

AN  
ORATION.

*J. W. Walker.*

IN

COMMEMORATION OF THE ANNIVERSARY OF  
AMERICAN INDEPENDENCE.

DELIVERED AT EDGEFIELD COURT-HOUSE,

ON THE

FOURTH OF JULY 1807.

By ELLIOTT SIMKINS.

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## TO THE PUBLIC.

*THE author of the following remarks assures the public (as he did the committee who waited upon him to request them published) that he is well aware of the many errors, and imperfections, which would attend any production of his, when presented under the most favorable circumstances; but the more especially must be expected that this will be the case, with one, which was the work of only a few days. In suffering so crude and juvenile an attempt, to meet the public eye, he however hopes that he may claim both the candor and indulgence of his fellow citizens.*

# AN ORATION,

FOR

FOURTH JULY 1807.

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MY FRIENDS AND COUNTRYMEN,

**I**n contemplating, and in attempting, to dilate on so mighty a theme as the independence and happiness of a nation, it will not appear wonderful if the ardor of my zeal should very far transcend my capacity, both for conception and for eloquence. It behoves however, not only "the gifted sons of nations," the wealthy, the learned and the proud, but it equally behoves the humble and the illiterate, to yield a tribute of gratitude for the enjoyment of great and uncommon blessings. To make a public expression of our feelings as brethren and freemen, and to awaken in the minds of all a lively remembrance of the inestimable rights on which, under propitious HEAVEN, these blessings are bottomed, must be my apology for daring to step forth as the orator of this day. I disclaim all hopes of attracting the attention of the wise and the learned, unless the virtue of my zeal for the good of my country, attracts it, and it would savour of presumption were I to believe, that I could suggest any thing new, on a theme which has been under the discussion of the sages of our country for thirty one years.

On the fourth day of July one thousand seven hundred and seventy six, these United States, the land which gave us birth, were declared FREE, SOVEREIGN and INDEPENDENT. This was a day pregnant with the destinies of America.--It was a day which shook from our tottering systems, the inglorious chains of slavery, forged by the foul and relentless hand of tyranny.--It was a day which levelled the rich, with the poor; the nobleman clad

in ermine or arrayed in purple, with the beggar in rags; the haughty and insatiable lordling, with the laborer, who, by the sweat of his brow, feeds a dependant family! This day banished from our land, the empty pagant, the blood-thirsty hireling, the despicable spy, and "all that odious reptile tribe which breeds in the sun-shine of despotic power" and which would drink to the dregs, the blood of a degraded yeomanry! This day plucked from the cap of family rank and distinction its most rich and gaudy plume, and tore up the foundation on which stood the proud and the arrogant. This day sanctioned in our happy country the laws which the GOD of Nature intended to govern and regulate man, by making *virtue, genius, and talents* the grand requisites for honor and preferment. Just HEAVEN! what an era was this! What an epoch in the annals of the world! What a prodigious and eventful change in the situation of degraded human nature, and yet how wise, and how just! Here was balm to the wounded, consolation to the distressed, elevation to the degraded, treasures to the poor, strength to the feeble, and LIBERTY to the ENSLAVED! What a monstrous inroad upon the doctrines of "the old school," and how the souls of tyrants and parasites sickened at the sight!

At this grand and illustrious display of "Universal emancipation," exhibited in a country so young, and so degraded, as scarcely to be allowed the name of *civilized*, the shameless oppressors of mankind being their heads.

And is it a truth that a nation just entering "the bark of being" was the first in the world which dared to question the right of tyrants to govern man, and to riot on his substance, by a merciless load of taxation! Is it possible that the rude sons of America, unrefined in the empty pomp and show of courts, and uncivilized in the corruptions of "the old world," were the first who durst avert the poison of the tyrant's sting, and speak in the bold language of independence! Yes, perverse, assuming, and unfeeling nation! Ye undutiful and stiff-necked-race— Your best performances are but sin and iniquity in the eyes of the *great* and of the *Well-born*. You have impi-

ously

ously rejected the laws and ordinances of your true-born Sovereign, whilst with all the fury of ungovernable democrats you have dared to assert THE RIGHTS OF MAN! Oh! impenitent people---you have rebelled against the mild standard of usurpation and taxation, and have trampled in the dust that rank and those distinctions indispensibly necessary to the good government and well-being of society. You have set a most hateful example, and have thereby planted a dagger in the bosoms of the gracious governors of the earth! Not satisfied with having kindled and fanned the flame of civil war for eight years; not satisfied with having sown the seeds of heresy and discord, in the bowels of your country, ye have rudely cut from the head of royalty, its most splendid appendage. One of the most righteous monarch's on the face of the earth, ye have deprived, forever deprived, of his richest domain. Ye have taken from him the towering hopes of his future greatness; the fairest and most luxuriant field in which a monarch's pride and ambition ever rioted! Oh America! thou art gone, thou art lost forever, and with thee the future strength and felicity of Britain's holy isle. Hadst thou remained faithful to thy mistress, what invaluable treasures, what inexhaustible funds of riches would she have drawn from thy bowels, by the gentle mode of taxation which she had so kindly adopted. Rebellious Americans! how easily ye might have supported your legitimate owner, from the fertility of your soil, the unparalleled increase of your commerce, by the industry of your hands! From your never-ending resources how easily might you have made him the richest, the most powerful, and the most unrelenting tyrant on earth!

Although this, my friends, is the language of the persecutors of mankind, as applied to America, yet how widely different is the language in which we this day felicitate each other. We speak in the tender language of friends and brothers, and boldly assert that the loss of our former masters, is our present, and we devoutly hope will be our *eternal* gain. We meet not to celebrate this day, in all the parade and splendor of courtly pride, nor are

we restrained by the cold and unfeeling language of ceremony and etiquette. These belong to the cringing parasite, and bending sycophant, in celebrating the birth day of their Lord and Master. We meet together in the plain attire of republicans, to give vent to the gratitude of our hearts, for our numerous blessings, and to recount the inestimable rights, which were secured to us on this memorable day.

But before we indulge in the enumeration of these invaluable rights, it would be unjust not to bring to the remembrance of every one present, that patriotic ardor which stimulated to the indurance of the innumerable difficulties of a most bloody and unexampled revolutionary war. Who is there in this assembly, who can remain indifferent when the glorious sound of liberty, as connected with our revolution, is rung in his ears? Whose bosom, this day, does not burn with the purest flame of gratitude, to those heroes, who voluntarily embarked in the arduous contest for the sake of our rights and liberties? Whose heart is so iron-bound as not to burst forth in ardent aspirations of praise to those immortal warriors who endured fatigue, cold and hunger—who were ready to spill their blood and yield their lives to give us homes, peaceful and happy, unshaded by the gloom of despotism? It may be my lot to be carried too far by the enthusiasm of my heart, when revolutionary characters are brought to view, but I most frankly declare that I am ready to give open censure to the conduct of many of my youthful countrymen, as it relates to these illustrious personages. The conduct of too many, I will not hesitate to say, has been studiously cold and ungratefully contemptuous, towards the deliverers of our country. Indeed I make the appeal to my audience on this day of solemn joy, and ask if they have not been too much neglected by all ranks of society. Has not the ardent, inconsiderate and impassioned youth, been too frequently exalted by the suffrages of a free people, whilst the hoary veteran, covered with scars and glory has been neglected and forgotten? Have not those, who are loaded in professions of patriotism and most assiduous

to court the good-will of the people, been clothed with the sacred confidence of their country, whilst the modest and unassuming hero of seventy six has been passed over with all the contempt of silence! Oh! where is that heavenly attribute, the GRATITUDE OF MY COUNTRY! Has it fled from a nation of freemen, to visit the frigid climes of the North? Is it possible, that we are the freest, most happy, and most ennobled people on earth, and in the midst of myriads of blessings, can we forget the favours of our country? Can we slumber over that "Heaven-born band" who, encircled by the protecting arm of HEAVEN, secured for us, this happiness and these blessings? No, no; every beneficent feeling of the human heart revolts at the idea!

But if the hero, whose head is silvered o'er with age, and whose limbs are reeling beneath the weight of accumulated, and increasing infirmities---If the heaven-inspired, and still bleeding soldier of seventy six, are to be remembered, this day, with the warmest love which gratitude can inspire, how shall we manifest the feelings excited by a recollection of that illustrious band of friends and brothers who died, that our rights and liberties might live! Oh! devoted and endeared personages! Thy memories, and thy virtues shall be cherished with increasing ages, by the surviving children of liberty!---Thy names shall be applauded, on the deathless page of history, when the tyrants who shed thy blood, shall be buried in "oblivion's deepest grave." If there be in this land of freedom, any heart so cold as not to feel for the sufferings of thy desolate widows, or surviving children, let it be banished from the blessings for which you yielded up your lives, and seek a more congenial clime!

We shall not pretend to give you, my fellow citizens, the characters of that memorable phalanx of personages, who led the van in atchieving our independence; but can we fail to mention the glorious name and admire the excellent and splendid virtues, of the man who may be emphatically stiled the SAVIOUR of his country. Every one the least acquainted with the dark and dismal times  
of

of the American revolution, can recollect the genius, talents and exploits of the late illustrious GEORGE WASHINGTON! At a period when in the vale of adversity, and his footsteps overshadowed by the dismal forebodings of Fortune---When every heart beat in gloomy concert to the impending danger.

“ OH HEAVEN! be cry'd my bleeding country save!  
 “ Is there no hand on high to shield the brave?  
 “ Yet th' destruction sweep those lovely plains,  
 “ Rise fellow-men! our country yet remains!  
 “ By that dread name, we raise the sword on high,  
 “ And swear for her to live! With her to die!”

Yes my countrymen; the banks of the Delaware witnessed that whilst despair, the pale and wretched inmate of every bosom, pointed to the gulph of ruin and misery, into which the American army, was soon to be plunged, the bright image of HOPE and WISDOM, rose to the view of WASHINGTON, and bade him march on to victory and to glory! The portending GENIUS of America inspired his soul, and roused all its latent energies! It seemed to conduct his mighty mind into the womb of futurity, and point forward to the matchless virtue, and unparalleled happiness, of that country, for which he was then encountering the perils of danger and of death! No man who claims to be an American, can ever forget the goodness of our beloved WASHINGTON. May none fail, in some degree, to imitate his virtues.

The names of Greene, Warren, Gates, Lee, Pickins, Marion and Sumpter cannot fail to excite in our bosoms a mixture of gratitude, and melancholy pleasures! They were sternly virtuous, and inflexibly brave. Not one of them, who would not have sacrificed *his all*, for the good of his country. How ardently should we love those among them, who have survived, and how fondly ought we to cherish the memories of those, who are now no more. Could we call back past existences and assemble in one grand conclave those illustrious personages, and seat



FRANKLIN and WASHINGTON at their head, what *American* heart could fail to admire and to reverence. We might then with some propriety, burn incense, pour out rivers of oil; and offer up our best sacrifices!

Oh beloved FRANKLIN! Friend and father of thy country! Thy spirit did hover over the genius of liberty, whilst "the finger of HEAVEN" pointed to thee as "the darling of philosophy, the apostle of truth." Yes, when the ashes of other philosophers shall be scattered by the winds of Heaven, and their labors be forgotten, thy name shall "flourish in immortal youth." Whilst lightnings fly, and thunders shake the surrounding hills, thy country shall with pride and exultation claim thee as one of its sons! Gratitude recoils at the thought that thy eminent services, and well-timed labors should be forgotten!

The anathemas of the proud friends to monarchies, and Aristocracies, await me, whilst I mention with gratitude and admiration the name of THOMAS PAINE. Of late years there seems to be a sort of magic unpopularity, attached to bringing into view, the character of that great man; insomuch that very few, on any public occasion, either for a want of *gratitude* or a want of *independence*, have dared to mention his name. I disdain such principles as these, and pity any man, who is so weak as to be governed by them. If we refuse to sanction his *religious creed*, under a conscientious belief that it is calculated to demoralize and vitiate mankind, is this a sufficient reason upon which to condemn him *altogether*?---To blot from our bosoms the heavenliest attribute which ever inhabited them---gratitude?

Because a man has committed one error, in a life, which has been signalized by an hundred good, or a succession of great and glorious acts, shall we turn our hearts away from him, and condemn him to endless exile!

Who, I ask, has exposed, as with the pen of inspiration, the absurdities, the corruption, the usurpation, and the miseries of the monarchies, aristocracies, and confederacies of the old world, and held up in day-light the bleeding wounds of millions of degraded and oppressed human beings!

ings! Who has gratuitously pleaded the cause of the poor, and needy, and pointed out with a perspicuity never before equalled, that system of government, best calculated to insure the happiness of man! Who indeed, first dared to assert, with all the freedom of a manly and a noble independence, "THE RIGHTS OF MAN"—to rescue him, from the jaws of merciless taxation, and an interminable round of ills and vexations! I answer THOMAS PAINE. But to bring the matter more completely home—who gave us the fundamental principles of our government, as they now exist, ably discussed, and plainly pointed out, and this too, at a time when no principles of Government, variant from the European systems, were understood by the great bulk of the American Citizens? I answer, Thomas Paine. Who inspired the officers, and soldiers of the revolution, by the most able and forcible appeals to their *good sense and bravery*, exposing with the hand of a master, the injustice and oppression of the English Government, to which they would inevitably be subjected if they yielded the contest; and picturing the resplendent glory, and unequalled happiness, which awaited our country, should victory crown her arms! In short, who had a principal share in planning in *the cabinet*, what WASHINGTON so gloriously achieved in the field! I think my audience will answer, it was THOMAS PAINE. Is this then, the man, whom an enlightned and just nation, would willingly forget! Is this the man, whom a grateful country would treat with all the contempt of silence, and all the insult of neglect! If he has committed one grand error, his notorious services to our country, call loudly on our benevolence, to forgive it. If in the evening of a life, signalized by the warmest and most disinterested love for "the rights of man," he runs into excesses, which diminish the dignity of the man, the beneficent feelings of the human heart, call upon us to pity his indiscretion. If he is in some degree the slave of a natural propensity, or of a stubborn habit, gratitude and justice demands that we should make the same allowances for him, which we have done, for the imperfections of other great and distinguished men. Let

us ask, have we found a man "*who liveth and sinneth not.*"

It is not, my friends, to damp the joys of this day, that I have called your attention to the mournful, and dubious scenes of a revolution, unsurpassed in the annals of the world. It is not to cast a deadly gloom over our bright prospects, that I have called you to see the close struggle of our country, and to hear the dying groans of some of our most endeared patriots! Although these scenes may for a moment excite "the pang of sensibility" and draw forth the unuborned tear of grief, yet they tend to increase our gratitude, and by contrast to sublimise and purify our joys!

But do we make use of idle declamation, and unmeaning panegyric, when we boast of our independence, and challenge the world to produce as much liberty, as much virtue and as much happiness in any nation on earth? Are we deceiving ourselves by meeting this day to celebrate the establishment of individual and political rights, which were never before enjoyed?

As we can estimate our blessings, in no other way so properly, as by comparison or contrast, let us divest ourselves of prejudice, and if possible, examine with precision and clearness, the governments, and situations of other countries. Let us first travel back, and glance our eyes at the days of antiquity, and see the effects of the most just governments, with which mankind was ever favored. Every one will, at once, perceive, what comparison they will bear to *our own* government and its effects.

And here I cannot but glance at the times whose history is given us in HOLY WRIT. Need we attempt to relate the oppression and misery which followed in the train of the monarchies, and oligarchies, which then prevailed, and from which none were exempt, except *a few chosen tribes*? Need we say that the DIVINE RULER of the Universe, declared himself displeased with those governments, and never sanctioned any on earth, but those in a DEMOCRATIC form.

Let us however pass down to later periods. Behold the Grecian republics, associated under what was called the  
 AMPHYCTIONIC

**AMPHYCTIONIC LEAGUE.** This was a confederated government, which at first promised great happiness, but the superstition of the times gave the impelling stroke to its wheels and soon clogged them with its baleful influence. Athens, and others of the more powerful members of the league, quickly tyrannized over the rest, and the everlasting convulsions, which it occasioned ended in their downfall and in their ruin!

Behold too, the **ACHÆN** league, the most perfect model of government, which perhaps ever existed, previous to the adoption of the American constitution. Although it was much more nicely organized, and adjusted than the Amphyctionic league, yet it shared the same wretched fate.

Cast your eyes next, on the league or confederacy of Germany, which embraced Prussia, Austria and several other of the finest states in Europe, and what a picture does it present? Its history, through a long succession of ages, furnishes little more than a scene of cruel wars, and bloody carnage, which perpetually existed between the Emperor, the Princes and the states! We behold there, the licentiousness of the strong and powerful, and the oppression of the weak and degraded. We see foreign intrusions, and intrigue—domestic bribery and corruption—A scene of confusion and misery. What effect the gigantic power of the Gallic emperor, into whose hands this devoted country seems to have fallen will have upon it, time alone can developc.

If we look also at the Swiss cantons, we shall find them presenting an example of the misery and inefficacy of their government, notwithstanding they are represented as being the most peaceful and moderate people on earth.

If too, we turn our attention to the confederacy of states, denominated the United Netherlands, we shall find that, in many very important particulars, it may well be compared to the Germanic league. The court of a rich and voluptuous **STADTHOLDER**, displayed to us a series of intrigue and foreign influence, rioting and treachery.—The internal dissensions and unrelenting wars of the states, had shaken the confederacy to its centre, and had, before

its conquest by France, been little else, than a theatre for the intrigue of foreign courts and princes, who had drawn from it, immense resources and treasures!

See then what is called the Republic of Genoa and the highly celebrated Republic of Venice. If their inhabitants ever saw better days, their institutions have long since degenerated into engines of oppression. The common people are wretched beyond all description, and live only to support the pride, and luxury, of a bloated nobility.

If then the governments of the most favored nations, present us with this dreadful picture, our consternation and surprize must rise still higher, when we behold the effects of governments more energetic, and more despotic.--- Mark the fierce wars, the cruel persecutions, the merciless loads of taxes, and the shameful mockery of all RELIGION, and all justice, which have desolated Denmark, Sweden, Russia, Italy, Spain and France. We need but view these, my esteemed countrymen, to be in love with our own situation, and government.

But whilst we attempt to present some slight picture, of the injustice and misery of other European countries, is it possible, that England can escape our observation? Whilst dwarfs and pigmies appear before our eyes, shall we not see the overgrown and towering giant! Free, England has been made the boast, the pride, and the glory of the world, and her constitution of government has been represented as the proudest bulwark, ever reared by the hand of man. It has been emphatically stiled by one of our own countrymen "the MOST STUPENDOUS FABRIC OF HUMAN INVENTION." We know that the super-eminent natural advantages, and the unexampled industry and enterprize of the inhabitants of that country, have poured into it, a fund of riches, almost inexhaustible. We know too, that from these, and other causes, the arts and sciences have there flourished, beyond all former example; and greater improvements have been made in mechanics, and manufactures, than were ever before witnessed. But will any one have the hardihood to say that all this has been owing to the just and wise *administration* of that government? No

my fellow citizens. The mockery of equity, leniency and moderation which has been exhibited at the head of affairs in that country, has been a heavy opposing weight, to this greatness and these improvements. If the subjects of Great Britain, had been unclogged, by an enormous load of taxes, and unfettered by the tyranny of persecution, which they have felt in a thousand shapes, to what a super-eminent pitch of greatness would that country not have arrived? If even, what has been called the British Constitution, had been suffered to exist, and had been administered by the steady hand of honesty and rectitude, how far it would have transcended its present zenith, it is impossible to tell! But how widely different is the fact! The constitution has been held up as a sacred and hallowed instrument, to cover the sinful transactions of its violators and enemies. That little Island, swarms with an idle and extravagant set of nobility and rank, who must be supported in all their visionary and wicked projects, by its honest subjects! But this is not all---Thousands of favorites, parasites, pensioners, minions, spies and informers, who are as essentially necessary to the support of that government *in its present shape*, as air is to the support of animal existence, must riot too, on the substance of the poor! An immense navy, to awe the world, (for naval depredation and piracy are now essential props to the government) must ride in triumph, in every sea, and be supported by constant supplies of men, and countless sums of money!--Standing armies must be raised, and kept up, and the most cruel and ruthless wars, about MERE NAMES and DISTINCTIONS, must shed the innocent blood of thousands, and be eternally kept up, by the sweat and toil, of a poor degraded yeomanry! From this slight view, it will be easy to see the cause of the starving condition of the people of Ireland---It will be easy to tell why forty thousand beggars, every day infest the streets of the city of London, and why fifty thousand prostitutes, nocturnally haunt its recesses! It will be easy to know, why the cries of the widow and of the orphan have long since, ceased to be heard in that devoted land!

As we this day meet, with festive joy, to celebrate our deliverance from the curses of that government, I hope my audience will freely indulge me, whilst I present an honest view of the financial state of that country, as compared to that of our own. From this we may form, some idea of the situation in which we should have been, had we given up the glorious contest, submitted to the yoke of British government, and suffered them "to tax us in all cases whatever."

From official documents laid before the house of Commons last year, and from a comparison of these, with the documents of our government, for the same year, the following consequences will result.

"Each man, woman, and child, in England is required to pay thirty five dollars annually to the support of government---In the United States, each, is only required to pay about two dollars."

"The whole amount of our taxes, so far from nearly trebling as in England, the whole amount of imports, is but about a seventh part of it, being relatively to them, but about a twenty fifth part, of that of great Britain."

"Instead of exceeding, in a two-fold degree, as in England, the amount of British manufactures exported, they do not amount to more than a third of our domestic productions, being relatively to them, but about a ninth part of those of Great Britain."

"Instead of our debt increasing annually, as that of Britain does one hundred and thirty millions of dollars, it annually *decreases about five millions.*"

"Instead of the sum required to be raised in the United States, exceeding the amount of taxes, as in Britain one hundred and two millions of dollars, it actually falls short of it."

"Instead of our imports being in a state of diminution, they have since the year eighteen hundred and two, increased above ten millions."

"And our exports of domestic productions so far from having, as in England, declined in the sum of thirty three millions of dollars, they have in fact advanced between

four and five millions."

"And finally it appears, that we so far from having pursued the retrograde steps of Britain, have rapidly progressed in the number of our merchant-vessels, in their tonnage and in the seamen required to navigate them."

What a picture is here presented! How frightful the contrast between two countries whose numbers of inhabitants are not very far different; And when it is considered that AMERICA (exclusive of the rich and immense country of Louisiana) extends over a fertile territory, more than ten times as large as England, and that her citizens are more wealthy than the subjects of Great Britain, and consequently more able to pay taxes, every sober mind must startle at the prodigious disproportion! When we behold the gigantic requisitions of that government, and the consequent ponderous burden, imposed upon a wretched people, can we be for a moment astonished that the luxuriant plains of these United States furnished an object worthy of contention? Is it at all to be wondered at that the ROYAL GEORGE, should ruthlessly persecute us, in an eight years bloody war, for such a boon as this! The treasures of our country would have enriched his coffers, whilst the task of taxing & governing us would have been but sport, for a greedy & mercenary Ministry! But thank God! We this day feel all the pride of freemen, all the consequence of a dear bought independence, and all the union of brothers! Although we may be still contemptuously treated by the proud, and some of our friends *at sea*, may be persecuted, and unjustly deprived of the earnings of their labor, still we would laugh to scorn any attempt made, by an implacable enemy to subjugate us, or in any way to controul the rapidity with which this, hastens to be the GREATEST NATION on earth!

It is not however, an exemption from all unnecessary taxation, or a complete independence of all other foreign powers, that alone form the pride, and triumph of this auspicious day. We may justly boast, not only of that exemption and independence, but we may boast too, of an independence of *mind* and of *sentiment*! Our situation  
might



might have been but little bettered, had we after shaking off the chains of England, as all other nations placed under similar circumstances have done, substituted for ourselves a government of slavery and oppression. But how widely different is the case? Ours was not only a revolution of Government, but one of feeling, of conscience, and of sentiment. We are, beyond all question, the **FREEST NATION** on earth. In no other country are the rights of conscience so perfectly secured, and so much respected. We have no established religion, to give a tone to our policy and Government, and to answer as a cloak for the ambitious and aspiring, whilst they play the tyrant. We have no **PRIESTS** to feed on the fat of our land or "to decimate the fruits of our labor." Our privilege to *think, speak, and act*, is as "free as air's expanded space." We possess in fact the only pure *republican* Government which now exists, or which ever did exist in the World; and so completely do we enjoy its privileges that every man in this assembly may offer himself for the highest honors of the nation. Every citizen in the United States, may vie with each other, for the **CHIEF MAGISTRACY**. All our Governors, Legislators and Counsellors, are our legitimate representatives, elected from our bosoms, and carrying into public life, our feelings, our sentiments and our interests. They are governed by the same laws which govern us, and are responsible to no earthly tribunal, but the **TRIBUNAL** of the **PEOPLE**! If they abuse their Legislative powers, or sport with their countries interest, the **PEOPLE** must know it, and they will immediately apply the corrective of our constitution.---They will distrust them, and turn them away from their confidence. It is alone *their* **SUPREME PRIVILEGE** to do so. But chosen as they are under a perfect knowledge of their responsibility, what temptations can they have to wander from the path of rectitude? To attempt it would be madness and folly!

We have no legalized monopolies, by which the rich may riot in luxury, without an *opportunity* given to the poor, to participate. We have no laws of **PRIMOGENITURE**, upholding in our land the detested doctrine of a preference given

given to our *eldest sons*, in order to strengthen the arm of power. We have no entailed estates.---Every useful occupation in life, is held in estimation ; and no preference whatever is given to one pursuit over another. The idea is forbidden by the very nature of our institutions. Our printing presses are free, and genius may soar to any height, and in whatever direction, it may be impelled. Indeed, every view we can possibly take of the state of our country, affords some presage of our unrivalled and increasing prosperity. “ In a period of twenty years our population has increased, from two millions six hundred and fifty thousand, to five millions one hundred and fifty six thousand inhabitants.”

“ Our improved lands have risen from twenty one millions five hundred thousand, to thirty nine millions four hundred thousand acres, in the same space of time ;---the average price for each acre having risen from two to six dollars.”

“ In the same time our merchant vessels have increased from two hundred and fifty thousand, to one million one hundred and seven thousand tons.”

“ Also our imports have risen from eleven to eighty millions of dollars.” “ The exports of our domestic productions have increased from nine to forty one millions, and our exports of foreign goods from one to thirty six millions of dollars.”

“ The national revenue in a period of twelve years, has increased from eight, to thirteen millions of dollars, while our expenditures, making allowance for the extinguishment of the principal of the public debt, have been nearly stationary.”

This view, (which I deemed it important to give,) of our government and its effects, affords its best, its ablest commentary. We need present you with facts alone, my fellow-citizens, to enable you to estimate the unexampled prosperity of your own country. We may safely challenge the world for a parallel. As none can be found for its Government, we know none can be found for its rapid increase in every thing useful or estimable. If no people on earth

earth are taxed so lightly, we are assured there are none which are so rich, and free from every want.

From the foregoing contrast, and examination we must believe that even the disciples of Aristocracies and the pride of Kings, in a moment of sober consideration, will be compelled to pronounce us a *great* and a *happy* people. If it be asked wherein---we answer, we are great as an **AGRICULTURAL** people; we are great as a **COMMERCIAL** people, and we are beginning to take a proud stand as a **MANUFACTURING** people. Witness the progress of the New-England States in Manufactures of various kinds--- witness, the rapid strides made by PHILADELPHIA, and other Northern cities.---That flourishing city is now said to be equal in this important particular, to what either LONDON or BIRMINGHAM was forty seven years ago.--- See the progress made in manufactures, even in the Southern, and more infantile States, where but few opportunities have yet occurred for experiments.

From improvements which are yet to be made in internal Navigation, we have every thing to expect, nor is it within the nature of things, that our expectations can be disappointed. Both the Atlantic states and Western country, present us with many of the finest navigable streams in the world. The improvements which have been made towards facilitating the conveyance of all commodities *by water*, within a very few years past, has been altogether astonishing---the more especially when we take into view the measures which have been adopted, or the money expended, to effect so desirable a purpose. May we not soon expect to see the houses of a vast proportion of our citizens made plentiful receptacles, for whatever each may want from a distance, without the extreme expence and trouble of finding a conveyance by land? May we not soon expect to see our country, to a prodigious extent from the sea coasts, whitened with the sails of the enterprizing and industrious trader! But my friends, whilst we dwell on this pleasing theme, we very naturally extend our views to another source of internal improvement, which if undertaken with that spirit which the resources of our country will well justify.

justify, will be great beyond all description. The additional aid which may be given to the carriage of the various productions of the country, by CANALS, is reduced to Mathematical certainty. No one who is convinced of the gigantic plans which have been executed, by cutting canals in other countries, and who is well acquainted with the Geography of his own, can for a moment doubt, the practicability of completely uniting the lakes of the North, with some of our large navigable rivers in South-Carolina, or Georgia, by means of these artificial water communications. It will not astonish the enlightned mind, if even a few years should conduct us to this grand event. The riches of our country and the enterprizing and peaceful disposition of its inhabitants, will well warrant the idea. With what ease and withall with what perfect safety may the superfluous productions of different parts of this extended continent, be then conveyed to other parts, where they may be wanted, and where they will of course find a ready market? Our citizens, for the most part, may then supply their wants at their own doors. Every man's house may be his market, and his depository. An additional flood of riches would be poured into all parts of the continent, and the rapid rise of land, as well as of every article of trade, would be equalled by nothing but the unprecedented growth of agriculture and commerce.

Whilst viewing the rapid strides which the old United States are making in every improvement which can signalize a great nation, we can but glance at the rich appendage & unbounded territory of LOUISIANA. We will mention it as the greatest acquisition, considered in every point of view, which a nation ever made. The observations made concerning internal improvements, as applying to the U. S. may be well applied to LOUISIANA, so far as we have received information of the situation of that country. But did I say that the acquisition was great? Yes my countrymen, we should celebrate it as a second grand era of our existence. We should cherish the memory of those distinguished personages through whose instrumentality it was obtained, whilst gratitude has a name on earth. Its situation and

its productions, indissolubly connect it with the interest, and well being of the United States. Situated as we are, at a great distance from the possessions of any other country, its acquisition cuts off at once the very foundation of eternal discord, animosity, and war, with other nations. From the foothold it gave for the planting a powerful colony, the rise of a state or even a nation IN OUR NEIGHBORHOOD, to the unceasing annoyance of the peaceful and indispensable navigation of the MISSISSIPPI RIVER (the only outlet for the immense riches of the western country) furnished indeed the only source from which we might apprehend peril and danger.

Compared to its value *in this point of view alone*, any consideration which we gave for it, would not weigh a single feather. But besides this, with it, we acquired a boundless territory, an inexhaustible fund of riches. We have indeed a country "extending through the five Zones" whose soil and whose climate will produce us "all the varieties of the earth." There is nothing which the laborer may want---there is nothing which the most exquisite appetite can crave, or the most luxurious taste desire, which our territory either now can, or will shortly afford, in superabounding profusion. It may be emphatically said that "we are a WORLD BY OURSELVES." Why then need we court the commerce of an unjust, mercenary monarch, or a vain-glorious country? If we cannot have it free and unshackled, upon fair and honorable terms, we should disdain any communication of the kind; for we can well do without it. We are *independent* in the most extensive sense of the word, because we have within ourselves inexhaustible resources of every kind. Those nations which actually want, and which are enjoying the superior advantages of our commerce should recollect that we have *no actual need* of any commodity of theirs in return; and that if their transactions and conduct are not guided by the eternal principles of justice, we may well break off every sort of communication. Why then, let me ask, should the American government pursue the vain and empty phantom of what is fashionably termed **POLITICAL**

GRANDEUR? Why should we desire a connection with foreign princes and potentates, which has entailed upon every country dissention and discord? Why should we be "entangling alliances" with nations, under the vain and illulory idea of obtaining their friendship and protection, *when each knows no interest but his own!* If we implicitly rely upon what has been called the *faith of nations*, we shall lean upon a spear which will pierce us to the vitals--- We shall be embroiled in wars whilst their interests continue to clash--- Whilst any thing like a rivalship subsists among them! This is a rock on whose hard bosom many kingdoms and countries have been dashed to pieces. The better to guard against it, let us perpetually bear in mind that we are an INDEPENDENT PEOPLE.

I was induced to notice the territory and acquisition of Louisiana, the more particularly in this place, because, forming an appendage of the United States, the internal improvements of each are intimately connected, and to shew that *united*, we constitute a country entirely independent of any other nation on earth. There are some other objects of internal improvement, which ought by no means to be disregarded. Whilst we facilitate the carriage of our productions by water, we should not forget the importance of improving the communications by land. To effect with the more certainty so-desirable a purpose, it is most devoutly to be wished that a complete SURVEY of our whole territory could be made. This would enable us, as has been very justly represented, to lay off our roads with such judgment and accuracy as greatly to shorten them in every direction. No man can for a moment doubt the importance of improving and shortning our roads. The advantages of this improvement are seen in every point of view, of which the subject is susceptible. It would be a saving of millions to all those citizens whose commerce must necessarily be carried on by land. It would greatly facilitate and accelerate the all important communication *by mails*. It would tend to circulate, with the more ease and rapidity, that information upon the possession of which *by our fellow citizens*, the well-being and indeed the very existence

existence of our government depends. It would greatly tend to harmonize and strengthen the union, by making the citizens of distant parts more intimately acquainted with each other and with the **IDENTITY** of their respective interests. It would more completely familiarize them with the *habits, manners and customs* of each other, and cement their fraternal attachments in a thousand ways. In no stronger point of view can this subject be placed than by viewing the situation of the Atlantic, as they relate to the western states, and territory. Separated as they are by a stupendous ridge of mountains, the importance of a frequency of communication for the purposes before hinted, must be at once seen by the dullest capacity. The immense and unbounded extent of our present possessions, most loudly and impressively calls for this improvement. No friend to our *union and happiness* can remain indifferent when this subject is presented to his view. Whenever the citizens of distant parts of the continent become strangers to each other, to their characters, habits and interests, the strong chain which now holds them together must rust and finally break, opening the flood-gates of blood and misery.

But my respected countrymen, let us look at the dark side of the picture only to learn the path of wisdom---Let it always present us with a solemn monitory lesson! We have abundant reason for congratulation, at this early period of our political existence. We already have a frequency of communication, and interchange of sentiment, with our distant brethren, particularly *by mail*, which have far exceeded the bold anticipations of our best friends. As a most unequivocal evidence of the truth of this statement, compare the present enlightened state of the public mind, to what it was twenty or thirty years ago. The difference is so very great, that a stranger, might hesitate to believe that we were the same people. Mark the growing thirst for general knowledge, and the rising flame of patriotism amongst all ranks and denominations of people! Who could have believed that the unexpanded miser, who twenty years ago plodded on in dull indifference to all earthly concerns except his purse, can now open his treasures to  
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the hand of the public printer, for a weekly journal of occurrences? Who could have believed that the ignorant and unwary sluggard, whose heart, twenty years ago, had never been touched by a scintillation of patriotism, could be now watching, with eager anxiety, the arrival of every mail, to receive the glad tidings of the prosperity of his country! To the FREEDOM of the PRESS, and the regular and rapid conveyance of information BY MAIL, must we be greatly indebted for this astonishing change!

That the establishment of SCHOOLS, ACADEMIES, and COLLEGES, has also had a powerful tendency to create this universal thirst for information, and to fan this effulgent blaze of patriotism, is a fact which none but madmen, or fools will deny. But whilst we view the benign effects, and feel the irresistible impulse, which these establishments have already given to a nation of freemen, let us not ingloriously turn away our eyes from a prospect of the future. We are now attracting the observation of the world whilst we are making the eventful experiment of a *republican government*, or a *representative democracy*. Do we wish to preserve it, in its purity that our children may enjoy its unnumbered blessings? Let us then cherish a love for schools and colleges. Do we wish to make our country yet greater and yet happier under its fostering influence? Let us establish in every part of our continent, and vigilantly guard, institutions of learning, and nurseries of science. *Let us extend the opportunities of an education even to the most lowly of our citizens.* We will thereby expand the minds of the ignorant, ennoble and elevate the bosoms of the mean and degraded, and strengthen and confirm the principles of the weak and feeble-hearted. We will thereby place all men, more on an equality, and fit every one to be a *republican*! With a mind well informed, every child will possess the pure principles of our beloved government, which will "*grow with his growth and strengthen with his strength.*" The genius of virtue and morality, will shoot up in every direction, and give tone and feeling to each American heart. Every bosom will be inflamed with "*a holy enthusiasm*" in the cause of its country,



worthy of the beneficent smiles of the SUPREME RULER of the UNIVERSE. I repeat it, let our sons early inhale the breath of independence---Let them early learn to speak the language of freemen, and be initiated into those principles, upon whose unshaken base is reared the proud fabric of our Constitution.

I can never dwell upon the pleasing subject of internal improvements, or mark the mighty progress of institutions of learning without directing my attention to their illustrious friend, THOMAS JEFFERSON. After the dreadful times which "tried mens souls" in which he exhibited the most ardent and parental solicitude for the immortal GENIUS of LIBERTY, his country became doubly dear to him, by having earned and secured its Independence. He was grieved, lest the heavenly spark, elicited by the most noble exertion of freemen, should be consigned to annihilation! To preserve and kindle it into a blaze, which should forever illuminate the path of every American, was his greatest, most anxious care. To effect this end, he exerted all the energies of his most capacious and philanthropic mind. If this should be doubted, look at its gigantic production! The man who conceived and penned the declaration of American independence, needs no other work to inscribe his name on the imperishable page of immortality! In boldness of conception, and maturity of thought, it perhaps has no parallel. It defies all imitation! Every friend to our government can recount the splendid virtues of that great man. I own my countrymen, that his virtues are represented as vices, his moderation as cowardice, his philosophy as "*the wisdom of fools*," and that he is pursued in the private walks of life, as well as in every political act, with all the detestible calumny, which malignity itself can invent; but this, so far from shaking his strong hold on his country's confidence, gives him new votaries. It forms his most shining ornament! It affords his most exalted eulogy!

Who lead the van in endeavouring to persecute him? The mortal enemies to the principles of our government; the lovers of aristocracy and monarchy. Who exhaust

all their ingenuity to blacken his unrivalled virtues? The very men who have least claim to them, and who, by a comparison with this reviled man, dwindle into insignificance and nothingness! Who are they who, stigmatize him with the name of Atheist, Deist, and demoralizer? Some of the very men for whom he effected an abolition of all *established religions*, and to whom he gave freedom of conscience.\* Who are they who speak contemptuously of his talents and understanding? The very men, who fall before the irresistible energy of his reasoning powers--- Whose immature fabrics, crumble at his touch! But why do I proceed? Thomas Jefferson needs the eulogy of no man on earth. His sagacity in perceiving, and the undeviating firmness with which he has pursued his country's true interest, through the thick cloud of ten thousand calumniating arrows, has long since given him a character, and standing which no relentless enemy can take away--- which the poisoned tooth of envy cannot contaminate--- of which no human power can deprive him! He may then, with complacency, smile on the busy reviler, and the harmless slanderer! He stands untouched, and unhurt!

It need not be repeated that during his CHIEF MAGISTRACY, his country has been signalized as the most prosperous and happy in the world. It need not be again said that America has nothing like a parallel. Every considerate man must believe, that it has been greatly owing to the wise and just policy of JEFFERSON, seconded and supported, by a patriotic and enlightened congress. Not however, contented with the present peaceful, flourishing and happy state of his country, he is anxiously looking forward to greater destinies. His philosophic mind, as it were with the certainty of intuition, can penetrate the womb of futurity, and point out to what additional grandeur, America may rise, by means of suitable *institutions of learning* and a proper attention to *internal improvements*!

\*The Presbyterians, it is generally supposed, are more vindictive against Mr. Jefferson, although theirs was not the *established religion*, when he effected that abolition. I speak of this affair as it took place in Virginia.

But happy as these United States are, we could not have expected that they would have formed an exception to all other nations. We have not had the presumption to suppose that there was no Judas among us, but that all to whom the government extended its protection, would be its friends. It was not to be expected that in the midst of blessings which a BENEFACTING CREATOR profusely showers down upon us, that our placid sea was not sometimes to be ruffled, by the furious waves of ambition, or our fears alarmed by the Dragon-form of the TRAITOR! View the commencement, the progress and the meandrings of a late detested plan of treachery in the Western country! Look at its tendency and its end! See the profound intrigue, and unknown artifice, with which it was commenced, cherished, & endeavored finally to be supported! No man of impartial feelings, can for a moment doubt the object it had in view. It was no less than a division, by civil war, of the most united and happy states, which were ever known! It was a deadly blow at the liberties of our country, and an attempt to drench it with the blood of its unoffending citizens. I call with a loud voice, on all Americans, to set a mark of odium and disgrace upon the abettors, and those who, by a side-wind, seem to uphold them in this conspiracy! Mark the man, who may be said to be, the *life and soul* of this unprincipled attempt to rear the standard of despotism; and mark those who press the poison to their lips!

Did I ask you to look at the *result* of this nicely constructed plot? Yes, my countrymen, you should attend to it, because it furnishes the ablest defence of the *justice and energy* of our government. Although the situation of our Western brethren, the extent of our territory, and the long time and ample scope, given to one of the profoundest traitors in the world, all combined to favor the execution of such an enterprize, yet the ATTACHMENT OF FREEMEN to their GOVERNMENT, was *above all price*. Nothing could shake, nothing could subdue

subdue it. The moment, some *overt evidences* of the plan were discovered, citizens of all denominations flocked to the standard of the UNION, & the plot bursted on the heads of its devoted abettors! You have heard much of the strength and energy of the governments of the old world; with a heart overflowing with joy and congratulations, I call you to witness a bright example of the UNION, STRENGTH and ENERGY of a REPUBLICAN GOVERNMENT. It is now seen that there is energy enough in this government to preserve it, altho' it should cover a wide and extended space of territory. Let its enemies take warning and explode their antiquated maxims. Let them spurn their moth-eaten dogmas, and yield applause to a GOVERNMENT of the PEOPLE.

Whilst viewing the good effects resulting from the wisdom of our general government, I hope I may be permitted, for a few moments, to direct the attention of my audience to the individual state which we inhabit, the state of SOUTH-CAROLINA. Without assuming to ourselves, what the world will not allow us, I think we have cause to rejoice, as the inhabitants of a rich, growing, and respectable state. True; the monstrous inequality of our representation in the state legislature, as limited and settled by our constitution, had given us, for a while, an aristocratical complexion, but notwithstanding the prevalence of this growing evil, as it relates to the great majority of the people, yet as soon as Carolina recovered, the slumber into which she had fallen by the lullaby of men in whom she had reposed all the confidence of friendship, she boldly asserted her claim to the true principles of seventy six, and as a member of the federal union has proudly sustained that claim ever since.

May I hope not to be accused of attempting to chill that glowing joy, now suffused in the bosoms of my friends, on this memorable day, by hinting at a curse, which seems to be entailed upon us; and this too by

a constitution, whose provisions and stipulations, in every other particular, are wholesome, wise and just. I hesitate not to mention this subject, because, if we do not guard our rights and endeavor to remedy our grievances, we shall soon have no cause of rejoicing--- No reason to celebrate those rights which this day gave us. We are then impelled by every principle of justice to ourselves, to represent it as a grievance of the most serious nature that the power absolutely exists in one seventh part of the whole number of citizens of this state, to give rule to the remaining six sevenths!! Although as yet we have felt *no grievous strokes* of oppression, we can but recollect that man is a creature of interest, and that there still remains the power to oppress. Although our early opportunities for education and refinement, have been, in general, partial and narrow, still we are *now* too enlightened to view our degraded stations, with any other eyes than those of horror and detestation! Let us take care to separate the friend of equal rights, from the friend of oppression: Let us see, if we cannot find men in a particular section of the state, who make loud-sounding professions of *republicanism*, when speaking of the general Government or general politics, but who, when we broach the subject of EQUAL RIGHTS at HOME, in SOUTH-CAROLINA, *shrink from the principles*, as if we had forfeited the privilege of freemen!

• But my countrymen, let us console ourselves with the hope that those days will soon pass away. The rapid improvement our state has made in almost every thing useful or estimable, confirm us in the hope of brighter political prospects. See the immense riches continually pouring into the country from the unwearied industry of our honest husbandmen. See the fertility of our soil, and its peculiar adaptation to produce in luxuriant profusion, our great and increasing staple commodity. You must behold too, with joy and exultation the progress of the arts and sciences, in  
places

places which but a few years ago presented but one vast wild, and where the terrific yell of the savage, rung in the ears of the affrighted settler. See institutions of learning in almost every direction. See the most flourishing surrounding Academies, periodically yielding their hopeful productions to *the grand central mart*. Behold at the seat of our Government, a college advantageously situated, amply endowed, and superintended by a PRESIDENT, PROFESSORS, and TUTORS, who would reflect honor on any institution, in any country! View the amplitude, and taste of the *buildings*, the extent of the *library*, and the superior style and utility of the *philosophical apparatus*. But above all, see the *general thirst for literature and knowledge which PERVADES all ranks of PEOPLE*. To evince the truth of this, see numbers of Academies, filled with from sixty to one hundred young men, strictly studious and laudably ambitious. See a COLLEGE but little more than two years in operation, and an admission into which is by no means as easy as into some others, claiming as its sons, little less than one hundred students, and affording some bright specimens of the GENIUS of SOUTH-CAROLINA. It is upon a view of all these circumstances, that we look forward to an abolition of all odious distinctions and divisions, and to an EQUAL PARTICIPATION in POLITICAL RIGHTS. The *aged* are becoming more enlightened, less prejudiced, and more thoroughly convinced of the IDENTITY of interests pervading all parts of the state. Our young men, "the rising hope of our country," are becoming better acquainted, more completely moulded into the same *manners and customs*, more closely drawn together by the ties of *friendship and union*, more strongly impressed with the same sentiments, and more completely inflamed with a love first for *this state* and then for the *United States*.

I do not think it improper, on this occasion, to call the attention of the citizens of Edgefield to the increase of information, numbers, and wealth of our own district.

district. See our mails weekly loaded with instruction, and see the avidity with which it is received, and imbibed by our citizens. See the present opulent state of the farmer, who ten or fifteen years ago, could not afford to pay for a Newspaper, or Educate a child. See a district, which six years ago, contained more than eighteen thousand inhabitants, which but ten years before that period, contained but little more than nine thousand.

But my friends, with all our blessings we lack one thing. Our district most sensibly feels the want of a well-endowed institution of learning. I have been pained to see it, exceeded in this important particular, by districts inferior to it, both in wealth and population. Let us take the hint; let us set a resolution to profit by the example of others.

TO THE OFFICERS and SOLDIERS, composing a company called the EDGEFIELD REPUBLICAN BLUES, I beg leave to address a few words.

It can hardly be necessary to mention to you gentlemen, that to an effective and well regulated militia, must our country look for safety and protection. Regular standing armies, kept up in the bosom of a country, are but the dreadful tokens of despotism and tyranny! That they are incompatible with the institutions of a free people, *experience* that universal touchstone of truth, has most amply proved. Hence we infer, the strict and constant attention, which you, as being a part of the defence of your country, ought to pay to our Militia laws and regulations. It is impossible for a man to love his country, and feel indifferent as to the means of defending it. You cannot be too punctual in doing your duty; in complying with every thing which may be necessary to advance our standing as a military corps! As you have voluntarily withdrawn yourselves from the great body of militia, and distinguished yourselves by a particular attachment directed towards you the observant

citizens.--It is therefore of the utmost importance, that every man should appear *on parade* in complete uniform and well equipped. That noble pride which you ought to feel as lovers of your country, should impel you to spurn a different course of conduct.

MY INDULGENT AUDITORS,

Having detained you longer than might, by many, be thought necessary, I feel it a duty to close, with but a very few additional observations.

Whilst on this glorious day, feeling exempted from the convulsions and wars of Europe, every bosom swells with the noble pride of Independence, and every heart is touched by a sacred spark from the altar of liberty, posterity makes a loud call, on our care and vigilance. Let every son, who traverses COLUMBIA'S extended region, lend his aid to secure our well earned rights. Let every citizen yield his strength, and his talent, to give permanency to the blessings, which we, in exclusion of all the world beside, this day enjoy.

If in the deep slumber of peace and security we suffer this ELYSIAC OF LIBERTY to pass away, as a dream, what a mountain of sin and guilt will impend our devoted heads! How relentless must be the punishment due to such inglorious apathy. The blood of our posterity will cry aloud for vengeance on so guilty a race! But my beloved countrymen, we hope better things, and this too on solid grounds! We can look forward with all the pleasures inspired by the most hopeful presages, rather than expect to meet the indignant frowns of an incensed country.

Let us cherish among us, an insatiable love for that RELIGION, which is without hypocrisy and priestcraft, peaceful, pure and undefiled. It will warm us in our country's cause, and speak peace and benediction on a dying bed. It will give us VIRTUE, its inseparable concomitant, without which our Government cannot long exist. It will direct us to inculcate lessons of morality on the tender minds of our beloved offspring.

It will strongly impel us to support and reverence those never-failing fountains of education, public schools! It will greatly guard us against the vices of extravagance and oppose a mound to an overwhelming flood of luxury.

By making us faithful friends to our country, it will stop the insidious and deleterious stream of FOREIGN INFLUENCE. It will teach us to shun that hypocrisy and priest-craft, which have lighted up the torch of war, and persecution, in every nation on earth, and tinged the robes of the priests with the blood of their innocent and unoffending inhabitants. It will impel us humanely to pity, but sedulously to guard against the

ly to guard against the "THE RIGHTS OF MAN," and to rejoice.