

NILES' WEEKLY REGISTER.

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BALTIMORE, SATURDAY, JULY 12, 1817.

[WHOLE NO. 306.]

Hæc cùm meminisse jurabit.—VIRGIL.

PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY E. NILES, AT THE HEAD OF CHEAPSIDE, AT \$5 PER ANNUM.

Letters of Thomas McKean.

Quincey, June 30, 1817.

MR. NILES,

The oldest statesman in North America is no more. Vixit.

McKean, for whose services, and, indeed, for whose patronage, the two states of Pennsylvania and Delaware once contended, is numbered with his fathers.

I cannot express my feelings upon this event in any way, better, than by the publication of the inclosed letters:

1. June 13, 1812.
2. August 20, 1813.
3. August 28, 1813.
4. November 15, 1813.
5. January, 1814.
6. October 15, 1814.
7. November 20, 1815.
8. June 17, 1817.

I pray you to print these letters in your Register.

JOHN ADAMS,

Editor of the *Baltimore Weekly Register*.

Philadelphia, June 13th, 1812.

DEAR SIR—On my return from a tour to the state of Delaware, I found your kind letter of the 2d instant, and thank you for this mark of esteem.

Our venerable friend Clinton has gone before us, so has the illustrious Washington, eleven years ago; and I have nearly outlived all my early acquaintance. I remain the only surviving member of the first American congress, held in the city of New-York in October, 1765; and but three more, of whom you are one, remain alive of the second, held in this city in September, 1774. It was my fate to be delegated to that trust annually during the revolutionary war with Great Britain, until the preliminary articles of peace were signed in 1782, which afforded me an opportunity of knowing every member of congress during the whole of that time; and I declare with pleasure and also with pride, that I embraced the political sentiments of none with more satisfaction (being congenial with my own) than yours; nor do I recollect a single question in which we differed.

It is true, I was a friend to the revolution in France, from the assembly of the Notables until the king was decapitated, which I deemed not only a very atrocious but a most absurd act. After the limited monarchy was abolished, I remained in a kind of sympathy with regard to the leaders of the different parties, until I clearly perceived that nation was incapable at that time of being ruled by a popular government: and when the few and afterwards an individual assumed a despotic sway over them, I thought them in a situation better than under the government of a mob, for I would prefer any kind of government to such a state, even tyranny to anarchy. On this subject then, I do not conceive we differed widely.

My dear sir, at this time of our lives, there can be no question, as you observe, of honors,

profits, rank or fame between us; I shook hands with the world three years ago, and we said farewell to each other; the toys and rattles of childhood would, in a few years more, be probably as suitable to me as office, honor or wealth; but (I thank God) the faculties of my mind are as yet little if any thing impaired, and my affections and friendships are unshaken: I do assure you that I venerate our early friendship and am happy in a continuance of it.

Since my exemption from official and professional duties, I have enjoyed a tranquility never (during a long protracted life) heretofore experienced, and my health and comforts are sufficient for a reasonable man.

Our country is at this moment in a critical situation; the result is in the womb of fate; our system of government, *in peace*, is the best in the world, but how it will operate *in war* is doubtful; this, however, is likely to be soon put to the test, and I sincerely regret it.

There is a cheerful air in your letter that evidences health, peace and a competency, which that you may long enjoy is the sincere wish and ardent prayer of, dear sir, your old friend and most obedient servant,

THO'S MCKEAN.

JOHN ADAMS, Esquire,

Late President of the U. S. of America.

Philadelphia, August 20th, 1813.

DEAR SIR—I can at length furnish you with a copy of the proceedings of the congress held at New-York in 1765; it is inclosed herewith. After diligent enquiry I had not been able to procure a single copy, either in manuscript or print, done in the United States, but fortunately met one, published by I. Almon, in London, in 1767, with a collection of American tracts, in four octavo volumes, from which I caused the present one to be printed: it may be of some use to the historian at least.*

The marquis de Casa Yrujo, with my daughter, their children and servants, made me a visit on his return from an embassy to the prince regent of Portugal, at Rio Janeiro, in Brazil, last June was a year, and remained here until a few weeks ago, owing to the embargo, war, blockades, &c. when they sailed for Cadiz. The above circumstances, with others, will, I trust, be some apology from my long delay in answering your last esteemed letter.

In the congress of 1765 there were several conspicuous characters: Mr. James Otis appeared to me to be the boldest and best speaker—I voted for him as our president, but brigadier Ruggles succeeded by one vote, owing to the number of the committee from New-York, as we voted individually: when the business was finished, our president would not sign the petitions, and peremptorily refused to assign any reasons, until I pressed him so hard that he at last said, "it was against his conscience;" on which word I rung the change so loud,

* The journals of this congress, taken from the original M. S. S. of its clerk [John Cotton, esq.] were published in the WEEKLY REGISTER, vol. II. July 1812.

that a plain challenge was given by him and accepted, in the presence of the whole corps; but he departed the next morning before day without an adieu to any of his brethren. He seemed to accord with what was done during the session so fully and heartily, that Mr. Otis told me frequently it gave him surprise, as he confessed he suspected his sincerity.

There was less fortitude in that body than in the succeeding congress of 1774: indeed some of the members seemed as timid as if engaged in a traitorous conspiracy. Mr. Ogden, then speaker of the New-Jersey assembly, following the example of the president, declined to sign the petitions, though warmly solicited by myself in private and also by my father-in-law, col. Borden, his colleague: the consequence of my mentioning this fact, as I returned to Newcastle through New-Jersey, was to Mr. Ogden a burning in effigy in several of the counties, and his removal from the office of speaker at the next meeting of the general assembly; and to me, menaces of another challenge. The great mass of the people were at that time zealous in the cause of America. Other incidents of that day are recollected, but they are of trivial import.

In the year 1778, and afterwards until the preliminaries of peace were signed, the members of congress varied yearly in point of talents and exertions in favor of the revolution: they seemed to be considerably governed by the prospects before them, as they were promising or the contrary: however a great majority were staunch whigs at all times.

Whatever may be the fate of our government in the United States, I decidedly think with you, for the reason you assign, that a democratic form in France, in the present age, was preposterous: I entertain the same opinion of the Spanish provinces in South America. The form established last year by the cortes of Spain is admirably adapted to the state of civilization in the peninsula—it is a capital performance, but will be attacked and resisted by the inquisitors, jesuits, monks, and all the bigots and petty tyrants.

It does not seem to me, that either of your successors enjoy more ease than your predecessor. Mr. Madison has paid too great a deference to the recommendations to office by low and designing men, who stood very much in need of recommendations themselves, though excellent democrats, if they were to be credited;—Mr. Jefferson split on the same rock; many of their appointments have been exceedingly improper: though general Washington conferred offices on some Tories, yet they were capable and only undeserving.

My paper is drawing to a close, so is my life; I am now in my eightieth year, therefore more than a year older than you. Had you not noticed the *quiveration* of your hand (an expressive word, though newly used) I should not have discovered it—mine quivers very much when feverish or agitated by severe exercise; my eyes grow dimmer, my hearing duller, and I have other symptoms of age; but why repeat grievances that cannot be redressed? May you not only continue to enjoy, but increase your health and *omnium cum dignitate* with every other blessing.

Dear sir, your friend,

THO'S MCKEAN.

HON. JOHN ADAMS.

Philadelphia, August 28th, 1813.

DEAR SIR—With sincerity I condole with you on the death of your daughter; I had five children who have died, three of whom have been married and left a numerous offspring. By these events we have sus-

tained the deprivation of great comforts; but *omnium* loss is *their* ineffable gain, they are in the bosom of their father and their God. These are among the common calamities of life; resignation to the dispensations of Providence, and gratitude for all the blessings left us are indispensable duties.

Your favor of the 31st last month would have been acknowledged before now, but from a hope I entertained of giving you some account of the congress at Albany in 1754: however, after considerable enquiry, I have been disappointed. I have a feint recollection, that it was appointed by the British ministry for the ostensible purpose of ascertaining the boundaries of the several colonies to the eastward of Delaware; but in reality to propose the least offensive plan for raising a revenue in America. In 1739, Sir William Keith, a Scotch gentleman, who had been a lieutenant-governor of Pennsylvania, proposed such an assembly to the ministry: he also proposed the extension of the British stamp-duties to the colonies. He was then, I believe, in the Fleet-prison. The hints he gave were embraced, the first in 1754, the second in 1764.

It has been long a matter of surprise to me, that no gentleman of talents and character has undertaken to write a history of the former British colonies, now United States of America, at least from 1756 to 1806, a period of fifty very important years. Such a work would not only be a great benefit to posterity but also to the author—it would sell well.

To form an opinion that a majority of the people of Pennsylvania were against the American revolution at its commencement, was not uncommon, especially by strangers: the mistake arose from the circumstance of a large majority of their representatives and civil officers being in the opposition. This state was first settled by a colony of Quakers, their proprietor and governor, William Penn, being at the head of the sect: they had the entire government or rule of Pennsylvania from 1682 until 1776, by the following means: The province was in the beginning divided into three counties, Philadelphia, Chester and Bucks, and when the three lower counties on Delaware (now state of Delaware) separated from them in 1700, each county had eight members in the legislature, and the city being incorporated and inhabited chiefly by the sect, was allowed two. Eight other counties were erected prior to the revolution, and were allowed some two, some but one representative, so that all they had but ten; although, if they had found the representation according to the number of human beings in each district or county, the Quakers would have been greatly overruled, even adding the Tories or enemies of the revolution to the number. The voice of the representatives was not the voice of the people, as is the case with the British parliament; the three Quaker counties, having 24 members in assembly, made all the laws. They gave great trouble to the whigs, but they were kept under by fear as well as by superior numbers: for that day the people called Friends have ceased to rule Pennsylvania; they foresaw the consequence of an equal representation, as it would affect themselves, and this was a principal cause of their aversion to a change in the form of our government as a body, though many individuals of their society differed with them and became active and good citizens.

In the marriage of our children, *their*, not happiness is to be chiefly consulted; I confess, I wish is to have them established in their native country.

On reflection, I cannot refer to a single instance of disinterested or evident friendship of Great

tain towards this country during the period you mention: every act which might bear such an aspect, has been performed for the interest of the administration alone, although coupled in some cases with that of their own island.

I shall be always pleased with your correspondence, and happy in contributing to your amusement. Your able talent for writing history, and your eminent public stations, induced a hope that we should be favored with an account of the transactions in America, for at least the last sixty years, from your pen.

THO'S MCKEAN.

Philadelphia, November 15th 1813.

DEAR SIR—I have to thank you for the introduction of the Rev. Mr. Henry Coleman to my acquaintance, and am sorry his other engagements deprived me of his company as often and in the manner I wished.

My last letter was (I perceive) dated in August instead of September; your's of that date, to which mine was an answer, bore the same date, and I suppose lay before me. Old age will discover itself whether we will or not.

The anecdote of Sir William Keith's proposal to the British ministry is to be found in the latter end of the 1st volume of American Tracts, printed by I. Almon, in London, 1767: it had been published in London in 1739, and is titled "A proposal for establishing by act of parliament the duties upon stamp paper and parchment in all the British colonies." Part of the anecdote I had by tradition, and in a novel, "Peregrine Pickle;" for I have read and still read novels: these fabulous histories afford me not only amusement but pleasure, because they almost universally make vice detested and punished, and virtue triumphant, which is not the case of history of real life.

With respect to the histories of North America hitherto published I concur with you in opinion; they were not popular, because the authors were little known, and it was known, that they had not an opportunity of personal knowledge of the facts they related, and in several of them were mistaking: the authors seem to have paid too much attention to those whom they supposed would, from their reputation for wealth and influence, be most likely to promote the sale of their books, or otherwise advance their fortunes: this temptation is now done away; the favored characters are all dead, and very few of their descendants at present in any way distinguished.

I have briefly mentioned the situation of the people of Pennsylvania at the time of the American revolution; the like shall now be done with respect to Delaware. This small state was inhabited before Pennsylvania; it consists of only three counties, viz. Newcastle, Kent and Sussex; the last was settled by a few families from Sweden, more from Holland, but the great mass from England; Kent was nearly in the same proportions; and Newcastle was inhabited from Sweden, Holland, but the great majority were from Ireland—there were a few from England and Scotland. In Newcastle, three-fifths were at the time of the revolution Presbyterians; in Kent about five-eighths Protestant Episcopalians, and in Sussex two-thirds of the latter. The "Society in London for Propagating the Gospel in Foreign Parts," had about half a dozen missionaries, perhaps more, in the state of Delaware, to some of whom they gave a salary of 60*l.* to others 50*l.* sterling a year; these ministers foresaw, that if America became an independent state or nation, their sa-

laries would necessarily cease; it was their interest therefore, to oppose the revolution, and they did oppose it, though with as much secrecy as practicable; they told their hearers, many of whom, especially in Sussex, were illiterate, ignorant and bigotted, that it was a plan of the Presbyterians to get their religion established, that it originated in New-England and was fostered by the Presbyterians in every colony or province: a majority of this state were unquestionably against the independence of America, but the most sensible of the Episcopalians, the Baptists and Quakers, and the Presbyterians, with very few exceptions, prevailed against them, as they believed they would be overpowered, with the help of the other colonies, if they resisted. I could not avoid remarking, that I was chosen, unanimously, speaker of the house of representatives of this state, when, of all the members present, there were but six, including myself, who were esteemed whigs.

That you may continue to enjoy health and every other blessing is the sincere prayer of, dear sir, your old friend,

THO'S MCKEAN.

The hon. JOHN ADAMS.

Philadelphia, January, 1814.

DEAR SIR—In your favor of the 26th November last you say, "that you ventured to say, that about a third of the people of the colonies were against the revolution." It required much reflection before I could fix my opinion on this subject, but on mature deliberation I conclude you are right, and that more than a third of influential characters were against it. The opposition consisted chiefly of the Friends or Quakers, the Menonists, the Protestant Episcopalians, whose clergy received salaries from the Society for propagating the gospel in foreign parts; and from the officers of the crown and proprietors of provinces, with their connexions, adding the timid and those who believed the colonies would be conquered, and that of course they would be safe in their persons and property from such conduct and also have a probability of obtaining office and distinction, and also the discontented and capricious of all grades.

I have not heard the specific sum of money Mr. C. J. Marshall received for his copy right of the Life of Washington, nor have I been able to obtain any certain information concerning it; but if he obtained a sixth part of what you mention, I think he ought to be contented.

During my protracted life I neither have had leisure or inclination to write a history, and at my present age it is out of the question. It is true, I have often been spoken to and even solicited by a great many of my learned acquaintance to undertake that of the American revolution, beginning at the year 1760 or before; among them Dr. Rush, your former correspondent, was not the least anxious.

Though I shall never write a history, I will give you an historical fact respecting the declaration of independence, which may amuse, if not surprise.

On the 1st July, 1776, the question was taken in the committee of the whole of congress, when Pennsylvania, represented by seven members then present, voted against it—4 to 3; among the majority were Robert Morris and John Dickinson. Delaware, (having only two present, namely, myself and Mr. Read) was divided: all the other states voting in favor of it. The report was delayed until the 4th, and in the mean time I sent an express for Cæsar Rodney, to Dover, in the county of Kent, in Delaware, at my private expence, whom I met at the

state-house door on the 4th of July in his boots; he resided eighty miles from the city, and just arrived as congress met. The question was taken, Delaware voted in favor of independence; Pennsylvania, (there being only five members present, Messrs. Dickinson and Morris absent) voted also for it; Messrs. Willing and Humphries were against it. Thus the thirteen states were unanimous in favor of independence. Notwithstanding this, in the printed public journal of congress for 1776, vol. 2, it appears that the declaration of independence was declared on the 4th of July 1776, by the gentlemen whose names are there inserted; whereas no person signed it on that day, and among the names there inserted, one gentleman, namely, George Read, Esq. was not in favor of it; and seven were not in congress on that day, namely, Messrs. Morris, Rush, Clymer, Smith, Taylor and Ross, all of Pennsylvania, and Mr. Thornton of New-Hampshire; nor were the six gentlemen last named, members of congress on the 4th of July. The five for Pennsylvania were appointed delegates by the convention of that state on the 20th July, and Mr. Thornton took his seat in congress for the first time on the 4th November following: when the names of Henry Wisner of New-York, and Thomas M'Kean of Delaware, are not printed as subscribers, though both were present in congress on the 4th of July and voted for independence.

Here false colors are certainly hung out; there is culpability somewhere: what I have heard as an explanation is as follows: When the declaration was voted, it was ordered to be engrossed on parchment and then signed, and that a few days afterwards a resolution was entered on the secret journal, that no person should have a seat in congress during that year until he should have signed the declaration of independence. After the 4th July I was not in congress for several months, having marched with a regiment of associators, as colonel, to support general Washington, until the flying camp of ten thousand men was completed. When the associators were discharged, I returned to Philadelphia, took my seat in congress and signed my name to the declaration on parchment. This transaction should be truly stated, and the then secret journal should be made public. In the manuscript journal, Mr. Pickering, then secretary of state, and myself saw a *printed half sheet* of paper, with the names of the members afterwards in the printed journals, stiched in. We examined the parchment where my name is signed in my own hand-writing.

A glimmering of peace appears in the horizon; may it be realized: but every preparation should be made for a continuance of the war. When the British arms have been successful, I have never found their rulers or ministers otherwise than haughty, rude, imperious,—nay, insolent. They and their allies have this year been successful, both in the north and south of Europe.

My sight fades very fast, though my writing may not discover it. God bless you. Your friend,

THO'S MCKEAN.

His Excellency JOHN ADAMS.

Philadelphia, October 15th, 1814.

DEAR SIR—The communications of our plenipotentiaries at Ghent give complete evidence of the temper and views of the British government respecting peace with the United States; they will emphatically *unite* them. I have always been of opinion that the administration of Britain intended to protract the negotiation until the result of the present campaign should be known; but, until now,

I did not believe they meant to continue the war longer. War, then, is the order of the day. We will never be British colonies again. The loss of the lives of many thousands of our fellow-citizens and of millions of treasure must be the consequence; but in times of peace death is not idle, and luxury and dissipation squander millions. When not half as numerous and not a tenth part so wealthy, we fought them, near forty years ago, with the assistance of five or six thousand troops from France, and the diversion occasioned by the French navy, and we beat them. We are now so well prepared, and have had such recent proofs of skill and bravery, both on the ocean and on the land, that there is no reason to despair of success again.

The year ensuing will be the year of trial:—we shall then have as able and as brave officers and privates as we have ever had; nay, I will venture to say, superior by sea and land—and, when I reflect, that we can bring ten men into the field for the same expence as our enemy can one, (for they will have to bring their forces three thousand miles at least before they can meet us) there is reason to conclude our finances will hold out as long as theirs; especially when we consider they have been lately twenty years at war with another country, that commanded all their energies.

An omnipotent and benevolent Providence may, by permitting new broils and contests in Europe, or by other means, furnish other employment for the British administration, besides planning the destruction or subjugation of an innocent people, fighting for their independence and just rights. On God let us rely; he has been and still is our general in chief.

I thought I had done with the world, having spent eighty years in it, but unexpected events have recalled my attention to it for a short time.

The declaration of war appeared to me improvident and very wrong; but now there must be no retrospection; all our powers must be exercised on the present and the future.

In Philadelphia we are at last roused and preparing for defence and safety. There is an entire change of elective officers, both in this city and county, without a single exception.

This will be handed to you by the rev. Mr. Coleman, who makes but a short stay here: he has assured me of your good health. Having this opportunity, I could not refrain writing, and my mind being engrossed with the situation of our country, in obtaining and securing the happiness of which you and I have employed so many years of our lives, at the risk of every thing valuable in this world, has forced from me a political epistle. Your worthy son being placed at the head of the commissioners, of the United States, for negotiating a peace, has hitherto prevented me from engaging my pen to you about the politics of the times.

May we live to see an honorable and successful termination of this second arduous contest for American liberty; and may you be as happy as I wish you.

Your friend,

THO'S MCKEAN.

His excellency JOHN ADAMS.

Philadelphia, November 20th, 1815.

DEAR SIR—I can now answer the questions in your favor of the 30th July last, viz. Who shall write the history of the American revolution, &c.?

Major general James Wilkinson has written it. He commences with the battle of Bunker's or Breed's hill, at Boston, and concludes with the battle near New-Orleans, on the Mississippi, a period

of forty years. It will be published in three volumes large 8vo, each containing about 500 pages.

The general, I am informed, confines himself to military transactions, with a reference to a very few of the civil. I knew him personally near forty years ago, but have not seen or heard from him for the last seven years: I think him above mediocrity. He has been in the army during the whole time, and is better qualified to give a description of its proceedings than any gentleman with whom I am acquainted.

This history has been written within the last seven or eight months, at Germantown, about six miles from this city; though I have not heard of the general being there until lately: he has kept himself quite retired and private.

I do not recollect any formal speeches, such as are made in the British parliament and our late congresses, to have been made in the revolutionary congress, though I was a member for eight years, from 1774 until the preliminaries of peace were signed. We had no time to hear such speeches; little for deliberation: action was the order of the day. The speech of Mr. Richard K. Lee, given by the Italian, the chevalier Botta, which I have read, may have been delivered, but I have no remembrance of it, though in congress, nor would it do any member much credit: I have no favorable opinion of the Chevalier, he appears to me a vain and presuming character to have attempted such a history; perhaps the *res angustæ domi* (poverty) impelled him.

Although we may not in the United States have a Thucydides, a Tacitus, Hume, Robertson or Gibbon, who have been reckoned the best historians in Greece, Rome or Great Britain, yet we have gentlemen of great talents and capable of writing the history of our revolution with at least as much regard to truth as any of them has exhibited.

With respect to general Wilkinson I recollect an anecdote: he was in 1777 an aid to general Gates, and by him sent to congress at Yorktown, in Pennsylvania, with the dispatches, giving an account of the surrender of Sir John Burgoyne and the British army to the Americans at Saratoga; on the way he spent a day at Reading, about fifty miles from Yorktown, with a young lady from Philadelphia, whom he afterwards married. When the dispatches were read in congress, propositions were made for paying a proper compliment to the favorite of general Gates who brought us such pleasing news. Gov. Samuel Adams, with a grave and solemn face, moved congress that the young gentleman should be presented with "a pair of spurs."

What changes in Europe have occurred since I had the pleasure of writing to you last? Lewis 18th is again on the throne of France, the great Napoleon at the bottom of the wheel, never to rise more, a prisoner for life. The French nation miserable; Spain has re-established the tribunal of the Inquisition and restored the Jesuits. The rulers of Portugal void of common sense. South America in a state of opposition to the government of Spain, and in all appearance will soon be independent of it. Whatever is right, said Mr. Pope, the first of poets and moralists.

Have nothing to do with politics, nor much with any thing else in this world, but I hear and listen. It is said that James Monroe, secretary of state, John Armstrong, late secretary at war, Dewitt Clinton, late mayor of New York, and perhaps Rufus King, now a senator, will be proposed as candidates for the next presidency. I do not think the prospect of either or any of them very encouraging.

Mr. John Q. Adams has been named, but it not known whether this may not create jealousy or injure him with the present administration, which his friends would by all means avoid.

My sheet is almost finished. God bless you.

Your old friend,

THO'S McKEAN

His Excellency JOHN ADAMS.

Philadelphia, June 17th, 1817.

DEAR SIR—I am at present obliged to write to you by another hand. The inclosed letter was sent to me in May last, by your son Thomas B. Adams, Esq. with a request that I should return it under cover to you. I regret that owing to a mistake of his residence, I had not the pleasure of his company at my table when he was last in this city. Miss Rutter has been so kind, I understand, as to explain the circumstance to him.

It seems that the office of secretary of state, the talents of the candidates being equal, is the step-ladder to the presidential chair, at least it has been so in the cases of the three last presidents. Now as your son, the honorable John Quincy Adams, is appointed to that station, if he makes the best advantage of his situation, it is more than probable that he may be the next president of the United States.

I shall seldom hereafter be able to write to you.

Please to pay my devoirs to your son, and accept my most sincere wishes for your health and happiness. I am your old friend,

THO'S McKEAN.

His Excellency JOHN ADAMS.

P. S. I have answered Mr. Ingersoll's request by a publication in the newspapers.*

Defeat of Sir Peter Parker.

Before I published the copy of the inscription on the monument of Sir Peter Parker,—page 245. I addressed a note to col. Reed, (a revolutionary soldier and late a senator of the United States) who opposed and defeated the baronet, requesting any particulars of the affair that he might be pleased to communicate in addition to those contained in his official letter to general Chambers. In a very polite letter just received from him, dated on the 3d inst. he apologizes for not answering my note sooner, and observes—

"It is to be regretted that on any occasion the friends of a gallant man should be so unmindful of what they owe to his memory and to truth, as to inscribe on his tombstone a palpable falsehood. That Sir Peter was a man of great gallantry there is no doubt; that he sought fame in every clime and bid fair to rival Nelson, is also true. It is not true that I had three times the number of the enemy's force—but it is certainly true that Sir Peter had at least double my force. It is not true that I was supported by cavalry—there was not one man or officer belonging to cavalry on the battle ground, or in the action, except captain Wilson." [He then proceeds to state various facts to shew that the enemy's force was double that of his own, on the testimony of an intelligent gentleman who was a prisoner on board the Menelaus, and dined every day with the officers, to whom they spoke freely of their object, force, &c. and who heard the roll called before and after the action, they apprehending no danger from him. "In a conversation," continues col. R. "between capt. Chambers and lieutenant Crease [of

* See page 278, present vol. W. R.

the Menelaus] the latter insisted that we must have had 500 men, and that we were covered by a masked battery—this monstrously magnifying vision of the lieutenant may account for the mistake inscribed on the tomb-stone as to numbers, cavalry, &c. A gentleman of intelligence, who was a morning or two after the affair taken from his habitation on the bay-shore by lieut. Crease and 200 men, stated that the enemy complained most vehemently of the effects of our buckshot—his information fully corroborates that before received, with the addition that the enemy had but thirty men who escaped unhurt, losing their weapons, &c.

“I will now observe, that Sir Peter came up the bay with a squadron consisting of the frigate, a large schooner and a sloop. The schooner was upset in a gale off Swan Point, crew saved except two. It is not likely that of this force he would have landed only 124 rank and file. We do know that while his squadron was in the waters of Sandy Point, he did cause Fort Madison to be reconnoitred, and that the night following he landed 300 men, got lost, was ashore the whole night, and only re-embarked at day-light—to this circumstance was the safety of Fort Madison, in all probability, owing. I wrote an account of this at the time. His landing on an unknown shore to attack a work he had little knowledge of, speaks for his character. Upon one of Sir Peter's people being asked, ‘whether they did not consider the attack upon us as a hardy undertaking?’ he replied, ‘Sir Peter never stopped to calculate danger when he had an object in view—that he had frequently landed on the coasts of Europe, and surprized and carried the works of his enemies in that quarter, and that he was adored by his crew.’ He calculated on surprizing and carrying my camp, and although but a handful, it covered at that time the country he was acting upon under the burning orders of admiral Cochrane. His command brought out one day's provisions and all the prepared materials for communicating fire to buildings; &c.—these were left on the field and picked up by our people, the neighbors. Had he succeeded, no doubt the adjacent country would have presented a widely spread scene of ruin. Chestertown (not Georgetown x Roads) was only seven miles distant and a fine road. Whether that was within his range I cannot tell, though my information justified the belief that it was.”

“Difference of Opinion.”

Among the ablest, neatest and most respectable weekly newspapers that we see, is the *Telescope*, published at Columbia, S. C. It is one of the few that we generally lay aside for a second looking-over; and in one of these we observe a well written article in reproof of such as are constantly clamoring about the “ingratitude of republics.”—I never could see that a charge of ingratitude for services rendered belonged more to my country than to others, though it is not without sin in this respect. It is true, we have not the habit, and I hope never will, of building up the fortune of one man who happened to command, on the misery of tens of thousands of others commanded, that did their duty and fulfilled every obligation as well as he; as is the practice in monarchies, to bolster themselves—but there is a more general diffusion of justice in our public measures. Yet the editor of the *Telescope* believes that we have neglected the “great and good deceased,” and quotes a couple of articles relating to Gen. GREENE and Dr. FRANKLIN.

The just and full share of celebrity that belonged to the former was not, perhaps, rendered to him through the local situation and higher ground occupied by WASHINGTON; and of him it may be right that the marble should speak to our children. But let not the stone that covers FRANKLIN's ashes be touched!—nor permit the sublime simplicity of its inscription to be lost by the stateliest production of art. The world is filled with his name—*eripuit fulmen cælo, septrumque tyrannis*; he is every where known and revered; and forbid it that an idle gazing at his mausoleum should usurp the place of a solemn admiration of his various talents and services when near the spot where his ashes repose. The man “that has a soul” will be filled with stronger and more delightful emotions on looking at the plain slab that covers his remains, on which only appears

BENJAMIN }
DEBORAH } FRANKLIN,

than in beholding a column high enough to out-cap the pyramids of Egypt, the names of whose builders are lost; but that of FRANKLIN is immortal. Science and Philosophy have inscribed it in all their works—Liberty has proclaimed it to all nations, and History consigns it to the reverence of ages.

Political “differences of opinion.”

The sentiments contained in the following extract of a letter to the editor from a gentleman of the bar in North-Carolina, are not less flattering to the one than honorable to the other.

“As you have given me an opportunity for writing to you, allow me as one of your readers, to thank you for the valuable information which your paper has afforded. You and I may not, perhaps, coincide in many of the doctrinal points of party politics, but, thank God, the time is going by when there is any necessity of recurring to these as tests of honesty and patriotism, or of considering them as the indispensable links of friendship and good neighborhood. For the good of our glorious forms of government, neither of us, probably, would wish to see the whole nation think alike, and follow, like mere automata, all sorts of public measures; but let us, if possible, make this necessary contest good natured, charitable and gentlemanly.”

The Locust.

A respectable old gentleman, who has seen and observed the locust at the different periods of their appearance, as noted below, has favored the editor of the REGISTER with the following memoranda:

—THE LOCUST APPEARED—

In 1749, in the month of May.

In 1766, they came out of the ground from the 14th to the 17th of May.

In 1783, they came out from the 16th to the 16th of May.

In 1800, from the 19th to the 26th of May.

In 1817, they did not appear until the beginning of June; it is supposed the cold and wet weather retarded their progress.

They continue from four to six weeks; and are harmless, except to young and tender fruit trees, the twigs of older trees, wherein the female deposits her eggs, which in a few days vivify, and the twig either breaks-off, or the young locust emerges and falls to the ground, and makes its way into the earth, for another period of 17 years.

Domestic Manufactures.

FROM THE NEW-YORK EVENING POST, OF JUNE 14.

The American Society for the encouragement of American manufactures, met last evening, in the assembly room, at city hotel.—

Daniel D. Tomkins, president of the society, took the chair, supported by the vice-president, col. Few, and John Ferguson, esq. The society being organized, James Monroe, president of the United States, was proposed as a member, whereon, the presiding officer suggested that the usual form of ballot be dispensed with, and that James Monroe be received as a member; a motion to this effect was then made and carried unanimously—Messrs. Morris, Colden, and Peirson were appointed a committee to wait on the president of the United States, to inform him of his being elected, and to solicit the honor of his attendance at the meeting; to which he politely assented, and being inducted by the committee, took his seat on the right of the presiding officer, who immediately rose and in an extempore and eloquent address, assured his excellency, of the high sense entertained by the society, of the honor he conferred, by assenting to become one of its members, which created a confidence, that he would do all which he consistently could, to promote the views with which the society was instituted.

To which, his excellency replied, with much eloquence and force, that he duly appreciated the objects of the institution, which were particularly dear to him, from their being intimately connected with the *real* independence of our country, and closed, with an assurance that he would use his efforts as far as the general interest of the country would permit, to promote the patriotic and laudable objects of the society.

James Madison, Thomas Jefferson, and John Adams, were then separately proposed as members and admitted unanimously: the usual form of ballot being, on motion, dispensed with.

The corresponding committee offered the following report, with an address from the pen of C. D. Colden, esq. which were severally read—After which, the president of the United States withdrew, and the society adjourned.

REPORT

Of the corresponding committee of the society for the encouragement of domestic manufactures.

The corresponding committee, elected in pursuance of the 3d article of the constitution, for the current year, respectfully report—

That immediately after the meeting of the society, held on the 31st of December, 1816, they took the speediest measures for carrying into effect the resolutions, respecting the printing and publishing the address then reported and adopted—They accordingly caused to be printed 5000 copies; one of which was transmitted to the president of the United States, and one to each of the members of congress and heads of departments of the general government, and to the governors and members of the legislators of the states respectively, as far as the same was practicable.

Your committee, in further pursuance of the duties delegated to them, caused a memorial to be drawn up on behalf of the society, addressed to the the congress of the United States, praying for the permanency of the duties imposed by the tariff; the prohibition of cotton goods, manufactured beyond the cape of Good Hope; such revision and modification of the revenue laws, as might prevent smuggling, false invoices, and other frauds; for a duty of 10 per cent. on auction sales, with the exceptions

therein stated; for a recommendation to the officers of the army and navy, and to *all civil* officers, to be clothed in American fabrics; that all public supplies for the army and navy might be of American manufacture; and for such other protection as might place our mercantile and manufacturing interests beyond the reach of foreign influence.

It is with pleasure and gratitude your committee have learned, that the war department has given an entire preference to domestic manufacture, and as much is confidently hoped from the department of the navy.

Your committee elected a delegate to proceed with the same to the seat of government.

Memorials of similar import, were drawn up by the merchants of this city, and by the citizens at large, respectively; and another member of your committee was deputed by the merchants, who also appointed a citizen of New-York, then in the city of Washington, to co-operate with the delegates of this society, and cause the above named memorials to be laid before congress, with instructions to solicit and promote the objects of them, by their best endeavors.

The delegates, on their way to the seat of government, took occasion to explain to certain respectable and influential citizens of Philadelphia and Baltimore, the objects, views, and motives of this society and the nature of their mission; and had the satisfaction, during the short period of one day in each of these cities, to witness the formation of kindred associations, whose proceedings have been long since made public, and which by their intelligence, patriotism, capital and character, have proved an inappreciable acquisition to the cause of domestic industry.

During their residence in the city of Washington, the said delegates, with the aid and co-operation of their colleague, made a similar and no less successful appeal to the citizens of Washington, Georgetown, and Alexandria; who at a meeting convened by public notice, instituted and organized, an association, entitled the *Metropolitan Society*—the proceedings of *this* association have also been made public, and their zeal, influence and respectability, have done much in rousing the spirit of inquiry and promoting the true interests of their country.

The delegates were heard with much attention by the committee of commerce and manufactures of the house of representatives, to whom the above memorials were referred, and *that* committee reported *in part* by a bill, for the continuance of the existing duties upon importation as prayed; and referred the other matters more *immediately connected* with the *revenue* to the *secretary of the treasury*; whose opinions, we think ourselves *authorised* to state were in unison with the prayer of the memorialists.—And although the lateness of the session, and the mass of unfinished business, prevented the immediate attainment of the objects desired, yet the wisest and most experienced in and out of congress (the enlightened members of the committee of the house included) *were* of opinion, that nothing would be lost by the *delay*, as every day would offer *new* manifestations of the public sentiment, and the *circumstances* of the times be more *fully* developed, and operate as a law of necessity.

It may be important also to state the friendly intimation of the *committee* itself, that nothing would *more* conduce to *future* success, than an authentic collection of facts, tending to shew the value of the property embarked in domestic manufactures, the *great* portion of which was jeopardized by the causes set forth, and the *loss* and *irreparable* injury

the community *must* suffer from neglect and indifference to so essential an interest. As *that* information could be best collected and embodied by the active industry of *this* and *other* societies, we mention it as an additional stimulus to exertion and efforts, well combined and vigorously sustained, and we trust that all citizens, who prize the lasting independence of their country, who rejoice in its general and individual prosperity, will take pride and pleasure in sharing so generous a task.

The two delegates who proceeded together from this city, were gratified, in returning through the town of Lancaster, in Pennsylvania, to witness the formation of an association of citizens, possessed of every qualification to be useful;—talent, influence, and capital. They were *there*, as on the former occasions, invited to explain the views and tendency of their mission, and had the pleasure to find the *principles* of this institution approved, adopted, and promptly acted upon by their respected fellow-citizens.

Numerous societies have cotemperaneously, and in rapid succession, arisen throughout the union; many have announced themselves by publications full of energy, and *marked* with intelligence. Regular communications have been transmitted to us from the societies of Wilmington, in the state of Delaware; Middletown, Hartford and Litchfield, in Connecticut; Rome and other places, in the state of New-York: and we have full authority to say, that Ohio, Kentucky, New-Jersey, Virginia and Mississippi, will soon add their strength and weight to the common stock.

The most eminent journalists, without regard to political or party relations, have lent their unbought talents: and essays have appeared in their columns, which would do honor to any country or to any cause. The periodical publications of most acknowledged merit, and extensive circulation, have likewise appropriated their labors to the service of their country, and as far as their sphere extended, have put prejudice to flight, and ignorance to shame.

A pamphlet has been compiled by a judicious and masterly hand in the city of Philadelphia, from the report of the celebrated Alexander Hamilton, made by that statesman in the year 1790, when secretary of the treasury, by order of the house of representatives: this paper has been eminently serviceable, inasmuch as it brings back the judgment of the reader, to the natural order of things, *before* the distorted and disjointed relations of the civilized world had *habituated* mankind to disturbed and crooked views, and fallacious reliances upon ephemeral hopes and transient speculations.—It establishes principles pure and unerring; and has the merit not only of sage predictions, but of prophecies fulfilled.

It is impossible to notice *all* the valuable tracts that patriotic excitement has given birth to, within the short period since *our* institution led the way—the address of the society of Middletown, in Connecticut, and the report of the committee of Pittsburgh, reprinted by order of the house of representatives, are documents deserving much attention; and it is to be wished, that a collection of the most of these valuable tracts, should be embodied and preserved—they are so *many* pledges to the public, of the *faith* and *loyalty* of the citizen.

The address of the society has been reprinted and circulated in such abundance, in so many different forms, and noticed with so *much* favor, that it is impossible to retire from the *front* of the bat-

tle, where we first appeared, without some loss of character. It is our turn *now*, to take the next step in the field of generous emulation, and we should meet, *more* than half way, every overture to correspondence and co-operation—We should acknowledge our obligations for the confidence reposed in us, and for the light and instruction reflected upon us.

So far your committee have traced their progress in the execution of their trust; so far, our bark has adventured with a favoring gale; for although we lament that some of our fabrics must suffer, within *this* year, irreparable loss; yet we trust, that the *certainty*, with which they may count upon the fostering care of the government, will in general restore courage, confidence, and credit, and enable the greater part to ride out the storm. The immense losses, at which our markets are glutted, cannot endure for many years, and little can *he* see, who does not read the rising prosperity of our manufactures, at no distant day, and *with* it, the power, happiness and security of this high favored land.

Your committee, considering the interests of commerce and manufactures as inseparable and identical, cannot close this report without noticing an evil which has grown to an alarming extent.

The present system of auction sales of recent date, in this country, and an anomaly in the history of commerce, has nearly exploded all regular business: and the auctioneer, whose office was formerly *subordinate* to that of the merchant, is now nearly the only seller; and *if subordinate to any*, merely to a foreign principle. If any sales are now made by the regular trader, they are occasional and supplementary.

Commercial education, orderly habits and sober pursuits, honor and good faith, too fatally yield to gambling speculations and fraudulent contrivances. The benefits, if any, that result from this extraordinary monopoly, are dearly paid for by the ruin of a class, whose industry was the life of the community and through them in a greater or less degree of the various and numerous descriptions of persons, who, without being commercial, depend upon commerce for their support—And if once the merchant disappears from the scene; if the source is once destroyed, the thousand channels which it fed become dry and fruitless, the proprietor, the mechanic, the artist, the laborer follow in the train, and must seek elsewhere for subsistence.

Already has the public feeling remonstrated against this abuse; but the practice has still prevailed. The established merchant it has been shewn, must ever be unable to compete with the stranger who is charged with no contribution to the public service, subjected to no rent or household expenditure, none of the costs or charges of a commercial establishment, nor taxes, nor impositions for the support of government.

Your committee therefore, refer this subject to the most serious attention of the society, that the most suitable means of investigation may be adopted to substantiate its truth and to procure relief.

ADDRESS.

ALL who believe that the happiness and independence of our country, are connected with the prosperity of our manufactures, must rejoice to see the *chief magistrate* of the nation honoring with his presence, a society instituted for their protection and encouragement. Knowing that the manufactures of the United States cannot in their *infant* state, resist the rivalship of foreign nations without the *patronage* of the government, it is consoling to find, that *he*, to whom the unanimous voice of a free

people has committed the highest office, has not only consented to become a member of our institution, but that he avails himself of the first opportunity, of giving it the countenance and support of his attendance.

An incident like this may form a new era in the history of society.—In other countries the influence of the magistrate is felt, *only* from the operation of his laws or through the instrumentality of his subordinate agents: while on the other hand, he derives his information through intermediate channels; but *our happy constitution*, places the people and their officers, in such relations to each other, that they may have a mutual and direct intercourse—and we now behold the first magistrate of a great nation, seeking at its source, the information which will enable him to know the *wants and wishes* of the country. A life devoted to the good of his country, gives us assurance, that it is only necessary to make him *acquainted* with what will promote its happiness, to insure *all* the support, which may be derived from his high station. It is now too late to question the advantages of manufactures; all history shews us how much they have contributed to the prosperity of every state, where they have been encouraged. Indeed, we find that in *some* instances, they have been the *sources* of all the wealth and power of a people. As they have *prospered or declined*, nations have *risen or sunk*. Even *wealth*, without manufactures and commerce, has only served to *degrade* a great community, by the introduction of *that* luxury, which was purchased with the produce of inexhaustible mines of gold. But it is not as they are *sources* of *wealth*, that an American must feel the deepest interest in the fate of our manufactures—they *more nearly* concern us, as they are connected with our *independence*. For how shall we avoid the *influence* of foreign nations, while we suffer ourselves to be *dependent* on them, not only for the *luxuries* but the *necessaries* of life! Can *that* nation feel independent, which has no reliance but upon *foreign* hands for the fabrics which are to clothe her citizens? For manufactured materials which are necessary for the construction of their dwellings and for the tools with which they are to cultivate their soil?

But *such* has been our situation, (unknown almost to ourselves,) until a jealousy of our prosperity provoked a war, which barred us from the workshops of England; and *then* we found we were in *some* measure obliged to rely on a *treasonable* trade, to clothe the armies, which met her in the field of battle. The very powder which generated the thunder of our cannon, was sometimes British manufacture, and the *striped-bunting* may often have been from the *same* loom with the *Cross of Saint George*, over which it so frequently waved in triumph.

Such a state of things, could not but awaken the spirit and enterprize of Americans. Amidst the agitations of war, while one part of the population was ranging itself under the military banners of our country, another devoted itself to her interest in *another* form. Manufactures arose as if by enchantment—on every stream she formed for herself spacious dwellings, and collected in them many thousands, who in no other way could contribute to the general weal. Those too young, or too old to bear arms, who had not strength for agricultural labors—the female whose domestic services could be dispensed with in her family, found *here* a means of individual gain, and of adding to the public prosperity. In a short three years, the produce of our looms rivalled foreign productions, and the nation with which we were contending, felt

more alarm from the progress of our manufactures, than she did from the success of our arms. But peace came—while we were at war, the warehouses of England were filled with the produce of the labor, which a loss of market had enabled her to purchase at a depreciated price. The moment intercourse between the two countries was opened, her hoarded stores were thrown upon us, and we were deluged with the manufactures which had been waiting the event. They could be sold without profit, because the foreign manufacturer thought himself fortunate, if he could realize the capital which he had been obliged to expend, to support his establishment while there was no sale for wares.

But he was content to bear a loss, because, in the words of an English statesman, "it was well worth while to incur a loss upon the first exportation, in order by the *glut*, to stifle in the cradle, those *rising* manufactures in the United States, which the war had forced into existence."—It would have been surprising indeed if our infant manufactures, the establishment of which, had generally exhausted the capitals of those who embarked in them, could have sustained themselves under such circumstances, without *any* aid or support from the government, without any means of countervailing the effects of the sacrifices which foreigners were willing to make for their destruction.—How were they to maintain themselves? It was impossible—many of them sunk—but we hope, to rise again. The attention of the government was too ardently directed, during the war, to *other* objects, to perceive the policy or necessity of *that* protection which the manufacturing interest did not *then* appear to want. But *now*, that peace will leave our legislators free to consider and provide for the *real* independence, and *permanent* prosperity of our country, now, when we have at the head of our administration, a citizen, whose presence here this evening assures us of the interest he takes in the objects of our institution, we may hope, that American manufactures will receive all the countenance and support that can be derived from the power of the government. Let that power be exerted only so far as to counteract the policy of foreign nations, and every American may be gratified in the pride of wearing the produce of the *American* soil, manufactured by *American* hands. *Again* shall the surplus population of our great cities, and the feeble powers of women and children, find *that* means of useful and profitable employment, which manufactures *alone* can afford them: *Again* shall the patriotic and enterprising capitalist find *advantage* in devoting his means and mind to objects so calculated to promote the prosperity and happiness of his country. And *again* shall foreign nations dread to see us rising to that *real* independence, which we never can in *truth* enjoy, while we depend upon any but ourselves for the *first* necessaries of life. The Society beg leave to testify to the chief magistrate of the nation, the high sense they entertain of the honor he has conferred upon them by his presence at this time, and sincerely participate in the feelings, which have been so universally manifested on his visit to our city, and most cordially tender him their best wishes for his health and happiness.

Legislature of New Hampshire.

AGRICULTURE AND MANUFACTURES.

In the house of representatives, June 26.

The committee to whom was referred so much of his excellency's message as relates to agriculture and domestic manufactures, made the following report:—

Your committee are deeply sensible that agriculture and domestic manufactures must be our permanent sources of wealth and prosperity; that a proper attention to, and encouragement of, these objects are the only possible means of turning the balance of trade in our favor, and securing to our citizens that independence so necessary to us as individuals or as members of the community.

Your committee would beg leave to remark, that while other sciences, and other arts, are receiving the most flattering encouragement, both by legislative patronage and individual bounty—we cannot indulge the mortifying reflection, that agriculture and domestic manufactures, so necessary to our existence as an independent nation, should be suffered to languish in obscurity, or be known only in habits sanctioned by tradition.

The greatest nations of antiquity have given honorable testimony of their veneration for agricultural pursuits, and their history furnishes the brightest examples of its importance to mankind.

And while the labor of some of the nations of Europe, in modern times, has been employed in raising their country from the domains of the ocean, and in others contending with obstacles which nature seems to have designed as insurmountable to cultivation; we cannot but congratulate our fellow-citizens on the fertility of our soil—the ease and readiness with which improvements may be made—the sure and happy rewards of industry, and the unbounded field which is here opened for the exercise of every agricultural experiment calculated to increase our knowledge, improve our wealth, and add to the stock of individual and social happiness.

In selecting the means most likely to produce the great and obvious benefits resulting from an attention to these objects, your committee would respectfully suggest—that the members of the legislature, in their private capacity, as citizens of the different sections of the state, can, undoubtedly, do much by their example and influence for the improvement of arts so important to our vital interests.

Your committee would further recommend, that societies for the promotion of agriculture and domestic manufactures be established in those counties of the state where such societies have not already been instituted; that correspondence be established between the societies of the several counties, and all proper exertions be made to collect and disseminate all useful information on the important subjects under their consideration.

And further that the sum of one hundred dollars be appropriated to the use of the "*Cheshire agricultural society*," for the purpose of enabling said society to grant premiums for the best productions either of stock, grain, or such other articles as may be thought expedient; and that said society be requested to include the subject of domestic manufactures with the objects of their association. And that a society in each of the other counties in the state, which is, or may be established for the above purposes, receive from the treasury of this state the like sum of one hundred dollars, on application, after being duly organized as aforesaid.

Respectfully submitted by
JOHN BROADHEAD,
For the committee.

Which report was accepted. [In senate, same day, read and concurred.]

The President's Tour.

Our regular account of the president's tour (page 282) left him on his arrival at New Haven. The following is an account of subsequent proceedings.

On the 21st of June he reviewed the troops at New Haven, and received due military honors. In the afternoon he was visited by all the surviving revolutionary officers resident in that city, *eighteen* in number, and by the distinguished citizens generally—after dinner, accompanied by gov. Wolcott, the lieut. governor &c. he visited the places about the town deemed worthy of note. On Sunday he attended divine service and in "the evening, the committee, in the name of their fellow citizens, took leave of his excellency in a short address, expressing the high sense which they entertained of his visit with their sincere wishes for his individual prosperity, and his successful administration in his exalted station. The address was reciprocated in a manner honorably to the president and highly gratifying to the committee."

In his visit to New Haven he seems to have won the hearts of the people—the editor of the *Herald*, in an account of it, says—"The dress of the president has been deservedly noticed in other papers for its neatness and republican simplicity. He wore a plain blue coat, a buff under dress, and a hat and cockade of the revolutionary fashion. It comporting with his rank, was adapted to the occasion, well calculated to excite in the minds of the people, the remembrance of the day which "tried men's souls." It was not the sound of artillery, the ringing of bells, nor the splendid processions alone, from which we are to judge of the feelings and sentiments of the people on this occasion—It was the general spirit of hilarity which appeared to manifest itself in every countenance, that evinced the pride and satisfaction with which the Americans paid the *voluntary* tribute of respect to the ruler of their own choice—to the magistrate of their own creation. The demon of party for a time departed, and gave place for a general burst of NATIONAL FEELING."

He reached *Middletown* on Monday, at 9 o'clock, A. M. escorted by a company of cavalry, and breakfasted—after which he viewed the pistol, sword and rifle manufactories there, and proceeded to *Weatherfield*, where he was met by the military from *Hartford*, &c. and received with a national salute, and introduced into the place by a very great assemblage of citizens and soldiers, who escorted him over the bridge, which was elegantly ornamented with three lofty arches thrown over it, composed of evergreen and laurel—from the central one was suspended a label—"March 4, 1817."

The members of the corporation of the city visited the president immediately after he had arrived at his lodgings; and (in the absence of the mayor) John Morgan, esq. senior alderman, delivered the following address; to which the president gave "an appropriate extemporaneous answer."

To the President of the United States.

Sir—The pleasing duty has devolved on us of presenting you the congratulations of the citizens of *Hartford*, on your arrival in this city. It is with sentiments of regard for private worth, no less than respect for official dignity, that the personal presence of the first magistrate of our nation is associated.

The endearing relation which subsists between the people of a free country, and their political father and guide, is peculiarly fitted to cherish and ennoble these sentiments.