pennsylvania, and the Ohio on the north; by the Mississippi and Ohio on the west, and by North Carolina on the south. Its extent east and west, from the Atlantic to the Mississippi is 758 miles—its breadth is about 200 miles. It contains 121,525 square miles, which are one third more than are contained in Great Britain and Ireland.

The eastern part of this state is penetrated by the Chesapeake, which leaves three counties on the eastern shore, between the Atlantic and the bay.

Virginia boasts of some of the largest and noblest rivers in America. On the north, the Potomak which divides the state from Maryland, rises in the Allegany mountains,
E bends

bends its course south east and falls into the Chesapeake. It is more than seven miles wide at its mouth. It has eighteen feet water to Alexandria, about one hundred and fifty miles from its mouth; and ten feet to Georgetown, eight miles higher. About five miles above are the falls, which obstruct the navigation, for fifteen miles.

The Rappahannock is a smaller river, but affords twelve feet water to Fredericksburg, just below the falls.

York river furnishes, at York town, a few miles from its mouth, the best harbor in the state for vessels of a large size. It holds four fathom water, twenty five miles above York town. It is formed by the confluence of two rivers *Pamunky* and *Mattaponi*; both of which are navigable for boats at some distance from their junction.

James river admits vessels of two hundred and fifty tons burthen to Warwick, and of one hundred and twenty five tons to Richmond about ninety miles from its mouth. It receives the *Appamattox*, which affords navigation for small vessels to Petersburg. Just above Richmond are the falls where the water descends eighty feet, within six miles; above which, the river is navigable for canoes, almost to the Blue Ridge.

Nansemond and *Chikahominy* afford water for small vessels, several miles into the country.

Elizabeth river affords an excellent harbor and large enough for three hundred ships. At Norfolk it has eighteen feet water at common flood tide.

The *Roanoke* runs through a part of Virginia, and is navigable for boats.

On the west of the Allegany mountains, are the great and little Kanaway, which rise in the mountains, and run north west into the Ohio.—

The *Monongahela* is one principal branch of the Ohio. The source of this river is separated from the Potomak by the Allegany Ridge. The distance is about forty miles.

The river *Allegany* is the other principal branch of the Ohio.

Ohio. The head of this river is but fifteen miles distant from *Presque Isle* on Lake Erie.

The rivers *Cumberland*, *Cherokee*, and *Kentucky*, water the western part of Virginia and furnish navigation for batteaux into the heart of the country. They fall into the Ohio.

The towns in Virginia are not large; the people mostly residing on their plantations.—

Alexandria, situated near the head of navigation on the Potomak; contains about three hundred houses, and is a place of great trade.

Fredericksburg, on the Rappahannok, contains about two hundred houses, and is a place of business.

Richmond, at the head of navigation on James river, and the seat of government, contains about three hundred houses.

Petersburg, twenty seven miles below Richmond, contains about the same number of houses, and is a place of great trade. Twenty four thousand hogsheads of tobacco have been shipped in a year from this single port.

Norfolk was a well built town, but was laid in ashes by the British troops, during the late war. It is partly rebuilt, and is the center of business in the state.

Williamsburg was formerly a flourishing and beautiful town. It contained about two hundred and fifty houses, and was the seat of government.

The principal street is one mile in length on a plain, with the college at one end and the capitol or state house, at the other, exhibiting a pleasant prospect. But since the seat of government has been fixed at Richmond, the city has decayed. Williamsburg is the seat of a university, but the institution is not in a flourishing state.

The large and numerous rivers which water Virginia are very favorable for commerce. The principal article of exportation is tobacco, of which about 60,000 hogsheads are exported annually. Wheat is also raised in abundance, especially in the mountainous parts of the state. Corn is the principal article of food for the negroes, yet a large quantity is raised for exportation.

Nine miles below Alexandria, upon the bank of the Potomak, is Mount Vernon, the seat of the illustrious Washington. His house is ancient, but magnificent. It stands upon a bend of the river, about fifty yards from the water, and commands an extensive and most agreeable prospect. On the other side, in front of the house, is a spacious bowling green, with serpentine roads on each side, adorned with rows of trees. On the right and left of these are his gardens, abounding with every thing convenient and ornamental.

N O R T H - C A R O L I N A

Is bounded by Virginia on the north, by the ocean on the east, by South-Carolina on the south, and by the Mississippi on the west.

The land for one hundred and thirty miles from the sea, is flat, sandy, and barren, except near the rivers; but the high lands are fertile.

The navigation of this state is difficult and dangerous, by reason of the bars at the entrance of their rivers, and the flatness of the country.

The principal towns are Newbern, Halifax, Edenton, Wilmington, Fayetteville and Hillsborough. The principal rivers are, the Roanoke, which rises in the mountains of Virginia, and, running south-east through a part of North Carolina, discharges itself into Albemarle sound. The Neus, which is navigable to Newbern; and Cape Fear river, navigable for vessels of burden to Wilmington.

The principal exports of this state are pitch, turpentine and lumber. The western parts of the state produce tobacco, corn, and wheat, which find a market in Virginia and South-Carolina.

S O U T H - C A R O L I N A

Has North-Carolina on the north, the ocean on the east, Georgia on the south, and the Mississippi on the west. The

The city of Charleston, the capital, contains about one thousand six hundred houses. It is situated between the two rivers, Ashly and Cooper, the confluence of which forms the harbor. It is regular and well built.

The land, more than one hundred miles from the sea, is level; but it is generally good, and makes excellent rice and indigo. The high lands in the back country produce corn and wheat.

The principal article of exportation is rice; of which sixty-six thousand barrels were shipped in 1786. Indigo, deer skins, and lumber, are also very considerable articles of trade.

A college has been lately established at Winnsborough, 130 miles from Charleston; and a company of gentlemen have been incorporated, by the name of the "Mount Zion Society," for the purpose of promoting literature. Many gentlemen, however, both in Carolina and the other southern states, send their sons to Princeton college, or other northern universities; and some to Europe.

G E O R G I A

Is the most southern of the United States. It is bounded by the river Savanna, which divides it from South-Carolina on the north; by the ocean on the east; by the river St. Mary's, which divides it from the Floridas on the south; and by the Mississippi on the west. Its extent on the sea shore is about one hundred and thirty miles, and from the ocean to the Mississippi about seven hundred miles. Its rivers are the Savanna, Ogechee, Altamaha, the two Satillas, Turtle river, and St. Mary's.

Savannah, its principal town, is situated on the river of that name, seventeen miles from the sea, and contains about two hundred houses.

Augusta, situated at the head of the navigation on the same river, one hundred and thirty four miles from the sea, is nearly the size of Savannah. It is the seat of government.

The principal exports of the state are lumber, rice, indigo, and tobacco. Georgia is also an excellent grazing country, and furnishes great quantities of beef. The land is fertile, and the climate, in the highlands very healthy.

Georgia is yet an infant settlement; but bids fair to be a populous and flourishing state, under the influence of its wise and liberal policy. The plan of a university lately adopted there is novel; but seems calculated to produce the most salutary effects. The literary gentlemen throughout the state are combined, and incorporated for the purpose of superintending the literature of the state. They are to be governed by certain laws of their own making—and have the power of making such regulations as they think necessary respecting colleges, academies, and schools. An annual meeting of the whole society is to be held; in which laws shall be made, and degrees conferred upon such students in any of the academies, as shall be deemed qualified. A diploma entitles any citizen of the state to be a member of the university.

The designs of the institution, is to render the system of education uniform throughout the state; and to effect this purpose, the university determine that only one kind of books, in any science, shall be used in all the academies, and schools in the state.

The funds of this institution are forty thousand acres of land; a thousand pounds in each county; with all the monies and lands granted for the support of schools before the revolution.

Such a plan of education, which excludes the principles of dissention, and combines the leading men of the state in the same society, constitutes the firmest basis of political and religious harmony.

V E R M O N T.

The tract of country called *Vermont*, has Connecticut river on the east, Massachusetts on the south, New-York and Lake Champlain on the west, and Canada on the north.

north. It is about one hundred and fifty miles in length from north to south; and fifty in breadth from east to west. The right to it was before the war, claimed both by New-Hampshire and New-York. When hostilities commenced between Great Britain and America, the inhabitants, considering themselves as in a state of nature, without government, and not within any legal jurisdiction, associated, and formed a constitution of civil government. Under this constitution they exercised all the powers of an independent sovereign state. Some attempts were made by New-York to prevent the establishment of their independence; and the claims of the contending parties were once submitted to Congress. But either through neglect, jealousy, or design, in one or both parties, the question was never brought to a federal decision; but New York has lately passed an act, renouncing all claims to Vermont, and empowering their delegates in Congress to concur in declaring it an independent state, and annexing it to the confederation.

Vermont is rapidly settling by emigrations from the New-England states, as well as by natural population. Its present inhabitants may be fifty thousand. Its soil is generally fertile; producing wheat, corn, and grass in abundance. It is covered with excellent timber. Its inhabitants are, as is common in new settlements, hardy and industrious; and during the late war, when the state was a frontier, they distinguished themselves by their bravery; particularly in the battle at Bennington. Its north western boundary is Lake Champlain, which communicates with the St. Lawrence. By this conveyance on the north, by Hudson's river, which is but twenty miles from the line, on the south west, and by Connecticut river on the east, this state is supplied with foreign commodities, and finds a market for its own produce.

This state is divided by a large mountain, running from north to south, through the whole state, called the *Green Mountain*, which gives the state its name *.

Bennington

* Ver mons, a Green Mountain.

Bennington, a well built town on the western border of the state, stands in an elevated situation, and is the present seat of government.

Vermont conducted its military operations, during the war, independent of the United States—raised and paid its own troops—emitted and redeemed bills of credit, and paid its own debts.

ENGLISH PROVINCES.

Canada, on the north of the United States, is a large country, originally settled by the French, but conquered by the English, who have held possession of it ever since. The English governor resides at *Quebec*, a large well fortified town on the *St. Lawrence*. The principal articles of trade are furs and skins.

Nova Scotia belongs also to the English. It is generally a barren country, but commands the entrance into *Canada*, and affords many advantages in carrying on the fishery. The metropolis is *Halifax*.

SPANISH PROVINCES.

The two *Floridas* are Spanish provinces, on the south of the United States. They extend from the Atlantic to the *Mississipi*. *St. Augustine* the capital of *East Florida*, lies upon the Atlantic; and *Pensacola*, the capital of *West Florida*, is situated upon a small bay in the gulf of *Mexico*.

One of the *Floridas* was conquered and taken from the English by Spain during the late war; and the other was given up by treaty, at the peace in 1783.

A SKETCH of the HISTORY of the late WAR in AMERICA.

THE attempts of the British parliament to raise a revenue in America, without her consent, occasioned the late war, which separated this country from Great Britain.

The first attempt of consequence was the famous *Stamp-Act*, March, 1765. By this, the Americans were obliged to make use of stamped paper, for all notes, bonds, and other legal instruments; on which paper, a duty was to be paid.

This act occasioned such general uneasiness in America, that the parliament thought proper to repeal it, the year after it was made.

But the next year (1767), the *Tea-Act* was framed, by which a heavy duty was laid upon tea, glass, paper, and many other articles, which were much used in America. This threw the colonies into confusion, and excited such resentment among the people, that the parliament three years after, took off three fourths of the duty.

The duty was still disagreeable to the Americans, who entered into resolutions not to import and consume British manufactures.

A few years after, (in 1773), the people of Boston, who were determined not to pay duties on tea, went on board some ships, belonging to the East-India company, which lay in the harbor, and threw all the tea overboard. In other parts of America, violent opposition was made to British taxation.

This opposition enkindled the resentment of the British parliament, which they expressed the next year (1774) by shutting the port of Boston, which ruined the trade of that flourishing town. This act was followed by others, by which the constitution of Massachusetts was new-modelled, and the liberties of the people infringed.

These

These rash and cruel measures, gave great and universal alarm to the Americans. General Gage was sent to Boston, to enforce the new laws; but he was received with coldness, and opposed with spirit, in the execution of his commission.

The assembly throughout America, remonstrated and petitioned. At the same time, many contributions of money and provisions from every quarter, were sent to the inhabitants of Boston, who were suffering in consequence of the port bill.

The same year, troops arrived in Boston, to enforce the wicked and unjust acts of the British parliament. Fortifications were erected on Boston neck, by order of general Gage; and the ammunition and stores in Cambridge and Charlestown, were seized and secured.

In September, deputies from most of the colonies, met in Congress at Philadelphia. These delegates approved of the conduct of the people in Massachusetts; wrote a letter to general Gage; published a declaration of rights; formed an association not to import, or use British goods; sent a petition to the king of Great Britain; an address to the inhabitants of that kingdom; another to the inhabitants of Canada; and another, to the inhabitants of the colonies.

In the beginning of the next year, (1775), was passed the *Fishery Bill*, by which the northern colonies were forbid to fish on the banks of Newfoundlland, for a certain time. This bore hard upon the commerce of these colonies, which was in a great measure, supported by the fishery. Soon after, another bill was passed, which restrained the trade of the middle and southern colonies, to Great Britain, Ireland, and the West Indies, except under certain conditions. These repeated acts of oppression on the part of Great Britain, alienated the affections of America from her parent and sovereign, and produced a combined opposition to the whole system of taxation.

Preparations began to be made, to oppose by force, the execution of these acts of parliament. The militia

of the country were trained to the use of arms—great encouragement was given for the manufacture of gunpowder, and measures were taken to obtain all kinds of military stores.

In February, colonel Leslie was sent with a detachment of troops from Boston, to take possession of some cannon at Salem. But the people had intelligence of the design—took up the draw-bridge in that town, and prevented the troops from passing, untill the cannon were secured; so that the expedition failed.

In April, colonel Smith, and major Pitcairn were sent with a body of troops, to destroy the military stores which had been collected at Concord, about twenty miles from Boston. At Lexington, the militia were collected on a green, to oppose the incursion of the British forces. These were fired upon by the British troops, and eight men killed on the spot.

The militia were dispersed, and the troops proceeded to Concord; where they destroyed a few stores. But on their return, they were incessantly harrassed by the Americans, who inflamed with just resentment, fired upon them from houses and fences, and pursued them to Boston.

Here was spilt the *first blood* in the late war; a war, which severed America from the British empire. *Lexington* opened the first scene of the great drama, which, in its progress, exhibited the most illustrious characters and events, and closed with a revolution, equally glorious for the actors, and important in its consequences to the human race.

This battle roused all America. The militia collected from all quarters, and Boston, was in a few days, besieged by twenty thousand men. A stop was put to all intercourse between the town and country, and the inhabitants were reduced to great want of provisions. General Gage promised to let the people depart, if they would deliver up their arms. The people complied, but when the general had obtained their arms, the perfidious wretch, refused to let the people go.

In

In the mean time, a small number of men, under the command of colonel Allen, and colonel Easton, without any public orders, surprized and took the British garrison at Ticonderoga, without the loss of a man.

In June following, our troops attempted to fortify Bunker's hill, which is near Charlestown, and but a mile and an half from Boston. They had, during the night, thrown up a small breast-work, which sheltered them from the fire of the British cannon. But the next morning, the British army was sent to drive them from the hill, and landing under cover of their cannon, they set fire to Charlestown, which was consumed, and marched to attack our troops in the entrenchments. A severe engagement ensued, in which the British suffered a very great loss, both of officers and privates. They were repulsed at first, and thrown into disorder; but they finally carried the fortification, with the point of the bayonet. The Americans suffered a small loss, compared with the British; but the death of the brave general Warren, who fell in the action, a martyr to the cause of his country, was severely felt, and universally lamented.

About this time, the Continental Congress appointed to George Washington esq. a native of Virginia, to the chief command of the American army. This gentleman had been a distinguished and successful officer in the preceding war, and he seemed destined by heaven to be the savior of his country. He accepted the appointment with a diffidence which was a proof of his prudence and his greatness. He refused any pay for eight years laborious and arduous service; and by his matchless skill, fortitude and perseverance, conducted America through indescribable difficulties, to independence and peace.

While true merit is esteemed, or virtue honored, mankind will never cease to revere the memory of this Hero; and while gratitude remains in the human breast, the praises of WASHINGTON shall dwell on every American tongue.

Gen. Washington, with other officers appointed by Congress, arrived at Cambridge, and took command of the

the American army in July. From this time, the affairs of America began to assume the appearance of a regular and general opposition to the forces of Great Britain.

In Autumn, a body of troops, under the command of Gen. Montgomery, besieged and took the garrison at St. John's, which commands the entrance into Canada. The prisoners amounted to about seven hundred. Gen. Montgomery pursued his success, and took Montreal; and designed to push his victories to Quebec.

A body of troops, commanded by Arnold, was ordered to march to Canada, by the river Kennebek, and through the wilderness. After suffering every hardship, and the most distressing hunger, they arrived in Canada, and were joined by Gen. Montgomery, before Quebec. This city which was commanded by Gen. Carleton, was immediately besieged. But there being little hope of taking the town by a siege, it was determined to storm it.

The attack was made on the last day of December, but proved unsuccessful, and fatal to the brave General, who with his aid, was killed, in attempting to scale the walls.

Of the three divisions which attacked the town, one only entered, and that was obliged to surrender to superior force. After this defeat, Arnold, who now commanded the troops, continued some months before Quebec, although his troops suffered incredibly by cold and sickness. But the next spring, the Americans were obliged to retreat from Canada.

About this time, the large and flourishing town of Norfolk in Virginia, was wantonly burnt by order of lord Dunmore, the royal governor.

Gen. Gage went to England in September, and was succeeded in the command, by Gen. Howe.

Falmouth, a considerable town in the province of Maine in Massachusetts, shared the fate of Norfolk; being laid in ashes by order of the British admiral.

The British King entered into treaties with some of the German Princes for about seventeen thousand men, who were to be sent to America the next year, to assist in subduing the colonies. The British parliament also

passed an act, forbidding all intercourse with America; and while they repealed the Boston-port and fishery bills, they declared all American property on the high seas, forfeited to the captors. This act induced Congress to change the mode of carrying on the war; and measures were taken to annoy the enemy in Boston. For this purpose, batteries were opened on several hills, from whence shot and bombs were thrown into the town. But the batteries which were opened on Dorchester point had the best effect and soon obliged general Howe to abandon the town. In March 1776, the British troops embarked for Halifax, and general Washington entered the town in triumph.

In the ensuing summer, a small squadron of ships commanded by Sir Peter Parker, and a body of troops under the generals Clinton and Cornwallis, attempted to take Charleston, the capital of South Carolina. The ships made a violent attack upon the fort on Sullivan's Island, but were repelled with great loss, and the expedition was abandoned.

In July, Congress published their declaration of independence, which for ever separated America from Great Britain. This great event took place two hundred and eighty four years after the first discovery of America by Columbus—one hundred and seventy, from the first effectual settlement in Virginia—and one hundred and fifty six from the first settlement of Plymouth in Massachusetts, which were the earliest English settlements in America.

Just after this declaration, general Howe with a powerful force arrived near New-York; and landed the troops upon Staten Island. General Washington was in New-York with about thirteen thousand men, encamped either in the city or the neighboring fortifications.

The operations of the British began by the action on Long Island, in the month of August. The Americans were defeated, and general Sullivan and lord Stirling, with a large body of men, were made prisoners. At night after the engagement, a retreat was ordered,

executed with such silence, that the Americans left the island without alarming their enemies, and without loss.

In September the city of New-York was abandoned by the American army, and taken by the British.

In November, Fort Washington on York Island was taken, and more than two thousand men made prisoners. Fort Lee, opposite to Fort Washington, on the Jersey shore, was soon after taken, but the garrison escaped.

About the same time, general Clinton was sent with a body of troops to take possession of Rhode Island, and succeeded. In addition to all these losses and defeats, the American army suffered by desertion, and more by sickness, which was epidemic, and very mortal.

The northern army at Ticonderoga, was in a disagreeable situation, particularly, after the battle on lake Champlain, in which the American force consisting of a few light vessels, under the command of Arnold, and general Waterbury, was totally dispersed. But general Carleton, instead of pursuing his victory, landed at Crown Point, reconnoitered our posts at Ticonderoga and Mount Independence, and returned to winter quarters in Canada.

At the close of this year, the American army was dwindled to a handful of men; and general Lee was taken prisoner in New-Jersey. Far from being discouraged at these losses, Congress took measures to raise and establish an army.

In this critical situation, general Washington, surprised and took a large body of Hessians, who were cantoned at Trenton; and soon after, another body of the British troops at Princeton. The address in planning and executing these enterprises, reflected the highest honor on the commander, and the success revived the desponding hopes of America. The loss of general Mercer, a gallant officer, at Princeton, was the principal circumstance that allayed the joys of victory.

The following year 1777, was distinguished by very memorable events, in favor of America. On the opening of the campaign, governor Tryon was sent with a body

body of troops, to destroy the stores at Danbury, in Connecticut. This plan was executed, and the town mostly burnt. The enemy suffered in their retreat, and the Americans lost general Wooster, a brave and experienced officer.

General Prescott was taken from his quarters, on Rhode Island, by the address and enterprize of colonel Barton, and conveyed prisoner to the continent.

Gen. Burgoyne, who commanded the northern British army, took possession of Ticonderoga, which had been abandoned by the Americans. He pushed his successes, crossed Lake George, and encamped upon the banks of the Hudson, near Saratoga. His progress however was checked, by the defeat of colonel Baum, near Bennington, in which the undisciplined militia of Vermont, under general Stark, displayed unexampled bravery, and captured almost the whole detachment.

The militia assembled from all parts of New-England, to stop the progress of general Burgoyne.

These, with the regular troops, formed a respectable army, commanded by general Gates. After two severe actions, in which the generals Lincoln and Arnold, behaved with uncommon gallantry, and were wounded, Gen. Burgoyne found himself enclosed with brave troops, and was forced to surrender his whole army, amounting to ten thousand men, into the hands of the Americans. This happened in October.

This event diffused an universal joy over America, and laid a foundation for the treaty with France.

But before these transactions, the main body of the British forces had embarked at New-York, sailed up the Chesapeake, and landed at the head of Elk river. The army soon began their march for Philadelphia. General Washington had determined to oppose them, and for this purpose made a stand upon the heights, near Brandywine creek. Here the armies engaged, and the Americans were overpowered, and suffered great loss. The enemy soon pursued their march, and took possession of Philadelphia, towards the close of September.

Not long after, the two armies were again engaged at Germantown, and in the beginning of the action, the Americans had the advantage; but by some unlucky accident, the fortune of the day was turned in favor of the British. Both sides suffered considerable losses; on the side of the Americans, was general Nash.

In an attack upon the forts at Mud-Island and Red Bank, the Hessians were unsuccessful, and their commander, colonel Donop, killed. The British also lost the Augusta, a ship of the line. But the forts were afterwards taken, and the navigation of the Delaware opened. General Washington was reinforced, with part of the troops, which had composed the northern army, under general Gates; and both armies retired to winter quarters.

In October, the same month in which general Burgoyne was taken at Saratoga, general Vaughan, with a small fleet, sailed up Hudson's river, and wantonly burnt Kingston, a beautiful Dutch settlement, on the west side of the river.

The beginning of the next year 1778, was distinguished by a treaty of alliance between France and America; by which we obtained a powerful and generous ally. When the English ministry were informed that this treaty was on foot, they dispatched commissioners to America, to attempt a reconciliation. But America would not now accept their offers. Early in the spring, Count de Estaing, with a fleet of fifteen sail of the line, was sent by the court of France, to assist America.

General Howe left the army, and returned to England; the command then devolved upon Sir Henry Clinton. In June the British army left Philadelphia, and marched for New-York. On their march they were annoyed by the Americans; and at Monmouth, a very regular action took place, between part of the armies; the enemy were repulsed with great loss; and had general Lee obeyed his orders, a signal victory must have been obtained. General Lee, for his ill conduct that day, was suspended,

suspended, and was never afterwards permitted to join the army.

In August general Sullivan, with a large body of troops, attempted to take possession of Rhode-Island, but did not succeed. Soon after the stores and shipping at Bedford in Massachusetts, were burnt by a party of the British troops. The same year, Savanna, the capital of Georgia, was taken by the British, under the command of colonel Campbell.

In the following year (1779), general Lincoln was appointed to the command of the southern army.

Governor Tryon and Sir George Collier made an incursion into Connecticut, and burnt, with wanton barbarity, the towns of Fairfield and Norwalk. But the American arms were crowned with success, in a bold attack upon Stoney Point, which was surprized and taken by general Wayne, in the night of the 15th of July. Five hundred men were made prisoners, with a small loss on either side.

A party of British forces attempted this summer, to build a fort, on Penobscot river, for the purpose of cutting timber in the neighboring forests. A plan was laid by Massachusetts to dislodge them, and a considerable fleet collected for the purpose. But the plan failed of success, and the whole marine force fell into the hands of the British, except some vessels which were burnt by the Americans themselves.

In October, general Lincoln and Count de Estaing made an assault upon Savanna; but they were repulsed with considerable loss. In this action, the celebrated Polish Count Pulaski, who had acquired the reputation of a brave soldier, was mortally wounded.

In this summer, general Sullivan marched with a body of troops, into the Indian country, and burnt and destroyed all their provisions and settlements, that fell in their way.

On the opening of the campaign, the next year, (1780) the British troops left Rhode Island. An expedition under Gen. Clinton and Lord Cornwallis, was undertaken

ken against Charleston, South Carolina, where General Lincoln commanded. This town, after a close siege of about six weeks, was surrendered to the British commander; and General Lincoln, and the whole American garrison, were made prisoners.

Gen. Gates was appointed to the command in the southern department, and another army collected. In August, Lord Cornwallis attacked the American troops at Camden, in South Carolina, and routed them with considerable loss. He afterwards marched through the southern states, and supposed them entirely subdued.

The same summer, the British troops made frequent incursions from New-York into the Jerseys; ravaging and plundering the country. In some of these descents, the rev. Mr. Caldwell, a respectable clergyman and warm patriot, and his lady, were inhumanly murdered by the savage soldiery.

In July, a French fleet, under Monsieur d'Ternay, with a body of land forces, commanded by Count de Rochambeau, arrived at Rhode-Island, to the great joy of the Americans.

This year was also distinguished by the infamous treason of Arnold. General Washington having some business to transact at Wethersfield in Connecticut, left Arnold to command the important post of Westpoint; which guards a pass in Hudson's river, about sixty miles from New-York. Arnold's conduct in the city of Philadelphia, the preceding winter, had been censured; and the treatment he received in consequence, had given him offence.

He determined to take revenge; and for this purpose, he entered into a negotiation with Sir Henry Clinton, to deliver Westpoint, and the army, into the hands of the British. While General Washington was absent, he dismounted the cannon in some of the forts, and took other steps to render the taking of the post easy for the enemy.

But by a providential discovery, the whole plan was detected. Major Andre, aid to general Clinton, a brave officer

officer, who had been sent up the river as a spy, to concert the plan of operations with Arnold, was taken, condemned by a court martial, and executed. Arnold made his escape, by getting on board the Vulture, a British vessel, which lay in the river. His conduct has stamped him with infamy; and, like all traitors, he is despised by all mankind. General Washington arrived in camp just after Arnold had made his escape, and restored order in the garrison.

After the defeat of general Gates in Carolina, general Greene was appointed to the command in the southern department. From this period, things in that quarter wore a more favorable aspect. Colonel Tarleton, the active commander of the British legion, was defeated by general Morgan, the intrepid commander of the rifle men.

After a variety of movements, the two armies met at Guilford, in North Carolina. Here was one of the best fought actions during the war. General Greene and Lord Cornwallis exerted themselves at the head of their respective armies, and although the Americans were obliged to retire from the field of battle, yet the British army suffered an immense loss, and could not pursue the victory. This action happened on the 15th of March 1781.

In the spring, Arnold, who was made a brigadier-general in the British service, with a small number of troops, sailed for Virginia, and plundered the country. This called the attention of the French fleet to that quarter; and a naval engagement took place between the English and French, in which some of the English ships were much damaged, and one entirely disabled.

After the battle of Guilford, general Greene moved towards South Carolina, to drive the British from their posts in that state. Here lord Rawdon obtained an inconsiderable advantage over the Americans, near Camden. But general Green more than recovered this disadvantage, by the brilliant and successful action at the Eutaw Springs: where general Marion distinguished him-

self, and the brave colonel Washington was wounded and taken prisoner.

Lord Cornwallis, finding general Greene successful in Carolina, marched to Virginia, collected his forces, and fortified himself in Yorktown. In the mean time Arnold made an incursion into Connecticut, burnt a part of New London, took Fort Griswold by storm, and put the garrison to the sword. The garrison consisted chiefly of men suddenly collected from the little town of Groton, which, by the savage cruelty of the British officer who commanded the attack, lost, in one hour, almost all its heads of families. The brave colonel Ledyard, who commanded the fort, was slain with his own sword, after he had surrendered.

The marquis de la Fayette, the brave and generous nobleman, whose services command the gratitude of every American, had been dispatched from the main army, to watch the motions of lord Cornwallis in Virginia.

About the last of August, count de Grasse arrived with a large fleet in the Chesapeake, and blocked up the British troops at Yorktown. Admiral Greaves, with a British fleet, appeared off the capes, and an action succeeded; but it was not decisive.

General Washington had before this time moved the main body of his army, together with the French troops, to the southward; and as soon as he heard of the arrival of the French fleet in the Chesapeake, he made rapid marches to the head of Elk, where embarking, the troops soon arrived at Yorktown.

A close siege immediately commenced, and was carried on with such vigour, by the combined forces of America and France, that lord Cornwallis was obliged to surrender. This glorious event which took place on the 19th of October 1781, decided the contest in favor of America; and laid the foundation of a general peace.

A few months after the surrender of Cornwallis, the British evacuated all their posts in South Carolina and Georgia, and retired to the main army in New-York.

The next spring (1782) Sir Guy Carleton arrived in

New-

New-York, and took command of the British army in America. Immediately on his arrival, he acquainted general Washington and Congress, that negotiations for a peace had been commenced at Paris.

On the 30th of November 1782, the provisional articles of peace were signed at Paris; by which Great Britain acknowledged the independence and sovereignty of the United States of America.

Thus ended a long and arduous conflict, in which Great Britain expended near a hundred millions of money, with an hundred thousand lives, and won nothing but disgrace. America endured every cruelty and distress from her enemies—lost many lives and much treasure—but delivered herself from a foreign dominion, and gained a rank among the nations of the earth.

*An ACCOUNT of the most remarkable BATTLES
fought in America during the late War.*

Battle of Bunker's-Hill, June 17th, 1775.

THE post of Charlestown had hitherto been neglected by both parties. The Americans thought it necessary for them, whether they should choose to act on the defensive or offensive. They accordingly made the necessary preparations, and sent a body of men thither at night with the greatest privacy, to throw up works upon Bunker's-Hill, an high ground that lies just within the isthmus, or neck of land that joins the peninsula to the continent.

The party that was sent upon this service, carried on their works with such extraordinary order and silence, that though the peninsula was surrounded with the British army, they were not heard during the night, and with such incredible dispatch in the execution, that they raised a small but strong redoubt, considerable entrenchments,

a breast-work, that was in some parts cannon proof, far advanced towards completion, by the break of day. The sight of the works, was the first notice that alarmed the Lively man of war early in the morning, and her guns called the town, camp, and fleet, to behold a sight that seemed little less than a prodigy.

A heavy and continual fire of cannon, howitzers, and mortars, was from thence carried on upon the works, from the ships, floating batteries, and from the top of Cop's-Hill in Boston. Such a great and incessant roar of artillery, would have been a trial to the firmness of old soldiers, and must undoubtedly have greatly impeded the completion of the works; it is however certain, that they bore this severe fire with wonderful firmness, and seemed to go on with their business as if no enemy had been near, nor danger in the service.

About noon, general Gage caused a considerable body of troops to be embarked under the command of major-general Howe, and brigadier-general Pigot, to drive the Americans from their works. This detachment consisted of ten companies of grenadiers, as many of light infantry, and the 5th, 38th, 43d, and 52d battalions, with proper artillery, who were landed and drawn up without opposition, under the fire of the ships of war. The two generals found the enemy so numerous, and in such a posture of defence, that they thought it necessary to send back for a reinforcement before they began the attack; they were accordingly joined by some companies of light infantry and grenadiers, by the 47th regiment, and by the first battalion of marines, amounting in the whole, as represented by general Gage's letter, to something more than two thousand men.

The attack was begun by a most severe fire of cannon and howitzers, under which the troops advanced very slowly towards the enemy, and halted several times, to afford an opportunity to the artillery to play on the works, and throw the Americans into confusion. Whatever it proceeded from, whether from the number, situation, or from all together, the king's forces seem to have been
unusually

unusually staggered in this attack. The Americans stood this severe and continual fire of small arms and artillery, with a resolution and perseverance, which would not have done discredit to old troops. They did not return a shot, until the king's forces had approached almost to the works, when a most dreadful fire took place, by which a number of the bravest men and officers fell. Some gentlemen, who had served in the most distinguished actions of the last war, declared, that for the time it lasted, it was the hottest engagement they ever knew. It is then no wonder, if under so heavy and destructive a fire, the British were thrown into disorder. It is said, that general Howe, was for a few seconds left nearly alone; and it is certain, that most of the officers near his person, were either killed or wounded. It is said, that in this critical moment, general Clinton, who arrived in Boston during the engagement, by a happy manœuvre rallied the troops almost instantaneously, and brought them again to the charge. They attacked the works with fixed bayonets, and forced them in every quarter. Though many of the Americans were destitute of bayonets, and, as they affirm, their ammunition was expended, a number of them fought desperately within the works, and were not driven from them without difficulty. They at length retreated over Charlestown neck, which was enfiladed by the guns of the Glasgow man of war, and of two floating batteries. They suffered but little loss from this formidable artillery, though the dread of it had prevented some regiments who were ordered to support them from fulfilling their duty.

Thus ended the hot and bloody affair of Bunker's-Hill, in which the British had more men and officers killed and wounded, in proportion to the numbers engaged, than in any other action which we can recollect. The battle of Quaker in the late war, with all its glory and the vastness of the consequences of which destructive, was not so destructive to the officers. The affair of an entrenchment cast up in a few hours, the loss of the Americans according to an account published

by the American Congress, was comparatively small, amounting to about four hundred and fifty killed, wounded, missing, and prisoners. The loss that was lamented most was that of Dr. Warren, who acting as a major-general, commanded the party upon this occasion, and was killed, fighting bravely at their head, in a little redoubt to the right of the lines. This gentleman, who was rendered conspicuous by his general merit, abilities, and eloquence, had been one of the delegates to the first Congress, and was at this time president of the Provincial Congress; but quitting the peaceable walk of his profession as a physician, and breaking through the endearing ties of family satisfactions, he shewed himself equally calculated for the field, and for public business or private study, and shed his blood gallantly in the service of his country.

ATTACK upon QUEBEC.

Philadelphia, January 25, 1776.

The last letters from Canada bring an account of an unsuccessful attempt made to gain possession of Quebec by storm, on the 31st of December last, between the hours of two and seven in the morning.

The general, finding his cannon too light to effect a breach, and that the enemy would not hearken to terms of capitulation, formed a design for carrying the town by escalade. In this he was encouraged by the extensiveness of the works, and the weakness of the garrison. When every thing was prepared, while he was waiting the opportunity of a snow storm, to carry his design into execution, several men deserted to the enemy. His plan at first was to have attacked the upper and lower town at the same time, depending principally for success against the upper town: But discovering, from the motions of the enemy, that they were apprized of his design, he altered his plan; and, having divided his little army into two detachments, ordered two feints to be made against the

G

the

the upper town, one by colonel Livingston, at the head of the Canadians, against St. John's Gate; the other by captain Brown, at the head of a small detachment, against Cape Diamond, reserving to himself and colonel Arnold, the two principal attacks against the lower town.

At five o'clock, the hour appointed for the attack, the general at the head of the New-York troops, advanced against the lower town at Aunee de Mere. Being obliged to take a circuit, the signal for the attack was given, and the garrison alarmed before he reached the place; however, pressing on, he passed the first barrier, and was just opening to attempt the second, when by the first fire from the enemy he was unfortunately killed, together with his aid de-camp, captain John M'Pherson, captain Cheeseman, and two or three more. This so dispirited the men, that colonel Campbell, on whom the command devolved, found himself under the disagreeable necessity of drawing them off.

In the mean while colonel Arnold, at the head of about three hundred and fifty of those brave troops (who with unparalleled fatigue had penetrated Canada under his command) and captain Lamb's artillery, had passed through St. Reques, and approached near a two gun battery without being discovered. This he attacked, and though it was well defended for about an hour, carried it with the loss of a number of men. In this attack colonel Arnold had the misfortune to have his leg splintered by a shot, and was obliged to be carried to the hospital. After gaining the battery, his detachment passed on to a second barrier, which they took possession of. By this time the enemy, relieved from the other attacks, by our troops being drawn off, directed their whole force against this detachment, and a party sallying out from Palace-Gate, attacked them in the rear.

These brave men sustained the force of the whole garrison for three hours, but finding themselves hemmed in and no hopes of relief, they were obliged to yield numbers, and the advantageous situation the enemy was in over them.

No regular return is yet come to hand, but, by the advices received, we learn that our loss in killed and wounded amounts to sixty, and three hundred taken prisoners, who are treated very humanely.

Among the slain, are captain Kendricks and lieutenant Humphries, of the riflemen, and lieutenant Cooper.

After this unfortunate repulse, the remainder of the army retired about three miles from the city, where they posted themselves advantageously, and are continuing the blockade, waiting for reinforcements, which are now on their way to join them.

Every possible mark of distinction was shewn to the corpse of general Montgomery, who was interred in Quebec, on the 2d of January.

BATTLE of LONG-ISLAND. *August 28, 1776.*

Yesterday's occurrences no doubt will be described to you various ways: I embrace this leisure moment to give as satisfactory an account as I am able. A large body of the enemy that landed some time since on Long Island, at the end of a beautiful plain, had extended their troops about six miles from the place of their first landing. There were at this time eleven regiments of our troops posted in different parts of the woods, between our lines and the enemy, through which they must pass if they attempted any thing against us. Early in the morning our scouting parties discovered a large body of the enemy, both horse and foot, advancing on the Jamaica road towards us: I was dispatched to general Putnam, to inform him of it. On my way back, I discovered as I thought, our battalion on a hill coming in, dressed in hunting shirts, and was going to join them, but was stopped by a number of our soldiers, who told me they were in our dress—on this I prevailed on a sergeant to order the men to halt and fire on them, which produced a great number of bullets, and we were obliged to retire.

In the mean time the enemy with a large body penetrated through the woods on our right and center or front, and about nine o'clock landed another body on their right, the whole stretching across the field and woods, between our works and our troops, and sending out parties, accompanied with light horse, which harassed or surrounded and surprised our new troops, who, however, sold their lives dear. Our forces then made towards our lines, but the enemy had taken possession of the ground before them by stolen marches. Our men broke through parties after parties, but still found the enemy's thousands before them. Colonel Smalwood's, Atlee's and Hazael's battalions, with general Sterling at their head, had collected on an eminence and made a good stand, but the enemy fired a field piece on them, and, being greatly superior in number, obliged them to retreat into a marsh; finding it out of their power to withstand about 6000 men, they waded through the mud and water to a mill opposite them; their retreat was covered by the second battalion, which had reached our lines.—Colonel Lutz's and the New England regiments after this made some resistance in the woods, but were obliged by superior numbers to retire.

Colonel Miles's and Brodhead's battalions, finding themselves surrounded, determined to fight and run; they did so, and broke through English, Hessians, and dispersed the horse, and at last came in with considerable loss. Colonel Parry was early in the day, shot through the head, encouraging his men. Eighty of our battalion came in this morning, having forced their way through the enemy's rear, and come round by the way of Hell Gate; we expect more, who are missing, will come in the same way.

BATTLE of TRENTON.

Head-Quarters, New-Town, December 26, 1776.

Sir,

I have the pleasure of congratulating you on the success of an enterprize, which I had formerly
de-

detachment of the enemy lying in Trenton, and which was executed the next morning. The evening of the 25th I ordered the troops intended for this purpose to parade back of M'Kenny's Ferry, that they might begin to pass as soon as it was dark; imagining that we should be able to throw them all over, with the necessary artillery, by twelve o'clock, that we might easily arrive in Trenton by five o'clock in the morning, the distance being about nine miles; but the quantity of ice made that night, impeded the passage of the boats so much, that it was three o'clock before the artillery could be got over, and near four when the troops took up the line of march. I formed my detachment into two divisions, one to march up the lower, or River Road, the other by the upper, or Pennington Road. As the divisions had nearly the same distance to march, I ordered each of them, immediately upon forcing the out-guards, to push directly into the town, that they might charge the enemy before they had time to form. The upper division arrived at the enemy's advanced post exactly at eight o'clock, and in three minutes after, I found from the fire in the lower road, that the other division had also got up. The out-guards made but a small opposition, though for their numbers they behaved very well, keeping up a constant retreating fire behind houses. We presently saw their main body formed, but from their motions they seemed undetermined how to act, being hard pressed by our troops, who had already got possession of half their artillery, they attempted to file off by a road on their right, leading to Princeton, but perceiving their intention I threw a body of troops in their way, which immediately checked them.

Finding by our disposition that they were surrounded, and must inevitably be cut to pieces if they made any further resistance, they agreed to lay down their arms. The number that submitted in this manner were twenty-three officers and eight hundred and eighty-six men. General Rohl, the commanding officer, and seven others, were wounded in the town. I do not exactly

G. 2

know.

know how many were killed, but I fancy about twenty or thirty, as they never made any regular stand. Our loss was very trifling indeed, only four officers and one or two privates wounded.

G. WASHINGTON.

BATTLE of PRINCETON. *January 2, 1777.*

We left Crolwick's the 1st instant, about two o'clock in the morning, and arrived at Trenton a little after sun-rise. About eleven o'clock we were alarmed by the approach of the enemy. We sent one brigade to amuse them, while we took post on the lower side of the creek and back in the woods. There was a smart cannonade till dark, when both sides ceased firing. The men were ordered to keep their posts and lie on their arms. A council of war was held, and it was determined to file off to the right, through the woods, leaving the enemy on the left; and attack Princeton by day-light. About five hundred men and two pieces of iron ordnance were left to amuse the enemy.

Our whole army, with a great train of artillery, marched about one o'clock. About seven hundred of the British troops were on their march to join the main body. On discovering our army, they returned to town and prepared to receive us. One division of their troops formed in front of a house on the south side of the college. General Mercer's brigade filed off to the right, and was attacked by the other division. The brigade did not fire till they had advanced within forty yards. The enemy received this brigade with charged bayonets, and general Mercer received a mortal wound. Our brigade advanced through the skirts of a wood in front of the enemy, posted on an eminence with two field pieces. General Green ordered the troops to form, as soon as they arrived, on a hill two or three hundred yards distant. Our column was formed from the right by divisions. About eighty infantry of the enemy were posted behind a fence about one hundred yards distant. Cap-
tain

tain Henry was dispatched, with about one hundred infantry, to flank that party; but the first discharge of our field pieces drove them up to the main body. The second division was immediately ordered to double up to the right, the third to the left, and so alternately; which was done in face of the enemy, and under a shower of grape shot. About half of the first battalion was formed, when they broke, fell back upon the column, and threw the whole into confusion. The officers exerted themselves to form a division; but they were unable. General Washington then ordered them to be formed about one hundred yards in the rear, which was done to some effect. A division then advanced to the enemy in face of a heavy fire. The enemy left their situation and inclined to the left. The American troops pressed forward, and the enemy gave way, dropped their packs, and fled with precipitation. They suffered a loss of about thirty killed, and three hundred prisoners.

BATTLE of BRANDYWINE.

Chester, September 11, 1777.

Sir,

I am sorry to inform you, that in this day's engagement we have been obliged to leave the enemy masters of the field. Unfortunately the intelligence received of the enemy's advancing up the Brandywine, and crossing the ford about six miles above us, was uncertain and contradictory, notwithstanding all my pains to get the best. This prevented my making a disposition adequate to the force with which the enemy attacked us on our right. In consequence of which, the troops first engaged were obliged to retire before they could be reinforced.

In the midst of the right, that body of the enemy which remained on the side of Chad's-ford, crossed it, and attacked the division there, under the command of general Wayne, and the light troops under general Maxwell, who, after a severe conflict, also retired. The militia, under general Armstrong, being posted at a ford, about

about two miles below Chad's-ford, had no opportunity of engaging ; but we fought under many disadvantages, and were, from the causes above-mentioned, obliged to retire ; yet our loss of men is, I am persuaded, very considerable, but I believe much less than the enemy ; we have also lost eight pieces of cannon, according to the best information I can obtain ; the baggage having been previously moved off, is all saved, except the men's blankets, which being at their backs, many of them doubtless were lost. I have directed all the troops to assemble behind Chester, where they are now arranging for this night. Notwithstanding the misfortune of the day, I am happy to find the troops in good spirits, and I hope another time we shall compensate for the loss we have sustained. The marquis la Fayette is wounded in the leg, and general Woodford in the hand. Divers other officers are wounded, and some slain ; but the number of either, cannot now be ascertained.

I have the honor to be, &c.

G. WASHINGTON.

Boston, October 2.

Extract of a letter from a gentleman of distinction in Philadelphia, to his friends in this town, dated Sep. 15, 1777.

Dear Sir,

In my last I wrote you, that we were every moment in expectation of engaging the enemy. They advanced by slow degrees up the river Branlywine, with an evident intention of crossing one of the fords. Our army of course moved on the other side of the river to prevent it. But as there were three fords within the compass of ten miles, we were obliged to divide our army, to guard each pass ; the greatest probability was, that they would cross the middle one, called Chad's ; accordingly our greatest force was posted there, and general Maxwell, with about the

method

thousand light troops, was sent across to take possession of the opposite height. In the night of the 10th instant, they threw up a slight breast work of limbs of trees. The next morning, about eight o'clock, the enemy appeared in sight, and moved on a party to dispossess general Maxwell, and at a little distance opened upon our people a heavy cannonade with eight pieces of cannon, which was returned by our artillery, with good effect. General Maxwell drove back the party which was sent against him with great loss; they were reinforced a second time, and came on, but were again repulsed, and followed some distance by the general's party. But as they could not carry their scheme into execution while our light troops remained on the other side the river, they were determined, at all events, to oblige them to retire; accordingly they sent a very strong party round a piece of woods, in order to come upon his flank, while the other attacked him in front. The general perceived this movement, and retreated across, where he joined the main body, with the trifling loss of three killed, and eight or nine wounded. A very intelligent fellow, who was in the action, told me, that when they pursued the enemy, he was confident he saw near five hundred lying on the field; but the general, who is very modest in his account of the matter, imagines that there were at least three hundred killed and wounded. I was with the main body on this side the river, and had the pleasure to see the British troops run. The distance from us was not more than a quarter of a mile.

The enemy still kept to their cannonade, and some of their troops paraded on the heights, and appeared as if they intended to attempt Chad's-ford, but their main body filed off to the left, and crossing the upper ford, marched on to Brimingham meeting-house, near which our right wing was posted. Unfortunately the accounts our general received of this movement, were various and contradictory, which prevented a sufficient force being sent on to sustain the attack in that quarter. Lord Stirling's and another officer's divisions, were there, and general Sullivan

van was sent on to reinforce, but unhappily his division took rather too large a circuit, and rising a hill, were attacked by the whole force of the enemy, before they had time to form. This sudden and unexpected attack threw them into confusion, and they retreated with the utmost precipitation.

The other divisions were also obliged to retreat, after maintaining a very warm conflict for some time, and were closely pursued by the enemy, who took advantage of their retreat, till they fell in with general Green's division, and the one that was Lincoln's, but now commanded by general Wayne. Here a most terrible and bloody battle took place, which was maintained with the greatest bravery and intrepidity for upwards of half an hour, when our people were obliged to quit the field, and the day closing prevented any further pursuit. We lost in this action nine pieces of cannon, a number of officers and men, but none of higher rank than major Bush, of colonel Hartley's regiment, who was killed.

In the evening the general retreated to Chester, in order to collect his troops, and to permit them to take some refreshment, having had no food the whole day, and little or no sleep for forty eight hours before.

I forgot to mention, that at the time they attacked us on the right, the party which possessed the heights opposite Chad's ford, attempted to pass it, but were attacked by general Maxwell, who again obliged them to retreat, with the loss of thirty men, among whom was a captain Campbell, out of whose pocket was taken the orders of the 10th instant, and some other important papers.

BATTLE of MONMOUTH. *June 28, 1778.*

GENERAL WASHINGTON's *Letter to CONGRESS.*

About five in the morning, general Dickenson sent an express informing that the front of the enemy had begun their march. I instantly put the army in motion, and sent orders to general Lee, to move on and attack them.

unless there should be very powerful reasons to the contrary; acquainting him at the same time, that I was marching to support him, and, for doing it with the greatest expedition and convenience, should make the men disincumber themselves, of their packs and blankets.

After marching about five miles, to my great surprise, and mortification, I met the whole advanced corps retreating, and, as I was told, by general Lee's orders; without having made any opposition, except one fire given by the party under the command of colonel Butler, on their being charged by the enemy's cavalry, who were repulsed. I proceeded immediately to the rear of the corps, which I found closely pressed by the enemy, and gave directions for forming part of the retreating troops, who, by the brave and spirited conduct of the officers, aided by some pieces of well served artillery, checked the enemy's advance, and gave time to make a disposition of the left wing and second line of the army upon an eminence, and in a wood a little in the rear, covered by a morass in front. On this were placed some batteries of cannon, by lord Stirling, who commanded the left wing, which played upon the enemy with great effect, and seconded by parties of infantry, detached to oppose them, effectually put a stop to their advance.

General Lee being detached with the advanced corps, the command of the right wing, for the occasion, was given to general Greene. For the expedition of the march and to counteract an attempt to turn our right, I had ordered him to file off by the new church, two miles from Englishtown, and fall into the Monmouth road, a small distance in the rear of the court house, whilst the rest of the column moved directly on towards the court house. On intelligence of the retreat he marched up and took a very advantageous position on the right.

The enemy by this time, finding themselves warmly opposed in front, made an attempt to turn our left flank, but they were bravely repulsed and driven back, by detached parties of infantry. They also made a movement to our right, with as little success; general Greene having

ing

ing advanced a body of troops, with artillery, to a commanding piece of ground, which not only disappointed their design of turning our right, but severely enfiladed those in front of the first wing. In addition to this, general Wayne advanced with a body of troops, and kept so severe and well directed a fire, that the enemy were soon compelled to retire behind the defile, where the first stand in the beginning of the action had been made.

In this situation, the enemy had both their flanks secured by thick woods and morasses, while their front could only be approached, through a narrow pass. I resolved, nevertheless, to attack them, and for that purpose ordered general Poor, with his own and the Carolina brigade, to move round upon their right, and general Woodford upon their left, and the artillery to gall them in front; but the impediment in their way, prevented their getting within reach, before it was dark; they remained upon the ground they had been directed to occupy during the night, with intention to begin the attack early the next morning, and the army continued lying upon their arms in the field of action, to be in readiness to support them. In the mean time the enemy were employed in removing their wounded, and about twelve o'clock at night, marched away in such silence, that though general Poor lay extremely near them, they effected their retreat without his knowledge. The extreme heat of the weather, the fatigue of the men, from their march through a deep sandy country, almost entirely destitute of water, and the distance the enemy had gained by marching in the night, made a pursuit impracticable and fruitless.

ACCOUNT of the ATTACK at STONEY POINT.

Stoney-Point, July 17, 1779.

Sir,

I have the honor of giving you a full and particular relation of the reduction of this Point, by the light infantry under my command.

On the ~~fourth~~ instant, at twelve o'clock, we took up our line of march from Sandy-beach, distant fourteen miles from this place; the roads being exceedingly bad and narrow, and having to pass over high mountains, through deep morasses, and difficult defiles, we were obliged to move in single files the greatest part of the way. At eight o'clock in the evening; the van arrived at Mr. Springsteel's, within one mile and a half of the enemy, and formed into columns as fast as they came up, agreeable to the order of battle; Colonels Febiger's and Meig's regiments, with major Hull's detachment, formed the right column; colonel Butler's regiment, and major Murfree's two companies, the left. The troops remained in this position until several of the principal officers with myself, had returned from reconnoitering the works. Half after eleven o'clock, being the hour fixed on, the whole moved forward; the van of the right consisted of one hundred and fifty volunteers, properly officered, who advanced with unloaded muskets and fixed bayonets, under the command of lieutenant colonel Fleury; these were preceded by twenty picked men, and a vigilant and brave officer, to remove the abbatis and other obstructions. The van of the left consisted of one hundred volunteers, under the command of major Stewart, with unloaded muskets and fixed bayonets, also preceded by a brave and determined officer, with twenty men, for the same purpose as the other.

At twelve o'clock the assault was to begin on the right and left flanks of the enemy's works, whilst major Murfree amused them in front; but a deep morass covering their whole front, at this time over flowed by the tide, together with other obstructions, rendered the approaches more difficult, than was at first apprehended, so that it was about twenty minutes after twelve before the assault began, previous to which I placed myself at the head of Febiger's regiment or right column, and gave the troops the most pointed orders not to fire on any account, but place their whole dependence on the bayonet, which order was literally and faithfully obeyed. Neither the

deep morals, the formidable and double rows of abatis, or the strong works in front and flank, could damp the ardor of the troops, who in face of a most tremendous and incessant fire of musketry, and from cannon loaded with grape-shot, forced their way, at the point of the bayonet, through every obstacle, both columns meeting in the center of the enemy's works nearly at the same instant.

Your Excellency's most obedient humble servant,

ANTHONY WAYNE.

President of Congress.

ATTACK on SULLIVAN'S-ISLAND. July 28th, 1776.

On Friday about eleven o'clock, the Commodore (Sir Peter Parker) with his whole squadron, consisting of two line of battle ships and six frigates, anchored at less than musquet shot from the fort, and commenced one of the most furious and incessant fires I ever saw or heard. It was manifestly their plan to land, at the same time, the whole of the regulars at the east end of the island, and of course invest the fort by land and sea. As the garrison was composed entirely of raw troops, both officers and men, I thought it my duty to cross over to the island to encourage the garrison by my presence. But I might have saved myself that trouble, for I found on my arrival they had no occasion for any sort of encouragement. I found them determined and cool to the last degree: their behavior would in fact, have done honor to the oldest troops.

I therefore beg leave to recommend in the strongest terms to the Congress, the commanding officer, colonel Moultrie, and his whole garrison, as brave soldiers and excellent citizens. Nor must I omit at the same time mentioning colonel Thompson, who with the South-Carolina rangers, and a detachment of the North-Carolina regulars, repulsed the enemy in two several attempts to make a lodgement at the extremity of the island.

Our loss, considering the heat and duration of the ~~the~~ war

was inconsiderable. We had only ten men killed, seven of whom lost their limbs; but with their limbs they did not lose their spirits; for they enthusiastically encouraged their comrades never to abandon the standard of liberty and their country. This I assure you is not in the stile of gasconading romance, usual after every successful action, but literally a fact. I with great pleasure mention the circumstance, as it augurs well to the cause of freedom. At eleven the fire ceased, having continued just twelve hours without the least intermission.

The foregoing extract of a letter from general Lee, is published by order of Congress.

JOHN HANCOCK, President.

New-York, July 20.

Our victory at Charleston was thus given out in general Washington's orders. The general has great pleasure in communicating to the officers and soldiers of this army, the signal success of the American arms under general Lee at South-Carolina; the enemy having attempted to land at the same time that a most furious cannonade for twelve hours was made upon the fortification near Charleston; both fleet and army have been repulsed with a great loss, by a small number of gallant troops just raised. The enemy had one hundred twenty-seven men killed and wounded, among whom were several officers; two capital ships much damaged, one frigate of 28 guns entirely lost, being abandoned and blown up by the crew; and others so hurt that they will want great repairs before they will be fit for service; and with the loss on our side of ten killed and twenty-two wounded. The firmness, courage and bravery of our troops, have crowned them with immortal honor. The dying heroes conjured their brethren never to abandon the standard of liberty; even those who had lost their limbs continued at their posts. Their gallantry and spirit extorted applause from their enemies, who, dejected and defeated, have returned to their former station, out of the reach of our troops.

ATTACK.

ATTACK upon SAVANNA. *October 9th, 1779.*

After the conquest of Grenada, count D'Estaing, with the fleet under his command, left the West-Indies and sailed for the continent. As soon as general Lincoln was informed of his arrival on the coast, he ordered his troops to march for Savannah, and collected the militia of South-Carolina and Georgia. A body of French troops was landed to co-operate with the Americans in subduing the town. The town was summoned to surrender, but general Prevost, the British commander, refused to comply, and made every exertion to defend it to the last extremity. He solicited leave for the women and children to depart from the town; but upon a supposition that this was a stratagem to secure their plunder; or, under an expectation that the helpless women and children being in town would expedite a surrender, the request was refused.

The surrender of Savanna by regular approaches must have been slow—the season was far advanced—the French fleet was exposed, upon a dangerous coast, in a tempestuous season—these, with other considerations, prevailed upon general Lincoln and count D'Estaing to risk an assault.

The troops marched, with great intrepidity, to attack the British lines; but a heavy and well-directed fire from the batteries, and a cross fire from the galleys, did much execution, and threw the front of the column into confusion. Two standards were however planted on the British redoubts. Count Pulaski, at the head two hundred horsemen, riding into the town, full speed, with an intention of charging the enemy in the rear, received a mortal wound. The assailants stood the enemy's fire fifty-five minutes, and retreated. Count D'Estaing received two wounds, and both the French and American troops suffered considerable loss. The damage sustained by the British was trifling, as they fired under cover, and few of the assailants fired at all.

BATTLE of CAMDEN. *August 20th, 1780.*

On the fifteenth general Stevens, with a brigade of Virginia militia, joined general Gates. The whole of the American army now amounted to three thousand six hundred and sixty-three, of which about nine hundred were continental infantry, and seventy cavalry.

The arrival of this force being quite unexpected, lord Cornwallis, busily employed in forming regulations for the interior police of the country, was distant from the scene of action. No sooner was he informed of the approach of general Gates, than he prepared to join his army at Camden. He arrived, and superseded lord Rawdon in command on the fourteenth. His inferior force, consisting of about seventeen hundred infantry and three hundred cavalry, would have justified a retreat; but, considering that no probable event of an action could be more injurious to the royal interest than that measure, he chose to stake his fortune in the field in a contest with the conqueror of Burgoyne. On the night of the fifteenth he marched out with his whole force to attack the American army; and at the same hour general Gates put his army in motion, with a determination to take an eligible position between Sander's Creek and Green-Swamp, about eight miles from Camden. The advanced parties of both armies met about mid-night, and a firing commenced. In the skirmish of the night colonel Portfield, a very gallant officer of the state of Virginia, received a mortal wound. After some time both parties retreated to their main bodies, and the whole lay on their arms. In the morning a severe and general engagement took place. As soon as the British appeared about two hundred yards in front of the North-Carolina troops, the artillery was ordered to fire, and brigadier general Stevens, to attack the column which was displayed to the right. That gallant officer advanced with his brigade of militia in excellent order within fifty paces of the enemy, who were also advancing, and then called out to his men,

" my brave fellows, you have bayonets as well as they,
 " we'll charge them." At that moment the British in-
 fantry charged with a cheer, and the Virginians, throw-
 ing down their arms, retreated with the utmost precipi-
 tation. The militia of North-Carolina followed the
 unworthy example, except a few of general Gregory's
 brigade, who paused a very little longer. A part of co-
 lonel Dixon's regiment fired two or three rounds, but the
 greater part of the militia fled without firing a single shot.
 This precipitate flight was perhaps occasioned by the fol-
 lowing causes: the troops being badly supplied, had for
 some time subsisted on fruit scarcely ripe, without any
 regular rations of flesh, flour or spirituous liquors.
 The unexpected meeting of the enemy, their lying
 for some hours on their arms, with the apprehension
 of immediate danger, and the horrors of the night, o-
 perating on militia who had never been in action, and
 whose strength and spirits were depressed by their pre-
 ceeding low regimen, occasioned so general a panic a-
 mong the raw troops, that they could not stand before
 bayonets. The whole left wing and center being gone,
 the continentals who formed the right wing, and the
 corps of reserve, engaged about the same time, and gave
 the British an unexpected check. The second brigade,
 consisting of Maryland and Delaware troops, gained
 ground, and had taken no less than fifty prisoners. The
 first brigade being considerably out flanked, were obliged
 to retire; but they rallied again, and with great spirit
 renewed the fight. This expedient was repeated two or
 three times. The British directed their whole force a-
 gainst these two devoted corps, and a tremendous fire of
 musketry was continued on both sides, with great perse-
 verance and obstinacy. At length lord Cornwallis, ob-
 serving that there was no cavalry opposed to him, pour-
 ed in his dragoons and ended the contest. Never did
 men behave better than the continentals in the whole of
 this action; but all attempts to rally the militia were in-
 effectual. Lieutenant-colonel Tarleton's legion charged
 them as they broke, and pursued them as they were flee-
 ing

ing. Without having it in their power to defend themselves, they fell in great numbers under the legionary sabres.

Major-general Baron De-Kalb, an illustrious German, in the service of France, who had generously engaged in the support of the American independence, and who exerted himself with great bravery to prevent the defeat of the day, received eleven wounds, of which, though he received the most particular assistance from the British, he in a short time expired. Congress, sensible of his exalted merit, ordered a monument to be erected in Annapolis to his memory. Lieutenant-colonel Du-Buysson, aide-de-camp to Baron De-Kalb, embraced his wounded general, announced his rank and nation to the surrounding foe, and begged that they would spare his life. While he generously exposed himself to save his friend, he received sundry dangerous wounds, and was taken prisoner. Brigadier-general Rutherford, a valuable officer, of the most extensive influence over the North-Carolina militia, surrendered to a party of the British legion, one of whom, after his submission, cut him in several places. Of the South-Carolina line, that brave and distinguished officer, major Thomas Pinckney, acting as aid-de-camp to major-general Gates, had his leg shattered by a musket-ball, and fell into the hands of the conquerors.

The Americans lost eight field-pieces, the whole of their artillery, upwards of two hundred waggons, and the greatest part of their baggage. The loss of the British, in killed and wounded, was about three hundred. The royal army fought with great bravery; but their success was in a great measure owing to the precipitate flight of the militia, and the superiority of their cavalry.

TARLETON'S DEFEAT. *January 17th, 1781.*

These successes, the appearance of an American army, a sincere attachment to the cause of independence, and the impolitic conduct of the British, induced several persons to resume their arms, and to act in concert with
the

the detachment of continentals. Lord Cornwallis wished to drive general Morgan from his station, and to deter the inhabitants from joining him. Lieutenant-colonel Tarleton, at the head of a thousand regulars, was ordered to execute this business. The British had two field-pieces, and the superiority of numbers in the proportion of five to four, and particularly of cavalry, in the proportion of three to one. Besides this inequality of force, two thirds of the troops under general Morgan were militia. With these fair prospects of success lieutenant-colonel Tarleton, on the seventeenth of January 1781, engaged general Morgan, with the expectation of driving him out of the country. General Morgan had obtained early intelligence of Tarleton's force and advances, and drew up his men in two lines. The whole of the southern militia, with one hundred and ninety from North-Carolina, under major M'Dowel, were put under the command of colonel Pickens. These formed the first line, and were advanced a few hundred yards before the second, with orders to form on the right of the second when forced to retire. The second line consisted of the light-infantry, under lieutenant-colonel Howard, and a small corps of Virginia militia riflemen. Lieutenant colonel WASHINGTON, with his cavalry, and about forty-five militiamen mounted and equipped with swords, under lieutenant-colonel M'Call, were drawn up at some distance in the rear of the whole. The Americans were formed before the British appeared in sight. Lieutenant-colonel Tarleton halted and formed his men, when at the distance of about two hundred and fifty yards from the front line of general Morgan's detachment. As soon as the British had formed they began to advance with a shout, and poured in an incessant fire of musketry. Colonel Pickens directed the militia under his command not to fire till the British were within forty or fifty yards. This order, though executed with great firmness and success, was not sufficient to repel the advancing foe. The American militia were obliged to retire, but were soon rallied by their officers. The British advanced rapidly

rapidly and engaged the second line, which, after a most obstinate conflict, was compelled to retreat to the cavalry. In this crisis of the battle lieutenant-colonel Washington made a successful charge upon lieutenant colonel Tarleton, who was cutting down the militia. Lieutenant colonel Howard, almost at the same moment, rallied the continental troops, and charged with fixed bayonets. The example was instantly followed by the militia. Nothing could exceed the astonishment and confusion of the British, occasioned by these unexpected charges. Their advance fell back upon their rear, and communicated a panic to the whole. In this moment of confusion lieutenant-colonel Howard called to them "to lay down their arms," and promised them good quarters. Upwards of five hundred accepted the offer and surrendered. The first battalion of the seventy first regiment, and two British light infantry companies laid down their arms to the American militia. Previous to this general surrender, three hundred of the corps, commanded by lieutenant-colonel Tarleton, had been killed, wounded or taken. Eight hundred stand of arms, two field-pieces, and thirty-five baggage-waggons, also fell into the hands of the Americans. Lieutenant-colonel Washington pursued the British cavalry for several miles, but a great part of them escaped. The Americans had only twelve men killed, and sixty wounded. General Morgan, whose abilities were discovered by the judicious disposition of his force, and whose activity was conspicuous through every part of the action, obtained the universal applause of his countrymen. And there never was a commander better supported than he was by the officers and men of his detachment. The glory and importance of this action resounded from one end of the continent to the other. It re-animated the desponding friends of America, and seemed to be like a resurrection from the dead, to the southern states.

BATTLE of GUILFORD, March 16th, 1781.*Extract of a Letter from GENERAL GREENE.*

Sir,

On the morning of the fifteenth, our reconnoitering parties reported the enemy advancing on the great Salisbury road. The army was drawn up in three lines.

The greater part of this country is a wilderness, with a few cleared fields interspersed here and there. The army was drawn up upon a large hill of ground, surrounded by other hills, the greatest part of which was covered with timber and thick underbrush. The front line was posted with two field pieces, just on the edge of the woods, and the back of a fence, which ran parallel with the line, with an open field directly in their front. The second line was in the woods, about three hundred yards in the rear of the first, and the continental troops about three hundred yards in the rear of the second, with a double front, as the hill drew to a point where they were posted, and on the right and left were two old fields. In this position we waited the approach of the enemy, having previously sent off the baggage to this place, appointed to rendezvous at, in case of a defeat.

The action commenced by a cannonade which lasted about twenty minutes, when the enemy advanced in three columns. The whole moved through the old fields to attack the North Carolina brigades, who waited the attack until the enemy got within about one hundred and forty yards, when part of them began a fire, but a considerable part left the ground without firing at all. The general and field officers did all they could to induce the men to stand their ground; but neither the advantages of the position, nor any other consideration could induce them to stay. General Stevens and general Lawton, and the field officers, of their brigades were more successful in their exertions. The Virginia militia gave the enemy a warm reception, and kept up a heavy fire

for a long time; but being beat back, the action became general almost every where. The corps of observation under Washington and Lee were warmly engaged, and did great execution. In a word, the conflict was long and severe, and the enemy only gained their point by superior discipline.

They having broken the second Maryland regiment, and turned our left flank, and got into the rear of the Virginia brigade, and appearing to be gaining our right, which would have encircled the whole of the continental troops, I thought it most adviseable to order a retreat. We retreated in good order to the Reedy Fork river, and crossed at the ford, about three miles from the field of action, where we halted and drew up the troops, until we collected most of our stragglers. We lost our artillery and two ammunition waggons, the greatest part of the horses being killed before the retreat began, and it being impossible to move the pieces but along the great road. After collecting our stragglers, we retired to this camp, ten miles distant from Guilford.

The firmness of the officers and soldiers, during the whole campaign, has been almost unparalleled. Amidst innumerable difficulties, they have discovered a degree of magnanimity and fortitude that will forever add a lustre to their military reputation.

NATHANIEL GREENE.

BATTLE of the EUTAW SPRINGS.

September 11th, 1781.

In my dispatch of the 15th of August I informed your Excellency that we were on our march for Friday's Ferry to form a junction with the state troops, and a body of militia collecting at that place, with an intention to make an attack upon the British army lying at colonel Thompson's, near M'Cord's ferry. On the 27th, on our arrival near Friday's Ferry, I got intelligence that the enemy were retiring.

We

We crossed the river at Howel's ferry, and took post at Motte's plantation. Here I got intelligence that the enemy had halted at the Eutaw Springs, about forty miles below us; and that they had a reinforcement, and were making preparations to establish a permanent post there. To prevent this I was determined rather to hazard an action, notwithstanding our numbers were greatly inferior to their's. On the 5th we began our march, our baggage and stores having been ordered to Howel's ferry, under a proper guard. We moved by slow and easy marches, as well to disguise our real intention, as to give general Marion an opportunity to join us, who had been sent for the support of colonel Harding, a report of which I transmitted in my letter of the 5th, dated at Maybrick's Creek. General Marion joined us on the evening of the 7th, at Curdell's plantation, seven miles from the enemy's camp.

The legion and state troops formed our advance, and were to retire upon the flanks upon the enemy's forming. In this order we moved on to the attack, the legion and state troops fell in with a party of the enemy's horse and foot about four miles from their camp, who mistaking our people for a party of militia, charged them briskly, but were soon convinced of their mistake by the reception they met with; the infantry of the state troops kept up a heavy fire, and the legion in front under captain Rudolph charged them with fixed bayonets, they fled on all sides, leaving four or five dead on the ground, and several more wounded. As this was supposed to be the advance of the British army, our front line was ordered to form and move on briskly in line, the legion and state troops to take their position upon the flanks. All the country is covered with timber from the place the action began to the Eutaw Springs. The firing began again between two and three miles from the the British camp. The militia were ordered to keep advancing as they fired. The enemy's advanced parties were driven in, and a most tremendous fire began on both sides from right to left, and the legion and state troops were closely engaged

gaged. They kept up a heavy and well directed fire, and the enemy returned it with equal spirit, for they really fought worthy of a better cause, and great execution was done on both sides.

In this stage of the action the Virginians under lieutenant colonel Campbell, and the Maryland troops under colonel Williams, were led on to a brisk charge with trailed arms, through a heavy cannonade, and a shower of musquet balls. Nothing could exceed the gallantry and firmness of both officers and soldiers upon this occasion. They preserved their order, and pressed on with such unshaken resolution, that they bore down all before them. The enemy were routed in all quarters.

A party threw themselves into a large three story brick house, that stands near the Springs, others took post in a picquetted garden, while others were lodged in an impenetrable thicket, consisting of a cragged shrub called a Black Jack. Thus secured in front and upon the right by the house and a deep ravine, upon the left by the picquetted garden, and in the impenetrable shrubs, and the rear also being secured by the springs and deep hollow ways, the enemy renewed the action. Every exertion was made to dislodge them. Lieutenant colonel Washington made most astonishing efforts to get through the thicket to charge the enemy in rear, but found it impracticable, and had his horse shot under him, and was wounded and taken prisoner. Colonel Washington failing in his charge upon the left, and the legion baffled in an attempt upon the right, and finding our infantry galled by the fire of the enemy, and our ammunition mostly consumed, though both officers and men continued to exhibit uncommon acts of heroism, I thought proper to retire out of the fire of the house, and draw up the troops at a little distance in the woods, not thinking it adviseable to push our advantages further, being persuaded the enemy could not hold the post many hours, and that our chance to attack them on the retreat was better than a second attempt to dislodge them, in which, if we succeeded, it must be attended with considerable loss.

*The CAPTURE of LORD CORNWALLIS.**October 19, 1781.*

Lord Cornwallis conceived himself bound by instructions from Sir Henry Clinton, to defend the posts of York and Gloucester. In obedience to these orders, and in expectation of succour from New-York, he prepared for a siege, by intrenching his army on both sides of York river. The militia of the state of Virginia were called out to service, and were commanded by governor Nelson. The French and American troops marched forward with such expedition, that, on the last day of September, they closely invested lord Cornwallis in York-Town; the French extending from the river above the town to a morass in the centre, where they were met by the Americans who occupied the opposite side, from the river to that spot. The post at Gloucester Point, was at the same time invested by the duke de Lauzun with his legion, and a number of Virginia militia commanded by general Weedon; but the operations on that side was little more than a warm skirmish, in which the duke de Lauzun compelled lieutenant-colonel Tarleton to retire.

The trenches were opened by the combined armies, on the night of the sixth of October, and their attacks were carried on with great vigor. The shells from the besiegers reached the ships in the harbor, and the Charon, of forty-four guns, with some of the transports, were burned. On the night of the eleventh of October, they began their second parallel, at the distance of three hundred yard from the works of the besieged.

Lord Cornwallis was soon convinced, that the post which he occupied was incapable of resisting the force opposed to it; but, in the confident expectation of aid from New-York, he declined attempting a retreat, or hazarding an engagement in the open field. His hopes were farther confirmed by a letter from Sir Henry Clinton, by which he was informed that relief would fail.

about the fifth of October. But it so happened, that the delays which necessarily occurred in equipping and refitting the fleet, destined for York-Town, made the fulfilment of this engagement impossible.

Two redoubts, which were advanced about three hundred yards on the left of the British, greatly impeded the progress of the combined armies. An attack on these was therefore resolved upon. To excite a spirit of emulation, the reduction of one was committed to the French—of the other to the Americans. The latter marched to the assault with unloaded arms, passed the abbatis and palisades, and, attacking on all sides, carried the redoubt in a few minutes. Lieutenant-colonel Laurens, on this occasion, personally took the commanding officer of the redoubt, but saved him from the fate which usually attends those who are taken by storm. Colonel Hamilton, who conducted this successful enterprise with so much address and intrepidity, and who is no less distinguished for literary than for military talents, in his report of the transaction to the marquis de la Fayette, mentioned, to the honor of his detachment, “that incapable of imitating examples of barbarity, and forgetting recent provocations, they spared every man that ceased to resist.”

The French were equally successful on their side. They carried the redoubt committed to them with rapidity, but lost a considerable number of men. These two works, which had heretofore embarrassed the operations of the besiegers, by being included in the second parallel, were made subservient to their ulterior designs.

The inferior numbers of the garrison made it improper for lord Cornwallis to risk any considerable force in the making of sallies, and the besiegers had proceeded with so much regularity and caution, that nothing less than a strong attack could make any impression. On the morning of the sixteenth, lieutenant colonel Abercrombie was ordered to make a sortie, with about three hundred and fifty men. They succeeded so far as to force two advanced redoubts, and to spike eleven pieces of cannon, besides

besides killing and wounding a considerable number of the French troops. Though the officers and soldiers displayed great bravery in this enterprise, yet their success produced no essential advantage. The cannon, which had been hastily spiked, were soon again rendered fit for service. By this time the works of the besieged were so far destroyed, that they could scarcely shew a single gun.

Lord Cornwallis had now no choice left but either to prepare for a surrender, or to make his escape. He determined to attempt the latter, hoping that at least it might retard the fate of his army. Boats were prepared under different pretexts, but with the intention of receiving the troops at ten at night, in order to pass them over to Gloucester Point, from whence a passage to the open country was not altogether hopeless. In the execution of this design, the first embarkation had arrived at Gloucester Point, and a part of the troops were landed, when the weather, which was then moderate and calm, instantly changed to a most violent storm of wind and rain. The boats were all driven down the river, which not only frustrated the original scheme, but made it impossible to bring back the boats from Gloucester. The royal army, thus weakened and divided, was exposed to increased danger till the next day, when the boats returned and the troops were brought back.

By this time the works of the besieged were so broken, that they were assailable in many places, and the troops were exhausted by constant watching and unceasing fatigue. The time in which relief from New-York was promised had elapsed. Longer resistance could answer no purpose, and might occasion the loss of many valuable lives. Lord Cornwallis therefore, on the seventeenth, wrote a letter to general Washington, requesting a cessation of arms for twenty four hours, and that commissioners might be appointed for terms of capitulation. It is remarkable, while lieutenant-colonel Laurens, the officer employed by general Washington on this occasion, was drawing up articles by which a numerous British army became prisoners, that his father was closely confined in the tower of London.

The posts of York and Gloucester were surrendered on the nineteenth of October. The honor of marching out with colours flying, which had been denied to general Lincoln, on his giving up Charleston, was now refused to earl Cornwallis, and general Lincoln was appointed to receive the submission of the royal army at York-Town, precisely in the same way his own had been conducted about eighteen months before. The troops of every kind surrendered prisoners of war exceeded seven thousand men, but the effective men at that time was very little more than half that number. The officers and soldiers retained their baggage and effects, but all visible plundered property was liable to be reclaimed.

Lord Cornwallis endeavored to obtain permission for the British and German troops to return to their respective countries, under engagements not to serve against France or America; and also an indemnity for those of the inhabitants who had joined him; but he was obliged to consent, that the former should be retained in the governments of Virginia, Pennsylvania and Maryland; and that the latter, whose case lay with the civil authority of the states, should be given up to the unconditional mercy of their countrymen. His lordship, nevertheless, obtained permission for the Bonetta sloop of war to pass unexamined, which gave an opportunity of screening those of the loyalists who were most obnoxious to the resentment of the Americans.

The land-forces became prisoners to Congress, but the seamen and ships were assigned to the French admiral.

*General WASHINGTON's farewell Orders to the Army
of the United States.*

Rocky Hill, near Princeton, November 2, 1783.

THE United States in Congress assembled, after giving the most honorable testimony to the merits of
the

the federal armies, and presenting them with the thanks their country, for their long, eminent and faithful services,—having thought proper, by their proclamation—bearing date the 18th of October last, to discharge such part of the troops as were engaged for the war, and to permit the officers on furlough to retire from service, from and after to-morrow, which proclamation hath been communicated in the public papers, for the information and government of all concerned,—it only remains for the Commander in Chief to address himself once more, and that for the last time, to the armies of the United States (however widely dispersed the individuals who compose them may be) and to bid them an affectionate, —a long farewell.

But before the Commander in Chief takes his final leave of those he holds most dear, he wishes to indulge himself a few moments in calling to mind a slight review of the past,—he will then take the liberty of exploring, with his military friends, their future prospects—of advising the general line of conduct, which, in his opinion, ought to be pursued;—and he will conclude the address, by expressing the obligations he feels himself under for the spirited and able assistance he has experienced from them, in the performance of an arduous office.

A contemplation of the compleat attainment (at a period earlier than could have been expected) of the object for which we contended, against so formidable a power, cannot but inspire us with astonishment and gratitude.—The disadvantageous circumstances on our part, under which the war was undertaken, can never be forgotten.—The singular interpositions of Providence in our feeble condition, were such as could scarcely escape the attention of the most unoblivious.—while the unparalleled perseverance of the armies of the United States, through almost every possible suffering and discouragement, for the space of eight long years, was little short of a standing miracle.

It is not the meaning, nor within the compass of this address, to detail the hardships peculiarly incident to our service,

service, or to describe the distresses, which in several instances have resulted from the extremes of hunger and nakedness, combined with the rigors of an inclement season;—nor is it necessary to dwell on the dark side of our past affairs.—Every American officer and soldier must now console himself for any unpleasant circumstances which may have occurred, by a recollection of the uncommon scenes in which he has been called to act no inglorious a part, and the astonishing events of which he has been a witness;—events which have seldom, if ever before, taken place in the stage of human action, nor can they probably ever happen again. For who has before seen a disciplined army formed at once from such raw materials? Who that was not a witness could imagine, that the most violent local prejudices could cease so soon, and that men who came from the different parts of the continent, strongly disposed by the habits of education, to despise and quarrel with each other, would instantly become but one patriotic band of brothers? or who that was not on the spot can trace the steps, by which such a wonderful revolution has been effected, and such a glorious period put to all our warlike toils?

It is universally acknowledged that the enlarged prospects of happiness, opened by the confirmation of our independence and sovereignty, almost exceeds the power of description: And shall not the brave men who have contributed so essentially to these inestimable acquisitions, retiring victorious from the field of war to the field of agriculture, participate in all the blessings which have been obtained? In such a republic, who will exclude them from the rights of citizens, and the fruits of their labours? In such a country, so happily circumstanced, the pursuits of commerce, and the cultivation of the soil, will untold to industry the certain road to competence.—To those hardy soldiers, who are actuated by the spirit of adventure, the fisheries will afford ample and profitable employment; and the extensive and fertile regions of the west will yield a most happy asylum to those, who, fond of domestic enjoyment, are seeking for personal independence.

dependence. Nor is it possible to conceive that any of the United States will prefer a national bankruptcy, and a dissolution of the union, to a compliance with the requisitions of Congress, and the payment of its just debts, so that the officers and soldiers may expect considerable assistance, in recommencing their civil occupations, from the sums due to them from the public, which must and will most inevitably be paid.

In order to effect this desirable purpose, and to remove the prejudices which may have taken possession of the minds of any of the good people of the States, it is earnestly recommended to all the troops, that, with strong attachments to the union, they should carry with them into civil society the most conciliating dispositions ; and that they should not prove themselves less virtuous and useful citizens, than they have been persevering and victorious soldiers.—What though there should be some envious individuals, who are unwilling to pay the debt the public has contracted, or to yield the tribute due to merit; yet let such unworthy treatment produce no invective, or any instance of intemperate conduct,—let it be remembered; that that the unbiaſſed voice of the free citizens of the United States has promised the just reward, and given the merited applause,—let it be known and remembered, that the reputation of the federal armies is established beyond the reach of malevolence, and let a consciousness of their achievements and fame still incite the men who composed them to honorable actions, under the persuasion, that the private virtues of œconomy, prudence and industry, will not be less amiable in civil life, than the more splendid qualities of valor, perseverance and enterprize, were in the field ;—Every one may rest assured that much, very much of the future happiness of the officers and men, will depend upon the wise and manly conduct which shall be adopted by them, when they are mingled with the great body of the community. And although the general has so frequently given it as his opinion, in the most public and explicit manner, that unless the principles of the federal govern-
ment

ment were properly supported, and the powers of the union encreased, the honor, dignity and justice of the nation would be lost forever: Yet he cannot help repeating on this occasion so interesting a sentiment, and leaving it as his last injunction to every officer and every soldier, who may view the subject in the same serious point of light, to add his best endeavors, to those of his worthy fellow citizens, towards effecting these great and valuable purposes, on which our very existence as a nation so materially depends.

The Commander in Chief conceives little is now wanting to enable the soldier to change his military character into that of the citizen, but that steady and decent tenor of behavior, which has generally distinguished, not only the army under his immediate command, but the different detachments and separate armies, through the course of the war; from their good sense and prudence, he anticipated the happiest consequences, and while he congratulates them on the glorious occasion which renders their services in the field no longer necessary, he wishes to express the strong obligations he feels himself under, for the assistance he has received from every class, and in every instance. He presents his thanks in the most serious and affectionate manner to the General Officers, as well for their council on many interesting occasions, as for their ardor in promoting the success of the plans he had adopted; to the commandants of regiments and corps, and to the other officers, for their great zeal and attention in carrying his orders promptly into execution; to the staff, for their alacrity and exactness in performing the duties of their several departments; and to the non-commissioned officers and private soldiers, for their extraordinary patience in suffering, as well as their invincible fortitude in action; to the various branches of the army, the General takes this last and solemn opportunity of professing his inviolable attachment and friendship.—He wishes more than bare professions were in his power, that he was really able to be useful to them all in future life.—He flatters himself however, they will do him the justice

Justice to believe, that whatever could with propriety be attempted by him, has been done.—And being now to conclude these his last public orders, to take his ultimate leave, in a short time, of the military character—and to bid a final adieu to the armies he has so long had the honor to command,—he can only again offer, in their behalf, his recommendations to their grateful country, and his prayers to the God of armies.—May ample justice be done them here, and may the choicest of Heaven's favors, both here and hereafter attend those, who under the Divine auspices have secured innumerable blessings for others. With these wishes, and this benediction, the Commander in Chief is about to retire from service—The curtain of separation will soon be drawn—and the military scene to him will be closed for ever.

EDWARD HAND, *Adj. General.*

General WASHINGTON'S CIRCULAR LETTER.

Head-Quarters, Newburgh, June 18th, 1783.

Sir,

THE great object, for which I had the honor to hold an appointment in the service of my country, being accomplished, I am now preparing to resign it into the hands of Congress, and return to that domestic retirement, which, it is well known, I left with the greatest reluctance;—a retirement for which I have never ceased to sigh through a long and painful absence,—and in which, (remote from the noise and trouble of the world) I meditate to pass the remainder of life, in a state of undisturbed repose.

But, before I carry this resolution into effect, I think it a duty incumbent upon me to make this my last official communication,—to congratulate you on the glorious events, which Heaven has been pleased to produce in our favor,—to offer my sentiments respecting some important subjects,

subjects, which appear to me to be intimately connected with the tranquillity of the United States,—to take my leave of your Excellency as a public character, and to give my final blessing to that country in whose service I have spent the prime of my life—for whose sake I have consumed so many anxious days and watchful nights, and whose happiness being extremely dear to me, will always constitute no inconsiderable part of my own—

Impressed with the liveliest sensibility on the pleasing occasion, I will claim the indulgence of dilating the more copiously on the subjects of our mutual felicitation;—When we consider the magnitude of the prize we contended for, the doubtful nature of the contest, and the favorable manner in which it has terminated; we shall find the greatest possible reason for gratitude and rejoicing;—this is a theme that will afford infinite delight to every benevolent and liberal mind, whether the event in contemplation, be considered as the source of present enjoyment, or the parent of future happiness,—and we shall have equal occasion to felicitate ourselves on the lot which Providence has assigned us, whether we view it in a natural, a political, or moral point of light.

The citizens of America, placed in the most enviable condition, as the sole lords and proprietors of a vast tract of continent, comprehending all the various soils and climates of the world, and abounding with all the necessities and conveniences of life, are now, by the late satisfactory pacification, acknowledged to be possessed of absolute freedom and independence—They are, from this period, to be considered as the actors on a most conspicuous theatre, which seems to be peculiarly designated by Providence, for the display of human greatness and felicity.—Here, they are not only surrounded with every thing which can contribute to the completion of private and domestic enjoyment; but Heaven has crowned all its other blessings, by giving a fairer opportunity for political happiness, than any other nation has ever been favored with.—Nothing can illustrate these observations more forcibly, than a recollection of the happy conjuncture of
times

times and circumstances, under which our republic assumed its rank among the nations. The foundation of our empire was not laid in the gloomy age of ignorance and superstition, but at an epocha when the rights of mankind were better understood and more clearly defined, than at any former period;—the researches of the human mind, after social happiness, have been carried to a great extent,—the treasures of knowledge, acquired by the labors of philosophers, sages and legislators, through a long succession of years, are laid open for use, and their collected wisdom may be happily applied in the establishment of our forms of government.—The free cultivation of letters, the unbounded extension of commerce, the progressive refinement of manners, the growing liberality of sentiment, and above all, the pure and benign light of revelation, have had a meliorating influence on mankind, and increased the blessings of society;—at this auspicious period, the United States came into existence as a nation, and if their citizens should not be completely free and happy, the fault will be entirely their own.

Such is our situation, and such are our prospects; but notwithstanding the cup of blessing is thus reached out to us,—notwithstanding happiness is ours, if we have a disposition to seize the occasion and make it our own, yet, it appears to me, there is an option still left to the United States of America, that it is in their choice and depends upon their conduct, whether they will be respectable and prosperous, or contemptible and miserable as a nation;—this is the time of their political probation,—this is the moment when the eyes of the whole world are turned upon them—this is the moment to establish or ruin their national character for ever,—this is the favorable moment to give such a tone to our federal government, as will enable it to answer the ends of its institution;—or this may be the ill-fated moment for relaxing the powers of the union, annihilating the cement of the confederation, and exposing us to become the sport of European politics, which may play one state against another, to prevent their growing importance, and to

serve their own interested purposes: For according to the system of policy the States shall adopt at this moment, they will stand or fall; and by their confirmation or lapse, it is yet to be decided, whether the revolution must ultimately be considered as a blessing or a curse,—a blessing or a curse, not to the present age alone, for with our fate will the destiny of unborn millions be involved.

With this conviction in my mind of the importance of the present crisis, silence in me would be a crime,—I will therefore speak to your Excellency, the language of freedom and of sincerity, without disguise;—I am aware, however, that those who differ with me in political sentiments, may perhaps remark, I am stepping out of the proper line of my duty, and they may possibly ascribe to arrogance or ostentation, what I know is alone the result of the purest intention.—But the rectitude of my own heart, which disdains such unworthy motives, the part I have hitherto acted in life, the determination I have formed, of not taking any share in public business hereafter, the ardent desire I feel, and shall continue to manifest, of quietly enjoying in private life, after all the toils of war, the benefits of a wise and liberal government, will, I flatter myself, sooner or later, convince my countrymen, that I could have no sinister view in delivering, with so little reserve, the opinions contained in this address.

There are four things, which I humbly conceive, are essential to the well being, I may even venture to say, to the existence of the United States, and an Independent Power.

1st. An indissoluble union of the States under one federal head.

2dly. A sacred regard to public justice.

3dly. The adoption of a proper peace establishment.

And,

4thly. The prevalence of that pacific and friendly disposition among the people of the United States, which will induce them to forget their local prejudices and policies, to make those mutual concessions which are re-

• requisite to the general prosperity, and in some instances, to sacrifice their individual advantages to the interest of the community.

These are the pillars on which the glorious fabric of our independence and national character must be supported.—Liberty is the basis,—and whoever would dare to sap the foundation, or overturn the structure, under whatever specious pretext he may attempt it, will merit the bitterest execration, and the severest punishment which can be inflicted by his injured country.

On the three first articles, I will make a few observations—leaving the last to the good sense and serious consideration of those immediately concerned.

Under the *first* head, although it may not be necessary or proper for me in this place, to enter into a particular disquisition of the principles of the union, and to take up the great question, which has been frequently agitated, whether it be expedient and requisite for the States to delegate a larger proportion of power to Congress, or not;—yet it will be a part of my duty, and that of every true patriot, to assert without reserve, and to insist upon the following propositions:—That unless the states will suffer Congress to preserve those prerogatives, they are undoubtedly vested with by the constitution, every thing must very rapidly tend to anarchy and confusion.—That it is indispensable to the happiness of the individual States, that there should be lodged somewhere, a supreme power, to regulate and govern the general concerns of the Confederated Republic, without which the union cannot be of long duration.—That there must be a faithful and pointed compliance, on the part of every State, with the late proposals and demands of Congress, or the most fatal consequences will ensue.—That whatever measures have a tendency to dissolve the union, or contribute to violate or lessen the sovereign authority, ought to be considered as hostile to the liberty and independence of America, and the authors of them treated accordingly.—And lastly, That unless we can be enabled, by the concurrence of the States, to participate
of

of the fruits of the revolution, and enjoy the essential benefits of civil society under a form of government so free and uncorrupted, so happily guarded against the danger of oppression, as has been devised and adopted by the articles of confederation,—that it will be a subject of regret, that so much blood and treasure have been lavished for no purpose, that so many sufferings have been encountered, without a compensation, and that so many sacrifices have been made in vain. Many other considerations may be adduced to prove, that without an entire conformity to the spirit of the union, we cannot exist as an Independent Power,—it will be sufficient for my present purpose to mention, but one or two, which seem to me of the greatest importance :—It is only in our united character as an empire, that our independence is acknowledged, that our power can be regarded, or our credit supported among foreign nations.—The treaties of the European powers with the United States of America, will have no validity on a dissolution of the union.—We shall be left nearly in a state of nature, or we may find by our own unhappy experience, that there is a natural and necessary progression from the extreme of anarchy to the extreme of tyranny ; and that arbitrary power is not only established on the ruins of liberty abused to licentiousness.

As to the *fourth* article, which respects the performance of public justice, Congress have, in their late address to the United States, almost exhausted the subject,—they have explained their ideas so fully, and have enforced the obligations the States are under to render complete justice to all the public creditors, with so much dignity and energy, that in my opinion, no real friend to the honor and independence of America, can hesitate a single moment respecting the propriety of complying with the just and honorable measures proposed ; if their arguments do not produce conviction, I know of nothing that will have greater influence, else. And when we recollect, that the system referred to, being the result of the collected wisdom of the continent, must be esteemed, if

not perfect, certainly the least exceptionable of any that could be devised ; and that, if it shall not be carried into immediate execution, national bankruptcy, with all its deplorable consequences, will take place before any different plan can possibly be proposed or adopted ; to pressing are the present circumstances, and such is the alternative now offered to the States.

The ability of the country to discharge the debts which have been incurred in its defence, is not to be doubted. — An inclination, I flatter myself, will not be wanting — The path of our duty is plain before us — Honesty, will be found, on every experiment, to be the best and only true policy. — Let us then, as a nation, be just — Let us fulfil the public contracts, which Congress had undoubtedly a right to make for the purpose of carrying on the war, with the same good faith we suppose ourselves bound to perform our private engagements — In the mean time, let an attention to the cheerful performance of their proper business, as individuals, and as members of society, be earnestly inculcated on the citizens of America ; then they will strengthen the hands of government, and be happy under its protection — every one will reap the fruit of his labors — every one will enjoy his own acquisitions, without molestation, and without danger.

In this state of absolute freedom and perfect security, who will grudge to yield a very little of his property to support the common interests of society, and ensure the protection of government ? Who does not remember the frequent declarations, at the commencement of the war, that we should be completely satisfied, if at the expence of one half, we could defend the remainder of our possessions ? Where is the man to be found, who wishes to remain indebted, for the defence of his own person and property, to the exertion, the bravery, and the blood of others, without making one generous effort to pay the debt of honor and of gratitude ? In what part of the continent shall we find any man, or body of men, who would not blush to stand up, and propose measures purposely calculated to rob the soldier of his stipend, and the
public

public creditor of his due? And were it possible that such a flagrant instance of injustice could ever happen, would it not excite the general indignation, and tend to bring down upon the authors of such measures, the aggravated vengeance of heaven?

If, after all, a spirit of disunion, or a temper of obstinacy and perverseness should manifest itself in any of the States; if such an ungracious disposition should attempt to frustrate all the happy effects that might be expected to flow from the union; if there should be a refusal to comply with requisitions for funds to discharge the annual interest of the public debts, and if that refusal should revive all those jealousies and produce all those evils which are now happily removed; Congress, who have in all their transactions shewn a great degree of magnanimity and justice, will stand justified in the sight of God and man; and that State alone, which puts itself in opposition to the aggregate wisdom of the continent, and follows such pernicious councils, will be responsible for all the consequences.

For my own part, conscious of having acted, while a servant of the public, in the manner I conceived suited to promote the real interests of my country; having, in consequence of my fixed belief, in some measure, pledged myself to the army, that their country would finally do them complete and ample justice, and not wishing to conceal any instance of my official conduct from the eyes of the world, I have thought proper to transmit to your Excellency, the inclosed collection of papers, relative to the half-pay and commutation granted by Congress, to the officers of the army;—from these communications, my decided sentiment will be clearly comprehended, together with the conclusive reasons which induced me, at an early period, to recommend the adoption of this measure in the most earnest and serious manner.

As the proceedings of Congress, the army, and myself are open to all, and contain, in my opinion, sufficient information to remove the prejudice and errors which may have been entertained by any, I think it unnecessary

to say any thing more, than just to observe, that the resolutions of Congress, now alluded to, are as undoubtedly and absolutely binding upon the United States, as the most solemn acts of confederation or legislation.

As to the idea which, I am informed, has, in some instances prevailed, that the half-pay and commutation are to be regarded merely in the odious light of a pension, it ought to be exploded for ever;—that provision should be viewed, as it really was, a reasonable compensation offered by Congress, at a time when they had nothing else to give to officers of the army, for services then to be performed: It was the only means to prevent a total dereliction of the service. It was a part of their hire; I may be allowed to say, it was the price of their blood, and of your independence—it is therefore more than a common debt—it is a debt of honor,—it can never be considered as a pension or gratuity, nor be cancelled until it is fairly discharged.

With regard to a distinction between officers and soldiers, it is sufficient that the uniform experience of every nation of the world, combined with our own, proves the utility and propriety of the discrimination—Rewards in proportion to the aids the public derives from them, are unquestionably due to all its servants; in some lines, the soldiers have, perhaps, generally had as ample compensation for their services, by the large bounties which have been paid them, as their officers will receive in the proposed commutation; in others, if besides the donation of lands, the payment of arrearages of cloathing and wages (in which articles all the component parts of the army must be put upon the same footing) we take into the estimate, the bounties many of the soldiers have received, and the gratuity of one years full pay, which is promised to all, possibly their situation (every circumstance being duly considered) will not be deemed less eligible than that of their officers;—should a further reward, however, be judged equitable, I will venture to assert, no one will enjoy greater satisfaction than myself, on seeing an exemption from taxes for a limited time,

(which

(which has been petitioned for in some instances) or any other adequate immunity, or compensation, granted to the brave defenders of their country's cause; but neither the adoption or rejection of this proposition will in any manner effect, much less militate against the act of Congress, by which they have offered five years full pay, in lieu of half pay for life, which has been before promised to the officers of the army.

Before I conclude the subject of public justice, I cannot omit to mention the obligations this country is under to that meritorious class of veteran non-commissioned officers, and privates, who have been discharged for inability, in consequence of the resolution of Congress, of the 23d of April 1782, on an annual pension for life;—their peculiar sufferings, their singular merits and claims to that provision, need only be known, to interest all the feelings of humanity in their behalf—nothing but a punctual payment of their annual allowance, can rescue them from the most complicated misery, and nothing could be a more melancholy and distressing sight, than to behold those who have shed their blood, or lost their limbs in the service of their country, without a shelter, without a friend, and without the means of obtaining any of the necessaries or comforts of life, compelled to beg their daily bread from door to door—Suffer me to recommend those of this description, belonging to your state, to the warmest patronage of your Excellency and your legislature.

It is necessary to say but a few words on the *third* topic which was proposed, and which regards particularly the defence of the republic. As there can be little doubt but Congress will recommend a proper peace establishment for the United States, in which a due attention will be paid to the importance of placing the militia of the Union upon a regular and respectable footing; if this should be the case, I would beg leave to urge the great advantage of it in the strongest terms.—The militia of this country must be considered as the palladium of our security, and the first effectual resort in case of hostility;—

it is essential, therefore, that the same system should pervade the whole—that the formation and discipline of the militia of the continent, should be absolutely uniform, and that the same species of arms, accoutrements, and military apparatus, should be introduced in every part of the United States.—No one who has not learned from experience, can conceive the difficulty, expence, and confusion, which result from a contrary system, or the vague arrangements which have hitherto prevailed

If in treating of political points, a greater latitude than usual has been taken in the course of this address—the importance of the crisis, and the magnitude of the objects in discussion, must be my apology;—it is however, neither my wish nor expectation that the preceeding observations, should claim any regard, except so far as they shall appear to be dictated by a good intention, consonant to the immutable rules of justice, calculated to produce a liberal system of policy, and founded on whatever experience may have been acquired, by a long and close attention to public business.

Here I might speak with more confidence, from my actual observation; and if it would not swell this letter, (already too prolix) beyond the bounds I had prescribed to myself, I could demonstrate to every mind open to conviction, that in less time, and with much less expence than has been incurred, the war might have been brought to the same happy conclusion, if the resources of the continent could have been properly called forth; that the distresses and disappointments which have very often occurred, have, in too many instances, resulted more from a want of energy in the Continental Government, than a deficiency of means in the particular States: That the inefficacy of measures, arising from the want of an adequate authority in the supreme power, from a partial compliance with the requisitions of Congress, in some of the States, and from a failure of punctuality in others, while they tended to damp the zeal of those who were more willing to exert themselves, served also to accumulate the expences of the war, and to frustrate the best concerted

concerted plans; and that the discouragement occasioned by the complicated difficulties and embarrassments, in which our affairs were by this means involved, would have long ago produced the dissolution of any army, less patient, less virtuous, and less persevering, than that which I have the honor to command. But while I mention those things, which are notorious facts, as the defects of our federal constitution, particularly in the prosecution of a war, I beg it may be understood, that as I have ever taken a pleasure in gratefully acknowledging the assistance and support I have derived from every class of citizens; so shall I always be happy to do justice to the unparalleled exertions of the individual States, on many interesting occasions.

I have thus freely disclosed what I wished to make known, before I surrendered up my public trust to those who committed it to me. The task is now accomplished. I now bid adieu to your Excellency, as the Chief-Magistrate of your State; at the same time, I bid a last farewell to the cares of office, and all the employments of public life.

It remains then to be my final and only request, that your Excellency will communicate these sentiments to your legislature at their next meeting, and that they may be considered as the legacy of one, who has ardently wished on all occasions, to be useful to his country, and who, even in the shade of retirement, will not fail to implore the Divine benediction.

I now make it my earnest prayer, that God would have you, and the state over which you preside, in his holy protection,—that he would incline the hearts of the citizens to cultivate a spirit of subordination and obedience to government,—to entertain a brotherly affection and love for one another, for their fellow citizens of the United States, and particularly for their brethren who have served in the field—and finally, that he would most graciously be pleased to dispose us all to do justice, to love mercy, and to demean ourselves with that charity, humility, and pacific temper of mind, which were the character-

characteristics of the divine author of our blessed religion, and without an humble imitation of whose example in these things, we can never expect to be a happy nation.

I have the honor to be,

with great respect and esteem,

Your Excellency's most obedient

and very humble servant,

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

A Short MEMOIR of General WASHINGTON.

HIS excellency general WASHINGTON, was born in Virginia, on the 11th of February, *old style*, 1732. He is of English extraction, and descended from one of the most respectable families that ever emigrated to Virginia. Early in life, he applied himself to the military profession, and had the command of a body of Provincials, in the war between France and England, which was ended in 1763. His gallant conduct in that war, placed his military talents in a very respectable point of view.

When the parliament of Britain, passed the acts that were obnoxious to America, he stood forth to defend the rights of his country. He was sent as a delegate from Virginia to the general Congress, and in 1775, when hostilities commenced, he was appointed commander in chief of the armies of America; and five hundred dollars per month allowed for his pay. On his being informed of his appointment by the President of Congress, he stood up and said:

" Mr. President,

" Though I am truly sensible of the high honour done me in this appointment, yet I feel great distress from a consciousness that my abilities and military experience may not be equal to the important trust: However, as the Congress desire it, I will enter upon the momentous duty, and exert every power I possess in their service, and

for

for support of the glorious cause. I beg they will accept my most cordial thanks for this distinguished testimony of their approbation.

“ But lest some unlucky event should happen unfavourable to my reputation, I beg it may be remembered by every gentleman in the room, that I this day declare with the utmost sincerity, I do not think myself equal to the command I am honoured with.

“ As to pay, Sir, I beg leave to assure the Congress, that as no pecuniary consideration could have tempted me to accept this arduous employment, at the expence of my domestic ease and happiness, I do not wish to make any profit from it. I will keep an exact account of my expences. Those I doubt not they will discharge, and that is all I desire.”

Though general Washington expressed so much diffidence on his being appointed commander in chief, yet the wisdom, integrity, and abilities, he displayed in that station, will cause his name to be remembered with gratitude and esteem to the latest posterity. ‘ By equanimity and sweetness of temper, he won the hearts of his faithful soldiery ; by humanity and truth he commanded the unwilling esteem of the enemy ; by prudence, and courage, and fortitude, and perseverance, he became the Deliver of his Country.’

At the peace in 1783, he was admitted, by order of Congress, to a public audience, when he addressed that honourable body as follows :

“ *Mr. President,*

“ The great events on which my resignation depended, having at length taken place, I have now the honor of offering my sincere congratulations to Congress, and of presenting myself before them, to surrender into their hands the trust committed to me, and to claim the indulgence of retiring from the service of my country.

“ Happy in the confirmation of our independence and sovereignty, and pleased with the opportunity offered the United States of becoming a respectable nation, I resign
with

with satisfaction the appointment I accepted with diffidence—a diffidence in my abilities to accomplish so arduous a task; which, however, was superceded by a confidence in the rectitude of our cause, the support of the supreme power of the union, and the patronage of Heaven.

“ The successful termination of the war has verified the most sanguine expectations; and my gratitude for the interposition of Providence, and the assistance I have received from my countrymen, increases with every review of the momentuous contest.

“ While I repeat my obligations to the army in general, I should do injustice to my own feelings, not to acknowledge, in this place, the particular service and distinguished merits of the gentlemen who have been attached to my person during the war. It was impossible the choice of confidential officers to compose my family should be more fortunate. Permit me, Sir, to recommend, in particular, those who have continued in the service to the present moment, as worthy of the favorable notice and patronage of Congress.

“ I considered it as an indispensable duty to close this last act of my official life, by commending the interests of our dearest country to the protection of Almighty God, and those who have the superintendence of them to his holy keeping.

“ Having now finished the work assigned me, I retire from the great theatre of action, and bidding an affectionate farewell to this august body, under whose orders I have so long acted, I here offer my commission, and take my leave of all the employments of public life.”

He then advanced and delivered to the President his commission, with a copy of his address, and having resumed his place, the President returned him the following answer:

“ Sir,

“ The United States in Congress assembled receive, with emotions too affecting for utterance, the solemn
resignation

resignation of the authorities under which you have led their troops with success, through a perilous and doubtful war. Called upon by your country to defend its invaded rights, you accepted the sacred charge, before it had formed alliances, and whilst it was without funds or a government to support you. You have conducted the great military contest with wisdom and fortitude, invariably regarding the rights of the civil powers, through all disasters and changes. You have, by the love and confidence of your fellow citizens, enabled them to display their martial genius, and transmit their fame to posterity. You have persevered, till these United States, aided by a magnanimous King and nation, have been enabled, under a just providence, to close the war in freedom, safety, and independence; on which happy event, we sincerely join you in congratulations.

“ Having defended the standard of liberty in this new world; having taught a lesson useful to those who inflict and to those who feel oppression, you retire from the great theatre of action, with the blessings of your fellow citizens—but the glory of your virtues will not terminate with your military command—it will continue to animate remotest ages.

“ We feel with you our obligation to the army in general, and will particularly charge ourselves with the interest of those confidential officers, who have attended your person to this affecting moment.

“ We join with you in commending the interests of our dearest country to the protection of Almighty God, beseeching him to dispose the hearts and minds of its citizens to improve the opportunity offered them, of becoming a happy and respectable nation. And for you, we address to him our warmest prayers, that a life so beloved may be fostered with all his care; that your days may be as happy as they have been illustrious; and that he will finally give you that reward which this world cannot give.”

L

General

General Washington had this audience of Congress, while they were sitting at Annapolis; after which, he immediately set off for his seat, at Mount Vernon; and retired to private life, amidst the deserved applauses of his country.

Though he had thus retired, and had resolved not to accept any public employment, yet the voice of his country called him once more to public life; and he is now * president of the Convention of the States, met to form a federal constitution for the United States.

SKETCHES of the Life of MARQUIS DE LA FAYETTE.

THE enthusiastic zeal and great services of this distinguished French nobleman, merit a particular detail. At the age of nineteen he espoused the cause of America, with all the ardor which the most generous philanthropy could inspire. At a very early period of the war, he determined to embark from his native country, for the United States. Before he could complete his intention, intelligence arrived in Europe, that the American insurgents, reduced to two thousand men, were flying through Jersey before a British force of thirty thousand regulars. This news so effectually extinguished the little credit which America had in Europe, in the beginning of the year 1777, that the commissioners of Congress at Paris, though they had previously encouraged his project, could not procure a vessel to forward his intentions. Under these circumstances they thought it but honest to dissuade him from the present prosecution of his perilous enterprise. It was in vain they acted so candid a part. The flame which America had kindled in his breast, could not be extinguished by her misfortunes. "Hitherto," said he, in the true spirit of patriotism, "I have only cherished your cause—now I am going to serve it. The lower it is in the opinion of the people, the

“ the greater will be the effect of my departure ; and
 “ since you cannot get a vessel, I shall purchase and fit
 “ out one to carry your dispatches to Congress and my-
 “ self to America.” He accordingly embarked and ar-
 rived in Charleston early in the year 1777. Congress
 soon conferred on him the rank of major-general. He
 accepted the appointment, but not without exacting two
 conditions, which displayed the elevation of his spirit :
 the one, that he should serve on his own expence ; the
 other, that he should begin his services as a volunteer.

He was soon appointed to command an irruption into
 Canada. The plan was to cross the lakes on the ice ; the
 object to seize Montreal and St. Johns. He was now at
 the age of twenty, and must have keenly experienced
 the allurements of independent command ; but his
 cool judgment, and honest heart, restrained him from
 indulging a passion for military fame, under circumstances
 that might have injured the cause which he had so zeal-
 ously espoused. He found that, in case of his proceed-
 ing, the army under his command would be in danger
 of experiencing a fate similar to that of the unfortunate
 Burgoyne. With a boldness of judgment that would
 have done honor to the most experienced general, and
 without advancing beyond Albany, he relinquished the
 expedition. Soon after he received the thanks of Con-
 gress for his prudence.

In the four campaigns which succeeded the arrival of
 the marquis de la Fayette in America, he gave repeated
 proofs of his military talents in the middle and eastern
 states ; but the events that took place under his command
 in Virginia, deserve particular notice.

Early in the year 1781, while the war raged to the
 southward of Virginia, the marquis de la Fayette was
 detached on an expedition against Portsmouth, but here
 his active zeal received a check, no less fatal to his hopes
 than when he was obliged to relinquish the expedition to
 Canada. The engagement near the capes of the Ches-
 peek, between the French chief d'Escadre d'Estouches,
 and the British admiral Arbuthnot, which took place on
 the

the fifth of March, 1781, defeated the enterprise. Upon this event he marched back to the Head of Elk, where he received an order from general Washington to return to Virginia, to oppose general Philips, who had joined general Arnold at Portsmouth. Although the troops under his command were in want of almost every thing, he nevertheless proceeded with them to Baltimore. Here he learned that general Philips was urging preparations to embark at Portsmouth, with upwards of three thousand men. With the marquis de la Fayette it was a moment of extreme distress and embarrassment. In his whole command there was not one pair of shoes; but the love and confidence he had universally excited, enabled him to obtain a loan of money which procured him some necessaries for his troops, and gave renewed vigor to his march. He supposed Richmond to be the object of general Philips, and therefore marched thither with so great expedition, that he arrived at that place the evening before general Philips. He was joined the first night after his arrival by major-general baron Steuben, with a corps of militia. In this manner was the capital of Virginia, at that time filled with almost all the military stores of the state, saved from the most imminent danger. The British appeared the next morning at Manchester, just opposite to Richmond. The two armies surveyed each other for some time, and then general Philips, apprehending it to be too hazardous to attack the marquis de la Fayette in his strong position, very prudently retired.

Such was the great superiority of numbers by the combination of the forces under general Arnold, general Philips and lord Cornwallis—so fatal to all the southern states would have been the conquest of Virginia—that the marquis de la Fayette had before him a labor of the last consequence, and was pressed on all sides by innumerable difficulties.

In the first moments of the rising tempest, and till he could provide against its utmost rage, he began to retire with his little army, which consisted of about a thousand
regulars,

regulars, two thousand militia, and sixty dragoons. Lord Cornwallis, exulting in the prospect of success, which he thought to be heightened by the youth of his opponent, incautiously wrote to Great Britain, " that the boy could not escape him." The engagement, however, which was to confirm his promise, was sedulously avoided. Finding it impossible to force an action, he next endeavored to cut off the communication of the marquis de la Fayette with general Wayne, who, with eight hundred Pennsylvanians, was advancing from the northward. The junction however, was effected at Rackoon Ford without loss. The next object of lord Cornwallis, was to get possession of the American stores, which, for their greater security, had been removed from Richmond to Albemarle old courthouse above the Point of Fork. While the troops commanded by the marquis de la Fayette and general Wayne were forming a junction, lord Cornwallis had gotten between them and their public stores. The possession of these was a principal object with both armies. The marquis de la Fayette, by forced marches, got within a few miles of the British army, when they were yet distant two days march from Albemarle old courthouse. Once more the British general considered himself sure of his adversary. To save the stores he knew was his design, but to accomplish that object, his lordship saw no practicable way but by a road in passing which the American army might be attacked to great advantage. It was a critical moment, but the marquis de la Fayette had the good fortune to extricate himself. He opened in the night, by part of his army, a nearer road to Albemarle, which, having been many years disused, was much embarrassed, and, to the astonishment of lord Cornwallis, posted himself in a strong position the next day between the British army and the American stores.

His lordship, finding all his schemes frustrated, fell back to Richmond, whither he was followed by the marquis de la Fayette. The main American army in Virginia was now reinforced by the troops under major-general

ral baron Steuben, and by volunteer corps of Virginia and Maryland gentlemen. And the marquis de la Fayette had the address to impress lord Cornwallis with an idea, that his force was much greater than he actually commanded. His lordship, therefore, retreated to Williamsburg.

After a series of manœuvres, which it is not necessary to relate, and in which the British general displayed the boldness of enterprize, and the young marquis the sound judgment of age, blended with the ardor of youth, the former fixed himself and his army in York-town. The latter, under various pretences, sent the Pennsylvania troops to the south side of James River—collected a force in Gloucester county, and made sundry arrangements subservient to the grand design of the whole campaign, which was the capture of lord Cornwallis, and the British army under his command.

Sometime after the capture of Cornwallis, the marquis de la Fayette went to France, where he successfully used his endeavors to promote the commercial and political interest of these states.

Pennsylvania, in order to show her esteem for this gallant nobleman, has lately erected part of her western territory, into a separate county, and named it *Fayette*.

SKETCH of the Life of the late NATHANIEL GREENE,
Major-General of the forces of the United States of America.

THIS gallant officer, whose death is so generally and so justly regreted, was born in Rhode-Island, in or about 1741, and was the son of a respectable citizen of the same name, who was extensively concerned in lucrative iron-works, the property of which, at his death, he left to his children.

Mr. Greene was endowed with an uncommon degree of judgment and penetration, which, with a benevolent manner

manner and affable behavior, acquired him a number of valuable friends, by whose interest and influence, he was, at an early period of life, chosen a member of the assembly of the then colony of Rhode Island. This trust, in which he gave the highest satisfaction to his constituents, he continued to possess until, and at, the period, when the folly and madness of England severed a world from her empire.

After the skirmishes at Lexington and Concord, when a spirit of resistance spread, like wild-fire, over the continent, Rhode Island was not deficient in her contributions for the general defence. She raised three regiments of militia, the command whereof was given to Mr. Greene, who was nominated brigadier-general. The liberty, safety, and prosperity of his country being exposed to imminent danger, the pacific principles of Quakerism, in which he had been educated, proved insufficient to combat the ardent spirit of liberty with which his bosom glowed.

General Greene's merit and abilities, as well in the council as in the field, were not long unnoticed by general Washington, who reposed in him the utmost confidence, and paid a particular deference to his advice and opinion, on all occasions of doubt and difficulty.

He was appointed major-general by Congress, the 26th of August, 1776. Towards the close of that year, he was at the Trenton surprize; and, at the beginning of the next, was at the battle of Princeton, two enterprizes not more happily planned than judiciously and bravely executed, in both of which he highly distinguished himself, serving his noviciate under the American Fabius.

At the battle of Brandywine, general Greene distinguished himself by supporting the right wing of the American army, when it gave way, and judiciously covered the whole, when routed and retreating in confusion; and their safety from utter ruin was generally ascribed to his skill and exertions, which were well seconded by the troops under his command.

At the battle of Germantown, he commanded the left wing

wing of the American army—and his utmost endeavors were exerted to retrieve the fortune of that day, in which his conduct met with the approbation of the commander in chief.

In March, 1778, he was appointed quarter-master general, which office he accepted under a stipulation that his rank in the army should not be affected by it, and that he should retain his right to command in time of action, according to his rank and seniority. This he exercised at the battle of Monmouth, where he commanded the right wing of the army.

In the capacity of quarter-master general, he fully answered the expectations formed of his abilities; and enabled the American army to move with additional celerity and vigor.

About the middle of the same year, an attack, in conjunction with the French fleet, on the British garrison at Newport, Rhode-Island being planned, general Sullivan was appointed to the command, under whom general Greene served. This attempt was unsuccessful—the French fleet having failed out of the harbor, to engage lord Howe's fleet, they were dispersed by a storm, and the Americans were obliged to raise the siege of Newport, in doing which general Greene displayed a great degree of skill in drawing off the army in safety.

After the hopes of the British generals, to execute some decisive stroke to the northward, were frustrated, they turned their attention to the southern states, as less capable of defence, and more likely to reward the invaders with ample plunder. A grand expedition was, in consequence, planned at New-York, where the army embarked on the 26th of December, 1779, and landed on the 11th of February, 1780, within about thirty miles of Charleston, which, after a brave defence, was surrendered to sir Henry Clinton, on the 12th of May.

A series of ill success followed this unfortunate event. The American arms in South Carolina were in general unsuccessful, and the inhabitants were obliged to submit to the invaders, whose impolitic severity was extremely ill

ill calculated to answer any of the objects for which the war had been commenced.

Affairs were thus circumstanced, when general Washington appointed general Greene to the command of the American forces in the southern district. He arrived at Charlotte, on the second day of December, 1780, accompanied by general Morgan, a brave officer, who had distinguished himself to the northward, in the expedition against Burgoyne. He found the forces he was to command, reduced to a very small number by defeat and by desertion. The returns were nine hundred and seventy continentals, and one thousand and thirteen militia. Military stores, provisions, forage, and all things necessary, were, if possible, in a more reduced state than his army. His men were without pay, and almost without clothing, and supplies of the latter were not to be had but from a distance of two hundred miles. In this perilous and embarrassed situation, he had to oppose a respectable and victorious army. Fortunately for him, the conduct of some of the friends of royalty obliged numbers, otherwise disposed to remain neuter, to take up arms in their own defence. This, and the prudent measures the general took for removing the innumerable difficulties and disadvantages he was surrounded with, and for conciliating the affections of the inhabitants, soon brought together a considerable force, far inferior, however, to that of the British, who esteemed the country perfectly subjugated.

After he had recruited his forces with all the friends to the revolution that he could assemble, he sent a considerable detachment, under general Morgan, to the western extremities of the state, to protect the well disposed inhabitants from the ravages of the tories.

After general Morgan defeated Tarleton, he rejoined general Greene on the 7th of February. Still he was so inferior to lord Cornwallis, that he was obliged to retreat northward, and notwithstanding the vigilance and activity of his enemy, he brought his men in safety into Virginia.

In this state he received some reinforcements, and had the promise of more—on which he returned again into North Carolina, where, on their arrival, he hoped to be able to act on the defensive. He encamped in the vicinity of lord Cornwallis's army. By a variety of the best concerted manœuvres, he so judiciously supported the arrangement of his troops, by the secrecy and promptitude of his motions, that during three weeks, while the enemy remained near him, he prevented them from taking any advantage of their superiority, and even cut off all opportunity of their receiving succours from the royalists.

About the beginning of March, he effected a junction with a continental regiment, and two considerable bodies of Virginia and Carolina militia. He then determined to attack the British commander without loss of time, "being persuaded," as he declared in his subsequent dispatches, "that if he was successful it would prove ruinous to the enemy—and, if otherwise, that it would be but a partial evil to him." On the 14th he arrived at Guilford courthouse, the British lying then at twelve miles distance. (See battle of Guilford, page 90.)

Some time after this engagement, general Greene determined to return to South-Carolina, to endeavor to expel the British from that state. His first object was the reduction of Camden, where lord Rawdon was posted, with about nine hundred men. The strength of this place, which was covered on the south and east sides by a river and a creek, and to the westward and northward, by six redoubts, rendered it impracticable to carry it by storm, with the small army general Greene had, consisting of about seven hundred continentals. He therefore encamped at about a mile from the town, in order to prevent supplies from being brought in, and to take advantage of such circumstances as might occur.

Lord Rawdon's situation was extremely delicate. Colonel Watson, whom he had some time before detached for the protection of the eastern frontiers, and to whom he had, on intelligence of general Greene's intentions, sent

sent orders to return to Camden, was so effectually watched by general Marian, that it was impossible for him to obey. His lordship's supplies were, moreover, very precarious:—and should general Greene's reinforcements arrive, he might be so closely invested, as to be at length obliged to surrender, in this dilemma, the best expedient that suggested itself, was a bold attack, for which purpose he armed his musicians and drummers, and every person capable of carrying a musket. He sallied out on the twenty-fifth of April, and attacked general Greene in his camp. The defence was obstinate, and for some part of the engagement, the advantage appeared to be in favour of America.—Lieutenant colonel Wathington, who commanded the cavalry, had at one time not less than two hundred British prisoners. However, by the misconduct of one of the American regiments, victory was snatched from general Greene, who was compelled to retreat. He lost in the action about two hundred killed, wounded and prisoners.—Rawdon lost two hundred and fifty-eight.

There was a great similarity between the consequences of the affair at Guilford, and those of this action. In the former, lord Cornwallis was successful—but was obliged to retreat two hundred miles from the field of action, and for a time abandon the grand object of penetrating to the northward. In the latter, lord Rawdon had the honor of the field, but was shortly reduced to the necessity of abandoning his post, and leaving behind him a number of sick and wounded.

The evacuation of Camden, with the vigilance of general Greene, and the several officers he employed, gave a new face to the affairs in South Carolina, where the British ascendancy declined more rapidly than it had been established. The numerous forts garrisoned by the enemy, fell, one after the other, into the hands of the Americans. Orang-burgh, Motte, Watson, Georgetown, Granby, and all the others, fort Ninety-six excepted, were surrendered, and a very considerable number of prisoners of war, with military stores and artillery, were found in them. On

On the 22d of May, general Greene sat down before Ninety-six, with the main part of his little army. The siege was carried on for a considerable time with great spirit; and the place was defended with equal bravery. At length the works were so far reduced, that a surrender must have been made in a few days, when a reinforcement of three regiments from Europe arrived at Charleston, and enabled lord Rawdon to proceed and relieve this important post. The superiority of the enemy's force reduced general Greene to the alternative of abandoning the siege altogether, or, previous to their arrival, of attempting the fort by storm. The latter was more agreeable to his enterprising spirit, and an attack was made on the morning of the 19th of June. He was repulsed with the loss of one hundred and fifty men. He raised the siege, and retreated over the Saluda.

Some skirmishes of no great moment, took place between detached parties of both armies in July and August. September the 9th, general Greene having assembled about two thousand men, proceeded to attack the British, who, under the command of colonel Stewart, were posted at Eutaw Springs. (See battle of Eutaw Springs, page 91.)

The battle of Eutaw produced most signal consequences in favour of America. The British, who had for such a length of time lorded it absolutely in South-Carolina, were, after that event, obliged to confine themselves to Charleston, whence they never ventured, but to make predatory excursions, with bodies of cavalry, which in general met with a very warm and very unwelcome reception.

During the relaxation that followed, a dangerous plot was formed by some turbulent and mutinous persons in the army, to deliver up their brave general to the British. This treasonable design owed its rise to the hardships, wants, and calamities of the soldiers, who were ill paid, ill clothed, and ill fed. The conspirators did not exceed twelve in number, and a providential discovery disappointed the project.

From the beginning of the year 1782, it was currently reported, that the town was to be speedily evacuated—but it did not take place till the 17th of December.

The happy period at length arrived, when by the virtue and bravery of her sons, and the courage of her allies, aided by the bounty of Heaven, America compelled her invaders to recognise her independence. Then her armies quitted the field of war, to cultivate the arts of peace. Amongst the rest, general Greene revisited his native state, where he proved himself as valuable a citizen, as the Carolinas had witnessed him a gallant soldier. Diffensions and jealousies had extended their destructive influence among the Rhode Islanders, and their animosities had risen to such a degree, as to threaten the most serious ill consequences: general Greene exerted himself to restore harmony and peace amongst them once more, and was happily successful.

In October, 1785, he sailed to Georgia, where he had a considerable estate. Here he occupied his time in domestic concerns, until June 1786, when walking out one day, he was overpowered by the extreme heat of the sun, which brought on a disorder that carried him off on the 19th of the same month.

In August following, Congress ordered a monument to be erected to his memory.

The first PETITION of CONGRESS to the KING, in 1774.

Most gracious Sovereign,

WE, your majesty's faithful subjects of the colonies of New-Hampshire, Massachusetts Bay, Rhode-Island and Providence Plantations, Connecticut, New-York, New-Jersey, Pennsylvania, the counties of New-Castle, Kent and Suffex on Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North-Carolina and South-Carolina, in behalf of ourselves and the inhabitants of these colonies, who have deputed us to represent them in general Congress, by this our humble petition, beg leave to lay our grievances before the throne.

M

A standing

A standing army has been kept in these colonies ever since the conclusion of the late war, without the consent of our assemblies; and this army, with a considerable naval armament, has been employed to enforce the collection of taxes.

The authority of the commander in chief, and under him of the brigadiers-general has, in time of peace, been rendered supreme in all the civil governments in America.

The commander in chief of all your majesty's forces in North-America has, in time of peace, been appointed governor of a colony.

The charges of usual offices have been greatly increased; and new, expensive and oppressive offices have been multiplied.

The judges of admiralty and vice-admiralty courts are empowered to receive their salaries and fees from the effects condemned by themselves.

The officers of the customs are empowered to break open and enter houses without the authority of any civil magistrate founded on legal information.

The judges of courts of common law have been made entirely dependent on one part of the legislature for their salaries, as well as for the duration of their commissions.

Counsellors holding commissions during pleasure, exercise legislative authority.

Humble and reasonable petitions from the representatives of the people have been fruitless.

The agents of the people have been discountenanced, and governors have been instructed to prevent the payment of their salaries.

Assemblies have been repeatedly and injuriously dissolved.

Commerce has been burdened with many useless and oppressive restrictions.

By several acts of parliament made in the fourth, fifth, sixth, seventh and eighth years of your majesty's reign, duties are imposed on us, for the purpose of raising a revenue; and the powers of admiralty and vice admiralty-courts are extended beyond their ancient limits; where-
by

by our property is taken from us without our consent, the trial by jury in many civil cases is abolished, enormous forfeitures are incurred for slight offences, vexatious informers are exempted from paying damages, to which they are justly liable, and oppressive security is required from owners before they are allowed to defend their right.

Both houses of parliament have resolved, that colonists may be tried in England for offences alledged to have been committed in America, by virtue of a statute passed in the thirty-fifth year of Henry the eighth; and in consequence thereof attempts have been made to enforce that statute.

A statute was passed in the twelfth year of your majesty's reign, directing, that persons charged with committing any offence therein described, in any place out of the realm, may be indicted and tried for the same, in any shire or county within the realm, whereby inhabitants of these colonies may, in sundry cases by that statute made capital, be deprived of a trial by their peers of the vicinage.

In the last session of Parliament, an act was passed for blocking up the harbour of Boston; another empowering the governor of the M. Massachusetts-Bay to send persons indicted for murder in that province to another colony, or even to Great-Britain for trial, whereby such offenders may escape legal punishment; a third for altering the chartered constitution of government in that province; and a fourth for extending the limits of Quebec, abolishing the English and restoring the French laws, whereby great numbers of British freemen are subjected to the latter, and establishing an absolute government and the Roman Catholic religion, throughout those vast regions that border on the westerly and northerly boundaries of the free, Protestant, English settlements; and a fifth for the better providing suitable quarters for officers and soldiers in his majesty's service in North-America.

To a sovereign who glories in the name of Briton; the
base

bare recital of these acts must, we presume, justify the loyal subjects, who fly to the foot of the throne, and implore his clemency for protection against them.

From this destructive system of colony-administration, adopted since the conclusion of the last war, have flowed those distresses, dangers, fears and jealousies, that overwhelm your majesty's dutiful colonists with affliction : and we defy our most subtle and inveterate enemies to trace the unhappy differences between Great-Britain and these colonies, from an earlier period, or from other causes than we have assigned. Had they proceeded on our part from a restless levity of temper, unjust impulses of ambition, or artful suggestions of seditious persons, we should merit the opprobrious terms frequently bestowed upon us by those we revere. But so far from promoting innovations, we have only opposed them ; and can be charged with no offence, unless it be one to receive injuries, and be sensible of them.

Had our Creator been pleased to give us existence in a land of slavery, the sense of our condition might have been mitigated by ignorance and habit. But thanks be to his adorable goodness, we are born the heirs of freedom, and ever enjoyed our right under the auspices of your royal ancestors, whose family was seated on the British throne, to rescue and secure a pious and gallant nation from the popery and despotism of a superstitious and inexorable tyrant. Your majesty, we are confident, justly rejoices, that your title to the crown is thus founded on the title of your people to liberty ; and therefore we doubt not but your royal wisdom must approve the sensibility, that teaches your subjects anxiously to guard the blessing they received from Divine Providence, and thereby to prove the performance of that compact, which elevated the illustrious house of Brunswick to the imperial dignity it now possesses.

The apprehension of being degraded into a state of servitude, from the pre-eminent rank of English freemen, while our minds retain the strongest love of liberty, and clearly foresee the miseries preparing for us and our posterity,

terity, excites emotions in our breasts, which though we cannot describe, we should not wish to conceal. Feeling as men, and thinking as subjects, in the manner we do, silence would be disloyalty. By giving this faithful information, we do all in our power to promote the great objects of your royal cares, the tranquillity of your government, and the welfare of your people.

Duty to your majesty, and regard for the preservation of ourselves and our posterity, the primary obligations of nature and society, command us to entreat your royal attention; and as your majesty enjoys the signal distinction of reigning over freemen, we apprehend the language of freemen cannot be displeasing. Your royal indignation, we hope, will rather fall on those designing and dangerous men, who daringly interposing themselves between your royal person and your faithful subjects, and for several years past incessantly employed to dissolve the bonds of society, by abusing your majesty's authority, misrepresenting your American subjects, and prosecuting the most desperate and irritating projects of oppression, have at length compelled us, by the force of accumulated injuries, too severe to be any longer tolerable, to disturb your majesty's repose by our complaints.

These sentiments are extorted from hearts, that much more willingly would bleed in your majesty's service. Yet so greatly have we been misrepresented, that a necessity has been alledged of taking our property from us without our consent, "to defray the expences of the administration, the support of civil government, and the defence, protection and security, of the colonies." But we beg leave to assure your majesty, that such provision has been, and will be made for defraying the two first articles, as has been and shall be judged, by the legislatures of the several colonies, just and suitable to their respective circumstances: and for the defence, protection and security, of the colonies, their militia, if properly regulated, as they earnestly desire may immediately be done, would be fully sufficient, at least in times of peace; and in case of war, your faithful colonists will be ready

and willing, as they have ever been, when constitutionally required, to demonstrate their loyalty to your majesty, by exerting their most strenuous efforts in granting supplies and raising forces. Yielding to no British subjects in affectionate attachment to your majesty's person, family and government; we too dearly prize the privilege of expressing that attachment by those proofs, that are honorable to the prince who receives them, and to the people who give them, ever to resign it to any body of men upon earth.

Had we been permitted to enjoy, in quiet, the inheritance left us by our forefathers, we should, at this time, have been peaceably, cheerfully, and usefully employed in recommending ourselves, by every testimony of devotion, to your majesty, and of veneration to the state, from which we derive our origin. But though now exposed to unexpected and unnatural scenes of distress by a contention with that nation, in whose parental guidance on all important affairs we have hitherto, with filial reverence, constantly trusted, and therefore can derive no instruction in our present unhappy and perplexing circumstances from any former experience; yet, we doubt not, the purity of our intention, and the integrity of our conduct, will justify us at that grand tribunal, before which all mankind must submit to judgment.

We ask but for peace, liberty, and safety. We wish not a diminution of the prerogative, nor do we solicit the grant of any new right in our favour. Your royal authority over us, and our connection with Great-Britain, we shall always carefully and zealously endeavor to support and maintain.

Filled with sentiments of duty to your majesty, and of affection to our parent state, deeply impressed by our education, and strongly confirmed by our reason, and anxious to evince the sincerity of these dispositions, we present this petition only to obtain redress of grievances, and relief from fears and jealousies, occasioned by the system of statutes and regulations adopted since the close of the late war, for raising a revenue in America—ex-

ten ding

tending the powers of courts of admiralty and vice-admiralty—trying persons in Great-Britain for offences alledged to be committed in America—affecting the province of Massachusetts-Bay—and altering the government, and extending the limits of Quebec ; by the abolition of which system, the harmony between Great-Britain and these colonies, so necessary to the happiness of both, and so ardently desired by the latter, and the usual intercourses, will be immediately restored. In the magnanimity and justice of your majesty and parliament we confide for a redress of our other grievances, trusting, that when the causes of our apprehensions are removed, our future conduct will prove us not unworthy of the regard we have been accustomed, in our happier days, to enjoy. For, appealing to that Being who searches thoroughly the hearts of his creatures, we solemnly profess, that our councils have been influenced by no other motive, than a dread of impending danger.

Permit us then, most gracious sovereign, in the name of all your faithful people in America, with the utmost humility, to implore you, for the honor of Almighty God, whose pure religion our enemies are undermining ; for your glory, which can be advanced only by rendering your subjects happy, and keeping them united ; for the interests of your family, depending on an adherence to the principles that enthroned it ; for the safety and welfare of your kingdoms and dominions, threatened with almost unavoidable dangers and distresses—that your majesty, as the loving father of your whole people, connected by the same bonds of law, loyalty, faith and blood, though dwelling in various countries, will not suffer the transcendant relation formed by these ties to be farther violated, in uncertain expectation of effects, that, if attained, never can compensate for the calamities through which they must be gained.

WE, therefore, most earnestly beseech your majesty, that your royal authority and interposition may be used for our relief ; and that a gracious answer may be given to this petition.

That

That your majesty may enjoy every felicity through a long and glorious reign over loyal and happy subjects, and that your descendants may inherit your prosperity and dominions till time shall be no more, is, and always will be, our sincere and fervent prayer.

*A DECLARATION by the REPRESENTATIVES
of the United Colonies of North-America, setting forth
the Causes and Necessity of their taking up Arms, July 6,
1775.*

IF it was possible for men, who exercise their reason to believe, that the Divine author of our existence intended a part of the human race to hold an absolute property in, and an unbounded power over others, marked out by his infinite goodness and wisdom, as the objects of a legal domination never rightfully resistible, however severe and oppressive, the inhabitants of these Colonies might at least require from the parliament of *Great Britain* some evidence, that this dreadful authority over them has been granted to that body. But a reverence for our great Creator, principles of humanity, and the dictates of common sense, must convince all those who reflect upon the subject, that government was instituted to promote the welfare of mankind, and ought to be administered for the attainment of that end. The legislature of *Great-Britain*, however, stimulated by an inordinate passion for a power not only unjustifiable, but which they know to be peculiarly reprobated by the very constitution of that kingdom, and desperate of success in any mode of contest, where regard should be had to truth, law, or right, have at length, deserting those, attempted to effect their cruel and impolitic purpose of enslaving these Colonies by violence, and have thereby rendered it necessary for us to close with their last appeal from reason to arms.—Yet, however blinded that assembly may be, by their intemperate rage for unlimited domination, so to slight justice and the opinion of mankind, we esteem ourselves bound by obligations of respect to the rest of the world, to make known the justice of our cause.

Our

Our forefathers, inhabitants of the island of *Great-Britain*, left their native land, to seek on these shores a residence for civil and religious freedom. At the expence of their blood, at the hazard of their fortunes, without the least charge to the country from which they removed, by unceasing labor and an unconquerable spirit, they effected settlements in the distant and inhospitable wilds of *America*, then filled with numerous and warlike nations of barbarians.—Societies or governments, vested with perfect legislatures, were formed under charters from the crown, and an harmonious intercourse was established between the Colonies and the kingdom from which they derived their origin. The mutual benefits of this union become in a short time so extraordinary, as to excite astonishment. It is universally confessed, that the amazing increase of the wealth, strength, and navigation of the realm, arose from this source; and the minister, who so wisely and successfully directed the measures of *Great-Britain* in the late war, publicly declared, that these Colonies enabled her to triumph over her enemies.—Towards the conclusion of that war, it pleased our sovereign to make a change in his counsels.—From that fatal moment, the affairs of the *British* empire began to fall into confusion, and gradually sliding from the summit of glorious prosperity to which they had been advanced by the virtues and abilities of one man, are at length distracted by the convulsions, that now shake it to its deepest foundations.—The new ministry finding the brave foes of *Britain*, though frequently defeated, yet still contending, took up the unfortunate idea of granting them a hasty peace, and of then subduing her faithful friends. These devoted Colonies were judged to be in such a state, as to present victories without bloodshed, and all the easy emoluments of statuteable plunder.—The uninterrupted tenor of their peaceable and respectful behavior from the beginning of colonization, their dutiful, zealous, and useful services during the war, though so recently and amply acknowledged in the most honorable manner by his majesty, by the late king, and by parliament, could
not

not save them from the meditated innovations.—parliament was influenced to adopt the pernicious project, and assuming a new power over them, have in the course of eleven years given such decisive specimens of the spirit and consequences attending this power, as to leave no doubt concerning the effects of acquiescence under it. They have undertaken to give and grant our money without our consent, though we have ever exercised an exclusive right to dispose of our own property; statutes have been passed for extending the jurisdiction of courts of admiralty and vice admiralty beyond their ancient limits; for depriving us of the accustomed and inestimable privilege of trial by jury in cases affecting both life and property; for suspending the legislature of one of the Colonies; for interdicting all commerce to the capital of another; and for altering fundamentally the form of government established by charter, and secured by acts of its own legislature solemnly confirmed by the crown; for exempting the “murderers” of Colonists from legal trial, and in effect, from punishment; for erecting in a neighbouring province, acquired by the joint arms of *Great-Britain* and *America*, a despotism dangerous to our very existence; and for quartering soldiers upon the Colonists in time of profound peace. It has also been resolved in parliament, that Colonists charged with committing certain offences, shall be transported to *England* to be tried.

But why should we enumerate our injuries in detail? By one statute it is declared, that parliament can “of right make laws to bind us *in all cases whatsoever*.” What is to defend us against so enormous, so unlimited a power? Not a single man of those who assume it, is chosen by us; or is subject to our control or influence; but on the contrary, they are all of them exempt from the operation of such laws, and an *American* revenue, if not diverted from the ostensible purpose for which it is raised, would actually lighten their own burdens in proportion as they increase ours. We saw the misery to which such despotism would reduce us. We for ten years incessantly and ineffectually besieged the throne as supplicants; we

reasoned,

reasoned, we remonstrated with parliament in the most mild and decent language.

Administration sensible that we should regard these oppressive measures as freemen ought to do, sent over fleets and armies to enforce them. The indignation of the *Americans* was roused, it is true; but it was the indignation of a virtuous, loyal, and affectionate people. A Congress of delegates from the United Colonies was assembled at *Philadelphia*, on the *fifth* day of last *September*. We resolved again to offer an humble and dutiful petition to the king, and also addressed our fellow subjects of *Great-Britain*. We have pursued every temperate, every respectful measure; we have even proceeded to break off our commercial intercourse with our fellow subjects, as the last peaceable admonition, that our attachment to no nation upon earth should supplant our attachment to liberty.—This we flattered ourselves, was the ultimate step of the controversy: But subsequent events have shewn, how vain was this hope of finding moderation in our enemies.

Several threatening expressions against the Colonies were inserted in his majesty's speech; our petition, tho' we were told it was a decent one, and that his majesty had been pleased to receive it graciously, and to promise laying it before his parliament, was huddled into both houses among a bundle of *American* papers, and there neglected. The lords and commons in their address, in the month of February, said that "a rebellion at that time actually existed within the province of *Massachusetts-Bay*; and that those concerned in it, had been countenanced and encouraged by unlawful combinations and engagements, entered into by his majesty's subjects in several of the other Colonies; and therefore they besought his majesty, that he would take the most effectual measures to enforce due obedience to the laws and authority of the supreme legislature."—Soon after, the commercial intercourse of whole Colonies, with foreign countries, and with each other, was cut off by an act of parliament; by another, several of them were intirely prohibited from
the

the fisheries in the seas near their coast, on which they always depended for their subsistence; and large reinforcements of ships and troops were immediately sent over to general Gage.

Fruitless were all the entreaties, arguments, and eloquence of an illustrious band of the most distinguished peers, and commoners, who nobly and strenuously asserted the justice of our cause, to stay, or even to mitigate the heedless fury with which these accumulated and unexampled outrages were hurried on — Equally fruitless was the interference of the city of London, of Bristol, and many other respectable towns in our favor. Parliament adopted an insidious manœuvre calculated to divide us, to establish a perpetual auction of taxations where Colony should bid against Colony, all of them uninformed what ransom would redeem their lives; and thus to extort from us, at the point of the bayonet, the unknown sums that would be sufficient to gratify, if possible to gratify, ministerial rapacity, with the miserable indulgence left to us of raising, in our own mode, the prescribed tribute. What terms more rigid and humiliating could have been dictated by remorseless victors to conquered enemies? In our circumstances to accept them, would be to deserve them.

Soon after the intelligence of these proceedings arrived on this continent, general *Gage*, who in the course of the last year had taken possession of the town of *Boston*, in the province of *Massachusetts-Bay*, and still occupied it as a garrison, on the 19th day of *April*, sent out from that place a large detachment of his army, who made an unprovoked assault on the inhabitants of the said province, at the town of *Lexington*, as appears by the affidavits of a great number of persons, some of whom were officers and soldiers of that detachment, murdered eight of the inhabitants, and wounded many others. From thence the troops proceeded in warlike array to the town of *Concord*, where they set upon another party of the inhabitants of the same province, killing several and wounding more, until compelled to retreat by the country people suddenly assembled

assembled to repel this cruel aggression. Hostilities, thus commenced by the *British* troops, have been since prosecuted by them without regard to faith or reputation.—The inhabitants of *Boston* being confined within that town by the general their governor, and having, in order to procure their dismissal, entered into a treaty with him, it was stipulated that the said inhabitants having deposited their arms, with their own magistrates, should have liberty to depart, taking with them their other effects. They accordingly delivered up their arms, but in open violation of honor, in defiance of the obligation of treaties, which even savage nations esteem sacred, the governor ordered the arms deposited as aforesaid, that they might be preserved for their owners, to be seized by a body of soldiers; detained the greatest part of the inhabitants in the town, and compelled the few who were permitted to retire, to leave their most valuable effects behind.

By this perfidy wives are separated from their husbands, children from their parents, the aged and the sick from their relations and friends, who wish to attend and comfort them; and these who have been used to live in plenty and even elegance, are reduced to deplorable distress.

The general, further emulating his ministerial masters, by a proclamation bearing date on the 12th day of June, after venting the grossest falsehoods and calumnies against the good people of these Colonies, proceeds to “declare them all, either by name or description, to be rebels and traitors, to supersede the course of the common law, and instead thereof to publish and order the use and exercise of the law martial.” His troops have butchered our countrymen, have wantonly burnt Charlestown, besides a considerable number of houses in other places; our ships and vessels are seized; the necessary supplies of provisions are intercepted, and he is exerting his utmost power to spread destruction and devastation around him.

We have received certain intelligence, that general Carleton, the governor of Canada, is instigating the
N
people

people of that province and the Indians to fall upon us; and we have but too much reason to apprehend, that schemes have been formed to excite domestic enemies against us. In brief, a part of these Colonies now feel, and all of them are sure of feeling, as far as the vengeance of administration can inflict them, the complicated calamities of fire, sword, and famine. We are reduced to the alternative of chusing an unconditional submission to the tyranny of irritated ministers, or resistance by force. —The latter is our choice.—We have counted the cost of this contest, and find nothing so dreadful as voluntary slavery. —Honor, justice, and humanity, forbid us tamely to surrender that freedom which we received from our gallant ancestors, and which our innocent posterity have a right to receive from us. We cannot endire the infamy and guilt of resigning succeeding generations to that wretchedness which inevitably awaits them, if we basely entail hereditary bondage upon them.

Our cause is just. Our union is perfect. Our internal resources are great, and, if necessary, foreign assistance is undoubtedly attainable.—We gratefully acknowledge, as signal instances of the Divine favor towards us, that providence would not permit us to be called into this severe controversy, until we were grown up to our present strength, had been previously exercised in warlike operations, and possessed of the means of defending ourselves. With hearts fortified with these animating reflections, we most solemnly, before God and the world, *declare*, that, exerting the utmost energy of those powers, which our beneficent Creator hath graciously bestowed upon us, the arms we have been compelled by our enemies to assume, we will, in defiance of every hazard, with unabating firmness and perseverance, employ for the preservation of our liberties; being with one mind resolved to die freemen rather than to live slaves.

Left this declaration should disquiet the minds of our friends and fellow-subjects in any part of the empire, we assure them that we mean not to dissolve that union which has so long and so happily subsisted between us, and
which

which we sincerely wish to see restored.—Necessity has not yet driven us into that desperate measure, or induced us to excite any other nation to war against them.—We have not raised armies with ambitious designs of separating from Great-Britain, and establishing independent states. We fight not for glory or for conquest. We exhibit to mankind the remarkable spectacle of a people attacked by unprovoked enemies, without an imputation or even suspicion of offence. They boast of their privileges and civilization, and yet proffer no milder conditions than servitude or death.

In our own native land, in defence of the freedom that is our birth-right, and which we ever enjoyed till the late violation of it—for the protection of our property, acquired solely by the honest industry of our fore-fathers and ourselves, against violence actually offered, we have taken up arms. We shall lay them down when hostilities shall cease on the part of the aggressors, and all danger of their being renewed shall be removed, and not before.

With an humble confidence in the mercies of the supreme and impartial Judge and ruler of the universe, we most devoutly implore his Divine goodness to protect us happily through this great conflict, to dispose our adversaries to reconciliation on reasonable terms, and thereby to relieve the empire from the calamities of civil war.

The second ADDRESS of the Congress of the United Colonies of North-America, to the People of Great-Britain, agreed to in Congress the 8th day of July, 1775.

Friends, Countrymen, and Brethren,

BY these, and by every other appellation that may designate the ties which bind us to each other, we entreat your serious attention to this our second attempt to prevent their dissolution. Remembrance of former friendships, pride in the glorious achievements of our common ancestors, and affections for the heirs of their virtues, have hitherto preserved our mutual connection; but

but when that friendship is violated by the grossest injuries; when the pride of ancestry becomes our reproach, and we are no otherwise allied than as tyrants and slaves; when reduced to the melancholy alternative of renouncing your favor or our freedom; can we hesitate about the choice? Let the spirit of Britons determine.

In a former address we asserted our rights, and stated the injuries we had then received. We hoped that the mention of our wrongs would have roused that honest indignation which has slept too long for your honor, or the welfare of the empire. But we have not been permitted to entertain this pleasing expectation. Every day brought an accumulation of injuries, and the invention of the ministry has been constantly exercised, in adding to the calamities of your American brethren.

After the most valuable right of legislation was infringed; when the powers assumed by your parliament, in which we are not represented, and from our local and other circumstances cannot properly be represented, rendered our property precarious; after being denied that mode of trial, to which we have long been indebted for the safety of our persons, and the preservation of our liberties; after being in many instances divested of those laws, which were transmitted to us by our common ancestors, and subjected to an arbitrary code, compiled under the auspices of Roman tyrants; after those charters, which encouraged our predecessors to brave death and danger in every shape, on unknown seas, in deserts unexplored, amidst barbarous and inhospitable nations, were annulled; when without the form of trial, without a public accusation, whole colonies were condemned, their trade destroyed, their inhabitants impoverished; when soldiers were encouraged to imbrue their hands in the blood of Americans, by offers of impunity; when new modes of trial were instituted for the ruin of the accused, where the charge carried with it the horrors of conviction; when a despotic government was established in a neighboring province, and its limits extended to every of our frontiers; we little imagined that any thing
could

could be added to this black catalogue of unprovoked injuries: but we have unhappily been deceived, and the late measures of the British ministry fully convince us, that their object is the reduction of these colonies to slavery and ruin.

To confirm this assertion, let us recall your attention to the affairs of America, since our last address. Let us combat the calumnies of our enemies; and let us warn you of the dangers that threaten you in our destruction. Many of your fellow-subjects, whose situation deprived them of other support, drew their maintenance from the sea; but the deprivation of our liberty being insufficient to satisfy the resentment of our enemies, the horrors of famine were superadded, and a British parliament, who, in better times, were the protectors of innocence, and the patrons of humanity, have, without distinction of age or sex, robbed thousands of the food which they were accustomed to draw from that inexhaustible source, placed in their neighborhood by the benevolent Creator.

Another act of your legislature shuts our ports, and prohibits our trade with any, but those states from whom the great law of self-preservation renders it absolutely necessary we should at present withhold our commerce. But this act, whatever may have been its design, we consider rather as injurious to your opulence than our interest. All our commerce terminates with you; and the wealth we procure from other nations, is soon exchanged for your superfluities. Our remittances must then cease with our trade; and our refinements with our affluence. We trust, however, that laws which deprive us of every blessing but a soil that teems with the necessaries of life, and that liberty which renders the enjoyment of them secure, will not relax our vigor in their defence.

We might here observe on the cruelty and inconsistency of those, who, while they publicly brand us with reproachful and unworthy epithets, endeavor to deprive us of the means of defence, by their interposition with foreign powers, and to deliver us to the lawless ravages of a merciless soldiery. But happily we are not without re-

sources; and though the timid and humiliating applications of a British ministry should prevail with foreign nations, yet industry, prompted by necessity, will not leave us without the necessary supplies.

We could wish to go no further, and, not to wound the ear of humanity, leave untold those rigorous acts of oppression, which are daily exercised in the town of Bolton, did we not hope, that by disclaiming their deeds and punishing the perpetrators, you would shortly vindicate the honor of the British name, and re-establish the violated laws of justice.

That once populous, flourishing, and commercial town, is now garrisoned by an army sent, not to protect, but to enslave its inhabitants. The civil government is overturned, and a military despotism erected upon its ruins. Without law, without right, powers are assumed unknown to the constitution. Private property is unjustly invaded. The inhabitants, daily subjected to the licentiousness of the soldiery, are forbid to remove, in defiance of their natural rights, in violation of the most solemn compacts. Or if, after long and wearisome solicitation, a pass is procured, their effects are detained, and even those who are most favored, have no alternative but poverty or slavery. The distress of many thousand people, wantonly deprived of the necessities of life, is a subject on which we should not wish to enlarge.

Yet we cannot but observe, that a British fleet, unjustified even by acts of your legislature, are daily employed in ruining our commerce, seizing our ships, and depriving whole communities of their daily bread. Nor will a regard for your honor permit us to be silent, while British troops sully your glory, by actions, which the most inveterate enmity will not palliate among civilized nations, the wanton and unnecessary destruction of Charleston, a large, ancient, and once populous town, before deserted by its inhabitants, who had fled to avoid the fury of your soldiery.

If you still retain those sentiments of compassion, by which Britons have ever been distinguished; if the humanity,

manity, if the valor of our common ancestors, ~~has~~ not degenerated into cruelty, you will lament the miseries of their descendants.

To what are we to attribute this treatment ? If to any secret principle of the constitution, let it be mentioned ; let us learn, that the government we have long revered, is not without its defects, and that while it gives freedom to a part, it necessarily enslaves the remainder of the empire. If such a principle exists, why for ages has it ceased to operate ? Why, at this time, is it called into action ? Can no reason be assigned for this conduct ? Or must it be resolved into the wanton exercise of arbitrary power ? And shall the descendants of Britons tamely submit to this ? No, sirs ! we never will. While we revere the memory of our gallant and virtuous ancestors, we never can surrender those glorious privileges, for which they fought, bled, and conquered. Admit that your fleets could destroy our towns, and ravage our sea-coasts ; these are inconsiderable objects ; things of no moment to men, whose bosoms glow with the ardor of liberty. We can retire beyond the reach of your navy, and without any sensible diminution of the necessities of life, enjoy a luxury, which from that period you will want ; the luxury of being free.

We know the force of your arms, and was it called forth in the cause of justice and your country, we might dread the exertion ; but will Britons fight under the banners of tyranny ? Will they counteract the labors, and disgrace the victories of their ancestors ? Will they forge chains for their posterity ? If they descend to this unworthy task, will their swords retain their edge, their arms their accustomed vigor ! Britons can never become the instruments of oppression, till they loose the spirit of freedom, by which, alone, they are invincible.

Our enemies charge us with sedition. In what does it consist ! In our refusal to submit to unwarrantable acts of injustice and cruelty ? If so, shew us a period in your history, in which you have not been equally seditious.

We are accused of aiming at independence ; but how

is this accusation supported? By the allegations of your ministers, not by our actions. Abused, insulted, and contemned, what steps have we pursued to obtain redress? We have carried our dutiful petitions to the throne. We have applied to your justice for relief. We have retrenched our luxury, and withheld our trade.

The advantages of our commerce were designed as a compensation for your protection: when you ceased to protect, for what are we to compensate?

What has been the success of our endeavors? The clemency of our sovereign is unhappily diverted; our petitions are treated with indignity; our prayers answered by insults. Our application to you remains unnoticed, and leaves us the melancholy apprehension of your wanting either the will, or the power, to assist us.

Even under these circumstances, what measures have we taken that betray a desire of independence? Have we called in the aid of those foreign powers, who are the rivals of your grandeur? When your troops were few and defenceless, did we take advantage of their distress, and expel them our towns? Or have we permitted them to fortify, to receive new aid, and to acquire additional strength?

Let not your enemies and ours persuade you, that in this we were influenced by fear or any other unworthy motive. The lives of Britons are still dear to us. They are the children of our parents, and an uninterrupted intercourse of mutual benefits had knit the bonds of friendship. When hostilities were commenced, when on a late occasion we were wantonly attacked by your troops, though we repelled their assaults and returned their blows, yet we lamented the wounds they obliged us to give; nor have we yet learned to rejoice at a victory over Englishmen.

As we wish not to colour our actions, or disguise our thoughts, we shall, in the simple language of truth, avow the measures we have pursued, the motives upon which we have acted, and our future designs.

When our late petition to the throne produced no o-

ther

their effect than fresh injuries, and votes of your legislature calculated to justify every severity ; when your fleets and your armies were prepared to wren from us our property, to rob us of our liberties or our lives ; when the hostile attempts of general Gage evinced his designs, we levied armies for our security and defence. When the powers vested in the governor of Canada, gave us reason to apprehend danger from that quarter, and we had frequent intimations, that a cruel and savage enemy was to be let loose upon the defenceless inhabitants of our frontiers, we took such measures as prudence dictated, as necessity will justify. We possessed ourselves of Crown-Point and Ticonderoga. Yet, give us leave most solemnly to assure you, that we have not yet lost sight of the object we have ever had in view, a reconciliation with you on constitutional principles, and a restoration of that friendly intercourse, which, to the advantage of both, we, till lately, maintained.

The inhabitants of this country apply themselves chiefly to agriculture and commerce. As their fashions and manners are similar to yours, your markets must afford them the conveniencies and luxuries, for which they exchange the produce of their labors. The wealth of this extended continent centers with you ; and our trade is so regulated as to be subservient only to your interest. You are too reasonable to expect, that by taxes, in addition to this, we should contribute to your expence ; to believe, after diverting the fountain, that the streams can flow with unabated force.

It has been said, that we refuse to submit to the restrictions on our commerce. From whence is this inference drawn ? Not from our words, we having repeatedly declared to the contrary ; and we again profess our submission to the several acts of trade and navigation passed before the year 1763, trusting, nevertheless, in the equity and justice of parliament, that such of them as, upon cool and impartial consideration shall appear to have imposed unnecessary or grievous restrictions, will, at some happier period, be repealed or altered. And we cheerfully

fully consent to the operation of such acts of the British parliament as shall be restrained to the regulation of our external commerce, for the purpose of securing the commercial advantages of the whole empire to the mother-country, and the commercial benefits of its respective members; excluding every idea of taxation, internal or external, for raising a revenue on the subjects in America without their consent.

It is alledged, that we contribute nothing to the common defence. To this we answer, that the advantages which Great-Britain receives from the monopoly of our trade, far exceed our proportion of the expence necessary for that purpose. But should these advantages be inadequate thereto, let the restrictions on our trade be removed, and we will cheerfully contribute our proportion when constitutionally required.

It is a fundamental principle of the British constitution, that every man should have at least a representative share in the formation of those laws by which he is bound. Were it otherwise, the regulation of our internal police by a British parliament, who are and ever will be unacquainted with our local circumstances, must be always inconvenient, and frequently oppressive, working our wrong, without yielding any possible advantage to you.

A plan of accommodation, as it has been absurdly called, has been proposed by your ministers to our respective assemblies. Were this proposal free from every other objection, but that which arises from the time of the offer, it would not be unexceptionable. Can men deliberate with the bayonet at their breasts? Can they treat with freedom, while their towns are sacked; when daily instances of injustice and oppression disturb the slower operations of reason?

If this proposal is really such as you would offer and we accept, why was it delayed till the nation was put to useless expence, and we were reduced to our present melancholy situation? If it holds forth nothing, why was it proposed? Unless, indeed, to deceive you into a belief, that we were unwilling to listen to any terms of accommodation.

tion? But what is submitted to our consideration? We contend for the disposal of our property. We are told that our demand is unreasonable, that our assemblies may indeed collect our money, but that they must, at the same time, offer, not what your exigencies or ours may require, but so much as shall be deemed sufficient to satisfy the desires of a minister, and enable him to provide for favorites and dependants. A recurrence to your own treasury will convince you how little of the money already extorted from us, has been applied to the relief of your burdens. To suppose that we would thus grasp the shadow, and give up the substance, is adding insult to injuries.

We have nevertheless, again presented an humble and dutiful petition to our sovereign; and to remove every imputation of obstinacy, have requested his majesty to direct some mode, by which the united applications of his faithful colonists may be improved into a happy and permanent reconciliation. We are willing to treat on such terms as can alone render an accommodation lasting, and we flatter ourselves that our pacific endeavors will be attended with a removal of ministerial troops, and a repeal of those laws, of the operation of which we complain, on the one part; and a disbanding of our army, and a dissolution of our commercial associations, on the other.

Yet conclude not from this that we purpose to surrender our property into the hands of your ministry, or vest your parliament with a power which may terminate in our destruction. The great bulwarks of our constitution we have have desired to maintain by every temperate, by every peaceable means; but your ministers (equal foes to British and American freedom) have added to their former oppressions an attempt to reduce us by the sword to a base and abject submission. On the sword, therefore, we are obliged to rely for protection. Should victory declare in your favor, yet men trained to arms from their infancy, and animated by the love of liberty, will afford neither a cheap nor easy conquest. Of this at least we are assured, that our struggle will be glorious, our success certain;

certain; since even in death we shall find that freedom which in life you forbid us to enjoy.

Let us now ask what advantages are to attend our reduction? The trade of a ruined and desolate country is always inconsiderable, its revenue trifling; the expence of subjecting and retaining it in subjection certain and inevitable. What then remains but the gratification of an ill-judged pride, or the hope of rendering us subservient to designs on your liberty.

Soldiers who have sheathed their swords in the bowels of their American brethren, will not draw them with more reluctance against you. When too late you may lament the loss of that freedom, which we exhort you, while still in your power, to preserve.

On the other hand, should you prove unsuccessful; should that connection, which we most ardently wish to maintain, be dissolved; should your ministers exhaust your treasures and waste the blood of your countrymen in vain attempts on our liberty; do they not deliver you, weak and defenceless, to your natural enemies.

Since then your liberty must be the price of your victories; your ruin, of your defeat: — What blind fatality can urge you to a pursuit destructive of all that Britons hold dear?

If you have no regard to the connection that has for ages subsisted between us; if you have forgot the wounds we have received fighting by your side for the extension of the empire; if our commerce is not an object below your consideration; if justice and humanity have lost their influence on your hearts; still motives are not wanting to excite your indignation at the measures now pursued: Your wealth, your honor, your liberty are at stake.

Notwithstanding the distress to which we are reduced, we sometimes forget our own afflictions, to anticipate and sympathize in yours. We grieve that rash and inconsiderate councils should precipitate the destruction of an empire, which has been the envy and admiration of ages, and call God to witness! that we should part with our property, endanger our lives, and sacrifice every thing but liberty, to redeem you from ruin.

A cloud hangs over your heads and ours; e'er this reaches you, it may probably burst upon us; let us then (before the remembrance of former kindness is obliterated) once more repeat those appellations which are ever grateful in our ears; let us entreat heaven to avert our ruin, and the destruction that threatens our friends, brethren, and countrymen, on the other side of the Atlantic.

A DECLARATION by the Representatives of the UNITED STATES of AMERICA, in Congress assembled, July 4, 1776.

WHEN, in the course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another, and to assume, among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the laws of nature and of nature's God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires, that they should declare the causes which impel them to a separation.

We hold these truths to be self-evident; that all men are created equal; that they are endowed, by their Creator, with certain unalienable rights; that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.—That to secure these rights, governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed; that whenever any form of government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the right of the people to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new government, laying its foundation on such principles, and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their safety and happiness.—Prudence, indeed, will dictate, that governments long established, should not be changed for light and transient causes; and accordingly all experience hath shewn, that mankind are more disposed to suffer, while evils are sufferable, than to right themselves by abolishing the forms to which they are accustomed. But when a long train of abuses and usurpations, pursuing invariably the same ob-
O
ject

ject, evinces a design to reduce them under absolute despotism, it is their right, it is their duty, to throw off such government, and to provide new guards for their future security. Such has been the present sufferance of these colonies; and such is now the necessity which constrains them to alter their former systems of government. The history of the present king of Great-Britain is a history of repeated injuries and usurpations, all having in direct object the establishment of an absolute tyranny over these states. To prove this, let facts be submitted to a candid world.

He has refused his assent to laws the most wholesome, and necessary for the public good.

He has forbidden his governors to pass laws of immediate and pressing importance, unless suspended in their operation till his assent should be obtained; and when so suspended, he has utterly neglected to attend to them.

He has refused to pass other laws for the accommodation of large districts of people, unless those people would relinquish the right of representation in the legislature; a right inestimable to them, and formidable to tyrants only.

He has called together legislative bodies at places unusual, uncomfortable, and distant from the depository of their public records, for the sole purpose of fatiguing them into compliance with his measures.

He has dissolved representative houses repeatedly, for opposing, with manly firmness, his invasions on the rights of the people.

He has refused for a long time, after such dissolutions, to cause others to be elected; whereby the legislative powers, incapable of annihilation, have returned to the people at large for their exercise; the state remaining, in the mean time, exposed to the dangers of invasion from without, and convulsions within.

He has endeavored to prevent the population of these states; for that purpose obstructing the laws for naturalization of foreigners; refusing to pass others to encourage
their

their migration hither, and raising the conditions of new appropriations of lands.

He has obstructed the administration of justice, by refusing his assent to laws for establishing judiciary powers.

He has made judges dependent on his will alone, for the tenure of their offices, and the amount and payment of their salaries.

He has erected a multitude of new offices, and sent hither swarms of officers to harass our people, and eat out their substance.

He has kept among us, in times of peace, standing armies, without the consent of our legislatures.

He has affected to render the military independent of, and superior to the civil power.

He has combined with others to subject us to a jurisdiction foreign to our constitution, and unacknowledged by our laws; giving his assent to their acts of pretended legislation :

For quartering large bodies of armed troops among us :

For protecting them, by a mock trial, from punishment for any murders which they should commit on the inhabitants of these states :

For cutting off our trade with all parts of the world :

For imposing taxes on us without our consent :

For depriving us, in many cases, of the benefits of trial by jury.

For transporting us beyond seas to be tried for pretended offences :

For abolishing the free system of English laws in a neighboring province, establishing therein an arbitrary government, and enlarging its boundaries, so as to render it at once an example and fit instrument for introducing the same absolute rule into these colonies :

For taking away our charters, abolishing our most valuable laws, and altering fundamentally the forms of our governments :

For suspending our own legislatures, and declaring themselves invested with power to legislate for us in all cases whatsoever.

He

He has abdicated government here, by declaring us out of his protection, and waging war against us.

He has plundered our seas, ravaged our coasts, burnt our towns, and destroyed the lives of our people.

He is, at this time, transporting large armies of foreign mercenaries to complete the works of death, desolation, and tyranny, already begun with circumstances of cruelty and perfidy, scarcely paralleled in the most barbarous ages, and totally unworthy the head of a civilized nation.

He has constrained our fellow-citizens taken captive on the high seas, to bear arms against their country, to become the executioners of their friends and brethren, or to fall themselves by their hands.

He has excited domestic insurrection amongst us, and has endeavored to bring on the inhabitants of our frontiers the merciless indian savages, whose known rule of warfare is an undistinguished destruction, of all ages, sexes and conditions.

In every stage of these oppressions we have petitioned for redress in the most humble terms: our repeated petitions have been answered only by repeated injury. A prince, whose character is thus marked by every act which may define a tyrant, is unfit to be the ruler of a free people.

Nor have we been wanting in attentions to our British brethren. We have warned them, from time to time, of attempts by their legislature to extend an unwarrantable jurisdiction over us. We have reminded them of the circumstances of our emigration and settlement here. We have appealed to their native justice and magnanimity, and we have conjured them by the ties of our common kindred to disavow those usurpations, which would inevitably interrupt our connexions and correspondence. They too have been deaf to the voice of justice and of consanguinity. We must, therefore, acquiesce in the necessity, which denounces our separation, and hold them, as we hold the rest of mankind, enemies in war, in peace, friends.

We,

We, therefore, the representatives of the UNITED STATES of AMERICA, in GENERAL CONGRESS assembled, appealing to the supreme Judge of the world for the rectitude of our intentions, do, in the name, and by authority of the good people of these colonies, solemnly publish and declare, That these United Colonies are, and of right ought to be, FREE and INDEPENDENT STATES; that they are absolved from all allegiance to the British crown, and that all political connexion between them and the state of Great Britain, is, and ought to be, totally dissolved; and that as FREE and INDEPENDENT STATES, they have full power to levy war, conclude peace, contract alliances, establish commerce, and to do all other acts and things which INDEPENDENT STATES may of right do. And for the support of this declaration, with a firm reliance on the protection of DIVINE PROVIDENCE, we mutually pledge to each other our lives, our fortunes, and our sacred honor.

A short ACCOUNT of the CONSTITUTION of each of the STATES.

THE supreme power of the United States is lodged in a Congress of delegates from each of the states; but each state retains its sovereignty and independence, and every right which is not expressly delegated to the United States in Congress assembled.

New-Hampshire. The executive power is in a president, who is chosen annually by the people; he must be at thirty years of age, have an estate of 500*l.* one half of which to be a freehold, in his own right, and be of the Protestant religion.—He is assisted by a council of five, chosen annually by the legislature, from among themselves.

The legislative power is vested in a senate and-house of representatives; who are elected annually by the people.

—A senator must be of the Protestant religion, and be seized in his own right of a freehold estate of 200*l.* of thirty years of age, and an inhabitant of the district for which he is chosen. A representative must have been an inhabitant of the state for two years have an estate of the value of 100*l.* one half of which to be a freehold, in his own right, be an inhabitant of the district in which he is chosen, and be of the Protestant religion.

All males of twenty one years of age, having paid taxes, are intitled to vote for all elective officers in the state.

Massachusetts-Bay. The executive power is in a governor, lieutenant governor, and privy council: The legislature consists of two branches, a senate, and a house of representatives. A senator must have been an inhabitant of the state five years, possess a real estate of 300*l.* or a personal estate of 600*l.* A representative must have been an inhabitant one year, have a freehold of a 100*l.* or a personal estate of 200*l.* The governor or lieutenant governor must have been an inhabitant for seven years, and possess a freehold of 1000*l.* An elector must be an inhabitant, and possess an estate of 60*l.* or an annually income of 3*l.* The governor, lieutenant governor, and legislature, are chosen annually by the people. The privy council are annually chosen by the legislature from the members of the senate.

All who renounce every foreign jurisdiction, civil and ecclesiastic, are admitted to the offices of government.

Rhode-Island. The government of this state is the same as established by the charter of Charles II; for in that the king ceded to the people all powers, legislative, executive and judiciary. The legislature consists of two branches; the governor sits in the upper house. The legislature are chosen annually by the people. Every freeman has a right to elect or be elected into office.

Connecticut. This state also retains its ancient form of government, which is nearly the same with that of Rhode-Island.

Mand. Forty shillings freehold or forty pounds personal estate, a civil conversation, and maturity of years, qualifies an inhabitant to elect or be elected into office.

New-York. The executive power is lodged in a governor. The legislature consists of two branches, a senate, and a house of assembly. The governor is chosen every three years; he must possess a clear freehold of 100/. he is chosen by freeholders of the same qualification. The senators and their electors must be qualified as aforesaid. The assembly is chosen by all those who have been resident in the state for six months, possess a freehold a 20/. or have rented a tenement of the yearly value of 40s.

New-Jersey. The executive power is lodged in a governor, who is chosen annually by the legislature. The legislative power is in a council and general assembly. The qualifications of the governor and councillors are, one year's residence, and an estate of a 1000/. An assemblyman must have an estate of 500/, and have been an inhabitant one year. The electors must have been residents one year and be worth 50/. The council and assembly are chosen annually.

Protestants only are admitted to offices of government.

Pennsylvania. The executive power is lodged in a president and council: The legislative power is in a house of representatives. The president is chosen annually by the council and assembly; the council is chosen triennially, and the assembly annually, by the people. One year's residence, and having paid public taxes, qualify a man to be an elector; and two years residence renders a man eligible to any office in the commonwealth. A council of censors are chosen every seven years, to enquire into the abuses of the constitution.

All who profess the Christian religion are admitted to the offices of government.

Delaware. The executive power is in a governor and
privy

privy council, who are elected by the legislature: The legislature consists of two branches, a council and a house of assembly. The governor is chosen triennially, and the privy council for two years; the legislative council is triennial, and the house of assembly annual, both chosen by the people.

All who " profess faith in God the Father, and Jesus Christ, and the Holy Ghost, one God," are admitted to the offices of government.

Maryland. The executive power is lodged in a governor and privy council, chosen annually by the legislature. The legislature consists of two branches, a senate and house of delegates. The senate are chosen for five years, and the house of delegates annually. The governor must have property to the value of 5000/, and have been five years an inhabitant; and a privy councillor or senator must have been a residenter for three years, and have freehold above the value of 1000/; a delegate must have been a residenter one year, and possess property above the value of 500/. Electors must have a freehold of fifty acres, or property above the value of 50/, before they be entitled vote.

Virginia. The executive power is exercised by a governor, who is chosen annually, and a privy council, who are chosen triennially, by the legislature. The legislative is formed of two distinct branches, a senate, chosen, every four years, and a house of delegates, chosen annually, by the people.

North-Carolina. The executive power is in a governor and council of state chosen annually by the legislature; the governor must have been an inhabitant five years, and have a freehold of the value of a 1000/. The legislature consists of two branches, a senate and house of commons; a senator must have resided in the state one year, and possess at least 300 acres of land in fee; a member of the house of commons, must possess 100 acres in fee;

he; both houses are chosen annually; and all freemen who have been inhabitants one year, and paid taxes, may vote for commoners, but they must possess 50 acres of a freehold before they can vote for senators.

Protestants only are admitted to offices of government.

South-Carolina. The executive authority is administered by a governor, assisted by a lieutenant governor and privy council, who are chosen by the legislature every two years. The legislative power is vested in two distinct bodies, a senate and house of representatives, who are chosen every two years by the people. A governor and lieutenant governor must have been residents ten years and privy councillors five years, and each possess an estate of 10,000*l*; a senator must be thirty years of age, have been a resident five years, and have an estate of 1000*l*, or if a non-resident in the parish he is chosen for, an estate of 7000*l*, and be of the Protestant religion; a representative must have been a resident three years, and possess an estate of , and be of the Protestant religion. Any free white man who believes in the being of a God, who has been one year an inhabitant, and paid taxes equal to the tax on fifty acres of land, has a right to elect members of the legislature.

Georgia. The government of this state has lately been new modelled; we have not been able to obtain a copy.

EXTRACT from the ARTICLES of PEACE.

ART. 1. **H**IS Britannic majesty acknowledges the said United States, viz. New Hampshire, Massachusetts Bay, Rhode-Island and Providence Plantations, Connecticut, New-York, New-Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North-Carolina, South-Carolina and Georgia, to be free, sovereign, and independent states; that he treats with them as such; and for his heirs and successors, relinquishes all claims to the government, property, and territorial rights of the same and every part thereof.

ART.

ART. 2. And that all disputes which might arise in future, on the subject of the boundaries of the said United States, may be prevented, it is hereby agreed and declared, that the following are and shall be their boundaries, viz. From the north-west angle of Nova-Scotia, viz. that angle which is formed by a line drawn due north from the source of St. Croix River to the Highlands, along the said Highlands, which divide these rivers that empty themselves into the river St. Lawrence, from those which fall into the Atlantic Ocean, to the north-westernmost head of Connecticut river; thence down along the middle of that river to the forty-fifth degree of north latitude, from thence by a line due west on said latitude, until it strikes the river Iroquois or Cataraqui; thence along the middle of the said river into Lake Ontario; through the middle of said lake until it strikes the communication by water between that lake and Lake Erie; thence along the middle of said communication into Lake Erie; through the middle of said lake, until it arrives at the water communication between that lake and Lake Huron; thence along the middle of said water communication into the Lake Huron; thence through the middle of said lake to the water communication between that lake and Lake Superior; thence through Lake Superior, northward of the Isles Royal and Phelipeaux, to the Long Lake; thence through the middle of said Long Lake, and the water communication between it and the Lake of the Woods, to the said Lake of the Woods; thence through the said lake to the most north western point thereof, and from thence on a due west course to the river Mississippi; thence by a line to be drawn along the middle of the said river Mississippi, until it shall intersect the northernmost part of the thirty-first degree of north latitude. South, by a line to be drawn due east from the determination of the line last mentioned in the latitude of thirty-one degrees north of the equator to the middle of the river Apalachicola or Catahouche; thence along the middle thereof to its junction with the Flint river, thence strait to the head of St.

Mary's river; and thence down along the middle of said river to the Atlantic Ocean. East, by a line to be drawn along the middle of the river St. Croix from its mouth in the Bay of Fundy to its source, and from its source directly north to the aforesaid Highlands which divide the rivers which fall into the Atlantic Ocean, from those which fall into the river St. Lawrence, comprehending all islands within twenty leagues of any part of the shores of the United States, and lying between lines to be drawn due east from the points where the aforesaid boundaries between Nova Scotia on the one part, and East-Florida on the other, shall respectively touch the Bay of Fundy and the Atlantic Ocean, excepting such islands as now are or heretofore have been within the limits of the said province of Nova Scotia.

ART. 3. It is agreed, that the people of the United States shall continue to enjoy unmolested the right to take fish of every kind on the Grand Bank, and on all other banks of Newfoundland, also in the gulph of St. Lawrence, and all other places in the sea, where the inhabitants of both countries used at any time heretofore to fish. And also, that the inhabitants of the United States shall have liberty to take fish of every kind on such part of the coast of Newfoundland as British fishermen shall use (but not to dry or cure the same on that island) and also on the coasts, bays, and creeks of all other of his Britannic majesty's dominions in America; and that the American fishermen shall have liberty to dry and cure fish in any of the unsettled bays, harbors, and creeks of Nova-Scotia, Magdalen Islands, and Labrador, so long as the same shall remain unsettled; but so soon as the same or either of them shall be settled, it shall not be lawful for the said fishermen to dry or cure fish at such settlement, without a previous agreement for that purpose with the inhabitants, proprietors, or possessors of the ground.

ART. 8. The navigation of the river Mississippi, from its source to the ocean, shall for ever remain free and open to the subjects of Great-Britain and to the citizens of the United States.

Computation of the Quantity of Land in the United States.

THE territory of the United States contains by computation a million of square miles, in which are

640,000,000 of acres.

Deduct for water,

51,000,000

Acres of land in the United States, 589,000,000 of ditto.

That part of the United States comprehended between the west temporary line of Pennsylvania on the east, the boundary line between Britain and the United States, extending from the river St. Croix to the north-west extremity of the Lake of the Woods on the north, the river Mississippi to the mouth of the Ohio on the west, and the river Ohio on the south, to the aforementioned bounds of Pennsylvania, contains by computation about four hundred and eleven thousand square miles, in which are,

263,040,000 acres.

Deduct for water,

43,040,000

To be disposed of by order of Congress,

220,000,000 of acres.

Estimate of the number of acres of water, north and westward of the river Ohio, within the territory of the United States.

	Acres.
In lake Superior,	21,952,780
Lake of the Woods,	1,133,800
Lake Rain, &c.	165,200
Red lake,	551,000
Lake Michigan,	10,368,000
Bay Puan,	1,216,000
Lake Huron,	5,009,920
Lake St. Clair,	89,500
Lake Erie, western part,	2,252,800
Sundry small lakes and rivers,	301,000

43,040,000
Estimate

Estimate of the number of acres of water within the thirteen United States.

Brought forward, 43,040,000

In lake Erie, westward of the line extended from the north west corner of Pennsylvania, due north to the boundary between the British territory and the United States,	410,000
In lake Ontario, - - -	2,390,000
Lake Champlain, - - -	500,000
Chesapeake bay, - - -	1,700,000
Albermarle bay, - - -	330,000
Delaware bay, - - -	630,000
All the rivers within the thirteen states including the Ohio,	2,000,000
	<hr/> 7,960,000 <hr/>

Total, 51,000,000

The above calculations were made from actual measurement of the best maps, by THOMAS HUTCHINS, geographer to the United States.

The whole of this immense extent of unappropriated western territory, containing, as above stated, 220,000,000 of acres, has been transferred to the federal government, and is pledged as a fund for sinking the continental debt; and it is divided into new states, to be at a future period admitted into the confederation of the United States.

We shall subjoin an extract of the ordinance of Congress, for disposing of the lands in the said western territory; and the temporary form of government established by Congress for the new states:

Short Extract from an Ordinance of Congress for disposing of Lands in the Western Territory.

NONE of the lands within the said territory, shall be sold under the price of one dollar the acre, to be paid in specie or loan-office certificates, reduced to specie value

by the scale of depreciation, or certificates of liquidated debts of the United States, including interest, besides the expence of the survey and other charges thereon, which are hereby rated at thirty-six dollars the township, in specie or certificates as aforesaid, and so in the same proportion for a fractional part of a township or of a lot, to be paid at the time of sales, on failure of which payment, the said lands shall again be offered for sale.

There shall be reserved for the United States out of every township, the four lots, being numbered 8, 11, 26, 29, and out of every fractional part of a township, so many lots of the same numbers as shall be found thereon, for future sale. There shall be reserved the lot No 16, of every township for the maintainance of public schools within the said township; also one third part of all gold silver lead and copper mines, to be sold, or otherwise disposed of, as Congress shall hereafter direct.

An ORDINANCE for the Government of the Territory of the United States, north west of the river Ohio.

BE it ordained by the United States in Congress assembled, that the said territory, for that purposes of temporary government, be one district, subject, however, to be divided into two districts, as future circumstances may, in the opinion of Congress, make it expedient.

Be it ordained by the authority aforesaid, that the estates both of resident and non resident proprietors in the said territory, dying intestate, shall descend to, and be distributed among their children, and the descendants of a deceased child or grandchild, to take the share of their deceased parent in equal parts among them. And where there shall be no children or descendants, then in equal parts to the next of kin, in equal degree: and among collaterals, the children of a deceased brother or sister of the intestate, shall have in equal parts among them, their deceased parents' share; and there shall in no case be a distinction between kindred of the whole and half blood; saving in all cases to the widow of the intestate,

testate, her third part of the real estate for life, and one third part of the personal estate; and this law relative to descents and dower, shall remain in full force until altered by the legislature of the district. And until the governor and judges shall adopt laws as herein after mentioned, estates in the said territory may be devised or bequeathed by wills in writing, signed and sealed by him or her, in whom the estate may be (being of full age) and attested by three witnesses; and real estates may be conveyed by lease and release, of bargain and sale, signed, sealed, and delivered by the person being of full age, in whom the estate may be, and attested by two witnesses, provided such wills be duly proved, and such conveyances be acknowledged, or the execution thereof duly proved, and be recorded within one year after proper magistrates, courts, and registers shall be appointed for that purpose; and personal property may be transferred by delivery; saving, however, to the French and Canadian inhabitants, and other settlers of the Kaskaskies, St. Vincent's, and the neighbouring villages, who have heretofore professed themselves citizens of Virginia, their laws and customs now in force among them, relative to the descent and conveyance of property.

Be it ordained by the authority aforesaid, that there shall be appointed from time to time, by Congress, a governor, whose commission shall continue in force for the term of three years, unless sooner revoked by Congress. He shall reside in the district, and have a freehold estate therein, in one thousand acres of land, while in the exercise of his office.

There shall be appointed, from time to time, by Congress, a secretary, whose commission shall continue in force for four years, unless sooner revoked. He shall reside in the district, and have a freehold estate therein, in five hundred acres of land, while in the exercise of his office. It shall be his duty to keep and preserve the acts and laws passed by the legislature, and the public records of the district, and the proceedings of the governor in his executive department; and transmit authentic copies
of

of such acts and proceedings, every six months, to the secretary of Congress; there shall also be appointed a court to consist of three judges, any two of whom to form a court, who shall have a common law jurisdiction, and reside in the district, and have each therein, a freehold estate in five hundred acres of land while in the exercise of their office; and their commissions shall continue in force during good behavior.

The governor and judges, or a majority of them, shall adopt and publish in the district, such laws of the original states, criminal and civil, as may be necessary, and best suited to the circumstances of the district, and report them to Congress, from time to time, which laws shall be in force in the district, until the organization of the general assembly therein, unless disapproved of by Congress; but afterwards the legislature shall have authority to alter them as they shall think fit.

The governor for the time being, shall be commander in chief of the militia, appoint and commission all officers in the same, below the rank of general officers; all general officers shall be appointed and commissioned by Congress.

Previous to the organization of the general assembly, the governor shall appoint such magistrates and other civil officers, in each county or township as he shall find necessary for the preservation of the peace and good order in the same. After the general assembly shall be organized, the powers and duties of magistrates and other civil officers shall be regulated and defined by the said assembly; but all magistrates and other civil officers, not herein otherwise directed, shall, during the continuance of this temporary government, be appointed by the governor.

For the prevention of crimes and injuries, the laws to be adopted or made, shall have force in all parts of the district, and for the execution of process, criminal and civil, the governor shall make proper divisions thereof, and he shall proceed, from time to time, as circumstances may require, to lay out the parts of the district in which the

the Indian titles shall have been extinguished, into counties and townships, subject, however, to such alterations as may thereafter be made by the legislature.

So soon as there shall be five thousand free male inhabitants, of full age, in the district, upon giving proof thereof to the governor, they shall receive authority, with time and place, to elect representatives from their counties or townships, to represent them in the general assembly; provided that for every five hundred free male inhabitants there shall be one representative; and so on progressively with the number of free male inhabitants, shall the right of representation increase, until the number of representatives shall amount to twenty-five, after which the number and proportion of representatives shall be regulated by the legislature; provided that no person be eligible or qualified to act as a representative, unless he shall have been a citizen of one of the United States three years, and be a resident in the district, or unless he shall have resided in the district three years, and in either case shall likewise hold in his own right, in fee simple, two hundred acres of land within the same: provided also, that a freehold in fifty acres of land in the district, having been a citizen of one of the United States, and being resident in the district; or the like freehold, and two years residence in the district, shall be necessary to qualify a man as an elector of a representative.

The representatives thus elected, shall serve for the term of two years, and in case of the death of a representative, or removal from office, the governor shall issue a writ to the county or township for which he was a member, to elect another in his stead, to serve for the residue of the term.

The general assembly, or legislature, shall consist of the governor, legislative council, and a house of representatives. The legislative council shall consist of five members, to continue in office five years, unless sooner removed by Congress, any three of whom to be a quorum: and the members of the council shall be nominated and appointed in the following manner, to wit. As

soon as representatives shall be elected, the governor shall appoint a time and place for them to meet together, and when met, they shall nominate ten persons, residents in the district, and each possessed of a freehold in five hundred acres of land, and return their names to Congress; five of whom Congress shall appoint and commission to serve as aforesaid; and whenever a vacancy shall happen in the council, by death or removal from office, the house of representatives shall nominate two persons, qualified as aforesaid, for each vacancy, and return their names to Congress; one of whom Congress shall appoint and commission for the residue of the term; and every five years, four months at least before the expiration of the time of service of the members of council, the said house shall nominate ten persons, qualified as aforesaid, and return their names to Congress, five of whom Congress shall appoint and commission to serve as members of the council five years, unless sooner removed. And the governor, legislative council, and house of representatives, shall have authority to make laws in all cases for the good government of the district, not repugnant to the principles and articles in this ordinance established and declared. And all bills having passed by a majority in the house, and by a majority in the council, shall be referred to the governor for his assent; but no bill or legislative act whatever shall be of any force without his assent. The governor shall have power to convene, prorogue and dissolve the general assembly, when in his opinion it shall be expedient.

The governors, judges, legislative council, secretary, and such other officers as Congress shall appoint in the district, shall take an oath or affirmation of fidelity, and of office, the governor before the president of Congress, and all other officers before the governor. As soon as a legislature shall be formed in the district, the council and house assembled in one room, shall have authority by joint ballot to elect a delegate to Congress, who shall have a seat in Congress, with a right of debating, but not of voting, during this temporary government.

And

And for extending the fundamental principles of civil and religious liberty which form the basis whereon these republics, their laws and constitutions are erected; to fix and establish those principles as the basis of all laws, constitutions and governments, which for ever hereafter shall be formed in the said territory;—to provide also for the establishments of states, and permanent government therein, and for their admission to share in the federal councils on an equal footing with the original states, at as early periods as may be consistent with the general interest:

It is hereby ordained and declared, by the authority aforesaid, that the following articles shall be considered as articles of compact between the original states, and the people and states in the said territory, and for ever remain unalterable, unless by common consent, to wit:

Article the first. No person, demeaning himself in a peaceable and orderly manner, shall ever be molested on account of his mode of worship or religious sentiments, in the said territory.

Article the second. The inhabitants of the said territory shall always be entitled to the benefits of the writ of habeas corpus, and of the trial by jury; of a proportionate representation of the people in the legislature, and of judicial proceedings according to the course of the common law. All persons shall be liable unless for capital offences, where the proof shall be evident, or the presumption great. All fines shall be moderate, and no cruel or unusual punishments shall be inflicted. No man shall be deprived of his liberty or property but by the judgment of his peers, or of the law of the land: and should the public exigencies make it necessary for the common preservation, to take any person's property, or demand his particular services, full compensation shall be made for the same;—and in the just preservation of rights and property, it is understood and declared, that no law ought ever to be made, or have force in the said territory, that shall in any manner whatever interfere with, or affect private

private contracts or engagements, bona fide and without fraud, previously formed.

Article the third. Religion, morality, and knowledge, being necessary to good government, and the happiness of mankind, schools, and the means of education, shall for ever be encouraged. The utmost good faith shall always be observed towards the Indians. Their lands and property shall never be taken from them without their consent; and in their property, rights, and liberty, they never shall be invaded or disturbed, unless in just and lawful wars authorised by Congress. Just laws founded in justice and humanity shall from time to time be made, for preventing wrongs being done to them, and for preserving peace and friendship with them.

Article the fourth. The said territory, and the states which may be formed therein, shall for ever remain a part of this confederacy of the United States of America, subject to the articles of confederation, and to such alterations therein as shall be constitutionally made; and to all the acts and ordinances of the United States in Congress assembled, conformable thereto. The inhabitants and settlers in the territory, shall be subject to pay a part of the federal debts contracted or to be contracted, and a proportional part of the expences of government, to be apportioned on them by Congress, according to the same common rule and measure by which apportionments thereof shall be made on the other states; and the taxes for paying their proportion, shall be laid and levied by the authority and direction of the legislatures of the district, or districts, or new states as in the original states, within the time agreed upon by the United States in Congress assembled. The legislatures of those districts, or new states, shall never interfere with the primary disposal of the soil by the United States in Congress assembled, nor with any regulation Congress may find necessary for securing the title in such soil to the bona fide purchasers. No tax shall be imposed on lands the property of the United States; and in no case shall non-resident proprietors be taxed higher than residents. The navigable

able waters, leading into the Mississippi and St. Lawrence, and the carrying places between the same shall be common highways, and for ever free, as well to the inhabitants of the said territory, as to the citizens of the United States, and those of any other states that may be admitted into the confederacy, without any tax, impost or duty therefor.

Article the fifth. There shall be formed in the said territory, not less than three, nor more than five states; and the boundaries of the states, as soon as Virginia shall alter her act of cession, and consent to the same, shall become fixed and established, as follow, to wit: the western state in the said territory, shall be bounded by the Mississippi, the Ohio, and Wabash rivers; a direct line drawn from the Wabash and Post Vincent's, due north to the territorial line between the United States and Canada, and by the said territorial line to the Lake of the Woods and Mississippi. The middle state shall be bounded by the said direct line, the Wabash, from Post St. Vincent's to the Ohio; by the Ohio, by a direct line drawn due north from the mouth of the Great Miami to the said territorial line, and by the said territorial line. The eastern state shall be bounded by the last-mentioned direct line, the Ohio, Pennsylvania, and the said territorial line: Provided, however, and it is further understood and declared, that the boundaries of these three states, shall be subject so far to be altered, that if Congress shall hereafter find it expedient, they shall have authority to form one or two states in the part of the said territory which lies north of an east and west line drawn through the southerly bend or extreme of Lake Michigan: and whenever any of the said states shall have sixty thousand free inhabitants therein, such state shall be admitted by its delegates into the Congress of the United States, on an equal footing with the original states, in all respects whatever; and shall be at liberty to form a permanent constitution and state government: Provided the constitution and government so to be formed, shall be republican, and in conformity to the principles contained

in these articles: And so far as it can be consistent with the general interest of the confederacy, such admission shall be allowed at an earlier period, and when there may be a less number of free inhabitants in the state than sixty thousand.

Article the sixth. There shall be neither slavery nor involuntary servitude in the said territory, otherwise than in the punishment of crimes whereof the party shall have been duly convicted: Provided always, that any person escaping into the same, from whom labor or service is lawfully claimed in any of the original states, such fugitive may be lawfully reclaimed and conveyed to the person claiming his or her labour or service as aforesaid.

Be it ordained by the authority aforesaid, that the resolutions of the 23d of April, 1784, relative to the subject of this ordinance, be and the same are hereby repealed and declared null and void.

Done by the United States in Congress assembled, the 13th day of July, in the year of our Lord 1787, and of their sovereignty and independence the 11th.

DESCRIPTION of the GREAT LAKES and other NATURAL CURIOSITIES in America.

LAKE Michigan, is divided on the north-east from Lake Huron by the Straits of Michillimackinac; and is situated between forty-two and forty six degrees of latitude, and between eighty-four and eighty-seven degrees of west-longitude. Its greatest length is two hundred and eighty miles, its breadth about forty, and its circumference nearly six hundred. There is remarkable string of small islands, beginning over against Askin's Farm, and running about thirty miles south-west into the Lake. These are called the Beaver Islands. Their situation is very pleasant, but the soil is bare. However they afford a beautiful prospect.

On the north-west parts of this lake the waters branch out into two bays. That which lies towards the north

is the Bay of Noquets, and the other the Green Bay.

The waters of this as well as the other great lakes are clear and wholesome, and of sufficient depth for the navigation of large ships.

The country adjacent either to the east or west side of this lake is composed but of an indifferent soil, except where small brooks or rivers empty themselves into it; on the banks of the'e it is extremely fertile.

The Lake of the Woods, is so called from the multiplicity of wood growing on its banks; such as oaks, pines, firs, spruce, &c. It is of great depth in some places. Its length from east to west is about seventy miles, and its greatest breadth about forty miles. It has but few islands, and these of no great magnitude.

Lake Superior, formerly termed the Upper Lake from its northern situation, is so called on account of its being superior in magnitude to any of the Lakes on this vast continent. It might justly be termed the Caspian of America, and is supposed to be the largest body of fresh water on the globe. Its circumference, according to the French charts, is about fifteen hundred miles; but I believe, that if it was coasted round, and the utmost extent of every bay taken, it would exceed sixteen hundred.

After I first entered it from Goddard's River on the west Bay, I coasted near twelve hundred miles of the north and east shores of it, and observed that the greatest part of that extensive tract was bounded by rocks and uneven ground. The water in general to lie on a bed of rocks. When it was calm, and the sun shone bright, I could sit in my canoe, where the depth was upwards of six fathoms, and plainly see huge piles of stone at the bottom, of different shapes, some of which appeared as if they were hewn. The water at this time was as pure and transparent as air; and my canoe seemed as if it hung suspended in that element. It was impossible to look attentively through this limpid medium at the rocks below, without finding, before many minutes were elapsed, your head

head swim, and your eyes no longer able to behold the the dazzling scene.

I discovered also by accident another extraordinary property in the waters of this lake. Though it was in the month of July that I passed over it, and the surface of the water, from the heat of the superambient air, impregnated with no small degree of warmth, yet on letting down a cup to the depth of about a fathom, the water drawn from thence was so excessively cold, that it had the same effect when received into the mouth as ice.

The situation of this lake is variously laid down; but from the most exact observations I could make, it lies between forty-six and fifty degrees of north latitude, and between eighty-four and ninety-three degrees of west longitude from the meridian of London.

There are many islands in this lake, two of which are very large; and if the land of them is proper for cultivation, there appears to be sufficient to form on each a considerable province; especially on Isle Royal, which cannot be less than an hundred miles long, and in many places forty broad. But there is no way at present of ascertaining the exact length or breadth of either. Even the French, who always kept a small schooner on this lake, whilst they were in possession of Canada, by which they could have made this discovery, have only acquired a slight knowledge of the external parts of these islands; at least they have never published any account of the internal parts of them, that I could get intelligence of.

Lake Superior abounds with a variety of fish, the principal and best are the trout and sturgeon, which may be caught at almost any season in the greatest abundance. The trouts in general weigh about twelve pounds; but some are caught that exceed fifty. Besides these, a species of white fish is taken in great quantities here, that resemble a shad in their shape, but they are rather thicker and less bony; they weigh about four pounds each, and are of a delicious taste. The best way of catching these fish is with a net; but the trout might be taken at all times with the hook. There are likewise many sorts of smaller fish

in great plenty here, and which may be taken with ease; among these is a sort resembling a herring, that are generally made use of as a bait for the trout. Very small crabs, not larger than half a crown piece, are found both in this and Lake Michigan.

This Lake is as much affected by storms as the Atlantic Ocean; the waves run as high, and are equally as dangerous to ships. It discharges its waters from the south-east corner, through the Straights of St Marie.

Lake Huron, into which you now enter from the Straights of St. Marie, is next in magnitude to Lake Superior. It lies between forty two and forty-six degrees of north latitude, and seventy nine and eighty five degrees of west longitude. Its shape is nearly triangular, and its circumference about one thousand miles.

On the north side of it lies an island, that is remarkable for being near an hundred miles in length, and not more than eight miles broad. The fish in Lake Huron are much the same as those in Lake Superior.

I had like to have omitted a very extraordinary circumstance, relative to these Straights. According to observations made by the French, whilst they were in possession of the fort, although there is no diurnal flood or ebb to be perceived in these waters, yet, from an exact attention to their state, a periodical alteration in them has been discovered. It was observed that they arose by gradual but almost imperceptible degrees till they had reached the height of about three feet. This was accomplished in seven years and a half; and in the same space they as gently decreased, till they had reached their former situation; so that in fifteen years they had completed this inexplicable revolution.

At the time I was there, the truth of these observations could not be confirmed by the English, as they had then been only a few years in possession of the fort; but they all agreed that some alteration in the limits of the Straights was apparent. All these lakes are so affected by the winds, as sometimes to have the appearance of a
 Q tide,

tide, according as they happen to blow; but this is only temporary and partial.

Lake St. Claire, is about ninety miles in circumference, and by the way of Huron river, which runs from the south corner of Lake Huron, receives the waters of the three great lakes, Superior, Michigan, and Huron. Its form is rather round, and in some places it is deep enough for the navigation of large vessels, but towards the middle of it there is a bar of sand, which prevents those that are loaded from passing over it. Such as are in ballast only may find water sufficient to carry them quite through; the cargoes, however, of such as are freighted must be taken out, and after being transported across the bar in boats, reshipped again.

The river that runs from Lake St. Claire to Lake Erie (or rather Straight, for thus it might be termed from its name) is called Detroit, which is in French, the Straight. It runs nearly south, has a gentle current, and depth of water sufficient for ships of considerable burthen. The town of Detroit is situated on the western banks of this river, about nine miles below Lake St. Claire.

Lake Erie receives the waters by which it is supplied from the three great lakes, through the Straights of Detroit, that lie at its north-west corner. This lake is situated between forty-one and forty-three degrees of north latitude, and between seventy-eight and eighty-three degrees of west longitude. It is near three hundred miles long from east to west, and about 40 in its broadest part: and a remarkable long narrow point lies on its north side, that projects for several miles into the lake towards the south-east.

There are several islands near the west end of it so infested with rattle-snakes, that it is very dangerous to land on them. It is impossible that any place can produce a greater number of all kinds of these reptiles than this does, particularly of the water-snake. The Lake is covered near the banks of the islands with the large pond-lily; the

the leaves of which lie on the surface of the water so thick, as to cover it entirely for many acres together; and on each of these lay, when I passed over it, wreaths of water snakes basking in the sun, which amounted to myriads.

The most remarkable of the different species that infest this lake, is the hissing snake, which is of the small speckled kind, and about eighteen inches long. When any thing approaches, it flattens itself in a moment, and its spots, which are of various dyes, become visibly brighter through rage; at the same time it blows from its mouth, with great force, a subtle wind, that is reported to be of a nauseous smell; and if drawn in with the breath of the unwary traveller, will infallibly bring on a decline, that in a few months must prove mortal, there being no remedy yet discovered which can counteract its baneful influence.

The stones and pebbles on the shores of this lake are most of them tinged; in a greater or less degree, with spots that resemble brass in their colour, but which are of a more sulphureous nature. Small pieces, about the size of hazle-nuts, of the same kinds of ore, are found on the sands that lie on its banks, and under the water.

The navigation of this lake is esteemed more dangerous than any of the others, on account of many high lands that lie on the borders of it, and project into the water, in a perpendicular direction for many miles together; so that whenever sudden storms arise, canoes and boats are frequently lost, as there is no place for them to find a shelter.

This Lake discharges its waters at the north-east end, into the River Niagara, which runs north and south, and is about thirty-six miles in length; from whence it falls into Lake Ontario.

Lake Ontario is the next, and least of the five great Lakes of Canada. Its situation is between forty-three and forty-five degrees of latitude, and between seventy-six and seventy-nine degrees of west longitude. The form
of

of it is nearly oval, its greatest length being from north-east to south-west, and in circumference, about six hundred miles. Near the south-east part it receives the waters of the Oswego River, and on the north-east discharges itself into the River Cataraqui. Not far from the place where it issues, Fort Frontenac formerly stood, which was taken from the French during the last war, in the year 1758, by a small army of Provincials under Colonel Bradstreet.

In Lake Ontario are taken many sorts of fish, among which is the Oswego Bass, of an excellent flavor, and weighing about three or four pounds. There is also a sort called the Cat head or Pout, which are in general very large, some of them weighing eight or ten pounds; and they are esteemed a rare dish when properly dressed.

The country about Lake Ontario, especially the more north and eastern parts, is composed of good land, and in time may make very flourishing settlements.

The Oniada Lake, situated near the head of the River Oswego, receives the waters of Wood-Creek, which takes its rise not far from the Mohawk River. These two lie so adjacent to each other, that a junction is effected by sluices at Fort Stanwix, about twelve miles from the mouth of the former. This lake is about thirty miles long from the east to west, and near fifteen broad. The country round it belongs to the Oniada Indians.

Lake Champlain, the next in size to Lake Ontario, and which lies nearly east from it, is about eighty miles in length, north and south, and in its broadest part fourteen. It is well stored with fish, and the lands that lie on all the borders of it, or about its rivers, very good.

Lake George, formerly called by the French Lake St. Sacrament, lies to the south west of the last mentioned lake, and is about thirty-five miles long from the north-east to south-west, but of no great breadth. The country
around

around it is very mountainous, but in the vallies the land^d is tolerably good.

The Falls of St. Anthony received their name from Father Louis Hennipin, a French missionary, who travelled into these parts about the year 1680, and was the first European ever seen by the natives. This amazing body of waters, which are above 250 yards over, from a most pleasing cataract; they fall perpendicularly about thirty feet, and the rapids below, in the space of 300 yards more, render the descent considerably greater; so that when viewed at a distance they appear to be much higher than they really are.

These Falls vary much from all the others I have seen, as you may approach close to them without finding the least obstruction from any intervening hill or precipice.

The country around them is extremely beautiful. It is not an uninterrupted plain where the eye finds no relief, but composed of many gentle ascents, which in the summer are covered with the finest verdure, and interspersed with little groves, that give a pleasing variety to the prospect. On the whole, when the Falls are included, which may be seen at the distance of four miles, a more pleasing and picturesque view cannot, I believe be found throughout the universe.

At the entrance of the River Niagara, on its eastern shore, lies Fort Niagara; and, about eighteen miles further up, those remarkable Falls which are esteemed one of the most extraordinary productions of nature at present known. The waters by which they are supplied, after taking their rise near two thousand miles to the north-west, and passing through the Lakes Superior, Michigan, Huron, and Erie, during which they have been receiving constant accumulations, at length rush down a stupendous precipice of one hundred and forty feet perpendicular; and in a strong rapid, that extends to the distance of eight or nine miles below, fall nearly as

much more: this River soon after empties itself into Lake Ontario.

The noise of these Falls may be heard an amazing way. I could plainly distinguish them in a calm morning more than twenty miles. Others have said that at particular times, and when the wind sits fair, the sound of them reaches fifteen leagues.

The land about the Falls is exceedingly hilly and uneven, but the greatest part of that on the Niagara River is very good, especially for grafs and pasturage.

The Falls of St. Marie do not descend perpendicularly as those of Niagara or St. Anthony do, but consist of a rapid which continues near three quarters of a mile, over which canoes well piloted might pass.

At the bottom of these Falls, Nature has formed a most commodious station for catching the fish which are to be found there in immense quantities. Persons standing on the rocks that lie adjacent to it, may take with dipping nets, about the months of September and October, the white fish before mentioned; at that season, together with several other species, they crowd up to this spot in such amazing shoals, that enough may be taken to supply, when properly cured, thousands of inhabitants throughout the year.

The Straights of St. Marie are about forty miles long, bearing south-east, but varying much in their breadth. The current between the Falls and Lake Huron is not so rapid as might be expected, nor do they prevent the navigation of ships of burden as far up as the island of St. Joseph.

That range of mountains, of which the *Shining Mountains* are a part, begin at Mexico, and continuing northward on the back, or to the east of California, separate the waters of those numerous rivers that fall either into the Gulph of Mexico, or the Gulph of California. From thence continuing their course still northward, between the sources of the Mississippi and the rivers that run into the

the South Sea, they appear to end in about forty-seven or forty-eight degrees of north-latitude; where a number of rivers arise, and empty themselves either into the South Sea, into Hudon's Bay, or into the waters that communicate between these two seas.

Among these mountains, those that lie to the west of the River St. Pierre, are called the *Shining Mountains*, from an infinite number of chrystal stones, of an amazing size, with which they are covered, and which, when the sun shines full upon them, sparkle so as to be seen at a very great distance.

This extraordinary range of mountains is calculated to be more than three thousand miles in length, without any very considerable intervals, which I believe surpasses any thing of the kind in the other quarters of the globe. Probably in future ages they may be found to contain more riches in their bowels, than those of Indostan and Malabar, or that are produced on the golden coast of Guinea; nor will I except even the Peruvian mines.

About thirty miles below the Falls of St. Anthony, is a remarkable Cave of an amazing depth. The Indians term it Waken-teebe, that is, the Dwelling of the Great Spirit. The entrance into it is about ten feet wide, the height of it five feet. The arch within is near fifteen feet high and about thirty feet broad. The bottom of it consists of fine clear sand. About twenty feet from the entrance begins a lake, the water of which is transparent, and extends to an unsearchable distance; for the darkness of the Cave prevents an attempt to acquire a knowledge of it. I threw a small pebble towards the interior parts of it with my utmost strength: I could hear that it fell into the water, and notwithstanding it was of so small a size, it caused an astonishing and horrible noise that reverberated through all those gloomy regions. I found in this Cave many Indian hieroglyphicks, which appeared ancient, for time had nearly covered them with moss, so that it was with difficulty I could trace them. They were cut in a rude manner upon the inside of the rocks,

which were composed of a stone so extremely soft that it might easily be penetrated with a knife: a stone every where to be found near the Mississippi. The Cave is only accessible by ascending a narrow, steep passage that lies near the brink of the river.

From the intelligence I gained from the Naudowessies, and whose language I perfectly acquired during a residence of five months; and also from the account I afterwards obtained from the Assinipoils, who speak the same tongue, being a revolted band of the Naudowessies; and from the Killistinoes, neighbours of the Assinipoils, who speak the Chipeway language, and inhabit the heads of the River Bourbon; I say from these nations, together with my own observations, I have learned that the four most capital rivers on the Continent of North America, viz. the St. Lawrence, the Mississippi, the river Bourbon, and the Oregon or the river of the West (as I hinted in my Introduction) have their sources in the same neighbourhood. The waters of the three former are within thirty miles of each other; the latter, however, is rather farther west.

This shews that these parts are the highest lands in North America; and it is an instance not to be paralleled on the other three quarters of the globe, that four rivers of such magnitude should take their rise together, and each, after running separate courses, discharge their waters into different oceans at the distance of two thousand miles from their sources. For in their passage from this spot to the bay of St. Lawrence, east, to the bay of Mexico, south, to Hudson's Bay, north, and to the bay at the Straights of Annian, west, each of these travels upwards of two thousand miles.

One day having landed on the shore of the Mississippi, some miles below Lake Pepin, whilst my attendants were preparing my dinner, I walked out to take a view of the adjacent country. I had not proceeded far, before I came to a fine, level, open plain, on which I perceived at a

-little

little distance, a partial elevation that had the appearance of an intrenchment. On a nearer inspection I had greater reason to suppose that it had really been intended for this many centuries ago. Notwithstanding it was now covered with grass, I could plainly discern that it had once been a breast work of about four feet in height, extending the best part of a mile, and sufficiently capacious to cover five thousand men. Its form somewhat circular, and its flanks reached to the River. Though much defaced by time every angle was distinguishable, and appeared as regular, and fashioned with as much military skill, as if planned by Vauban himself. The ditch was not visible, but I thought on examining more curiously, that I could perceive there certainly had been one. From its situation also, I am convinced that it must have been designed for this purpose. It fronted the country, and the rear was covered by the River; nor was there any rising ground for a considerable way that commanded it; a few straggling oaks were alone to be seen near it. In many places small tracks were worn across it by the feet of the elks and deer, and from the depth of the bed of earth by which it was covered, I was able to draw certain conclusions of its great antiquity. I examined all the angles and every part with great attention, and have often blamed myself since, for not incamping on the spot, and drawing an exact plan of it. To shew that this description is not the offspring of a heated imagination, or the chimerical tale of a mistaken traveller, I find on enquiry since my return, that Mons. St. Pierre and several traders have, at different times, taken notice of similar appearances, on which they have formed the same conjectures, but without examining them so minutely as I did. How a work of this kind could exist in country that has hitherto (according to the general received opinion) been the seat of war to untutored Indians alone, whose whole stock of military knowledge has only, till within two centuries, amounted to drawing the bow, and whose only breast-work even at present is the thicker, I know not. I have given as exact an account as possible
of

of this singular appearance, and leave to future explorers of these distant regions to discover whether it is a production of nature or art. *[Carver's Travels.*

Curiosities in Kentucke.

Among the natural curiosities of this country, the banks or rather precipices of Kentucke and Dick's rivers, deserve the first place. The astonished eye beholds three or four hundred feet of a solid perpendicular rock; in some parts limestone, in others fine white marble, either curiously arched, pillared, or blocked up into fine building stones. From the banks, we see the river, as in a canal or trench, three or four hundred feet deep. It is only at particular places that this river can be crossed, one of which is worthy of admiration; a road large enough for waggons made by buffaloes, sloping with an easy descent from the top to the bottom of a steep hill, near Lee's-town.

Caves are found amazingly large; in some of which you may travel several miles. Near the head of Salt River a subterranean lake has been discovered.

There are three springs or ponds of bitumen near Green river, which do not form a stream, but disgorge themselves into a reservoir, and when used in lamps answer all the purposes of oil.

On the south side of Cumberland river, is an alluvial bank.

Many fine salt springs, constantly emit water, which being manufactured, afford great quantities of fine salt.

A medicinal spring has been found near Big Bone lick.

At a salt spring, near the Ohio very large bones are found; far surpassing the size of any animal now found in America. The head appears to have been about three feet long, the ribs seven, and the thigh bones about four; one of which has been deposited in the Philadelphia library, and said to weigh seventy five pounds: the tusks are about a foot in length, the grinders about five inches square, and eight inches long.

Near

Near Lexington are to be found curious sepulchres, full of human skeletons, which are thus fabricated. First, on the ground are laid large broad stones; on these were placed the bodies, separated from each other by broad stones, over which was laid others, which serves as a basis for the next arrangement of bodies. In this order they are built till, about the height of a man, still narrowing towards the top. This method of burying is totally different from that now practised by the Indians.

In the neighbourhood of Lexington, the remains of two ancient fortifications are to be seen, furnished with ditches and bastions. One of these contains about six acres of land, and the other three. They are now overgrown with trees, which appears to be not less than one hundred and sixty years old. Pieces of earthen vessels have also been plowed up near Lexington, a manufacture with which the Indians were never acquainted.

Description of OHIOFYLE FALLS.

The Falls of Yochiogeny, called in the maps, Ohio-pyle Falls, are by far the most magnificent, of any thing of this kind, in the state of Pennsylvania. The several branches of Yochiogeny river take their rise on the west side of the Allegany mountains, and running no great distance, they unit and form a large and beautiful river, which, in passing through the most western ridges of the mountains, precipitates itself over a level ledge of rocks, lying nearly at right angles to the course of the river. The falls are, by estimation, about twenty feet in perpendicular height, and the river is perhaps eighty yards wide. For a considerable distance below the falls, the water is very rapid; and boils and foams vehemently, occasioning a continual mist to rise from it, even at noon-day, and in fair weather. The river at this place runs towards the S. W. but presently winds round to the N. W. and continuing this general course for thirty or forty miles, it loses its name by uniting with the Monongahela, which contains, perhaps, twice as much water.

This

This river soon afterwards meets with the Alleghany, and both together form the grand river Ohio.

Description of the CHALYBEATE SPRINGS, near Saratoga.

The springs are found about eleven miles west from Gen. Schuyler's house, at Saratoga. They are scattered along a vale or slip of low wet land, lying between two ridges, which run north and south parallel to each other, at the distance of sixty or eighty yards.

The Main Spring, is a well of clear water, contained in a stoney crust, or rock, of a conic figure, being at the base twenty six feet six inches in circumference; in height, on the west side, thirty seven inches, perpendicular, and on the east side fifty-eight. On the summit there is a circular aperture, or basin, ten inches in diameter, which discovers the water bubbling up within a few inches of the top. This rock, or crust, is evidently a petriaction, composed of several strata, which have been formed under repeated overflowings of the water;—but at what times those overflowings took place—whether they yet continue at certain periods—or whether they have totally ceased, and when,—are matters of speculation among the curious.

In surveying the lands on the Allegany river, near Fort Pitt, to be given to the officers and soldiers of the late Pennsylvania line, a large creek has been discovered, named *Oil Creek*, from an oily or bitumous matter found floating on its surface. This oil springs out of the bed of the creek, and is said to be found pure without any mixture of water. This oil is said to be efficacious in curing rheumatic pains and old ulcers.

✂ Our readers are desired to correct a mistake in the account of Baltimore, page 44, last line but one, instead of two hundred houses, read, two thousand houses.

In the account of the battles, we were obliged to omit the actions of Bennington, Saratoga, and Germantown, because we could not obtain authentic nor official accounts of these events.

CONSTITUTION of the UNITED STATES,
passed in CONVENTION, at Philadelphia, Sept.
 17, 1787.

WE, the People of the United States, in order to form a more perfect union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquillity, provide for the common defence, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.

A R T I C L E I.

Sec. 1. ALL legislative powers herein granted shall be vested in a Congress of the United States, which shall consist of a Senate and House of Representatives.

Sec. 2. The House of Representatives shall be composed of members chosen every second year by the people of the several States, and the electors in each state shall have the qualifications requisite for electors of the most numerous branch of the state legislature.

No person shall be a representative who shall not have attained to the age of twenty-five years, and been seven years a citizen of the United States, and who shall not, when elected, be an inhabitant of that state in which he shall be chosen.

Representatives and direct taxes shall be apportioned among the several states which may be included within this Union, according to their respective numbers, which shall be determined by adding to the whole number of free persons, including those bound to service for a term of years, and excluding Indians not taxed, three-fifths of all other persons. The actual enumeration shall be made within three years after the first meeting of the Congress of the United States, and within every subsequent term of ten years, in such manner as they shall by law direct. The number of representatives shall not exceed one for every thirty thousand, but each state shall have at least one representative; and until such enumeration shall be made, the state of New-Hampshire shall be entitled

to choose three, Massachusetts eight, Rhode-Island and Providence Plantations one, Connecticut five, New-York six, New-Jersey four, Pennsylvania eight, Delaware one, Maryland six, Virginia ten, North-Carolina five, South-Carolina five, and Georgia three.

When vacancies happen in the representation from any state, the Executive authority thereof shall issue writs of election to fill such vacancies.

The House of Representatives shall choose their Speaker and other officers ; and shall have the sole power of impeachment.

Sec. 3. The Senate of the United States shall be composed of two senators from each State, chosen by the legislature thereof, for six years ; and each senator shall have one vote.

Immediately after they shall be assembled in consequence of the first election, they shall be divided as equally as may be into three classes. The seats of the senators of the first class shall be vacated at the expiration of the second year, of the second class at the expiration of the fourth year, and of the third class at the expiration of the sixth year, so that one third may be chosen every second year ; and if vacancies happen by resignation, or otherwise, during the recess of the Legislature of any state, the Executive thereof may make temporary appointments until the next meeting of the Legislature, which shall then fill such vacancies.

No person shall be a senator who shall not have attained to the age of 30 years. and been nine years a citizen of the United States, and who shall not, when elected, be an inhabitant of that state for which he shall be chosen.

The Vice-President of the United States shall be President of the Senate, but shall have no vote, unless they be equally divided.

The Senate shall choose their other officers, and also a President pro tempore, in the absence of the Vice-President, or when he shall exercise the office of President of the United States.

The senate shall have the sole power to try all impeachments. When sitting for that purpose, they shall be on oath or affirmation. When the President of the United

United States is tried, the Chief Justice shall preside : And no person shall be convicted without the concurrence of two thirds of the members present.

Judgment in cases of impeachment shall not extend further than to removal from office, and disqualification to hold and enjoy any office of honor, trust or profit under the United States ; but the party convicted shall nevertheless be liable and subject to indictment, trial, judgment and punishment, according to law.

Sec. 4. The times, places and manner of holding elections for senators and representatives, shall be prescribed in each state by the Legislature thereof ; but the Congress may at any time by law make or alter such regulations, except as to the places of choosing senators.

The Congress shall assemble at least once in every year, and such meeting shall be on the first Monday in December, unless they shall by law appoint a different day.

Sec. 5. Each house shall be the judge of the elections, returns and qualifications of its own members, and a majority of each shall constitute a quorum to do business ; but a smaller number may adjourn from day to day, and may be authorized to compel the attendance of absent members, in such manner, and under such penalties as each house may provide.

Each house may determine the rules of its proceedings, punish its members for disorderly behaviour, and, with the concurrence of two thirds, expel a member.

Each house shall keep a journal of its proceedings, and from time to time publish the same, excepting such parts as may in their judgment require secrecy : and the yeas and nays of the members of either house on any question shall, at the desire of one-fifth of those present, be entered on the journal.

Neither house, during the session of Congress, shall, without the consent of the other, adjourn for more than three days, nor to any other place than that in which the two houses shall be sitting.

Sec. 6. The senators and representatives shall receive a compensation for their services, to be ascertained by law, and paid out of the treasury of the United States. They shall, in all cases, except treason,

son, felony and breach of the peace, be privileged from arrest during their attendance at the session of their respective houses, and in going to and returning from the same; and for any speech or debate in either house, they shall not be questioned in any other place.

No senator or representative shall, during the time for which he was elected, be appointed to any civil office under the authority of the United States, which shall have been created, or the emoluments whereof shall have been increased during such time; and no person holding any office under the United States, shall be a member of either house, during his continuance in office.

Sec. 7. All bills for raising revenue shall originate in the house of representatives; but the senate may propose or concur with amendments as on other bills.

Every bill which shall have passed the house of representatives and the senate, shall, before it become law, be presented to the president of the United States; if he approve he shall sign it, but if not he shall return it, with his objections, to that house in which it shall have originated, who shall enter the objections at large on their journals, and proceed to reconsider it. If after such reconsideration, two-thirds of that house shall agree to pass the bill, it shall be sent, together with the objections, to the other house, by which it shall likewise be reconsidered, and if approved by two-thirds of that house, it shall become a law. But in all such cases, the votes of both houses shall be determined by yeas and nays, and the names of the persons voting for and against the bill shall be entered on the journal of each house respectively. If any bill shall not be returned by the President within ten days (Sundays excepted) after it shall have been presented to him, the same shall be a law, in like manner as if he had signed it, unless the Congress by their adjournment prevent its return, in which case it shall not be a law.

Every order, resolution, or vote to which the concurrence of the Senate and House of Representatives may be necessary (except on a question of adjournment)

ment)

ment) shall be presented to the President of the United States; and before the same shall take effect, shall be approved by him, or, being disapproved by him, shall be repassed by two-thirds of the Senate and House of Representatives, according to the rules and limitations prescribed in the case of a bill.

Sec. 8. The Congress shall have power

To lay and collect taxes, duties, imposts, and excises, to pay the debts and provide for the common defence and the general welfare of the United States; but all duties, imposts and excises shall be uniform throughout the United States;

To borrow money on the credit of the United States;

To regulate commerce with foreign nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian tribes;

To establish an uniform rule of naturalization, and uniform laws on the subject of bankruptcies throughout the United States;

To coin money, regulate the value thereof, and of foreign coin, and fix the standard of weights and measures;

To provide for the punishment of counterfeiting the securities and current coin of the United States;

To establish post offices and post roads;

To promote the progress of science and useful arts, by securing for limited times to authors and inventors the exclusive right to their respective writings and discoveries;

To constitute tribunals inferior to the supreme court;

To define and punish piracies and felonies committed on the high seas, and offences against the law of nations;

To declare war, grant letters of marque and reprisal, and make rules concerning captures on land and water;

To raise and support armies, but no appropriation of money to that use, shall be for a longer term than two years;

To provide and maintain a navy;

To make rules for the government and regulation of the land and naval forces;

To provide for calling forth the militia to execute the laws of the union, suppress insurrections and repel invasions ;

To provide for organizing, arming, and disciplining the militia, and for governing such part of them as may be employed in the service of the United States, reserving to the States respectively, the appointment of the officers, and the authority of training the militia according to the discipline prescribed by Congress ;

To exercise exclusive legislation in all cases whatsoever, over such district (not exceeding ten miles square) as may, by cession of particular States, and the acceptance of Congress, become the seat of the government of the United States ; and to exercise like authority over all places purchased by the consent of the legislature of the state in which the same shall be, for the erection of forts, magazines, arsenals, dock-yards, and other needful buildings ;—And

To make all laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into execution the foregoing powers, and all other powers vested by this constitution in the government of the United States, or in any department or officer thereof.

Sec. 9. The migration or importation of such persons as any of the states now existing shall think proper to admit, shall not be prohibited by the Congress prior to the year one thousand eight hundred and eight, but a tax or duty may be imposed on such importation, not exceeding ten dollars for each person.

The privilege of the writ of habeas corpus shall not be suspended, unless when in cases of rebellion or invasion the public safety may require it.

No bill of attainder or ex post facto law shall be passed.

No capitation, or other direct tax shall be laid, unless in proportion to the census or enumeration herein before directed to be taken.

No tax or duty shall be laid on articles exported from any state. No preference shall be given by any

any regulation of commerce or revenue to the ports of one state over those of another: nor shall vessels bound to, or from, one state, be obliged to enter, clear, or pay duties in another.

No money shall be drawn from the treasury, but in consequence of appropriations made by law; and a regular statement and account of the receipts and expenditures of all public money shall be published from time to time.

No title of nobility shall be granted by the United States:—And no person holding any office of profit or trust under them, shall, without the consent of Congress, accept of any present, emolument, office, or title, of any kind whatever, from any king, prince, or foreign state.

Sec. 10. No state shall enter into any treaty, alliance, or confederation; grant letters of marque and reprisal; coin money; emit bills of credit; make any thing but gold and silver coin a tender in payment of debts; pass any bill of attainder, ex post facto law, or law impairing the obligation of contracts, or grant any title of nobility.

No state shall, without the consent of Congress, lay any imposts or duties on imports or exports, except what may be absolutely necessary for executing its inspection laws; and the net produce of all duties and imposts, laid by any state on imports or exports, shall be for the use of the Treasury of the United States; and all such laws shall be subject to the revision and controul of the Congress. No state shall, without the consent of Congress, lay any duty of tonnage, keep troops, or ships of war in time of peace, enter into any agreement or compact with another state, or with a foreign power, or engage in war, unless actually invaded, or in such imminent danger as will not admit of delay.

II.

Sec. 1. The executive power shall be vested in a president of the United States of America. He shall hold his office during the term of four years, and, together with the vice-president, chosen for the same term, be elected as follows.

Each state shall appoint, in such manner as the legislature

gislature thereof may direct, a number of electors, equal to the whole number of senators and representatives to which the state may be entitled in the Congress: but no senator or representative, or person holding an office of trust or profit under the United States, shall be appointed an elector.

The electors shall meet in their respective states, and vote by ballot for two persons, of whom one at least shall not be an inhabitant of the same state with themselves. And they shall make a list of all the persons voted for, and of the number of votes for each; which list they shall sign and certify, and transmit sealed to the seat of the government of the United States, directed to the president of the senate. The president of the senate shall, in the presence of the senate and house of representatives, open all the certificates, and the votes shall then be counted. The person having the greatest number of votes shall be the president, if such number be a majority of the whole number of electors appointed; and if there be more than one who have such majority, and have an equal number of votes, then the house of representatives shall immediately chuse by ballot one of them for president; and if no person have a majority, then from the five highest on the list the said house shall in like manner chuse the president. But in chusing the president, the votes shall be taken by states, the representation from each state having one vote; a quorum for this purpose shall consist of a member or members from two thirds of the states, and a majority of all the states shall be necessary to a choice. In every case, after the choice of the president, the person having the greatest number of votes of the electors shall be the vice-president. But if there should remain two or more who have equal votes, the senate shall chuse from them by ballot the vice-president.

The Congress may determine the time of chusing the electors, and the day on which they shall give their votes; which day shall be the same throughout the United States.

No person except a natural born citizen, or a citizen of the United States, at the time of the adoption
of

of this constitution, shall be eligible to the office of president; neither shall any person be eligible to that office who shall not have attained to the age of thirty-five years, and been fourteen years a resident within the United States.

In case of the removal of the president from office, or of his death, resignation, or inability to discharge the powers and duties of the said office, the same shall devolve on the vice-president, and the Congress may by law provide for the case of removal, death, resignation or inability, both of the president and vice-president, declaring what officer shall then act as president, and such officer shall act accordingly, until the disability be removed, or a president shall be elected.

The president shall, at stated times, receive for his services, a compensation, which shall neither be increased nor diminished during the period for which he shall have been elected, and he shall not receive within that period any other emolument from the United States, or any of them.

Before he enter on the executive of his office, he shall take the following oath or affirmation:

“ I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will faithfully execute the office of president of the United States, and will to the best of my ability, preserve, protect and defend the constitution of the United States.”

Sec. 2. The president shall be commander in chief of the army and navy of the United States, and of the militia of the several states, when called into the actual service of the United States; he may require the opinion, in writing, of the principal officer in each of the executive departments, upon any subject relating to the duties of their respective offices, and he shall have power to grant reprieves and pardons for offences against the United States, except in cases of impeachment.

He shall have power, by and with the advice and consent of the senate, to make treaties, provided two-thirds of the senators present concur; and he shall nominate, and by and with the advice and consent of the senate, shall appoint ambassadors, other public ministers and consuls, judges of the supreme court.

court, and all other officers of the United States, whose appointments are not herein otherwise provided for, and which shall be established by law. But the Congress may by law vest the appointment of such inferior officers, as they think proper, in the president alone, in the courts of law, or in the heads of departments.

The president shall have power to fill up all vacancies that may happen during the recess of the senate, by granting commissions which shall expire at the end of their next session.

Sect. 3. He shall from time to time give to the Congress information of the state of the union, and recommend to their consideration such measures as he shall judge necessary and expedient; he may, on extraordinary occasions, convene both houses, or either of them, and in case of disagreement between them, with respect to the time of adjournment, he may adjourn them to such time as he shall think proper; he shall receive ambassadors and other public ministers; he shall take care that the laws be faithfully executed, and shall commission all the officers of the United States.

Sect. 4. The president, vice-president, and all civil officers of the United States, shall be removed from office on impeachment for, and conviction of, treason, bribery, or other high crimes and misdemeanors.

III.

Sect. 1. The judicial power of the United States, shall be vested in one supreme court, and in such inferior courts as the Congress may from time to time ordain and establish. The judges, both of the supreme and inferior courts, shall hold their offices during good behaviour, and shall, at stated times, receive for their services, a compensation, which shall not be diminished during their continuance in office.

Sect. 2. The judicial power shall extend to all cases, in law and equity, arising under this constitution, the laws of the United States, and treaties made, or which shall be made, under their authority; to all cases affecting ambassadors, other public ministers, and

and consuls; to all cases of admiralty and maritime jurisdiction; to controversies to which the United States shall be a party; to controversies between two or more States, between a state and citizens of another state, between citizens of different States, between citizens of the same state claiming lands under grants of different States, and between a state or the citizens thereof, and foreign States, citizens or subjects.

In all cases affecting ambassadors, other public ministers and consuls, and those in which a state shall be party, the supreme court shall have original jurisdiction. In all the other cases before mentioned, the supreme court shall have appellate jurisdiction, both as to law and fact, with such exceptions, and under such regulations as the Congress shall make.

The trial of all crimes, except in case of impeachment, shall be by jury; and such trial shall be held in the state where the said crimes shall have been committed; but when not committed within any state, the trial shall be at such place or places as the Congress may by law have directed.

Sec. 3. Treason against the United States shall consist only in levying war against them, or in adhering to their enemies, giving them aid and comfort. No person shall be convicted of treason, unless on the testimony of two witnesses to the same overt act, or on confession in open court.

The Congress shall have power to declare the punishment of treason, but no attainder of treason shall work corruption of blood, or forfeiture, except during the life of the person attainted.

IV.

Sec. 1. Full faith and credit shall be given in each state to the public acts, records, and judicial proceedings of every other state. And the Congress may by general laws prescribe the manner in which such acts, records, and proceedings shall be proved, and the effect thereof.

Sec. 2. The citizens of each state shall be entitled to all privileges and immunities of citizens in the several states.

A per.

A person charged in any state with treason, felony, or other crime, who shall flee from justice, and be found in another state, shall, on demand of the executive authority of the state from which he fled be delivered up, to be removed to the state having jurisdiction of the crime.

No person held to service or labour in one state, under the laws thereof, escaping into another, shall, in consequence of any law or regulation therein, be discharged from such service or labour, but shall be delivered up on claim of the party to whom such service or labour may be due.

Sec. 3. New states may be admitted by the Congress into this union ; but no new state shall be formed or erected within the jurisdiction of any other state ; nor any state be formed by the junction of two or more states, or parts of states, without the consent of the legislatures of the states concerned, as well as of the Congress.

The Congress shall have power to dispose of and make all needful rules and regulations respecting the territory or other property belonging to the United States ; and nothing in this Constitution shall be so construed as to prejudice any claims of the United States, or of any particular state.

Sec. 4. The United States shall guarantee to every state in this union, a republican form of government, and shall protect each of them against invasion ; and on application of the legislature, or of the executive (when the legislature cannot be convened) against domestic violence.

V.

The Congress, whenever two thirds of both houses shall deem it necessary, shall propose amendments to this Constitution, or, on the application of the legislatures of two-thirds of the several states, shall call a convention for proposing amendments, which, in either case, shall be valid to all intents and purposes, as part of this constitution when ratified by the legislatures of three-fourths of the several states, or by conventions in three-fourths thereof, as the one or the other mode of ratification may be proposed

poled by the Congress; Provided, that no amendment which may be made prior to the year one thousand eight hundred and eight shall in any manner affect the first and fourth clauses in the ninth section of the first article; and that no state, without its consent, shall be deprived of its equal suffrage in the senate.

VI.

All debts contracted and engagements entered into, before the adoption of this Constitution, shall be as valid against the United States under this Constitution, as under the confederation.

This constitution, and the laws of the United States which shall be made in pursuance thereof; and all treaties made, or which shall be made, under the authority of the United States, shall be the supreme law of the land; and the judges in every state shall be bound thereby, any thing in the constitution or laws of any state to the contrary notwithstanding.

The senators and representatives beforementioned, and the members of the several state legislatures, and all executive and judicial officers, both of the United States and of the several States, shall be bound by oath or affirmation, to support this constitution; but no religious test shall ever be required as a qualification to any office or public trust under the United States.

VII.

The ratification of the conventions of nine States, shall be sufficient for the establishment of this constitution between the States so ratifying the same.

DONE in CONVENTION, by the unanimous consent of the States present, the seventeenth day of September, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty seven, and of the Independence of the United States of America the twelfth. In witness whereof we have hereunto subscribed our names.

GEORGE WASHINGTON, President,

And Deputy from VIRGINIA,

NEW-HAMPSHIRE. { *John Langdon,*
 { *Nicholas Gilman.*

MASSACHUSETTS. { *Nathaniel Gorham,*
 { *Rufus King.*

S

CONNECTICUT

CONNECTICUT.	{ William Samuel Johnson,
	{ Roger Sherman.
NEW-YORK.	{ Alexander Hamilton.
	{ William Livingston,
NEW-JERSEY.	{ David Brearley,
	{ William Paterson,
	{ Jonathan Dayton.
	{ Benjamin Franklin,
	{ Thomas Mifflin,
	{ Robert Morris,
PENNSYLVANIA.	{ George Clymer,
	{ Thomas Fitzsimons,
	{ Jared Ingersoll,
	{ James Wilson,
	{ Gouverneur Morris.
	{ George Read,
DELAWARE.	{ Gunning Bedford, jun.
	{ John Dickinson,
	{ Richard Basset,
	{ Jacob Broom.
	{ James M ^r Henry,
MARYLAND.	{ Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer.
	{ Daniel Carroll.
	{ John Blair,
VIRGINIA.	{ James Madison, junior.
	{ William Blount,
NORTH-CAROLINA.	{ Richard Dobbs Spaight,
	{ Hugh Williamson.
	{ John Rutledge,
SOUTH-CAROLINA.	{ Charles Cotesworth Pinckney.
	{ Charles Pinckney,
	{ Pierce Butler.
	{ William Few,
GEORGIA.	{ Abraham Baldwin.

Attest. William Jackson, SECRETARY.

IN CONVENTION,

Monday, September 17, 1787.

RESOLVED.

THAT the preceding Constitution be laid before the United States in Congress assembled, and that it is the opinion of this Convention, that it should afterwards be submitted to a Convention of Delegates, chosen

chosen in each State by the people thereof, under the recommendation of its Legislature, for their assent and ratification; and that each Convention assenting to, and ratifying the same, should give notice thereof to the United States in Congress assembled.

Resolved; That it is the opinion of this Convention, that as soon as the Conventions of nine States shall have ratified the Constitution, the United States in Congress assembled should fix a day on which Electors should be appointed by the States which shall have ratified the same, and a day on which the Electors should assemble to vote for the President, and the time and place for commencing proceedings under this Constitution. That after such publication the Electors should be appointed, and the Senators and Representatives elected: That the Electors should meet on the day fixed for the Election of the President, and should transmit their votes certified, signed, sealed and directed, as the Constitution requires, to the Secretary of the United States in Congress assembled; that the Senators and Representatives should convene at the time and place assigned; that the Senators should appoint a President of the Senate, for the sole purpose of receiving, opening and counting the votes for President; and that after he shall be chosen, the Congress, together with the President, should, without delay, proceed to execute this Constitution.

By the unanimous Order of the Convention,

GEORGE WASHINGTON, President.

William Jackson, Secretary.

In CONVENTION, September 17, 1787.

S I R,

WE have now the honor to submit to the consideration of the United States in Congress assembled, that Constitution which has appeared to us the most advisable.

The friends of our country have long seen and desired, that the power of making war, peace and treaties, that of levying money and regulating commerce, and the correspondent executive and judicial authorities should be fully and effectually vested in the general government of the Union: but the impropriety of delegating such extensive trust to one body of men is evident—Hence results the necessity of a different organization.

It

It is obviously impracticable in the federal government of these States, to secure all rights of independent sovereignty to each, and yet provide for the interest and safety of all—Individuals entering into society, must give up a share of liberty to preserve the rest. The magnitude of the sacrifice must depend as well on situation and circumstance, as on the object to be obtained. It is at all times difficult to draw with precision the line between those rights which must be surrendered, and those which may be reserved; and on the present occasion this difficulty was increased by a difference among the several States as to their situation, extent, habits, and particular interests.

In all our deliberations on this subject we kept steadily in our view, that which appears to us the greatest interest of every true American, the consolidation of our Union, in which is involved our prosperity, safety, perhaps our national existence. This important consideration, seriously and deeply impressed on our minds, led each State in the Convention to be less rigid on points of inferior magnitude, than might have been otherwise expected; and thus the Constitution, which we now present, is the result of a spirit of amity, and of that mutual deference and concession which the peculiarity of our political situation rendered indispensable.

That it will meet the full and entire approbation of every State is not perhaps to be expected; but each will doubtless consider, that had her interests been alone consulted, the consequences might have been particularly disagreeable to others: that it is liable to as few exceptions as could reasonably have been expected, we hope and believe; that it may promote the lasting welfare of that country so dear to us all, and secure her freedom and happiness, is our most ardent wish.—With great respect, we have the honor to be, sir,

Your excellency's most
obedient and humble servants,

GEORGE WASHINGTON, President.

By unanimous consent of the CONVENTION.

His excellency the President of Congress.

Chronology of Remarkable Events in America.

- 1492 AMERICA first discovered by Columbus.
- 1497 South America discovered by Americus Vesputius, from whom it has its name.
- 1497 North America discovered by Cabot, for Henry VII.
- 1606 The first permanent settlement in Virginia.
- 1621 New England planted by the Puritans.
- 1635 Maryland planted by lord Baltimore.
- 1663 Carolina planted.
- 1667 The New Netherlands, now-known by the names of New-York, New-Jersey, and Pennsylvania, confirmed to the English by the peace of Breda.
- 1680 William Penn, receives a charter for planting Pennsylvania.
- 1728 Carolina divided into two governments, named North and South Carolina.
- 1732 Georgia planted.
- 1762 American Philosophical Society established.
- 1774 Stamp-act passed.
- June 1, Boston port shut.
- 1775 April 19, Battle of Lexington the first action between the British and Americans.
- May, Ticonderoga taken from the British by surprise.
- May 10, Congress meet at Philadelphia.
- June 15, Gen. Washington appointed commander in chief.
- June 17, Bloody action at Bunker's-Hill, during which the British burnt Charlestown.
- Oct. 18, Falmouth burnt by the British.
- Canada invaded by the Americans.
- Nov. 3 Fort St. John's taken by general Montgomery.
- 13, Montreal taken by ditto.
- Arnold, after a dangerous march, arrives at Quebec.
- Dec. 8, Defeat of a party of British at Great Bridge, Vir.
- 1776 Jan. Gen. Montgomery fell in an attempt to storm Quebec.
- Nov. 1, burnt by lord Dunmore.
- Feb. 27, Tories in North Carolina defeated.
- March, A small American fleet, takes New Providence.
- 17, Boston evacuated by the British.
- May 7, The siege of Quebec raised.
- June, Battle of Three Rivers, in Canada.
- June 28, British defeated at Sullivan's island, near Charleston.
- July 4, DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE.
- 8, Dunmore driven from Virginia.
- Canada evacuated by the American army.
- Gen. Howe lands on Staten-Island.
- August 27, Battle of Long-Island.
- Sept. 15, New-York taken by the British.
- Oct. 28, Battle of Whiteplains.
- Nov. 16, Fort Mifflin taken.
- Dec. 7, British take possession of Rhode-Island.
- General Lee taken.

- 1776 About the British army had over-run New-Jersey, and the States of America were at the lowest ebb.
Dec. 20 The tide of American affairs turns in her favor, by gen. Washington's capturing 900 Hessians at Trenton.
- 1777 *Jan. 2.* Cannonade at Trenton.
 — 3. Battle of Princeton.
 By the three last actions, and by the masterly manœuvres of general Washington, the British were driven from the Jerseys, except the town of Brunswick.
Apr. 27. British, under gov. Tryon, burn the stores at Danbury. British evacuate New-Jersey.
Sept. 11, Battle of Brandywine.
 — Massacre by the British at the Paoli, Chester county.
 — 26. British troops take possession of Philadelphia.
 Americans defeated on Lake Champlain.
 'Ticonderoga evacuated by the Americans on the approach of general Burgoyne's army.
 Battle of Bennington.—The first check to Burgoyne's army.
Aug. 8. British obliged to raise the siege of fort Stanwix.
Oct. 4. Battle of Germantown.
 — 16, Etopus, or Kingston, burnt by the British.
 — 17, Burgoyne and his army surrenders to general Gates.
 — 20, Hessians defeated before Redbank.
Nov. 15. Americans evacuate Fort Mifflin.
- 1778 *Feb. 6.* Treaties between France and America signed.
June. Commissioners from Britain arrive to treat with Congress, who refuse the terms offered.
June 17, The British commence hostilities with France.
 — 18, Philadelphia evacuated by the British.
 — 28. Battle of Monmouth.
 French fleet under count d'Estaing arrives, and has an engagement with the British fleet.
Aug. Unsuccessful attempt of the Americans to take R. Island.
Dec. 29. Georgia invaded, and Savannah taken.
- 1779 The British establish posts at Ebenezer and Augusta, in Georgia; invade South Carolina, and threaten Charleston.
June 20. Battle at Stono Ferry.
July 16. Stony-Point taken by general Wayne.
August 14. American expedition to Penobscot defeated.
Oct. 9. French and American army attempt to storm Savanua. General Sullivan lays waste the Indian country.
- 1780 Rhode Island evacuated.
Feb. Gen. Clinton invades South Carolina.
May 12. Charleston surrenders.
July 10. French fleet and army arrives at Rhode-Island.
August 20. Battle of Camden.
 Cornwallis over-runs part of the southern states, and supposes them entirely subdued.
Sept. 24. Arnold deserts to the British.
Oct. 7. American militia gain a victory at King's mountain.
Dec. 2. Gen. Greene takes command of the southern army.
- 1781 *Jan. 1.* The Pennsylvania line revolt. — 3. Arnold

- 1781 — 3. Arnold invades Virginia.
 — 10. Pennsylvania line returns to their duty.
 — 17. Gen. Morgan defeats Tarleton at the Cowpens.
March 1. Articles of Confederation finally ratified.
 — 15. Battle of Guilford.
 After the battle of Guilford, Cornwallis retreated to Wilmington, North-Carolina, and from thence advanced to Virginia; & general Greene returned into South-Carolina.
April 25. Second battle of Camden.
May 10. British evacuate and burn Camden.
 — 20. Cornwallis joins Arnold in Virginia.
 Gen. Greene recovers most part of the southern states; and partizan detachments from his army, under generals Morgan, Sumpter, Marion, Pickens, cols. Lee, Laurens, Washington, &c. successfully attack the enemy's detached parties, and capture their forts.
June 18. Siege of Ninety-six raised by the British.
July 6. Gen. Wayne attacks the British at James town.
July. During the spring, Marquis Fayette was appointed to oppose Cornwallis in Virginia; after a series of manœuvres, lord Cornwallis retires to York-town.
August. General Washington marches with the flower of his army from his station near New York to Virginia.
Aug. 26. French fleet and army arrive in Chesapeek bay.
Sept. 5. Engagement off Chesapeek between the French and British fleets.
 — 8. Battle of Eutaw Springs.
 — 13. New-London burnt, its garrison massacred by Arnold.
Oct. 19. Cornwallis surrenders to Gen. Washington.
 — 24. Col. Willet defeats the enemy at Mohawk river.
 1782 *Jan.* Gen. Wayne take post in the neighbourhood of Savannah.
May 21. Gen. Wayne defeats Col. Brown near Savannah.
June 24. Gen. Wayne defeats a party of Indians near Savannah.
July 11. Savannah evacuated.
Nov. 30. Provisional articles of peace signed.
Dec. 14. Charleston evacuated.
 1783 *Sept. 3.* Definitive treaty of peace ratified.
Nov. 25. New-York evacuated.
Dec. The American army disbanded—General Washington resigns his commission into the hands of the president of Congress, and retires to his estate.
 1787 *May.* Convention meet in Philadelphia, for the purpose of forming a new Federal Constitution.

Table of Contents.

	Page
<i>H. E. history of Columbus</i>	3
<i>Discovery and settlement of North-America</i>	15
<i>Explanation of the Terms in Geography</i>	27
<i>Geography of the United States</i>	37
<i>Sketch of the History of the late War in America</i>	53
<i>An Account of the most remarkable Battles fought in America during the late War</i>	66
<i>General Washington's farewell Orders to the Armies of the United States</i>	97
<i>General Washington's Circular Letter</i>	102
<i>A Short Memoir of General Washington</i>	114
<i>Sketches of the Life of Marquis de la Fayette</i>	118
<i>Sketches of the Life of the late Nathaniel Greene</i>	122
<i>The first Petition of Congress to the King, in 1774</i>	129
<i>A Declaration by the Representatives of the United Colonies of North-America, setting forth the Causes and Necessity of their taking up Arms, July 6, 1775</i>	136
<i>The second Address of the Congress of the United Colonies of North-America, to the People of Great-Britain, agreed to in Congress the 8th day of July, 1775</i>	143
<i>The Declaration of Independence</i>	153
<i>A short Account of the Constitution of each of the States</i>	157
<i>Extract from the Articles of Peace</i>	161
<i>Computation of the Quantity of Land and Water in the United States</i>	164
<i>Short Extract from an Ordinance of Congress for disposing of Lands in the Western Territory</i>	165
<i>An Ordinance for the Government of the Territory of the United States, north-west of the river Ohio</i>	166
<i>Description of the great Lakes and other natural Curiosities in America</i>	174
<i>Constitution of the United States as established by the Convention</i>	189
<i>Chronological Table of the most remarkable events in America</i>	205