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Checked
May 1913

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VIRGINIA HISTORICAL REGISTER
AND
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JANUARY, 1848.

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BY MACFARLANE & FERGUSON,
MINOR'S LAW-BUILDING.

1848.



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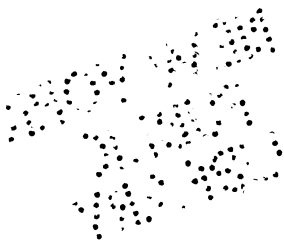
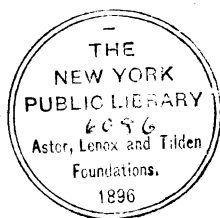
EDITED BY

WILLIAM MAXWELL.

VOL. I.
FOR THE YEAR 1848.

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INTRODUCTION.

We have undertaken to publish this little Quarterly Journal in order to furnish the Virginia Historical Society, established in our city, with a convenient organ of communication with its members and the public; and, at the same time, to co-operate with it in the prosecution of its important and interesting object, by diffusing useful and entertaining information relating to the history of our State.

In pursuing this design, after publishing the Proceedings of the Society at its annual meetings, and at other times, as far as may be proper, we shall pay our first respects, as in duty bound, to the venerable Past. And here, we shall submit all such Memorials, or partial accounts of any events, or transactions, relating to the early history of our State, which are still extant in print or manuscript; and which ought to be better known. Where they are long, however, we shall satisfy ourselves with such notices of them as may be more convenient for general reading, while we shall reserve the articles themselves for future publication in the Society's annual volumes.

With these, we shall give what are properly called Antiquities, such as extracts from Records, Journals, Diaries, Letters, Inscriptions, and other relics of the "olden time." It is true, our own private taste for such things is by no means extravagant.

We are not antiquaries, but only lovers of history. We have, however, a reasonable fancy for these small matters, and are disposed to regard them with some degree of favor for their own sakes, as well as for the light which they often reflect upon more important things. We are pleased, therefore, to know that we have a few friends more zealous and erudite in these *minutiae curiosæ*, than we pretend to be, who will give us "aid and comfort" in this department of our work. We have a veritable Monkbaron in —, an Old Mortality in —, and half a dozen Dryasdusts in other places. So we may hope there will be no lack of this amusing lore.

Besides these memorials and antiquities which properly belong to the history of our State, we shall also endeavor to collect and diffuse those which relate more immediately to the local histories of our several towns and counties, but which may yet be made of some interest to all our readers. Our aim in this part of our work, will be to bring our fellow citizens in all parts of our State to be better acquainted with each other; and we cannot doubt that they will readily appreciate the service we shall render them in this way.

We will only further add on this point, that while our work will be chiefly a repository of facts, and narratives of events, the mere materials of history; we shall always be happy to publish such disquisitions and essays as may serve to imbue it with that spirit of philosophy which ought to pervade and animate its pages.

But while we shall thus show all due honor to the Past, we shall by no means neglect to pay a proper attention to the Present. The stream of history, we know, has not flowed out, but

is still flowing on; and as we are sitting on its bank, we shall watch the passing current with a studious eye. And here it will give us particular pleasure to notice the favorite subjects of Internal Improvement and General Education, as far as our limits shall permit. In this way, we may hope to please all our readers, who shall not complain that we give them nothing but cold cuts and stale bread, but own that we allow them a little something now and then, that is fresh and warm, and altogether to their tastes.

In connection with the history of our State, we shall also pay due attention to its Biography. It cannot, indeed, be expected that much can be added to what is already known of those bright and memorable names which adorn our annals, and especially of that one—the glory of our Commonwealth—and the Father of his Country—whose “*line is gone out through all the earth;*” but there are still many others, whose merits and services in various departments of life, deserve a more honorable record than they have yet received, and which we shall be happy to afford them in our Register.

It may now be seen that we have given ourselves “ample scope and verge enough;” and indeed we may well fear that our plan will appear too large for the size of our work; like the Vicar of Wakefield’s family picture, which was well designed and handsomely colored, but unluckily turned out to be a little too large for his house. But we shall hope to enlarge our house itself by degrees, as our family of subscribers increases, till we make it like one of our old Virginia mansions that has been improved

by many additions, until it has come to embrace a good deal of homefelt comfort, and social pleasure within.

With these views, we cheerfully submit our Journal to the Public, with the confident assurance that they will give it all the aid and countenance which it needs, and which they may think it merits.

THE
VIRGINIA HISTORICAL REGISTER,
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LITERARY ADVERTISER.

VOL. I.

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**JANUARY, 1848.**  
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NO. I.

THE VIRGINIA HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

THE FIRST ANNUAL MEETING.

The First Annual Meeting of the VIRGINIA HISTORICAL SOCIETY, under its new organization, was held in the Hall of the House of Delegates, on Thursday evening, the 16th ult., and notwithstanding the great inclemency of the weather, was very respectably attended. The President of the Society, the Hon. WM. C. RIVES, of Albemarle, presided; and, on taking the chair, delivered a very appropriate and truly excellent Address, which gave great satisfaction to all who heard it. After this, the Chairman of the Executive Committee, CONWAY ROBINSON, Esq., read the Report of the Proceedings of the Committee during the past year, which showed that they had been most laudably attentive to the duties of their office, and that the Society was already prospering under their counsels. To this the Secretary, Mr. MAXWELL, added a few words, giving some further information—showing the number of the members of the Society, which he stated to be 252, (besides 15 candidates who would be added to them, he said, at the first meeting,) and submitting a list of books and manuscripts which had been presented and loaned by different persons, to the Society; manifesting a spirit already abroad amongst our citizens that promises the best results. Mr. M. afterwards proceeded to make some remarks upon the object of the Society, the plan of the Committee, and the general scope and spirit of the generous and patriotic cause in which they were engaged; which were manifestly received with lively sympathy and cordial approbation by all present; and which we may hope, accordingly, will not be without some fruit.

Mr. Burwell, of Bedford, then offered resolutions thanking the President for "his eloquent and instructive Address," and the Committee for "their zealous and efficient attention to the in-

terests of the Society" during the past year; and directing that the Address, Report, and other Proceedings of the Meeting should be published; which were unanimously adopted.

The Society then proceeded to elect their officers for the ensuing year, and some additional members, (eighteen in number,) and adjourned.

We may now congratulate our fellow-citizens, with great confidence, upon the happy beginning, and, we trust, the permanent establishment of a Society in our metropolis, which certainly promises very fairly to exert a most salutary influence upon all our institutions, and to promote essentially all the best and truest interests of our State and country.

MR. RIVES'S ADDRESS.

GENTLEMEN OF THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY:

The spirit which has summoned this Society again into activity, after a slumber of several years, is to be regarded, I trust, as one of the omens, and not the least significant, of a better day about to dawn upon our ancient Commonwealth. Too long have we followed after strange Gods, and turned our backs upon those of our own household. The false glare of *national* honors has been wont to dazzle the eyes of Virginians, and make them forget the duty and service they owe, primarily, to their own State. At last a happy change has arisen, and we see them returning, with gifts and offerings, to their paternal altars.

From this Hall—devised and matured by the enlightened Legislative councils of the State, we have seen, within the present year, a generous system of State improvements go forth, answering to the demands of the age, and the wants of our people, and destined, we may confidently hope, to exert a powerful influence upon the future fortunes of the Commonwealth. A general attention has been awakened every where, to the intellectual wants of the State; and the wisdom of its intelligent citizens and of its Representatives has been conjointly employed, and will, doubtless, continue to be employed, in perfecting a system of public instruction which, with the liberality of its provisions, shall combine a just and practical adaptation to the peculiar circumstances of our situation, in regard to territory and population.

At such a moment of awakened State patriotism, and in con-

currence with these noble objects of State concern, it is not to be wondered at that a reviving interest should have been manifested in our State History. To every people, its history—the stirring record of the deeds and trials of its ancestors,—is among the most precious of its possessions; and ours, I trust, is not less fertile in attractions and just motives to cherish and cultivate it, than that of other States. The State which was the first settled of our free Anglo-American confederacy—which in the very infancy of its colonial existence, endowed itself by its own instinctive sagacity and vigour with free Representative Institutions, and thus gave the example to the other colonies, of the only practical security for civil and political freedom—which, by the voice of its little assembly, in the primeval forests of America, enacted from time to time the great canon of British liberty, (immunity from taxes not imposed by the people themselves or their representatives,) in advance of its final establishment by the patriots of the mother country in their memorable struggle with the first Charles*—which founding itself upon this traditional birthright of English and American freemen, thus early proclaimed by its infant voice, was afterwards in maturer age the first to announce a determined resistance to the unconstitutional taxation of the British parliament—which, after sharing so largely in the labours, perils and glorious achievements of the contest for Independence, took an acknowledged and unquestionable lead in the foundation and establishment of our present happy Federal Constitution and Union—a State, whose history is illustrated by such bright and honorable traits and recollections as these, ought surely to feel some degree of interest and pride in her annals.

I do not refer to these things, gentlemen, in the indulgence of

* Among the acts of the Assembly which sat at Jamestown in March 1624, 21st, James I., (the earliest of which any record is now extant) is one declaring, "the Governor shall not lay any taxes or impositions upon the colony, their lands or commodities, otherwise than by the authority of the General Assembly, to be levied and employed as the said Assembly shall appoint." The same principle, in the same words, was thrice re-enacted by the Colonial Assembly in the subsequent reign of Charles 1—to wit, in 1631, 1632, and 1642-3—See Henning's Statutes at Large.

a vainglorious spirit, or to minister to any unworthy feeling of self-complacency. Far otherwise. We have been too prone to repose upon the laurels of our ancestors, and to rely on *their* fame as dispensing us from the necessity of winning a character for ourselves in the world by our own meritorious deeds and exertions. But the very renown of our forefathers serves only to reproach us with our degeneracy, if we do not show ourselves their worthy descendants by the practice of their virtues, and the imitation of their noble examples. It is, then, to draw from them a lesson of useful admonition, a new and powerful incentive to vigorous action in our "day and generation," that I would recur, daily and nightly, to the inspiring records of our past history.

In recalling what Virginia was, we can best form to ourselves a correct idea of what Virginia ought still to be, and the true measure of our own duties as present actors on the stage. We cannot but be painfully sensible of the fact that she no longer holds the proud precedency, not in numbers merely, but in consideration and influence, which she once possessed among the confederated States of the Union. Why is this so? Are not her extraordinary physical advantages the same? Is she not the same "delightful land" so poetically and rapturously described by Capt. Smith, when entering the bosom of the noble Chesapeake with the first colonists from England? "Within the capes," said he, "is a country that may have the prerogative over the most pleasant places known: Heaven and earth never agreed better to frame a place for man's habitation, were it fully cultivated and inhabited by industrious people. Here are mountains, hills, plains, valleys, rivers and brooks, all running most pleasantly into a fair Bay, compassed, except at its mouth, with fruitful and delightful land." Such is the picture drawn by one, who had explored the four quarters of the globe, of the rich and beautiful heritage that nature has given us.

Are not our people the same? Are not the Virginians of the present day of the same generous race with those who laid the foundations of our History, in whom the various elements of Anglo-Saxon power and character were so mixed and blended

as to give assurance to the world of *men*—a race composed of alternate emigrations from the two great opposing parties, whose giant struggles then convulsed the mother country—a race in whose veins flowed the mingled blood of Cavaliers and Republicans, tempering the zeal of liberty with the love of order, and the virtues of the patriot with the sentiments of the gentleman and the Christian. There is nothing of great achievement, in peace or in war, of which such a race is not capable, when its energies are properly impelled and directed. That the Virginians of the present day have not lost the high capabilities of their race when stirring occasions are presented to call them forth, we might, with excusable pride, point to recent events which have astonished the world by the magnitude of the results, contrasted with the smallness of the means employed in their achievement, and in which Virginians have borne so conspicuous a part, to bear witness. Why, then, has Virginia “fallen from her high estate?” It can only be because the faculties of her sons have not been strenuously exerted in *her* service and for *her* advancement. They have been unwisely diverted to other objects, or rusting in unprofitable inaction.

With the high qualities of the Virginian race, it has been generally observed of them that they are somewhat prone to self-indulgence, and not apt to persevere in what they undertake. To make a proper use of the study of our history, we must seek to derive from it a knowledge of our faults, as well as of our excellencies. The great genius of England, in a fragment he left behind him of the early history of his country, tells us most truly and pithily, “if it be a high point of wisdom in every private man, much more is it in a nation, to know itself; rather than puffed up with vulgar flatteries and encomiums, for want of self-knowledge, to enterprise rashly and come off miserably in great undertakings.”* In tracing our history through successive ages, we shall, perhaps, find reason to conclude that the very bounties of nature with which Providence has surrounded us in a fruitful soil and climate and rivers teeming with abundance, by lessen-

* Milton, in his History of England.

ing the motives to industrious occupation, have insensibly formed us to habits of too much ease. The circumstances of our sister States of New England are, in this respect, strikingly different; and we see there a victorious and creative energy, nurtured in a constant conflict with the difficulties of nature, which has carried them far ahead of us in the career of prosperity and improvement. If, then, we have been heretofore too much disposed to content ourselves with the indolent enjoyment of what nature has done for us, it is now time that we should do something for ourselves. The spirit of the age summons us to progress; and our own self-respect, with the proud annals of our State unrolled before our eyes, can never permit us to take wilfully the rear of our contemporaries.

In invoking a noble State ambition on behalf of our ancient Commonwealth, I am far from wishing to encourage any feeling of an anti-national character, which could cause us to regard, with either indifference or alienation, the common concerns of our glorious confederacy. Virginia must ever feel the deepest interest in the prosperity and preservation of that Union, which is, in a great measure, the work of her own hands, and for which, we may certainly say without boast or exaggeration, no other State has made, or had it in its power to make, such large and munificent sacrifices. It is for the sake of the Union, as well as for her own sake, that I would wish now to see her arouse her faculties in the vigorous prosecution of State interests, and in the development of all her domestic resources, whether of mind or matter. Let her, by a wise and well-considered system of public policy, in which the means shall be proportioned to the end and the end to the means, push her railroads, her schools, her work-shops, her factories, public-spirited improvements of every kind, into the various quarters of the Commonwealth, and we shall soon see her raise her head again amid her sister States, and speak and act with her ancient influence in their common councils. The more strength and power she acquires at home, the more, undoubtedly, will she exert abroad. Every sentiment of patriotism, then, national as well State, calls upon the loyalty

of Virginians to devote their best energies, the first-fruits of their talents and their industry, to the service and ornament of their native Commonwealth.

I am not one of those, if such there be, who would indulge the apprehension that a fervent and devoted attachment to the particular State of our birth or adoption could lessen, in any degree, the sentiment of duty and affection we owe to our whole country. On the contrary, by a law of our moral nature, all our public affections take their origin in the small, but magic circle, which defines our home, and thence spread, by successive expansions, 'till they embrace and repose upon our country. The more intensely they glow at the centre, the warmer will their radiations be felt upon the circumference. The more we love our State, the more we shall love the Union of which it forms a constituent and honored part. While, therefore, we reverentially subscribe to the sentiment of the Father of his Country, that "the name of *American*, which belongs to us in our national capacity, must ever exalt the just pride of patriotism,"* let us endeavor so to be *Americans* as not to forget that we are also *Virginians*. In a system like ours, where the individuality and sovereignty of the States form the pillars upon which the massive edifice of national power and greatness reposes, the principle of State patriotism must ever be cherished as a primary element of general strength, and a potent incentive, (the most potent, perhaps,) to an emulous and onward career of progressive improvement.

If, then, the tendency of this Society, gentlemen, shall be, by the study and exhibition of our State history, to awaken a stronger feeling of State patriotism among us, and to call it into vigorous action for the restoration of the State to her former elevated position, by such improvements of every kind as the spirit of the age demands, it cannot fail to commend itself to the sympathy, countenance, and co-operation of all true lovers of their State and country. Nor is its instrumentality for this end confined to retrospections of the past, however animating and in-

* Farewell Address.

structive. The contemporary history of our own times, in all that can influence national progress, or permanently affect the destinies of society, will necessarily challenge a careful and attentive consideration. Investigations of the diversified natural resources of the State, modern improvements in the arts and the applications of science to the practical pursuits of life, educational reforms, ameliorations in the social economy, every thing, in short, which an active and inquisitive spirit, stimulated by patriotism and enlightened by knowledge, can draw from the history of the past or the present to minister to the future advancement and renown of our State, falls within the legitimate scope of this Society.

It was the dignity and importance of these objects, appealing so strongly to every Virginian heart, which made the venerable and illustrious Marshall lay aside, for the moment, his judicial robes, and descend with alacrity from the Bench of the Supreme Court, on which his wisdom and virtues have shed a never-fading lustre, to preside in the meetings of this Society. The same noble objects early commended it to the favor of the Legislature, which bestowed upon it a liberal act of incorporation; and, if we shall now pursue them with the steadiness, zeal and united effort, which the just claims of the interests at stake so earnestly invoke, they will secure for the Society, I doubt not, the according sympathy and encouragement of the whole State. In any event, gentlemen, "the bread which you shall cast upon the waters," will one day or other, you may be assured, return in accumulated benefits to our ancient Commonwealth, whom it is the duty and proud privilege of us all, in private or in public station, to serve to the best of our abilities.

THE REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

The Executive Committee have entered upon their duties under a full conviction that a diligent discharge of those duties is essential to secure the objects of the society.

The people of this state have taken so little care of their man-

uscripts, that many of great interest, there is reason to believe, are no longer to be had. And of printed matter, there is much less in our public libraries, relating to the early history of the state, than is to be found in other states in the libraries of their colleges and of their historical societies. The greater care taken by others than by ourselves in collecting books and documents illustrating the history of this country, will be of essential aid to us, in the attempt to make known the History of Virginia as perfectly as we can.

The plan of the Committee is to publish in chronological order, whatever matter relating to our history it may deem worthy of publication. In preparing the matter for the press, a careful examination will be made, not only of Smith, Beverley, Stith, Burk and other books, with which a Virginian is familiar, but of other works hitherto not accessible in this State. What is taken from each will be given in the language of the original author. It will be a leading object to prepare the matter with such fullness that in each volume, published by the society, may be found all that is of value in the period of our history embraced by it. While, at the same time, it will be attempted to make the volumes less repulsive to the general reader, than collections of historical societies usually are. The plan of preparing the matter in the order of time will conduce to this, and entitle the volumes to the name which will be given them, of "Annals of Virginia." Each member of the society paying his annual quota, or the commutation, will be furnished with the volumes as they are published. It is expected that a volume will appear in the spring or in the first part of summer, and another annually afterwards.

These volumes will by no means be confined to what is now in print. A good deal of matter in manuscript has already been obtained, and we hope to obtain much more. Our purpose is to preserve with care all that is collected, and make public such of it as may be found sufficiently interesting.

With these views the committee authorized the Secretary to issue a circular letter inviting persons to send to the society, books, pamphlets, or documents relating to the history of the State, and to make any communications to it which they might think calculated to promote its objects.

Considering it desirable that the society should be possessed of all the authentic information which can be obtained in relation to those who have been distinguished in the annals of Virginia, whether the same may be in letters, documents or otherwise, the committee, at its last meeting, adopted resolutions requesting such information from certain individuals named in the resolutions, and asking from some of them, memoirs or sketches

of their own times, or of particular persons. The resolutions declare also, in the most general terms, that in relation to all who have been distinguished in the annals of Virginia, or connected with its history, whether particularly named in the resolutions or not, authentic information will be gladly received from any person who may have it in his power to furnish it. From time to time as communications are received, containing such memoirs, sketches or other information, the same will be read first by the committee, and then before the society, to such extent as may be agreeable to it, and be thereupon filed away and preserved, so that, (in printing the collections of the society,) such publication thereof may be made as the committee may deem advisable.

When matter is obtained by the society, relating to events which have occurred, or persons who have lived within a time comparatively recent, some years may elapse before it can appear, in its chronological order in the annual volumes. And yet it will be desirable to communicate at an earlier day to members of the society, and to others, any information in respect to such matter which can properly be given.

For this purpose, the committee contemplate making use of the "Virginia Historical Register," a quarterly journal proposed to be published by William Maxwell, Esq. Such a journal, if it be encouraged by the public and properly conducted, (as it is anticipated it will be,) will preserve information as to events happening about the period of its publication, as well as in relation to occurrences of past times, and, as to the last, will be an additional security against the danger of loss or injury to manuscripts before the matter of them can be inserted in the volumes of annals. A copy of the journal will be furnished without charge to each member of the society residing out of Richmond, who may have paid his annual quota, or the commutation. This distinction in favor of members residing out of Richmond, is thought to be just, because of the greater benefit which those residing in this city will derive from the library.

A large and commodious room in Mr. Minor's new Law Building has been obtained, which serves for the committee to meet in, and for meetings of the Society called between the annual meetings, as well as for the Secretary's office, and for the library and cabinet. Some rare works have been obtained during the past year, partly by purchase, and partly by donations. And we shall endeavor to make the room a place to which a member of the Society may take pleasure in going, or in introducing a stranger. Our progress in adding to the collection of books, must of course depend on the progress which may be made in

obtaining contributions from members, and other donations.

To place the Society upon sure ground, we have thought it important to have a permanent fund, the interest on which may always be counted upon in aid of the admission fees and yearly dues of members, to pay the current annual expenses. The Treasurer has, therefore, been directed to invest from time to time, in certificates of debt of the State of Virginia bearing interest, all the commutation fees which may be paid by life members and all sums of money which may be given to the Society. These certificates are directed to be taken in the corporate name of the Society, and will constitute its permanent fund.

After giving this direction, the Corresponding Secretary, Mr. Maxwell, was appointed general agent of the Society until this meeting, and as such was directed to take measures to establish the permanent fund, increase the yearly income, and extend the operations and influence of the Society. To this end he was authorized to visit such parts of the State as he might deem advisable to obtain donations to the Society, and the co-operation of persons fit and proper to be elected members.

The proceedings of Mr. Maxwell under the authority so given him, have met the cordial approbation of the committee. The persons whom he has seen, and at their instance proposed to the committee as resident members, have been all of them gentlemen whom the committee took pleasure in recommending; and the Society has, by ballot, unanimously elected all brought before it.

Of the resident members, twelve have paid each fifty dollars as a commutation for all the regular fees and dues for life, amounting for the twelve to \$600, of which \$300 has been, and the rest will soon be, invested as part of the permanent fund. The example of becoming life members, it is believed, will shortly be followed by others; and the permanent fund will of course be enlarged in the same proportion.

Without the benefit yet of interest from this fund, there has nevertheless been received during the past year, from the admission fees and yearly dues of the other resident members, a sum sufficient to pay all the expenses of the Society.

We think the annual income may be expected regularly to increase and we hope from this income and by means of donations of books, to be constantly adding to the extent and value of the library, until it shall become not only an agreeable place to be visited by members of the Society, but a repository of ample materials for the investigators of history, and a just source of pride to every citizen of the State.

THE LIMITS OF VIRGINIA

UNDER THE CHARTERS OF KING JAMES THE FIRST.

In a work like ours which is to contain miscellaneous materials for a History of Virginia, rather than a History itself, it will not of course be expected that we shall always, or indeed hardly ever, be able to observe any thing like an exact order of time. We are happy however, in the present instance, to have it in our power to begin at the beginning, (or pretty near it) by giving our readers a part of a valuable manuscript entitled "Notes as to the Limits of Virginia," by the Hon. Littleton Waller Tazewell, of Norfolk, which was written some time ago for the Hon. E. W. Hubbard, of Buckingham, then a Member of Congress, and which the venerable author has most obligingly put into our hands, with liberty to use as we please. We submit, accordingly, the following portion of the communication which gives a very full and clear view of the Limits of Virginia under the charters of James the First; which may be useful for reference, and in relation to some other matters which we may publish hereafter. The rest of the manuscript is of a controversial character, being written in answer to an argument against the old claim of Virginia to the North-Western territory, contained in the Report of a Committee of the House of Representatives of August 20th, 1842.—(Rep. No. 1063.) This is highly characteristic of its author, and indeed a very curious and interesting specimen of that extraordinary fertility and acuteness of argumentation for which he has been so greatly distinguished in his time. It is, however, quite too long to be inserted in our pages at once, and we must lay it by for the present.

To determine the original limits of the country now called Virginia, it is necessary that we should go back to a period of history antecedent to even the discovery of this region. In this history, we shall find that the whole continent of North America fronting upon the Atlantic ocean, was called Virginia, long before any portion of that particular district that now bears this name had been discovered. The Spaniards, who had first discovered the southern part of this continent in 1512, had named it Florida, on account of the gay and beautiful appearance of the great variety of flowers they found flourishing there. But afterwards, in 1584, when the English also discovered it further to the northward, Queen Elizabeth was pleased to name the coun-

try Virginia, as a memorial that this happy discovery had been made in the reign of a virgin queen.—(See Hakluyt, vol. iii, page 246.)

By letters patent granted by Queen Elizabeth to Sir Walter Raleigh, which bear date March 26, 1584, she gave to him, and to his heirs and assigns, "free liberty to search for and find such barbarous lands, not possessed by any Christian people, as to him may seem good, and the same to occupy and enjoy forever." This grant was without any other defined limits.—(Hakluyt, vol. iii, page 243, also Williamson's History of North Carolina, vol. i, page 219.)

In pursuance of this grant, Sir Walter Raleigh fitted out a small squadron, under the command of Sir Richard Grenville, to take possession of his newly acquired and unbounded territory; and a small settlement was actually established, on the 25th of August, 1584, on Roanoke island, in the present State of North Carolina. This was the first settlement made by the English in Virginia, and the first British settlement established anywhere on the continent of North America.—(See Hakluyt, vol. iii, p. 251.)

Owing to many causes, and after various adventures, which it would be unnecessary to mention here, this first settlement was abandoned by its founders in the year 1590; and we know nothing certainly of the fate of the unfortunate colonists who were then left there.—(See Smith's History of Va., vol. i, page 105.)

No other attempt to settle any colony in Virginia was made during the reign of Queen Elizabeth, who died in 1603, and was succeeded by King James the First. But in the year 1606, this conceited prince issued his letters patent for that purpose, which letters bear date April 10, 1606. By these, he divided that portion of Virginia which stretches from 34° to 45° of northerly latitude, into two districts. In one of these districts, called the First or Southern Colony of Virginia, he authorized Sir Thomas Gates, and others, his associates, mostly resident in London, to plant a colony wherever they might choose, between 34° and 41° of north latitude; and he vested in them a right of property in the land, extending along the seacoast fifty statute miles, on each

side of the place of their first plantation, and reaching into the interior 100 statute miles from the seacoast. The other of these districts, called the Second or Northern Colony of Virginia, he allotted for the settlement of Thomas Hanham, and others, his associates, mostly residents of Bristol, Exeter, and Plymouth. These he authorized to plant a colony, wherever they might choose, between 38° and 45° of north latitude, and he gave to them a territory of similar limits and extent to that given to the first colony. He provided, however, that the plantation of the said two colonies which should be last made, should not be within 100 miles of the other, that might be first established. One of these two colonies (the first) was soon distinguished as the London Company; and the other (or second) was known as the Plymouth Company; but, in after time, these names were dropped, and the name of Virginia, which was at first applied to both the colonies, was retained by the southern colony only, while the northern colony was called New England—(For a copy of this charter, see Stith's History of Virginia—appendix, No. 1.)

The London Company commenced its operations before the Plymouth Company. The former fitted out a small ship of 100 tons burthen, and two barks, the command of which was given to Captain Christopher Newport, who sailed from Blackwall December 19, 1606, his first destination being Roanoke island, in quest of the unfortunate adventurers left there many years before. Newport had a very long passage; and before he reached his destination, his little fleet encountered a severe southern gale, the violence of which was such as to oblige them to scud before it under bare poles one whole night. This was fortunate; for, in running in for the land the next day, (April 26, 1607,) they luckily fell in with the Capes of Chesapeake Bay, and entered this great estuary. Pursuing their course along the southern shore of the bay, they came to the mouth of a noble river, called by the natives Powhatan, but which Captain Newport named James River, after his sovereign. Up this river they sailed about 40 miles from its mouth, in search of a proper place whereon to plant the intended Colony. Such a place they at length found,

in a peninsula on the northern side of the river, connected with the mainland by a narrow isthmus of naked sand, easily to be defended against any attack, let it come from what quarter it might. Here the adventurers landed on the 13th of May, 1607, and here they established their first habitation, to which they gave the name of "James Citty," in honor of King James I, the reigning monarch.—(See Smith's History of Virginia, vol. i, book iii, chap. i, page 149, &c.)

The facts stated above will enable us to determine, and with great accuracy, the limits of the grant made to the London Company, by their first charter of April 10, 1606. If a meridional line be drawn through James Citty, and extended each way to the distance of fifty statute miles from it; if parallels be drawn through the extremities of this meridian, and extended to the seacoast; if one hundred statute miles from thence be laid off upon each of these parallels; and if a straight line be drawn from the extremity of one of them so determined, to the extremity of the other, the diagram so to be constructed may be considered as a square, the base of which will be one hundred statute miles, and its area ten thousand square miles. Such a diagram, so constructed, will be delineated in precise accordance with all the calls of this charter of April 10, 1606.

We need but cast our eyes upon any map of this region to determine the ridiculous absurdity of confining the territory intended to be granted, by such limits. The only apology that can be offered for such an act, is, that the charter was granted before the country to which it was designed to apply was discovered. More than one moiety of all the lands within the prescribed limits will be found covered by wide and deep water-courses. By these, the dry land will be found divided into many small necks, widening as you advance upwards, and separated from each other by streams, the width and depth of which were such as to render them often impassable, and always dangerous; and the first plantation intended to be, and that long continued to be, the metropolis or chief-place of the Colony, will be found very near the western and most exposed frontier of the territory. Hence,

every hope of the future prosperity, and even of the security and safety of the infant colony, required that the limits given to its territory should be speedily changed and enlarged.

This was not a matter of speculation. In the year 1608 the country had been explored in every direction, throughout its whole length and breadth, and far beyond either, by the celebrated Captain John Smith, whose wonderfully accurate description of it, given in his report, we still have. (See Smith's History of Virginia, vol. i, book 3, chapters 5 and 6, and the map) Induced by this report, as well as by many defects experience had proved to exist in the form of government for the colony that had been prescribed by their charter, the London Company applied to the King to alter this charter; and it pleased his Majesty, King James the First, to grant their petition. Accordingly, on the 23d of May, 1609, he issued new letters patent of that date, for this purpose. (It should be observed here, that at the date of these new letters patent, nothing existed to prevent such an extension of the limits of Virginia as was thereby made, because no settlement had then been made anywhere by the Plymouth Company; so that the whole country granted was as open to the new grant, as it had been in 1606.)

Before this second charter was granted to the London Company, the well-known headland on the northern side of James river, at its mouth, had been discovered, and called by the name it still bears—Point Comfort. Taking this well known and well-established position as a starting point, the new charter granted to the company "all those lands, &c. situate, lying, and being in that part of America called Virginia, from the point of land called Cape or Point Comfort, all along the seacoast, to the northward, two hundred miles; and from the said point of Cape Comfort, all along the seacoast, to the southward, two hundred miles; and all that space and circuit of land lying from the seacoast of the precinct aforesaid, up into the land, throughout from sea to sea, west and northwest; and also all the islands lying within one hundred miles along the coast of both seas of the

precinct aforesaid.”—(See a copy of this second charter in Stith's History of Virginia, appendix No. 2, page 8, &c.)

As one of the purposes of this second charter is declared in it to be “to grant a further enlargement and explanation of the former grant” of 1606; and as no other change is made in the mode of determining the new and enlarged limits, from that required for determining the old boundaries, except that the precise point of Cape Comfort is substituted for James City, we are bound to adopt the same mode of determining the new limits, which had been adopted and approved in the former case.

Therefore, if a meridional line be drawn through the point of Cape Comfort, and extended each way to the distance of two hundred miles from thence; if parallels be drawn through the extremities of this meridian, and extended from sea to sea, (*i. e.* from the Atlantic to the South Sea, or Pacific,) the diagram so to be constructed may be considered as a parallelogram. The base of this parallelogram will be the seacoast of the Atlantic, having a meridional length of four hundred miles, bisected by the parallel of the point of Cape Comfort, and the altitude of this parallelogram will be the distance from sea to sea.

If any one is curious to know why Virginia was extended precisely two hundred miles to the north of the parallel of the point of Cape Comfort, his curiosity will be satisfied if he will take the trouble to calculate the difference of latitude between that parallel and the more northern parallel of 40° . In making this calculation, he must make some small allowance, however, for the trifling error caused by the imperfection of the clumsy instruments used in 1609 for making observations of latitude; as well as for the erroneous opinion then entertained as to the length of a degree of a great circle in English statute miles. We know now the exact quantity of each of these errors in our case; but it must be recollected that one of them (the last) puzzled Sir Issac Newton almost a century after 1609, and delayed the publication, because (owing to this error) he could not demonstrate the truth of the greatest of his astronomical theories. Correcting his calculations in this way, the curious inquirer will

so discover that two hundred English statute miles, measured along a meridian from the parallel of the point of Cape Comfort, will carry him to the parallel of 40° north latitude; which last parallel, as I will show hereafter, was then made the common boundary between the two great districts of Virginia and New England.

The distance from Point Comfort north being determined in this way, there was no possible objection to adding an equal distance from the same point south; for in that direction no grant had then been made, which, by any possibility, could interfere with the extension of Virginia. Thus the new boundaries given to Virginia by the charter of May 23, 1609, were, in fact, these: On the north, the parallel of 40° ; on the south, the parallel of 34° ; on the east, the Atlantic ocean, between these parallels; and on the west, the Pacific ocean, between the same parallels.

These wide limits were very much contracted in after time, in many different ways: 1st. By the grant of Maryland, to Cæcilius Calvert, baron of Baltimore in Ireland, made by Charles the First, on the 20th of June, 1632. 2d. By the grant of North Carolina to the Earl of Clarendon and others, proprietaries of that province, made by Charles the Second, June 30, 1665. 3d. By the grant of Pennsylvania to William Penn, made by Charles the Second, March 4, 1681. 4th. By the treaty made between Great Britain and France, (commonly called the treaty of Paris, because it was concluded at Paris,) on the 10th of February, 1763; and, 5th. By the constitution of Virginia herself, adopted June 29, 1776. Deduct from the area of the parallelogram I have before mentioned, the several territories carved out of it by the various acts to which I have referred above, and the remainder of this area will represent what Virginia was on the 4th day of July, 1776—when she too, like the other colonies, became a free, sovereign, and independent State.

CAPTAIN SMITH'S MONUMENT.

A gentleman of Albemarle, who has visited London, (and is now residing, we believe, in New York,) in a letter to a friend in this city, gives an interesting notice of Capt. Smith's Monument, which we are permitted to copy for the gratification of our readers, as follows :

Castle Hill, March 16, 1847.

MY DEAR SIR :

In a short conversation which I had the pleasure to hold with you, at the last meeting of the "Home Club," in reference to our early Virginia History, I observed I did not believe it was generally known that Captain John Smith was buried in Saint Sepulchre's church, Skinner Street, London. In pursuance of your suggestion, on that occasion, I cheerfully communicate to you the information I picked up on this subject, feeling assured that however slight it is, its connection with the name foremost in our colonial annals, will prevent its being unacceptable to so devoted an enquirer as yourself.

From "Stowe's Survey of London," printed in 1633, two years after the death of Captain John Smith, it appears there was a tablet erected to his memory, in Saint Sepulchre's, inscribed with his motto, "*Vincere est Vivere*," and the following verses:—

Here lies one conquer'd that hath conquer'd Kings
 Subdu'd large Territories and done things
 Which to the World impossible would seeme,
 But that the truth is held in more esteeme.
 Shall I report his former service done
 In honor of God and Christendome,
 How that he did divide from Pagans three
 Their Heads and Lives Types of his Chivalry,
 For which great service in that Climate done
 Brave Sigismundus (King of Hungarion)
 Did give him as a coat of armes to weare

Those conquer'd heads got by his sword and speare.
 Or shall I tell of his adventures since
 Done in Virginia that large Continnence,
 How that he subdu'd Kings unto his yoke
 And made those heathen flie as wind doth smoke,
 And made their land, being of so large a station,
 A habitation for our Christian nation,
 Where God is glorifi'd, their wants suppli'd
 Which else for necessaries might have di'd
 But what availes his conquests now he lyes
 Inter'd in earth a prey for Worms and Flies.
 O may his soule in sweet Elizium sleepe
 Until the keeper that all soules dothe keepe
 Returne to Judgment and that after thence
 With angels he may have his recompence.—

This tablet was destroyed by the great fire in 1666, together with most of the monumental antiquities of the church; and all now remaining to the memory of Captain Smith is a large flat stone, in front of the Communion-Table, engraved with his coat of arms. The three Turks' heads are still distinguishable, but in a few years more they will be entirely effaced by the many feet which every Sunday unconsciously trample upon the tomb of so famous a man.

I remain, &c.

F. R. R.

To C. R., Esq.

FORT GEORGE.

We are indebted to an esteemed correspondent, who resides near Old Point Comfort, for the following description of the remains of an old fort built many years ago at that place, which will be interesting to some of our readers. We regret that we cannot copy the drawing which ac-

companies the communication, and which is very neatly done ; but we have as yet no type for such things.

Oliveira, near Old Point Comfort, March 22, 1847.

It was in the reign of Charles 1st, and during the administration of Sir John Harvey, as Governor of Virginia, that the General Assembly, in their session of 1629-30, passed an Act for the erection of a Fort at Point Comfort.

Capt. Robert Ffelgate, Capt. Thos. Purfury, Capt. Th. Graies, Capt. John Uty, Capt. Thomas Willoby, Mr. Thos. Heyrick and Lieut. Wm. Perry, were appointed "to view the place, conclude what manner of fforte shall be erected, and to compound and agree with Capt. Samuel Mathewes, for the building, raying and finishing the same."

This is probably the same "worthy Samuel Mathews, an old Planter of more than forty years standing," who was elected Governor in 1658 and died in 1660, so that he must have been in the Colony prior to 1617.

The work was called Fort George. The front lines only and part of the flanks are now traceable, the rear lines having been obliterated by the excavation of the ditch of Fort Monroe ; so that it is now impossible even to surmise what the form of the work was ; and it is much to be regretted, that the trace of this interesting relic of our earliest attempt at regular fortification had not been preserved, before it was blotted out by the colossal structure of the present day.

It was built of brick and shell lime ; and judging from the quality of the materials and character of the masonry, the contractor executed his work most faithfully. Had it been otherwise, he, in all probability, would never have been elected Governor.

The bricks appear to have been home-made ; they were well burned but rough, 9 inches long, 4 wide and 3 thick. The lime was probably burned in the neighbourhood ; most probably on the farm where I now reside, being the nearest and most acces-

sible point, about a mile and a half from the fort. When I purchased it, I found at the mouth of Jones' Creek, buried in a dense forest of pines, a mound five or six feet high, with a base of about twenty-five feet, overgrown with grass, rank weeds and shrubs. It consisted entirely of shells and fragments of shells, half burned, what is commonly called the core of a lime kiln. The mass was evidently too large to have been the refuse of a kiln burned for any private purpose. Fragments of pottery were found in considerable quantities interspersed amongst the shells.

Fort George consisted of an exterior and interior wall about sixteen feet apart; the exterior twenty-seven and the interior eighteen inches thick. These were connected by counterforts ten or twelve feet apart, forming a system of cribs, which were no doubt filled up with sand. The foundation of the work is three feet below the present level of the sand at the Light-House.

Through the politeness of Mr. Wm. McClean, who aided me in tracing the lines, I am enabled to furnish as perfect a plan of the work as can be obtained at this day. It will give a better idea of it, with its position in relation to Fort Monroe, than could be conveyed by any verbal description. Much, however, is left to conjecture, especially as regards the course of the flanks. Beyond their intersection with the ditch, all is veiled in obscurity. The front lines bear a remarkable coincidence, with those of Fort Monroe in their rear.

In connection with this subject, it may not be uninteresting to mention, that some 16 or 17 years ago, in removing theru b-bish of the old walls, a signet ring was found, which is now in the possession of Col. De Russy, the commanding Engineer at this station. It is of iron, lined with silver; and I attach hereto an impression, in wax, of the Coat of Arms. I would describe it in the language of heraldry as follows:

“ Azure—a Bear rampant Argent, holding in his paws a globe or heart, surmounted by a cross.” Crest,—“ an eye with wings conjoined.”

It would be a matter not devoid of interest, to trace this venerable relic to the family whose proud armory it bears; but I

have not the means of doing so, and must leave it to your society, whose especial province it is, and who are so much better qualified than I am to perform the task.

R. A.

NOTE.—We apprehend that our correspondent is a little mistaken in supposing that the fort, which he has described above, was the same that was authorized to be built by the Act of Assembly passed in 1629-30, which he quotes from Hening's Statutes at Large, vol. 1, p. 150; for in looking further on in the same volume, we find that another Act was passed in 1639, which provides, among other things, "Two lbs." (to wit, of tobacco, per poll,) "to be raised next year, to build a new fort at Point Comfort."—(Hen. Stat., vol. 1, p. 226.) Is it not probable, then, that the old fort, built by the "worthy Capt. Samuel Mathews," was superseded by a new one? And is it not further probable that that new one was itself superseded by a subsequent one, built, as we may suppose, in the reign of one of the Georges, after whom it was named? It is true, our correspondent says, "the work was called Fort George," and no doubt it was; but when was it first called so? It is not called so in the Act which he cites, nor in any other that we have seen. So we say, *quere de hoc*.

A BIOGRAPHICAL NOTICE OF

COMMODORE BARRON OF THE NAVY OF VIRGINIA.

We are indebted to a veteran officer of the U. S. N., now residing in Norfolk, for the following Biographical Notice of one who was a distinguished Captain in the little Navy of Virginia, during our revolutionary war. It is indeed only a sketch; but we are sure it will be read with interest, especially as it may serve to throw some new light upon a part of our history which has hitherto been almost entirely overlooked, or at least very imperfectly related.

Commodore James Barron, of the revolutionary State Navy of Virginia, was born at Old Point Comfort, in October 1740. At the time of his birth, his father, Capt. Barron, was commander of the fort which was then at that place, called Fort George, and was living with his family in the Barracks of the garrison, as he continued to do until the memorable hurricane which occurred in 1749. At this period, young Barron was nine years old, and long afterwards used to speak of the hurricane which he dis-

tinctly remembered, as the most terrific and disastrous to the lower part of Virginia that had ever occurred within the memory of any man living. The Barracks in which he was staying with his father at the time, were a long row of wooden buildings with brick chimneys running up through the centre of the roofs, and Capt. Barron, very judiciously, caused all the family, with the officers and soldiers of the garrison, to muster on the second floor, with all the weighty articles they could find; which, it was supposed, kept the houses firm on their foundations, and so preserved the lives of all concerned, many of whom lived to witness a political convulsion in 1775, hardly inferior in violence to that of the elements in 1749. This hurricane, however, entirely destroyed the fortifications of Fort George, and Capt. Barron moved with his family to the upper part of Mill Creek, not far off, where he resided during the remainder of his life.

Boys, in those days, were launched into the business world at a much earlier age than they are at present, and of course the young subject of our narrative began very soon to look about him, and to consider the ways and means by which he might make the voyage of life to the best advantage. The sea presented a ready and never failing source of employment to the youngsters of the time, and it was by no means uncommon to see boys of ten years of age, on board a ship that had made two or three voyages; and the most respectable families in the lower country did not think it at all degrading to send one of their sons to sea, when they had three or four others about the house. Accordingly, about the year 1750, Capt. Barron being now dead, our young boy was taken by Colonel Hunter, then the Navy Agent Victualler, (a title corresponding to that of our Navy Agent,) who was an excellent man, and had been his father's friend; and sent to sea in charge of a Capt. Barrington, who sailed in a fine ship belonging to London, a constant trader to James River. This gentleman also proved a kind friend to our young adventurer, who now made rapid progress in the knowledge of his chosen employment, so much so that in a few voyages he was promoted to be the second mate of the ship. Subsequently, and

before the time of his apprenticeship expired, he had the command of a small vessel belonging to Colonel Hunter, called the Kickotan, in which he sailed for some time; and shortly after the expiration of his minority, he had attained the climax of his highest ambition, by being made the captain of a fine ship.

Thus passed the early life of Commodore Barron, without much variety of incident, until that period when the minds of our countrymen began to be agitated by the proceedings of the mother country, towards her attached colonies. At that time many of the British officers, and others of his Majesty's subjects, were too much in the habit of speaking disparagingly of our country and countrymen, to be borne with by our high-minded Americans, and especially by that portion of them who were most exposed to the taunting arrogance of the British naval officers with whom they were constantly coming in contact on the ocean, and in all our bays and rivers. Among these last was our young Capt. Barron, and in the spring of the year 1774, he gave up the command of a fine ship, belonging to Samuel Guest, Esq., a wealthy and highly respectable merchant of London, to the mate of the ship; but not until he had accompanied her outside of Cape Henry, and entirely satisfied himself that the crew were orderly and desirous to return to England. Some time afterwards he received letters from the owner, which clearly evinced his satisfaction with every part of his Captain's conduct, except that of his espousing the rebel cause; inviting him strenuously to return to his duty to his sovereign, and assuring him that his reward should be the esteem of his English friends, and the command of a fine ship in the transport service. Matters however, had now gone too far to allow the kind feelings of Capt. Barron's friends in England to prevail over what he considered his duty to his country; and with courteous acknowledgments he closed his correspondence with them.

The State Government of Virginia was among the foremost to look to warlike preparations both by sea, (or rather river,) and land. Suitable vessels were sought after, and armed, officered, and manned, for the protection of our craft, and shores, along

the coast of our bays and rivers, where the annoyance of our intercourse with one part of our state and another had become intolerable.

Before any of these vessels were put in commission, Captain Barron had commenced his military career as a Captain of a Minute Company, composed of the young sailors of Hampton, who were numerous at that time, and at the head of that company, was engaged in the action that was fought in the orchard of Mr. Edward Cooper, on the banks of James river, a little to the westward of the mouth of Hampton creek; and also in the action fought at Hampton, with Capt. Squiers's party, which, in the sequel, cost Mr. Cooper his fine house, for, on the following evening, the British who had been driven off, returned with superior force, and burned it to the ground, with the greater part of the furniture in it.

The continuance of the war which had sprung up in this quarter, and which had heretofore been considered as doubtful, seemed now to be certain, and the general cry was "to arms;" but the great difficulty was where shall we find them, or ammunition to render them effective? "Necessity," says the old adage, "is the mother of invention," and we may add, of patience too, for our only resource was to go to work, and build small craft of from 30 to 80 tons burthen, load them with tobacco for the West Indies, and bring home gunpowder, and other articles that were absolutely necessary for immediate use. No man at the present time can form any idea of the wants and sufferings of the people in those days, for the common necessaries of life; yet the Patriots stood firm and true to the cause of Liberty.

Henceforth, whenever the State was free from invasion, the public authorities were as active in preparing the means of defence as our resources would allow; and gradually a fleet of small vessels began to appear in our waters, until at one period of the war there were fifty vessels of all descriptions afloat, and in commission in the service of the State.

During all these movements, Commodore Barron was constantly employed, sometimes on board of one vessel, the schoo-

ner Liberty, &c., at others cruising with small squadrons under his command, (that is after he succeeded to the command of the Virginia State Navy, on the 3rd of July, 1780,) and also serving occasionally as a member of the Board of War, before the government was transferred to Richmond.

I will only add that after the peace in 1783, he continued in command of the only two vessels retained in the service for the protection of the revenue, until the year 1787—when he died—leaving the services he had rendered his country to live after him.

J. B.

NOTE.—We regret that this sketch of Commodore Barron is not as full and particular as we could have wished, and as the writer could certainly have made it. We have some further account of him, however, in a little memoir of the schooner Liberty, by the same hand, which we shall publish in our next number.—[*Ed.*]

THE OLD STOVE.

In the N. Eastern Hall of the Capitol, in this city, near Houdon's noble Statue of the Father of his Country, there stands an interesting relic of other days, which hundreds pass annually without noticing, and which in the course of a few years will yield to the invincible attacks of the great destroyer, whom even iron cannot resist. I allude to the Old Stove, around which are congregated during the winter, the motley purveyors to the public appetite for nuts and ginger-bread, and where may be seen, during the session of the General Assembly, members of either political party mingling harmoniously the fragrant whiffs of their cigars, where perhaps their ancestors "piped it."

This Stove which has manifestly seen better days, purports to have been made by "Buzagio, 1770." It is very capacious, and was obviously constructed for the purpose of warming a large public room. It is very much embellished with grim Lions' heads, through whose mouths pass festoons of flowers, and upon

its front it presents the Royal Coat of Arms of Great Britain, in which are quartered the arms of England, Scotland, France and Ireland, surmounted by the emblem of Virginia—with the motto, "En Dat Virginia Quartam:" the supporters being two men-at-arms in complete armour.

There can be but little doubt that this venerable piece of furniture was procured for the use of the House of Burgesses, before the revolution; that it was removed, in 1779, from Williamsburg to the "Town of Richmond, in Henrico," when the seat of government was transferred from the former place, and that it often administered warmth to the bodies of men whose souls were fired by the eloquence of Patrick Henry, or persuaded by the honied accents of Richard Henry Lee. Can any of your readers, learned in our antiquities, give us any particulars of the Stove? Could it have been made on the Continent, (the name of the maker is Italian,) because the manufacturers of England were then unequal to so great an effort? I pause for a reply.

G. A. M.

THE WAR AGAINST MEXICO.

It is a curious fact that our present war against Mexico is the verification of an old prediction, uttered about two centuries ago. This assertion may seem strange, but it is nevertheless true. In a small pamphlet entitled, "A New Description of Virginia," written in 1648, and published in London in 1649, (of which we have a reprint in the library of our Virginia Historical Society,) we read the following remarkable words:

"But it is well known that our English plantations have had little countenance, nay, that our statesmen (when time was) had store of Gondemore's gold," (Gondemore, or Gondomar, was the Spanish minister at the court of James the First,) "to destroy and discountenance the plantation of Virginia; and he effected it in a great part, by dissolving the Company, wherein most of the nobility, gentry, corporate cities, and most merchants of England, were interested and engaged; after the expense of some hun-

dred of thousands of pounds : for Gondemore did affirm to his friends, that he had commission from his master," (the King of Spain,) "to destroy that plantation. For, said he, should they thrive and go on increasing, as they have done, under that popular Lord of Southampton, my master's West Indies, and his *Mexico, would shortly be visited by sea and by land, from those planters in Virginia.*"

Now it is easy to see how strikingly this prediction has been verified, almost to the letter, in our present hostilities against Mexico; when that ill-starred country has been actually "visited," or invaded, "by sea and by land," by those "planters," or sons of planters, "from Virginia," Taylor and Scott; (with many of their men also,) the first attacking it "by land," near the Rio Grande, and the last, "by sea," at Vera Cruz.

This is certainly a curious coincidence. We do not, of course, consider the prediction as a prophecy; nor do we regard Count Gondomar as a prophet; but only as a wary statesman who looked far ahead into the future, with something of that sagacity that resembles foresight.

It will be observed that the other part of the Count's prediction, which relates to the *West Indies*, remains to be fulfilled. Whether it will be or not, time will shew. We cannot pretend to divine.

NOTE.—We could make out a still stronger case of coincidence, by taking the term "Virginia" in all the latitude of its meaning in the time of James I., when it was almost synonymous with British America, and, embraced a much larger part of our present United States.—(See Mr. Tazewell's notes on the ancient limits of Virginia, in this number of our work.)

CAMPBELL'S HISTORY OF VIRGINIA.*

We regard this work as a valuable contribution to the historic literature of our State. It is not, indeed, what we should

* "Introduction to the History of the Colony and Ancient Dominion of Virginia. By Charles Campbell. Richmond, B. B. Minor. 1847."

call a history, in the full and proper sense of that term, or we might perhaps find some fault with it, especially on the score of its style. But it is simply a book of "Annals," containing brief notices of events in the early and subsequent history of our State, to the close of our revolutionary war, arranged in chronological order, and *jotted* down, as it were, at the time of their occurrence, without comments or reflections;—and, viewed in this light, we think it has much merit. It is, in fact, full of matter, and gives us a good deal of useful and agreeable information—particularly of an antiquarian character—evincing considerable reading and research, with no small degree of personal observation; and fairly entitles its author to his proper praise.

There is an Appendix to the work, containing a Memoir of the Battle of Point Pleasant, by the late Samuel Campbell, M. D. (an uncle of the author,) which was left in manuscript among his papers, and communicated by his son to Mr. C. who has, very properly, published it along with his own work. This is written in a more free and flowing vein, and is highly interesting. We should take pleasure in repeating this article here—as it seems to belong to us—but we have no room for it at present. We must, however, give our readers the following copy of a manuscript letter from the late Colonel Andrew Lewis, of Montgomery county, to the author of the Memoir, (taken from the original in Mr. C.'s possession,) which though plainly written, contains perhaps a still more authentic account of the same affair, is much shorter, and comes more immediately within the scope of our work. It is as follows:

A Letter from the late Colonel Andrew Lewis, of Montgomery, to the late Samuel Campbell, M. D., of Rockbridge, concerning the Battle of Point Pleasant.

"Sir, your letter of the 27th March, I received a few days ago. The extract you mention did not come to hand, which I am sorry for. The whole proceeding relative to the campaign of 1774 was familiar to me some years past, but no doubt some of

it may now escape my memory. So far as I can recollect I will give you.

Governor Dunmore, a Scotchman, was the commander-in-chief. My father, General Andrew Lewis, had the command of all the troops from this quarter. Col. Charles Lewis commanded the Augusta troops; Col. William Fleming the Botetourt troops; Col. William Christian the Montgomery troops; all of which were to rendezvous at what was then called the Big Savannah, at or near the place where Lewisburg now stands [in] Greenbrier. My father and three of my brothers were in the action. John Lewis, his eldest son, commanded a company; Samuel and Thomas were privates. While encamped at the Savannah, General Lewis received orders from Dunmore to meet him at Point Pleasant on the 2nd day of October. Col. Christian's troops had not arrived at the place of rendezvous early enough for my father to comply with his orders. He therefore was compelled to leave Christian's command, with orders for Christian to march on as soon as possible to Point Pleasant, as soon as his troops arrived. General Lewis arrived at Point Pleasant as well as I recollect, on the 2nd day of October, at which place Dunmore never appeared. My father's force was then from 1000 to 1200 men.

The spies were out from the 2nd of October and made no discovery of the enemy. On the morning of the 10th day of October, before day, two men—a Mr. Robinson and another whose name I have forgotten,—started from the encampment so as to get far enough from the camp before it was daylight, to travel off the bells of the packhorses and bullocks, to hunt. Those two men fell in with the Indians up the Ohio. One of them was killed; the other made his escape into camp. General Lewis ordered out his brother, Col. Charles Lewis, with three hundred men, expecting as the spies had made no discovery of the approach of the Indians, that it was a small party, as small parties had been frequently seen watching the movements of the army, from the time it marched from the Savannah. Col. Christian with his command arrived at the camp Point Pleasant on the night of the same day of the action. Col. Charles Lewis had but just passed the out-guard when [he met] the Indians and about sun-rise the action commenced and was one constant peal of firing until about eleven o'clock in the day, when the Indians began to give way. Their retreat was not more than three miles, when night ended the conflict. They were obliged to keep it up until night to get their wounded off. The number of Indians found dead on the battle-ground was between twenty and thirty. They were discovered throwing their dead into the Ohio all the

day. Col. Charles Lewis was wounded early in the action, but did not let his wound be known until he got his line of battle extended from the bank of the Ohio to Crooked creek, a branch of Kanawha. He then asked one of his soldiers to let him lean on him to the camp, and died about twelve o'clock. He had been a very fortunate Indian hunter and was much lamented.

Whether the killed of the Indians were buried or not I cannot say. Col. John Stewart, late of Greenbrier, who commanded a company, and was in the action, wrote a narrative of the expedition, the best which I have seen. I think I had it, but cannot lay my hands on it. In his narrative, as well as every other account, every fifth man in the army was killed or wounded, Col. Charles Lewis killed, Col. William Fleming wounded severely, Capt. Robert McClanahan killed, Capt. Thomas Buford do., John F— do., Col. Fields do., Samuel Lewis wounded slightly. Gen. Lewis had to erect a fort immediately at the junction of the Ohio and Kanawha for the protection of the wounded, the command of which was given to Capt. Arbuckle with his company.

All this time nothing was heard from Dunmore. So soon as the wounded were thus protected, General Lewis crossed the Ohio and marched for the Scioto, where the Cornstalk lived, who was the king of the Shawnees. On Thursday the governor sent several expresses to General Lewis to return. All the army almost had lost relations,—the General a favorite brother. They could not be stopped. After the battle the Indians immediately ran to the Governor. After two or three expresses to stop the army, the governor came himself with two or three Indians with him. General Lewis had to double and tripple the guard over his marquee, to prevent the men from killing the governor and the Indians. The whole force of the Indians was formed on the bank of the Scioto, to give battle if the army could not be stopt. I do not know of any of the chiefs besides the Cornstalk, but the Blue Jacket, a Shawnee chief, who was known to be at the governor's camp on the 9th of October, and in the battle on the 10th. On the day of battle, Dunmore and a Col. O'Connelly were walking together, afterwards a noted tory. The governor observed to him that Lewis had hot work about that time of day. He evidently intended General Lewis' army to be cut off and if you could see Col. Stewart's narrative it would convince you and every other man that the battle at Point Pleasant was the first blood shed in the revolutionary war, and that it was the old Scotch villain's intention to cut off Lewis' army.

Old Col. Shelby and his son, the late governor of Kentucky, were in the battle, but I know nothing, as I never heard that Shelby was sent to outflank the enemy. He was a fine officer, whatever

he was told to do he would execute. The distance from the battle to Dunmore's camp probably ten or twelve miles. General Lewis was never ordered to cross the river, nor was there any treaty made until the spring after the battle. General Lewis held a treaty with them, in which they were bound to keep hostages of their chiefs at the fort Point Pleasant, when the Cornstalk in his capacity as a hostage was inhumanly butchered. I have heard my father often speak of his being the most dignified looking man, particularly in council, he ever saw. I am getting rusty in what passed sixty-six years ago.

Respectfully your ob't serv't,

A. LEWIS.

S. L. CAMPBELL, Esq., M. D.

P. S.—SIR, I could not make a letter fully answer your request. You ask when did General Lewis receive orders to cross the river? He received no orders from the governor after he left the encampment in Greenbrier. So soon as a fort was erected for the protection of the wounded, he crossed the river and marched for the Scioto, where the Shawnees then lived. You ask where the governor's head-quarters were on the day of battle. They were supposed to be ten or twelve miles distant. General Lewis never did arrive at the Governor's head-quarters. There was no treaty made until the spring after the battle when General Lewis held a treaty with the Indians that composed the six nations, Shawnees, Delawares, Mingoos and others. In the treaty made by General Lewis with those nations, they were compelled to keep of their chiefs so many hostages at the fort Point Pleasant, and the Cornstalk their king, while a hostage at the fort, was inhumanly butchered. The fort at first was created merely for the protection of the wounded, but by orders of the State it was thought proper to continue or keep it up for the protection of the frontiers. I cannot say how long it was kept up. I was at Point Pleasant in the fall of 1784. There was but little or no sign of the fort then to be seen.

Yours,

ANDREW LEWIS.

NOTE.—It may be proper to add here that "Col. Stuart's Narrative, mentioned in the above letter, is in the library of our Virginia Historical Society, and has been published by the Society in the only pamphlet it has ever issued.

GENERAL HULL'S MILITARY AND CIVIL LIFE.*

We have read this work with lively interest, and regard it as a very valuable addition to the honest history of our country. It consists of two parts, by two, or perhaps we should say, by three different hands. The first part, relating chiefly to the military services of General Hull in our revolutionary war, it appears, was written mainly by himself, "for the gratification of his children and grand-children," and was prepared for the press by his daughter, who has discharged this duty to the memory of her father, with equal piety and judgment. It contains a series of pleasing sketches of many of the most striking incidents in the campaigns of Washington in the Northern and Middle States, in which the writer, it seems, was actually engaged, in various capacities, as Captain, Major and Colonel—first at the siege of Boston, where he made his military debut, and attracted the notice of the Commander-in-Chief—then (after an interval of honorable service with Gates, in his campaign against Burgoyne,) with his old Commander again, in the memorable battles of the White Plains, Trenton, Princeton, Monmouth and Stony Point—gaining fresh laurels in all—and subsequently at Morrissania, where he reached the acme of his military character in a gallant and successful enterprise planned and executed by himself; winning the applause of Washington, in general orders, and the thanks of Congress, in solemn resolution; which, in those days, was the very crown of fame.

We cannot, of course, in this short notice, follow our leader through all these scenes; but we must say that his accounts of them have all the freshness and spirit of personal narrative, and

* "Revolutionary Services and Civil Life of General William Hull, Prepared from his Manuscripts, by his daughter, Mrs. Maria Campbell; together with the History of the Campaign of 1812, and Surrender of the Post of Detroit; by his Grandson, James Freeman Clarke. New York. D. Appleton & Co., and George Appleton. Philadelphia. 1848."

must be enjoyed by all who read them. We may add, that we are particularly pleased with that strain of natural and unobtrusive piety in the recognition of an overruling Providence, which seems to have formed a distinguished trait in the character of this gallant officer, (as it did in that of Washington;) and which sheds so fine and mellow a light over his pages.

With this estimate of the work, we should like to give our readers some specimens of its contents; but we can afford room for a single sketch only, and even that we must abridge. We take it from the account of the "Capture of Stony Point," which we find in the 16th chapter; and which we must introduce with a few words.

We must ask our readers, then, to remember that the headquarters of General Washington are now (in July 1779,) at New Windsor, a short distance above West Point;—that he has determined to attack the strong fortress of Stony Point, a little higher up the river, and to carry it, if possible, by assault; that he has selected General Wayne to execute his design; and given him a proper detachment of officers and men for the service; that General Wayne has, accordingly, formed his plan—announced it to his troops, whom he has divided into two columns—and issued his orders to them to march against the fort, on the night of the 15th of July, 1779; and they are on their way. We must remember further, while they are so, that "Stony Point," as Marshall writes, "is a commanding hill, projecting far into the Hudson, which washes three fourths of its base. The remaining fourth is in a great measure covered by a deep marsh, commencing near the river, on the upper side, and continuing into it below. Over this marsh there is only one crossing place; but at its junction with the river is a sandy beach, passable at low tide. On the summit of this hill was erected the fort, which was furnished with a sufficient number of heavy pieces of ordnance. Several breast works and strong batteries were advanced, in front of the principal works; and about half way down the hill, were two rows of abatis. The batteries commanded the beach and the crossing place of the marsh, and could rake and enfilade any column which

might be advancing from within those points towards the fort. In addition to these defences, several vessels of war were stationed in the river, so as in a considerable degree to command the ground at the foot of the hill. The fort was garrisoned by about six hundred men, under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel Johnson." (Marshall's Life of Washington.) And now we are ready for the attack—which our author describes as follows :

"About half past eleven o'clock, the two columns commenced their march in platoons. The beach was more than two feet deep with water, and before the right column reached it, we were fired on by the out-guards, which gave the alarm to the garrison. We were now directly under the fort, and closing in a solid column, ascended the hill, which was almost perpendicular. When about half way up, our course was impeded by two strong rows of abattis which the forlorn hope had not been able entirely to remove. The column proceeded silently on, clearing away the abattis, passed to the breastworks, cut and tore away the pickets, cleared the chevaux-de-frieze at the sally port, mounted the parapet, and entered the fort at the point of the bayonet. All this was done under a heavy fire of artillery and musketry, and as strong a resistance as could be made by the British bayonets. Our column on the other side, entered the fort at the same time. Each of our men had a white paper in his hat, which in the darkness distinguished him from the enemy; and the watchword was, '*The fort's our own.*'

"Our troops reached the area of the garrison not having fired a gun, the enemy still firing on us, the men made free use of the bayonet, and in every direction was heard '*The fort's our own.*' We were compelled to continue the dreadful slaughter, owing to the fierce and obstinate resistance of the enemy. They did not surrender until nearly one hundred men were killed and wounded; after which their arms were secured and they were assembled under a strong guard in an angle of the fort, until morning. Major Murfee acted his part with great address, keeping up an incessant fire between the two columns; thus diverting the attention of the assailed from the point of attack. His two companies were the only American troops that fired a gun. In ascending the hill, just after he had passed the abattis, General Wayne was wounded in the head by a musket-ball, and immediately fell. He remained on the spot, until the British surrendered, when some other officers and myself bore him into the fort, bleeding, but in triumph. Three loud and long cheers were

now given, and reverberating in the stillness of night, amidst rocks and mountains, sent back, in echo, a glad response to the hearts of the victors. They were quickly answered by the enemy's ships of war in the river, and by the garrison at Verplank's Point, under the fond belief that the Americans were repulsed.

"Our troops lost no time in collecting the cannon of the garrison, and turning them against the shipping in the river. The officer of the British artillery was requested to furnish the keys of the powder magazine; he hesitated, and said that he only received his orders from Colonel Johnson. He was informed that Colonel Johnson was superseded in command, and that there must be no delay, or the consequences might be unpleasant. The key was produced, the pieces of ordnance loaded, and the news of what had happened sent to the shipping from the mouths of the cannon. Duplicates and triplicates were sent, which appeared to excite a good deal of agitation. They made no return to our fire, and the tide being strong, they slipped their cables, and were carried down by the current.

"In the same manner the intelligence was announced at the fort at Verplank's Point, but no reply was made.

"It has been represented by some historians of the Revolution, that the British were taken by surprise. But the distance from the fort from which our columns were fired upon; the incessant roar of musketry and artillery, while we were ascending the precipice; the condition of the troops when the garrison surrendered, are facts which show that success was owing to the valour, perseverance, and superior physical strength of the assailants. Fifteen Americans were killed, and eighty-three wounded.

"Colonel Johnson, in his return, reports twenty killed of the British, including one officer, and sixty-eight privates wounded. The prisoners amounted to five hundred and forty-three. The following day we were employed in burying the dead. I had two narrow escapes. One ball passed through the crown of my hat, another struck my boot."

The writer adds—what we have read with particular pleasure.

"The following day General Washington came to the fort, and the interesting scene of his arrival is perfectly fresh in my remembrance. I recollect how cordially he took us by the hand, and the satisfaction and the joy that glowed in his countenance. I attended him, with a number of other field officers, General Wayne being prevented by his wound.

"Washington minutely viewed every part of the fortifications. His attention was particularly drawn to those places, where the

two columns ascended the hill, mounted the parapets, and first entered the works. He expressed his astonishment that we had been enabled to surmount the difficulties, and attain our object, with so inconsiderable a loss. AND HERE HE OFFERED HIS THANKS TO ALMIGHTY GOD, THAT HE HAD BEEN OUR SHIELD AND PROTECTOR, AMIDST THE DANGERS WE HAD BEEN CALLED TO ENCOUNTER."

We should now proceed to notice the second part of this work; but we have already exceeded our limits, and must reserve our remarks for another time. In the mean time, however, we must say, that, in our judgment, if any shadow of stain has hitherto rested on the fair fame of General Hull, on account of his surrender of Detroit, this plain narrative of facts, with the documents appended, must now efface it forever.

SKETCHES OF OLD VIRGINIA FAMILY SERVANTS. With a Preface by Bishop Meade. Philadelphia, 1847. 24mo., pp. 126.

A pleasant little book, (written, we understand, by some pious ladies in our neighborhood,) which we have looked into with much pleasure, especially as it is somewhat in our line, and serves to illustrate a point in our history, and a consequent feature is our social system, which has not always been set in so soft a light. We hope the fair writers will pursue the plan they have so happily begun; and give us a few more sketches like these, which, as the Bishop says in his preface, are "both pleasing and edifying," and "serve to show how interesting the relation between master and servant often is;" and, we may add, ought always to be.

MEMOIR OF MISS MARGARET MERCER. By Caspar Morris, M. D. Philadelphia. Lindsay & Blakiston. 1848. 12mo., pp. 213.

This is an interesting account of a remarkable woman, who was distinguished for her piety and talent, and who has done the State much service in her day and generation, especially by training and forming the minds and hearts of many of our most intelligent and accomplished ladies, who loved and honored her while she lived, and now cherish her memory with affectionate

regret. There is but little incident in the book, (though we understand there was a good deal of it in her life, probably of too private a nature to be given to the public;) but the letters are excellent, and display a lofty character. We are particularly pleased with those to Gerrit Smith, of New York, on the subject of slavery, which are written with a force and spirit that we cannot too warmly commend.

LINES ON THE NATURAL BRIDGE.

“The Natural Bridge in the county of Rockbridge to which it has given name, is the most sublime of Nature’s works. It is in the ascent of a hill, *which seems to have been cloven through its length by some great convulsion*. The fissure, just at the Bridge, is by some admeasurements, 270 feet deep, by others only 205. It is about 45 feet wide at the bottom, and 90 at the top. This of course determines the length of the Bridge, and its height from the water,” (a small stream passing under it, called Cedar creek.) “Its breadth in the middle is about 60 feet, but more at the ends, and the thickness of the mass, at the summit of the arch, about 40 feet. A part of this thickness is constituted by a coat of earth, *which gives growth to many large trees*. The residue with the hill on both sides, is one solid rock of limestone. The arch approaches the semi-elliptical form; but the larger axis of the ellipse which would be the cord of the arch, is many times larger than the transverse.” * * * “The view from below is delightful in the extreme. It is impossible for the emotions arising from the sublime, to be felt beyond what they are here: so beautiful an arch, so elevated, so light, and springing as it were up to Heaven! The rapture of the spectator is really indescribable.”

[Jefferson’s Notes on Virginia.]

How grand—how graceful—is that airy arch!
 Crown’d with its living cornice, oak and larch;
 And springing to the sky—divinely fair—
 For Art to view with rapture and despair!

And was it then the Spirit of the Storm,
 Hiding in clouds his miscreated form,

With meteor spear, that smote those rocks aside,
 And bade their startled pediments divide,
 For yonder naiad with her scanty stream,
 To tinkle through? O! this is Fancy's dream.
 'Twas genial Nature made the magic pile,
 And own'd the fabric with a gracious smile.
 I see her now: bright Wisdom sketched the plan,
 And bade her follow as his pencil ran.
 Then calmly conscious of celestial power,
 She took the mass as 'twere a simple flower,
 And gaily threw it o'er the dark ravine,
 To bind the breach, and hallow all the scene.

And so she made it by her sovran will,
 The mighty model of her plastic skill;
 That man may try to imitate in vain,
 Nor she herself shall make its match again.
 Beyond the mystery that Egypt hid
 From after ages in her pyramid,
 And all that Wit hath ever wrought of stone;
 It stands sublime—eternal—and alone!
 Like that bright bow that spans the summer sky;
 To charm the earth till Death himself shall die.

And now, fair Nature, whom I long have wooed,
 And won at last in this wild solitude;
 (As Numa sought his goddess in her grot,
 And found her there in that secluded spot;)
 I fain would blazon this thy work abroad,
 And spread the glory of its maker—God.
 For well I know it was no power of thine;
 But his, that made it, as it is, divine.
 But ah! I feel no language can impart
 The warm emotions of my glowing heart;
 And, lost in wonder, I can only gaze,
 While Silence owns the impotence of Praise!

Richmond.

Various Intelligence.

RICHMOND.

In beginning this part of our work, in which we design to attend more particularly to the present and passing stream of things, we are happy to report that our City, the capital of our Commonwealth, is at this time, in a fair and prosperous state. The weather thus far has been uncommonly mild and genial; and the prospect around us is as smiling as winter can possibly permit. The health of the inhabitants, generally speaking, was hardly ever better. Our population is estimated at about thirty thousand inhabitants, and is rapidly increasing. New buildings are shooting up on all sides to adorn our hills. Many of them are sightly and handsome, and all may embrace much comfort and contentment within. The Capitol which now holds the assembled wisdom of our State, in session, has been repaired in good time, and in very tolerable taste. The new Court-House, too, on the square, is nearly finished, and is already occupied by the courts for whose accommodation it has been provided. The venerable judges of the Court of Appeals are on the bench, in one of its most commodious rooms, with the lawyers before them to aid their researches, and Themis herself unseen, with her even balance, at their side, to dictate and sanction their decisions. So Law shall still be the guardian of our Liberty; and so may our imperial City flourish forever!

THE SOUTHERN LITERARY MESSENGER.

The Southern Literary Messenger for this month, the first in the new year, has just appeared in its usual handsome style. It has gone back, we observe, very properly, to its old title; and seems to be kindling up into something like its old spirit. Some of its former contributors, too, appear to be rallying about it again. We are particularly pleased to greet Lieut. Maury, (of Lucky Bag memory,) coming down from his Observatory where he has been "looking out upon the stars" to good purpose, as his interesting article in this number may serve to show; and we may hope that some others of his social lights will soon follow his track. Some of them, indeed, are gone to brighten other spheres; but a few are still left that may yet enliven its columns. At any rate we shall

trust that the work will now continue to live and flourish under the auspices of its new and promising editor, who has already given us some agreeable proofs of his capacity for the chair.

We may add that we have always felt a lively interest in this periodical from its first establishment by the worthy and indefatigable White; and shall continue to do so as long as it shall continue to pursue its proper, and truly honorable mission, which is to excite, encourage and develop the literary taste and talent of our Southern States.

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

The House of Delegates and the Senate, united again, are now meeting regularly every day; and both bodies seem well disposed to despatch the business of the session, with proper spirit, and in due time. As yet, however, nothing of any special interest has been before them; nor is it yet certain what they will do to promote the great and permanent interests of the State. The subjects of Internal Improvement, and Popular Education, will doubtless claim their attention, in some form or other, and, it may be, in such "questionable shape," that many may feel themselves called upon to "speak to it," or about it; and so we may have able and animated debates at least.

We understand that the important subject of the revision of the Criminal Code is now before the able Committee of Courts of Justice of the House of Delegates, who will report upon it before long; and it is thought that this code will be discussed and digested before the close of the session. The Civil Code, we learn, will hardly be reached before the ides of March.

THE CAMPAIGN.

The preparations for the electioneering campaign of the Spring, are going on, we observe, with great spirit, on both sides. Our daily papers teem with notices of meetings for the appointment of delegates to the Conventions which are about to be held here next month, the Whig on the 23rd, and the Democratic on the 28th. We shall have, no doubt, a lively contest when the time of action comes, for great interests are at stake on the issue; but how it will end, as we are not prophets, but only historians, we shall be able to tell after the event, a little better than we can before it.

WASHINGTON.

We have nothing very important from the City. Congress and the Supreme Court, are of course in session, and important subjects are before them : but in the former at least, though much, as usual, has been said, little or nothing has yet been done. In the Senate, on the 4th inst., Mr. Calhoun made an able and interesting speech, on his resolution, in which he defined his position in relation to the war with great force and spirit ; but the resolution was afterwards laid on the table at his own request. The debate on the Ten Regiment bill is proceeding. In the other house nothing of much importance has yet occurred.

The Great Gaines Case.—This far-famed and highly interesting case has been decided at last in the Supreme Court, and in favor of Mrs. G. The opinion of the court was read by Judge Wayne. The value of the property involved in the case is supposed to be about fifteen millions of dollars. By this decision the title of Mrs. G. is virtually established to the whole of this estate, situated in the City of New Orleans, or consisting in plantations in Louisiana. A writer in one of the papers says :

“The scene in court on the delivery of the decision was a thrilling one, and quite unusual in the presence of that solemn and dignified bench. Messrs. Clay, Webster, Jones, (the latter gentleman was her principal lawyer) and other distinguished members of the bar were present, besides many ladies, who had come to share Mrs. G.’s feelings on the occasion, from all of whom a tide of congratulation poured in upon their victorious friend.

No time was lost in telegraphing the news to the General in New York, who is expected here this week.

Eminent Jurists regard the general results of this suit as of the first importance, both as illustrating the high character and value of this Supreme Judicial Bench, and the dignity and efficiency of the laws in settling the rights of property.”

The Pea-Patch Island Case. The question of the title or ownership of the Pea-Patch Island on the Delaware river, opposite Delaware city, which was referred under the act of Congress, and by the appointment of the President, to the Hon. John Sergeant for argument and decision and which was recently argued before him at Philadelphia, by eminent counsel on both sides, has been decided by Mr. S. in Washington, in favor of the United States. A letter writer adds : “The opinion was very long, and very elaborately drawn, containing many things, of historical interest to the States of Maryland, Delaware, Pennsylvania

and New Jersey, and a mass of information, legal and historical, which will make the opinion valuable as a state paper. It was decided that the Pea-Patch Island originally belonged to the State of Delaware, and not to New Jersey, and that the property in this Island was now vested in the United States under a transfer made by the State of Delaware in 1813."

In the argument, or opinion, many interesting reminiscences were stated connected with the boundaries of Maryland, and of the contests between Wm. Penn and Lord Baltimore under the original grants of territory from the Duke of York."

Scenes in the House of Representatives.—Interesting scenes were presented in the House, to-day, January 13. About one o'clock, Mr. Clay appeared in the Hall, and was cordially greeted by many of the members. Among those who left their seats for the purpose of meeting Mr. Clay, in the lobby, was Ex-President Adams. The meeting between these veteran statesmen was exceedingly pleasing to both, and their warm and mutual congratulations were gratifying to the crowd around.

GREAT BRITAIN.

We have nothing very new or important from Great Britain, or the rest of Europe.

The last steamer, the *Cambria*, arrived at New York on Tuesday evening the 10th inst. brought London papers to the evening of December the 31st and Liverpool to the 1st inst. The news is favorable in almost every particular; but of no great moment, in any respect.

LIBERIA.

We are happy to note here that this highly interesting Colony, so happily established by our American Colonization Society on the Western Coast of Africa, has solemnly declared herself to be a free, sovereign and independent State. We regret that we have no room for the official declaration of the fact, and other proceedings on the occasion; but we congratulate all the friends of the original enterprise yet living upon this auspicious event; which we regard as historically important and interesting in the highest degree. We may add, that we contemplate it with the more satisfaction because we look upon it as intimately connected with the history and honour of our own State, and country.

Literary Intelligence.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE VIRGINIA HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

Adverting to our brief notice of the Annual Meeting of the Society, on the 16th ult., in a former part of this number, we add here some further particulars of the proceedings, for the information of the members, and all concerned.

After the reading of the Report, the Librarian submitted a list of donations and loans of books and manuscripts, which had been made to the Society, by various persons, during the past year, as follows :

DONATIONS.

Washington's Life of Marshall, (1st Edition,) 5 vols. 8vo. ; Gillies' History of the World, 3 vols. 8vo. ; Port Folio, about 20 vols. ; Analectic Magazine, about 10 vols. By *William Maxwell*.

Smith's History of Virginia, (Richmond edition,) 2 vols. 8vo. ; Beverley's History of Virginia, (2nd edition,) 1 vol. 8vo. London, 1722. By *Charles F. Fisher*.

Stith's History of Virginia, 1 vol. 8vo. By *Socrates Maupin*.

Memoir of Mrs. Shuck, 1 vol. 18mo. ; Memoir of A. W. Clopton. By the author, *Rev. J. B. Jeter*.

Literature of American Local History ; 1 vol. 8vo. By *Hermann E. Ludewig, of New York*.

Proces Verbal, &c., or Proceedings at Paris relative to the Bust of LaFayette, Presented to that City, by the State of Virginia. By *Wyndham Robertson, of Abingdon*.

Howison's History of Virginia, vol. 1st, 8vo. By the author, *R. R. Howison*.

Foote's Sketches of North Carolina, 1 vol. 8vo. By the author, *Rev. Wm. H. Foote, of Romney*.

The Bland Papers, 1 vol. 8vo. By *Charles Campbell, of Petersburg*.

Campbell's (J. W.) History of Virginia ; Kerchevall's History of the Valley of Virginia ; Gordon's History ; Neal's History of New England, (London, 1719,) &c., &c., about 20 vols., of various sizes ; also a number of pamphlets, some of them rare and curious. By *T. H. Ellis*.

An Inquiry into the Rights of the British Colonies, and a Letter to the Clergy of Virginia, in Reply to the Answer of the Lord Bishop of

London, to the Lords of Trade and Plantations." By Richard Bland, 1760. By *Thos. P. Atkinson*, of Danville.

Proceedings of the General Court Martial, convened for the trial of Com. James Barron, Capt. Charles Gordon, Mr. Wm. Cook and Capt. John Hall, of the U. S. ship Chesapeake, in the month of January, 1808. By *Com. James Barron*, of Norfolk.

The Laws of North Carolina, an old edition; 1 vol. folio. By *Samuel B. French*.

A Patent for Land from Sir William Berkeley, Governor of Virginia, bearing date August 17th, 1669, in the 21st year of Charles 2nd. By *Jno. R. Thompson*.

Twenty-Seven Letters of General William Phillips, of the British Army, written in 1779, while he was a prisoner of war in Virginia, and addressed to Colonel Theodorick Bland, who had charge of the troops of the Convention. By *Charles Campbell*, of Petersburg.

Select Papers of the late Col. Edward Carrington, of Richmond, containing a number of Letters from distinguished persons, and Documents of a public character, some of them highly interesting. By *S. Maupin*.

LOANS.

Bayle's Historical and Critical Dictionary, 5 vols. folio: 2nd edition, London, 1738. By *Samuel H. Myers*.

The Private Letter Book of Wm. Byrd, the elder, containing a series of Letters from January 7th, 1683, to August 3rd, 1691, in his own hand writing. By *Mrs. Abigail Hopkins*, of Winchester; one of his descendants.

A Private Library has been deposited in the public room of the Society, to be used by the members, as the books of the Society, under the rules and regulations established for the government of the Library, until recalled. By *William Maxwell*.

This library of Mr. M. contains about a thousand volumes; some of them rare and curious, among which are Purchas's Pilgrimage, 1 vol. folio; London, 1617; Beverley's History of Virginia, 1st edition, London, 1705; Keith's History of Virginia, 1 vol. 4to, London, 1738, and Clayton's Flora Virginica, 1 vol. 4to. Lugduni Batavorum, 1762.

Gustavus A. Myers. Thomas T. Giles. Thomas H. Ellis. William B. Chittenden. Benjamin B. Minor. William Maxwell. H. B. Gwathmey. Charles F. Osborne. John H. Cocke. Philip St. George Cocke. Joseph C. Cabell. Wyndham Robertson. Charles Carter Lee.

THE ANNALS OF VIRGINIA.

It is stated in the Report of the Executive Committee of the Virginia Historical Society, in this number, that the Committee are intending to publish a series of annual volumes of Historical Collections, which will consist, in the first instance, of successive numbers of a work entitled "Annals of Virginia," which is being prepared by the Chairman; and as the members of the Society, and others, may perhaps desire to have a little fuller idea of this work than is there given, we add the following further account of it from a communication made by Mr. R. to the Committee, some time ago.

"It occurred to me, some years ago, that a history of the legislation and jurisprudence of the colony to the period of the American revolution, might be interesting not only to Virginians but also to citizens of other States. I could not foresee when I should have time to prepare such a work, but in 1844, I determined to gather materials for the purpose, and in the summer of that year and of 1845, did something towards it. Since then my duties as one of the revisors of the general statutes of the State, have prevented me from giving any further time to the matter.

Such examinations as I made, satisfied me that there was much connected with the general history of Virginia, as well as with the particular subjects before mentioned, which yet remained in manuscript, and much also which though in print was not to be found in Virginia.

A comparison of the History of Virginia, published by Mr. Burk, with the records of what was the Secretary's office, in the colonial times, soon made it manifest that these sources of history, had been very imperfectly, if at all, explored by him. For example, if Mr. Burk had examined those records, instead of saying in relation to the war with the Indians, which he mentions at page 36 of his second volume, that "few particulars of this war have been transmitted to our times, so that the day or even the year of its commencement, is known with little certainty," he would have been enabled to state its time with precision, and the particulars of it with sufficient fulness.

In the library of Congress, and several of the libraries of the Nor-

thern States, I saw many books in relation to the History of Virginia, which had been published at an early period, and of which no copies are to be found in our State. From some of these I had copies, and from others extracts made.

I have also had copies and extracts made from some of the manuscripts in Virginia, and in the library of Congress."

These "copies and extracts" will form the basis of the work and will be connected together by such additions, "in the way of narrative, as may be necessary to present the same in proper order, and preserve the continuity of the whole."

We think we may venture to promise that this work will be by far the most authentic and valuable history of our State which has yet appeared; and we cannot doubt that it will prove very acceptable not only to the members of the Society, but also to the public at large.

NOTE.—It is stated in the Report, that this work will be furnished to all the members of the Society, without charge. This however, we believe, has not been definitively settled by the Committee, so far as relates to those residing in Richmond.

Scientific Intelligence.

ASTRONOMY.

We extract the following interesting passage from Lieut. Maury's Letter to the Hon. John Q. Adams, in the Southern Literary Messenger for this month.

"There never has been, in the history of Astronomy, a period of so much activity and energy as the present. Within the last two years, the names of four new members have been added to the list of planets. (Since this was written another planet has been discovered. Flora is its name, and it is the 8th in the family of Astroids.) Within this time the world has been astonished, and the mightiest intellects in it have considered with admiration the feats that have been performed by men engaged in Astronomical pursuits. The most remote planet known to the system, was subject to perturbations from an unknown cause. The disturbance was far beyond the reach of the unaided eye; and was unknown to telescopic vision. But there were Astronomers living who, for the first time,

undertook to invest mathematical analysis with the space-penetrating power of the telescope. They succeeded in the bold attempt, and from the closet pointed the observer's telescope to the *locus* of the stranger. The circumstances connected with the discovery of the planet Neptune are alone sufficient to stamp the age in which we live, as a remarkable era in the progress of Astronomy. So too with regard to Struve's "Stellar Astronomy" and Mädler's "Central Sun." This object or point, invisible though it be, and *incorporeal* though it may be, has been made to "tremble on the verge of analysis." These illustrious *savans*, with a degree of probability and a force of reasoning, that have every where arrested the attention of Astronomers and challenged the respect of Mathematicians, have shown that the sun, moon and planets, with their train of satellites and comets, are in motion as a *unit*, if I may be allowed the figure, about some grand centre poised in the remote regions of space; and situated in the direction of the Pleiades towards the star Alcyone. Perhaps this point is also the "Central Sun" about which the suns of a thousand other systems hold their way. Our luminary, with its splendid retinue, is computed to revolve about this centre at a rate of not less than thirty millions of miles in a year; yet so remote is it that many millions of our years are required for the completion of one revolution. Here then, indeed, is an "annus magnus" of vast import. In the contemplation of it, may we not regard those comets which dash through our system, never to return, as lights sent from other systems to guide us on our way? Or at least may we not feel assured that they answer wise and useful purposes in the great economy?

I might point to other triumphs of mind over matter, in illustration of the length of line which Astronomers and Mathematicians are casting out, to fathom and explore the regions of space.

Pingre's comet is just now about to make its appearance for the third recorded time, to the inhabitants of the earth. On the occasion of each of its former visits, it carried terror and dismay to the minds of Kings and Princes. In 1264, it was regarded as a messenger charged with the execution of sentence of death upon Pope Urban IV.

At its next return, the Emperor Charles V. of Spain, wrote of it, "*His ergo indiceis me mea fata vocant.*" It is said that he resigned his crown to prepare for the dread summons.

It has now been gone for another period of near three hundred years, and is soon to come back provided with an "arming" which will be as significant to the Astronomer of what it has encountered in the depths of

space, as is of the depths of the ocean, the sand to the mariner which adheres to his lead.

But so far from its expected appearance, in 1848, being cause of dread and alarm to Powers and Potentates, its coming is looked for even by the multitude, with a degree of eager interest and will be hailed with pleasure and delight in many lands.

From a mysterious messenger, bringing tidings of a dreadful, potent and awful calamity to a terror-stricken world, Astronomy by its progress has changed in the minds of men the character of comets: they have been made obedient to law, subservient, instructive and useful to man, in his upward and onward progress. They teach important truths, and assist to reveal the secrets of nature."

THE COMET.

In the year 1264, a comet of great size and brilliancy appeared in Europe, with a tail extending more than half way across the heavens, and of a surprising magnitude. Its track was noted, and a rough computation of the elements of its orbit made. In 1556, another great comet appeared and attracted general attention. Paul Fabricius, an Austrian mathematician, made observations upon it, from which Halley computed its orbit. On a comparison it was found that a great resemblance existed between the elements of the orbits of the two comets, and the opinion is entertained by some of the learned that they are one and the same body, revolving round the sun once in 292 years. If this conclusion is just, the return of this far wandering member of the star family cannot be far distant, as it ought to reach its perihelion, or nearest distance from the sun, some time this year. Professor Madler of Dorpat is of opinion that it may be looked for during this month and the next. This comet is computed to pass out from the sun about twelve thousand millions of miles, being more than double the distance of Neptune. "Thus," adds Professor Mitchel, from whose interesting journal this account is derived, "these comets of long period seem to bind our own time, with the centuries that are passed, more directly than any other means in nature. The year 1264, six centuries ago, seems separated from us by a vast period; but in gazing on a comet which has performed but two revolutions since 1264, the lapse of time sinks to two simple units, and the past is brought close to the present."

Miscellany.

THOUGHTS.

"A man," says Sir Walter Raleigh, "must first govern himself ere he be fit to govern a family, and his family ere he be fit to bear a part in the government of the Commonwealth."

"If a man," says Lord Bacon, "meditate upon the universal frame of nature, the earth with men upon it, the divineness of souls excepted, will not seem much other than an ant hill, whereas some ants carry corn, and some carry their young, and some go empty, and all to and fro a little heap of dust."

"Good intentions," says Sir William Temple, "are at least the seed of good actions; and every man ought to sow them, and leave it to the soil and the seasons whether they come up or no, and whether he or any other gather the fruit."

A REFLECTION ON A REFLECTION.

Is there any thing finer in its way, than this old epigram, written by some one, on seeing himself in his looking glass ?

When I revolve this evanescent state,
How fleeting is its form, how short its date ;
My being and my stay dependent still,
Not on my own, but on another's will ;
I ask myself, as I my image view,
Which is the real shadow of the two.

VIRGINIA'S JEWELS.

Cornelia's jewels, as the story runs,
Her dearest treasures, were her noble *sons*;
But thine, Virginia, still more bright and rare,
Thy jewels are thy *daughters*—good and fair.

Richmond.

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TO CORRESPONDENTS.

As it is obvious that a work like this must require the co-operation of many hands, we invite our friends and all who may feel any interest in our object, to favor us with such contributions as come within the scope of our design. At the same time, we must beg them to remember, that, generally speaking, their communications must be brief; as we must always endeavor to make our pages as various as possible

THE
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NO. II.

CAPTAIN SMITH'S REMARKS
ON THE
PLANTATION OF VIRGINIA.

We have before us a reprint of an old and rare pamphlet written and published by "our Captaine," Capt. John Smith himself, in 1631, some years after his return to England from his voyage to Virginia, where he had succeeded in planting the germ of our future State at Jamestown; which we have read with great interest. It is entitled "Advertisements for the Unexperienced Planters of New England, or Any Where; or, the Pathway to Experience to Erect a Plantation; By Captaine John Smith, Sometimes Governour of Virginia, and Admirall of New England. London. 1631 :"

and consists, for the most part, of a number of good counsels and hints to the Colonists who were then about to embark for the new settlements which had been recently effected at New Plymouth, and other places in New England; but contains also, incidentally, some remarks on the "misprisions," or mistakes, of the "wise men" of the Virginia Company, and others, who had engaged in the prior enterprise of planting a colony on our Southern shore. These remarks, the results of his experience here, are generally stamped with that sound sense and practical wisdom for which the author was justly distinguished, and seem to be, fairly and properly, a part and parcel of the materials for a full history of our State, which we are intending to collect, by degrees, in our work. We have, accordingly, separated them from the rest of the matter in the publication, which does not immediately concern us, and

now lay them before our readers for their consideration, and, for the present, without any comment of our own.

Now they take not that course the *Virginia* company did for the Planters there, their purses and lives were subject to some few here in *London* who were never there, that consumed all in Arguments, Projects, and their owne conceits, every yeere trying new conclusions, altering every thing yearely as they altered opinions, till they had consumed more than two hundred thousand pounds, and neere eight thousand mens lives.

It is true, in the yeere of our Lord 1622. they were about seven or eight thousand English indifferently well furnished with most necessaries, and many of them grew to that height of bravery, living in that plenty and excesse, that went thither not worth any thing, made the Company here thinke all the world was Oatmeale there, and all this proceeded by surviving those that died, nor were they ignorant to use as curious tricks there as here, and out of the juice of Tabacco, which at first they sold at such good rates, they regarded nothing but Tabacco, a commodity then so vendable, it provided them all things: and the loving Salvages their kinde friends, they trained so well up to shoot in a Peece, to hunt and kill them fowle, they became more expert than our owne Country-men, whose labours were more profitable to their Masters in planting Tabacco, and other businesse.

This superfluity caused my poore beginnings scorned, or to be spoken of but with much derision, that never sent Ship from thence fraught, but onely some small quantities of Wainscot, Clap-board, Pitch, Tar, Rosin, Sope-ashes, Glasse, Cedar, Cyresse, Blacke Walnut, Knees for Ships, Ash for Pikes, Iron Ore none better, some Silver Ore, but so poore it was not regarded; better there may be, for I was no Mineralist, some Sturgion, but it was too tart of the Vinegar, which was of my owne store, for little came from them which was good; and Wine of the Countries wilde Grapes, but it was too sowre, yet better than they sent us any: in two or three yeeres but one Hogshead of Claret. Onely spending my time to revenge my imprisonment upon the

harmlesse innocent Salvages, who by my cruelty I forced to feed me with their contribution, and to send any offended my idle humour to *Iames* towne to punish at mine owne discretion; or keepe their Kings and subjects in chaines, and make them worke. Things cleane contrary to my Commission; whilst I and my company tooke our needlesse pleasures in discovering the Countries about us, building of Forts, and such unnecessary fooleries, where an Eggeshell (as they writ) had beene sufficient against such enemies; neglecting to answer the Merchants expectations with profit, feeding the Company onely with Letters and tastes of such commodities as we writ the Country would afford in time by industry, as Silke, Wines, Oyles of Olives, Rape, and Liused, Rasons, Prunes, Flax, Hempe, and Iron, as for Tabacco, wee never then dreamt of it.

Now because I sent not their ships full fraught home with those commodities, they kindly writ to me, if we failed the next returne, they would leave us there as banished men, as if houses and all those commodities did grow naturally, only for us to take at our pleasure, with such tedious Letters, directions, and instructions, and most contrary to that was fitting, we did admire how it was possible such wise men could so torment themselves and us with such strange absurdities and impossibilities, making Religion their colour, when all their aime was nothing but present profit, as most plainly appeared, by sending us so many Refiners, Goldsmiths, Jewellers, Lapidaries, Stone-cutters, Tabacco-pipe-makers, Imbroderers, Perfumers, Silkemen, with all their appurtenances, but materialls, and all those had great summes out of the common stocke: and so many spies and super-intendents over us, as if they supposed we would turne Rebels, all striving to suppress and advance they knew not what; at last got a Commission in their owne names, promising the King custome within seven yeares, where we were free for one and twenty, appointing the Lord *De-la-ware* for Governour, with as many great and stately officers, and offices under him, as doth belong to a great Kingdome, with good summes for their extraordinary ex-

pences; also privileges for Cities, Charters, for Corporations, Universities, Free-schools, and Glebe-land, putting all those in practice before there were either people, students, or schollers to build or use them, or provision and victuall to feed them were then there: and to amend this, most of the Tradesmen in *London* that would adventure but twelue pounds ten shillings, had the furnishing the Company of all such things as belonged to his trade, such jugling there was betwixt them, and such intruding Committies their associats, that all the trash they could get in *London* was sent us to *Virginia*, they being well payed for that was good. Much they blamed us for not converting the Salvages, when those they sent us were little better, if not worse, nor did they all convert any of those we sent them to *England* for that purpose. So doating of Mines of gold, and the South Sea, that all the world could not have devised better courses to bring us to ruine than they did themselves, with many more such like strange conceits; by this you may avoid the like inconveniences, and take heed by those examples, you have not too many irons in the fire at once, neither such change of Governours, nor such a multitude of Officers, neither more Masters, Gentlemen, Gentlewomen, and children, than you have men to worke, which idle charge you will find very troublesome, and the effects dangerous, and one hundred good labourers better than a thousand such Gallants as were sent me, that could doe nothing but complaine, curse, and despaire, when they saw our miseries, and all things so cleane contrary to the report in *England*, yet must I provide as well for them as for my selfe.

This the Mariners and Saylers did ever all they could to conceale, who had alwayes both good fare, and good pay for the most part, and part out of our owne purses, never caring how long they stayed upon their voyage, daily feasting before our faces, when wee lived upon a little corne and water, and not halfe enough of that, the most of which we had from amongst the Salvages. Now although there be Deere in the woods, Fish in the rivers, and Fowles in abundance in their seasons; yet the

woods are so wide, the rivers so broad, and the beasts so wild, and wee so unskilfull to catch them, wee little troubled them nor they us : for all this our letters that still signified unto them the plaine truth, would not be beleaved, because they required such things as was most necessary : but their opinion was otherwayes, for they desired but to packe over so many as they could, saying necessity would make them get victuals for themselves, as for good labourers they were more usefull here in *England* : but they found it otherwayes ; the charge was all one to send a workman as a roarer, whose clamors to appease, we had much adoe to get fish and corne to maintaine them from one supply till another came with more loyterers without victuals still to make us worse and worse, for the most of them would rather starve than worke ; yet had it not beene for some few that were Gentlemen, both by birth, industry, and discretion, we could not possibly have subsisted.

Many did urge I might have forced them to it, having authority that extended so farre as death : but I say, having neither meat, drinke, lodging, pay, nor hope of any thing, or preferment ; and seeing the Merchants onely did what they listed with all they wrought for, I know not what punishment could be greater than that they indured ; which miseries caused us alwaies to be in factions, the most part striving by any meanes to abandon the Country, and I with my party to prevent them and cause them stay. But indeed the cause of our factions was bred here in *England*, and grew to that maturity among themselves that spoyled all, as all the Kingdome and other nations can too well testify : Yet in the yeare 1622. there were about seven or eight thousand *English*, as hath beene said, so well trained, secure, and well furnished, as they reported and conceited. These simple Salvages their bosome friends, I so much oppressed, had laid their plot how to cut all their throats in a morning, and upon the 22d. of March, so innocently attempted it, they slew three hundred forty seven, set their houses on fire, slew their cattell, and brought them to that distraction and confusion within lesse than a yeare,

there were not many more than two thousand remaining: the which losse to repaire the company did what they could, till they had consumed all their stocke as is said; then they broke, not making any account, nor giving satisfaction to the Lords, Planters, Adventurers, nor any, whose noble intents had referred the managing of this intricate business to a few that lost not by it; so that his Majesty recalled their Commission, and by more just cause: then they perswaded King *James* to call in ours, which were the first beginners without our knowledge or consent, disposing of us and all our indevours at their pleasures.

Notwithstanding since they have beene left in a manner, as it were, to themselves, they have increased their numbers to foure or five thousand, and neere as many cattell, with plenty of Goats, abundance of Swine, Poultry and Corne, that as they report, they have sufficient and to spare, to entertaine three or foure hundred people, which is much better than to have many people more than provision. Now having glutted the world with their too much over-abounding Tabacco: Reason, or necessity, or both, will cause them, I hope, learne in time better to fortifie themselves, and make better use of the trials of their grosse commodities that I have propounded, and at the first sent over: and were it not a lamentable dishonour so goodly a Countrey after so much cost, losse, and trouble, should now in this estate not bee regarded and supplied.

GREEN SPRING.

The country above Jamestown bordering on the James and Chickahomony rivers, was originally called *Paspahé*; and was inhabited by a small tribe of Indians called *Paspahes*. The indignity offered to their Chief by Captain Smith was but a prelude to the *writ of ejectment* which soon followed. Five miles from

Jamestown, and two miles north of James river, a location was made in the territory of the degraded king, and near to a *spring* noted for its uncommonly cold water, and for the freshness of the *verdure* about it, (whence the name,) a site was selected, and a mansion erected for the accommodation of the representative of the *British King*. This was built of bricks made near the spot, and contained, (as we learn from an old inventory,) six rooms, as many closets, a spacious hall, and two passages, with garret rooms; and here Sir William Berkeley, the royal Governor, who came over in 1641, was to reside.

A mansion, however, in those days, as in these, was held good for nothing without a mistress to preside in it; and Sir William who had brought no lady over with him, on looking about for one, was captivated by a young widow of the neighboring county of Warwick, a certain "dame Frances Stevens," who at his earnest suit consented to exchange her mourning weeds for a "wedding garment," and the agreeable title of "Lady Berkeley;" and so the establishment was completed.

Here, then, we may presume, the gentle knight, with his lady fair, would show his courtesy and hospitality, and entertain the gentlemen Burgesses, and others, in the fashionable style of the day. And here too, of course, they would both naturally welcome the ladies from Jamestown and the neighborhood; and if we had been living at the time we might, no doubt, have seen a little party of them, now and then, sitting in the hall, or rambling about under the trees, and gathering flowers along the walks.

But Sir William, after a residence of thirty-two years in the colony, returned home to England, and died there, leaving all his estate in Virginia to his widow, who continued to reside in the mansion at Green Spring. And Green Spring was still a pleasant place; but *the lords of the forest* yet hovered about the premises, and looked occasionally as if they would like to have their old land back again. Lady Berkeley had no children to protect her, and keep her company; her situation was both peri-

lous and uncomfortable ; and her late husband's secretary, Philip Ludwell, a widower, with two daughters, and a son, was a near neighbor ; there was soon found to be a mutual attraction between them ; and Mr. Ludwell very gladly exchanged his solitary residence at Rich-Neck for a more agreeable one at Green Spring, where he now appeared as the husband of " Frances Lady Berkeley," who though she gave him her hand and heart and her whole estate, on the marriage, still retained her old name of " Lady Frances Berkeley," only adding an *alias* of " Ludwell" to it ; and so kept her title all her days.

R. R.

CAPT. BYRD'S LETTERS.*

Capt. William Byrd, the writer of these Letters, some of which we are about to lay before our readers, and the father of the more celebrated Col. William Byrd, of Westover, was born in London in the year 1653, or thereabouts, and came over to our colony, as we suppose, some time about the year 1674, where he seems to have commenced doing business as a merchant, and perhaps planter also, at or near the Falls of James River, somewhere about the ruins of an old fort, called Fort Charles, and on the very ground which is now the site of our city of Richmond. Thus, we read in Hening, that the Grand Assembly having declared war against the Indians, in 1675-6, enacted that " fifty-five men out of James City County" should " be garrisoned neare the ffalls of James River, at *Capt. Byrd's*, or at one ffort or place of defence over against him at Newlett's, (or Howlett's,) " of which ffort Lieut. Coll. Edward Ramsay be Captaine or chiefe commander." (Hen. Stat. at Large: vol. 2nd, p. 328.) And subsequently we read in the same work, in another Act of Assembly, passed in April 1679, in the 31st year of Charles II: that, " forasmuch as Capt. William Bird, of Henrico county, hath made offer

* The Private Letter Book of Capt. Wm. Byrd, containing a series of Letters from January 7th, 1683. to August 3rd, 1691, in his own hand writing : in the Library of the Virginia Historical Society.

to seate at or neare the head of James river," a small company of men for the protection of the frontier against the Indians, upon certain terms and conditions which were deemed reasonable and fair, the Grand Assembly, accordingly, granted him a tract of land thereabouts, described as "beginning on the South side of James river one mile and halfe below the ffalls, and so continueing five miles up the river in a straight lyne, and backwards one mile into the woods, and on the north side of the said river, beginning halfe a mile before the falls, and thence continueing five miles up the river and two miles backwards into the woods, *all which he accompts and presumes to be his owne lands;*" (including nearly the whole of our present Richmond.) "And that the said Captain William Bird stand bound and obliged, and he doth hereby promise and become bound and obliged to seate all the whole number of fifty able men, soe armed and constantly furnished with sufficient ammunitiion and provisions, together with such number of other tythable persons, not exceeding two hundred and fifty in the whole, on both sides the said river within the space of halfe a mile along the river in a straight line, and a quarter of a mile backwards into the woods." And the right honorable the Governour (then Sir Henry Chicheley) was empowered and requested to grant a patent to the said Capt. William Bird, accordingly, and to give him a commission to be "commander in chiefe within the bounds and lymitts of the land before mentioned, and over the said priviledged persons :"—(Hen. Stat. at Large, Vol 2d, p. 453-4)—all which, we may presume, was done.

Here, then, we suppose, he proceeded to build his house, called Belvidere, still extant, on the brow of a hill, (a little beyond the Penitentiary,) facing the canal and river, and making it, probably, after the fashion of the time, a sort of fortress against the Indians. Here, too, it seems, he had a store, or warehouse, not far off, (probably somewhere about where the Exchange now stands,) and a mill on Shockoe creek below.

From this place it is (for the most part,) that he writes his Letters, which give us incidentally some further information concerning him; as that he was a merchant, a shipper of tobacco, a trader with the Indians, (as well as a Captain against them,) and a burgess from Henrico, attending the Grand Assembly at Jamestown, in that character, for several years: all which matters, with some others, will more pleasantly appear from the letters themselves.

We will only add, that the Letters are plainly and familiarly written, without any pretension; and we publish these few of them, taken here

and there from the book, only for the sake of the light which they shed so agreeably upon the social history of our State.

LETTERS.

Virginia, Jan'y, 1683.

To Mr. NORTH, per PAPPER.

Sir,—Yours by Bradley, Papper and Culpeper, were rec'd, and I was in hopes to have heard from you by Wynne ere this, but hope it will not bee long ere hee arrives. These accompany Capt. Papper,—fifty Hhds of Tobacco as pr Bill of Lading and Invoice inclosed as may appear. Tobacco this year doth not prove so kind as was expected, much being utterly destroyed by the Gust in Aug., and much more Spoiled after it was packed in Caske, but doubt not but mine may do as well as any.

I have a Considerable quantity of Deerskins by mee but doe not venture to send them till the Gôvernor arrives. All our friends here are in health and give you their best respects and service, which please to accept to yourself and Lady from

Your humble servant

W. B.

Virginia, Feb'y the 25th, 1683.

To PERRY & LANE, per ship Culpeper,

Gentlemen,—Yours by Capt. Ruds was lately received, and I was in hopes to have seen my accounts ere this; but having no news of them, I have adventured to send an Invoice for a Considerable Cargoe of English Goods, (having sent over for most of my Indian Trucke per Papper,) but with this Proviso that unlesse Tobacco gives considerable encouragement more than last year, I would not have above two-thirds at most of what I now send for, but for Indian Goods I would have all formerly wrote for. This I hope will come safe to your Hands by the Culpeper

with 109 Hhds of Tobacco and —— of furs, I wish they may find a good markett.

What you proposed about the Ship, I have long since given my result per the Dolphin, which I hope may answer your Expectation being (as I am informed) the first that this year went out of the Capes for Europe, and might have been sooner dispatched had hee had more men and conveniences to fetch Tobacco on board, and not so much worke to have done to his ship. The Spareing a man or two I conceive is no profit to a Ship thats certain of a ready Ladeing.

I have had many complaints of my Duffields and Cotton this year, and must confesse some of it was the worst I ever saw, and had not been vendible had it not been for the Scarcity of those commoditys at present.

Capt Tibbet has been in above this fortnight, but no news of any letters. I am now straightened in time being but last night returned from Gloster where I have been to wait on our New Governor, who summoned the Council to attend him the 21st past. There will be an Assembly held at James Towne in Aprill next, which I wish may proceed more for the Country's interest than formerly.

I shall not trouble you with any thing about our Crops this last year, it being so variously reported here what was made in Maryland, some affirming they had made very considerable Crops and good Tobacco, whilst others say they never made worse or lesse since that Province was seated. A little time will more certainly resolve you.

If you could send me Six, Eight or Ten Servants (men or lusty boys) by the first Ship, and the procuration might not bee too dear, they would much assist in purchasing some of our best crops they seldome being to bee bought without Servants. If you could help mee to a Carpenter, Bricklayer or Mason, I would willingly pay somewhat Extraordinary. I shall not trouble you farther at present, but with respects and Service take leave.

I am Gentlemen

Your reall friend and Servt

W. B.

Virginia, Feby. 26th, 1683.

TO FATHER HORSMONDEN, Per T. Grendon in the Culpeper,

Worthy Sir, I am very sorry wee have been so unfortunate this year as not to receive one letter from you or my brother Daniell, but expect by Colonel Ludwell whom I wish well in,—Hee was not arrived the 21th instant on which day I was to wait on our new Governor who with all the rest of the Ships except that Col. Ludwell is in, have been in above this fortnight. The Council mett the aforesaid day, and an Assembly was agreed on to commence the 16th of April next.

I was lately advised by Mr. Coe that Will was on your desire lately removed into Essex near you, much to our Satisfaction since wee cannot doubt his wellfare whilst hee is under your eye. Wee also understand that little Sue was at last got safe into Essex to her Grandmother. My wife on Michaelmasse day last was brought to bed of another girle christened Mary. They are both and little Nutty (I thanke God) in good health.

My Lady Berkeley was last weeke very well.

All our friends here are in health and give you their best respects and Service. Please to give mine where it is due, and our blessings to our Children, and please to accept our Duty to yoursele and my mother, with hearty thanks for all your favors from

Worthy Sir

Your Obedient Son and Servant

W. B.

James City in Virginia, Aprill the 25th, 1684.

TO THOMAS GRENDON, per Zack Tailor.

Dear Sir,—This I hope will come to your Hands to congratulate your safe arrivall in England, haveing little news to send, all being well at your House. The General Assembly is now sitting, and your neighbour Hill Speaker. I hope all things will go on smoothly.

Old Sturdivant, his Son, Millner Shipy, Womacke, and Hugh

Cassell were all killed by the Indians in their returne from the Westward, about 30 miles beyond Ochanechee. What prejudice it is to mee you may guesse, they having (had they come well in) made a very advantageous journey. On Easter Monday I spoke with 50 Seneca Indians about 12 miles above my House; they have promised to behave themselves hereafter very peaceable towards the English. I shall not trouble you farther at present, but with my best respects and Service to yourselfe and all our friends, wishing all health and prosperity, I am, Sir,

Your reall friend and Servant,

W. B.

Jack Warren and Will Randolph our worthy Burgesses frequently drinke your health.

Pray be mindfull of my Shoes and Boots &c.

Virginia May the 20th 1684.

To MR. NORTH per Wynne,

Sir, I wrote lately to you by Zack Tailor from James Towne, wherein I sent an Invoice for some Indian trucke, and have now inclosed sent one for some English goods. Pray if money dont hold out abate in the quantity. I hope you will herewith safely receive per Capt Wynne 78 Hhds of Tobacco and 2 of Skins, allso Hides. I had shipped 87 Hhds of Tobacco on board, but his men had damnified 6 of them, which they owne and hee hath allowed mee for them. I wish you may find no more so. Inclosed is the bill of Ladeing and Invoice, allso a note for the Hides, and a small bill of Exchange of Jack Wymeses. I have charged one more on you payable to James Bray Esq for £14 which pray pay with that I charged formerly to John Herbert. Allso pray pay my Grandmother her annuity, and Mr. Coe what hee is out for mee. The planting trade goes on apace, here haveing been continuall rains allmost these three weeks.

All our friends here are in health and give you their best respects and Service, and pray accept of mine with my wife's to yourselfe and Lady, and give my respects to all where they are due.

I am Sir

Your friend and servant, .

W. B.

What goods you send mee, let mee have them before X mas if it may bee, I being much prejudiced this year by Wynnes coming so late.

Virginia, May the 20th, 1684.

To FATHER HORSMONDEN per Wynne.

Worthy Sir,—Yours by Colonel Ludwell I received which gave us great Satisfaction to understand of yours and our little ones wellfare, which pray God continue. My wife, two girls, and all our friends are in health except my Lady Berkeley, who continues very much indisposed.

Our Assembly is yett sitting, and my Lord Baltimore is now at James Towne to pay a visit to our Governor who hitherto hath given a generall satisfaction. About a week since, here was a rumor about the Indians, by which means I was sent Home and therefore can give you no particular account of the proceedings at Towne.

Here is likelihood of forward Crops, haveing been allmost continuall rains these three weeks ; which makes us in some fear of a fresh, which God avert.

Pray Sir give our best respects and service to all where they are due, and our blessings to our Children, and accept of our duty to yourselfe and mother from

Worthy Sir

Your Obedient Son and Serv't

W. B.

(To be Continued.)

THE MAIL IN 1738.

[From the Virginia Gazette, of April, 1738.]

Alexander Spotswood, Esq., sole deputy postmaster general of America, having lately formed a new regulation for carrying on the several Post Stages with greater expedition and certainty than hitherto; this is to advertise the publick thereof; and that by this regulation, the several stages will be performed, as follows, viz. the Post is to set out from the general Post office at New Port, on Wednesday, the 26th Inst., to cross over Potowmack that night, and arrive at Annapolis on Friday; there he is to make some stop, and then proceed to Susquehanna, where he is to arrive on Saturday night; and exchange mails with the Philadelphia rider, who is there to meet him: the Monday following, he is to return to Annapolis, and arrive at Potowmack on Tuesday night, from whence, the mail is to be brought to New Port, on the Wednesday, and the next morning set out for Williamsburg where it is to arrive on Saturday. Riders are engaged so conveniently, that no Posthorse is to cross Potowmack, or Susquehanna, by which means, the mail will pass much more certain than usual, it having been often retarded before, by bad weather, when it was impossible for a horse to pass these wide ferries, so that the Post will, for the future, regularly arrive at Williamsburg every Saturday. And in order to extend the Postoffice still further Southward, Col. Spotswood has been pleased to grant a commission to William Parks, the printer of this paper, to carry on a stage from Williamsburg to Edenton, in North Carolina, which is to be performed once a month, winter and summer. The stage is already begun, and the Post is to set out again from Williamsburg on Monday the 8th May, to go over Hog Island ferry; from thence to Nansemond Court-House, thence to Norfolk Town, and from thence to Edenton, where he is to stay one night, and then return the same way back again, and so continue the Stage, regularly, once a month. All persons who have letters to send Southward of Williamsburg are desired to deliver them to William Parks.

April 21st, 1738.

NOTE.—New Port, is on Massaponax creek, a few miles below Fredericksburg.

R. R.

THE PORTRAIT OF LORD CHATHAM.

Shortly after the opening of the late session of the General Assembly, we heard it announced in conversation, that the great Portrait of Lord Chatham, by Sir Joshua Reynolds, had at last arrived from Westmoreland, and had been duly installed in the State Library; and we felt, of course, a strong desire to see it. A Portrait of Lord Chatham, thought we, and by Sir Joshua Reynolds!—of such a man—and by such an artist!—it must be worth looking at—and we must see it at once. Accordingly, we hastened over to the Capitol, and mounting the steps and stairs with rather more than our usual alacrity, we entered the Library; and there it was before us—the *effigies*, or rather, we should say, the *apparition* of Lord Chatham—“but oh how changed from *him*” (if it ever was like him,) and indeed from *itself*—for the picture had manifestly suffered a great deal from time and rough usage together, and whatever it had been, was now but a poor relic, and rather “a sorry sight.” It is true the figure was not bad, and the attitude was somewhat imposing; for the orator is represented as standing in the House of Lords, and uttering perhaps his famous speech in behalf of America, with his right hand properly extended, and his left hand, holding “Magna Charta,” hanging down by his side, well enough; but the head—poor and common-place, with a low forehead ornamented with gray curls, (meant no doubt to be Roman and classical,) instead of a good old-fashioned British wig; and the face, not glowing with fire and spirit, as it ought to have been, but pale and ghastly as it might have looked after the fainting-fit in the House, (though that was on a subsequent occasion,) and altogether tame and insipid. We really could not bear to look at it. *That*, said we to ourselves, the great Lord Chatham—the patriot Statesman—the matchless Secretary—the more than Demosthenes of the British Senate, whose eloquence “resembled sometimes the thunder, and sometimes the music of the spheres!” Impossible. We cannot believe it. It is so different from all the prints of him

that we have seen, and so abhorrent from the model of him in our own mind, which we are sure *must* be right, that we cannot credit it for a moment—and we will not. In short, we could not look upon such a “counterfeit presentment,” with any patience, and barely glancing at the conceits with which the artist had undertaken to embellish his piece—the altar supported by the busts of Hampden and Sidney, with the fire of liberty burning upon it, and Britannia advancing with a helmet, or something like it, to extinguish the flame, and all the rest;—we left the poor figment to itself, and came away.

After this, we naturally felt some little curiosity to ascertain the true history of this painting; and applying to our friend R—who happened to be in town, and who is our oracle in such matters, he readily gave us all the information we wanted. “Why,” said he, “the picture was painted many years ago, by a young tyro, of Annapolis, by the name of Peele, (the father, I believe, of all the school of painters of that name,) who was sent over to London by some gentlemen, to learn the art; and I will send you some extracts from the old Virginia Gazette of the time, which will tell you all about it.” We received the extracts, accordingly, a few days afterwards; and we now lay them before our readers, as follows:

From the Virginia Gazette of April 20th, 1769.

Williamsburg, April 20.

A fine painting of the Right Hon. the Earl of CHATHAM, subscribed for by the Gentlemen of Westmoreland, is just arrived, to be put up in the courthouse of that county. It is the performance of one Mr. Peele, a young Marylander (to whom his Lordship sat for his picture) who some years ago was bound apprentice to a saddler in Annapolis; but discovering a very great genius for painting, he was sent to England, by the contribution of some Gentlemen, to be instructed in that art. The piece is original, though little resembling the prints we have seen of that Nobleman. His countenance appears full of fire and expression, and he looks as if he was waiting for an answer to some

forcible argument he had just used, being represented in the habit of a Roman orator speaking in the Forum. His right hand is extended naked to the elbow, his left hanging down, and holding Magna Charta. Close by him stands an altar, supported by the busts of Sidney and Hampden, with the flame sacred to Liberty burning bright on it; and on one side a garland, wreathed over the head of Hampden. On the back ground the palace of Whitehall, and the window where Charles I. was brought out to be beheaded, are discovered; and somewhat near the statue of Britannia, with the cap of Liberty, treading upon the Congress at New York, the American addresses, &c.

From the Virginia Gazette of Thursday, Oct. 19th, 1769.

Westmoreland, Sept. 28, 1769.

MR. RIND,—I never yet have seen, nor till lately ever knew of your publication, concerning the picture of Lord CHATHAM presented to the Gentlemen of this county by EDMUND JENNINGS, Esq., of London. I understand you mention this picture as obtained by subscription, when the truth is, that the generous attachment of Mr. JENNINGS to liberty, his native country, and their great defender, influenced him, at his private expense, to present this picture of Lord CHATHAM to the Gentlemen of Westmoreland. Your misinformation has arisen, I conjecture, from a subscribed sum of money having been sent to London for Lord CAMDEN's portrait, which gratitude, and a just sense of the great support the American cause received from that noble Lord, made the Gentlemen here wish to obtain.

RICHARD HENRY LEE.

Here, then, we have "all about it," and a little more; for, in looking after one picture, we have accidentally stumbled upon another; and we find that, besides the portrait of Lord Chatham, there is, or was, or was to have been, a portrait of Lord Camden also; and what is the history of that? We should like to know.

We had written thus far, and thought we had closed our article, when happening to meet with the Librarian of our State

Library, and conversing with him upon the subject, we learned from him that since the arrival of the Portrait, he had received, from the clerk of the county court of Westmoreland, certified copies of the letters connected with it, on file in his office, which explained the whole matter; and he has very politely furnished us with copies of them, (printed in the Journal of the House of Delegates,) which we have read with much interest, and which we now submit to our readers, as follows:

To RICHARD HENRY LEE, Esq., in Westmoreland, in Virginia.

Dear Sir,—Your obliging favor of the 1st of June, imparting to me the commands of the Gentlemen of the County of Westmoreland, does me the greatest honor, as I flatter myself it shows by their employing me to apply to Lord Camden for the favor of his sitting for his Portrait, that they Judge I have the same gratitude and veneration for his Lordship's conduct in the late crisis of American happiness and existence as they themselves so truly feel; and in this they do me the greatest justice; for which I beg you would return them my warmest thanks: with assurances that I shall ever be ready and ambitious of receiving and executing all their commands, whenever they shall think proper to honor me with them.

Immediately on my return to England from a tour on the Continent, I waited on Lord Camden, presented your letter to him, and was received in the most obliging manner. He told me he thought himself much honored by the approbation of the Gentlemen of the county of Westmoreland, and gave me in command to return them his most respectful thanks, which, I beg to do through your means in the most particular and acceptable manner.

Your civility to me having left the choice of the Limner and the manner of the execution of the portrait to my judgment, I shall presume to make use of the liberty you give me.

Mr. West, whose distinguished abilities and excellence in the highest order of painting, appears to me on many accounts to be the properest person to be employed in this business. And it is not, I am sure, one of his least recommendations to you, that he is an American, that as such, he is ambitious that his hand should be the means of perpetuating American gratitude, and that he would think himself obliged to you for giving him the opportunity of showing his attachment to his native country, by the exertion of all his abilities.

The portrait of Lord Camden, placed in Guildhall is painted in Judges Robes; and with great propriety, for as his Lordship was then Chief Justice of the C. Pleas, and the particular service which he did this country by condemning general warrants, for which he gained the merited applause of the City of London, was done in his judicial capacity, every circumstance which marks that is right, but as the obligations of America to his Lordship arose when he was Chancel'r and in the House of Lords in his Senatorial quality, I doubt not Mr. West will have your approbation for attending to it & drawing him in the character of Chan'r which post, you know, partakes of the qualities both of the Judge & Senator; and therefore a Portrait so marked will not be improper to adorn your court of Justice, at the same time it shows the particular period, when His Lordship did you that essential service, which you are now so gratified for.

As I doubt not it was your friendship which pointed me out to the Gentlemen of the County of Westmoreland for this honorable office, I must return you my sincere thanks for it.

I am,

Dr. Sir,

Your most obliged,

And obedient humble servant,

EDM. JENINGS.

London, Nov. 10. 1767.

To the Same.

Dear Sir,—Your expectation of receiving Lord Camden's Picture cannot I think exceed my honest desire to send it, which from his Lordship's Politeness whenever he has been reminded of it, I have been in daily hopes of doing. Many days have been fixed for Mr. West's waiting on his Lordship, which have been changed on account of illness, business in the Courts of Law, in Council or in Parliament. The last time which his Lordship appointed would I flattered myself have answered all our wishes, it being done with the utmost politeness and condescension. Mr. West was invited to his Lordship's house in the country, where a bed was prepared for him, and he was to have remained until the picture was finished, but a note was sent the day before Mr. West was to have waited on him, that his Lordship was obliged to attend a Council, and could not say when he should be at leisure. This almost damped all my hopes, but I have still expectation of succeeding and giving satisfaction to the Gentle-

men of Westmoreland, as I have lately received assurances, that His Lordship is determined to *set* for his picture the first opportunity.

But as the honest cause of America hath been supported with true liberality by that great man Lord Chatham, I could wish that his merits were not forgot, and therefore take the liberty of sending you by Captn. Johnston his Portrait, which if you think it worthy of the acceptance of the Gentlemen of Westmoreland, I beg you would offer them in my name—it was executed by Mr. Peele of Maryland, who was recommended to me by several friends in that Province, as a young man of merit and modesty. I have found him so—and heartily wish he may meet with every encouragement on his return to America, which I believe will be soon, he having made a great actual Proficiency, and laid the grounds I hope of perfection in his art.

Your Brother Hill hinted to me, that the Picture of Lord Chatham would not be unacceptable to the Lower House of Assembly; should the Gentlemen be of that opinion, I beg it may be disposed of in that, or any other way, that may be most agreeable to them.

It is secured at the Back in the best manner; let it, if you please, be opened on its arrival, & exposed some little while in the sun before it is put up.

Your Brother will inform you of the News and Principles of the Times—the people wish to get out of the scrape they are in, but find it difficult to do it with a good grace. America has many friends, and ought to have more for the honor and interest of G. Britain. The Parliament meets next week, and the King will recommend moderation and temper in treating the American affairs. I hope for the best.

I am,

Dr. Sir,

Your's most sincerely,

EDM. JENINGS.

London, Nov'r 1. 1768.

P. S. Your brother has given me cloth made in your family. I wear it on all occasions to show the Politicians of this country that the sheep of America have not hair on their backs—they can hardly believe their eyes.

The head of Lord Chatham is done from an admirable bust by Wilton, and is much like him tho' different from the common prints.

Dear Sir,—Read the enclosed speech, and your heart will be grieved; mine is too full to give you any account of the Debates on it.—America must be brought down to our feet, a little military rigor may be salutary is the Language of the Times. O God!

To the Same.

Dear Sir,—I am particularly obliged to you for informing me of the honor, which the Gentlemen of the county of Westmoreland have done me, in accepting of the picture of Lord Chatham, and that the design of it meets with their approbation—I should have been happy if I could have sent that of Lord Camden by Capt. Johnson, but the last time I made an application, by the means of a particular friend, to his Lordship, he expressed himself nearly in these words, “You cannot but imagine, that the compliment which hath been paid to me by the Gentlemen in Virginia is highly flattering to me, and that I should be proud in complying with their request; but consider the present situation of affairs and my station—I think the Colonies cannot doubt of my disposition towards them—I am in the greatest hopes that things will take such a turn next winter, that I may, without impropriety comply with my promise:” if this answer affords you any room to expect that his Lordship will sit for his picture next winter, I beg I may keep the money, entrusted with me, some little while longer, if not, be so good as to draw on me, at Mr. James Russell Mercht. for the full amount, and your bill shall be duly honored.

I have seen some account of the Picture of Lord Chatham in your paper, but it is not rightly given in many particulars.

I am,

Dear Sir,

Your most obedient

& Faithful Humble Servant,

EDM. JENINGS.

London, Augst. 15. 1769.

Here, then, we have the true history of our Portrait down to the time of its arrival in Westmoreland, in the fullest and most authentic form. We learn further, from another source, that having been received by the gentlemen there, it was set up at Stratford Hall, then the mansion of Richard Henry Lee, Esq.,

where it remained for many years, until, on the erection of a new courthouse, in 1825, or thereabouts, it was sent by the gentleman then holding it to be lodged in that building, where it remained until about the beginning of Dec'r last, when the magistrates transmitted it, as we have already seen, to the Librarian here. How they came to do so, the following documents will shew.

Richmond, March 4, 1833.

TO THE HONORABLE—

The County Court of the County of Westmoreland :

Gentlemen: The Joint Library Committee of the General Assembly having been informed by William Y. Sturman, Esq., a delegate from your county, that there is now in your possession a Portrait of Lord Chatham, which, from the want of a suitable apartment in which to place it for preservation, is liable to be injured and defaced, and which you might therefore be willing to confide to their custody, for the ornament of the public library of the State, have instructed us to inform you that we will most readily receive it for the purpose, if it shall be your pleasure to give it such direction.

The Votaries of Freedom here, and elsewhere throughout the United States, cannot but reverence the memory of that distinguished advocate of the rights and liberties of the then colonies of our country; and Virginians, particularly, will delight to see his Portrait in their capital.

With these sentiments, we beg leave to assure you, that if you will forward the Portrait to our Librarian, we will gladly receive it for safe-keeping, and hold it subject to your future order.

We are, gentlemen, with great respect,

BENJ. W. S. CABELL,
Chairman Committee of the Senate.

JOS. C. CABELL,
Chairman Committee House of Delegates.

VIRGINIA.—At a Court of Monthly Sessions, begun and held for Westmoreland County, on Monday, the 25th day of January, 1847.

The Justices of this Court having been summoned to appear here this day to take some order touching the preservation and disposal of the Portrait of Lord Chatham, it is ordered, that the

proposition of the Legislature of Virginia, submitted to the County Court of Westmoreland, some years ago, in relation to said Portrait be, and the same is hereby, adopted; and the Clerk of this county is directed to send on to the Legislature a copy of the proposition aforesaid, and request the delegate of this county to bring the same to the notice of the Legislature.

But the Portrait, we learn, has yet another short journey to make; for, the Joint Committee on the Library, it seems, finding after some time that there was no proper place for it in the room, passed a resolution recommending that it should be removed thence into the Hall of the House of Delegates, where it will accordingly be set up, in a few days. Here then it will find its home at last, and in the very place, we may observe, which was originally designated for it by the worthy and patriotic gentleman who sent it over to our State.

We will only add, in concluding our little history, that we consider all these proceedings relating to the Portrait as highly honorable to all concerned; and we only regret that the portrait itself is not more worthy of the station it will occupy, and of the office it has to perform.

THE SCHOONER LIBERTY.

The Schooner Liberty, one of the armed vessels of the Navy of Virginia, was commanded, in the commencement of our revolutionary war, by Captain James Barron, afterwards Commodore Barron, Senior officer of that Navy. The Liberty was the most fortunate vessel in the service, and was the only one, in fact, that ran through the whole contest without being captured by the enemy. Her armament was judiciously arranged, so much so, as to render her superior to British Government vessels of double her size and rate. She was engaged, first and last, in more than

twenty sharp actions, but I shall select only one of them for this short account of her.

In the early spring of 1779, she had an action with the tender to the frigate *Emerald*, a New England built schooner, called the *Fortunatus*, of about 120 tons, mounting 10 six pounders, and manned from the Frigate with a crew of fifty seamen; commanded by a Lieutenant named Dickey, a gallant and worthy fellow, as the sequel will show. The *Fortunatus* came into Hampton Roads in the night during a heavy gale at N. E., and, at daylight next morning, was seen by Capt. Richard Barron (who lived on the banks of the James River opposite the Roads,) getting under way to go to sea again, when he instantly mounted his horse and rode in great haste to Hampton, to inform his brother, Capt. James Barron, of the fact. Volunteers were immediately called for, and as readily obtained from the good old patriotic town, and off started the *Liberty* in pursuit of the enemy, which she came up with, four or five miles inside of Cape Henry, where a most sanguinary conflict (at least on the part of the English) ensued; which continued for about two hours, during which period most of the crew of the *Fortunatus* were either killed or wounded, and her fire so much slackened that Capt. Barron was induced to hail her, and request the Lieutenant Commandant to surrender, as he, Captain Barron, had not a man either killed or wounded; and as Lieutenant Dickey was by this time convinced that there was not the least probability of his escape from capture, and the request to surrender was manifestly prompted by motives of humanity, he consented to do so; and hauled down his colours. When the boarding officer from the *Liberty* got on the deck of the *Fortunatus*, he found that the Lieutenant Commandant and four men, were all the crew then able to use a sponge, or a rammer, to load a gun. I ought to state that the ammunition of the *Liberty* was composed entirely of large-sized musket balls, and 32 of them put in a bag were discharged at every fire from each of her guns, so that 160 of these balls were constantly playing on the crew of the *Fortunatus*, which will account for the great number of men killed and wounded on board

of her; while the fire of the *Fortunatus* was only five six pound shot thrown at her enemy in the same time.

The result of this action was encouraging to the patriots of the Navy of the State; and the officers, crew, and volunteers of the *Liberty*, sixteen in number, were spoken of in terms highly honourable to them. I wish I could now remember the names of all those worthy persons; it would afford me pleasure to record them along with their deeds in defence of their country. Two of the volunteers, I recollect, were Captain Richard Barron, and John King, Esq., first Collector of the Port of Norfolk, after the war; and there were several other gentlemen of Hampton whose names I have forgotten. John Gibson was the Gunner. The Lieutenants were so frequently changed in those days, that it is not to be wondered at that I do not remember who they were on this particular occasion. The most of them were masters of merchant vessels, who had been compelled to go to sea in order to obtain clothes suitable to their decent appearance in public.

The *Fortunatus* was not considered an efficient vessel for our service, and was therefore sold. Lieutenant Dicky was sent to Portsmouth, then a garrison town, and put on his parole of honor, with almost unlimited privileges; and there he remained, becoming a great favorite with the good people of that place, and enjoying the hospitality of all the genteel families in it, until the invasion by Admiral Collier and General Matthew, in the following May. It will be remembered that at this time the British Army under General Matthew, landed south of Pig-Point, and marched along the river side to the Western Branch, when they crossed over that stream, and Scott's creek, to the woods in the rear of Fort Nelson, then commanded by Major Mathews, who, aware of his utter inability to defend the fort against such odds, was obliged to quit it, and cross over to Washington Point, leaving, however, the colours flying to deceive the enemy and gain time. During this movement of our troops, Lieutenant Dickey had walked out into the country, as was his usual custom, and to that part of it back of the fort, now the site of the United States Hospital, and there he remained until he saw the last of

Major Mathews's men embark for the other shore. He then entered the fort, and found himself solus, and commander-in-chief,—and so he continued to be until the British made their appearance out of the woods, and approached the place, when he mounted the ramparts, and hauled down the American colours. The British then advanced, and took possession of the fort, and very soon after of the town of Portsmouth, where Lieut. Dickey now appeared in his new character of Conqueror, instead of a prisoner; and it is gratifying to record that he shewed the utmost kindness and courtesy to the citizens of the town, who experienced all proper protection and comfort through his influence with his countrymen.

After this action, the *Liberty* continued to cruise successfully until Lord Cornwallis invaded Lower Virginia, when it became necessary to conceal her; and she was therefore stripped of her masts, and sunk in a deep hole in Nansemond River, where she remained until the siege of York commenced. She was then raised, and employed as a transport of provisions for Gen. Washington's army then before York Town; and all the small vessels that could be found on the James and other rivers, were seized and employed for the same purpose; even canoes became important for this service. The *Nicholson*, also, I remember, which had in like manner been sunk for concealment from the enemy, was got up and added to the *Moscheto* fleet. Colonel Pickering, Commissary General to the continental army, and Commodore James Barron, were selected to attend to this duty, and stationed at Trebel's landing, near Burwell's ferry. The *Nicholson* was captured soon after the surrender of York Town, by an English Frigate, disguised with French-fashioned paint-work, and shewing French colours. She was commanded at the time by Lieut. John Jennings, but so complete was the disguise of the British Frigate, and so unexpected her visit so high up in our bay, that no blame was attached to that officer.

This capture of the *Nicholson* left the *Liberty* alone in the Virginia Navy, until the new *Patriot* was completed, and added to it. The *Liberty* was then employed as a cruiser for the pro-

tection of our Bay, and the rivers emptying into it, and was commanded by Captain Michael James ; and so she ran until her colours were at last struck on the surrender of Virginia's absolute sovereignty to the Confederation of the United States. She was then sold like any other craft, and went to the West Indies to run as a droger, instead of being hauled up into the public yard, and there preserved, as she ought to have been, as a monument of the deeds of the many and courageous patriots who had served on board of her during the war. Amongst these, I take pleasure in stating there were several coloured men, who, I think, in justice to their merits should not be forgotten. Harry (a slave, belonging to Captain John Cooper of Bennet's Creek, Nansemond County,) was distinguished for his zeal and daring ; Cupid, (a slave of Mr. William Ballard,) stood forth on all occasions as the champion of liberty, and discharged all his duties with a fidelity that made him a favorite of all the officers. It is well known, indeed, in Virginia, that many of the African race were zealous and faithful soldiers in the cause of freedom, and one of them, in particular, named Aberdeen, distinguished himself so much as to attract the notice of many of our first officers and citizens, and among them, of Patrick Henry, who befriended him as long as he lived.

J. B.

Norfolk.

HOWISON'S HISTORY OF VIRGINIA.*

This is a work of some merit, and, all things considered, does great credit to its young and promising author. It is not, in-

* A History of Virginia, from its Discovery and Settlement by the Europeans to the present time. By R. R. Howison. In 2 vols., Richmond, Drinker & Morris. New York and London : Wiley & Putnam, 1848.

deed, exactly all that we could have wished, or that we might perhaps have fairly expected from its title. It is not, in fact, what we should call a History of Virginia, but rather, we should say, a series of light and agreeable sketches of some parts of the History of our State, compiled from the more copious but clumsy collections of previous writers, and dashed off with some cleverness and spirit, but not always with due care, or proper judgment and discretion. It contains, accordingly, some things which ought to be out, and does not contain many more which ought to be in. The omissions in the second volume, more particularly, are so numerous and important as to amount to a serious mutilation of the proper body of the work, in whatever point of view we regard it. We are aware, of course, that the author has left some of these *lacunæ*, as he tells us, on purpose, and for a reason which he assigns, and which is, substantially, that, in his opinion, a History of Virginia after the adoption of the Federal Constitution, ought to be a history of her acts and deeds alone, abstracted from those of the United States, except when she has happened to array herself against the General Government, as in the case of the Alien and Sedition Laws. But this, we think, is manifestly a great hallucination, and one which would curtail our history of some of its proper parts, and fair proportions, and make it comparatively dull and flat not only to strangers, but even to ourselves. Nor has our author himself, we see, always adhered to his own rule, as for instance, in giving us an account of the battle of Craney Island, in which our State was certainly not warring against the Union, but most gallantly and honorably on her side.

After all, however, the work has some redeeming merits, which, in the eyes of many of its readers, will go far to cover its defects. Among these we cannot too warmly commend the honest and independent spirit which evidently animates all its pages, and inspires us with a just confidence in the purity and integrity of the author's intentions, even when we cannot help doubting the perfect accuracy of his statements, and questioning the soundness of his views. We may add, that his style, though not

strictly chaste or correct, is generally free and glowing, and in spite of occasional improprieties, is always interesting.

With this opinion of the work, we freely recommend it to all who may wish to obtain some knowledge of the history of our State, in the most convenient and pleasant manner; and we have no doubt that they will think it worthy of all the praise we have bestowed upon it; and perhaps accord it even more.

REMARKS ON THE HISTORY OF OUR STATE.

We extract the following passage from an able and interesting article on the subject of the History of our State, in the Southern Literary Messenger for February last.

It has long been a matter of surprise and regret, that the people of Virginia have manifested so little interest in regard to the early history of their State. The amount of ignorance which prevails in the commonwealth upon this subject is absolutely astonishing. It is by no means confined to the illiterate. Our educated men—men of intelligence and general information—are equally amenable to the charge. Young gentlemen, who have been to college, and who are reasonably well-read in general history, are yet, (with some few honorable exceptions,) profoundly ignorant of the State whose soil they tread, and whose air they breathe. They have been carefully instructed in the annals of Greece and Rome—every phase of French and English history is familiar to them—they know by heart the whole line of Plantagenets, Tudors, Stuarts, Guelphs and Capets, and yet can tell you nothing of that race of men from whose loins they have sprung, and if they have heard, by accident, that such men as Smith and Bacon have lived and died, this is the extent of their information in respect to these colonial heroes.

This neglect of their early history by the Virginians is altogether unpardonable. Even were the subject uninviting, its dignity

and importance would entitle it to their consideration. But nothing could be further from the truth. No such reproach as this attaches to our colonial history. Upon the contrary, we venture to affirm that the annals of no people whatever, ancient or modern, more abound in interesting incident. The mere fact that the early annals of Virginia present to us two distinct states of civilization and two distinct races of men placed in direct juxtaposition to each other, and that, too, under the most novel circumstances, must invest them with an interest which attaches to the history of few countries. They present to us barbarism and civilization—the red man of the American forest and the cultivated European, thrown face to face upon the shores of the Western world, there to wage a war of extermination—the one in defence of his country and his home—the other to make conquests, settle colonies, and amass wealth. The history of such a struggle, and of a society compounded of such strange elements, and in which men occupied such novel relations to each other, could not, in the nature of things, be otherwise than entertaining and instructive. And we accordingly find that new phases of human life—novel and striking developments of the individual man—romantic adventure, bold achievement, and thrilling incident, meet us at every step of colonial progress. The simple story of Smith and Pocahontas, if there was nothing else, would redeem the annals of any people from the reproach of dulness.

But it is the importance, rather than the romance of our colonial history, which claims for it the attention of every educated man—particularly of every educated Virginian. It was upon the banks of our favorite river, not many miles from the present capital of the State, that the Anglo-Saxon race first took root in the soil of the Western world. We do not hesitate to pronounce this one of the most memorable epochs in modern history. In our judgment, the landing of Smith at Jamestown, followed, as it was, by the subsequent occupation of the country by men of Anglo-Saxon origin, has exercised, and is destined to

exercise, in its remote consequences, a greater influence over the destinies of the human race than any event which has occurred since the Reformation. It would not be difficult to make good this proposition, but it would lead us too far from our present purpose. We believe, however, that it will be generally conceded, and, if so, how recreant has Virginia heretofore been to her early history.

It is gratifying, however, to find that there has been some improvement in this matter. A disposition has recently manifested itself in several quarters to wipe away this reproach from the Ancient Dominion, and rescue, as far as is now practicable, her early annals from oblivion. The Virginia Historical Society has been recently re-organized under new auspices, and with flattering prospects of success. This Society, if it can once be established on a permanent basis, will no doubt prove a useful institution. Virginia, even yet, abounds in rich historical fragments, which must soon be lost, unless they be collected and arranged with some regard to order and system. New York, Massachusetts, and, we believe, several of the other States, have similar societies, which are in a prosperous condition. Their collections are already large and interesting, and have been found valuable in illustrating the colonial history of the country. There is no good reason why the Virginia Historical Society should not also prosper, and we feel confident that, with equal industry and enterprise, it will meet with equal success. We believe that the loose material yet floating about in the commonwealth is quite as valuable as that either of New York or Massachusetts, and if diligently collected and arranged, will be found no inconsiderable contribution to our historical literature. Let our people then, for once, at least, lay aside their repugnance to combined action—let them come to the aid of this public and patriotic enterprise—let them send in their interesting historical manuscripts and other documents to the Society, where they will be preserved; let them do this and the Virginia Historical Society will be placed upon an enduring basis, and its labors will redound to the honor of the State.

H. A. W.

A QUAKER'S DREAM.

About ten years ago, I was travelling in Chester county, Pennsylvania, near the Brandywine battle ground, and in an accidental visit to the residence of the Cheyney family, learned a curious incident in our Revolutionary history, which I think worthy of preservation. The ancestor of the family, although a member of the Society of Friends, felt a most profound interest in the success of the Revolutionary struggle, and did not deem it inconsistent with the pacific principles of his religion, to render valuable services to Washington, as a guide, in the sad and bloody engagement on the Brandywine. During the darkest period of the war, when the bravest hearts were forced to doubt if not to fear, the old man had a very remarkable dream. He thought he was dining in a hotel in Philadelphia, in company with the prominent men of the period. He observed that the table, chairs, cloth, knives and forks, dishes, spoons, &c., were all of *American Manufacture*. During the progress of the feast, a song was sung which arrested his attention so much, that when he awoke he remembered it and committed it to writing. The dream was so remarkable, that the old man's confidence never afterward wavered in the success of the struggle: and the peculiar origin of the song rather than any special merit that it possessed, made it quite a favorite part of the ballad poetry of the Revolution. The friend who furnished me with these particulars, is a highly intelligent lawyer of West Chester, and has been intimate with the family from childhood. At my request he furnished me with a copy of the song, which I subjoin.

It will be perceived on examination of it, that there is nothing in the poetry of the performance to render the well authenticated account of its origin incredible, while there is enough to make it a most extraordinary production of one who was never known before or after, to manufacture a rhyme. The *Kubla Khan* of Coleridge was composed in a similar way; but being

the production of a poet, it is not so remarkable as this, which was the product of a mind in sleep, beyond and totally different from any thing it ever attempted in waking hours.

CHEYNEY'S SONG.

Cheerful Spirits here we'll stay
 And guard against despotic sway,
 Although a num'rous frightful fleet
 The ocean groans beneath their weight,
 The drums and guns they roar so loud
 T' appease the vengeance of their Lord,
 Yet America *will* be free,
 Yet America *will* be free.

The European powers their aid afford,
 And demons crowd their council board,
 Yet innocent blood will raise its cries,
 And pierce the yielding rending skies,
 Then mercy will her aid afford,
 And will confound their council board.
 Then America will be free,
 Then America will be free.

The ruffians return in vile disgrace,
 Shame and confusion near each face,
 And when before their lord they come,
 They are struck with disappointment dumb,
 Begone ye scoundrel paltry knaves,
 You yourselves are the greater slaves.
 Since America will be *free*,
 Since America will be *free*.

T. V. M.

THE OLD STOVE AGAIN.

MR. EDITOR,—I am really much obliged to you for giving us that pleasant little piece on the Old Stove in the Capitol, in your last number, written by your lively correspondent, G. A. M. (whom I think I know by his style,) and which has stirred me up to add a few words upon it myself. For I remember well that curious piece of antiquity, as it used to stand in the Hall of the House of Delegates, in the year 1830-1, when I happened to be a member of that honorable body; and I recollect how I used to admire those fine and fanciful figures upon it which your correspondent describes, and more particularly the royal Coat of Arms of Virginia, with its inspiring motto, “En Dat Virginia Quartam.”

But then that false Latin in the last syllable of the last word—how it moved my bile! For the old motto, you know, before the Union, was “En Dat Virginia *Quintum*,” (agreeing with *regnum* understood,) and there were the four crowns for the four kingdoms, England, Scotland, Ireland, and France, to explain it; and though it was proper, of course, to change it after the Union, it is clear that the “*Quintum*” ought to have been changed to *Quartum*, and not to “*Quartam*.” This, to be sure, is a small matter to most persons, but I must wonder how your correspondent, who is a fine classical scholar, as well as something of an antiquary, could have overlooked, as he has done, this offence against all *humanity*. But perhaps it was only his more refined *humanity*, in a different sense, that made him overlook it now when the poor Stove is in something like disgrace.

For alas! it is no longer allowed, it seems, to adorn that Hall where it used to stand when I first knew it, and where I was always glad to see it—and to feel it too—sending forth its genial heat to cheer the house, and kindle up the finer ardors, not indeed of Patrick Henry and Richard Henry Lee, who had gone off the stage long before, but of such men as Benjamin Watkins Leigh, and Richard Morris, of Hanover, and James Barbour, of Orange, and some others, who were fine fellows too, “as far

as moderns might be," (as Homer has it,) though some of them also have since left us for another scene.

But the Old Stove, I must confess, had one fault, which, however, I believe it could not help—and that is, it *would* draw that little cluster of members about it, who *would* talk a little too loud—and then came the awful glances of Mr. Speaker Banks, who "looked daggers" at them, (though, of course, he used none,) and, by and by, we were sure to hear his solemn and sonorous—"Order Gentle-men"—which stopped the talking for a moment, and perhaps sent off the culprits to their seats.

But this fault gave a handle to the *Progressives* who hated it in their hearts for its antiquity, and were ready to vote it behind the age, and out of fashion; and some years afterwards, when they undertook to *improve* the Hall, according to their own fancy, they expelled the poor Stove from the House, and sent it out into the lobby where it now stands, like Q in the corner; and for the greater part of the year "solitary and alone;"—for though, as your correspondent says, it is "near Houdon's noble statue of the Father of his Country," that, though formed by a Frenchman, has evidently turned his back upon it, and fairly left it to itself.

But still it bears its age and adversity bravely, and when winter comes round, and brings back the General Assembly to the Capitol, it kindles up again, as with some remembrance of its former office, and sparkles out, every now and then, (as I have seen it myself on one or two occasions,) with something like its former vivacity; for "even in its ashes live its wonted fires." And still it draws a little circle around it, of "loyterers," and cake-women, who seem to love it; and it even appears to relish and enjoy the jests and nuts that are cracked about it, as of old time; and is almost "itself again." Well, let it go on to serve the State as well as it can, and as long as it lasts, and when it is fairly worn out, and falls to pieces, let some zealous antiquary guard its relics, and some gentle poet sing its praise.

A QUONDAM DELEGATE.

LINES TO MISS B——

AFTER HER RETURN TO VIRGINIA.

[To make these Lines more distinctly intelligible, it must be premised that they were written on reading the following copy of verses, written by S. T. Coleridge, in the Album of Miss B——, daughter of the Hon. James Barbour, of Orange, when she was in London, some years ago, with her father, then the minister of the United States at the court of St. James, and when she was about to return with him to this country.

Child of my Muse! in Barbour's gentle hand,
 Go cross the main, thou seek'st no foreign land:
 'Tis not the clod beneath our feet we name
 Our country. Each heaven-sanctioned tie the same,
 Laws, manners, language, faith, ancestral blood,
 Domestic honor, awe of womanhood;—
 With kindling pride thou wilt rejoice to see
 Britain with elbow-room and doubly free.
 Go seek thy countrymen! and if one scar
 Still linger of that fratricidal war,
 Look to the maid who brings thee from afar;
 Be thou the olive leaf and she the dove,
 And say, I greet thee with a brother's love!

S. T. COLERIDGE.

Grove, Highgate, Aug. 1829.

We may add that the generous spirit of this little effusion must be felt, we should think, and cordially reciprocated by all the descendants of the mother country in our State; as it was, most certainly, by the gentleman who wrote the following Lines.]

Yes, we will greet thee as the gentle dove
 That brings the olive leaf of peace and love;
 For thou art come from off the stormy sea,
 To our brave ark of safety for the free;
 And thou art come, e'en dearer than before,
 To stay and rest with us for evermore.
 So we salute thee:—and we thank the bard
 For this fond token of his true regard,

And warmly echo from our inmost hearts,
 The words of friendship that his Muse imparts ;
 For thou canst tell him that no "scar" remains
 Of "fratricidal war," or former chains ;
 But conscious of the stock from which we sprung,
 Our common ancestry, and common tongue,
 Law, learning, arts, and arms, and enterprise ;
 Majestic manhood, woman's purest ties,
 And Faith that lifts our nature to the skies ;
 We own the land that gave our fathers birth,
 The freest, noblest monarchy on earth.
 Long may she live and wear her jewelled crown,
 In radiant glory, with deserved renown ;
 And, looking o'er the broad Atlantic tide,
 Confess with all a generous mother's pride,
 Her sons and daughters in our ampler sphere,
 Have found a new and better Britain here.

* *

Norfolk.

A CURE FOR CARE.

The following lines illustrating a deep metaphysical truth, and conveying a good moral lesson, in a fine poetical figure, are very beautiful to our taste.

"Wouldst thou from sorrow find a sweet relief?
 Or is thy heart oppressed with woes untold?
 Balm wouldst thou gather for corroding grief?
 Pour blessings round thee like a shower of gold.
 'Tis when the rose is wrapt in many a fold,
 Close to its heart the worm is wasting there
 Its life and beauty : not when all unrolled,
 Leaf after leaf, its bosom rich and fair,
 Breathes freely its perfumes throughout the ambient air."

Various Intelligence.

RICHMOND.

Our city, after having been gently agitated, from time to time, by passing events—the affairs of Mexico—the death of the Hon. John Quincy Adams, which occurred in Washington, in the Capitol, on the 23rd of February last, under circumstances of great and peculiar solemnity, and was felt with due and becoming emotion throughout the whole country;—and subsequently stunned by the extraordinary intelligence of the Revolution in France which broke out suddenly and most unexpectedly, in Paris, on the memorable 22nd, 23rd, and 24th days of the same month, which must henceforth mark the commencement of a new era in the history of the world;—is now easy and quiet again; and seems, indeed, to be in something like a state of suspended animation, only still conscious, and waiting for further and further intelligence of the progress of the revolutionary spirit in Europe, which appears to be running like wild-fire through all that region, and naturally affects all the active business of human life even in this. How long this new and surprising state of things is to last, and what is to be the end of it, time alone can shew. At present all is uncertain, and conjecture itself hardly ventures to anticipate any thing. For ourselves, we hope for the best, but, we must acknowledge, we apprehend the worst.

So far, indeed, the Provisional Government, with Lamartine, a generous enthusiast, at its head, has acted with more prudence and moderation than could have been expected; but what can we look for from Ledru Rollin, and the rabid innovators of his party? And may they not prevail? And will they not precipitate all things into wild lawless anarchy, and “confusion worse confounded?” We are aware that the French people have been making great progress in knowledge, and even in religion, for some years past; but after all, is there sufficient knowledge, and sufficient religion in a country where the Word of God has not been allowed to have free course, to furnish a sound and stable basis for the erection of a permanent and peaceful Republic?

And what is to be the effect of this contagious movement upon the neighboring nations of the continent, and even upon Great Britain herself, with her fiery vassal at her side? We have, however, we must say, no great fears for *her*; and none at all for our own country, for we believe

that our two kindred nations will still be true to their history, to their principles, and to God. And, after all, our confidence is here: "The Lord reigneth, let the earth rejoice!" We trust, indeed, with firm faith, that the infinitely wise and benevolent Being who orders all events, and who is armed with almighty power to control them, will manage all things for the best, and, sooner or later, for the ultimate triumph of Christianity, and of Liberty along with her, all over the world.

THE RICHMOND MEDICAL COLLEGE.

The Annual Commencement of this flourishing institution was celebrated on the 20th ult. before a large and brilliant assembly of citizens, and others, when, after an appropriate introductory prayer, by the Rev. Mr. Reynolds, of the second Baptist Church in this city, the degree of M. D. was conferred by the Rev. Dr. Graham, acting President of Hampden Sidney College, on a class of twenty-one students. This ceremony was followed by an Address to the Licentiates by the same gentleman, embracing a sensible and somewhat caustic exposure of the arts of quackery, and a just vindication of the real merits of true medical science, which were, no doubt, entirely approved by all who heard them. Then came the Address of Dr. Gibson, the successor of the late lamented Dr. Warner, and who already fills his chair with great ability—a chaste and elegant composition, full of amiable and becoming sentiments, expressed in Attic style, and read with corresponding grace. These exercises of the occasion were followed by an Address of Dr. Johnson to the Society of the Alumni of the College, lately formed, in which after a well-merited tribute of praise to their Alma Mater, he gave them a comprehensive and elaborate sketch of the history of Medicine as a science, which apparently did him great credit, and was no doubt duly estimated by all competent judges. We ought perhaps to add, that the Addresses were interspersed and agreeably relieved, by some very pleasant airs from the Brass Band; and the effect of the whole together was certainly very gratifying to all present.

The names of the graduating students are as follows:

M. A. Anderson, Louisa; William E. Anderson, Richmond; Carthon Archer, Chesterfield; Edgar Archer, Chesterfield; John T. Austin, Albemarle; J. S. Browne, Nansemond; R. C. Campbell, Bedford; Edward C. Christian, New Kent; Charles R. Cullen, Richmond; Madison J. Davis, Southampton; Robert M. Doles, Southampton; Benjamin F.

Lockett, Prince Edward; James H. Noel, Essex; William W. Parker, Richmond; R. A. Patterson, Henrico; John W. Royster, New Kent; P. F. Southall, Amelia; William T. Turpin, Chesterfield; James E. Tyler, Richmond; William R. Weisiger, Chesterfield; J. F. Winfree, Henrico.

The Gold Medal for the Prize Essay on the Structure and Functions of the Medulla Spinalis was awarded to Carthon Archer of Chesterfield County.

The Honorary Degree of Doctor of Medicine was conferred upon Lemuel P. Nicholson of Southampton County.

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

The General Assembly adjourned on the 5th instant, after a long and laborious session in which they passed no fewer than Three Hundred and Seventy-Four Acts, and one of them entitled "An act to reduce into one the several acts concerning crimes and punishments and proceedings in criminal cases," which embraces the late revision of the Criminal Code. This is obviously a measure of great importance and interest to our whole State; and we feel, accordingly, an earnest desire to examine all its provisions, as we shall do, as soon as we can, with proper care. As yet, however, the act has not been published, and, no sketch of it even has been allowed to escape from the press. The Assembly also passed several resolutions, among which the "resolution voting a medal to Major General Winfield Scott," for his splendid achievements in Mexico, will be warmly approved by all our citizens.

MEXICO.

It seems to be now generally understood that the war with Mexico, our "sister republic," is fairly over for the present—though it still lingers a little, we see, in some scattered spots, and "like a wounded snake"—not thoroughly crushed—"drags its slow length along." It will, however, no doubt, receive its quietus as soon as the Mexican authorities can be assembled to give it the *coup de grace*; by ratifying the treaty which we have sent them back, a little altered, for the purpose. Well, we are glad that we shall have peace at last—even upon the actual terms—and heartily hope that we shall never resort to the barbarous extremity of war again.

THE VIRGINIA HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

We are happy to be able to state that our Society is making fair progress, in the prosecution of its labors, and in the attainment of all its objects. At the same time, it is evidently gaining ground in the approbation and favor of our fellow-citizens in all parts of our State. We believe that it is already stable, and we are confident that it will be so if it shall only receive one half the aid and countenance that it fairly merits.

Among the letters which our Executive Committee have received from different gentlemen who have been elected Honorary Members of the Society, acknowledging and accepting the compliment, we have been particularly pleased with the following Letter from the venerable Albert Gallatin, of New York, which, with their permission, we now publish for the gratification of our readers, as follows.

Copy of a Letter from the Hon. Albert Gallatin, of New York, to Wm. Maxwell, Esq., Corresponding Secretary of the Virginia Historical Society, Richmond, Va.

NEW YORK, FEBRUARY 15, 1848.

Sir,—I write with great difficulty, and I become exhausted when I write more than four or five hours a day. Ever since the end of October, all my faculties, impaired as they are, were absorbed in one subject; not only my faculties, but I may say, all my feelings. I thought of nothing else: *Age quod agis*: I postponed every thing else, even a volume of ethnography which was in the press; even answering the letters which did not absolutely require immediate attention. This is my apology for not having acknowledged earlier your very civil letter of December 20th.

I pray you to return my thanks to the Virginia Historical Society, for the mark of consideration and kind feeling, shown to me, by electing me an honorary member. It was most gratifying, as coming from Virginia, and specially from Richmond. I need not allude to my intimate political and personal connexion, and friendship, with so many of the illustrious sons of Virginia, during the course of a long public life. There are other recollections of an earlier date. I cannot complain of the world: I have been treated with kindness in every part of the United States, where I have resided. But it was at Richmond, where I spent most of the winters between the years 1783 and 1789, that I was received with that old proverbial Virginia hospitality, to which I know no parallel any where,

within the circle of my travels. It was not hospitality only that was shown to me. I do not know how it came to pass; but every one, with whom I became acquainted, appeared to take an interest in the young stranger. I was only the interpreter of a gentleman, the agent of a foreign house that had a large claim for advances to the State; and this made me known to all the officers of Government, and some of the most prominent members of the Legislature. It gave me the first opportunity of showing some symptoms of talent, even as a speaker, of which I was not myself aware. Every one encouraged me, and was disposed to promote my success in life. To name all those, from whom I received offers of service, would be to name all the most distinguished residents at that time at Richmond. I will only mention two. John Marshall, who, though but a young lawyer in 1783, was almost at the head of the bar in 1786, offered to take me into his office without a fee, and assured me that I would become a distinguished lawyer. Patrick Henry advised me to go to the West, where I might study law if I chose; but predicted that I was intended for a Statesman, and told me that this was the career which should be my aim: he also rendered me several services on more than one occasion. But I must stop; and if there be some egotism in what I have said, the feelings which I have expressed come at least from a grateful heart.

I remain with high consideration,

Dear Sir, your obed't and faithful servant,

ALBERT GALLATIN.

The Secretary of the Ethnological Society of New York, will transmit the first volume of its Transactions to the Historical Society of Virginia. The 2nd vol. is in the press.

WM. MAXWELL, Esq.

Corr. Sec'y of the Virg'a Hist. Soc.

ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH.

It is said that a new Electric Telegraph has been invented by Mr. Bains, of London, and is about to be patented in this country, which bids fair to supersede all those now in use. It is thus described by a correspondent of the New York Journal of Commerce:

Bains' Electrical Telegraph.—We had the pleasure of examining today a new, and we think a most wonderful electrical apparatus, invented

by Mr. Bains of London. It is both ingenious and simple. He showed its operation to us, and from what we saw of its performances, we feel not a doubt but it is capable of doing all he claims for it. He shows, in other words, that it is capable of transmitting one thousand words per minute over telegraphic wires; which is a rapidity wholly unparalleled.

What is more, he can prepare or put up long despatches in Liverpool, and when they arrive in New York or Boston, they can be transmitted in a few minutes. The President's Message, which may fill a page of the Journal of Commerce, he says, can be transmitted by this machine in less than an hour. This appears extraordinary; but it is made quite reasonable by an inspection of the operations of the machine.

We conceive that no part of the invention infringes in the least upon Morse's Patent. Mr. Bains dispenses entirely with the Magnet; hence his is simply an "Electrical Telegraph," and not, as Professor Morse claims his to be, an "Electro-Magnetic Telegraph."

We have not time to go into further particulars. We consider it an invention of great importance, and one in which the press, as well as the people of this country, is most deeply interested. It is an invention that should not become a monopoly in the hands of men who might employ it to the injury of the press, and of the best interests of the country.

We understand Mr. Bains sold his patent in England for £12,000. He has taken measures to secure his patent in Washington, and intends selling out his right to parties who may be disposed to treat with him: and if he does not prove the power of the machine to do all he claims, he will not receive a cent for it.

From the London Times of March 4th.

THE FRENCH REVOLUTION.

It is with great pleasure that we announce the safe arrival of the last and most illustrious instalment of the "royal fugitives" on these shores. For a whole week the ex-king of the French, after playing for eighteen years the most conspicuous part on the most conspicuous stage of European affairs, had totally disappeared from the scene. His place could nowhere be found; and, shocking as all would have felt it, it was at least as probable a conjecture as any other, that his majesty had perished in the channel. The express steamer brought them yesterday morning to New-haven, where they had to wait for some hours till the state of the tide

should enable them to enter the harbor. At last they landed, and were glad to receive a very hearty welcome to the well-known shore. For the rest we must refer to the particulars which we have been enabled to supply, and to which the rank, the misfortunes, and, it must be added, the errors of the distinguished sufferer, will impart so peculiar an interest.

It may be safely said, there is nothing in history, nothing, at least, in the examples which most readily occur to the mind, that at all comes near the tremendous suddenness of the present royal reverse.

This day fortnight, Louis Philippe was the most prosperous, the most powerful, and accounted the ablest sovereign in the world. If the reader will just think of it, he will find that this wonderful man had attained the very acme of success, consideration and power. It is a work of time to enumerate the many circumstances of his splendid condition. His numerous, handsome, and dutiful children; the brilliant alliances—one of them recently concluded—which brought into one family interest the vast region from Antwerp to Cadiz; the near prospect of an event which would probably make his grandchild the sovereign, his son the regent of Spain; the great cross and drawback of his reign just removed,—Algeria pacified after eighteen years' war; his immense private fortune: his eleven or twelve palaces, unequalled for situation and magnificence, on all of which he had recently spent immense sums of money; his splendid army of four hundred thousand men, in the highest discipline and equipment; a minister of unequalled energy and genius, who had found out at last the secret of France; a metropolis fortified and armed to the teeth against all the world; the favorable advances recently made by those powers who had previously looked down on the royal *parvenu*; the well-balanced state of his foreign relations, and the firmly-grasped reins of the political car;—all these gifts of fortune, and more, if we had time to go on with the list, were heaped on one man in such profusion as really to pall the imagination. What crowned it all, was that Louis Philippe was allowed the entire credit of his success. It was all the work of his own hands. He might stand like the ancient king on the walls and towers which he had drawn round his city, and contemplate the perfect work of beauty and policy which himself had made. The balance of Europe, the causes of peoples and kings, the issues of peace and of war, were in his hands. If there was an *amari aliquid* in this garden of roses and delights, twenty impregnable forts and a hundred thousand armed men were no insignificant watch upon a few disorderly subjects. Solon himself would hardly have ventured to preach upon his envious text—*ante obitum nemo*—to so safe a man.

What we have described was a sober and solid reality. What we now come to, reads like the preposterous incidents of a nursery tale. A mob of artizans, boys, and some women, pours through the streets of Paris. They make for the palace. Eighty thousand infantry, cavalry and artillery, are dumbfounded and stupified! In a few minutes an elderly couple are seen bustling away from the hubbub; they are thrust into a hack-cab and driven out of the way. The mob rushes into the Senate, and proclaims a republican government—which exists, which is ruling the nation with great energy and judgment, and is already communicating with the representatives of foreign powers. But let us follow the princes. We say it without intending any disrespect, and only as relating the simple truth of the affair. No family of Irish trampers was ever so summarily bundled out of the way as this illustrious group. The Queen, we are told, had run back to a bureau for some silver; but it seems it was not enough, as a hat was sent round for the royal couple at St. Cloud, and a small sum clubbed by the National Guard. At Dreux, they were left with a five-franc piece between them. Flying “when none pursueth,” they get to Louis Philippe’s once celebrated chateau at Eu, where they are afraid to enter. So there they disappear into space. They were to be at Eu, and for a week, that is all that we know of them. Meanwhile, the rest had dropped in, one by one. They come like foreign birds dashed by a storm against a light-house. The Duke de Nemours and certain Saxe Coburgs come one day, knowing nothing of the rest. They parted in the crowd.

A Spanish Infanta, for whose hand all the world was competing only the year before last, scrambled out another way, through by-roads and back-doors; and—strange event—is likely to give Spain an English-born sovereign, under Victoria’s kindly auspices. No sooner, however, have the fugitives found a friendly asylum, than they are obliged to seek another roof. Other princes and princesses turn up here and there. A lady in waiting rejoins her mistress. A cabinet minister is found. The children and governess of another arrive: The *rencontres* and *reunions* are strange enough. A prince of the blood and an ex-prefect meet in disguise, and do not know one another. Very lately a youthful heir to the crown of France, and who had been actually acknowledged as reigning king by the deputies, is discovered at a channel island with his mother and brother. The two children had been almost lost in the mob on leaving the chamber, had been got somehow to Eu, with their mother, wearied and bearing muddy marks of rough travel. Thence, by heavy bribing, they had

procured a passage to the first British rock. Thus are they driven and scattered by the besom of revolution. They arrive penniless, without a change of raiment, dejected and bewildered, telling one another their stories of many strange adventures, having each come a different journey, though starting from one point, and almost at one hour.

After many days' suspense, the King and Queen are heard of, on some private information, on the coast of Normandy, where they had been "on the run" from house to house, and content with humble hospitality, the King, we are told, in strange disguises. They still have a small retinue. These half dozen invaders, without either arms or baggage, do not find it so easy to cross the channel. Stationing themselves at Honfleur, within twenty miles sail of Havre, they watch opportunity and the weather, which last delays their passage for several days. At length they get into a British steamer.

Arrived at Newhaven, after a rough passage, they encounter fresh delays, as if to prove that England is not so easily surprised. Louis Philippe, who was to bridge the British Hellespont, crosses it with foreign aid, and lands in a pea-jacket borrowed from the English captain; he finds himself at home; the associations and the friends of his former exile greet him. A generation passes like a dream, and the aged monarch finds himself the Duke of Orleans, the banished son of old Egalité again."

Miscellanp.

THOUGHTS.

"Most men," says Thucydides, "are slow to give one another credit for feeling nobler sentiments, and acting on higher motives, than any that have ever found a place in their own breasts."

"Ten thousand of the greatest faults in our neighbour," says Whately, "are of less consequence to us, than any one, of the smallest, in ourselves."

"It is true practical philosophy," says Southey, "to make the most of little pleasures, and the best of every thing."

TRUE WORTH.

"Wherever I find a man despising the false estimates of the vulgar, and daring to aspire, in sentiment, in language, and in conduct, to what the highest wisdom through all ages has sanctioned as most excellent, to him I attach myself by a sort of necessary attachment; and if I am so formed by nature or destiny, that, by no exertion or labor of my own, I can attain this summit of worth and honor, yet no power of heaven or earth shall hinder me from looking with affection and reverence upon those who have thoroughly attained this glory, or appear engaged in the successful pursuit of it."—*Milton*.

TRUE SOCIETY.

"Crowd is not company, and faces are but a gallery of pictures where there is no love."—*Locke*.

APRIL FOOL.

Yes, you have made a fool of me,
This first of April, I agree;
But as for you, friend Tom, I fear
That you are one for all the year.

THE GOATEE.

"Come, tell me," said Dapper, and chuckled with glee,
"What think you now, Hal, of my famous *goatee*?"
"Why," said Hal, "'tis so fine, and so full round your throat,
That I really think you may pass for a *Goat*."

Martial Minor.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

We thank our Correspondents who have favored us with their contributions for this number; and trust that they, and others, will send us more for the next.

THE
VIRGINIA HISTORICAL REGISTER,
AND
LITERARY ADVERTISER.

VOL. I.

JULY, 1848.

NO. III.

VIRGINIA IN 1616.

We copy the following article from the Southern Literary Messenger for June 1839, (vol. 5th, p. 401.) where it is introduced with a short preface in these words: " We derive the subjoined interesting historical paper from so high a source, that we do not hesitate to vouch its authenticity. It appears that it was carefully transcribed from the Royal MSS. in the British Museum, and is entitled in Casley's Catalogue of those MSS., 'John Rolf's Relation of the State of Virginia, 17th Century.' The remark in the tract itself, 'the estate of this colony, as it remained in *May last*, when Sir Thomas Dale left the same,' proves that it must have been written a year after May, 1616—as the governor left the colony, and returned to England at that time; and the expression, 'both *here* and in Virginia,' establishes the fact that the paper was written in England. Rolf, the narrator, had been married to the celebrated Pocahontas, daughter of Powhatan, a few years before. She and her husband accompanied Sir Thomas Dale on his return to England, and arrived in Plymouth on the 12th June, 1616. The narrative itself, independent of the fact that it sustains and corroborates most of the accounts which have been preserved of the early state of the colony, will be read with interest, as the production of Mr. Rolf, the chosen partner of her who has been emphatically styled the guardian angel of the colony, and the ancestor of some of the most respectable and distinguished families of Virginia. We give the text *verbatim et literatim*."

TO THE KING'S MOST SACRED MA'TIE.

May it please your Highness :

There have been of late divulged many impressions, judicially and truly penned ; partlie to take away the ignominie, scandalls and maledictions wherewith this action hath ben branded, and partlie to satisfie all, (especially the best) with the manner of the late proceedings and the prosperitie likely to ensue. How happily and plenteously the good blessings of God have fallen upon the people and colony since the las impression, faithfully written by a gent. of good merit, Mr. Ralph Hamor, (some tyme an actuall member in the Plantation, even then departing when the foundacoun and ground worke was new laid of their now thrift and happines,) of the earthie and worldly man is scarcely believed, but of heavenlier minds they are most easilie discerned, for they daily attend and marke how those blessings, (though sometimes restrayned for a tyme,) in the end, are poured upon the servants of the Lord. Shall your Ma'tie, with pietie and pittie—with pietie, being zealous for God's glory, and with pittie, (mourning the defects,) vouchsafe to reade thus much of the estate of this colony, as it remained in May last, when Sir Thomas Dale left the same, I shall deeme my selfe most happie in your gracious acceptance, and most readilie offer to your approved judgment, whether this cause, so much despised and disgraced, doe not wrongfully suffer many imputacions.

First, to meete with an objection commonly used amongst many men, who search trutthes no farther then by common reports, namely, how is it possible Virginia can now be so good, so fertile a cuntry, so plentifulle stored with food and other commodities? Is it not the same still it was when men pined with famine? Can the earth now bring forth such a plentiful increase? Were there not governors, men and meanes to have wrought this heretofore? And can it now, on the suddaine, be so fruitfull? Surely, say they, these are rather bates to catch and

intrapp more men into woe and miserie, then otherwise can be imagined. These, with many as frivolous, I have heard instigated, and even reproachfullie spoken against Virginia. To answere whom, (the most parte of them incredulous worldlings—such as believe not, unless they feele the goodness of the Lord sensible to touch them,) though it be not much materiall, yet let them know, 'tis true, Virginia is the same it was, I meane for the goodnes of the seate, and fertileness of the land, and will no doubt so contynue to the world's end,—a countrey as worthy good report, as can be declared by the pen of the best writer. A countrey spacious and wide, capable of many hundred thousands of inhabitants. For the soil most fertile to plant in, for ayre fresh and temperate, somewhat hotter in summer, and not altogether so cold in winter as in England, yet so agreeable it is to our constitutions, that now 'tis more rare to heare of a man's death then in England amongst so many people as are there resident. For water, most wholesome and verie plentifull, and for fayre navigable rivers and good harbours, no countrey in christendom, in so small a circuite, is so well stored. For matter fit for buildings and fortifications, and for building of shipping, with everie thing thereto apperteyning, I may boldly avouch scarce anie or no countrey knowne to man is of itself more abundantly furnished. Theis things (may some say,) are of great consequence toward the settling of a plantation, but where are the beasts and cattle to feede and cloth the people? I confesse this is a mayne want; yet some there are already, as neate cattle, horses, mares and gotes, which are carefullie preserved for increase. The number whereof, hereafter shalbe sett downe in a particular note by themselves. There are also great store of hoggs, both wild and tame, and poultrie great plentie, which every man, if they will, themselves may keepe. But the greatest want of all is least thought on, and that is good and sufficient men, as well of birth and qualitie, to command soldiers, to march, discover and defend the countrey from invasions, as also artificers, laborers, and husbandmen, with whom, were the colony

well provided, then might tryall be made what lyeth hidden in the wombe of the ground. The land might yearlie abound with corne and other provisions for man's sustentation—buildings, fortifications and shipping might be reared, wrought and framed—commodities of divers kinds might be yearly reaped and sought after, and many things (God's blessinge contynuing,) might come with ease to establish a firme and perfect common weale.

But to come again to the matter, from which I have a little straid, and to give a more full answeare to the objectors, may you please to take notice, that the beginning of this plantation was governed by a president and councell, aristocratically. The president yearlie chosen out of the councell, which consisted of twelve persons. This government lasted about two years, in which tyme such envie, dissentions and jarres were daily sowne amongst them, that they choaked the seed and blasted the fruits of all men's labors. If one were well disposed and gave good advisement to proceed in the business—others, out of the malice of their hearts, would contradict, interdict, withstand and dash all. Some rung out and sent home too loud praises of the riches and fertillness of the country, before they assayed to plant, to reape or search the same; others said nothing, nor did any thing thereunto; all would be *keisars*, none inferior to other. Some drew forward, more backward—the vulgar sort looked for supplie out of England—neglected husbandry—some wrote—some said there was want of food, yet sought for none—others that would have sought could not be suffered; in which confusion much confusion yearlie befell them, and in this government happened all the miserie. Afterward a more absolute government was graunted, monarchially, wherein it still contynueth, and although for some few years it stood at a stay, especially in the manuring and tilling of ground, yet men spent not their tyme idely nor improfitably, for they were daily employed in palazadoing and building of townes, impaling grounds and other needful businesses, which is now both beneficiall to keepe the cattle from

ranging, and preserveth the corne safe from their spoile. Being thus fitted and prepared to sow corne, and to plant other seeds and fruits in all the places of our habitations,—one thing, notwithstanding, much troubled our governor, namely, enmitie with the Indians; for, however well we could defend ourselves, townes and seates from any assaulte of the natives, yet our cattle and corne lay too open to their courtesies, and too subject to their mercies: whereupon a peace was concluded, which still continueth so firme, that our people yearely plant and reape quietly, and travell in the woods a fowling and a hunting as freely and securely from feare of danger or treacherie as in England. The great blessings of God have followed this peace, and it, next under him, hath bredd our plentie—everie man sitting under his fig tree in safety, gathering and reaping the fruits of their labors with much joy and comfort. But a question may be demanded what these fruits are—for such as the countrey affordeth naturally (for varietie and goodnes) are comparable to the best in christendom, (growing wild as they doe,)—I pass them over, other discourses having largely manifested them to the view of the world. But for the people's present labors they have Indian wheate, called mays in the West Indies, pease and beanes, English wheate, peas, barley, turnips, cabbages, pumpions, West Indian and others, carretts, parsnips, and such like, besides hearbs and flowers, all of our English seede, both for pleasure and for the kitchen, so good, so fruitful, so pleasant and profitable, as the best made ground in England can yield. And that your Ma'tie may know what two men's labor, with spade and shalve only, can manure in one year, fiftie pounds in money was offered for their cropp, which they refused to take; for hемpe and flax, none better in England or Holland—silke wormes, some of their labors, and tast of other good and vendible commodities were now brought home. Likewise tobacco, (though an esteemed weed,) very commodious, which there thriveth so well, that no doubt but after a little more triall and expense in the curing thereof, it will compare with the best in the West Indies. For

fish and fowle, deere and other beasts, reports and writinge have rather been too sparing then prodigall.

About two years since, Sir Thomas Dale, (whose worth and name, in concluding this peace, and managing the affairs of this colony, will out last the standing of this plantation,) found out two seasons in the year to catch fish, namely, the spring and the fall. He himself tooke no small paines in the tryall, and at one hall with a scryne caught five thousand three hundred of them, as bigg as codd. The least of the residue or kind of salmon trout, two foote long; yet durst he not adventure on the mayne skull for breaking his nett. Likewise, two men with axes and such like weapons, have taken and kild neere the shoare and brought home fortie as great as codd in two or three hours space, so that now there is not so great plentie of victualls in anie one of the forenamed kind yearlie with small paines to be gotten in any part of England amongst so few people as are there resident. And, whereas, heretofore we were constrayned yearly to go to the Indians and intreate them to sell us corne, which made them esteeme verie basely of us—now the case is altered; they seeke to us—come to our townes, sell their skins from their shoulders, which is their best garments, to buy corne—yea, some of their pettie kings have this last yeare borrowed four or five hundred bushells of wheate, for payment whereof, this harvest they have mortgaged their whole countries, some of them not much less in quantitie then a shire in England. By this meanes plentie and prosperitie dwelleth amonst them, and the feare and danger of famine is clean taken away, wherewith the action hath a long time suffered injurious defamations.

Now that your highnes may with the more ease understand in what condition the colony standeth, I have briefly sett downe the manner of all men's several imployments, the number of them, and the several places of their abroad, which places or seates are all our owne ground, not so much by conquest, which the Indians hold a just and lawfull title, but purchased of them freely, and they verie willingly selling it.

The places which are now possessed and inhabited are sixe.

- | | | |
|----------------------------|-------------|--|
| 1. Henrico and the lymitts | } Hundreds. | } Members belonging to ye Bermuda Towne, a place so called there, by reason of the strength of the situation, were it indifferently fortified. |
| 2. Bermuda Nether | | |
| 3. West and Sherley | | |
| 4. James Towne | | |
| 5. Kequoughtan | | |
| 6. Dales-Gift | | |

The generall mayne body of the planters are divided into

1. Officers.
2. Laborers.
3. Farmors.

The officers have the charge and care as well over the farmors as laborers generallie—that they watch and ward for their preservacions; and that both the one and the other's busines may be daily followed to the performance of those employments, which from the one are required, and the other by covenant are bound unto. These officers are bound to maintayne themselves and families with food and rayment by their owne and their servants' industrie.

The laborers are of two sorts. Some employed only in the generall works, who are fedd and clothed out of the store—others, specially artificers, as smiths, carpenters, shoemakers, taylors, tanners, &c., doe worke in their professions for the colony, and maintayne themselves with food and apparrell, having time lymitted them to till and manure their ground.

The farmors live at most ease—yet by their good endeavours bring yearlie much plentie to the plantation. They are bound by covenant, both for themselves and servants, to maintaine your Ma'tie's right and title in that kingdom, against all foreigne and domestique enemies. To watch and ward in the townes where they are resident. To do thirty-one dayes service for the colony, when they shalbe called thereunto—yet not at all tymes, but when their owne busines can best spare them. To maintayne themselves and families with food and rayment—and every farmor to pay yearlie into the magazine, for himself and every man servant, two barrells and a half a piece of their best Indian wheate, which amounteth to twelve bushells and a halfe of English measure.

Thus briefly have I sett downe every man's particular employment and manner of living ; albeit, lest the people—who generally are bent to covett after gaine, especially having tasted of the sweete of their labors—should spend too much of their tyme and labor in planting tobacco, knowne to them to be verie vendible in England, and so neglect their tillage of corne, and fall into want thereof, it is provided for—by the providence and care of Sir Thomas Dale—that no farmor or other—who must maintayne themselves—shall plant any tobacco, unless he shall yearely manure, set and maintayne for himself and every man servant two acres of ground with corne, which doing they may plant as much tobacco as they will, els all their tobacco shalbe forfeite to the colony—by which meanes the magazin shall yearely be sure to receive their rent of corne ; to maintayne those who are fedd thereout, being but a few, and manie others, if need be ; they themselves will be well stored to keepe their families with overplus, and reape tobacco enough to buy clothes and such other necessaries as are needeful for themselves and household. For an easie laborer will keepe and tend two acres of corne, and cure a good store of tobacco—being yet the principall commoditie the colony for the present yieldeth. For which, as for other commodities, the councill and company for Virginia have already sent a ship thither, furnished with all manner of clothing, household stuff and such necessaries, to establish a magazin there, which the people shall buy at easie rates for their commodities—they selling them at such prices that the adventurers may be no loosers. This magazin shalbe yearelie supplied to furnish them, if they will endeavor, by their labor, to maintayne it—which wilbe much beneficiall to the planters and adventurers, by interchanging their commodities, and will add much encouragement to them and others to persevere and follow the action with a constant resolution to uphold the same.

The people which inhabite the said six severall places are disposed as followeth :

At Henrico, and in the precincte, (which is seated on the north

side of the river, ninety odd myles from the mouth thereof, and within fifteen or sixteen myles of the falls or head of that river, being our furthest habitation within the land,) are thirty-eight men and boyes, whereof twenty-two are farmors, the rest officers and others, all whom maintayne themselves with food and apparrell. Of this towne one capten Smaley hath the command in the absence of capten James Davis. Mr. Wm. Wickham minister there, who, in his life and doctrine, give good examples and godly instructions to the people.

At Bermuda Nether Hundred, (seated on the south side of the river, crossing it and going by land, five myles lower then Henrico by water,) are one hundred and nineteen—which seate conteyneth a good circuite of ground—the river running round, so that a pale running cross a neck of land from one parte of the river to the other, maketh it a peninsula. The houses and dwellings of the people are sett round about by the river, and all along the pale, so farr distant one from the other, that upon anie alarme, they can succor and second one the other. These people are enjoyned by a charter, (being incorporated to the Bermuda towne, which is made a corporacoun,) to effect and performe such duties and services whereunto they are bound for a certain tyme, and then to have their freedome. This corporacoun admit no farmors, unles they procure of the governor some of the colony men to be their servants, for whom (being no members of the corporacoun,) they are to pay rent corne as other farmors of this kind—these are about seventeen. Others also comprehended in the said number of one hundred and nineteen there, are resident, who labor generallie for the colonie; amongst whom some make pitch and tarr, potashes, charcole and other works, and are maintayned by the magazin—but are not of the corporacoun. At this place (for the most part) liveth capten *Peacdley*, deputy marshal and deputy governor. Mr. Alexander Whitaker, (sonne to the reverend and famous divine, Dr. Whitaker,) a good divine, hath the ministerial charge here.

At West and Sherley Hundred (seated on the north side of the river, lower then the Bermudas three or four myles,) are

twenty-five, commanded by capten Maddeson—who are employed onely in planting and curing tobacco,—with the profit thereof to clothe themselves and all those who labor about the generall business.

At James Towne (seated on the north side of the river, from West and Sherley Hundred lower down about thirty-seven myles,) and fifty, under thé command of lieutenant Sharpe, in the absence of capten Francis West, Esq., brother to the right ho'ble the Le. Lawarre,—whereof thirty-one are farmors; all theis maintayne themselves with food and rayment. Mr. Richard Burd minister there—a verie good preacher.

At Kequoughtan (being not farr from the mouth of the river, thirty-seven miles below James Towne on the same side,) are twenty—whereof eleven are farmors; all those also maintayne themselves as the former. Capten George Webb commander. Mr. Wm. Mays minister there.

At Dales-Gift (being upon the sea, neere unto Cape Charles, about thirty myles from Kequoughtan,) are seventeen, under the command of one lieutenant Cradock; all these are fedd and maintayned by the colony. Their labor is to make salt and catch fish at the two seasons aforementioned.

So the number of officers and laborers are two hundred and five. The farmors 81; besides woemen and children, in everie place some—which in all amounteth to three hundred and fifty-one persons—a small number to advance so great a worke.

Theis severall places are not thus weakly man'd, as capable of no greater number, (for they will maintayne many hundreds more,)—but because no one can be forsaken without losse and detriment to all. If then so few people, thus united, ordered and governed, doe live so happily, every one partaking of the others labor, can keepe in possession so much ground as will feed a far greater number in the same or better condition; and seeing too, too many poore farmors in England worke all the yeare, rising early and going to bed late, live penuriously, and much adoe to pay their landlord's rent, besides a daily karking and caring to feed themselves and families, what happines might

they enjoy in Virginia, were men sensible of theis things, where they may have ground for nothing, more than they can manure; reape more fruits and profitts with half the labor, void of many cares and vexacions, and for their rent a matter of small or no moment, I leave to your singular judgment and consideracoun, nothing doubting, but He (who, by his infinite goodnes, with so small means, hath settled these poore and weake beginnings so happily,) will animate, stirr up and encourage manie others cheerefully to undertake this worke, and will assuredly add a daily strength to uphold and maintayne what he hath already begun.

Seeing then this languishing action is now brought to this forwardness and strength, no person but is provided for, either by their owne or others labors, to subsist themselves for food, and to be able to rayse commodities for clothing and other necessaries, envy it selfe, poysoned with the venom of aspes, cannot wound it.

Now, to drawe to a conclusion of this my poore oblacon, I would crave your Highnes' patience a little longer—and that you would turne your heart to a more heavenly meditacoun, wherein much joy and comfort is to be reaped and found, of all such as shall truly, sincerely and unfeynedly seeke to advance the honor of God, and to propagate his gospell. There is no small hope by pietie, clemencie, curtesie and civill demeanor, (by which meanes some are wonne to us already,) to convert and bring to the knowledge and true worship of Jesus Christ thousands of poore, wretched and misbelieving people on whose faces a good christian cannot looke without sorrow, pittie and compassion, seing they beare the image of our Heavenlie Creator, and we and they come from one and the same mould, especially we knowing that they, merely through ignorance of God and Christ, doe run headlong, yea, with joy, into destruction and perpetuall damnation,—for which knowledge we are the more bound and indebted to Almighty God, (for what were we before the gospell of Christ shined amongst us?) and cannot better express our duties and thankfulness for so great mercies,

then by using such meanes to them, as it pleased him to lend unto others to bring our forefathers and us into the waies of trueth,—it is much to be mourned and lamented how lightlie the workes of God are now a days generallie regarded, and less sought after; but the worke of the world, as though they were eternall, hungered for, and thirsted after with insatiable greedines. But should we well consider, examine and search into ourselves, what we were, and now are, there can be no heart, (if not hardened as the nether mill stone,) but would even break itself to pieces, and distribute to manie poore soules some parte thereof, to purge them from their lees of synne, and to sette them in the right pathes of holines and righteousnes, to serve the King of Heaven; by which meanes and God's holy assistance, no doubt they will soone be brought to abandon their old superstitions and idolatries, wherein they have been nursed and trayned from their infancies, and our greatest adversaries shall not taunt us with this reproach, "Whom of you have you wonne to christianitie?" What a crowne of glorie shalbe sett upon their heads who shall faithfullie labor herein, I leave to the enjoying of them, who shall endeavour unfeynedly to meritt the same. Finallie, as Caleb and Joshua in the verie heate of grudgings, murmurings, and assemblies of the children of Israell, stood stoutlie for the Lord's cause, commending the goodnes of the land they discovered, to the faces of their oppressors, and the easines to obtain it even to the perill of their lives, so mauny right ho'ble and worthis personages, both here and in Virginia, (whom generallie the most parte withdrew themselves, that the action was almost sunck downe in forgetfulnes,) have mightilie upheld this christian cause—for God, even our owne God, did helpe them. For neither evill reports, nor slanders, nor murmurings, nor backbitings of others, nor any disaster, did once dismay or hinder them from upholding thereof with their good reports, encouragements, and meanes yearelie sent to the planters, to nourish life and being in this zealous worke. I beseech God to raise up many more such, so zealous for God's glory, to forward the same—we have tasted of some fruits thereof. There are no great nor strong castles,

nor men like the sons of Anack, to hinder our quiet possession of that land. God's hand hath been mightie in the preservacoun thereof hitherto; what need we then to feare, but to goe up at once as a peculiar people, marked and chosen by the finger of God, to possess it, for undoubtedly he is with us. And as for murmurers, slanderers and backsliders, a due porcoun shalbe given them for their reward. So the blessings of Caleb and Joshua shall fall upon all those that constantly persevere to the end. Thus, craving your gracious pardon for my rude boldnes, beseeching God to send you the fulnes of his blessings in this world and in the world to come, I rest,

Your highnes' most faithful and loyall subject,

JOHN ROLF.

The number of neate cattle, horses and goates, which were alive in Virginia at Sir Thomas Dale's departure thence:

Cowes,	} 83	} in all } 144.
Heifers,		
Cow calves,		
Steeres	41	
Bulles,	20	

Memorand: 20 of the cowes were great with calfe at his departure.

Horses,	3	} in all } 6.
Mares,	3	
Goates	} male and female, in all } 216.	
and		
Kidds,		

Hoggs, wild and tame, not to be nombred.

Poultry, great plenty.

Note.—The work of Mr. Ralph Hamor, referred to in the article above, was published in London in 1615, and is entitled, "A True Discourse of the present Estate of Virginia, and the success of the affairs there till the 18th June, 1614; together with a relation of the severall English towns and forts, the assured hopes of that country, and the peace concluded with the Indians; the christening of Powhatan's daughter, and her marriage with an Englishman. Written by Ralph Hamor, the younger, late Secretary in that Colony."

CAPT. BYRD'S LETTERS CONTINUED.

Virginia, May 20th, 1634.

To JACOB ROBERT, per Wynne.

Sir,—Yours of the 9th of Jan'y and the 28th of Sept'r both came safe to my Hands, with your acceptable present of roots and seeds. The Iris, Crocus, Tulips, and anemones flowered this year. The Seeds (I fear) were heated in the Hould of the Ship, but very few of them coming up.

If you send any thing for Mr. Banister, you had best send it up to Messrs. Perry & Lane, merchants in London to bee sent to mee, who will send any thing from the middle of July to the last of Oct'b'r when there is allways a ready passage. If you send Roots and Seeds you had best write on the box not to bee put in the Hould.

I wish it lay in my power to doe you or Mr. Banister any acceptable service. I'll assure you none should bee more ready than your obliged friend and servant,

W. B.

Virginia, May 20th, 1634.

To Mr. THO. GOWER.

Sir,—Yours of the 8th of Feb'y came safe to my Hands, by which you give me the reason of your not writeing per Wynne. Your kind token, wee were very merry with, and remembered all our friends as Jack Wynne can testify.

I designed you a Parcell of Snake-root,—but Wynne hurrying his boat away, it is left behind; hee pretends his ship is so full hee cannot carry it. Our friends here are all in health. My respects and service to all our friends, especially to yourselfe and all at your House from your obliged friend and serv't,

W. B.

Virginia, May the 20, 1684.

TO THOMAS GRENDON, Esq.

Dear Sir,—I wrote to you about three weeks since from Towne, where the Assembly is yet Sitting, but about 10 days since, there being a rumour of the Indians being on the frontiers, I obtained leave to come home, and therefore can not give you any account of their proceedings, but must leave it to Capt. Randolph, a worthy member thereof, and to tell you the truth, I can give you as little account of your affairs at home, I haveing not been three days at my owne house these 5 weeks. I suppose you will have that fully from Capt. Randolph or Henry Harman, with the damage you have Sustained there by breaking open the Store. I designe as soon as Will Randolph comes up to goe to your house and inquire fully into the matter. I hear the old Gentlewoman is very well, but I believe sufficiently perplexed about that affair.

My Lord Baltimore is going for England, and is now at James Towne to visit our Governor. Major Beverly was tryed this Court for Severall high crimes and misdemeanours and found guilty by the jury, but submitting himselfe on his knees at the Barre was promised pardon on his future good behaviour.

Here hath been a Season these three weeks and therefore likely to bee forward crops.

Our friends are all well. Wee often remember you when wee meet. Remember mee to all our friends where you are and accept my best respects and service from, Dear Sir,

Your reall friend and servant,

W. B.

Virginia, May the 20th, 1684.

To Mr. Coe, per Wynne,

Yours by Col. Ludwell came safe to hand with your acc't of disbursements, and cannot but always acknowledge your great

kindnesses, and wish it lay in my power to make appear what a gratefull sense I have thereof. I wrote to you by my cousin Tom who I hope gott safe to his desired port. Wee dranke all your good healths at Capt. Randolph's with your kind token.

Pray send me your opinion of the inclosed. I designed to have sent you some crude Oare, but had not time before this Ship goes. The Oare is like black Lead with streaks in it and very ponderous. It melts easy with a Charcoale fire and a pair of hand bellows.

I desire you would send mee two new fashioned Silver mugs, one to contain about half a pint, and the other one-fourth of a pint, both for myselfe, also add a pair of stone Buttons, about 18*d* or 2*s*. a pair.

Remember mee to all our friends and accept of mine and my wife's best respects and service to yourselfe and Lady from your obliged friend and humble servant,

W. B.

Virginia, May 20th, 1684.

To My Brother RAND.

Dear Sir,—I could not faile by Capt. Wynne herewith to acquaint you with our wellfare, also to give you thanks for your Gooseberry, Currants and flowers, the latter whereof miscarried, the Shrubs former are all alive and grow well.

All our friends here are well except my Lady Berkeley who remains much indisposed. We frequently drinke your health, when wee meet. My wife and the little girls give their best respects to yourselfe and my Sister with all our friends, and pray give mine where it is due, especially to your Lady, Sister Betty, and Dudley. Wishing you all health and happinesse and us a merry meeting, I take leave.

Dear Sir, your affectionate Brother,
And Humble Servant,

W. B.

Virginia, June the 21st, 1684.

To Mr. GRENDON.

Dear Sir,—My last to you by Jack Wynne I hope is got safe to your Hands. Since which I have little to adde; our Assembly have done, as formerly, nothing in relation to Townes or Trade, only the Statehouse to bee rebuilt, and the law for encouragement of flax was repealed. Our Governor two days hence goes in the Quaker Ketch to New Yorke to passe away some of the hott weather. All well at your house. I was there, about at fortnight since, my Aunt mighty well and briske.

Mr. Kennon and Pleasants have lately received 34 Negro's and 7 or 8 Tun of Rum and Sugar, besides dry Goods, which are all sold for next years pay, so that I believe a great part of the Tobacco in these parts is allready disposed of.

I take leave wishing you a safe and prosperous voyage when you embarke for these parts, and am Dear Sir your reall friend and servant,

W. B.

Virginia, June the 21st, 1684.

To Mr. Coe, by Lady Berkeley,

I wrote you about a month since by Wynne, and then inclosed sent you something for your opinion of it, as now I designe by the Lady Berkeley or Capt. Rider by whom this comes, to send you a Small Box with about 20 rough Stones. They are indifferent clear but too soft I fear to bee good. They are generally Pentagonall and some Hexagonall as they are found in their Beds. Pray send mee word whether they bee of any value. If they are, I can furuish you with more of them,

If you can light of a good treatise of Mineralls, especially of Lead and Silver, pray send mee one.

I am Dear Sir your obliged friend and servant,

W. B.

I designed you some of the crude oare of the sort sent per Wynne herewith, but cannot yett possibly obtain it.

Virginia, June 21st, 1684.

To Messrs. PERRY & LANE.

Gentlemen,—Last weeke I rec'd yours by the Quaker Ketch which advise of Capt. Hall and Capt. Pagger's arriveall and the losse of Sugars, whose ship I never saw, but was recommended to mee by some that shipped on board her to bee a Ship the best manned and provided of any in this River,—But its too late now to dispute that. I hope my last to you by Wynne with four Hhds. of Furrer will get safe to your Hands. I designe you two more herewith, if I can gett them about to Yorke River.

I hope what you send will be early, Mr. Paggen haveing sent about a fortnight since into these parts 34 negros, with a considerable quantity of Dry Goods, and 7 or 8 tun of Rum and Sugar, which I fear will bring our people much in debt, and occasion them to bee carelesse with the Tobacco they make. Pray send mee by the first convenience after this comes to hand about 400 foot of Glasse of the large twelves, with drawne Lead and Soder proportionable,—10 Boxes of Lockyer's Pills, and 1 pr. Smith's Bellows. I hope if my bills of Exchange for impost of Tobacco in Sugars comes to your Hands, you will pay them our law given damages notwithstanding the Ship's being lost. Nothing else but am, Gentlemen,

Your friend and servant,

W. B,

POSTC.

June 26th. *Gentlemen,*—Since the above was written, I have got my 2 Hds. of furrer to Middle Plantation, and Colonel Ludwell hath promised mee to ship them and take bills of Lading for them. Inclosed is the contents.

Pray send mee by the first convenience some Borers or Au-

gurs, such as they use to search for Coale or Lead with, what may serve for three fathoms or thereabouts, for I have a present occasion for them.

W. B.

TWO OLD LAWYERS.

Amongst the manuscripts in the Library of our Virginia Historical Society, we find a small Quarto volume, bound in parchment, which was presented, we see, some years ago, by John Page, Esq., of Williamsburg, since deceased; and of which he says, in his letter accompanying it, dated January 3rd, 1834, on file; "It was the property of the late venerable and lamented Chancellor Wythe, and I believe is altogether in his hand-writing, though the character of the copy of the part headed "Taken from Sir John's Breviate Book," seems to be different from that of the Greek and Latin. Much the longest portion of the book is a *Clavis Omerou*, or Etymological Praxis, on several of the books of the Iliad, &c., which will serve, in a striking manner, to illustrate the great industry of that distinguished man.

"The last part, consisting of only six pages, contains a sketch of the lives of John Holloway, and William Hopkins, Esquires, members of the Virginia Bar, who died about the end of the year 1734, by Sir John Randolph. This sketch is valuable not only as giving us the characters of two prominent lawyers of that early period, but as being written by a third who was himself the Attorney General at the time."

It is this "last part" only that we now lay before our readers as follows:

Taken from Sir John Randolph's Breviate Book.

On the 14th of December 1734, Died suddenly of a Fit, John Holloway, Esq., after having languished about ten months with a sort of Epilepsie at certain times of the Moon, which had much impaired his memory and understanding. He had practiced in this Court upwards of thirty Years, with great Reputation for

Diligence and Learning; and was so much in the good Opinion of the Court, that I have upon many occasions known him prevail for his Clients against Reasons and Arguments much stronger and better than his. His Opinions were by most People looked upon as decisive, and were very frequently acquiesced in by both Parties, those against whom he pronounced being discouraged from disputing against so great Authority. He practiced with much Artifice and Cunning, being thoroughly skilled in Attorneyship; But when his Causes came to a Hearing, he reasoned little, was tedious in reading long Reports of some Cases, and little Abridgments of others, out of which he would collect short Aphorisms, and obiter sayings of Judges, and rely upon them, without regarding the main Point in Question; and arbitrarily affirm or deny a matter of Law, which had often too much Weight against the Reason and Difference of things. By this Method he gained many Causes which always gave him great Joy, but was as impatient if he lost one as if it tended to a Diminution of his Credit. He was blamable for one singular Practice, in Drawing notes for special verdicts; he would state naked Circumstances of Facts only, and leave to the Court to collect the Matter of Fact out of them; so that upon such Verdicts we have had many tedious Debates about what the fact was. Whereas if that had been found positively as it should be, there would have been no Need of a Special Verdict. But against this I could never prevail. His greatest Excellence was his Diligence and Industry; but for Learning, I never thought he had any, nor could it be expected he should; He had served a Clerkship; went a youth afterwards into the Army in Ireland in the Beginning of King Wm's Reign; after that betook himself to Business having got to be one of the Attorneys of the Marshalsea Court; but not being contented with his income from that, turned Projector and ruined himself, which brought him first into Maryland and afterwards hither. I remember one particular Instance, which satisfied me his Knowledge in the Law was not very profound. An Ejectment was brought, (whether I was at

first concerned in it I forget) and upon a Special Verdict the Case was thus. A. seised in Fee by Deed, gave the Land in Question to B. his Daughter for Life and after her Death to her Heirs for ever ; she sold to the Def't. and after her Death the Pl't. B.'s Heir claiming as a Purchaser in Remainder brought this Action to recover. When I saw this, I told the Pl't. who was my Client, I could not say one word for him ; not knowing a more certain Rule of Law than this : That where by Will or Conveyance any Estate of Freehold is given to the Ancestor and by the same Writing an Estate is limited to his Heirs, that makes a Fee [Heirs] being there a word of Limitation and not of Purchase. Yet the Def't. by this Eminent Lawyer's Advice gave up the Land without Argument, upon the Pl'ts. allowing him to remain in Possession some short Time longer : when if the matter had been brought to a Hearing, I would not have said one word.

However his Reputation was such, that he was universally courted, and most People thought themselves obliged to him, if he would engage of their Side upon any Terms ; and he really thought so himself. This gave him great Opportunities of exacting excessive Fees, which I have heard he always did, where the Value of the thing in Question would allow it : and covered great Blemishes in one Part of his private Life, besides many Imperfections of his Mind, which any Body might observe who knew any thing of him. He was of a haughty, insolent, nature ; passionate and peevish to the last Degree. He had a Stiffness in his Carriage which was ridiculous and often offensive ; and was an utter Stranger to Hospitality. He was sincere in his Friendship where he professed any,—but not constant, apt to change upon small provocations, and to contract new Friendship upon very slight Grounds, in which he would be very warm and ready to do all good offices. One of his greatest Defects was that he would always bring his Opinion and Friendship to agree. But what he wanted in Virtue and Learning to recommend him was abundantly supplied by fortunate Accidents. He was 14 years Speaker of the House of Burgesses, and 11 years

Public Treasurer. But in those he acted with little Applause and less Abilities, though he was three times chosen and once unan-
imously. His management of the Treasury contributed to his
Ruin, and brought him to the Grave with much Disgrace. I was
always his Friend, and had a great Deal of Reason to believe
him mine. Yet it was impossible to be blind to some Imperfec-
tions. He died little lamented in the 69th year of his age.

In a few Daies afterwards in London died William Hopkins
Esq'r. who had practiced in this Court about 12 years, and in
that Time by hard Study, and Observation he made a surprizing
Progress; became a very ingenious Lawyer and a good Pleader,
tho' at his first coming he was raw and much despised. But he
had a Carelessness in his Nature, which preserved him from be-
ing discouraged, and carried him on till he came to be admired.
He had a good Foundation in School Learning, understood La-
tin and French well, had a strong Memory, a good Judgment;
a Quickness that was very visible; and a handsome Person, all
mighty Advantages. But his manner was awkward, his Temper
Sower, if it was to be judged by the Action of his Muscles; and
was given, was too much given, to laugh at his own Discourses.

When he had brought himself into good Business, he almost
totally neglected it, which I believe was owing to a Desire of
Dipping into all Kinds of Knowledge, wherein he had a great
Deal of Vanity, and prevented his Digesting what he had, so
well as he would have done otherwise. He had many good
Qualities in his Practice; was moderate in his Fees; Ingenious
and Earnest, never disputed plain Points, but was a candid fair
Arguer. Yet he had a failing which brought him to a Quarrel
with me. It was an odd Sort of Pride that would not suffer him
to keep an Equilibrium in his own Conceits. He could not see
himself admired, without thinking it an Injury to him to stand
upon a Level with any other. And therefore tho' I was always
his Friend, had done him many Kindnesses, and he himself
thought himself obliged to me, He came into so ill a Temper, as

not to allow me either Learning or Honesty; which broke our acquaintance, and after that I thought I discovered some Seeds of Malice in him. He died in the Flower of his Age, and may be justly reckoned a Loss to this poor Country, which is not like to abound (at present at least) in Great Geniuses.

THE DEATH OF LORD CHATHAM.

The death of Lord Chatham—recalled as it has recently been to our remembrance by the somewhat similar departure of an illustrious statesman of our own country—has always been considered as one of the most striking exits on record. It was an event, indeed, which caused a great and deep emotion at the time of its occurrence, not only in Great Britain, and throughout Europe; but in our own country, and more particularly perhaps in our own Virginia, where that eminent and exalted man had long been regarded with the most lively admiration, as the matchless Secretary, and incomparable manager of the war against France, with all its train of splendid victories, and that crowning triumph of Wolfe on the Heights of Abraham, which had so gloriously liberated us from the hostilities of our French and Indian enemies on our borders, and left us free to enjoy the renown of our mother country, felt as our own, in honorable peace. Then, indeed, was the time when, as Cowper sings,

Time was when it was praise and boast enough
 In every clime, and travel where we might,
 That we were born her children, praise enough
 To fill th' ambition of a private man,
 That Chatham's language was his mother tongue,
 And Wolfe's great name compatriot with his own.

—though we should rather say “Pitt's language,” as the great

Commoner had not yet been created a peer, to the injury of his passing popularity, and perhaps also a little somewhat to the damage of his more enduring fame.

That time had passed away, but the services which this great orator had continued to render to the cause of British liberty (always dear to us,) and to the cause of our country, by his memorable speech against the Stamp Act, and by his subsequent fulminations against the British Ministry for all their rash and reckless measures against us, had kept his character and merits alive in all our hearts; and though his acceptance of a peerage, as we have just hinted, had caused a temporary eclipse of his radiance on both sides of the Atlantic, his orb still shone out upon us, with superior splendor, and was still beheld with admiration and delight. It may be easily conceived, then, with what vivid emotions our fathers—in the midst of all that yet doubtful struggle with the parent power, and grappling with her gigantic force, must have heard of the death of their great advocate—the unrivalled champion of their cause—and how fondly they would gather up all the circumstances of the event, at once to heighten and to soothe their regret for his loss. Those circumstances, indeed, were all striking, and such as hardly ever united to crown so splendid a life with so brilliant a close. We have all read the accounts that have been given of the last scene especially, in the House of Lords, when “the old man eloquent” raised his now faltering voice for the last time, to protest in the most solemn manner against the dismemberment of the ancient and noble monarchy of Britain by the acknowledgment of our independence; but at the same time to urge upon that infatuated and “confounded ministry” the duty and necessity of making the most ample concession to our country, in order to secure its allegiance to the crown. We have read these accounts, however, for the most part, in histories which could not conveniently or properly enter into all the details that we desired. They filled our imaginations; but did not satisfy our hearts; and we have sometimes wished that we could take a look into some of those pri-

vate letters which must have been written on the occasion, from some of our friends on that side of the water, to one or more of our patriots on this. Nor can we quite relinquish the hope, even now, that we may yet recover some of these memorials, as we have lately done those relating to the Portrait of this great man, which we published in our last number. In the mean time, we have been highly gratified to come across a letter written by the celebrated Lord Camden, who had been so honorably associated with Lord Chatham, in some of the most important public acts of his life, which gives us a more familiar and graphic account of his last appearance to which we have alluded, than we have yet seen. We find it in "Lord Campbell's Lives of the Lord Chancellors and Keepers of the Great Seal of England, Second Series," lately published; and hasten to lay it before our readers as follows:

TO HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF GRAFTON.

"April, 1778, N. B. Street.

"MY DEAR LORD,—I cannot help considering the little illness which prevented your Grace from attending the House of Lords last Tuesday to have been a piece of good fortune, as it kept you back from a scene that would have overwhelmed you with grief and melancholy, as it did me and many others that were present; I mean Lord Chatham's fit, that seized him as he was attempting to rise and reply to the Duke of Richmond; he fell back upon his seat, and was to all appearance in the agonies of death. This threw the whole House into confusion; every person was upon his legs in a moment, hurrying from one place to another, some sending for assistance, others producing salts, and others reviving spirits. Many crowding about the Earl to observe his countenance—all affected—most part really concerned; and even those who might have felt a secret pleasure at the accident, yet put on the appearance of distress, except only the Earl of M., who sat still, almost as much unmoved as the senseless body itself. Dr. Brocklesby was the first physician that came; but Dr. Addington in about an hour was brought to him. He was carried into the Prince's chamber, and laid upon the table supported by pillows. The first motion of life that appeared was an endeavor to vomit, and after he had discharged the load from his stomach that probably brought on the seizure, he

revived fast. Mr. Strutt prepared an apartment for him at his house, where he was carried as soon as he could with safety be removed. He slept remarkably well, and was quite recovered yesterday, though he continued in bed. I have not heard how he is to-day, but will keep my letter open till the evening, that your Grace may be informed how he goes on.

I saw him in the Prince's chamber before he went into the House, and conversed a little with him, but such was the feeble state of his body, and indeed the distempered agitation of his mind, that I did forebode that his strength would certainly fail him before he had finished his speech. In truth, he was not in a condition to go abroad, and he was earnestly requested not to make the attempt; but your Grace knows how obstinate he is when he is resolved. He had a similar fit to this in the summer; like it in all respects, in the seizure, the retching, and the recovery; and after that fit, as if it had been the crisis of the disorder, he recovered fast, and grew to be in better health than I had known him for many years. Pray heaven that this may be attended with no worse consequences. The Earl spoke, but was not like himself; his speech faltered, his sentences broken, and his mind not master of itself. He made shift, with difficulty, to declare his opinion, but was not able to enforce it by argument. His words were shreds of unconnected eloquence, and flashes of the same fire which he, Prometheus-like, had stolen from heaven, and were then returning to the place from whence they were taken. Your Grace sees even I, who am a mere prose man, am tempted to be poetical while I am discoursing of this extraordinary man's genius. The Duke of Richmond answered him, and I cannot help giving his Grace the commendation he deserves for his candor, courtesy, and liberal treatment of his illustrious adversary. The debate was adjourned till yesterday, and then the former subject was taken up by Lord Shelburne, in a speech of one hour and three-quarters. The Duke of Richmond answered; Shelburne replied; and the Duke, who enjoys the privilege of the last word in that House, closed the business, no other Lord, except our friend Lord Ravensworth, speaking one word; the two other noble Lords consumed between three and four hours.

And now, my dear Lord, you must with me lament this fatal accident; I fear it is *fatal*, and this great man is now lost for ever to his country; for after such a public and notorious exposure of his decline, no man will look up to him, even if he should recover. France will no longer fear him, nor the King of England court him; and the present set of ministers will finish the

ruin of the state, because, he being in effect superannuated, the public will call for no other men. This is a very melancholy reflection. The opposition, however, is not broken, and this difference of opinion will wear off; so far at least, the prospect is favorable. I think I shall not sign the protest, though, in other respects, I shall be very friendly. I have troubled your Grace with a deal of stuff, but the importance of the subject will excuse me.

“Your Grace’s, &c.

“CAMDEN.

“P. S. I understand the Earl has slept well last night, and is to be removed to-day to Downing Street. He would have gone into the country, but Addington thinks he is too weak.”

The stricken man, however, did not recover. He rallied, indeed, so far as to be carried home to his favorite villa of Hayes—but only to die; and after lingering there a few weeks, in the bosom of his family, he expired on the 11th of May, 1778, in the 70th year of his age:—leaving a bright and spotless name to adorn the annals of his country to the end of time.

THE SCHOONER PATRIOT.

In the spring and summer of the year 1781, a large fleet of British men-of-war and transports were assembled in Hampton Roads, for the purpose of protecting and transporting Lord Cornwallis’s army from Portsmouth to Yorktown. This fleet remained in that position for some time, and during that period caused the most annoying interruption to the intercourse of the inhabitants of the surrounding country. For the boats, and small craft belonging to it, were always on the look-out, day and night, and rambling far and wide from the shipping, going up the river as high as Jamestown, and looking into all the smaller streams, Nansemond, Pagan Creek, &c., for supplies, and plunder. At this time neither the Government of the State, nor that of the

country, could afford any effectual relief to the citizens who were suffering from these predatory excursions. At length, however, it was resolved that an effort should be made with the only vessel then afloat belonging to the State Navy, to check this evil as far as possible, and afford some small relief to the people—that is, more particularly, to the women—for the men generally were either gone to sea, or to the army, or were prisoners of war; and indeed they were so thinned off about this time, that soon after the investment of York Town, it was said that there were not more than five old men in the county of Elizabeth City, except a few that had paroles; but there were but few who would accept such protections.

An order was accordingly sent to Lieut. James Watkins commanding the Schooner Patriot, then lying high up the James River for safety, to proceed down to the waters most annoyed by the British cruisers, and use his best endeavours to give the inhabitants such protection as his small vessel could afford; for the Patriot was but a small thing mounting only eight two-pounders, on swivels; but these were so judiciously arranged, that she had more than once captured vessels of twice her number and weight of metal. In the action, too, that she had with a heavy British Government Schooner, when she was commanded by Captain Richard Taylor, afterwards Commodore Taylor, she made a most gallant defence, and would in all probability have captured this vessel of double her force, had not Capt. Taylor and many of his men received such dangerous and painful wounds, as obliged him to allow the British cruiser to go off. Captain Watkins, then, with his first Lieutenant, whose name was Umphlet, and a small crew, hastened down the river in this sharp little schooner, to do his duty. At this time, the British had, for some weeks, caused a sloop, apparently a common craft, of about 60 or 80 tons, to run far up the river on petty plundering expeditions; and this sloop soon attracted the attention of Capt. Watkins who watched all her movements, and readily concluded from them that she was only a freebooter who was making the most of her

opportunities, and quite as anxious to avoid a meeting with the Patriot as he was to effect it. And now for the closing scene of the affair, which the writer of this article happened to witness himself, and which was as follows.

I had gone out some short time before, with my elder brother, and a very singular and meritorious character in the person of an African, who had been brought over to this country when he was young, and soon evinced a remarkable attachment to it; he was brought up a pilot, and proved a skilful one, and a devoted patriot. Our little party had taken shelter in a small house in the great gust-wood, in Elizabeth City county, with a view to cross over, on the first opportunity we could find, to the South side of the James river, where we expected to meet some friends who had preceded us, and with whom we hoped to enjoy a degree of safety not then to be found on the North side where we were. With this object in view, we made daily excursions to the river side, about three miles off, in hopes to find some craft or boat to take us over to the opposite shore. At length, on one Sunday forenoon, about 11 o'clock, as we stood on the bank of the river, on a spot belonging to the respectable family of Massenburgs, in Warwick county, we saw the schooner Patriot in chase of the suspicious sloop, and as we supposed fast coming up with her. Here Capt. Starlins, (for so our African called himself,) allowed his patriotism to get the better of his judgment, and gave free utterance to the most extravagant expressions of joy—at the same time hopping about with uplifted and clapping hands,—in the hope, which indeed we all indulged, that we should soon see both vessels changing their course, and going up the river, instead of down to the Roads.

But now for the end. The sloop was purposely delayed in her downward progress, by a drag thrown out over her starboard bow, which enabled the Patriot to come alongside of her, when, all at once, up jumped fifty Marines with their officers, who had hitherto not been seen;—and the capture of the Patriot was but the work of a minute. And what now was the dismay of our

thunder-struck group, at this sudden disappointment of all our hopes! It is impossible to describe it. Poor Captain Starlins was struck dumb and motionless, and the questions which my brother and I put to him as to the first movements of the vessels after they came in collision with each other, were only answered by heavy groans, and a rapid motion along the edge of the bank downwards, as if he was determined to keep pace with the departing favorite, or at least to see the last of her, under the control of her new masters. My brother had more command over his feelings. He was indeed exceedingly grieved, but although young, being only fifteen years of age, he was already remarkable for that dignity of character which afterwards became so conspicuous in him, and restrained himself; while I gave way, like the poor Captain, whose downward course, however, I now endeavoured to arrest, by laying hold of his clothes, and exclaiming, "why, uncle Mark, where are you going? That is not the way home." This I said with sobs and cries too loud not to be heard by him, and coming to himself, as it were, out of a deep revery, which had hitherto absorbed all his faculties, he burst out into a strain of incoherent exclamation, and floods of tears, which so far relieved him that he could now attend to our situation, and giving a last look to the now lessening object of our sorrow, we all turned our melancholy steps towards our temporary home, there to bemoan the fate of our countrymen, who, as we heard, were immediately sent off to Charleston, South Carolina, and locked up in the Prevost prison, where Lieut. Watkins died. Lieut. Umphlet survived, and returned to his friends after the British evacuated that city.

The Patriot was afterwards taken round to York Town with the British fleet that attended Lord Cornwallis's army when he established his head quarters in that place, and when he afterwards surrendered to the combined armies, she fell into the hands of the French, according to the terms of the capitulation, and the last that we heard of her was that she was carried to Cape Francois, and there employed as a government packet.

But to return to Captain Starlins, the noble African. He lived

and died a slave soon after the peace, and just before a law was passed that gave freedom to all those devoted men of colour who had so zealously volunteered their services in the patriotic cause. It is, however, an agreeable part of my duty, as the historian of this little affair, to assure my readers, that the Captain never felt any degree of restraint that could serve to remind him that he was not absolutely a free man; for his master was as proud of his character and deeds, as he himself was of the estimation in which he knew that he was held by all worthy citizens, and, more particularly, by all the navy officers of the State.

J. B.

Norfolk.

A PATRIOT'S CHARGE TO HIS SONS.

Col. George Mason, the author of the first constitution of Virginia, died at his domain of Gunston Hall, in Fairfax county, near Alexandria, on the 7th of October, 1792, in the 67th year of his age. The following extract from his will is worthy of lasting remembrance;—"I recommend it to my sons, from my experience in life, to prefer the happiness and independence of a private station to the troubles and vexation of public business; but, if either their own inclinations or the necessity of the times should engage them in public affairs, I charge them, on a father's blessing, never to let the motive of private interest, or ambition, induce them to betray, nor the terrors of poverty and disgrace, or the fear of danger or death, deter them from asserting the liberty of their country, and endeavoring to transmit to their posterity those sacred rights to which themselves were born."

THE DEFENCE OF CRANEY ISLAND.

Mr. Editor,—In looking into Howison's History of Virginia, I have been surprised to see what a slight and incorrect account he has given of the Defence of Craney Island, which I have always regarded as a very brilliant affair, and highly honorable to our State; and I cannot help feeling it to be a duty which I owe to the Commonwealth, and to the memory of a gallant man who has been strangely overlooked by this narrative, to point out its errors and defects. Mr. H.'s account is in the following words:

“Craney Island lies near the mouth of Elizabeth river, and commands the approach from Hampton Roads to Norfolk. Its defence, therefore, became all important; and Commodore Cassin resolved that it should not be taken without a desperate conflict. The frigate Constellation was anchored nearly opposite to the town; a detachment of her sailors and Marines under Lieut. Neale, assisted by Lieuts. Shubrick and Saunders were sent to the island,—where they soon threw up a battery, on the north-west side. At the same time, on the south side, opposite the narrow inlet between the island and the main land, Capt. Beatty was intrenched with his regiment, and a number of volunteers from various other regiments. High enthusiasm prevailed among the Virginians; many who had been on the sick list rose from their beds, and reported for duty at the batteries on the island.

June 22nd. The enemy advanced in boats to the attack, numbering 2,600 men, and under Sir Sidney Beckwith. They divided their force into two detachments. One of these pressed forward to carry the north-west battery; but when they came within reach, Lieut. Neale and his men opened upon them a galling fire. The eighteen pounder was trained with so fatal precision that three of the boats sunk; one was literally cut in twain, and as she filled her men clung to her sides. The other boats hauled off in discomfiture, and the Virginians instantly sent aid to the drowning wretches in the water.

Meanwhile, the other detachment had landed on the main shore, and were attempting to cross the narrow inlet in front of the southern battery. Two twenty-four pounders and two sixes were waiting to receive them, and the volunteers stood to their guns like veterans. The enemy were cut in pieces at long shot, and as they came nearer, the battery played havoc among them.

Unable to endure, they precipitately retreated; and so eager were the Virginians, that the Winchester Riflemen ran into the water, hoping to reach the foe with their bullets. Most of the attacking force had consisted of miserable French troops, taken prisoners in Spain, and induced to enlist in the English army by prospect of pillage in America!"

Now it is really curious to see how many errors, both of omission and commission, Mr. H. has contrived to make in this short passage; and I will briefly indicate them for his correction in his next edition.

1. "Commodore Cassin resolved that it should not be taken without a desperate conflict." This implies that Com. C., was the commanding officer on the occasion, and the hero of the day; but the fact is, that General Robert B. Taylor, was the commander-in-chief of the military district in which the island was situated, and of all the land forces within it; and of course ordered and directed the defence of the position on that day.

2. "The frigate *Constellation* was anchored nearly opposite to the town." She was anchored about a mile *below* the town; nearly opposite to fort Nelson, (where the Naval Hospital now stands,) and generally with her broadside towards the island about 4 miles above it.

3. "A detachment of her sailors, and Marines under Lieut. Neale, assisted by Lieuts. Shubrick and Saunders, were sent to the island; *where they soon threw up a battery, on the north-west side.*" These officers were sent to the island the evening before the engagement, but they did not throw up a battery, for that work had been done before. The fact is that the fortification of the island had been ordered some time previously by Major General Wade Hampton, while he commanded the district; and the works had been executed under the direction of an Engineer, Colonel Armistead, (since deceased) who had reported them to be in a tenable state.

4. "At the same time, on the south side, opposite the narrow inlet between the island and the main land, Capt. Beatty was entrenched with his regiment," &c. This was *Colonel* Beatty.

It is not usual, I believe, to find a Captain in command of a regiment—at least not before or at the beginning of a battle, though it sometimes happens towards the end of it.

5. "June 22nd. The enemy advanced in boats to the attack." Here the author has most strangely and unaccountably omitted to tell us that the boats came from the ships. That, indeed, he might think, was implied; and so perhaps it was; but he had left the fleet, some two or three pages before, down in Lynhaven Bay, (or Lynhaven harbour, as he calls it;) the inference, then, would be, that the boats had come from them in that position; which would materially alter the aspect of the affair. The truth is, the author has wholly forgotten to inform us that the ships had come up to Newport's News, the day before, and that they were thereabouts at the time, to cover the attack of the boats. The omission of this important circumstance is the more surprising, because it was not only necessary to complete the statement of the fact, but to finish the view of the picture, and give it all the interest which a poet, or a painter, or a rhetorician could desire for effect.

6. "But when they came within reach, Lieut. Neale and his men opened upon them a galling fire," &c. This should have been "Capt. Emerson and his company of artillery, from Portsmouth, aided by Lieut. Neale and his sailors," &c. But the name of Capt. Emerson, to whom unquestionably the chief part, or at least a very large part of the honor of the day was due, is wholly omitted. This is the more singular because it is prominently mentioned in Col. Beatty's report, and in all the current accounts of the time. It was generally stated, too, and I believe correctly, that it was a well-timed and well-aimed shot from the battery under his command, that sunk the Admiral's barge, and won the trophy of the fight.

There would seem indeed to be a strange disposition in our young historian, to give all the credit of this defence to the officers and men of the U. S. Navy; to the injury of those of our own State, and especially of a company to which the chief praise

is due. I am satisfied, however, that this is not the case ; and I feel confident that Mr. H. will regret the injustice he has unintentionally done, by neglecting to inform himself of the true facts of the case ; and readily make the *amende honorable* on any future occasion that he may have.

I send you herewith copies of the official report of Colonel Beatty, and the Letter of General Taylor, relating to the action, which will confirm my remarks, and which you may perhaps think proper to record in your work.

NORFOLIENSIS.



COPY OF COL. BEATTY'S REPORT TO GENERAL TAYLOR.

CRANY ISLAND, JUNE 25th, 1813.

Sir,—Some movements on the 21st inst., among the British shipping lying near Newport's News, seemed to indicate an early attack on this Island, and in the course of the next morning, on the 22nd inst., they landed two miles from this, from the best accounts that can be ascertained from deserters, about 2,500 troops of various descriptions. The object of this movement was, no doubt, with the view to approach this post on the west side of the Island, across the water in that direction, which at low water is passable by Infantry. Soon after their landing, there approached about 45 or 50 boats full of men, which directed their course from the shipping, as above stated, to the north side of the Island.

The British troops at the same time (that were previously landed) made their appearance on the main land with a view of attacking the west and north positions of the Island at the same moment. The two 24 pounders and 4 six pounders, were advantageously posted under the direction of Major Faulkner of the Artillery, which being so well served by Capt. Emmerson, Lieutenants Howle and Godwin, who displayed that cool and deliberate conduct, which will at all times insure success to the cause in which they are engaged. Lieut. Neale of the Constellation, during our defence, conducted himself with activity, zeal and courage, which will at all times add a lustre to the name of an American Naval Officer. Capt. Rourke of the ship Manhat-

tan, conducted himself with great activity and judgment in defence of the place, which will, no doubt, give him a distinguished part in the success of the day. Great praise is also due to the conduct of Serjeant Young and Corporal Moffat of Captain Emmerson's Company for the active part they took in the management of two 6 pounders.

Much credit is due to Captain Tarbell of the *Constellation* for the aid he gave in defence of the Island, in forwarding from his ship 150 Sailors and Marines, with the officers commanding the same, which, no doubt, contributed greatly in the successful defence of the Island. Indeed, both officers and soldiers of every description showed a degree of zeal for the defence of the place; and when opportunity may offer, we may confidently hope they will not be wanting in duty.

The loss of the enemy cannot be less than 200 in the course of the day, a number of which were killed on the land side by our Artillery. But it is known that 4 or 5 of their barges were sunk, one of which, the "Centipede" said to be 52 feet long, working 24 oars, belonging to Admiral's Warren's Ship, was taken and brought in, with 22 prisoners, and a small brass pounder, with a number of small arms, pistols and cutlasses.

Besides the loss in killed, there must have been at least 40 deserters brought in, in the course of the day, and dispersed through the country.

It is with pleasure that I have to state to you that not a man was lost on our part; the only weapon made use of in the course of the day, were the Congreve Rockets, a few of which fell in our encampment, though without injury.

I am, Sir, with great respect,

Your humble Servant,

Signed,

H. BEATTY,

Lieut. Col. Com.

COPY OF A LETTER FROM GENERAL TAYLOR TO THE SECRETARY OF WAR.

HEAD QUARTERS NORFOLK, July 4th, 1813.

Sir,—I have the honor to transmit Col. Beatty's report of the attack on Crany Island on the 22nd of June last. His multiplied and pressing avocations have prevented his completing it till today.

The whole force on the Island at the time of the attack con-

sisted of 50 Riflemen, 446 Infantry of the line, 91 State Artillery, and 150 Seamen and Marines furnished by Capt. Tarbell. Of these 43 were on the sick list.

The courage and constancy with which this inferior force, in the face of a formidable naval armament, not only sustained a position in which nothing was complete, but repelled the enemy with considerable loss, cannot fail to command the approbation of their Government, and the applause of their country. It has infused into the residue of the Army a general spirit of competition, the beneficial effects of which will, I trust, be displayed in our future combats.

I cannot withhold my grateful acknowledgments to Commodore Cassin, Capt. Tarbell, and the officers and crews of the Constellation and Gun-Boats, who have in every instance aided our operations with a cordiality, zeal and ability, not to be surpassed. I have the honor to be,

Very respectfully,

Your ob't serv't,

ROB'T B. TAYLOR,

Brig. Gen. Commanding.

HON. JOHN ARMSTRONG, *Sec. of War.*

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In addition to the foregoing communication and documents, we are happy to be able to give our readers the following interesting paper relating to the same "brilliant affair," which was written, as we are assured, by one worthy of all credit who was on the spot at the time, and bore an honorable part in the engagement. It is manifestly "a round unvarnished tale," but lively and graphic, as we might expect, and altogether a fuller and better account of the action than any we have yet seen. We may add, that it was furnished to us by Capt. James Jarvis, of Portsmouth, at whose request, as he informs us, it was originally written, and who has carefully preserved it among his agreeable "Collections"—now in our hands.

A Narrative of the Attack on Craney Island on the 22nd of June, 1813.

From the movement of the enemy's ships on the 21st of June,

1813, in proceeding up from Hampton Roads and anchoring off the mouth of Nansemond river, about 3 miles from Craney Island and on the same side of the river, it was believed that an attack on the island was meditated.

The enemy's force was imposing. It consisted of 15 or 20 vessels, Seventy-four's, Frigates and Transports. At the east side of this Island was a small unfinished fort, where were mounted two 24 and one 18 pound cannon. At the west side of the Island was a small breastwork. Our force was about 400 Militia Infantry, one Company of Riflemen, Captain Roberts, from Winchester, and two Companies of Light Artillery, the one from Portsmouth, Capt. Arthur Emerson, the other from one of the upper Counties, commanded by Capt. Richardson; the whole under the command of Col. Beatty, assisted by Major Wagner of Infantry, and Major Faulkner of Artillery.

On the evening of the 21st, we were reinforced, by order of General Taylor, by Capt. Pollard, U. S. A. and 30 men of his company from Fort Norfolk; also by Lieut. Johnson of the county of Culpeper, and Ensign A. Atkinson, of Capt. Hamilton Shields' company of Riflemen, from Isle of Wight, with about 30 volunteers, Militia Infantry. On the same evening we were also joined, by order of Capt. Tarbell, of the frigate Constellation (then at the naval anchorage near fort Nelson,) by Lieutenants Neale, Shubrick, and Saunders, with about 150 sailors.

On the night of the 21st, about 12 o'clock, we were silently called to arms, and remained under arms till *reveille* beat on the morning of the 22nd, when we were dismissed. In a few minutes, however, the beat to arms brought every man to his post, and we saw by the movement of the enemy's boats in passing and repassing from their ships to the shore, that they were landing troops, so that a fight was expected to come off, and we commenced making preparation for defence. The three cannons from the fort, and four 6 pounders belonging to the Artillery, were taken to the West end of the Island. These guns

formed our Battery. The Infantry and Riflemen, with Captain Richardson's Company of Light Artillery acting as Infantry, were formed in a line at the breast-work at the West side or end of the Island, with the right resting to the North, the Artillery Company from Portsmouth, commanded by Capt. Emerson, were stationed at the four six pounders, the 24 and 18 pounders being served by sailors from the Frigate Constellation. Our battery was about 40 feet in rear of the Infantry, on an elevated piece of ground overlooking them. The four Sixes were on the right and the 18 was on the left of the two 24 pounders. Capt. Emerson and Lieut. Thomas Godwin, each commanded a 24 pounder. Lieut. Parke G. Howle, Serg't Wm. P. Young, Serg't Samuel Livingston and Corporal Wm. Moffat each commanded a 6 pounder, and the command of the 18 pounder was assigned to Capt. Rourke. Capt. Rourke was not at that time a member of our Company, having some time previous been discharged by order of Gen'l Taylor. At that time, he had charge of the Merchant ship Manhattan, of New York, then at anchor in the harbor of Norfolk. He came down to the island on the evening of the 21st, and re-joined us.

Every arrangement being thus made to defend the post, we waited the approach of the enemy, and felt that we were prepared to give them a decent reception; for the troops were full of ardor. The next thing was to let the enemy see what flag we intended to fight under. As we had no flag-staff, a long pole was got to which the "Star Spangled Banner" was nailed, the pole planted in the breastwork, and the Stars and Stripes floated in the breeze.

In the mean time, while we were making our arrangements, the enemy was landing his Infantry and Marines, in all about 2,500. We could distinctly see them marching and counter-marching on the beach, and after forming into columns they took up the line of march; but, such was the dense growth of trees and underwood between us, that they were soon lost to our view. At first we knew not but their intention was to march

to the town of Portsmouth, get possession of that place and Gosport, and destroy the Navy Yard. We were, however, soon undeceived. In a short time, the action was brought on by the enemy throwing Congreve rockets from behind a house on the main land belonging to Captain George Wise. Orders were immediately given to Captain Rourke who was nearest that point, to dislodge the enemy, which was instantly done by firing into the house; when we opened upon them our battery, keeping up for some time a brisk fire of Grape and Canister Shot, until they were completely routed, with the loss of many killed and wounded. Among the killed, it was said, were two officers. Such was the dense growth (as before remarked,) that we had not a good view of the enemy, otherwise their loss would have been much greater.

Whilst we were engaged in this way with the land forces, the enemy was approaching the Island with about 50 of their largest barges filled with Soldiers and Marines, supposed to be from 1200 to 1500. They were advancing in Column order, led on by Admiral Warren's boat with 24 oars, which had a brass 3 pounder in her bow. Having repulsed their land forces, we waited the nearer approach of the barges before firing on them, when our gallant Commander Capt. Emerson said, "Now, boys," (addressing himself to *his* Company,—for many of us were hardly more than boys,) "are you ready?" The answer was "Ready"—the next word was "fire!" when we opened upon them a brisk and heavy fire of Grape and Canister. They continued, however, to advance until the Centipede and several of the headmost boats grounded; when, so quick and galling was our fire, that they were thrown into the greatest confusion, and commenced a hasty retreat. Four or five of their boats were sunk, one of them the Admiral's barge. Many others were so shattered that it was with difficulty they were kept afloat. The firing was afterwards kept up with round shot until they got out of reach of our guns. Some of the Infantry and Sailors waded out to the Centipede, and hauled her on shore. From this boat was taken a number of guns, pistols and cutlasses.

She was afterwards made tight, and sent to the Navy Yard, Gosport. I always thought that she should have been retained as a trophy of Victory to the Artillery.

The loss of the enemy was about 200 killed, wounded and prisoners. Twenty two prisoners were taken on the beach, one a Frenchman with his legs shot off who was taken from the Centipede, and brought on shore in one of her sails. He died in a few hours. After the battle, about 25 or 30 deserters came to the Island.

The enemy remained on shore, above the Island, until the afternoon, when they re-embarked in their boats and returned to their shipping. Not, however, until they had destroyed much property, shooting hogs, sheep, &c., breaking furniture, cutting open beds, &c., in the dwelling houses near where they had landed.

Among the incidents of the day, I may mention that the Riflemen waded out some distance into the water, hoping to get within striking distance of the enemy, but could not. I would also remark that very soon after the action commenced with the boats, two of our guns were rendered entirely useless by the breaking down of their carriages, viz: the 24 pounder commanded by Lieut. Godwin, and the 6 pounder commanded by Sergeant Livingston. The sailors under Lieutenants Neale, Shubrick and Saunders were brave fellows, and rendered great assistance in the management of the 24 and 18 pounders. One of them attached himself to Sergeant Young's Gun and did good service. During the hottest of the fight, Lieutenant Neale came to my Gun, and requested to have a fire at the boats. I granted his request with great pleasure. He was a brave officer.

One or two Gun Boats were anchored in the channel inside, and near the Island, between the Island and Lambert's Point side of the river; but from their position and that of the enemy, they could not render much assistance, though they threw several shot over the Island among the enemy on the main land.

A HYMN

FOR THE

ANNIVERSARY OF AMERICAN INDEPENDENCE.

God of Nations, God of Love,
On our country's natal day,
Listen from thy throne above
To the choral thanks we pay.
Whence comes all Columbia boasts,
Eden of the brave and free?
All our glory, God of Hosts,
All our blessings, come from Thee.

Led by Thee, our fathers came,
Through the ocean wilderness,
To this Promised Land; the same
Thou hadst given them to possess.
And when War and Havoc rose
To o'erwhelm thy chosen flock,
Thou didst scatter all their foes—
Billows broken from the Rock.

Lead us still, with staff and rod,
Shepherd of thine Israel;
And be thou the guardian God
Of the land in which we dwell.
Save us in the battle shout
Ever, as of old Thou didst;
Be our "wall of fire about,"
And our "glory in the midst."

Richmond.

Various Intelligence.

WASHINGTON.

Correspondence of the Baltimore Patriot.

Celebration of Laying the Corner Stone of the Washington National Monument.

WASHINGTON, July 4th, 1848.

The celebration of to-day furnishes me with a subject of correspondence, which may prove interesting to your readers. Washington has been all excitement, and now as I write, late in the evening, it has not by any means subsided. The cause, you are of course aware, was laying the corner stone of a National Monument to "the Father of his Country." The attending concourse was immense: from Georgetown, Alexandria and the surrounding country, and from Baltimore perhaps more than from any other source.

The procession began to assemble as early as 9 A. M., and were in motion at 11. In advance rode Gen. Quitman, the chief of the day, mounted upon a noble grey steed. Gen. Cadwallader, Col. May and their aids immediately followed; and after them a long line of Government officials, public corporations, literary and benevolent societies, the military, firemen, masonic and other orders, and private citizens. The President, heads of departments and other dignitaries were in carriages; and present upon the ground were the venerable widows of President Madison and General Hamilton. The procession was large and imposing.

That it occupied nearly an hour in passing Coleman's will give an idea of its extent; and it was full noon before it reached the site of the proposed monument, and the ceremonies commenced. The military glittered in martial array, and the firemen in their gay uniforms drew handsome apparatus, ornamented with flowers and ribbons. The Masons, Odd-Fellows and others appeared in the striking insignia of their respective orders; and commanding no less attention, the private American citizen, adorned with the dignity of self-respect and of a freeman. A delegation of the young men of Baltimore, with a distinguishing banner, were prominent in their part of the procession.

The line of march was up the avenue and across the canal to the spot where the corner-stone, a fine block of marble, furnished by the patriotic liberality of a Baltimorean, had already been deposited—to the north-west of the Smithsonian Institute. The assembled multitude were ranged around, evincing deep interest in the memorable occasion of their gathering. The ceremonies of laying the stone were conducted by B. B. French, Esq., Master of the Masonic Fraternity of the District, and it is not unworthy of note that he used the identical trowel with which Washington laid the corner-stone of the Capitol, and wore the same gloves and apron, the latter worked and presented by the lady of General Lafayette. Corn, oil and wine, coins and documents were enclosed in the cavity, and the ceremony completed by remarks from the officiating mason.

But the feature of the day was the address of Mr. Winthrop, Speaker of the House of Representatives. It was the brilliant production of a cultivated mind; adapted to the occasion in manner and matter; and although the auditory listened in attentive admiration to its eloquent delivery for over two hours, there could have been none there who would not willingly have remained twice the time. The orator was frequently interrupted by involuntary bursts of applause; and at the close retired from the stand amid loud and enthusiastic cheering.

The military fame and achievements of Washington were not the principal theme of Mr. Winthrop's discourse. Great as they were, they were but small in comparison with the moral grandeur of his character. They were, therefore, but passingly alluded to in the splendid eulogy upon that extraordinary combination of intellect, military capacity and public and private virtue, which pre-eminently fitted Washington for the immortal part he enacted in the drama of the Revolution. It was unnecessary to refer to the regard felt for these traits by his own countrymen; but the honorable mention of his revered name by his contemporaries in Europe, and by their descendants, was particularly dwelt upon by Mr. W. in proof of their appreciation by the world and the race. But recently Lamartine, as representative of the French Government and Nation, in an address to the Italians, had awarded it marked precedence, in a list of names of the highest distinction. In quoting this passage, Mr. W. paid a distinguished tribute to the genius and patriotism of the French statesman and poet; and to the enlightened policy of Pope Pius.

This admirable speech will shortly reach you in print; and to assign it a rank beside the oration of Daniel Webster, on a similar occasion at

Bunker Hill, will be but anticipating the judgment of the public upon its merits, as an elegant specimen of the language.

At the close of the proceedings, the procession having reformed, retraced its steps to the avenue. It was there reviewed by the President, and dismissed.

The affair has fully equalled the expectations excited by the extent of the preparations, and was sustained by a pageant and display worthy of the nation and the occasion. S.

From the London Times.

EUROPE AND AMERICA.

THE PRINCIPLE OF FEDERALISM.

The most important improvement in the practice of modern constitutional countries, as compared with ancient, is the introduction of the system of representation. In the Athenian *ecclesia*, and in the Roman *comitia*, the people deliberated, discussed, and voted, in the mass, upon each separate question of policy. The idea of electing, from time to time, plenipotentiary delegates to do their political business never occurred to them. It is needless to point out the extreme inconvenience of the ancient plan, and the incalculable extent to which the transaction of public affairs has been facilitated by its abolition. But it would seem that the idea which representation embodies has as yet been but partially and inadequately carried out in Europe, and that we must look for its most effectual and consistent development to the United States. We conceive that idea to be the union of individual participation in power with an effective combination of individual powers for common purposes: in modern technical phraseology, legislative centralization with administrative localism.

There is at this moment a very evident tendency, all over Europe, in two directions apparently opposite; to local self-government, and to national unity. In 1815 certain lines were drawn upon a map, according to which states were carved, as it were, out of the continent, without reference to language, habits, race, feelings, antipathies, or any of those influences which constitute real nationality. The consequence was that the desire of national independence, in the provinces thus subjected to foreign dominion, went hand in hand with the wish for popular institutions; they

became convinced that they could not have the one without the other ; they have long struggled for both, and at length they appear on the eve of winning them. But these provinces have, in almost every case, national unities of their own, to which, when rid of the crude and Procrustean arrangement of 1815, they are beginning naturally to look, as supports to their new-born independence, and rallying points for their awakened patriotism. Thus Italy is gathering under one name and banner her estranged and provincialized children ; the scattered and disunited states of Germany are craving earnestly for union ; Poland is uniting ; Switzerland is uniting ; it will not, perhaps, be long before we see a Panslavonic nation constituted in the east of Europe. Yet none of the provinces would like the idea of ceasing to manage locally their own affairs, in order to secure the safety and dignity of a greater father land. The question, then, for them to consider is, whether, by an adoption of the principle of federalism, their wants may not be supplied and their tendencies satisfied.

Let them observe the working of federalism in America. The most complete national unity is there preserved as regards foreign nations ; complete freedom of trade, complete uniformity of action in all respects essential to national life ; while, at the same time, the inestimable habit of self-government is created and retained, and the power of adapting local institutions to local wants exercised so fully, that no American citizen has to complain that the interests of his locality suffer by the distance or neglect of the legislative centre. The German in Pennsylvania, the Frenchman in Louisiana, the Spaniard in Florida, had no need, when they came to participate in the advantages belonging to the great American Union, of sacrificing one iota of the local institutions to which they were attached. So wonderfully elastic and expansive is this principle of government, that the entire American continent might, as it appears to us, be absorbed in one vast federation, with but little inconvenience or danger resulting from its extent and diversity of characteristics. If a similar system of permitting local self-government, in subordination to a supreme legislative head, had been pursued in Lombardy and Poland, we do not believe that even the fact of the central head being an arbitrary monarch would have induced, in either case, the declaration of independence which has now ensued. The Spanish monarchs had no subjects so loyal as the inhabitants of the Basque provinces ; the fidelity of the Tyrolese to Austria is proverbial ; because the former lived practically under the shadow of their own *fueros*, and the latter were not deprived of

their ancient *grundgesetz*. The Romans understood this principle, and left to the *municipia* of their own enormous empire the full enjoyment of their institutions, and management of their affairs. This was the cause of the astonishing duration of their rule, and of the general contentedness of their subjects. In France, on the contrary, where the utmost point of administrative centralization had been obtained, the "people" are utterly demoralized and incapacitated for liberty by the habit of having everything done for them; the consequence now is, that the mob of Paris now rules France; the 35,000,000 individuals who inhabit the provinces follow like sheep after a leader, even though it be down a precipice.

If there be any truth in these speculations, the object of which we have rather indicated than explained, the good or bad success of the unprecedented movement now going on in Europe will depend, in great measure, upon the extent to which the different nations engaged in it may succeed in reconciling and turning to account the principles which we have been describing—that of local self-government, the true nurse of freedom, and that of national unity, the best safeguard for peace, civilization, and social progress. It is impossible to lay down, beforehand, how far and in what manner it may be possible, in each particular case, to do this; but the tendency of the attempt, however, imperfectly developed, is in the right direction; the ideal perfection of it would be a Utopia,

"Where the drum should throb no longer, and the battle flag be furled,
"In the parliament of man, the federation of the world."

GREAT BRITAIN.

From the Standard, April 11.

THE CHARTIST DEMONSTRATION.

The *eleventh of April*, in the year 1848, has arrived, and the United Kingdom is still a *monarchy*. The day, the great day, which was to revolutionize the nation, and to establish a republic on the French model, has passed over, and we find no change. The Parliament sits at its ease as heretofore; the courts of law administer justice as heretofore; and the officers of the executive are transacting the business of the Government without molestation. All other business, too, is proceeding in its ordinary course.

A better means of estimating the strength of the Chartists than has yet been afforded, was afforded by the exhibition yesterday on Kennington Common. The five millions and a half mustered 10,000, or to take the highest estimate, 15,000. It may be said that these were the Chartists of London and its neighbourhood; but though we have shown that this is not the fact, let it be so,—London and its neighbourhood comprise a population of two millions, giving five hundred thousand men of military age. Of these, then, but 15,000 at most—we say but 10,000—are Chartists; 1 in 500 according to our estimate, 1 in about 330 according to the higher estimate of the number on the common.

Let us now turn to the more pleasing side of yesterday's proceedings; and let us, in the first place, acknowledge the true fountain of domestic peace, and of every other blessing—'UNLESS THE LORD KEEPETH THE CITY, THE WATCHMAN WAKETH BUT IN VAIN.' To the bounty of divine Providence we owe it, that this morning we arise in peace to pursue our peaceful occupations. May we not add, with humility, that to the Giver of all good we owe the honour that the metropolis of England has won, in setting to the world an example of a peaceful victory over the worst spirit of rebellion, encouraged by the triumph of rebellion in almost every other capital of Europe. Yes, it is to Him, and to the teaching of His word, the glory is due.

We have told the number of *Chartists*; now what was the number of *special constables*?—Two hundred thousand; the *Morning Chronicle* says, we believe truly, two hundred and fifty thousand—no sickly spectres, like those whose perverse activity summoned them from their usual avocations, but the *manhood* of the metropolis, from the high-spirited nobility and gentry downward, through all the gradations of society, to the strong-armed artisan, and the robust drayman or coal-whipper. Yes, the special constables enrolled yesterday presented a body for spirit, strength, and number, not to be matched, out of Great Britain, on the face of the earth. How truly did we say a few weeks ago, that every Sunday saw meekly kneeling in the churches of the metropolis a body of men that could laugh to scorn the assault of any enemy, foreign or domestic, that could by possibility be brought to confront them. These men look for spirit, and strength, and safety in the right quarter, and *they themselves* yesterday exhibited the proof.

The military preparations of the Government were prudent, as providing against the danger of local success on the part of the enemies of order, but it is plain that they did not operate by terror, for a soldier was

not to be seen ; it was *the little staff of the special constable* that quelled sedition, and it is right that this should be known to all our foreign enemies and domestic traitors, as proof beyond all doubt that the people of England are firmly united in defence of their constitution.

FRANCE.

By the *Caledonia*, just arrived, we learn that Paris is still in a state of agitation. Louis Napoleon's resignation of his seat in the National Assembly has postponed the crisis of trouble for the present, and perhaps altogether. There were to have been six candidates for the Presidency, all of whom were already in the field, viz : M. de Lamartine, Thiers, Louis Napoleon Bonaparte, Marrast, Causidiere, and Gen. Cavaignac. The Orleans party, it is said, will support M. Thiers ; and M. Berryer, the celebrated orator, has declared openly in his favor. The Legitimist party, (those in favor of the restoration of Henry V.,) at present stand divided between Thiers and Lamartine.

If the election were to take place immediately, there would be little doubt of the result ; for Louis Napoleon, under the prestige of the Bonaparte name, and his present discreet course, possesses a popularity which might ensure his election.

The feeling exhibited by the French people in his favor is of the most enthusiastic character, and if present appearances are sustained by future events, it is supposed that almost every electoral college would give him their vote. Accordingly the Constitution has already been altered to meet the first difficulty that might be encountered in its working, and the president, instead of being elected by the people, in case he has not an absolute majority of votes, is to be selected by the National Assembly from the five highest returned by the Colleges.

LIBERIA.

The *Liberia Herald* gives the following agreeable account of Monrovia and its progress.

Our town is rapidly improving. For the last two years a spirit of industry and enterprise seems to have taken possession of our people ; and though the song of "hard times" continues to be heard on every side, the improvements of the last two years in buildings of a durable and costly

character, far exceed in number and comfortableness those of any other period. It is really gratifying to us to notice the rapid strides that are now made by all classes of the people to make themselves comfortable.

We counted a few days ago thirty-four new buildings, many of them of brick and stone, and in a forward state of completion; and arrangements are in progress for the building of as many more. Our young men are not behind the spirit of the times. Many of them are honorably exerting themselves to get into their own houses.

Miscellany.

PUNCTUALITY.

There is hardly any one of the minor virtues which we Virginians apparently hold in so little esteem as that of Punctuality. We seem to have no notion or idea of it at all. The word is hardly ever on our tongues, and never, I believe, in our minds. It might as well be out of our dictionaries. We have no use for it. We do not know nor care what it means. I think I could account for this fact historically. It probably grew, in the first instance, out of our sparse population, and the circumstances which grew out of that. We had, for a long time, no post—no regular communication of any kind—no town of any size—no bank—no clock, (for brother Jonathan had not yet found his way to us,)—nothing in short to mark time, or the proper hour or minute for doing any thing. Time himself, indeed, had no “nick” in his “restless wheel,” in those days, for us—or none that we could hear. So he came and went as he pleased; and so did we. But all those causes have now ceased, and “*cessante ratione*,” as the lawyers say, “*cessat et ipsa lex*”—the reason having ceased, the law, or custom, or habit, that grew out of it, ought to cease too. And certainly it is high time that we should begin to cultivate and cherish this little virtue among the rest, and the more for our past neglect of it. It would improve us all amazingly. It would enable us to do a great deal more, and every thing better. It would brighten the whole face of things about us, like a charm. Let us try.

I ought perhaps to add, to encourage us in this effort, that we have certainly had one Virginian who was a perfect model of this virtue, as

he was of almost every other—I mean General Washington. He knew the value of time, and made it a point of conscience never to waste it by a want of punctuality in any appointment or engagement whatever. He always kept his word to other people, and, as far as he could, required them to keep theirs to him. I remember a little anecdote they tell of him which may serve to illustrate this trait in his character. When he visited Boston in 1789, as President of the United States, and was about to leave that town in his progress, the officers of a company of horse waited on him and requested that they might be allowed to see him over to Charlestown, on his way: the offer was accepted and the time of departure named—“to-morrow morning, 8 o'clock.” The morning came, and the hour arrived; but the escort had not yet appeared. The dignitaries assembled to take leave were in the fidgets; but Washington, calm and composed, looked at his watch, and seeing that the time was fairly out, bade the gentlemen farewell, mounted his horse, with his immediate attendants, and set off on his way. A few minutes afterwards, the escort arrived, and found him gone. They were of course greatly confused, and ashamed of themselves, and hardly knew what to do. They hastened after him, however, at a round rate, and, by dint of extraordinary spurring, happily managed to overtake him before he reached the Bridge. It was a good lesson he thus gave them; and we are told they remembered it as long as they lived. So, we see, a Virginian may be a punctual man.

W. S.

The following Lines were first published in a New York paper, about twenty years ago; and since that time have occasionally re-appeared in other prints. They were written, however, (as we happen to know,) by a gentleman of this State, and may, therefore, very properly, be recorded here.

THE LIGHT OF THE SCENE.

The Light of the Scene is Woman's Eye,
 More bright than the Sun by far,
 Fair as the Moon in her summer sky,
 And pure as the Evening Star.
 Oh! were it not for this lovely light,
 Our earth would be strangely dark;
 But there it beams to bless our sight,
 Like the bow that cheered the ark.

Put out the light of the radiant Sun,
 The Moon would but look more fair ;
 Put out the Moon—that shining one—
 The Stars would still sparkle there.
 But put out the light of Woman's Eye,
 And Death would soon spread his pall
 O'er all that we love beneath the sky,
 And Darkness bury us all.

FLATTERY.

“ Flattery corrupts both the giver and the receiver ; and adulation is not of more service to the people than to kings.”—*Edmund Burke*.

SUPERSTITION.

“ Few people, even of the strongest minds, are altogether exempt from some little taint of that weakness, called superstition. Many people have more of it than they care to let others know they have, and some more of it than they know themselves.”—*Lord Hervey*.

EPITAPH.

Underneath this stone is laid
 Young Melissa ; Virtue's maid,
 Beauty's sister, Love's delight :
 Now a holy happy sprite.

TO MISS M——.

Fair *Muse*, I have wondered
 At that name of thine ;
 Thou art one of a Hundred,
 Not one of the Nine.

Q.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

We thank our correspondent J. M. for his Copies of Old Letters, some of which we shall publish in due time.

We are much indebted to the Hon. H. C. M. for the Extracts from the Records of the Virginia Company, in the Library of Congress, which he has so obligingly sent us ; and regret that we cannot insert them at once. We shall preserve them, however, for future use.

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VIRGINIA HISTORICAL REGISTER,
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OCTOBER, 1848.  
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NO. IV.

A PASSAGE IN THE EARLY HISTORY OF VIRGINIA.

We copy the following account of a Passage in the early History of Virginia, as we find it published in the Virginia Gazette, of April 21st, 1774; where it is introduced with a short preface addressed to the Printer, in these words :

TO THE PRINTER.

SIR,—At a time when a Company of Monopolisers, Contractors, and Preemptors (to speak in the Language of the Grand Assembly) are soliciting the Crown for a Grant of a very considerable and valuable Part of this Colony to be erected into a separate Government, I flatter myself the following Extract from a Manuscript Collection of Annals, relative to Virginia, cannot be disagreeable to your Readers, especially to the Members of our Legislature, to whose serious and attentive Consideration the important Transaction therein related is humbly submitted by the Compiler.

An Event happened this Year (1642) which at first gave great Uneasiness to the Colony, but in the End proved advantageous to them, as it removed all their Apprehensions of being reduced to a Proprietary Government, and fixed the Constitution upon a firm and permanent Basis.

The Colony had now remained seventeen Years under the immediate Government of the Crown, that is, from the Dissolution

of the Company in the last Year of *James I.* to the Year 1642. During this Period they had enjoyed a Felicity unknown to them under the Company's Government, which had been extremely severe and arbitrary. Several Attempts were made to restore the Company's Power and Authority, but they were constantly defeated by the Vigilance of the Grand Assembly, who were determined never more to submit to a Proprietary Government.

In the Year 1639 the Grand Assembly appointed George Sandis, Esq; their Agent to the English Court, with particular Instructions to oppose the Re-establishment of the Company, and to give them the earliest Intelligence of their Machinations; but this Gentleman, forgetting his Duty to his Constituents, presented a Petition to the House of Commons, in the Name of the Adventurers and Planters in Virginia, for restoring the Letters Patent of Incorporation to the Treasurer and Company, with all the Rights, Powers, and Privileges, contained in their old Charter, except that the Right of nominating and appointing the Governour was to be reserved to the Crown.

When the Grand Assembly were informed of this Petition, they immediately passed a solemn Declaration and Protestation against the Company, in the Form of an Act, in which they disclaim their Agent's Conduct, declare he had mistaken his Instructions, and that it never was the Meaning or Intent of the Assembly, or Inhabitants of the Colony, to give Way for the introducing the said Company, or ANY OTHER.

They say, that having maturely considered the Reasons for and against restoring the Company, and looking back into the Condition of the Times under the Company, and comparing it with the present State of the Colony under his Majesty's Government, we find the late Company in their Government intolerable, the present comparatively happy, and that the old Corporation cannot with any Possibility be again introduced without the absolute Ruin and Dissolution of the Colony.

That the Colony laboured under intolerable Calamities, by the many illegal Proceedings and barbarous Treatments inflicted up-

on divers of his Majesty's Subjects in the Time of the said Company's Government.

That the whole Trade of the Colony, to the great Grievance and Complaint of the Inhabitants, was monopolised by the Company, insomuch that when any Person desired to go for England he had not Liberty to carry with him the Fruits of his own Labour for his Comfort and Support, but was forced to bring it to the Magazine of the Company, and there to exchange it for unprofitable and useless Wares.

That our present Happiness is exemplified by the Freedom of ANNUAL Assemblies, warranted to us by his Majesty's gracious Instructions, by legal Trials by Juries in all criminal and civil Causes, by his Majesty's Royal Encouragement upon all Occasions to address him by our humble Petitions, which so much distinguisheth our Happiness from that of the former Times that private Letters to Friends were rarely admitted a Passage.

That the old Corporation cannot be introduced without proving the Illegality of the King's Proceedings against them, so that all Grants since, upon such a Foundation, must be void; and if, as they pretend, the King had no Right to grant, our Lands held by immediate Grant from his Majesty must be void, and our Possessions must give Place to their Claim, which is an invincible Argument of Ruin and Desolation to the Colony, as we must be outed of our Possessions if their Pretence take Place. And though it is alleged by them that the Charter of Orders from the Treasurer and Company (Anno 1618) gives us Claim and Right to be Members of the Corporation *quatenus* Planters, yet it appears by the Charter that Planters and Adventurers who are Members of the Company are considered by themselves, and distinguished in Privileges, from Planters and Adventurers not being Members; and, as the King's Grantees, we find ourselves condemned in the said Charter, one Clause of it pronouncing in these Words, "We do ordain that all such Persons as of their own voluntary Will and Authority shall remove into Virginia, without any Grant from us, in a great and general Quarter

‘ Court, in Writing, under our Seals, shall be declared, as they “ are, Occupiers of our Lands ; that is, of the common Lands of “ us the said Treasurer and Company.” Now if Persons who remove into this Country, without License from the Treasurer and Company, are to be deemed Occupiers of the Company’s Land, much more will such Grantees be deemed Occupiers of their Land who hold their Rights under an erroneous Judgment, as they pretend.

That if the Company be revived, and they have Leave by Virtue of their Charter of Orders, publickly to dispossess us, the wiser World, we hope, will excuse us if we refuse to depart with what, next to our Lives, nearest concerns us (which are our Estates, the Livelihood of ourselves, our wives, and children) to the courtesy and will of such taskmasters, from whom we have already experienced so much oppression.

That we will not admit of so unnatural a distance as a Company to interpose between his sacred Majesty and us his subjects, from whose immediate protection we have received so many royal favours and gracious blessings.

That, by such admission, we shall degenerate from our birth-rights, being naturalised under a monarchical and not a popular or tumultuary Government, depending upon the greatest number of votes of Persons of several humours and dispositions as that of a Company must be granted to be, from whose general Quarter Courts all Laws binding the Planters here did, and would again, issue.

That we cannot, without breach of natural duty and religion, give up and resign the Lands we hold by Grants from the King upon certain annual rents (fitter, as we humbly conceive, if his Majesty shall so please, for a branch of his own royal stem than for a Company) to the claim of a Corporation ; for besides our births, our possessions enjoin us as a fealty without a *Salva Fide aliis Dominis*.

That by the admission of a Company the freedom of our trade (the blood and life of a Commonwealth) will be monopolised :

For they who with most secret reservation, and most subtlety, argue for a Company, though they pretend to submit the Government to the King, yet reserve to the Corporation property to the land, and power of managing the trade; which word **MANAGING**, in every sense of it, is convertible to monopolising, and will subject the trade to the sole controul and direction of their **Quarter Courts**, held at so great a distance from us that it is not probable, or possible, for them to be acquainted with the accidental circumstances of the Colony, so as to form proper rules and regulations for our trade, which our Grand Assembly, acquainted with the clime and accidents thereof, have and may, upon better grounds, prescribe, and which in any other way will be destructive to us.

That the pretence that the Government shall be made good to the King, that is, that the King shall nominate and appoint the Governour, we take, at best, to be but a fallacy and trap, not of capacity enough to catch men with eyes and forethought; for upon a supposition that the Governour shall be named and appointed by the King, yet his dependence, so far as respects his continuance or removal, will, by reason of their power and interest with great men, rest in the Company, which naturally brings with it conformity to their wills in whatever shall be commanded, and we leave it to the best judgments whether such dependence will not be pernicious to the Colony.

These are the great reasons given by the Grand Assembly for refusing to submit to a proprietary Government. But they did not content themselves with bare reasons for their refusal; they proceeded (with a firmness, resolution, and spirit, worthy the imitation of later times, when the rights and liberties of the Colony are invaded) to enforce their reasons by their positive declaration and Protestation, in the following remarkable words:

We the Governour Council, and Burgesses, of this present Grand Assembly, having taken into serious consideration these and many other dangerous effects which must be concomitant in and from a Company or Corporation, have thought fit to declare,

and hereby do declare, for ourselves and all the commonality of this Colony, that it was never desired, sought after, or endeavoured to be sought for, either directly or indirectly, by the consent of any Grand Assembly, or the common consent of the people; and we do hereby farther declare, and testify to all the world, that we will NEVER admit the restoring the said Company, or any for or in their behalf, saving to ourselves herein a most faithful and loyal obedience to his most Sacred Majesty, our dread Sovereign, whose royal and gracious protection, allowance, and maintenance, of this our just declaration and protestation, we doubt not (according to his accustomed clemency and benignity to his subjects) to find.

And we do farther enact, and be it hereby enacted and manifested by the authority aforesaid, that what person or persons soever either is, or shall be **HEREAFTER**, any planter or adventurer, and shall go about, by any way or means, either directly or indirectly, to sue for, advise, assist, abet, countenance, or contrive, the reducing this Colony to a Company or Corporation, or to introduce a contract or monopoly upon our persons, lands, or commodities, upon due proof or conviction of any of the premises (viz. by going about by any way or means to sue for, advise, abet, assist, countenance, or contrive, directly or indirectly, the reducing of this Colony to a Company or Corporation, or to introduce a contract or monopoly as aforesaid, upon due conviction as aforesaid) shall be held and deemed an enemy to the Colony, and shall forfeit his or their whole estate, or estates, that shall be found within the limits of the Colony; the one half shall be and come to the publick use, the other moiety, or half, to the informer.

This Act was passed upon the first day of April 1642, with uncommon solemnity. It was signed by the Governour, the respective members of the Council of State, and House of Burgeses; the seal of the Colony was affixed to it, in their presence; and they immediately applied to the King, by their humble petition, for his royal allowance and confirmation of it.

Having thus passed their solemn declaration and protestation, in which they had employed much time, the Grand Assembly adjourned to the second day of June the same year, by particular Act for that purpose. At this meeting they entered upon a revision of the constitution, abolished from it every vestige of the Company's authority, released the publick tenants from their servitude, who, like one sort of villains, anciently in England, were, regardant to the lands appropriated by the Company's charter of orders, for the support of the Governour and the other Officers of State; established rules and forms of proceeding in the Courts of Law, and regulated the several parishes, by fixing their respective limits.

After the great business of the session was finished, and they had banished from the constitution every appearance of the old Government, by regulating it upon the principles of the English constitution, the Grand Assembly published a remonstrance, directed to the inhabitants of the colony. In it they enumerate the several weighty matters that had employed their consideration, and occasioned the great length of their session; and they conclude with declaring their great motive for entering, at that time, upon a regulation of the constitution, was to establish their liberties and privileges, and to settle their estates, which had been often assaulted and threatened, and were then invaded by the late Corporation: That to prevent the future designs of monopolisers, contractors, and pre-emptors (ever incessant upon them, not only bereaving them of all cheerfulness and alacrity, but usurping the benefit and disposition of their labours) they apprehend no time could be mispent, or Labour misplaced: That a firm peace to themselves and their posterity, and a future indemnity from fines and impositions, they expected would be the fruits of their endeavours; to which end they thought it reasonable for them, liberally and freely, to open their purses, not doubting but all well affected persons would, with all zeal and good affection, embrace the purchase, and pray to Almighty God for the success.

Within a few weeks after this Assembly broke up, their solemn declaration, protestation, and act against the establishment of a proprietary government in the Colony, was returned to them with the royal assent to it, in the following gracious and extensive words :

CHARLES Rex.

Trusty and well-beloved, we greet you well. Whereas we have received a petition from you, our Governour, Council, and Burgesses, of the Grand Assembly in Virginia, together with a declaration and protestation, of the first of April, against a petition presented in your names to the House of Commons in this our kingdom, for restoring of the letters patent for incorporating of the late treasurer and Company, contrary to your intent and meaning, and against all such as shall go about to alienate you from our immediate protection ; and whereas you desire, by your petition, that we should confirm this your declaration and protestation under our royal signet, and transmit it to that our Colony : These are to signify, that your acknowledgment of our grace, bounty, and favour, towards you, and your so earnest desire to continue under our immediate protection, is very acceptable unto us ; and that, as we had not before the least intention to consent to the introduction of ANY Company over that our Colony, so we are by it much confirmed in our resolution, as thinking it unfit to change a form of government, wherein (besides many other reasons given, and to be given) our subjects there, having had so long experience of it, receive so much contentment and satisfaction. And this our approbation of your petition and protestation we have thought fit to transmit to you, under our royal signet. Given at our court at York, the 5th of July, 1642. This royal declaration was thus directed, to our trusty and well-beloved, our Governour, Council, and Burgesses, of the Grand Assembly of Virginia.

By this solemn Act of Legislation (which the Grand Assembly considered as the Magna Charta and palladium of their Liberties) the constitution of the Colony was established upon a

foundation which could not be altered without their own consent; so that our history does not afford an instance of any farther attempt to dismember the Colony from their immediate dependence upon the Crown, except that in the Year 1674 the Lords Arlington and Culpeper obtained a grant, for the term of 31 years, from Charles II. of all the lands, rights, jurisdictions, quitrents, and other royalties within the Dominion of Virginia. But this grant was so vigorously and firmly opposed by the Grand Assembly that it was vacated and surrendered to the Crown, as will be more particularly related in the course of these Annals.

VARINA.

That portion of Sir Thomas Dale's settlement on the north side of James River, including Farrar's Island, formed by the great bend known as "The Dutch Gap," (which, after a circuit of seven miles, forms an isthmus of only three hundred and sixty feet across from water to water,) and extending down the river for three miles, to a swamp, contained a large tract of fertile land which produced tobacco so nearly like that of Varina, in Spain, as to induce the first planters to call the place by that name.

Varina is rich in historical associations and recollections. It was here that Sir Thomas Dale, sometime Governor of Virginia, in the early days of the colony, had his house and plantation where he usually resided. It was here also that "master" John Rolfe, sometime secretary of the colony, had his habitation, and cultivated a fine tract of land. And it was here that having married Pocahontas, at Jamestown, under the eye and sanction of Sir Thomas Dale, in the year 1613, he lived with her in happy

wedlock; "and ever after," as Stith writes, "they had friendly trade and commerce, as well with Powhatan himself, as with all his subjects."

When the county of Henrico was subsequently formed, in the year 1634, the court-house was located near the river, in the centre of the settlement, and a portion consisting of two hundred acres of this land (including the court-house,) was laid off for a Glebe for the parish of Henrico. Not far from the court-house, and nearer to the river, a comfortable parsonage was built of brick, for the residence of the parson, or rector. About this time, Thomas Rolfe, the only son of John Rolfe and Pocahontas, owned the farm which had been his father's, adjoining the Glebe, and on which his grandson, John Bolling, afterwards resided. There was indeed quite a village around the court-house. An uncommonly large oak, with a wide-spreading limb occasionally used as a gallows, standing near the court-house, was alive and flourishing twenty years ago.

The last occupant of the Parsonage at Varina, was the Rev. William Stith, who wrote his History of Virginia here, about the year 1746. He preached alternately in the church at Four-mile Creek, (so called from its distance from Henrico,) and in St. John's church, on Richmond Hill. Mr. Stith was succeeded by the Rev. Miles Selden, who resided near Richmond. Some years after the death of Parson Buchanan, the Glebe was sold to Pleasant Aikin, who demolished the old and substantial court-house erected in the year 1636, and now not a vestige of it can be seen. The sites, however, of the Parsonage, and of Bolling's and Bullington's houses, may yet be traced. The site of the old town of Henrico, two miles above, affords a beautiful water-view. The breast-work thrown up by Sir Thomas Dale, is distinctly visible, and the bricks, though scattered about, still indicate the positions of the houses in the town.

R. R.

THE ENGAGEMENT OF NORTHAMPTON.

We submit the following copy of an interesting document which has been obligingly transcribed for us, at our request, from the original in an old Record Book in the Court of Northampton County, in which we lately read it ourselves, not without some trouble to our eyes, from the strange characters in which it is written. It obviously relates to the time of the surrender of Virginia to the British Parliament, or rather to Cromwell who had sent out a naval force to reduce our loyal and refractory colony to his sway. This event, it will be remembered, occurred in March 1651, and the Articles of Surrender are dated the 12th of that month. (See Hen. Stat. at Large, vol. I, p. 263.) Yet the caption of this paper is dated the 11th of the month, before the Surrender—though the signatures, it seems, were not added till the 25th, &c., after it. We may infer from this, that the loyal inhabitants of Northampton, were apprized of what was going on at Jamestown, and were moving to take their ground accordingly, in time. It should be noted, however, that by the terms of the Engagement they do not exactly *surrender* to the British Parliament, whose authority they were not prepared to acknowledge; but only agree to yield a peaceable and orderly obedience to it, as to the government *de facto*, if not *de jure*: a fair distinction, and, no doubt, a piece of sound discretion.

“The Engagm’t tendred to ye Inhabitants of Northampton County Eleaventh of March 1651. Ano. 1651.

Wee whose Names are subscribed; doe hereby Engage and promise to bee true and faithfull to the Commonwealth of England as it is nowe Established without Kinge or House of Lords—

25 of March.

Nathan'll Littleton	Argoll Yardley	Jno. Stringer
Obedience Robins	Wm. Waters	Rich. Vaughan
Edm. Scarborough	Wm. Jones	Tho. Johnson
Edw. Douglas	Thos. Sprigge	Dan'll Baker
Peter Walker	Jno. Dye	Thomas Hint
Wm. Andrews, Senr.	X'ofer Maior	Tho. Figby
Nich. Waddelone	Alex. Harryson	Robert Marryott
Alex. Addison	Wm. Munds	Jno. Parkes
James Barnabye	Francis Flood	Wm. Stanley

Jno. Pannell	Steph. Stringer	Jno. Ayres
Sam'll Sone	X'ofer Jarvis	Robert Harryson
Jno. Denman	Nich. Scott	Luke Billington ✓
James Berry	Anth. Hodgskins	Randolfe Hutchinson
Phillipp Farrant	Jno. Nuthall	Nich. Granger
Jno. Tilney	Wm. Whittington	Tho. Truman
Sampson Robins	Wm. Coake	Alex. Madoxe
Jno. Ellis	Ben. Cowdrey	Henr. Armitradinge
Jeffery Minshatt	Levyne Denwood	Steph. Charlton
Georgine Hacke	Robert Andrews	Jno. Parramore
Rich. Hamby	Ben. Mathews	Jno. Robearts
Edw. Harrington		X'ofer Dixon

Tricesimo die Marty 1651.

Edm. Mathews	X'ofer Calvert	Wm. Luddington
Jno. Custis	Ambrose Dixon	Steph. Horsey
Jno. Johnson, Junr.	Wm. Horose	Jno. Robbinson
Farmer Jones	Robt. Blake	Symon Binley
Jno. Dixon	Rich. Hill	Jno. Hinman
Jno. Taylor	Jno. Pott	Jno. Coulson
Mathew Stone	Edw. Marshall	Phill. Mathews
Tobine Selve	Jno. Dolling	Edw. Leene
Rich. Nottingham	Charles Scarburgh	James Johnson
Nehemiah Coventon	Walter Willyams	Eliah Hartree
Francis Morgan	Wm. Stephens	Charles Ratliffe
Wm. Ward	Jno. Thacher	Jno. Graye
Jno. Johnson, Senr.	Rich. Smyth	Jno. Willyams
Edw. Southren	David Wheatley	Randall Revell
Jno. Merryfin	Robert Berry	Wm. Smyth
Dan'll Chadwell	Wm. Preeneinge	Wm. Custis
Jno. Teeslocke	Tho. Butterie	Tho. Miller
Jno. Coulson	Jno. James	Robert Baily
Jno. Machaell	Tho. Price	Jno. Whitehead
Jno. Cornley	Rich. Baily	Armstrong Foster
Rich. Newell	Rich. Hudson	Wm. Andrews, Junr.
Jno. Lee	Rich. Alleyn	Sam'l Calvert
Phill. Merrydayr	Jno. Lewis	Francis Goodman
Edw. Moore	Jno. Johnson, Senr.	Jno. Willyams

Edw. Moore	Wm. Gaskins	Wm. Corner
Jno. Brilyant	Nicholas Jueyre	Rich. Smyth
Jno. Rutter	James Adkinson	Sam'l Robins
Andrew Hendrye	Wm. Gower	Jno. Garnell
Antho. Carpentr	Wm. Boucher	David Kiffyn
Jno. Wise	Jno. Johnson, Junr.	Jno. Browne
Wm. Taylor	Wm. Jordan	Wm. Moultr
Jno. Waleford	X'ofer Kirke	Wm. Browne
Mick. Richett	Tho. Savage	Rich. Kellam
Rich. Bunducke	Saml. Smothergall	Jno. Edwards
Tho. Clarke	Wm. Coleburne	Wm. Mellingr
Tho. Crecro	Allex. Maddoxe	Raph'll Hudson
Saml. Jones	Saml. Powell	Rich. Tegger
Henr. White	James Brewce	Samuil Gouldfine.

Recordnt'r vicesimo die mensie Augusty Ano. 1652.

Teste, EDM. MATHEWS, *Clec. Cur.*

26 of July 1653, in open Court Leift: Sprigge subscribed this
Ingagm't, THO. SPRIGGE.

Teste,

EDM. MATHEWS, *Clec. Cur. Count. Northampton.*

FITZHUGH'S LETTERS.

We are indebted to our esteemed correspondent in Fredericksburg, for the following copies of some old letters, which he introduces to us in these words :

“DEAR SIR,—I happen to have, protempore, a manuscript volume containing copies of letters written at different times between 1679 and 1699, by a certain ‘Wm. ffitzhugh,’ (as he spells his name,) who lived somewhere in the county of Stafford, and as tradition says, at Bedford, in what is now King George. It would seem that he was a lawyer of reputation, and a planter too. He was counsel for Robert Beverley, and we have some letters relative to that famous case, which though they throw no

light on the facts connected with the 'plant-cutting,' are nevertheless curious in regard to the history of legal proceedings in this country.

I send you a few letters from this book by way of sample, and may send you more hereafter.

The Letters to Mathews are given not merely because he was sometime Governor of the Colony, but because he is believed to have been the first of our manufacturers, and as such should be remembered with due honor.

J. M.

Fredericksburg, June 8, 1848.

To Capt. Fras. Partis, at &c.

JULY 1st, 1680.

SIR,—The above is a copy of my former June 11th, 1680. I have no new matter to add, only I would have you be very careful of my flax, hemp and hay seed, two bushels of each of which I have sent for, because we now have resolved a cessation from making Tobo. next year. We are also going to make Towns.* If you can meet with any tradesmen that will come in and live at the Towns, they may have large privileges and communitys. I would have you bring me in a good Housewife. I do not intend or mean [her] to be brought in as the ordinary servants are; but to pay for her passage, and agree to give her fifty Shillings, or three pound a year during the space of five years; upon which terms I suppose good servants may be had, because they have their passage clear and as much wages as they can have there. I would have a good one or none. I looke upon the generality of wenches you usually bring in not worth the keeping. I expect to hear from you by all conveniencys, for I assure you I let slip none to tell you I am, &c.

I would have you bring me two large paper bookes; one to

* Vide Act of June 1680—Hen. Stat. at Lar.: Vol. II., p. 471.

contain about fourteen or fifteen Quire of Paper; another about ten Quire; and one other small one.

July 1st, 1680.

Per Capt. Fowler.

To Capt. Thos. Mathews, at Cherry Point.

JULY 3RD, 1681.

SIR,—I have this Conveniency by Nat. Garland to acquaint you that I cannot receive answers to a third of the letters I send you. I believe there may be some miscarriages, but not so many but that one in three comes to hand. Friends at a distance want the happiness of seeing one another; yet a friendly communication by letters is not barred, which I should much rejoice in. I assure you I let slip no opportunity; and should be glad you would use but a friendliness therein. I hope Distance has not occasioned forgetfulness.

Nat. Garland tells me you have made a great and profitable progress in your linnen manufacture, which I heartily congratulate; wishing that as you give good example to others, you may reap benefit thereby to yourself.

Sir, I have here enclosed sent a letter to Mr. Alexander Broady, with his papers inclosed in it. I have left it open for your perusal, &c.—after which I desire you will seal it and get it a safe conveyance to his hand.

My wife and self salute you and your good lady. With our respects and service, I am

Your

w. ff.

To Capt. Thomas Mathews, at Cherry Point.

AUGUST 24TH, 1681.

SIR,—Yours by Christopher Warner bearing date 29th July, I have received. Am glad to hear of your and Lady's health therein, which I have also been satisfy'd in by Mrs. Rogers, who

has been in our parts, and whom I have intreated to be the Conveyor of this.

I do not approve of your term project for the advancement of a most usefull and advantageous manufacture, which I believe in time, when necessity and use shall have reduced more to follow, will be found more profitable and advantageous to a generall Commerce than the greatest probability can imagine from this superfluous staple that at present custom hath rendered suitable to the generality; by reason one is of absolute necessity, the other a thing indifferent and more obliged to the fancy than any real worth in itself.

Absolute necessity of business calls me abroad so often that I am glad when I can have some leisure at home. I am taking of some, and assure yourself that you shall be one of the first whom, when I get time, I intend to visit.

Necessity as 'tis the mother of Invention, so 'tis the Nurse of Industry; which has so far been cherished here that there's little of any wool left in our parts not wrought up either in stockings, &c.: therefore no hopes of the purchase of any here.

Mine and wive's best respects salute you and your good Lady. Continuance of that health and happiness you at present enjoy is wished by

Your

w. ff.

To Mr. John Buckner, December 3, 1681. (Extract.)

Esq'r Wormley likewise at the same time assured me that he would take care to pay you £20 more upon my account, which I doubt not but before this he has done. What remains I will hereafter take care honestly to pay, but hope you will make me some abatement of your dumb negro that you sold me. Had she been a new negro* I must have blamed my fate, not you.

* Slaves imported were called new negroes—those born here were distinguished as Virginian negroes and more valued.

But one that you had two years I must conclude you knew her qualities, which is bad at work—worse at talking; and took the opportunity of the softness of my messenger to quit your hands of her. I will freely give you the £3. 5. 0. overplus of £20 that he gave for her, to take her again; and will get her conveyed to your hands: or hope, if my offer be not acceptable, you will make me some abatement of so bad a bargain.

SCRAPS FROM A NOTE-BOOK.

THE CAPITOL.

Mr. Jefferson writing from Paris in 1785, to Mr. Madison, says, "We took for our model, what is called the Maison Quarree, of Nismes, one of the most beautiful, if not the most beautiful, and precious morsel of architecture left us by antiquity. It was built by Caius and Lucius Cæsar, and repaired by Louis XIV., and has the suffrage of all the judges of architecture who have seen it, as yielding to no one of the beautiful monuments of Greece, Rome, Palmyra, and Balbec, which late travellers have communicated to us."

Arthur Young in his Travels notices the Maison Quarree in the following terms:—"It is beyond all expression, the most light, elegant and pleasing building I ever beheld; without any extraordinary magnificence to surprise, it rivets attention. There is a magic harmony in the proportions that charms the eye. One can fix on no particular part of pre-eminent beauty; it is one perfect whole of symmetry and grace."

LADY DUNMORE AND HER DAUGHTERS.

"Lady Dunmore is here—a very elegant woman. She looks, speaks and moves and is a lady. Her daughters are fine sprightly

sweet girls. Goodness of heart flushes from them in every look. How is it possible said that honest soul, our Governor, to me, how is it possible my Lord Dunmore could so long deprive himself of those pleasures he must enjoy in such a family? When you see them you will feel the full force of this observation."

Life of Gouverneur Morris.

YORK TOWN.

The following notice of Yorktown is found in an obsolete Virginia poem, entitled "The Contest."

"Far to the East where lofty cliffs ascend,
 From whence York's gentle tide, slow gliding on
 An even course, in ample prospect lies,
 An ancient town o'erspreads the sandy glebe;
 The healthful site (for air serene renowned)
 No putrid damps from oozy beach invades,
 A new Montpelier this thrice happy town,
 Happy for health, for commerce, and for love,
 Fraternal love, or sacred Friendship fixed:
 Here first in dignity, as first in wealth,
 The elder Nelson lives—respected name,
 His country's glory and her best support.
 And now, oh Nelson, would the muse proclaim
 Your private goodness and your public worth,
 'The patriot virtues that distend your thoughts,
 Spread on your front, and in your conduct glow.'
 But your great mind even just applause disclaims,
 And every noble act but duty calls."

C. C.

Petersburg.

ORIGINAL LETTERS.

LETTERS FROM RICHARD HENRY LEE TO PATRICK HENRY.

The following Letters from Richard Henry Lee to Patrick Henry, written at different times during our revolutionary war, while the former was a Delegate from Virginia in the General Congress, and the latter Governor of the Commonwealth, are copied from the originals, which have been obligingly communicated to us by N. F. Cabell, Esq., of Warminster, in these terms;—which may serve, very properly, to introduce them to our readers :

WARMINSTER, NELSON Co., JULY 19, 1848.

DEAR SIR,—Sometime since, while searching for certain other papers among the old family correspondence of Mayo Cabell, Esq., of Union Hill, in this county, we discovered the letters of which you have heard from Mr. J. C. C.—The series is broken, as you will perceive in looking them over, as well by the dates and numbers indorsed as by internal evidence. Indeed there is reason to believe that they are but the relics of a much larger number, of which the collection was once composed. It is supposed that many years ago they were brought to Union Hill by Patrick Henry, Jun'r, left there by accident, mislaid, finally thrown aside amongst other old papers, and many of them destroyed by persons who were ignorant of their value. The missing letters of Richard Henry Lee together with the few which have been preserved, may have contained something like a continuous history of the events of the Revolutionary War, and judicious reflections on the state and wants of the country during its several phases, by the great orator and statesman, who from his position had access to the best sources of information, and would freely impart the whole to his greater friend. But it is needless now to express regret at their loss.

The papers sent are twelve in number—viz. eight letters of R. H. Lee, one of General Washington, one of Timothy Pickering, and an Address of the Officers of several Virginia Regiments—all to Patrick Henry; and one letter of R. H. Lee to Col. Wm. Cabell, Sen'r. These papers being all of a public character, I presume there can be no objection to publishing such parts of them as you may think would be of interest to your readers," &c.

N. FRANCIS CABELL.

LETTERS.

Belle View, 20th August, 1776.

DEAR SIR,—I am thus far on my way to Congress, having been sometime detained by the slowness of the Workman that made my Carriage wheels, the old being quite shatter'd and useless.

I have learned with much pleasure that a recovery of health promises your speedy return to public business, and I heartily wish the latter may be benefitted as it will be by your uninterrupted enjoyment of the former.

I have been informed of two things, which if true, I think we may benefit from. These are, that the ships of war have all left our Bay, and that plenty of Salt is stored in the Islands of Bermuda. Would it not be proper to fall upon some method of giving the Bermudians speedy notice how things are circumstanced here, that they may embrace the opportunity of supplying us with that useful article. The present rainy season, will I fear disappoint the wise measures of Convention for making salt.—But at all events our manufactured salt will be too late for many purposes, which a quick supply from Bermuda would effectually save. Among these, the curing of grass beef and early Pork for the Army, are important objects. But should our Works fail, I fear most extensive and powerful convulsions will arise from the want of Salt, to prevent which, no precautions, I think, should be omitted. Our enemies appear to be collecting their whole force at New York (except what goes to Canada) with design, no doubt, to make a last and powerful effort there. Our numbers, it seems, increase with theirs, so that I hope we shall be able to parry every thrust the Tyrant can make.

I learn from Maryland that the Counties have excluded from their new Convention all those that have been famous for *Moderation* as it is strangely called, and under this idea, that Johnson, Gouldsbrough, Stone, and Tilghman are left out, with the new Delegates to Congress, Alexander and Rogers.

I hope to have the pleasure of hearing from you at Philadelphia—I mean, exclusive of public writing,—and in the mean

time assure you that I am with much esteem and regard dear Sir your affectionate friend and obedient servant,

RICHARD HENRY LEE.

P. S.—Be so kind as contrive the inclosed to our friend, I do not know rightly where he is, so you will please finish the direction.

Philadelphia, May 6, 1777.

DEAR SIR,—Having written to you so lately by Express this chiefly serves to convey my wishes that another Delegate might be hastened here, for the reasons you will see in the inclosed note, this moment put into my hands. By a late letter from France, we understand that our enemies have given up their plan of attacking Virginia for the present, in order to gratify their stronger resentment against New England. However, I greatly question their being able to do much against either, as a french and spanish war seems inevitable. A curious Act of Parliament has passed to make our opposition on the land high Treason, and on the Sea Piracy—And directing a place of imprisonment in England until it is *convenient* to try the offenders. It is an acrimonious and foolish display of Tyranny.

I am, with great respect, dear Sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,

RICHARD HENRY LEE.

York in Pennsylv'a, Oct'r 28, 1777.

DEAR SIR,—The anxiety at Williamsburg cannot be greater than it is here to have a particular account of our late glorious success in the North. For nine days past, we have hourly expected the arrival of a messenger with Gates's magnificent Inventory, and in order to a quick transmission of it, we have de-

tained, and still keep Colo. Mason's Express. We now learn that Colo. Wilkinson D. Adjutant Gen. is on his way with this long wish for Capitulation, by which Gen. Burgoyne and his army have surrendered themselves prisoners of war. Until I can furnish you the authentic detail, I will entertain you with the relation of our late success on the Delaware below Philadelphia. It must be obvious to you how important to the enemy it is, that they sh'd get their fleet up to the City, for this purpose they have made many efforts which have been repulsed with considerable injury to their Ships, and loss of men. The last attempt was the most powerful and was as follows—With 1,200 Hessian Grenadiers led by Colo. Count Donop, they attack'd Red Bank, a post held by a party of Troops under Colo. Green of Rhode Island, nearly opposite to Fort Island on the Jersey Shore. The attack was made by storm, and they had passed the Abbatis, gained the Ditch, and some of them, with Donop and his Aid Major at their head, had passed the Pickets, when they met so warm a reception as to be driven back and forced to retire with great precipitation, leaving the Count and his Aid with 70 wounded in our hands, and upwards of 70 dead on the spot. 300 muskets with swords, &c., &c., are taken, one Lieut. Colo. and some inferior officers of the enemy are among the slain. The routed party returned to Philadelphia, crossing Delaware opposite the City. An attack was likewise made on Fort Mifflin by several Ships of War and by the Batteries on Providence Island, which was continued long and with great violence. At length the Ships retired and two of them getting a ground (a 64 and a 20) were quit- ted by the people after having set fire to them. They blew up with a terrible explosion. Thus the enemy were defeated and disappointed in this general attack. Whether they will renew their attempts I cannot tell, but it is probable they will. That you may have a better idea of this important passage I have inclosed you a draught made by Capt. Loyeaute of Gen. Coudrays Corps of Artillerists, the same gentleman whom we have recommended for the command of our Bat'n of Artillery. He is an

an artist in the business of Artillery and not acquainted with the art of the Engineer, and will most assuredly benefit our country much in this necessary department. I pray you Sir to interest yourself in procuring the appointment of this Gentleman. At all events it is proper that an answer be speedily sent here, that the Gentleman may not be unnecessarily delayed. There has been pains taken to get this Officer in other States, but we have prevailed with him to give Virginia the preference. The United States have a very considerable quantity of field Artillery at present, 30 pieces of which are laying idle at Charles Town in S. Carolina. Suppose Virginia was to direct their Delegates to apply to Congress for 6 or 8 of these pieces and if they are granted to us, let them be brot to our Country, where for the present they may serve to instruct the men with, and be ready for use next Campaign if we should be visited, which I very much incline to think will be the case, since the enemy have been so baffled in the North as must, I think, discourage future efforts in that quarter. Capt. Loyeaute is of opinion that it would be quite proper to have that number of Field pieces at the least, for the purpose of instruction, as well as for use in war. There are so many places in our Country that require to be fortified, and the use of Artillery is become so very important in war, that I think we cannot be too well and too soon acquainted with this branch of the art of war. These Officers of Gen. Coudrays Corps have only leave of absence from the Court of France for 2 years, and I think it will be very unwise in America not to profit from this circumstance, so as to acquire knowledge of a necessary art which they understand well, and which we are quite ignorant of. Mons. Loyeaute speaks english pretty well, and improves daily. The impatience of the Express will not suffer him to remain here any longer, and therefore we are not able to confirm the Northern News.—This is the first moment of fair weather since Sunday morning, it having been constant and heavy rain for 4 days and nights past, which has prevented all intercourse with the Army or from the North. We shall send an Express to you immedi-

ately on receiving an authentic account from Gen. Gates, which I hope will be the case in a short time.

I am dear Sir most affectionately yours,

RICHARD HENRY LEE.

Oct'r 30th, 1777, 10 o'clock in the morning.

YORK, THE 24th Nov'r, 1777.

My Dear Sir,—I am just favored with yours of the 14th, and thank you for it. Every attempt to clothe the army is commendable, upon principles both of humanity and policy. As there is great Trade at Charles Town, you have some chance for the woolens you want, altho this is the worst season for application on account of the many negroes they have to clothe in that Country. Either the Havannah or New Orleans are places where you may surely get Woolens and military stores. Doctor Lee's letters have repeatedly assured us that at these places would be lodged the above articles for N. America in general, and Virginia in particular. Small, swift sailing Vessels sent to the former of these places from Virginia or North Carolina, freighted with fine flour or Tobacco would not fail to return loaded with necessaries, and by pushing into some of the Inlets on the sea coast of North Carolina, might avoid the British cruisers that infest our Bay and the goods be safely brot over land. This appears to me the most expeditious and the most certain way. By this method, the blankets and cloaths might yet be in season to help the Soldiers before the winter is over. With respect to the loan of money at the Havannah or N. Orleans, I am not able to form a judgement whether it can be effected or not, the latter most probably, because Dr. Lee was able to get but a small sum immediately from Spain for Congress, altho he expected a larger credit from Holland thro' the mediation and security of Spain. Add to this the great probability of immediate war in Europe, from which Spain will not be detached. I remember Dr. Lee in many of his letters to me previous to his visit to Spain, said he

should endeavor to negotiate a loan from that Court for Virginia and South Carolina—to support (as he said) the credit of our paper money. Since his return from Spain he only mentions cloaths and military stores that would be lodged at Havannah and Orleans for our use. For the purpose of securing the credit of our money on a great emergence, it were to be wished a credit could be obtained as you propose, and therefore I think it will not be amiss to make the experiment. As for goods they may be had in the way of Barter. Indeed, I understood Dr. Lee, that the military stores and cloathing would be delivered with't immediate pay of any kind. We formerly sent you the contents of a letter on this subject to Congress, which is all that has been received, unless it be a Spanish letter from the Governor of N. Orleans which Mr. Morris took away to get translated, and it has not yet been returned. You shall have it when we get it. Mons. Loyeaute declines the Directorship of the Academy. He is a young Gentleman of high family, of fortune, and ardent in pursuit of military glory. His father, who is a General in the Artillery of France has taken pains to instruct this his Son from his earliest youth, and he is, you may be assured, a Proficient. He is sober, temperate, as a soldier should be, and seems to have none of the fashionable vices. He says he came not here for money, but to search for military honor, to assist America in establishing her freedom, but since he cannot be employed in that way, he shall return to his own Country, the business of an Academecian better suiting Age and infirmity with views of distant good, than youth, and strength, and prospect of present action and immediate benefit to the public. I am concerned we have lost this Gentleman on many accounts. I am sure my Country will suffer for want of the knowlèdge he possesses. And the rejection of him happened at an unlucky crisis. All the rest of his Corps had just set out on their return to France because Congress would not comply with the contract Mr. Deane had firmly made with them in France, and which had disgusted them greatly. This Gentleman remained at our request, and altho our engagement was not absolute, it was very strong, kept

him from returning with his companions, and will I fear impress on all their minds bad ideas of the Americans, and do us no service in France. This is well known here and the Delegates look rather small in the eyes of their brethren. I am sure we acted for the best, well knowing the utter deficiency of knowledge in this branch with us, its necessity, and having the best grounds for believing this Gentleman an Adept. It is certain we went rather too far, I am sorry for it, but we shall be less forward in future.—Since I last wrote, the enemy have taken Fort Island, after a most gallant defence on the part of the Garrison, which retreated from the Island in the Night after all but two of their Guns were dismounted, and not more than a rod and an half of the works left. The enemy brought over their Cutdown Indianman between Province Island and them from which they poured a most dreadful Cannonade from 24 and 32 pounders, and from their Tops the fire of Cohorns and Musketry drove the men from their guns in the Fort. The better opinion yet is, that the enemy cannot get their Fleet up to the City until they first remove the Gallies, the Chevaux de Frise, and reduce Red Banke. To effect this latter purpose, we hear that Cornwallis with his men has crossed into the Jersies, and that our Army is gone down to attack their lines now weakened by such a powerful reinforcement sent away. If so, we may expect important news in a day or two. One Brigade from the Eastern Army, with Morgan's Corps have lately joined Gen. Washington—20 Regiments are ordered from Gates's Army. The Rhode Island expedition went no further than Providence by the misconduct, 'tis said, of old Spencer. There will be an enquiry. Our last intelligence from the West Indies which covers news from France the 4th of Sept., gives us abundant reason to think that a War between France and G. Britain is on the verge of taking place if it has not already done so. The F. Ambr. is ordered to demand all F. Vessels taken by England without the limits prescribed by Treaty, and to retire from the Court if the demand was not complied with. The Governors in the F. Islands are ordered to be in readiness for war, and to lay an Embargo on all Vessels bound to Europe to pre-

went their falling into the enemies hands—5000 additional Troops are to be immediately sent to Martinique and Guadaloupe—Portugal has acceded to the Family Compact—Dr. Lee is returning from Prussia having finished his business successfully at that Court. The King of Prussia has opened his Ports to the Vessels of the United States, and Mr. Carmichael writes, that a Ship loaded with Tobacco to Embden would be attended with satisfactory consequences. The Cargo would be returned in manufactures very useful to us, and 15 or 20 pr. cent cheaper than from France. Cant we try this experiment at the proper season, which may be known by the Commercial Dictionaries. We expect daily to receive important news from Europe. My ill state of health, produced by bad water, bad air, and excessive business, will compel me to return home in a few days for the severity of the winter season.

I am, with sentiments of affectionate

Esteem and regard dear Sir yours

RICHARD HENRY LEE.

Greenspring, 25th Jan'y, 1778.

MY DEAR SIR,—I find Mr. Ellis desirous of superintending the estate of Mr. Paradise and this at the same time, and I am very willing to second his views in this matter, because I am satisfied it will redound to the benefit of both estates. Heretofore (until lately) they have always been under the same management, and from their situation, and other circumstances, capable of co-operating and assisting each other. Mr. Ellis's fitness to manage both, is I believe equal to any mans. The Act of Assembly lately passed for sequestering British property evidently designs nothing at present unfriendly to the Owners of such property, and therefore I should suppose that in appointing a Commissioner for the estate of Mr. Paradise, regard may properly be had to the choice of a person who is at once friendly to the public and to the Proprietor of the estate—Such a person, in this

instance, is Colo. Henry Lee—He is willing to undertake it, and he is Uncle by marriage to the Lady of Mr. Paradise. Should these things appear to you in the light they do to me, I shall be obliged to you Sir for having the business so managed as that Mr. Ellis may succeed in his desire.

I have the honor to be with great esteem and respect dear Sir your most affectionate and obedient

RICHARD HENRY LEE.

Chantilly, Nov'r 15th, 1778.

MY DEAR SIR,—I send you by this opportunity the trial of Gen. Lee, which be pleased to let our friends Colo. Mason, Mr. Wythe, and Mr. Jefferson see, after you have read it. I will not anticipate your judgement, the thing speaks fully for itself. In my public letter to you, I observe that the enemy still continue at N. York. Their reason for so doing is not obvious. Their exposure to almost certain destruction in the West Indies, their exceeding weakness in every part of the world where they have possessions, seems to demand their quitting us for other objects, and this I should suppose they would do if their hopes were not sustained by other causes than the expectation of conquest by force of arms. Division among ourselves, and the precipice on which we stand with our paper money, are, I verily believe, the sources of their hope. The former is bad, but the latter is most seriously dangerous! Already the continental emissions exceed in a seven fold proportion the sum necessary for medium; the State emissions added, greatly increase the evil. It would be well if this were all, but the forgeries of our currency are still more mischievous. They depreciate not only by increasing the quantity, but by creating universal diffidence concerning the whole paper fabric. In my opinion these Miscreants who forge our money are as much more criminal than most other offenders, as parricide exceeds murder. The mildness of our law will not deter from this tempting vice. Certain Death on conviction seems the least punishment that can be supposed to answer the pur-

pose. I believe most nations have agreed in considering and punishing the contamination of money as the highest crimes against society are considered and punished. Cannot the Assembly be prevailed on to amend the law on this point, and by means of light horse to secure the arrest, and punishment of these offenders, without giving them the opportunity to escape that now they flatter themselves with. I hope Sir you will pardon my saying so much on this subject, but my anxiety arises from the clear conviction I have that the loss of our liberty seems at present more likely to be derived from the state of our currency than from all other causes. Congress is fully sensible of this, and I do suppose, that in order to detect forgeries and reduce the quantity, it will be requested of all the States to call into the Loan Offices the Continental emissions previous to April last, by compulsory laws. This is a bold stroke in finance, but necessity, and experience in the Eastern States, sanctify the measure. The next cause that threatens our infant republics, is, division among ourselves. Three States yet refuse to Confederate, Maryland, Delaware and Jersey—Indeed N. York can scarcely be said to have confederated since that State has signed with this condition, to be bound in case all the States confederate. Maryland, I fear will never come in whilst our claim remains so unlimited to the westward. They affect to fear our power, and they are certainly envious of the wealth they suppose may flow from this source. It is not improbable that the secret machinations of our enemies are at the bottom of this. Some of the most heated opponents of our claim, say that if we would fix a reasonable limit, and agree that a new State should be established to the Westward of those limits, they would be content to confederate. What do you think Sir of our proposing the Ohio as a boundary to the Westward, and agreeing that the Country beyond should be settled for common good and make a new State on condition that compensation reasonable should be made us for Dunmore's, Colo. Christian's, and our late expeditions. This might perhaps be agreed to and be taken well as coming freely from us. When we consider the difficulty of republican laws and government

piercing so far from the seat of Government, and the benefit in point of economy from having a frontier State to guard us from Indian wars and the expence they create, I cannot help thinking that upon the whole this would be our wisest course. We should then probably unmask those who found their objection to Confederacy upon the extensiveness of our claim, and by having that bond of union fixt foreclose forever the hopes of our enemies. I have a prospect of paying my respects to you and the Assembly between this and Christmass, if the distracted state of my plantation affairs can soon be put in reasonable order. I am, with sincere affection and esteem, dear Sir your most obedient humble servant

RICHARD HENRY LEE.

Belleview, Feb'y 10, 1779.

MY DEAR SIR,—I am here in my way to Congress, and here I have seen the Tyrants speech to his corrupt Parliament last Nov'r. It breathes war altogether, and renders it of the last importance to be prepared with a strong Army to defeat his wicked purposes. Dr. Lee writes me in Nov'r that Gen. Howe is to return to the command here, and he says "Molochs principle prevails with the absolute ruler of these measures, in which if he cannot hope for victory he expects revenge." Mr. Wm. Lee writes from Frankfort, Oct'r 15. "At all events I am determined to attend to the appointment of Virginia—My brother and myself have already done a good deal and I am now endeavoring to borrow money to complete their orders, and you may assure the State that I will do every thing that is possible to comply with all their orders." The Emperor and the King of Prussia have gone into winter quarters without having fought a battle. The former winters in Bohemia the latter in Selesia and Saxony. The effort seems to have been to winter the Prussians in Bohemia but this has been prevented notwithstanding the very great Military Talents of the King of Prussia and his brother. Holland appears much more inclined to our side than that of England—

It is probable the latter will fail of getting monied assistance from the Dutch.

Mons'r Penet is now on his way to look at our Cannon works near Richmond. This Gentleman, combined, I understand, with persons of much ability, have imported and propose to import more than 200 Workmen the most able in the art of making small Arms complete, and casting all kinds of Cannon. They propose doing every thing at their own expence, and to supply on contract any number of completely fitted Muskets or Cannon at a fixed price. They want only a fit place to sit down on. Your wisdom and patriotism will discover in a moment how extensively useful it will be to our Country to have these people fixed with us. A just estimate being put on our works and their Arms, we may thus be repaid in a most useful manner the expence we have already incurred, which will otherways, I fear, be loss altogether. To be independent of external aid, for these primary articles of defence, is surely a most capital object. I really think that it would require at least 100,000 stand of good arms and more than an hundred pieces of Cannon to put our State in a proper posture of defence. If you view this matter in the light that I do, Mr. Penet will, I am sure, meet with all possible encouragement.

I have the honor to be with great esteem dear Sir your most affectionate and obedient servant

RICHARD HENRY LEE.

P. S.—The Deaneans I find are aiming at an occlusion of the Press, except for the admission of their libels. Monopolised Press and Monopolised Commerce will never do for a free Country.

Phila., Feb'y 28, 1779.

MY DEAR SIR,—I arrived here on the 19th, thro the worst roads that I ever travelled over. I find the business of faction here pretty much at an end by the thorough exposure of its au-

thor Mr. Silas Deane, who, if I am rightly informed, regrets extremely his publication of December the 5th. But be this as it may, he has certainly gained nothing by it here in the public opinion. I inform you with pleasure Sir, that the King of France has formally agreed to rescind the 11th and 12th articles of the treaty of Commerce, so that now, the only unequal parts being removed, it rests upon the liberal ground of fair equality in every part. We are certainly indebted to Dr. Lee's attention for this beneficial alteration, for which the honest voice of posterity will indubitably thank him, when the poison of wicked faction shall cease to operate. The King of the two Sicily's has opened his ports to the Vessels of the United States, which is a good omen of Spanish attachment to our cause. Indeed we have abundant reason to believe that Great Britain will not get assistance from any power in Europe to carry on the war against us, and already our good Ally has made great havoc among the Privateers and with the Trade of our enemies. We hear that 7000 British Seamen are now prisoners in the jails of old France. Notwithstanding these favorable appearances it certainly behooves us to get a strong army in the field, as the enemy have yet here a strength sufficient to do much mischief if they are not properly opposed. From the best accounts that I can collect, it appears that they have not less than 11,000 men at New York and Rhode Island. Yesterday accounts from Jersey told us the enemy had landed at Elizabeth Town and had burned Gov. Livingstone's house, and were advancing into the country. Our army was preparing to resist them, and if they do not quickly return, I hope we shall give a good account of them. The enemy have published some curious letters of Mr. Braxton's which they have intercepted, I am informed they will be republished here, and when they are I will send you the paper.

I am with much esteem dear Sir affectionately yours,

RICHARD HENRY LEE.

P. S.—The enemies attempt upon Gen. Maxwell in the Jerseys has turned out to our honor and their disgrace—Instead of

surprising Gen. Maxwell, they were themselves surprised by his being prepared. The enemy were forced to retire with loss and disgrace, and without burning Gov. Livingstons house.

R. H. LEE.

March 2.

THE NAVY OF VIRGINIA.

CAPTAIN IVY.

MR. EDITOR,—The readers of your “Historical Register” must have felt greatly indebted to your correspondent, Commodore Barron, for his interesting reminiscences of the Navy of Virginia. Though its exploits may not have been performed on the wide ocean, or been so brilliant as to engage much of the attention of the general Historian, yet were they of signal service to our military operations, in our struggle for independence, and well worthy of commemoration. Its deeds were often deeds of daring, though confined within the shores of the Chesapeake, and contributed in various ways to the success of the military movements by land. It was manned by the same stout hearts, inspired with a love of Liberty, which composed and invigorated our armies, and hence could not have failed honorably to acquit itself whenever any requisition was made upon it. Fortunately we are in possession of much of its records, in the Navy Journal, in the First Auditor’s office, from which we learn that it was neither idle, nor inefficient; and Mr. Cooper might have honored it with a more extended notice than he has done. I do not propose, however, to supply his deficiency at present, but only to give you a brief notice of one of our revolutionary officers whose memory, I think, deserves a short record in your pages.

Capt. William Ivy was born on the estate which he afterwards inherited from his father, called “Sycamore View,” and situated on Tanner’s Creek, in the county of Norfolk. This estate, or a

portion of it, is still in the possession of his lineal descendants, having been transmitted from father to son for 170 years. Very early in the revolutionary war, having been brought up to the sea, Capt. Ivy entered the naval service of the State, though not in his case for the reason assigned by Commodore Barron when he says that masters of vessels were compelled to enter the navy "in order to obtain clothes suitable to their decent appearance in public;" for at that time Capt. Ivy owned two plantations, and was in the habit of building vessels on them at his own cost. During the war, however, he suffered greatly from the depredations of the enemy; his residence, Sycamore View, being only about two miles from Hampton Roads. The houses on both of his estates were plundered and then destroyed by fire, together with his crops, after the depredators had abundantly supplied themselves; and about sixty of his slaves were carried off by the British, and never recovered.

Capt. Ivy entered the navy purely from the impulse of an active and patriotic spirit; and at first was satisfied to serve in any station that offered. Accordingly, we find that on the 20th of September, 1776, he was acting as Second Lieutenant on board the sloop *Scorpion*, commanded by Capt. Wright Westcott. I do not know of any action in which the *Scorpion* was engaged; but she was not idle, and we may trust that her sting was not unfelt by the foe. On the 4th of November, 1776, she was ordered to Portsmouth, there to be "put in order for making a cruise, and as soon as ready to return to Yorktown, and wait on the Board for further orders."—(Navy Journal, p. 100.) Those orders, on the 24th of December following, sent her to Fredericksburg to "bring thence all the public goods in the hands of James Hunter." But her return from the Rappahannock became so fraught with danger, that on the 22nd of January following, (1777,) she was ordered to remain up that river till further orders. In the mean time, however, on the 2nd of that month, Captain Ivy had been raised to the rank of 1st Lieutenant of the sloop *Liberty*, and soon afterwards, on the 7th, to that of a Captain, when he was immediately engaged in the recruiting service; for

we find that on that day it was "ordered that a warrant issue for thirty pounds to Captain Wm. Ivy to recruit seamen for the use of the Navy," &c. It was on this same day, too, that the Board "recommended him to his Excellency, the Governor, and the Honorable the Council, as a proper person to be appointed to the command of the sloop Liberty, in the room of Capt. Walter Brooke."—(Navy Journal, Vol. 1, p. 152-3.)

This appointment was, no doubt, the height of his ambition at the time, and he entered upon it with alacrity, for on the 28th of January, we find, that orders were issued for ammunition, provisions, and other naval stores, and some nautical instruments to be delivered to him. Thus equipped, we are assured that he sailed about in his gallant little sloop, annoying the enemy, and otherwise serving his country in various ways, till the close of the year 1777, or the beginning of the year 1778, when he died—leaving a good name behind him, which is still fondly cherished by his descendants.

I observe that Commodore Barron, in his interesting sketch of the Schooner Liberty, in your April number, says that "she was commanded, in the commencement of our revolutionary war, by Captain James Barron, afterwards Commodore Barron, Senior officer of that Navy." This is no doubt substantially true, but to make it strictly so, we must take the word "commencement" to mean "early part;" for I find that Capt. James Barron was "recommended as Captain of the *Boat Liberty*," on the 29th of March 1777, which was sometime after the war began. And, by the way, as we have already seen, that the *sloop Liberty* had been previously commanded by Captains Brooke and Ivy, it might be inferred that Capt. Barron succeeded the latter in the command of that vessel, which would give Capt. Ivy a very short cruise. But a *boat*, it seems, is not a sloop, but a schooner, and it was a *schooner Liberty* which Capt. Barron commanded. There must have been two vessels then of the same favorite name. And indeed it would appear that there must have been three—for I find that mention is also made of a Brig of that name, and commanded by another Captain about the same time, viz. by Capt. Thos.

Lilly, on the 16th of November, 1776. On the other hand, however, only one Liberty is mentioned in the Act of 1779, in which the vessels belonging to our navy are enumerated; though that may not have been a full enumeration; or there may have been but one Liberty left at that time; for Commodore Barron tells us that the Schooner Liberty was "the most fortunate vessel in the service, and was the only one, in fact, that ran through the whole contest without being captured by the enemy."

If the above conjecture should prove correct, perhaps your venerable correspondent may be able to favor us with some further accounts of these other Liberties, which could not but be very agreeable to your readers.

Wishing that your Register may be eminently successful in illustrating the naval and other "Annals of Virginia,"

I am, yours very truly,

B. B. M.

MR. WINTHROP'S ADDRESS.

On the occasion of Laying the Corner-stone of the National Monument to Washington.

We noticed this Address—or the delivery of it—in our last number, and have since read it as it appeared in the National Intelligencer shortly afterwards, with great delight. It is, we think, a very proper and beautiful discourse, entirely worthy of the distinguished speaker, and, as far as possible, of the illustrious subject himself. The whole idea of the performance, indeed, strikes us as truly excellent; the conception nearly perfect, and the execution if not exactly equal, yet not much inferior, to the design. Taking it, accordingly, as a whole, we should pronounce it admirable throughout; and considering it merely as a rhetorical performance, we may regard it as a finished specimen of art,—more like sculpture than painting—beaming out upon us in its chiselled grace like some model of antiquity, at once pure and classical in its style, and altogether grand and striking in its effect.

With this opinion of its merits, we should be happy to record the whole

of this truly national Address in our Register ; but our narrow limits forbid, and we can only spare room for a single extract—on the Character of Washington—which seems to belong to our pages.

THE CHARACTER OF WASHINGTON.

“In the whole history of the world it may be doubted whether any man can be found who has exerted a more controlling influence over men and over events than George Washington. To what did he owe that influence? How did he win—how did he wield, that magic power—that majestic authority, over the minds and hearts of his countrymen, and of mankind? In what did the power of Washington consist?

It was not the power of vast learning, or varied acquirements. He made no pretensions to scholarship, and had no opportunities for extensive reading.

It was not the power of sparkling wit, or glowing rhetoric. Though long associated with deliberative bodies, he never made a set speech in his life, nor ever mingled in a stormy debate.

It was not the power of personal fascination. There was little about him of that gracious affability which sometimes lends such resistless attraction to men of commanding position. His august presence inspired more of awe than affection, and his friends, numerous and devoted as they were, were bound to him rather by ties of respect than of love.

It was not the power of a daring and desperate spirit of heroic adventure. ‘If I ever said so,’ replied Washington, when asked whether he had said that there was something charming in the sound of a whistling bullet, ‘if I ever said so, it was when I was young.’ He had no passion for mere exploits. He sought no bubble reputation in the cannon’s mouth. With a courage never questioned, and equal to every exigency, he had yet ‘a wisdom which did guide his valor to act in safety.’

In what, then, did the power of Washington consist? When Patrick Henry returned home from the first Continental Congress, and was asked who was the greatest man in that body, he replied, ‘if you speak of eloquence, Mr. Rutledge, of South

Carolina, is the greatest orator; but if you speak of solid information and sound judgment, Col. Washington is by far the greatest man on that floor.'

When, fifteen years earlier, Washington at the close of the French war, took his seat for the first time in the house of Burgesses of Virginia, and a vote of thanks was presented to him for his military services to the colony, his hesitation and embarrassment were relieved by the Speaker, who said, 'Sit down Mr. Washington, your modesty equals your valor; and that surpasses the power of any language that I possess.'

But it was not solid information or sound judgment, or even that rare combination of surpassing modesty and valor, great as these qualities are, which gave Washington such a hold on the regard, respect and confidence of the American people. I hazard nothing in saying that it was the high moral elements of his character, which imparted to it its preponderating force. His incorruptible honesty, his uncompromising truth, his devout reliance on God, the purity of his life, the scrupulousness of his conscience, the disinterestedness of his purpose, his humanity, generosity and justice—these were the ingredients which, blending harmoniously with solid information and sound judgment, and a valor only equalled by his modesty, made up a character to which the world may be fearlessly challenged for a parallel."

It is not surprising that in contemplating such a character, Mr. W. should exclaim:

"It is thus that, in contemplating the character of Washington, the offices which he held, the acts which he performed, his success as a statesman, his triumphs as a soldier, almost fade from our sight. It is not the Washington of the Delaware, or the Brandywine, of Germantown or of Monmouth; it is not Washington, the President of the Convention, or the President of the republic, which we admire. We cast our eyes over his life, not to be dazzled by the meteoric lustre of particular passages, but to behold its whole pathway radiant, radiant every where, with the true glory of a just, conscientious, cosummate man!"

EARLY VOYAGES TO AMERICA.

“An Account of Discoveries in the West until 1519, and of Voyages to and along the Atlantic Coast of North America, from 1520 to 1573. Prepared for the Virginia Historical and Philosophical Society, by Conway Robinson, Chairman of the Executive Committee, and Published by the Society. 8vo. pp. 491. Richmond: Printed by Shepherd & Colin. 1848.”

We have looked into this volume with a degree of interest which, we are free to confess, we should hardly have felt in any other of its class in all the compass of letters. It is the work, and the first work, of our Virginia Historical Society—the first-fruits, as it were, of all its more recent labors (except some small sheaves of our own which are hardly worth mentioning in the comparison,) and we have no doubt that it will prove a grateful offering to the people of our State and country. It is of course for the most part a compilation; but it is exactly, or at least very nearly all that it ought to have been. The author has evidently explored all the best sources of information that were accessible to him, from the old English collector Hakluyt, to his modern French follower Ternaux; and has diligently perused the more elegant and accomplished historians, as Washington Irving and others, who have polished the rude materials of coarser writers by their care. In making this review, he has selected the most valuable passages to be found in these various writers; condensed the less important portions of them, and combining both with some additional and very serviceable matter of his own, has given us a work composed of the best part of every book he has read, and containing all that any one would desire to know about the first voyagers to our country, and the first travellers in it—all in the compass of a single volume, which any reader of taste may easily consult and enjoy. In doing all this we think that Mr. R. has obliged the State and the whole literary world, and has very fairly entitled himself to a large share of honorable praise.

We ought perhaps to add, that the work has been executed

here in our own city, in good type, on handsome paper, and altogether in a most proper and becoming style.

We commend it, accordingly, with great confidence, to all that favor of the public which it so amply deserves.

THE ROSE.

Flowers of all hue, and without thorn the rose.

Paradise Lost.

In Adam's bower, when all was new,
 On Nature's vernal morn,
 The fairest flower of Flora grew,
 The rose without a thorn.

'Twas Love's own flower who fondly chose
 This one from all the rest,
 And placed it there, in sweet repose,
 On Beauty's balmy breast.

But Sorrow came to Adam's bower,
 To spoil fair Flora's gem ;
 And fretted Love and Beauty's flower
 With thorns about its stem.

Yet still the rose is blooming fair,
 Above all flowers that blow,
 And Beauty still delights to wear
 The flower of Love and Woe.

But she who wears that flower now,
 On braid or bridal wreath,
 Or on her breast, or on her brow,—
 Finds Sorrow's thorns beneath.

Richmond.

Various Intelligence.

THE REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA.

The following, from a pamphlet issued in Philadelphia, furnishes information respecting this young republic, which will be interesting to our readers.

Extent.—Liberia extends from Digby, at the mouth of Poor River, on the north west, to Cavally River, on the south-east, between 4 deg. 20 min. and 6 deg. 40 min. north latitude, and 7 deg. 30 min. and 11 deg. west longitude from Greenwich. The length of coast between Digby and the Cavally River is about three hundred miles. The territory of Liberia extends from twenty to thirty miles inland. The right of possession and jurisdiction over all this line, (with the exception of Young Settlers,) has been purchased by the American and the Maryland Colonization Society, and further purchases have since been made.

Population.—The inhabitants of Liberia, emigrants from the United States and their children, number three thousand and five hundred; and seven hundred occupy the Maryland colony at Cape Palmas. To these may be added about five hundred natives civilized and admitted to the privileges of the polls and the rights of citizenship in general. The natives residing on land owned by the colony, and directly amenable to its laws, are estimated from ten thousand to fifteen thousand. The population of the allied tribes in the interior, who are bound by treaty to abstain from the slave trade and other barbarous practices, is not accurately known, but may be estimated at 150,000.

Towns and Settlements.—Monrovia on the south side of Cape Mesurado, near the north-western boundary of Liberia, is the capital and chief place of trade. Population 1,000. The other ports, not counting those in the Maryland colony, are Marshall on the Sunk River, Edina, Bexley on the St. John's River, Bassa Cove, and Greenville on the Sinoe River. The more inland towns and their adjoining settlements are Caldwell, New-Georgia, and Millsburgh.

Productions of the Soil.—Coffee, sugarcane, rice, cotton, indigo, Indian corn, potatoes, yams, cassadas, bananas, arrow root, and nuts, may be produced in any quantity; fruits are various and abundant. These are all grown in Liberia.

Exports.—The chief exports are camwood, palm oil, and ivory, to the amount of \$123,690 in two years, ending September, 1843, according to the official returns. These are brought from the interior.

Imports.—The imports for the two years, as above, amounted to \$157,830.

Religious Aspect.—Churches 23 ; Communicants 1,500 ; of whom 500 are natives and re-captured Africans.

Education.—Schools 16 ; scholars 560, of whom 200 are native Africans. The Sunday schools embrace a far larger number.

THEORY OF VISION.

At a late meeting of the British Association for the Advancement of Science, a paper was read by Sir David Brewster, entitled "An Examination of Berkeley's Theory of Vision." Sir David endeavored to overthrow the established theory that the idea of distance is obtained merely by experience, and that all objects appear to the uneducated eye as on the same plane. He mentioned several facts connected with pinocular vision to show that there is a line of distance impressed naturally on the retina ; and all the instances to the contrary, derived from the observation of those who had received sight for the first time, Sir David considered as unsatisfactory, inasmuch as the eyes of such persons were not in a natural state immediately after having undergone the operation of couching. Experience proved that children had ideas of distance, for they did not attempt to reach the sun and the moon, and as regards animals, this fact was more striking, for the duckling, on coming out of its shell, ran to the distant water, and did not try to get into it as if it were within reach. He also mentioned some curious facts in connection with vision, which he thought militated directly against the Berkleyan theory. When, for example, a person takes hold of a cane-bottomed chair, and directs the axes of his eyes through the pattern to some point on the floor, the pattern of the woven cane is seen in a position where it is not, and by no effort of the mind can it be seen where it really is. The same illusion occurs when the eyes are directed steadily to the paper of a room, when the pattern is regularly placed in vertical stripes. Dr. Whewell defended the Berkleyan theory, contending that the facts stated by Sir David confirmed instead of overthrowing the theory. With reference to the vision of animals, he said, that could not be adduced against the Berk-

leyan theory, as it was an exhibition merely of instinct, of the nature of which we know nothing. It might as well be said that children do not walk by experience and practice because some animals run about from the moment of their birth. Dr. Whewell maintained that experience showed that children have little or no idea of distance, for if they do not try to catch the sun or the moon, they frequently attempt to take hold of the flame of a distant candle.

A NEW LITERARY UNDERTAKING.

A correspondent of the *Literary World* says:—The greatest literary enterprise of the day is about to be commenced by Mr. Henry Stevens, the American Agent of the British Museum. He proposes to prepare a work to be entitled the “*Bibliographia Americana: a Bibliographical account of the Sources of Early American history; comprising a description of books relating to America, printed prior to the year 1700, and of all books printed in America from 1543 to 1700, together with notices of the more important unpublished manuscripts.*” The great expense which so vast an undertaking must call for, is to be defrayed by the subscription of the principal literary institutions in this country and in Europe; and the work is to be published under the direction of the Smithsonian Institution at Washington, in the series of the *Smithsonian Contributions to Knowledge*. It will form one, and perhaps two volumes, similar to the edition of the *Narrative of the Exploring Expedition*, in quarto, and will be marked by the same elegance of mechanical execution which characterizes that. The materials will be obtained from all the principal public and private libraries of the United States, England, France, Germany, and several other European kingdoms, and the descriptions of each book will be unusually full and accurate. The name of the owner of each book, or of the library in which it may be found, will be given in connection with the description.

Mr. Stevens intends to employ quite a number of persons upon the work, and hopes to have it ready for the press in the year 1850. He will sail for England in the course of the next month, to commence operations in the Library of the British Museum, which contains the largest collection of books relating to America in the world.

THE SALE AT STOWE.

The English papers are full of accounts of the great sale of the Duke of Buckingham's effects in England. This nobleman, formerly one of the richest in the realm, has, by a course of extravagance and profligacy, reduced himself to bankruptcy. All the furniture, pictures, plate and articles of *virtu*, in his celebrated mansion of Stowe, are accordingly brought to the hammer. The catalogue occupies 271 pages, and the sale will continue thirty-five days. The manor of Stowe has been in the Buckingham family ever since the Reformation, before which period, and since the Norman Conquest, it belonged to the Church. The house stands in a park of 4000 acres. The principal entrance to the grounds is through a Corinthian arch, 60 feet high and 60 feet wide. The palace is 916 feet long, by 454 wide. The principal saloon is 60 feet long, 43 feet wide, 56½ high, and cost \$60,000! The grounds are filled with temples, statues, &c., and the palace with pictures, statues, books, prints, bronzes, manuscripts, old China, Hindoo trophies, stuffed birds, old tapestries, &c. The service of plate is of gold and silver, weighs three tons, and is worth nearly a million of dollars. Among the curious articles to be sold, are the silver toilet tables belonging to the first Duke, the favorite of James I, and Charles I. The whole of the articles at Stowe, cost probably \$25,000,000.

The accumulation of such enormous wealth in one family, and its retention for so many centuries, is a forcible commentary on the different political institutions of England and America.

THE FRENCH SEWING MACHINE.

The inventor of this machine is an humble artisan who has a great mechanical genius, and who has been engaged for thirty years in the perfection of his invention. He received a patent for it in France a few years ago, and it is said that for more than twenty-five years he sought in vain to make it work, and that the thought flashed all at once upon his mind regarding its true and perfect principles. The machine was introduced in London some time last year, and has attracted much attention in that city. It is very cheap: some are sold for twenty dollars, and the price varies from that to thirty. The machine is fixed on a table, and is a very small box. It is worked by a treadle, and every movement of the foot produces a corresponding action in the needle; so that three hundred

stitches can easily be made in a minute. The hands are merely used to guide the material being sewn, and by turning a screw the size of the stitch is instantly varied. The machine will sew, stitch, and form cords and plaits. The stitch is tambor or crotchet stitch. The whole value of the invention consists in making machinery do what was hitherto done by the fingers, and thus resolving a problem supposed impracticable. The beauty of this machine is, that it can work button holes and embroider. M. Magnin, who exhibited it in London, wore an entire suit worked by it, consisting of coat, vest, pants, and all their appurtenances. To France belongs the credit of the invention. M. Thimonnier is the name of the inventor, and his fame will go down to posterity with that of Jacquard.

Scientific American.

LIFE OF JOHN RANDOLPH.

We have been permitted to turn over the manuscript of a highly interesting work forthcoming from the pen of Hon. Hugh A. Garland—the “Life and Times” of that eccentric and enigmatical genius, John Randolph, whose true character, like that of Cromwell, is *now* neither understood nor appreciated.

The author has ample stores, both external and internal to draw from; a large, continuous and original correspondence of Randolph of Roanoke—as he loved to sign himself—with his most intimate friends, extending in one case, Dr. Breckenridge—from 1811 to 1833, and in another, Judge Key—from 1812 to 1823.

Mr. Garland's early association with the leading men, political and literary, of the “Old Dominion” affords him easy access to all that can throw any light upon the peculiarities of Virginia's “favorite son,” and being a nervous and strong thinker, as well as a writer *currente calamo*, we have every assurance that in writing the Life of one of the finest scholars of any age, he will draw from the “well of English undefiled.”

St. Louis Union.

A SMALL WATCH.

Geneva is certainly the place at which watches are brought to the highest perfection. M. André Liodet, who resides close to the Hotel des

Bergues, has just produced a master-piece in this branch of the useful arts; it is a watch, which in size does not exceed in dimensions a five sous piece of France. This minute production is the result of seven years' application, and goes as correctly and as long as an ordinary watch. Even at the present day we cannot comprehend how the Egyptians were enabled to move, raise, and place the enormous blocks of stone of which the pyramids are constructed. Will it be more easily comprehended how so many microscopic pieces have been so put together as to mark the time with a precision equal to the most complete and finished watch!—*Living Age*.

Miscellany.

SELF-CULTURE.

WEEDS, PLANTS AND FLOWERS.

A gardener who would keep his garden in good order must be able to distinguish well and readily between weeds, and plants, and flowers. He must extirpate the weeds with diligence, tend the plants with care, and trim the flowers with taste. So shall his garden become both useful and agreeable, and amply reward his toil.

In like manner, a man who would cultivate his mind with advantage, must learn to discriminate judiciously between the evil propensities he finds in it, the spontaneous growth of our fallen and depraved nature; and the moral feelings, precious relics of our primitive humanity, with the fine natural sensibilities which prompt the flowering fancies of the sublime and beautiful, for ornament and pleasure; and he must labor with all his assiduity to eradicate the evil, to improve the good, and to refine the coarse, until his mental field becomes as a lovely vision, and he reaps the golden fruits of his industry in overflowing measures of profit and delight.

C.

MR. WIRT'S IMPROMPTU.

MR. EDITOR,—I send you an Impromptu which was thrown off some years ago by Mr. Wirt, while he was a member of the bar in this city, on the following occasion: He was sitting one day in the Court of Appeals, listening to an argument which Mr. Wickham was making in answer to Mr. Hay on the other side, just as that wily pleader had fairly got his gentleman on the horns of a dilemma, and was playing with him in his own peculiar way, to the great amusement of all present and especially of Mr. Warden, (an old Scotch lawyer well known at the time,) who was evidently enjoying the sport with great *gusto*; when, observing that Wirt's *expressive* countenance, he wrote the following lines on a small slip of paper, and handed them to him.

Wickham toss'd Hay in open Court,
On a dilemma's horns for sport,
Jock, full of mirth and humor too,
Cries, "habet *fœnum* in *cornu*."

Upon which, we are told the said Jock could contain himself no longer, but burst out into a loud laugh that made the room ring. This roused the court who seemed disposed to complain of the breach of order, but Mr. Warden, rising to apologize, gravely presented the billet to the judges who, reading it *seriatim*, readily comprehended the case, and very good humoredly accepted the excuse. R.

THE WEALTH OF NATIONS.

The stock of materials by which any country is rendered flourishing and prosperous, is its industry, its knowledge or skill, its morals, its execution of justice, its courage, and the national union in directing those powers to one point, and making them all centre in the public benefit.

Edmund Burke.

REMEMBERED JOYS.

Bliss in possession will not last,
Remember'd joys are never past;
At once the fountain, stream, and sea,
They were, they are, and yet shall be.

GOOD LIFE—LONG LIFE.

It is not growing like a tree,
 In bulke, doth make man better be ;
 Or standing long an oake, three hundred yeare,
 To fall a logge at last, dry, bald, and sear.
 A lillie of a day,
 Is fairer farre, in May,
 Although it fall, and die that night,
 It was the plant and flowre of light!
 In small proportions we just beauties see,
 And in short measures life may perfect be.

Ben Jonson.

A COMPLIMENT.

ON MISS G——.

I wished for a crown, but of flowers,
 To make me as blest as could be ;
 And the Loves, from their roseate bowers,
 Brought a GARLAND,—and gave it to me.

Q.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

We return our due acknowledgments to Mrs. B——, of Warrenton, for her obliging courtesy in allowing us to take copies of some original letters from General Washington to Colonel Baylor, which have never been published, and which we shall lay before our readers hereafter with great pleasure.

We have several valuable communications on hand, from our friend C. C. and others, which shall appear in due time.

THE PLAN OF THE VIRGINIA HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

The main object of this Society is to collect, preserve, and diffuse information relating to the History of Virginia, past and current, from the earliest times to the present day.

In pursuing this object, the Executive Committee have opened a large and commodious room in Minor's Law Building, near the New State Court-House, in which they have placed the small beginning of a valuable Historical Library, together with the Private Library of the Secretary, loaned to them to be used as their own; and a Cabinet of Curiosities illustrative of the Natural and Civil History of the State; and which is open to the Members, and others properly introduced by them, during stated hours.

They propose, also, to publish a yearly volume of Historical Collections, which will consist, in the first instance, of the Annals of Virginia, a new work, in preparation by their Chairman, Conway Robinson, Esq. and which will consist of all the cotemporary Memorials of the various events and occurrences of former times that are still extant in print or manuscript, together with such connecting narratives and remarks as may be deemed necessary and proper to unite them into a whole and continuous work, the first number of which will now soon appear. And they have authorized their Secretary, to publish a small Quarterly Journal, entitled the Virginia Historical Register, which will contain accounts of the Proceedings of the Society, and of the Committee, as far as it may be expedient to publish them; with such other matters and things as he may think proper to insert in it to aid their views.

To support this establishment and service, the Members of the Society contribute either fifty dollars for life, or five dollars a year, during their membership, which they can terminate when they please; and those of them who reside out of Richmond receive both publications, the annual volume, and the Quarterly Journal, without charge.

The sums contributed for life memberships are vested in State Stock, and constitute a Permanent Fund, the accruing interest of which alone is used by the Committee.

All persons who may be disposed to aid the Society, or the Committee, in the prosecution of their useful and patriotic engagement, by becoming members, or otherwise, are requested to send in their names, and contributions, to the subscriber.

WM. MAXWELL,
Secretary and General Agent.

PROSPECTUS OF THE
VIRGINIA HISTORICAL REGISTER
AND
LITERARY ADVERTISER.

This work is mainly devoted to the diffusion of useful and entertaining information relating to the History of our State, and will embrace the following subjects :

1. Notices of the Proceedings of the Virginia Historical Society.
2. Memorials, Antiquities, and Essays relating to the History of Virginia.
3. Notices of current events, and other facts, for future history.
4. Notices of the subjects of Internal Improvement and General Education.
5. Biographical Sketches and Anecdotes of Eminent men.
6. Descriptions of celebrated Places, Scenes, and Works of Nature and Art.
7. Notices of New Publications.
8. Literary and Scientific Intelligence, and Miscellaneous Matters.

TERMS.

1. The work will be published Quarterly, in the months of January, April, July and October of every year,—each number containing 48 pages, royal 12mo. neatly printed in new type, on fine paper, and done up in a handsome cover, and will be furnished to subscribers at the price of **ONE DOLLAR A YEAR**;—*payable in advance.*

2. Any person who shall transmit Five Dollars, shall be furnished with a copy of the work for six years.

3. Any person who shall transmit Five Dollars with the names of five subscribers, shall be furnished with an additional copy of the work for himself for one year.

4. Subscribers may transmit money by mail, at the risk of the Proprietor; taking care to make a memorandum of the transmission at the time; or they may forward it by the agency of Postmasters as provided by law.

It is intended to increase the quantity of letter-press, as soon as the number of subscribers will justify the proceeding; and also to add an appendix to the volume, at the end of the year, containing Notices of the Proceedings of the General Assembly of our State, with abstracts of the Public Documents submitted to them at the commencement of their sessions,—Notices of the Proceedings of Ecclesiastical Bodies at their annual meetings;—An Annual Chronicle of Events—An Annual Obituary;—and other matters which it may be proper to record for future reference.

WM. MAXWELL, Proprietor & Editor.