

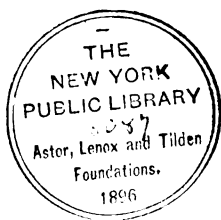
THE
VIRGINIA HISTORICAL REGISTER,
AND
LITERARY ADVERTISER.

EDITED BY
WILLIAM MAXWELL.

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VOL. II.  
FOR THE YEAR 1849.  
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INTRODUCTION.

In issuing the present number of our journal—the first of a new volume—we have a few words to say in relation to our undertaking, which we deem it seasonable and proper to submit.

When we commenced our novel publication, a year ago, we were well aware that the taste for such matters as we purposed to furnish had not been much cultivated in our State. We were confident, however, that the germ of it at least must be hidden in many minds, and only required the proper appliances to bring it out. We believe, indeed, that the love of history in some form or other, and in some measure, has been strongly set in all our hearts; and no doubt for wise ends. We all naturally desire to know a little something of what “the world’s gray fathers,” and others after them, have been doing in all ages and countries, for the advancement of our race. But, more especially, we all desire to know what the first planters of our colony, and their successors, the first founders of our State, have “dared and done” for themselves, and for us,—on the very ground which we are now occupying after them—to raise our great Virginia family, which we find so flourishing at present, in many respects, and of which we feel ourselves, perhaps, to be no unworthy members:

for here the sentiment of patriotism combines with the instinct of a common humanity, and kindles our veneration for antiquity into a stronger and finer flame. We thought, therefore, that this natural taste for history, and especially our own history, would only require to be furnished with suitable aliment, in order to show itself in its proper form; and as the small samples of tobacco first sent out from our newly-discovered country to England, more than two centuries ago, awakened a passion for the plant that soon called for fresh supplies, and led to a profitable commerce which has continued down to our day, so we conceived that the more pleasant and palatable articles which we were about to lay before our fellow-citizens, would soon stimulate their taste for such things, and create a demand for more. Thus, our little work, we thought, would make its own way simply by the congenial character of its contents, and would probably do much good in its progress.

Nor have we been wholly disappointed in our expectation on this point. On the contrary, we may say that our overture has been received with very nearly all the favor that we could have reasonably anticipated under all the circumstances of the case; and that our "labor of love," if not fully rewarded, has certainly not been altogether in vain. For some proof of this we may refer, with pleasure, to the body of our recent volume which contains, as we think all must allow, a number of valuable and interesting papers and letters, with other things, which may serve to shed new light upon the early and later history of our State; and some of which, we may add, would never, in all probability, have appeared at all but for our journal. We refer also, with great satisfaction, to the increased and increasing number of the members of our Virginia Historical Society, many of whom, we

must suppose, its organ has, in some measure, aided to draw into its fold. And if, on the other hand, it is true, as we admit, that the number of our subscribers beyond the circle of the Society is not very large, yet that too is increasing, and we have reason to believe may be considerably augmented if our members will take proper pains to make our journal more generally known. Upon the whole, therefore, we may say that our success, if not perfect, has yet been sufficient to satisfy us for the present, and to encourage us for the future.

In pursuing our engagement, accordingly, for another year, we return our due acknowledgments to all who have, in any way, aided us in our enterprise, and, more particularly, to our correspondents and contributors whose communications have given so much interest to our former volume; and with cordial salutations to all our readers, we now again commend our work to the favor of the public, with the full assurance that our labors will continue to receive all the encouragement which they shall continue to deserve.

THE
VIRGINIA HISTORICAL REGISTER,
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Vol. II.

JANUARY, 1849.

No. I.

THE VIRGINIA HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

THE SECOND ANNUAL MEETING.

The Second 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 14th ult., and notwithstanding the unfavorableness of the weather, was very honorably attended. The President of the Society, the Hon. Wm. C. Rives, of Albemarle, presided; and, on taking the chair, delivered a very appropriate and highly interesting Address, which gave great satisfaction to all present. After this, the Chairman of the Executive Committee, Conway Robinson, Esq., read the Report of the Committee for the past year, showing the activity of the Board, and the progress of the Society, in the most gratifying manner. The Secretary, Mr. Maxwell, then read a list of books, and other donations, which had been received since the last Annual Meeting; and announced the names of the Honorary and Corresponding Members who had been elected during the same period. He also stated that 168 new resident members had been added to the Society, at different times, in the course of the year, making the present number 420. This list, however, he said, included the names of some persons who were members of the Society under its old form, but had not yet distinctly recognised themselves as such, according to their privilege, under its new settlement; so that the effective force of the Society might be stated at about 360; and could be easily raised, he thought, to as many more.

Charles Carter Lee, Esq., now delivered the Annual Discourse, upon the subject of the Duty and Advantage of contemplating

the Past in all its bearings and influences upon the Present and Future,—a handsome effusion, full of good thoughts and fine sentiments, clothed in elegant diction, and uttered with happy effect.

Lieut. M. F. Maury, Superintendent of the National Observatory at Washington, and a Corresponding Member of the Society, followed with the reading of a well-written and highly interesting paper on the subject of the stars, and the proceedings of himself and other officers of the institution to watch and record the appearances and motions of those heavenly bodies, for nautical and other purposes; which was heard with great satisfaction throughout, and, in some parts, with vivid delight.

Mr. Faulkner, of Berkeley, after paying some just and handsome compliments to the speakers, and dwelling for a moment on the happy establishment of the Society, and its important services to the State, moved resolutions of thanks to the gentlemen for their Addresses, and requesting copies of them for publication, along with the proceedings of the meeting; which were unanimously adopted.

Mr. B. B. Minor, of Richmond, moved a resolution (which he introduced with some remarks,) for appointing a committee to consider the best means of securing the erection of a monument to the memory of Washington, near the Capitol of the State, as contemplated by the contributors to the fund created for the purpose; which was adopted.

The Society then proceeded to elect their officers for the ensuing year, and adjourned.

We may add, we think, with great confidence, that the proceedings of the occasion have left a very favorable impression on the minds of all present; which cannot but redound to the honor of the Society, and to the advantage of its future operations in all parts of our State.

MR. RIVES'S ADDRESS.

GENTLEMEN OF THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY:

The revolution of another year finds us again assembled in the capital of our State, and under auspices, I am happy to say, much more encouraging than those which attended our meeting, just twelve months ago. Then, a small band of ardent and devoted spirits, undismayed by tempests without or coldness within, but warmed and animated by their own zeal, came together in this Hall to pledge to each other, in some public and solemn manner, their mutual co-operation in an enterprise which seemed to them

to concern both the honor and service of the State. There were then but few to cheer us by their presence and sympathy. Now, the more numerous assembly which surrounds us gives us assurance that our efforts are appreciated, and that our cause commends itself to the intelligence and patriotism of the State. Thanks to the labours of our indefatigable Chairman of the Executive Committee and of our spirited and zealous Secretary, the Historical Society of Virginia has already made itself a name. By its publications, in the first year of its existence, it has given, in advance, a solid *earnest* of its future usefulness, and I persuade myself that neither our contemporaries nor those who are to follow us will "willingly let it die."

And why should they? What more useful service can we render, not merely to our own country, but to mankind, than by contributing new lights to the illustration of American History—to trace, with minute and faithful delineation, the rise, progress and development, of those Institutions, social and political, which are now the hope and desire of nations. In the general waking up of the nations of the old world from the long slumber of ages, they all turn their eyes wistfully to America, as the favoured land of Liberty, whence they may draw lessons and examples for their guidance and instruction. What Greece was to the people of antiquity, as a model and preceptor, in eloquence and the fine arts—what Rome was in the coarser politics of war, ambition, conquest and dominion—America now is, to the contemporary nations, in the science of balanced and regulated free government, of a manly, moral and elevated liberty. *Hæ tibi erunt artes.* It is here that has been solved, with the most perfect success, the great problem of uniting freedom with order—of reconciling the universal enjoyment of political privileges with the security of private and individual rights—and of rendering a frequent recurrence to the popular will, through the medium of elections, compatible with an undisturbed public tranquillity by the cheerful obedience of all to the supreme law of the Constitution, and a consequent acquiescence in the decisions of the majority. The peaceful working of these Institutions, contrast-

ed with the throes and convulsions which are now agitating the old world, is a sublime spectacle which attracts the gaze of mankind; and Philosophers, Statesmen and Legislators every where are studying, with profound interest, the history of society and government in our Western Hemisphere.

It is not, surely, at such a moment that we ourselves can be neglectful of our History. But we have yet higher motives for its study and cultivation. The more familiar we are with the origin of our Institutions, and the occasions which gave birth to or modified them, the more thoroughly we comprehend their true genius and character, and the more highly we appreciate and cherish them. We learn thereby, that they were "bought with a price" in the trials, sufferings, virtues and wisdom of our ancestors, and we feel more strongly the obligation to preserve them from degeneracy and corruption, and to transmit them unimpaired to posterity. I believe it is a truth without a solitary exception in the history of our race, that no nation has ever risen to lasting greatness without a strong sentiment of reverence for their ancestors. The divine precept, "honor thy father and thy mother that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee," is as applicable to States and communities in their political and corporate capacity, as to individuals in their private and moral relations. A great philosophical Statesman,* profoundly versed in the history of human affairs, has said a people who do not look back to their ancestors will not look forward to their posterity. The "large discourse, looking before and after," with which the author of our being has gifted us, can find its legitimate scope only by embracing with the present both the past and the future.

In the history of our particular State, we have the highest inducements to cultivate these reminiscences of the past. The free Institutions of Virginia claim an ancient and exalted lineage. They come down to us, through the London Company under the able and generous lead of Sir Edwin Sandys and the Earl of Southampton, from that noble band of patriots who com-

* Edmund Burke.

menced the struggle for British freedom in the reign of the first James, and who, by the spirit they kindled, ensured its final consummation in the reign of his successor. Happily, the most authentic and abundant materials exist in the country for the illustration of this important portion of our annals, and I trust they will, ere long, be given to the public. They carry us back to one of the most stirring and eventful epochs in the fortunes of the human family. It was then, and under those auspices, that the first Representative Assembly met which was ever convened in this Western world—the “Grand Assembly,” as it was called, though small in numbers, which sat at “James City” in June 1619, of which the present General Assembly of Virginia may be considered the descendant, in a direct line of succession, through a course of two hundred and thirty years. This event, so fruitful of important consequences to the liberties of the new world, no less than the first settlement of the Colony there, invests the now deserted James Town with historical associations, which can never be recalled without a touching interest. Why should not such a spot be commemorated by some pious monument of the public gratitude and veneration? Is it unworthy of beings, constituted as we are, to fortify a rational attachment to the Institutions we have derived from our ancestors by enlisting on their side the natural instincts and affections of the human heart?

In this connection, I am strongly reminded of an omission which, I fear, may not be without some reproach to ourselves or the public councils. The soil of Virginia was the theatre of the great closing scene of the War of Independence. The plains of York Town were signalized by the capture and surrender of the last hostile army that maintained the contest against American Liberty. The surrender of that powerful and well-appointed army to the combined forces of America and France, was in itself a most august and imposing scene, and in its consequences, by far the greatest event of the age. It was so felt to be at the time; and both Congress and the people testified their sense of it by unbounded effusions of the public joy, and by the most so-

lemn manifestations of gratitude to Almighty God. Among other resolutions adopted by Congress on the occasion, they resolved on the 29th day of October 1781, just ten days after the event, that "the United States in Congress assembled will cause to be erected at York, in Virginia, a marble column adorned with suitable emblems, and inscribed with a succinct narrative of the circumstances of the surrender." The enquiry forces itself upon us, why it is that no movement has yet been made towards the execution of this pious resolve. The subject seems properly to fall within the province of this Society, and I have been led to bring it to your notice by having in my possession a most interesting original letter written at the time by an eye witness of the surrender,* containing a very graphic and detailed account of it, which it is my intention to place among the archives of the Society. Some of our sister States have set us a noble example by marking those spots of their territory which have been the scenes of great historical events by simple but appropriate monuments to signalize them to future ages, and to embody a lasting expression of the national sensibility and gratitude. Are not York and James Town, worthy to be thus commemorated with Bunker-Hill and Plymouth?

But I have detained you, gentlemen, by these desultory hints, too long from the rich entertainment which awaits us at the hands of the learned and distinguished gentlemen who have consented to favour us with addresses on this occasion, and whom I shall have the honor to introduce to the Society as soon as the annual reports of the Executive Committee and of the Secretary are read.

THE REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

The Executive Committee are gratified at being able to report that during the past year much has been done to promote the objects of the society.

* Col. Wm. Fontaine, of Hanover.

In our last report, we made known our desire to receive books, pamphlets or documents relating to the History of the State, and invited from such as could furnish it, authentic information in relation to all who have been distinguished in the annals of Virginia, or connected with its history. To what extent the Library has been increased by means of donations, you will be informed by the Librarian. He will also tell you of the progress made in collecting materials for history or biography, in letters, documents, or otherwise.

The "Virginia Historical Register," published quarterly, by Mr. Maxwell, has proved to be a convenient and agreeable mode of communicating periodically to the public, some of the most interesting of these collections. We think its value will be increased when it can be so enlarged as to enable the publisher to embrace in it full and accurate information as to the most important events happening about the period of its publication, as well as in relation to occurrences of past times; and such enlargement may reasonably be expected, if the patronage of this journal shall be equal to its merits. Furnishing as it does a great security against the danger of loss or injury to manuscripts before the matter of them can appear in chronological order, in our annual volumes, and imparting much valuable information in a pleasing manner; we hope that every member of the society will not only take it and read it himself, but will also endeavor to extend its circulation.

In saying this, we are not to be understood as intending to abolish the distinction heretofore made in favor of members of the society out of Richmond. The plan heretofore adopted of furnishing a copy of the Journal, *without charge*, to each member residing out of this city, will be continued. This distinction in favor of the country members, we have thought but just, for the reason given in our last report, namely, that those residing in the city will have, on the other hand, in their more ready access to the library, a full equivalent. Yet we shall always be pleased to find the library visited by any members from the country who may come to the city, or by any persons bringing letters of introduction from such members. So, too, a member residing in Richmond will not only have access to the room, but also the privilege of introducing a stranger. All so admitted will have such facilities for pursuing any investigation as the library affords.

It is a reproach to us, to have lived so long without having in any library in this State, full materials for her history—a reproach to us that one who desires to be fully and accurately informed in regard to the history of his native land, must leave that land and go to other States and countries. Let this reproach exist no

longer, if it be possible to prevent it. Let us resolve to have an historical library in which shall be found a copy of every volume hitherto printed, connected with the history of *Virginia*, and every valuable manuscript which can be obtained, illustrating that history. Let us preserve these from the destroying hand of time, arrange them in the best manner, and make known through the press all that is of value. To do this, both money and mind are necessary. On the one hand the number of members of this society must be enlarged, and punctuality be observed by all in paying their annual quotas. On the other hand, some of the members of the society, and especially of the Executive Committee, must spare from their private pursuits, a portion of their time to prepare or arrange matter for publication.

In other States, the Historical Societies have published their Collections generally without much regard to chronology; their volumes have consisted commonly of disjointed fragments; and the committee making the selection for publication, has not had very great labor: but the result has been that comparatively few have read the volumes thus prepared. Our plan is different, and those who are to carry it out must encounter greater labor. Proceeding as we do in chronological order, a volume from any given time is to contain in it all such matter relating to our history from that time to the period at which the volume terminates, as may be deemed worthy of publication. In preparing this, as was remarked in our last report, a careful examination is to be made not only of books with which a Virginian is familiar, but to some extent of other works hitherto not accessible in this State. What is taken from each is to be given as far as possible, in the language of the original author. In thus preserving the original accounts, free from mutilation, so far as they are of sufficient interest to be preserved, we carry out a most important purpose of an Historical Society. While, at the same time, the plan of preparing the volume for any period, mainly by means of extracts from the older authors, is one which it is more practicable to carry out than if we were to undertake to have a new historical account written for such period.

The duty of preparing a volume, by way of a beginning towards the execution of this plan, was devolved on the Chairman. He had been engaged upon it and contemplated passing very cursorily over the time which intervened between the discovery of *America* by *Columbus*, and the period at which the name of *Virginia* was given, when a circumstance occurred which changed almost entirely the character of the volume. It was the receipt by the committee, in May 1848, of a very interesting communication from *Robert Greenhow*, Esq., a corresponding mem-

ber of the Society, stating that the Spaniards in 1566 had knowledge of, and in 1573, visited a bay called Santa Maria, in the latitude of 37 degrees, and suggesting that this bay must have been the Chesapeake. The communication was, in every point of view, proper to be inserted in the proposed volume. Yet its insertion would not have been enough, without some attempt to trace the progress of the Spaniards in America, prior to the period mentioned in it. No one volume had before been published giving a regular, connected account of all the voyages to and along the Atlantic Coast of North America, down to 1573. It appeared desirable to have such an account, and along with it a narrative of the early discoveries in this western hemisphere, before the Spaniards had established themselves in Mexico. From no Historical Society in the Union could a volume of this nature, more suitably come than from the Historical Society of this, the oldest of the old thirteen States. The Chairman proceeded to prepare it, as well as he could, during the nights of two or three of the summer months, with such materials as could be found in the imperfect libraries to which he had access. The result is before you in the volume of "Early Voyages to America," a copy of which will be delivered by the Librarian to each member of the Society not already supplied.

The want in our State of a good collection of the early writers upon American history, was so much felt by the Chairman, while preparing this volume, that we have determined to go as far as our means will allow, in ordering from abroad such rare works of an ancient date as will probably be of use in the preparation of future volumes.

The next volume will, of course, continue the historical account from 1573, for such time as it may be found convenient to comprise in the volume. Whether it will embrace all the voyages to and along the Atlantic coast of North America, from 1573 to 1606, or merely give an account of such of them as were made to what has been called Virginia, and proceed then with the Annals of our State, is a question which the committee will determine hereafter. Our impression is that the next volume will probably be of the former character, and will be succeeded by a volume of the Annals of Virginia, from 1606.

The Committee are pleased at being able to state that during the past year, a considerable addition has been made to the number of life members, paying \$50 each. There are now twenty-two, and the amount paid by them \$1100, of which \$1000 has been, and the rest will soon be, invested, as a permanent fund in certificates of debt of the State of Virginia, the interest of which (but none of the principal) is used in aid of the admission fees

and yearly dues of other members, to pay the annual expenses. We hope to see this example, of becoming life members, followed hereafter by many others, and the permanent fund increased, until it shall reach an amount, the interest of which will be at least sufficient of itself to defray the necessary current expenses of the society.

In New England, it has never been deemed an act of folly for the wealthy to make liberal donations to endow an institution of this kind, or any other established for literary purposes. As far South as Baltimore, we have an example of a most encouraging nature. Her citizens have subscribed some 30 or 40,000 dollars and erected for their Mercantile and City Libraries, and for the Library of the Maryland Historical Society, a building which reflects the highest credit upon their taste and liberality. Surely the time will come when such an example will not be without its effect in this metropolis. Here where at no distant day, a monument is to be erected to the Father of his Country—here we should have a building of a permanent character, to preserve, for generations yet unborn, memorials of him and the patriots of his day, and of all who have added to Virginia's fame.

THE ASSOCIATION IN WESTMORELAND.

At the late Annual Meeting of the Virginia Historical Society, on the 14th ult., the President of the Society, the Hon. Wm. C. Rives, of Albemarle, submitted a very interesting document illustrative of the patriotic spirit that prevailed in Virginia, and particularly in the county of Westmoreland, about the time of the passage of the Stamp Act, in 1765; which he had received from the Hon. John Y. Mason, Secretary of the Navy, together with a letter from that gentleman, which was read, and is as follows:

Copy of a Letter from the Hon. John Y. Mason, Secretary of the Navy to the Hon. Wm. C. Rives, President of the Historical Society of Virginia.

WASHINGTON CITY, DEC. 13TH, 1848.

Sir,—In the year 1847, Dr. Carr, now deceased, placed in my hands an original Manuscript Document, dated in 1766, which

appears to me so interesting in the Colonial History of Virginia, that I venture to transmit it to you, for such disposition as the Historical Society may think proper to make of it. It was signed by the patriots of that day, soon after the passage of the British Stamp Act of 1765 was known in the Colony—and it asserts in bold language, the rights, essential to Civil Liberty, which were subsequently maintained by the American Revolution.

I have the honor to be

Very respectfully your ob't serv't,

J. Y. MASON.

To the President of the Historical Society of Va.

The document referred to in the foregoing letter, is now lodged in the archives of the Society, and is enclosed in a paper which has an indorsement upon it in these words :

This remarkable document, illustrative of the early patriotism of Virginia gentlemen, was found among the papers of the late Henry Lee, Esq., Consul Gen'l to Algiers.

In view to its better preservation for the honor of Virginia and the numerous descendants of the illustrious men who signed it, it is now confided to the care of the Hon. John Y. Mason, an eminent son of Virginia, whose appreciation of its importance will secure it perpetual safety, by

SAM'L JNO. CARR,

Of So. Carolina now residing in Maryland.

BALTIMORE, 1847.

“Roused by danger, and alarmed at attempts, foreign and domestic, to reduce the people of this country to a state of abject and detestable slavery, by destroying that free and happy constitution of government, under which they have hitherto lived,—We, who subscribe this paper, have associated, and do bind ourselves to each other, to God, and to our country, by the firmest ties that religion and virtue can frame, most sacredly and punctually to stand by, and with our lives and fortunes,

to support, maintain, and defend each other in the observance and execution of these following articles.

First. We declare all due allegiance and obedience to our lawful Sovereign, George the third, King of Great Britain. And we determine to the utmost of our power to preserve the laws, the peace and good order of this Colony, as far as is consistent with the preservation of our Constitutional rights and liberty.

Secondly. As we know it to be the Birthright privilege of every British Subject, (and of the people of Virginia as being such) founded on Reason, Law, and Compact; that he cannot be legally tried, but by his peers; and that he cannot be taxed, but by consent of a Parliament, in which he is represented by persons chosen by the people, and who themselves pay a part of the tax they impose on others. If therefore, any person or persons shall attempt, by any action or proceeding, to deprive this Colony of those fundamental rights, we will immediately regard him or them, as the most dangerous enemy of the community; and we will go to any extremity, not only to prevent the success of such attempts, but to stigmatize and punish the offender.

Thirdly. As the Stamp Act does absolutely direct the property of the people to be taken from them without their consent expressed by their representatives, and as in many cases it deprives the British American Subject of his right to trial by jury; we do determine, at every hazard, and, paying no regard to danger or to death, we will exert every faculty, to prevent the execution of the said Stamp Act in any instance whatsoever within this Colony. And every abandoned wretch, who shall be so lost to virtue and public good, as wickedly to contribute to the introduction or fixture of the Stamp Act in this Colony, by using stamp paper, or by any other means, we will, with the utmost expedition, convince all such profligates that immediate danger and disgrace shall attend their prostitute purposes.

Fourthly. That the last article may most surely and effectually be executed, we engage to each other, that whenever it shall be known to any of this association, that any person is so conducting himself as to favor the introduction of the Stamp Act, that immediate notice shall be given to as many of the association as possible; and that every individual so informed, shall, with expedition, repair to a place of meeting to be appointed as near the scene of action as may be.

Fifthly. Each associator shall do his true endeavor to obtain as many signers to this association, as he possibly can.

Sixthly. If any attempt shall be made on the liberty or property of any associator for any action or thing to be done in consequence of this agreement, we do most solemnly bind ourselves by the sacred engagements above entered into, at the utmost risk of our lives and fortunes, to restore such associate to his liberty, and to protect him in the enjoyment of his property.

In testimony of the good faith with which we resolve to execute this association we have this 27th day of February 1766, in Virginia, put our hands and seals hereto.

Richard Henry Lee
 Will. Robinson
 Lewis Willis
 Thos. Lud. Lee
 Samuel Washington
 Charles Washington
 Moore Fauntleroy
 Francis Lightfoot Lee
 Thomas Jones
 Rodham Kenner
 Spencer M. Ball
 Richard Mitchell
 Joseph Murdock
 Richd. Parker
 Spence Monroe
 John Watts
 Robt. Lovell
 John Blagge
 Charles Weeks
 Willm. Booth
 Geo. Turberville
 Alvin Moxley
 Wm. Flood
 John Ballantine junr.
 William Lee
 Thos. Chilton
 Richard Buckner
 Jos. Pierce
 Will. Chilton
 John Williams

William Sydnor
 John Monroe
 William Cocke
 Willm. Grayson
 Wm. Brockenbrough
 Saml. Selden
 Richd. Lee
 Daniel Tibbs
 Francis Thornton junr.
 Peter Rust
 John Lee jr.
 Francis Waring
 John Upshaw
 Meriwether Smith
 Thos. Roane
 Jas. Edmondson
 Jas. Webb junr.
 John Edmondson
 Jas. Banks
 Smith Young
 Laur. Washington
 W. Roane
 Rich. Hodges
 Jas. Upshaw
 Jas. Booker
 A. Montague
 Rich'd. Jeffries
 John Suggett
 John S. Woodcock
 Robt. Wormeley Carter

John Blackwell	John Beale junr.
Winder S. Kenner	John Newton
Wm. Bronaugh	Will: Beale junr.
Wm. Peirce	Chs. Mortimer
John Berryman	John Edmondson jr.
John Dickson	Charles Beale
John Broone	Peter Grant
Edwd. Sanford	Thompson Mason
Charles Chilton	Jona. Beckwith
Edward Sanford	Jas. Samford
Daniel McCarty	John Belfield
Jer. Kush	W. Smith
Edwd. Ransdell	John Augt. Washington
Townshend Dade	Thos. Belfield
John Ashton	Edgecomb Suggett
W. Brent	Henry Francks
Francis Foushee	John Bland junr.
John Smith junr.	Jas. Emerson
Wm. Ball	Thos. Logan
Thos. Barnes	Jo. Milliken
Jos. Blackwell	Ebenezer Fisher
Reuben Meriwether	Hancock Eustace
Edw. Mountjoy	John Richards
Wm. J. Mountjoy	Thos. Jett
Thos. Mountjoy	Thos. Douglas
John Mountjoy	Max. Robinson
Gilbt. Campbell	John Orr."
Jos. Lane	

LINES FROM "THE ALCHEMIST."

Come on, sir. Now you set your foot on shore
 In *novo orbe*. Here's the rich Peru;
 And there within, sir, are the golden mines,
 Great Solomon's Ophir! He was sailing to't
 Three years, but we have reach'd it in ten months.
 This is the day wherein to all my friends,
 I will pronounce the happy word, *Be rich*.
 This day you shall be *spectatissimi*.—*Ben Jonson*.

ORIGINAL LETTERS.

We submit here the following copies of the remaining Original Letters to Patrick Henry, &c., obligingly communicated to us by N. F. Cabell, Esq., of Nelson, as stated in our last number; to be read after those which are there given.

FROM GEORGE WASHINGTON TO PATRICK HENRY.

MOUNT VERNON, JUNE 24TH, 1785.

Dear Sir,—The letter which your Excell'y did me the honor to write to me on the 10th inst., came duly to hand; and calls for my particular acknowledgements; and thanks for your obliging offers.

Although I am strongly impressed with the opinion, that the sunken lands lying on Albemarle Sound, and the waters emptying therein, will, in time, become the most valuable property in this country; yet, reflecting further, that it will require a considerable advance to reclaim, and render them fit for cultivation; and in the mean while, that they may be subjected to expence, I believe it will be most advisable for me (in my situation) not to add to my present expenditures; I am not less obliged to you, however, for your friendly offer of services, in this case.

If your Excellency could make it convenient to give me the substance of the Commissioners report respecting the place and the manner, which are deemed best, for a cut between the waters of Elizabeth River and those of No. Carolina, I shall think myself obliged. The improving, and extending the inland navigations of the waters of this Commonwealth are, in my judgment, very interesting to the well being and glory of it; and I am always pleased with every acc't of the advancement of them. With great esteem, regard, and respect,

I am—Dear sir,

Y'r most obed.

Affect. H'ble Serv.

G. WASHINGTON.

FROM TIMOTHY PICKERING TO PATRICK HENRY.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE, PHILADELPHIA, MARCH 25, 1799.

Sir,—I have the honor to inclose a commission from the President of the United States, by which you will see that Oliver Ellsworth, Chief Justice of the U. States, yourself, and William Vans Murray, our minister resident at the Hague, have been appointed Envoy Extraordinary and Ministers Plenipotentiary of the United States to the French Republic; for the purpose of discussing and settling all controversies between the two countries.

With the commission I have thought it proper to inclose copies of the President's messages to the Senate, of the 18th and 25th of February, on the subject of a new negociation with France, that you may know the condition on which alone it can take place. Of this condition, with the appointments of the Envoys, Mr. Murray has been instructed to give information to the French minister of foreign affairs.

I am, with great respect,

Sir, your most ob't servant,

TIMOTHY PICKERING.

FROM RICHARD HENRY LEE TO WM. CABELL, ESQ.

CHANTILLY, OCTOBER THE 15TH, 1788.

Sir.—A gentleman with whom I have had the honor to serve so long in the Councils of my Country, will I am sure pardon me for informing him of my willingness to continue my public services in the Senate of the new Congress, if it shall please the Legislature to elect me to that office. It is, sir, a conviction of mind, resulting from the most mature reflection, that the civil Liberty of our Country will be endangered if amendments cannot be procured to the lately received Constitution, that has prevailed with me again to become a public man. When so many respectable States, and such numbers of respectable citizens in all the States, are anxious for amendments; they will surely take

place if such men are appointed to the new Congress as are known friends to Civil Liberty and to the amendments required. And I think that the choice of men of a contrary description will as assuredly defeat the wishes of those who desire to secure the public liberty by shutting the door against the numerous abuses, that in its present form, the new Government admits of. It seems to me that if *all* the *friends* of the new system were *friends* to their *Country*, they could none of them oppose amendments, that in their nature are calculated only to controul *bad*, but aim not at the restraint of *good* Government. Yet I have heard some of these friends, now that their plan is adopted, begin to argue against amendments until, as they say, experience shall have shewn their propriety. I take the meaning of such men to be, that abuse under the name of use shall be rivetted upon mankind. For the reverence paid to established forms when supported by power has generally proved too strong for correction however necessary it might be. I beg to be remembered to those of your family to whom I am known by having had the honor to serve with them in the General Assembly.

I am sir, with much esteem and regard,

Your most obedient and very humble serv't,

RICHARD HENRY LEE.

P. S.—A present indisposition prevents this letter from being all written with my own hand which I hope your goodness will excuse.

R. H. LEE.

LETTERS OF GEORGE MASON.

The following are copies of some Letters of the justly celebrated Col. George Mason, of Gunston Hall, the father of the first constitution of our State; written at different times, during our revolutionary war, and relating to our public affairs during that period; which have been, very obligingly, transmitted to us by his grandson, the Hon. James M. Mason, now a member of the Senate of the United States from Virginia, to be lodged in the archives of our Virginia Historical

Society. We submit an extract from Mr. M.'s letter accompanying them, which may serve to introduce them more particularly to our readers; but they will speak for themselves; and must be read with great interest.

WASHINGTON, JANUARY 1ST, 1848.

Dear Sir,—Mindful of my promise when I had the pleasure to see you in Richmond, I send inclosed copies of some letters of my grandfather, George Mason of Gunston Hall, which were written during the revolution—and which contain matter that may be interesting to the collections of the Historical Society.

Nos. 1, 2, and 3, are copies of letters written to his friend and nearest neighbor, Col. Martin Cockburn, before the declaration of Independence—and before a government had been formally established in Virginia, in lieu of that then recently repudiated.

No. 4. I think you will find of peculiar interest, as giving a true and faithful account of the causes and origin of the revolt from the Parent Country—and as going far to settle a much disputed point of history—whether independence was originally designed by the leaders in the revolution—or whether it resulted as a consequence only, not foreseen but made inevitable by events.

No. 5. Is a copy of a letter to his eldest son, George Mason, now dec'd—who was in France when it was written. The indorsement on it, in the hand writing of that gentleman shows, that the original had been by Dr. Franklin put into the hands of the Count de Vergennes—doubtless from the tenor of the letter, intended by Dr. F. to stimulate the government of France to send to the revolted colonies, the promised succor. The concluding paragraph, you will agree with me I think, would have adorned the ages of Brutus and Manlius.

These copies I had made for my own use some years since—the originals are in possession of my father, at his seat in the County of Fairfax. &c.

With great respect, &c.

J. M. MASON.

WM. MAXWELL, Esq.

RICHMOND, JULY 24TH, 1775.

Dear Sir,—Having an opportunity pr. Mr. Edw'd Blackburn (who promises to drop this at Colchester) I snatch a moment to

let you know that I am well, and to desire to be kindly remember'd to my dear children, and the Family at Spring-field. I have not since I came to this place, except the fast-day and Sunday, had an Hour which I cou'd call my own. The Committee (of which I am a member) appointed to prepare an ordinance for raising an arm'd Force for the Defence and Protection of this Colony, meet every morning at seven o'clock, sit 'til the Convention meets, which seldom rises before five in the afternoon, and immediately after Dinner and a little Refreshment, the Committee sits again 'til nine or ten at night: this is hard Duty; and yet we have hitherto made but little progress, and I think shall not be able to bring in the Ordinance 'til late next week, if then: this will not be wondered at, when the Extent and Importance of the business before us is reflected on—to raise forces for immediate service—to new-model the whole militia—to render about one fifth of it fit for the Field at the shortest warning—to melt down all the voluntier and independant Companys into this great establishment—to provide arms, ammunition, &c.—and to point out ways and means of raising money. These are Difficultys indeed! Besides tempering the powers of a Committee of safety to superintend the execution. Such are the great outlines of the plans in contemplation—I think I may venture to assent (tho' nothing is yet fixed on) that in whatever way the troops are raised, or the militia regulated, the staff officers only will be appointed by Convention, and the appointment of all the others devolve upon the County Committees:—If the Colony is parcel'd into different Districts for raising a Battalion in each, I have proposed that the Committees of each County in the District appoint Deputies, of their own members, for the purpose; so that every County may have an equal share in the choice of Officers for the Battalion; which seems to be generally approved.

On Wednesday last I gave notice in Convention, that on Monday I shou'd move for the inclosed Resolve; which was accordingly done this day, and after a long Debate, carried by a great majority. The convention will to-morrow appoint a Delegate to the Congress in the room of General Washington; when I be-

lieve Mr. Wythe will be almost unanimously chosen. As there will be other vacancys, I have been a good deal press'd by some of my Friends to serve at the Congress ; but shall firmly persist in a refusal, and thereby I hope prevent their making any such proposal in the Convention.

I inclose a Letter for my son George (tho' I suppose he is before this time sett off for the springs) which by some strange mistake came to me from Alexandria pr. post.

We have no news, but what is contain'd in the public papers; which you generally get sooner than we can, here.

I am Dr. Sir yr. affect. Friend and Serv't,

(Signed)

G. MASON.

MARTIN COCKBURN, Esq. }
Spring-field, Fairfax County. }

RICHMOND, AUG'T 5TH, 1775.

Dear Sir,—Capt. Grayson informing me that he shall set out on his return home to-morrow, I take the opportunity of writing to you, tho' I have nothing very agreeable to communicate. We are getting into great confusion here, and I fear running the Country to an Expencc it will not be able to bear—3000 men are voted as a Body of standing Troops, to be forthwith raised, and form'd into three Regiments, the first to be commanded by Mr. Patrick Henry, the second by Col. Thos. Nelson, and the third by Mr. William Woodford—a great push was made for Col. Mercer of Fredericksburg to the 1st Regiment ; but he lost it by a few votes, upon the Question between him and Mr. Henry ; tho' he had a majority upon the Ballot.

The expence of the last Indian war will be near £150,000, our share of the Expencc of the Continental Army £150,000 more, the charge of the Troops now raising, and the minute-men with their arms £350,000 ; these added together will make an enormous sum, and there are several charges still behind ; such as the Voluntier Comp'ys at Williamsburg, the payment of the members of the Convention, &c.—however nothing is yet abso-

lutely conclusive, and some abridgement may yet perhaps be made ; tho' at present there is little prospect of it.

As it is proposed that a company of fifty men for the standing army shall be raised in each county, my son George may perhaps have a mind to enter into the service ; in which case, pray tell him that it will be very contrary to my Inclination, and that I advise him by all means against it—when the plan for the minute-men is completed, if he has a mind to enter into that I shall have no objection ; as I look upon it to be the true, natural and safe Defence of this, or any other free country, and as such wish to see it encouraged to the utmost. I should have wrote to him but that it was uncertain whether he was at home, or at the springs.

I have been very unwell, and unable to attend the convention for two or three days, but am now getting better and attended again to day, and am going out to-morrow to visit a Friend in the country. God knows when I shall get home again—remember me kindly to my dear Children—the family at Spring-field, and all Friends ; and beleive me Dr. Sir,

Yr. affect. Friend and Serv't,

(Signed)

G. MASON.

RICHMOND, AUG'T 22ND, 1775.

Dear Sir,—Col. Blackburn telling me he shall set out for Pr. Wm. to-day, I take the opportunity of informing you that I am now pretty well, tho' I was exceedingly indisposed for several days, some of which I was confined to my bed ; but a little fresh air, good water, and excellent kind and hospitable treatment from a neighbouring Country Gentleman has recover'd me. I have found my apprehensions in being sent to this convention but too well verified. Before the choice of Delegates for the ensuing Congress, I was personally applied to by more than two thirds of the members, insisting upon my serving at the Congress, but by assuring them that I cou'd not possibly attend, I prevailed on them not to name me, except abt: twenty who

wou'd take no excuse. A day or two after, upon Col. Bland's resignation, a strong party was form'd, at the head of which were Col. Henry, Mr. Jefferson and Col. Carrington, for sending me to the Congress at all events, laying it down as a rule that I wou'd not refuse, if ordered by my Country: in consequence of this, just before the ballot, I was publicly called upon in Convention and obliged to make a public excuse, and give my reasons for refusal, in doing which I felt myself more distress'd than ever I was in my life, especially when I saw tears run down the President's cheeks: I took occasion, at the same time, to recommend Col. Francis Lee: who was accordingly chosen in the room of Col. Bland. But my getting clear of this appointment has avail'd me little, as I have been since, in spite of every thing I cou'd do to the contrary, put upon the committee of safety; which is even more inconvenient and disagreeable to me than going to the Congress. I endeavour'd to excuse myself, and beg'd the Convention wou'd permit me to resign; but was answer'd by an universal No.—The 3,000 regular Troops (exclusive of the western frontier Garrisons) first proposed to be raised are reduced to 1,000, to be form'd into two regiments, one of eight, the other of seven Compys: these 15 Compys: are to be raised in the 15 Western-shoar Districts, the Captains and subaltern officers to be appointed by the committee of the respective District, form'd by a deputation of three members from the committee of each County in the District. The first Regiment is commanded by Col. Henry, Lieut. Col. Christian and Maj'r Eppes, the second Regiment by Col. Wm. Woodford, Lieut. Col. Ch's Scott and Maj'r Spotswood. A Regiment of minute-men of 680 rank and file, is to be raised in the Eastern-shoar District, and a Regiment of 500 rank and file in each of the fifteen Districts on the Western-shoar, with the same Field and Staff Officers, Chaplain, Surgeon, &c., as the regiments of regulars, and w'th the same pay, when upon duty in the District, or drawn into actual service—the officers to be appointed by the District Committees, and commissioned by the Committee of Safety—the Militia Officers are all to give up their present commissions, and be nominated by

the respective Committees of the Counties, the Militia Companys to be exercised once a fortnight, except the three winter months, and general county musters twice a year. Arms, tents, &c., to be provided for the minute-men at the public charge. These are the great outlines of our plan of Defence, which I think a good, tho' a very expensive one; the particulars wou'd take up too much room for a common letter; particular rules are drawn up for the better regulation and government of the Army, to which both the minute-men and militia are subjected, when drawn out into actual service: the voluntier companys are all discharged and melted down in the plan for the regiments of minute-men—these informations you may rely on, as the ordinance yesterday received its final fiat.—There are several ordinances under the consideration of the Committee of the whole House and nearly compleated, viz. one for the raising of money and imposing Taxes, one for furnishing arms and encouraging the making salt-petre, sulphur, powder and lead, one for appointing a Committee of Safety, and defining its powers, which are very extensive, one for regulating the Elections of Delegates and County Committees, and one for establishing a general Test.—The Maryland Convention not concurring in the Resolve for immediately stoping the Export of Provision, it became necessary to rescind ours; that our ports as well as theirs, might be kept open 'til the 10th of Sept.—A very sensible petition from the Merchants who are natives of Great Britain has been put into my hands, and will be presented to-day or to-morrow, praying that some certain line of conduct may be prescribed to them, and a recommendation to the people from the Convention, respecting them. As I drew the ordinance for a general Test, I have endeavour'd to make it such as no good man wou'd object to: the merchants here declare themselves well pleased with it. Pray excuse me to Mr. Massey, Mr. McCarty, Mr. Henderson, and all enquiring friends for not writing to them, and tell them I consider all public news wrote to you, as to be communicated to them, and such of my constituents as desire information.

I expect the Convention will rise abt; the end of this or the

begining of next week. The members of the Committee of Safety (of which I send you a list) meet next Friday; how long I shall be detain'd on that business God only knows.—My kind regard to my dear Family, and to the Family at Spring-field. Conclude me Dr. Sir,

Yr. affect. Friend and Serv't,
(Signed) G. MASON.

P. S.—Every Ordinance goes thro' all the formalities of a Bill in the House of Burgesses, has three readings, &c., before it is passed, and in every respect wears the face of Law—Resolves as recommendations being no longer trusted to in matters of importance.

Extract of a letter from Col. George Mason to Col. George Mercer of Stafford County, then in England. (It should be premised that Col. Mercer was a relation of Col. Mason, and had been absent from the Colony of Virginia for some years prior to the date of the letter;—having gone to England before the revolution broke out.)

VIRGINIA, GUNSTON HALL, OCT. 2ND, 1778.

My Dear Sir,—It gave me great pleasure upon receipt of your favour of the 23rd of April, by Mr. Digges, to hear that you are alive and well in a Country where you can spend your time agreeably, not having heard a word from you or of you for two years before.

(Then follows some detail respecting the members of his family and of his domestic affairs, after which the writer speaks of himself and of public affairs then pending as quoted.)

In the summer '75, I was much against my inclination drag'd out of my retirement by the people of my County, and sent as delegate to the General Convention at Richmond, where I was appointed a member of the first Committee of Safety, and have since at different times been chosen a member of the Privy Council, and of the American Congress, but have constantly declined

acting in any other public character than that of an independent representative of the people in the House of Delegates; where I still remain from a consciousness of being able to do my country more service there than in any other department; and have ever since devoted most of my time to public business to the no small neglect and injury of my private fortune; but if I can only live to see the American Union firmly fixed, and free governments well established in our western world; and can leave to my children but a crust of bread and liberty, I shall die satisfied, and say with the Psalmist, "Lord now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace."

To show you that I have not been an idle spectator of this great contest, and to amuse you with the sentiments of an old friend upon an important subject, I inclose you a copy of the first Draught of the Declaration of Rights just as it was drawn by me and presented to the Virginia Convention, where it received few alterations, some of them I think not for the better. This was the first thing of the kind upon the Continent, and has been closely imitated by all the other States. There is a remarkable sameness in all the forms of government throughout the American Union, except in the States of South Carolina and Pennsylvania; the first having three branches of Legislature, and the last only one. All the other States have two. This difference has given general disgust, and it is probable an alteration may soon take place to assimilate these to the Constitution of the other States. We have laid our new Government upon a broad foundation, and have endeavoured to provide the most effectual securities for the essential rights of human nature, both in civil and religious liberty. The people become every day more and more attached to it, and I trust that neither the power of Great Britain, nor the power of Hell will be able to prevail against us. There never was an idler or a falser notion than that which the British ministry have imposed upon the nation, that this great Revolution has been the work of a faction, of a junto of ambitious men against the sense of the people of America. On the contrary, nothing has been done without the approbation of the people, who have indeed outrun their leaders, so that no

capital measure has been adopted until they called loudly for it. To any one who knows mankind there needs no greater proof than the cordial manner in which they have co-operated, and the patience and perseverance with which they have struggled under their sufferings, which have been greater than you at a distance can conceive, or I describe.

Equally false is the assertion that independence was originally designed here. Things have gone such lengths that it is a matter of moonshine to us whether independence was at first intended or not, and therefore we may now be believed. The truth is, we have been forced into it as the only means of self preservation, to guard our country and posterity from the greatest of all evils, such another infernal government (if it deserves the name of government) as the Provinces groaned under in the latter ages of the Roman Commonwealth. To talk of replacing us in the situation of 1763 as we first asked, is to the last degree absurd and impossible. They obstinately refused it while it was in their power, and now that it is out of their power they offer it. Can they raise our cities out of their ashes? Can they replace in ease and affluence the thousands of families whom they have ruined? Can they restore the husband to the widow? the child to the parent, or the father to the orphan? In a word, can they reanimate the dead? Our country has been made a scene of desolation and blood. Enormities and cruelties have been committed here which not only disgrace the British name, but dishonor the human mind. We can never again trust a people who have thus serv'd us; human nature revolts at the idea. The die is cast, the rubicon is passed; and a reconciliation with Great Britain upon the terms of returning to her government is impossible. No man was more warmly attached to the Hanover family, and the Whig interest of England than I was; and few men had stronger prejudices in favor of that form of government under which I was born and bred, or a greater aversion to changing it. It was ever my opinion, that no good man would wish to try so dangerous an experiment upon any speculative notions whatsoever, without an absolute necessity. The ancient poets, in their

elegant manner of expression, have made a kind of being of necessity, and tell us that the Gods themselves are obliged to yield to her.

When I was first a member of the Convention I exerted myself to prevent a confiscation of the King's Quit Rents, and although I was for putting the country immediately into a state of defence, and preparing for the worst, yet as long as we had any well founded hopes of reconciliation, I opposed to the utmost of my power all violent measures, and such as might shut the door to it. But when the reconciliation became a lost hope, when unconditional submission or effectual resistance were the only alternative left us, when the last dutiful and humble petition from Congress received no other answer than declaring us rebels and out of the King's protection, I from that moment looked forward to a revolution and independence, the only means of salvation; and will risque the last penny of my fortune, and the last drop of my blood, upon the issue. For to imagine that we could resist the efforts of Great Britain still professing ourselves her subjects, or support a defensive war against a powerful nation, without the reins of government in the hands of America, (whatever our pretended friends in Great Britain may say of it,) is too childish and futile an idea to enter into the head of any man of sense. I am not singular in my opinions: these are the sentiments of more than nine tenths of the best men in America.

God has been pleased to bless our endeavours in a just cause with remarkable success.

To us upon the spot who have seen step by step the progress of this great contest, who know the defenceless state of America in the beginning, and the numberless difficultys we have had to struggle with; taking a retrospective view of what is passed, we seem to have been treading upon enchanted ground. The case is now altered: American prospects brighten, and appearances are strongly in our favor.

(Signed)

G. MASON.

VIRGINIA, GUNSTON HALL, JUNE 3RD, 1781.

Dear George,—Your Brother William writes you by this opportunity. He returned some time ago from South Carolina, where he commanded a Company of Volunteers (75 fine young fellows from this county.) He had a rough campaign of it, and has acquired the reputation of a vigilant and good officer; and I think is greatly improved by the Expedition. Your Brother Thomson has lately returned from a Tour of Militia-Duty upon James River. He commanded a Platoon, in a pretty close action at Williamsburg, and behaved with proper coolness and intrepidity: He is now from home, or wou'd have wrote you.

I have written you very fully lately upon domestic subjects; but I am not able to give you any agreeable public News.

Our affairs have been, for some time, growing from bad to worse. The enemy's Fleet commands our Rivers, and puts it in their power to remove their Troops, from place to place, when and where they please without opposition; so that we no sooner collect a force sufficient to counteract them in one part of the Country, but they shift to another, ravaging, plundering, and destroying every thing before them. Our militia turn out with great spirit, and have in several late actions, behaved bravely; but they are badly armed and appointed. General Green with about 1,200 regular Troops and some militia, is in South Carolina; where he has taken all the Enemy's Posts, except Charlestown. The Enemy's capital object, at this time, seems to be Virginia. General Philips died lately in Petersburg; upon which the Command of the British Troops there devolved upon Arnold; But Ld. Cornwallis, quitting North Carolina, has since join'd Arnold, with about 1,200 Infantry and 300 Cavalry, and taken the Chief Command of their Army in Virginia, now consisting of about 5,000 men: They have crossed James River, and by the latest accounts were at Westover; their light Horse having advanced as far as Hanover Court House; They have burn'd Page's Warehouses, where the greatest part of the York River Tobacco was collected; they had before burn'd most of the Tobacco upon James River, and have plunder'd great part of the adjacent country. The Mar-

quis De La Fayette is ab't twenty miles below Fredericksburg with about 1,200 regulars et 3,000 militia, waiting the arrival of General Waine, with ab't 1,500 regular Troops of the Pennsylvania Line.

We have had various accounts of the sailing of a French fleet, with a body of Land-Forces, for America: should they really arrive it wou'd quickly change the face of our affairs, and infuse fresh spirits, and confidence; but it has been so long expected in vain, that little credit is now given to reports concerning it.

You know from your own acquaintance in this part of Virginia that the bulk of the people here are staunch Whigs, strongly attached to the American cause and well affected to the French alliance; yet they grow uneasy and restless, and begin to think that our allies are spinning out the War, in order to weaken America, as well as Great Britain, and thereby leave us at the end of it, as dependant as possible upon themselves.

However unjust this opinion may be, it is natural enough for Planters and Farmers, burdened with heavy taxes, and frequently drag'd from their Family's upon military duty, on the continual alarms occasioned by the superiority of the British Fleet. They see their Property daily exposed to destruction, they see with what facility the British Troops are removed from one part of the Continent to another, and with what infinite Charge and Fatigue ours are, too late, obliged to follow; and they see too very plainly, that a strong French Fleet would have prevented all this.

If our allies had a superior Fleet here, I shou'd have no doubt of a favorable issue to the War, but without it, I fear we are deceiving both them and ourselves, in expecting we shall be able to keep our People much longer firm, in so unequal an opposition to Great Britain.

France surely intends the separation of these States, for ever, from Great Britain. It is highly her interest to accomplish this; but by drawing out the Thread too fine and long, it may unexpectedly break in her hands.

God bless you, my dear Child! and grant that we may again

meet, in your native Country, as Freemen; otherwise, that we never see each other more, is the Prayer of

Your affectionate Father,

(Signed)

G. MASON.

To GEORGE MASON, JUN'R, Esq.

THE SURRENDER OF YORK.

The following is a copy of the original letter "written at the time by an eye-witness of the Surrender" of York, (Col. Wm. Fontaine, of Hanover,) and "containing a very graphic and detailed account" of that memorable event; referred to by the Hon. Wm. C. Rives, the President of the Virginia Historical Society, in his Address at the late Annual Meeting, and since lodged by him in the archives of the Society. It will be read with lively interest.

RICHMOND, OCTOBER 26, 1781.

Dear Sir,—Major Penn gives me an opportunity, the first I have met with since the glorious event, of congratulating you on the surrender of York, which I do with all imaginable cordiality. I had the happiness to see that British army which so lately spread dismay and desolation through all our Country, march forth on the 20th instant at 3 o'clock through our whole army, drawn up in two lines at about twenty yards distance, and return disrobed of all their terrors, so humbled and so struck at the appearance of our troops, that their knees seemed to tremble, and you could not see a platoon that marched in any order. Such a noble figure did our army make, that I scarce know which drew my attention most. You could not have heard a whisper or seen the least motion throughout our whole line, but every countenance was erect and expressed a serene cheerfulness. Cornwallis pretended to be ill, and imposed the mortifying duty of leading forth the captives on General O'Hara. Their own of-

fficers acknowledge them to be the flower of the British troops, yet I do not think they at all exceeded in appearance our own or the French. The latter, you may be assured are very different from the ideas formerly inculcated in us of a people living on frogs and coarse vegetables. Finer troops I never saw.

His Lordship's defence, I think, was rather feeble. His surrender was eight or ten days sooner than the most sanguine expected, though his force and resources were much greater than we conceived. He had at least a fortnight's provisions, and 1000 barrels of powder left, beside a magazine, that 'tis supposed was blown up with design, during the negotiation for the surrender. The whole of the prisoners of war amount to 6,800, exclusive of sailors and marines, which with the shipping belong to the French, and the refugees, merchants and followers of their army. The shipping of every sort is about seventy sail, though a great many are sunk. Of brass ordnance we have taken eighty odd,—of iron 120. Muskets, 7,313 fit for service, beside a great number in unopened boxes, and of old arms. Of horse about 300 accoutred; there must be more horse accoutrements, but I have not seen a particular return from Gloucester where the horse lay. The military chest amounts to only 800 guineas. Merchants' stores are subject to the preemption of our army at a reasonable price for such articles as suit them, the remainder they are allowed three months to effect the sale of, then are to give their parole and clear out. Tories are subject to be tried by our laws. The 20th of next month has been appointed for that purpose. A small proportion of officers are to remain with the prisoners, the rest are to be paroled to New York. A flag ship is allowed Cornwallis to carry him to New York, thence, I believe, he goes home. His flag ship is not to be searched. The officers retain their side arms and baggage, and the soldiers their knapsacks. They marched out with drums muffled and colours furled and crossed. All property taken from inhabitants by the British is liable to be claimed by them. In consequence Master Tarleton met with a most severe mortification the day before yesterday. The Hero was prancing through the streets of

York on a very fine, elegant horse, and was met by a spirited young fellow of the country, who stopped him, challenged the horse, and ordered him instantly to dismount. Tarleton halted and paused awhile through confusion, then told the lad if it was his horse, he supposed he must be given up, but insisted to ride him some distance out of town to dine with a French officer. This was more, however, than Mr. Giles was disposed to indulge him in, having been forced when he and his horse were taken, to travel good part of a night on foot at the point of a bayonet, he therefore refused to trust him out of sight, and made him dismount in the midst of the street crowded with spectators. Many such instances have since happened on the road. The people who have been insulted, abused, nay—ruined by them, give them no quarter. I have not seen the articles of capitulation, but have given you the substance, as well as I can recollect from such as have read them.

We are surely to have a garrison at York,—whether French or American was not known when I left York the day before yesterday. Some troops are to go to the southward. 'Tis supposed the French fleet and most of their troops will go to the West Indies,—though all is conjecture and will probably remain so to all but the Count de Grasse and Gen. Washington. The General had been aboard the Admiral for some days past as I came away, something of consequence, I suspect, was projecting between them. The troops at Portsmouth are levelling to prevent the British taking post there. Nothing certain of a British fleet. They have lost, 'tis said, Bengall, and Madras in the East Indies by the powerful exertions of Hyder Ali in favour of the French.

Cornwallis, I am well assured, previous to his surrender acknowledged to the Secretary, that the capture of his army would put an end to the war. The same sentiment was expressed to me by two of his officers, and, I learn from an intelligent inhabitant of York, generally prevailed among them.

That General Lesly with all the crew perished on the passage from Wilmington to Charles Town in the Blonde Frigate, in ore est omnium.

I certainly embark for Europe the soonest a passage can be had, perhaps three or four weeks hence, though I believe I shall be forced to take the West Indies in the way, and probably may winter there.

My love to my good sisters and families. My best respects to Mr. Armistead and all my relations and friends in your country. Farewell! farewell! The good Doctor, Parson Cole and all. I have commissioned a gentleman to get Mr. Holmes a hat from York. Mrs. Walker has recovered her two negroes, and my mother her one. The French fleet and all our troops are under sailing and marching orders. If Major Hulston is with you, let him know Mr. Burrows from his State has his servant that he wrote about.

I enclose two yards of ribbon for my sister Sarah, and two for sister Mary, or in her absence little Bess,—trophies from York. Had the stores been opened I would have dealt more largely, though they are strictly guarded and general orders against any thing being sold till the army is supplied. All health and happiness to you and yours and all with you.

Your affectionate friend and servant,

W. FONTAINE.

MRS. MARY WASHINGTON.

We have extracted the following notices of this eminent lady, the mother of Washington, from a sketch of her by Mrs. Ellet in her recent and interesting work, entitled "The Women of the American Revolution."

"The only memoir of the mother of Washington extant, is the one written by Geo. W. P. Custis, the grandson of Martha Washington, and published more than 20 years ago in his "Recollections" in the National Gazette. These reminiscences were collected by him in the course of many years; and to them we are indebted for all that is known of the life and actions of this matron. According to these, she was descended from the re-

spectable family of Ball, who came to this country and settled on the banks of the Potomac. In the old days of Virginia, women were taught habits of industry and self reliance, and in these Mrs. Washington was nurtured. The early death of her husband involved her in the cares of a young family with limited resources, which rendered prudence and economy necessary to provide for and educate her children. Thus circumstanced, it was left to her unassisted efforts to form in her son's mind, those essential qualities which gave tone and character to his subsequent life. George was only twelve years old at his father's death, and retained merely the remembrance of his person, and his parental fondness. Two years after this event, he obtained a midshipman's warrant, but his mother opposed the plan, and the idea of entering the naval service was relinquished.

The home in which Mrs. Washington presided, was a sanctuary of the domestic virtues. The levity of youth was there tempered by a well-regulated restraint, and the enjoyments rational and proper for that age were indulged in with moderation. The future chief was taught the duty of obedience, and was thus prepared to command. The mother's authority never departed from her, even when her son had attained the height of his renown; for she still ruled by the affection which controlled his spirit when he needed a guardian; and she claimed a reverence next to that due to his Creator. This claim he admitted, mingling the deepest respect with enthusiastic attachment, and yielding to her will the most implicit obedience, even to the latest hours of her life. One of the associates of his juvenile years, Lawrence Washington, of Chotank, thus speaks of his home:

"I was often there with George, his playmate, schoolmate, and young man's companion. Of the mother I was ten times more afraid than I ever was of my own parents: she awed me in the midst of her kindness, for she was truly kind. And even now, when time has whitened my locks, and I am the grand parent of a second generation; I could not behold the majestic woman without feelings it is impossible to describe. Whoever has seen that awe-inspiring air and manner so characteristic of the Father of his Country, will remember the matron as she appeared, the presiding genius of her well-ordered household, commanding and being obeyed." Educated under such influences, it is not to be wondered at, that Washington's deportment towards his mother at all times, testified his appreciation of her elevated character, and the excellence of her lessons.

"On his appointment to the command-in-chief of the American armies," says Mr. Custis, "previously to his joining the forces at Cambridge, he removed his mother from her residence, to

the village of Fredericksburg, a situation remote from all danger and contiguous to her friends and relatives. There she remained during nearly the whole of the trying period of the Revolution.

When news arrived of the passage of the Delaware in December 1776, the mother received calmly the patriots who came with congratulations; and while expressing pleasure at the intelligence, disclaimed for her son the praises in the letters from which extracts were read. When informed by express of the surrender of Cornwallis, she lifted her hands in gratitude towards heaven, and exclaimed, "Thank God! war will now be ended, and peace, independence and happiness bless our country!"

Her housewifery, industry, and care in the management of her domestic concerns, were not intermitted during the war. "She looketh well to the ways of her household," and "worketh willingly with her hands," said the wise man, in describing a virtuous woman; and it was the pride of the exemplary women of that day, to fill the station of mistress with usefulness as well as dignity. Mrs. Washington was remarkable for a simplicity which modern refinement might call severe, but which became her not less when her fortunes were clouded, than when the sun of glory arose upon her house. Some of the aged inhabitants of Fredericksburg long remembered the matron, "as seated in an old-fashioned open chaise she was in the habit of visiting, almost daily, her little farm in the vicinity of the town. When there, she would ride about her fields, giving her orders and seeing that they were obeyed." When on one occasion an agent departed from his instructions—she reproved him for exercising his own judgment in the matter; "I command you," she said, "there is nothing left for you but to obey."

Her charity to the poor was well known; and having not wealth to distribute, it was necessary that what her benevolence dispensed should be supplied by domestic economy and industry.

Mr. Custis states that she was continually visited and solaced, in the retirement of her declining years, by her children, and numerous grandchildren. Her daughter, Mrs. Lewis, repeatedly and earnestly solicited her to remove to her house, and there pass the remainder of her days. Her son pressingly entreated her that she would make Mount Vernon the home of her age. But the matron's answer was: "I thank you for your affectionate and dutiful offers, but my wants are few in this world, and I feel perfectly competent to take care of myself." To the proposition of her son-in-law, Col. Lewis, to relieve her by taking the direction of her concerns, she replied: "Do you, Fielding, keep my books in order; for your eyesight is better than mine: but leave the executive management to me." Such were the energy and

independence she preserved to an age beyond that usually allotted to mortals, and until within three years of her death, when the disease under which she suffered (cancer of the breast) prevented exertion.

Her meeting with Washington, after the victory which decided the fortune of America, illustrates her character too strikingly to be omitted. "After an absence of nearly seven years, it was, at length, on the return of the combined armies from Yorktown, permitted to the mother again to see and embrace her illustrious son.

"The Lady was alone—her aged hands employed in the works of domestic industry, when the good news was announced; and it was further told, that the victor-chief was in waiting at the threshold. She welcomed him with a warm embrace, and by the well-remembered and endearing names of his childhood. Inquiring as to his health, she remarked the lines which mighty cares, and many trials, had made on his manly countenance; spoke much of old times, and old friends; but of his glory, *not one word!*"

"The Marquis de La Fayette repaired to Fredericksburg, previous to his departure for Europe, in the fall of 1784, to pay his parting respects to the mother, and to ask her blessing. Conducted by one of her grandsons, he approached the house, when the young gentleman observed: "There, sir, is my grandmother." La Fayette beheld—working in the garden, clad in domestic-made clothes, and her gray head covered with a plain straw hat—the mother of "his hero, his friend, and a country's preserver!" The lady saluted him kindly, observing, 'Ah, marquis! you see an old woman; but come, I can make you welcome to my poor dwelling, without the parade of changing my dress.'"

To the encomiums lavished by the marquis on his chief, the mother replied: "I am not surprised at what George has done, for he was always a very good boy."

The person of Mrs. Washington is described as being of the medium height, and well proportioned—her features pleasing, though strongly marked. There were few painters in the colonies in those days, and no portrait of her is in existence.

Mrs. Washington died at the age of eighty-five, rejoicing in the consciousness of a life well spent, and the hope of a blessed immortality. Her ashes repose at Fredericksburg, where a splendid monument has been erected to her memory!

From the National Era.

EL DORADO.—THE GOLD MINES OF CALIFORNIA.

“What is here ?

Gold ?—Yellow, glittering, precious Gold ?

Thus much of this, will make black, white ; foul, fair ;

Wrong, right ; base, noble ; old, young ; coward, valiant ;

Ha ! you gods ! why this ?—What this, you gods ? Why this

Will lug your priests and servants from your sides :

This yellow slave

Will knit and break religions ; bless the accursed ;

Make the hoar leprosy adored ; place thieves,

And give them title, knee, and approbation ;

And make the wappened widow wed again,

She, whom 'spital-house and ulcerous sores

Would cast their gorge at, this embalms and spices

To the April day again.—*Timon of Athens.*

After making all due allowance for the exaggeration of traders and speculators, in California, and of their credulous customers, we cannot doubt that gold has been found in the valley of the Sacramento river, and in the spurs of the Sierra Nevada ; at all events, some thousands of Yankees, Sandwich Islanders, Mexicans, and Indians, are hard at work, in the intervals of fever and ague, sifting sand and washing gravel ; and if the documents in the possession of our Government, and the late letters from Col. Mason and “Don Walter Colton” are to be credited, they are actually acquiring gold at the rate of from \$15 to \$40 per day for each laborer. As a matter of course, there is getting to be a very general rush towards the Paradise of Gold. We hear of some sixty or seventy vessels advertised in our principal ports for California and Chagres. A mere boat of only 30 tons, manned by adventurers, has just sailed from New Bedford (Mass.) for San Francisco, to encounter the icebergs of Cape Horn, and the dangerous billows of that mighty ocean—

“Which fluctuates where the storms of El Dorado sound.”

Ere this, we doubt not, the dwellers of the great valley of the Southwest are moving on their inland route towards the favored region. The feverish excitement of the gold hunters of the 16th century—of the days of Cortez and Pizarro—of Raleigh, and

Drake, and Queen Elizabeth's praying pirates, seems about to return. Time has measured off another cycle; what was fable and apochryphal history yesterday, is the reality of to-day. There is, indeed, nothing new under the sun. El Dorado, the wonderful land of gold, the glittering image of which cheated the longing eyes of the old Spanish adventurers, the desire of which disturbed the dreams of the Virgin Queen, and urged Raleigh from lettered ease and courtly splendor to dare the terrors of disease and poisoned arrows in Guiana, and to push his small barks up unknown rivers, and along undiscovered shores; that for which De Soto, and his chivalrous followers, traversed the valley of the Mississippi, while Pizarro and Almagro were devastating that of the Marañon for the same purpose, has now, after the lapse of three long centuries, it would seem, been discovered at last on the Pacific slope of the great Snowy Mountains of California. There is no mistake about it. So write Government functionaries in sober matter-of-fact missives; so writes Parson Colton, whose brain seems well nigh turned by the Golden Vision. To put the matter beyond doubt or cavil, some sprinklings of the glittering dust have fallen into the laps of the President and his Cabinet, and the assayers of our Mints pronounce it true metal. Orellana, who first published a detailed and minute account of El Dorado, appending thereto a complete map of the country, has been branded by some ten successive generations as a lying old romancer; but it now turns out that he was in the main correct, only mistaking the latitude and longitude of his Paradise of Mammon, and locating it on the Amazon instead of the Sacramento.

It is well worth while, just now, to recur to the statements of the Spanish and English adventurers touching this remarkable country. Don Lopez, in his "General History of the Indies," written in the sixteenth century, says, in describing the Court of its Monarch, that "all the vessels of his house, table, and kitchen, were of gold and silver. He had, besides, great giant statues of gold, and figures of all manner of birds, and beasts, and fishes, and trees, and herbs, all of gold; also ropes, budgets, chests, and troughs, of gold and silver. Besides, the Incas had a pleasure garden in the island of Puna, where they went to recreate themselves, and take the sea air, which had all kinds of herbs and flowers of gold and silver."

Sir Walter Raleigh, in his "History of the Discovery of Guiana," informs his readers that, notwithstanding the repeated and persevering efforts of many daring adventurers, only one person had ever reached the Golden City. One John Martinez, being, for some misdemeanor in the army of the Spaniards, condemned

to be executed, begged to be allowed the chance for life afforded by being put into a canoe in the Great River, without sail or oar, and left to drift at the mercy of the current. This was granted him, and after floating a long way down the stream he was drawn ashore by the natives, who took him to be a visiter from another world. They led him to Manoa, the great city of their Inca, where he was kindly treated. After a stay of seven months, the Inca dismissed him with as much gold as a great troop of his soldiers could carry. But it so fell out, that, just on the borders of the Inca's kingdom he was attacked by robbers, who took all his gold from him, except two gourds full of beads curiously wrought. After this untoward adventure, he wandered down the river until he came to a Spanish town called Juan de Puerto Rico, where he died. To the Priest who administered the Sacrament to him he told his wonderful history, and gave his beads for the use of the Church. The pious father, forthwith, published the tidings of the great discovery, with such additions and embellishments as the credulity of the marvel-loving and gold-seeking adventurers about him warranted.

From the abundance of gold in this city, in the temples, palaces, and armories of the people, Martinez gave the city the name by which it was ever afterwards known by the Spaniards, **EZ DORADO**.

It was in pursuit of this imaginary city, that Raleigh made his discovery and partial conquest of Guiana, in 1595. The brave knight's account of his adventures bears alike the stamp of his active imagination and of genius, and, like all the narratives of the time, is not deficient in the marvellous. He tells of "a great mountain of clear crystal, glittering in the sun like a marble church tower. There falleth over it a great river, which toucheth no part of the moutain's side, but rusheth over the top, and descendeth to the ground with a noise like a thousand great bells." He made a valuable and important discovery, but the Golden Vision eluded his eager pursuit, flitting before him like the feet of the rainbow, or the fabled island of St. Brandon, and he was compelled to return and apologize vainly to his offended and exacting mistress, for the failure of his enterprise.

And now, after the lapse of centuries, we are told that the country of Gold is found—the prize for which the enterprise and cupidity of all Europe so long struggled is gained at last. Some wandering stragglers from the Mormon camp, it seems, a few months ago discovered the shining metal on the banks of the American Fork of the Sacramento; and now it appears to be satisfactorily ascertained that the great chain of the Sierra Nevada, including its eastern and western slopes, from the Great

Salt Lake to the Pacific, is thickly sown with the precious ore. Admitting this to be true, we see no reason why the fabulous city of Manoa may not find a rival in the future glories of San Francisco.

In the head-long rush towards this new fountain of wealth, words of warning will be little heeded. Reason and argument are wasted on the victims of the mighty Temptation. What noble resolves, what holy aspirations, what rational plans of home joy and domestic happiness, will yield to its baleful enticement! How many calm fire-sides of contented and honest industry will it disturb and darken! How will it unsettle the sober habitude of thrift, and embitter with envy and regret the quiet enjoyment of the fruits of daily labor in the field and workshop! What a fever will it waken in the already too rapid pulses of society! What madness will it infuse into the already excited and over-taxed brain of the new generation! The light which history sheds upon the consequences of similar acquisitions, on the part of Spain and Portugal, is by no means calculated to lessen the fears with which every thoughtful friend of his country, and of the moral progress of his race, must regard this remarkable discovery.

At the date of the last accounts from California, the harvests were left to rot in the fields, their owners having all gone to the mines, and provisions of all kinds were scarce, and commanding the most exorbitant prices. Already there was actual suffering for food in the midst of gold; and probably long ere this more than one unfortunate adventurer has looked with more satisfaction upon an edible root or fruit than upon his hoards of yellow dust, exclaiming, like Timon, when faint and hungry, after the discovery of his golden treasures,

“Common mother,
Yield from thy plenteous bosom one poor root.”

Bunyan, in his description of the infernal regions, describes a covetous woman who had spent her life in hoarding riches, condemned to the task of swallowing liquid gold, with which the mocking demons were always ready to supply her. We can imagine a counterpart to Bunyan's picture in some luckless digger of the California mines, starving in the midst of his abundance, and vainly seeking to barter all his worthless gains for an ear of corn or a handful of ground nuts.

J. G. W.

AUBREY'S ANECDOTES.

"John Aubrey (1626-1700) studied at Oxford, and, while there, aided in the collection of materials for Dugdale's "Monasticon Anglicanum." At a later period, he furnished valuable assistance to Anthony Wood. His only published work is a collection of popular superstitions relative to dreams, portents, ghosts, witchcraft, &c., under the title of *Miscellanies*. His manuscripts, of which many are preserved in the Ashmolean museum, and the library of the Royal Society, prove his researches to have been very extensive, and have furnished much useful information to later antiquaries. Three volumes, published in 1813, under the title of "Letters written by Eminent Persons in the Seventeenth and Eighteenth Centuries, &c., with Lives of Eminent Men," are occupied principally by very curious literary anecdotes, which Aubrey communicated to Anthony Wood." Chambers' Cyclopædia, vol. 1st, p. 527: Chambers gives us no extracts from this writer; but we find the following Anecdotes taken from his MSS. &c., in "Knight's Half-Hours with the best Authors," and readily adopt them into our work.

SIR MILES FLEETWOOD.

He was of the Middle Temple, was Recorder of London when King James came into England. Made his harangue to the city of London—"When I consider your wealth I do admire your wisdom, and when I consider your wisdom I do admire your wealth." It was a two-handed rhetorication, but the citizens took it in the best sense. He was a very severe hanger of highwaymen, so that the fraternity were resolved to make an example of his worship, which they executed in this manner:—They lay in wait for him not far from Tyburn, as he was to come from his house at—Bucks; had a halter in readiness; brought him under the gallows, fastened the rope about his neck, his hands tied behind him, (and servants bound,) and then left him to the mercy of his horse, which he called *Ball*. So he cried, "Ho, Ball! Ho, Ball!" and it pleased God that his horse stood still, till somebody came along, which was half a quarter of an hour, or more. He ordered that his horse should be kept as long as he would live, which was so; he lived till 1645.

HENRY MARTIN.

His speeches in the house were not long, but wondrous poignant, pertinent, and witty. He was exceeding happy in apt instances; he alone had sometimes turned the whole house. Making an invective speech one time against old Sir Henry Vane, when he had done with him, he said, *But for young Sir Harry Vane*—and so sat him down. Several cried out—“What have you to say of young Sir Harry?” He rises up: *Why if young Sir Harry lives to be old, he will be old Sir Harry!* and so sat down, and so set the whole house a laughing, as he oftentimes did. Oliver Cromwell once in the house called him, jestingly or scoffingly, *Sir Harry Martin*. H. M. rises and bows: “I thank *your majesty*, I always thought when you were *king*, that I should be knighted.” A godly member made a motion to have all profane and unsanctified persons expelled the house. H. M. stood up and moved that all fools should be put out likewise, and then there would be a thin house. He was wont to sleep much in the house (at least dog-sleep;) Alderman Atkins made a motion that such scandalous members as slept and minded not the business of the house should be put out. H. M. starts up—“Mr. Speaker, a motion has been made to turn out the *Nodders*; I desire the *Noddees* may also be turned out.”

THE CIVIL WAR.

When the civil war broke out, the Lord Marshal had leave to go beyond the sea. Mr. Hollar went into the Low Countries where he stayed till about 1649. I remember he told me, that when he first came into England, (which was a serene time of peace,) that the people, both poor and rich, did look cheerfully, but at his return, he found the countenances of the people all changed, melancholy, spiteful, as if bewitched.

TOBACCO.

Sir Walter Raleigh was the first that brought tobacco into England, and into fashion. In our part of North Wilts—Malmesbury hundred—it came first into fashion by Sir Walter Long. They

had first silver pipes. The ordinary sort made use of a walnut shell and a straw. I have heard my grandfather Lyte say, that one pipe was handed from man to man round the table. Sir W. R. standing in a stand at Sir Ro. Poyntz's park at Acton, took a pipe of tobacco, which made the ladies quit it till he had done. Within these thirty-five years 'twas scandalous for a divine to take tobacco. It was sold then for its weight in silver. I have heard some of our old yeomen neighbors say, that when they went to Malmesbury or Chippenham market, they culled out their biggest shillings to lay in the scales against the tobacco; now the customs of it are the greatest his majesty hath.

DR. WILLIAM HARVEY.

He was always very contemplative, and the first that I hear of that was curious in anatomy in England. He had made dissections of frogs, toads, and a number of other animals, and had curious observations on them; which papers, together with his goods, in his lodgings at Whitehall, were plundered at the beginning of the rebellion; he being for the king, and then with him at Oxon; but he often said, that of all the losses he sustained, no grief was so crucifying to him as the loss of these papers, which for love or money he could never retrieve or obtain. When king Charles I., by reason of the tumults left London, he attended him, and was at the fight of Edgehill with him; and during the fight, the Prince and Duke of York were committed to his care. He told me that he withdrew with them under a hedge, and took out of his pocket a book and read; but he had not read very long before a bullet of a great gun grazed on the ground near him, which made him remove his station. He told me that Sir Adrian Scrope was dangerously wounded there; and left for dead amongst the dead men, stript; which happened to be the saving of his life. It was cold, clear weather, and a frost that night which stanch'd his bleeding, and about midnight, or some hours after his hurt, he awaked, and was fain to draw a dead body upon him for warmth's sake. I have heard him say that after his book of the circulation of blood came out, he fell migh-

tilly in his practice, and 'twas believed by the vulgar that he was crackbrained; and all the physicians were against his opinion, and envied him; with much ado at last, in about twenty or thirty years' time, it was received in all the universities in the world, and as Mr. Hobbes says in his book, "De Corpore," *he is the only man, perhaps, that ever lived to see his own doctrine established in his lifetime.*

WOMAN.

O fairest of creation, last and best
Of all God's works.—*Paradise Lost.*

There is a creature, brightest, best,
And sweetest upon earth;
Nor tongue hath ever yet expressed,
Nor heart conceived its worth.

Nor silver-footed antelope,
Nor innocent gazelle,
In beauty or in grace may cope
With Nature's nonpareille.

And kinder than the pelican,
And truer than the dove,
She lives to cheer and cherish man
With her peculiar love.

For she was made for him—his own
Diviner counterpart;
To be and breathe for him alone,
And give him all her heart.

And by his side she meetly stands,
As from his side she came,
His sweeter self, in brightest bands,—
And WOMAN is her name.

Richmond.

MS.

Various Intelligence.

RICHMOND.

At this beginning of a new year, we are happy to be able to report that our city continues to be in a fair and prosperous state. There is nothing, however, particularly interesting, that we know, to call for any special notice from us, at the present time. Indeed, the only thing we hear of, worth mentioning, is the establishment of a company styling itself "The Madison Mining Company," whose object, we understand, is to emigrate to California, and engage, with the rest of our countrymen who are so eagerly rushing to that quarter, in the new and wild business of hunting and digging for gold. The association, we learn, is to consist of about fifty persons, not mere adventurers, but all gentlemen of great respectability, (and some of them we know to be such,) who do not "leave their country," or this part of it, "for their country's good," but rather the reverse. They will take a chaplain with them, too, (a very worthy one,) which augurs well for their sobriety and success. Well, we shall be sorry to lose them from our community; but if they will go, we heartily wish them a good voyage, and all the prosperity they may fairly deserve.

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

The two Houses of the Legislature are now in session again, and are pursuing their proper business before them in a very quiet way, and we believe with a good degree of diligence and despatch.

The new Governor, the Hon. John B. Floyd, entered upon the duties of his office on the 1st instant; with the best wishes of all who know him—and indeed of all our citizens—for the honor and happiness of his course.

THE LATE NEWS FROM EUROPE.

The news, by the last arrivals, is somewhat startling; but hardly more so than previous accounts had prepared us to expect.

France.—The French have actually elected Louis Napoleon, President of the New Republic, by an overwhelming vote—so much for his name.

Italy.—The revolution in Rome has terminated in the flight of the Pope, the head of the Roman Catholic Church. He had got off safe to Gaeta; but, it was said, would take refuge in Paris.

Austria.—The Emperor has abdicated in favor of his nephew. The new Ministry, by its President, has published an address containing the policy of the new emperor, in which he promises to maintain the liberty of the country.

THE BURNING WELLS OF KANAWHA.

The burning salt wells of Kanawha, Virginia, are a great curiosity. The immense discharge of combustible gas, the low temperature of the water coming from a depth of 2,000 feet in the earth, and the great force of the ascending column, all combine to render these wells interesting and wonderful. Some of these wells have, it is said, exhausted the subterranean gasometer with which they are respectively connected. I am inclined to the opinion that the exhaustion of the gasometer was not the cause of the creation of the discharge of gas, but that the shaft through which the gas and water passed, has been so encrusted as to close it altogether, and thus prevent the escape of both the gas and the salt water. The salt made at Kanawha, annually, is equal to about two millions of bushels. The coarse alum salt is made there. The price of salt is twenty-five cents for fifty pounds, last year fifty cents. The bitter water which is separated from the salt in the progress of manufacture, is of great specific gravity;—a sample which I have is 1964. A mine of canal coal has been recently found within sixteen miles of these salines—the quality is excellent. I have a sample of this coal, and a comparison with samples of foreign canal coal, shows it to be superior. Coal is used at Kanawha for heating the salt pans.

Great improvements have been made at Saltville, of late. One of the proprietors, in a letter to me, states “that in the new process one-half the fuel is saved, and two-thirds of the labor, and a salt of a very superior quality produced. Formerly two thousand dollars worth of kettles were broken in a year. Now no kettles are broken. Formerly the caking inside the pans was cut out with iron picks.—Now fresh water is heated in the pan and the saline caking removed.” Thus Yankee skill is reaching the bowels of the mountains of old Virginia.—[*N. Y. Journal of Commerce.*]

Literary Intelligence.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE VIRGINIA HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

Adverting to our brief notice of the Annual Meeting of the Society, on the 14th 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 books, and other things, which had been presented to the Society, by various persons, during the past year, as follows :

List of Books, &c., Presented to the Society during the past year.

Campbell's Introduction to the History of Virginia, 1 vol., large 8vo. By the Author, Charles Campbell, of Petersburg.

Howison's History of Virginia, vol. 2., 8vo. By the Author, R. R. Howison, of Richmond.

Rives' Two Historical Discourses, in pamphlets. By the Author, the Hon. Wm. C. Rives, of Albemarle.

The Westover Manuscripts, 1 vol. 8vo. By the Editor, Edmund Ruffin, of Hanover.

The Olden Time, 1 vol., 8vo. By the Editor, Neville B. Craig, of Pittsburgh.

Grahame's History of the United States, 2 vols., 8vo. By Francis L. Smith, of Alexandria.

Collections of the New Jersey Historical Society, 2 vols., 8vo. Proceedings of the same in pamphlets. By the Society.

Collections of the New York Historical Society, 4 vols., 8vo. Proceedings of the same in pamphlets. By the Society.

Washington's Writings, 12 vols., 8vo. Colton's Life and Times of Henry Clay, 2 vols., 8vo.; and Jay's Life and Writings of John Jay, 2 vols., 8vo. By Richard Randolph.

Reports of the Revisors, 1 vol., 8vo. Hopkinson's Writings, 3 vols. 8vo. American Jurist, 22 vols., 8vo. American Law Magazine, 6 vols., 8vo. By Conway Robinson, of Richmond.

Ternaux' Collections, or "Voyages, Relations, et Memoires Originaux Pour Servir a L'Histoire de la Decouverte De L'Amerique, Par H. Ternaux—Compans." 10 vols., 8vo. Ternaux' "Bibliotheque Americaine." By Lieut. Wm. Leigh, of the U. S. N.

Eclectic Magazine, 9 vols., 8vo. By H. B. Gwathmey, of Richmond.

Froissart's Chronicles, 4 vols., 8vo. Elliot's Debates, 4 vols., 8vo. By G. N. Johnson, of Richmond.

Uztaris on Commerce, 2 vols., 8vo. Neild's Account of Debtors, 1 vol., 8vo. By Geo. W. Lewis, of Westmoreland.

A Collection of Pamphlets on various subjects, some rare and curious, 72 in number; also some 40 odd volumes of Newspapers, unbound, embracing the Richmond Enquirer, Richmond Whig, Richmond Compiler, Washington Globe, Union, Spectator, The Spirit of the Times, &c., &c. Also a small parcel of books. By Thomas H. Ellis, of Richmond.

Cluverii Geographia, 1686, 1 vol., 4to. By Otway Barraud, of Norfolk.

Washington's Letters to Sir John Sinclair, 1 vol., 4to. Stoddard's Sketches of Louisiana, 1 vol., 8vo. Dillon's History of Indiana, 1 vol., 8vo. By James E. Heath, of Richmond.

Burr's Trial, 1 vol., 8vo. Commercial Regulations, 1 vol., 8vo. Historical Register, 3 vol., 8vo; and Jones's Defence of North Carolina, 1 vol., 12 mo. By Samuel Mordecai, of Richmond.

The Original Record of the *Phi Beta Kappa* Society, established at William and Mary College, in 1776. By Dr. Robert H. Cabell, of Richmond.

An Autograph Signature of Robert Burns. By Robert Ritchie, of Petersburg.

A Pine Tree Shilling. By C. B. White, of Fredericksburg.

A Virginia Copper Coin, of the reign of George III, 1773. By Wm. P. Smith, of Gloucester.

Two Maps of London before and after the Great Fire, in 1666. By James Brown, Jr., of Richmond.

A Portrait of General Lafayette, Painted by C. W. Peale. By Thomas H. Ellis, of Richmond.

OFFICERS OF THE SOCIETY.

The following is a List of the Officers of the Society, &c., at the present time.

HON. WM. C. RIVES, *President.*
 HON. JAMES McDOWELL, }
 WM. H. MACFARLAND, } *Vice-Presidents.*
 JAMES E. HEATH, }
 WM. MAXWELL, *Corresponding Secretary,*
 (also Rec. Sec. and Librarian.)
 GEORGE N. JOHNSON, *Treasurer.*

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

CONWAY ROBINSON, *Chairman.* SOCRATES MAUPIN,
 GUSTAVUS A. MYERS, THOMAS T. GILES,
 WM. B. CHITTENDEN, THOMAS H. ELLIS,
 CHARLES CARTER LEE.

The Officers of the Society are, *ex-officio*, members of the Executive Committee.

HONORARY MEMBERS.

Elected during the past year.

WASHINGTON IRVING, Esq., of New York,
 WM. H. PRESCOTT, Esq., of Massachusetts,
 Maj. Gen. WINFIELD SCOTT, of the U. S. A.
 Gen. WALTER JONES, of Washington,
 HON. THOMAS RUFFIN, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of
 North Carolina,
 HON. FRANCIS T. BROOKE, Senior Judge of the Court of Appeals
 of Virginia,
 CHAPMAN JOHNSON, Esq., of Richmond,
 BENJAMIN WATKINS LEIGH, Esq., of Richmond,
 Dr. JOHN A. SMITH, of New York,
 JAMES W. ALEXANDER, D. D., of New York.

CORRESPONDING MEMBERS.

Elected during the past year.

Lieut. M. F. MAURY, Superintendent of the National Observato-
 ry, Washington,
 EDWARD W. JOHNSTON, Esq., of Washington,
 HENRY A. WASHINGTON, Esq., of Westmoreland,
 THOMAS R. JOYNES, Esq., of Accomack.
 JOHN MINOR, Esq., of Fredericksburg,

RICHARD RANDOLPH, Esq., of Williamsburg.
 HENRY RUFFNER, D. D., of Lexington,
 O. RICH, Esq., of London.

LIFE MEMBERS.

Enrolled during the past year.

JOHN EYRE, Esq., of Northampton.
 JOHN N. TAZEWELL, Esq., of Norfolk.
 JAMES M. MORSON, Esq., of Goochland.
 WM. J. BARKSDALE, Esq., of Amelia.
 DR. MONRO BANISTER, of Amelia.
 JOSEPH R. ANDERSON, Esq., of Richmond.

LYNCHBURG.

The Lynchburg Virginian gives some interesting facts in regard to this Town, from a summary of the population and statistics of it, recently taken, and prepared by order of the Common Council. The total-population is 7,678, of which there are 2,828 Whites; 3,200 Slaves; 650 Free Blacks. In the mechanic trades and arts, there are 155 employers, and 653 hands employed. The Virginian adds:

There are 8 Churches, 6 Male Schools, 10 Female Schools, 3 Printing Offices, 13 Hotels, 23 Lawyers, 15 Physicians, 5 Insurance Agencies, 1 Exchange office, 5 Livery Stables.

Produce and Merchandize received and forwarded for year ending 1st December, '48—and annual sales of Merchandize, and capital employed.

30 Commission Merchants employ \$33,000 capital, received and forwarded 75,000 packages of produce, 70,000 packages of Merchandize, and 6,530 tons of metal.

	Annual Sale.	Capital.
16 Dry Goods Stores	600,500	200,000
20 Grocery do	1,000,600	333,000
4 Hardware do	70,00	25,000
2 Earthen and Glass do	12,500	5,000
1 Book do	12,000	5,000
4 Shoe and Hat do	40,000	12,000
7 Clothing do	32,000	10,000
6 Confectionary do	20,000	6,000

3 Drug	do	30,000	11,000
6 Jewelry	do	23,000	7,000
Employed in purchase of Agricultural products			260,000
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		\$1,840,500	\$907,000

Tobacco.

At the five Warehouses the annual inspection amounted to 10,712 Hhds., weighing 12,854,400 and valued here at \$449,904; with the loose or unprised Tobacco received, the number of pounds is swelled to 15,075,205 and the value to \$505,424.

36 Factories manufactured 51,896 boxes, weighing 6,746,480 lbs—8 Stemmeries stemmed 427,000 lbs.

The Factories and stemmeries together employ 1,195 hands, and \$520,000 capital.

Produce, Provisions, &c.

Wheat, to the value of \$218,700, was bought during the year, of which \$128,700 was purchased by town Millers—the residue by agents of other Mills.

There were received also 85,407 lbs. Butter, 84,800 lbs. Lard, 1,100,000 lbs. Bacon; Slaughtered, 850 head of horned Cattle, 1,150 Sheep, 7,000 Hogs.

Manufactories.

The Cotton and Woollen Factory has invested capital to the amount of \$80,000, employs 70 operatives, runs 1,900 spindles and 18 looms, and made 187,800 lbs. yarn, 281,700 yards Cotton Cloth, 31,300 yards Woollen Cloth.

Four Foundries, with capital to the amount of \$20,000, employ 57 hands, and consume 914 tons of metal.

The Packet and Freight Boats on the Canal number 94—capital invested \$100,000—hands employed 552—number of passengers 6,200.

The Banking Capital consists of

Two Branches of State Banks	600,000
Three Savings Banks	280,000
	<hr/>
	\$880,000

[*Richmond Republican.*]

THE UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA.

A writer in the *Watchman and Observer* of this city, who signs himself "Clericus." (and whom we know to be a very worthy and intelligent gentleman,) informs us that he has lately visited the University, and found it in a very prosperous state.

"The present number of students is 260, and I am informed that one fifth of these are professors of religion in communion with churches of different denominations. The attendance of all at the religious services of the chapel appears to be regular, orderly, and commendably devout. I found daily morning prayers in the chapel by candle-light, conducted by the Chaplain, a very pious and eloquent minister of the Baptist denomination. Of the Professors, *four* are in communion with the Christian church—viz : one a Methodist; one an Episcopalian; one a German Lutheran; and one, the Professor of Moral Philosophy, a Presbyterian minister. Of the other five—to say nothing of their piety—I saw pleasing evidence, and learn from the best authority, that their influence is uniformly and decidedly in favor of religion. Indeed, on this subject, while the University is free, as it should be, from sectarianism, I doubt whether there is found in any College in our country a more decided, strong, and salutary religious influence.

The Chaplain is elected annually by the Faculty, and is supported by voluntary contributions from the Professors and Students. He is, by a recent arrangement eligible a second year, and the selection has been heretofore made in rotation from the four principal denominations—Baptists, Methodists, Episcopalians and Presbyterians. Comparatively few of other denominations are found in college, and these four agree to sustain each other in turn. Their present selection is a very happy one, and he must be a bigot indeed, who could not feel privileged by the ministrations of such a pastor.

On Sabbath morning, I found a *Sabbath School* in the chapel, taught principally by students, and composed of some thirty children—about half of whom belonged to families connected with the University, and the others were collected in part from poor families in the neighborhood. The Professor of Moral Philosophy performs an extra service in conducting a small class of five in a Theological course of instruction for the ministry.

A "University Division" of the Sons of Temperance exerts a salu-

tary influence. I found a Colporteur there making sales of Books to the students, and the Agent of the American Bible Society had collected recently in the chapel about \$150 in aid of his cause. An organized Bible Society is formed among the students. By invitation of the chaplain, I preached on Sabbath evening in the chapel to a very full and attentive congregation."

WILLIAM AND MARY COLLEGE.

At a meeting of the Visitors, last week, Henry A. Washington, Esq., of Westmoreland, was unanimously elected to the chair of Political Economy and History. This completes the Faculty, which consists of the following gentlemen :

Rt. Rev. John Johns, Pres't. and Prof. of Moral Philosophy.

Judge Beverly Tucker, Prof. of Law.

Benjamin S. Ewell, Prof. of Mathematics.

W. F. Hopkins, Prof. of Chemistry and Natural Philosophy.

Henry A. Washington, Prof. Political Economy and History.

Morgan J. Smead, Prof. of Languages.

At present the College buildings are undergoing repairs, and will be ready for the reception of Students next October, when the Lectures will be resumed, and under auspices which promise a brilliant future to this venerable Institution.—*Whig*.

Miscellany.

CHARITY.

It is an old saying that "charity begins at home;" but this is no reason that it should not go abroad. A man should live with the world as a citizen of the world; he may have a preference for the particular quarter or square, or even alley, in which he lives, but he should have a generous feeling for the welfare of the whole.

Cumberland.

MR. WIRT'S IMPROMPTU AGAIN.

Dear Sir,—Your correspondent in the last Register, under the signature of R., not having done justice to Mr. Wirt's very felicitous impromptu, I beg leave to send you a correct version of it.

When Wickham once toss'd Hay in Court,
On a dilemma's horns for sport;
Jock, rich in wit and Latin too,
Cried, "*habet foenum in cornu.*"

Respectfully yours,

T.

Philadelphia, Oct. 27th, 1848.

WESTMORELAND COUNTY.

Mr. Editor:—In the October number of the Virginia Historical Register, I observe an article under the signature of R., communicating an impromptu couplet of the late eminent Mr. Wirt, written under interesting circumstances, whilst a member of the bar in Richmond.

The couplet is not without celebrity; and as there appears to me to be some inaccuracy in the report of it by your correspondent, who seems, inadvertently, to have omitted some of the material facts of the case, and to have overlooked the point of the wit; I take the liberty of troubling you with a corrected account of it, as I have it, derived from a very authentic source.

To make the anecdote better understood, and to do justice to Mr. Warden, it is necessary to remark that tradition represents him as not only an able lawyer, full of the learning of his profession, but, as was more usual in those days than now, an accomplished scholar, and full of the erudition of the Classics. Being a Scotchman, he was known among his cotemporaries by the familiar appellation of *Jock*, probably among his countrymen a corruption for John.

It were superfluous to say any thing introductory to the name of Mr. Wirt. His literary, no less than his legal reputation, is universal; and is most enthusiastically cherished by the country. Few men were more highly gifted by nature, or possessed a more cultivated taste and abounded more in the stores of useful and elegant learning. His mind was embellished with all the rich graces of literatute, and his conver-

sation and speeches sparkled, where occasion justified, with the brightest gems of chaste and attic wit.

These two gentlemen were present (sometime in the year 1804 or 1805) at the argument of a cause in the Court of Appeals, in which Mr. Wickham and Mr. Hay were opposing counsel. (Here was another pair of great men, "for there were giants in those days.") The argument became animated and interesting. It was an admirable specimen of that "carte and tierce of forensic digladiation," somewhere so graphically described by Mr. Wirt in his *British Spy*. Mr. Wickham in reply to Mr. Hay after having, with signal power and ingenuity, overthrown the weak points of his adversary's argument, and successfully exposed, as he thought, the inconsistency of his positions, turned to him and triumphantly exclaimed—"Now, I think, I have the gentleman on the horns of a dilemma!" The language employed by the orator, and the name of his adversary (Hay) did not escape the quick and penetrating powers of association of Mr. Warden. The idea of "Hay on the horns" brought instantly to his classic memory the 34th line of the 4th Satire in the 1st book of Horace;—which runs thus,—

*"Foenum habet in cornu,—longe fuge, dummodo risum
Excutiat sibi, non hic cuiquam parcet amico ;"*

and he accordingly repeated it, or the first part of it, in a soliloquy sufficiently audible to reach the attentive ear of Mr. Wirt. Nor was the whole scene and incident lost upon this gentleman. His ready and fruitful mind, apt in the perception of the witty and the humorous, and felicitous in the invention of innocent sport, caught at the opportunity, and immediately threw off the *jeu d'esprit* in question. As the version of it reported by your correspondent R. is somewhat inaccurate I beg leave here to furnish a copy, preserving I respectfully believe more nearly the true point of the wit, as may be gathered from the history of the anecdote here narrated.

Wickham toss'd Hay one day for sport
On a dilemma's horns in Court,
Jock, rich in Greek and Latin too,
Cried—"foenum habet in cornu!"

It is unnecessary to add that the wit was enjoyed by the Bench and

Bar (who were, then, capable of appreciating it) with the most lively pleasure; and passed current in the literary circles of the day as equal to any of Curran's or Plunket's best.

L.

THOUGHTS.

Every virtue carried to excess approaches its kindred vice.
 If you can be well without health, you can be happy without virtue.
Edmund Burke.

ON THE LATE NEWS BY THE TELEGRAPH.

"Have you heard the good news that has made us all laugh?"
 "O yes, but it comes by the strange Telegraph;
 And, somehow or other, these "heavenly wires,"
 (As Jonathan calls 'em,) are *terrible liars.*"

A QUIDNUNC.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Our correspondent J. M. writes to us: "Can you or any of your correspondents give me any information concerning the celebrated Andrew Bell, during his residence in 'our State, in the year 1777, &c.—his sayings and doings—in a word, anything about him.—Permit me to ask also for information relative to Col. Charles Simms, who was out in the campaign of 1774. Possibly he may have left some written memoranda of that campaign, which can be supplied by his descendants. Please forward to me any replies you may receive." &c. We will do so with great pleasure; or the writers may forward their communications to our correspondent himself at Fredericksburg.

We have received Lieut. Maury's valuable and interesting paper relating to the Stars, read before the Virginia Historical Society at its late annual meeting; but too late to give it to our readers in this number. We shall publish it in our next, with great pleasure.

THE
VIRGINIA HISTORICAL REGISTER,
AND
LITERARY ADVERTISER.

Vol. II.

APRIL, 1849.

No. II.

VIRGINIA IN 1648.

The following paper is a true copy, and almost a fac-simile, of a reprint of an old pamphlet originally published at London, in the year 1649, entitled "A Perfect Description of Virginia," now before us; and will be found to contain a great deal of valuable and interesting information relating to our colony at that early period, and much that may furnish hints for agreeable reflection at the present time.

A PERFECT DESCRIPTION OF VIRGINIA :

Being a full and true Relation of the present state of the Plantation, their health, peace, and plenty; the number of people, with their abundance of cattle, fowl, fish, &c. with several sorts of rich and good commodities, which may there be had, either naturally, or by art and labour. Which we are fain to procure from Spain, France, Denmark, Swedeland, Germany, Poland, yea, from the East Indies. There having been nothing related of the true estate of this Plantation these twenty-five years.

Being sent from Virginia, at the request of a gentleman of worthy note, who desired to know the true state of Virginia as it now stands.

Also, a Narration of the country, within a few days' journey of Virginia, west and by south, where people come to trade: being related to the governour, Sir William Berckley, who is to go himself to discover it with thirty horse, and fifty foot, and other things needful for his enterprise.

With the manner how the Emperour Nichotawance came to Sir William Berckley, attended with five petty kings, to do homage, and bring tribute to King Charles. With his solemn protestation, that the sun and moon should lose their lights, before he (or his people in that country) should prove disloyal, but ever to keep faith and allegiance to King Charles.

LONDON: Printed for Richard Wodenoth, at the Star under Peter's Church in Cornhill. 1649.

THESE things that follow in this ensuing relation are certified by divers letters from Virginia, by men of worth and credit there, written to a friend in England, that for his own, and others' satisfaction, was desirous to know these particulars, and the present estate of that country. And let no man doubt of the truth of it, there be many in England, land and seamen that can bear witness of it. And if this plantation be not worth encouragement, let every true Englishman judge.

1. **T**HAT there are in Virginia about fifteen thousand English, and of negroes brought thither, three hundred good servants.
2. That of kine, oxen, bulls, calves, twenty thousand, large and good, and they make plenty of butter and very good cheese.
3. That there are of an excellent race, about two hundred horse and mares.
4. That of asses for burthen and use, there is fifty, but daily increase.
5. That for sheep they have about three thousand, good wool.
6. That for goats their number is five thousand, thrive well.
7. That for swine both tame and wild (in the woods) innumerable; the flesh pure and good, and bacon none better.
8. That for poultry, hens, turkies, ducks, geese, without number.
9. That they yearly plough and sow many hundred acres of wheat, as good, and fair, as any in the world, and great increase.
10. That they have plenty of barley, make excellent malt.
11. That they have six publick brew-houses, and most brew their own beer, strong and good.
12. That their hops are fair and large, thrive well.
13. That they sell their beef at two pence half-penny a pound, pork at three pence a pound, plentifully.
14. That their cattle are about the prices in England, and most of the ships that come yearly hither, are there victualed.
15. That they have thirty several sorts of fish, river, and sea, very excellent good in their kinds, plentiful and large.

16. That they have five and twenty sundry sorts of birds and fowls, land and water abundance, and for food not amiss.

17. That they have twenty kind of beasts, whereof deer abundance, most sorts to be eaten; creeping creatures many also.

18. That they have fifteen kinds of fruits, pleasant and good, and with Italy they will compare for delicate fruits.

19. They have five and twenty sorts of trees, large, good and fit for shipping, housing, and other uses.

20. That they have roots of several kinds, potatoes, asparagus, carrots, turnips, parsnips, onions, and artichokes.

21. For herbs they have of all kinds for garden, and physick flowers.

22. That their maize or Virginia corn, it yields them five hundred for one, increase, (it's set as we do garden peas) it makes good bread and furmity, will keep seven years, and malts well for beer, and ripe in five months, set in April or May.

23. That they have store of Indian peas, better than ours, beans, lupines, and the like.

24. They have store of bees in their woods, make plenty of honey and wax, and also tame bees in hives about their houses.

25. Indigo begins to be planted, and thrives wonderfully well, grows up to a little tree, and rich indigo made of the leaves of it, all men begins to get some of the seeds, and know it will be oftentimes the gain to them as tobacco (and gain now carries the bell;) their hopes are great to gain the trade of it from the Mogul's country, and to supply all christendom, and this will be many thousands of pounds in the year.

26. Their tobacco is much vented and esteemed in all places, yet the quantity's so great that's made, that the price there is but three pence a pound. A man can plant two thousand weight a year of it, and also sufficient corn and roots, and other provisions for himself.

27. They begin to plant much hemp and flax which they find grows well and good, only hands are wanting to this and other works.

28. Iron ore and rich mine are in abundance in the land, fit streams and waters to erect iron mills, woods never to be destroyed to burn coal, and all this lie on great rivers' banks, easy for transportation of wood and ore, and there is stone fit to build the furnaces with; trial hath been made of this iron ore, and not better and richer in the world; his work erected would be as much worth as a silver mine, all things considered: not only to make all instruments of iron for the plantation's uses, but for building, shipping, there being wanting in that country no other materials to that work; then the casting of ordnance, and making them, will abound to serve all the world; so of muskets, armour, all kind of tools, and manufacture of iron works will be produced in abundance, so that it would become speedily the magazine of iron instruments in every kind, and at cheap rates; so that no nation could afford them half so cheap, and all men know, that iron will command better mines.

29. Skilful iron-men for the works sent out of England, with the assistance of as many more able labourers there in Virginia, housing and victual ready provided for them; fitting places for erecting, the mills found out already, and oxen for draught at hand,) the work in six months' time would be effected, and four hundred pound charge to transport the twenty men to Virginia, with all tools and necessaries for the work would do it; and these men for their encouragement to have half the gain made of the iron to be yearly divided betwixt the undertakers and workmen, the profit and gain would be to the enriching of all.

30. They have four wind mills, and five water mills to grind their corn; besides many horse mills of several kinds, and hand mills for several uses: a sawing mill for boards is much wanted; one mill driven by water, will do as much as twenty sawyers, &c.

31. There comes yearly to trade with them above thirty sail of ships, and in these not so little as seven or eight hundred mariners employed, (some say above a thousand, this is a considerable thing) and they return laden home in March; (this is a good seminary for mariners.)

32. The commodity these ships bring, is linen cloth of all

sorts, and so of woollen cloth, stockings, shoes, and the like things.

33. Most of the masters of ships and chief mariners have also there plantations, and houses, and servants, &c. in Virginia : and so are every way great gainers by freight, by merchandise, and by plantation and pipe staves, clap board, choice walnut tree wood, cedar tree timber and the like, is transported by them if tobacco is not their full lading.

34. They have in their colony pinnaces, barks, great and small boats many hundreds, for most of their plantations stand upon the rivers' sides or up little creeks, and but a small way into the land, so that for transportation and fishing they use many boats.

35. They make pitch and tar, (and there is materials in the woods for abundance :) also for pot and soap ashes, woods most proper and store : hands want.

36. That for mulberry trees, the natural and proper food for silk worms, they have abundance in the woods, and some so large that one tree contains as many leaves as will feed silk worms that will make as much silk as may be worth five pounds sterling money, this some Frenchmen affirm. And now they desire silk worms' seed which is sent them, and their hopes are good of the thriving of it : a commodity that may soon enrich them all with little labour, care or pains ; all materials so plentiful and at hand, the food in abundance, the climate warm, and the work done in five weeks' time, and within doors, by women and children as well as men, and at that time of the year in May, that it hinders not any other work or planting, sowing, or the like employments ; such an advantage, that had the Dutch the like in any of their plantations, they would improve it to the certain gain in the trade of silk from Persia and China, which we fetch with great charge and expense and hazard, and enrich heathen and Mahometans greatly ; but to these things lack publick and state encouragements to begin the work : but more of this in another place, it deserves a full handling.

37. Vines in abundance and variety, do grow naturally over

all the land, but by the birds and beasts, most devoured before they come to perfection and ripeness: but this testifies and declares, that the ground, and the climate is most proper, and the commodity of wine is not a contemptible merchandise; but some men of worth and estate must give in these things example to the inferiour inhabitants and ordinary sort of men, to shew them the gain and commodity by it, which they will not believe but by experience before their faces: and in tobacco they can make 20 £. sterling a man, at 3*d.* a pound per annum; and this they find and know, and the present gain is that, that puts out all endeavours from the attempting of others more staple, and solid, and rich commodities, out of the heads and hands of the common people: so as I say, the wealthier sort of men must begin and give the example, and make the gain of other commodities as apparent to them, by the effecting them to perfection, or it will not (as it hath not hitherto) go forward.

38. That they have health very well, and fewer die in a year there, according to the proportion, than in any place of England; since that men are provided with all necessaries, have plenty of victual, bread, and good beer, and housing, all which the Englishmen loves full dearly.

39. That the passengers also come safe and well: the seamen of late years having found a way, that now in five, six, and seven weeks they sail to Virginia free from all rocks, sands, and pirates; and that they return home again in twenty days sometimes, and thirty at most: the winds commonly serving more constantly, being westerly homeward, the easterly outward bound.

40. That the mouth of the two capes of land, Cape Henry on the south, and Cape Charles on the north; the entrance in is in 37 degrees: that the first river up the west is James River, where most of the plantations are settled and towns: the second is Charles River on the north of it; and the third called by the Indian name Tapahanuke, the fourth river Patawoenicke, the fifth river Patuxant, the sixth Bolus, the seventh Saquisahanuke: at the head of the great Bay of Chespiacke, into which bay these seven rivers from the west side of it do all enter and run into,

and so the mouth of the bay issueth out due east into the main sea between the two aforesaid capes: the bay lies north and south, and hath a channel in draught of one hundred and forty miles, and in depth between five, six, and fifteen fathoms in some places. The wideness of the bay is from the west side which is the great land, to the east side of the land which joins upon the sea called the Acamake shore; the wideness and breadth of this bay I say, is about nine, ten, and fourteen miles broad in some places of it; and these seven rivers have their mouths into the bay, not above twenty miles, each river is distant from the other: but this in Smith's map is more at large described.

41. That some English about a thousand are seated upon the Acamake shore by Cape Charles, (where Captain Yeardley is chief commander) now called the county of Northampton.

42. That they have lime in abundance made for their houses, store of bricks made, and house and chimnies built of brick, and some wood high and fair, covered with shingle for tile, yet they have none that make them, wanting workmen; in that trade the brick makers have not the art to do it, it shrinketh.

43. That since the massacre, the savages have been driven far away, many destroyed of them, their towns and houses ruined, their clear grounds possessed by the English to sow wheat in: and their great king Opechauenow (that bloody monster upon a hundred years old) was taken by Sir William Berkely the governour.

44. All kinds of tradesmen may live well there, and do gain much by their labours and arts, as turners, potters, coopers; to make all kind of earthen and wooden vessels, sawyers, carpenters, tile makers, boat-wrights, tailors, shoemakers, tanners, fishermen, and the like.

45. Young youths from sixteen years and upward, for apprentices and servants for some years, then to have land given them, and cattle to set up. Thousands of these kinds of young boys and maidens wanting.

46. That the government is after the laws of England, (that is well for men before they go, to know under what laws they

shall live :) a governour and council of state, and yearly general assemblies, men chosen and sent out of each county, (there being twelve in Virginia ;) these men vote, and by the major part all things are concluded ; and they are elected to those places by the most voices in the county for whom they are chosen, and by whom sent.

47. They have twenty churches in Virginia, and ministers to each, and the doctrine and orders after the church of England : the ministers' livings are esteemed worth at least 100 £. per annum ; they are paid by each planter so much tobacco per poll, and so many bushels of corn : they live all in peace and love.

48. That for matter of their better knowledge of the land they dwell in, the planters resolve to make a further discovery into the country, west and by south up above the fall, and over the hills, and are confident upon what they have learned from the Indians, to find a way to a west or south sea by land or rivers, and to discover a way to China and East Indies, or unto some other sea that shall carry them thither ; for Sir Francis Drake was on the back side of Virginia in his voyage about the world in 37 degrees just opposite to Virginia, and called Nova Albion, and by the natives kindly used : and now all the question is only how broad the land may be to that place from the head of James River above the falls, but all men conclude if it be not narrow, yet that there is and will be found the like rivers issuing into a south sea or a west sea on the other side of those hills, as there is on this side when they run from the west down into a east sea after a course of one hundred and fifty miles : but of this certainty M. Hen. Briggs that most judicious and learned mathematician wrote a small tractate, and presented it to that most noble Earl of Southampton then governour of the Virginia Company in England, anno 1623, to which I refer for a full information.

And by such a discovery the planters in Virginia shall gain the rich trade of the East India, and so cause it to be driven through the continent of Virginia, part by land and part by water, and in a most gainful way and safe, and far less expensive and dangerous, than now it is.

And they doubt not to find some rich and beneficial country, and commodities not yet known to the world that lies west and by south now from their present plantation.

49. That the Swedes have come and crept into a river called Delawar, that is, within the limits of Virginia in 38 degrees and 30 minutes, it lies, and are there planted, one hundred of them drive a great and secret trade of furs, which they trade for with the natives: it is but two days' journey by land from our plantations, and a day's sail by sea from Cape Charles.

50. And again, the Hollanders have stolen into a river called Hudson's River in the limits also of Virginia, (and about 39 degrees) they have built a strong fort there, and call it Prince Maurice and New Netherlands, they drive a trade of furs there with the natives for above ten thousand pounds a year.

These two plantations are between Virginia and New England on our side of Cape Cod which parts us and New England.

Thus are the English nosed in all places, and out-traded by the Dutch, they would not suffer the English to use them so: but they have vigilant statesmen, and advance all they can for a common good, and will not spare any encouragements to their people to discover.

But it is well known, that our English plantations have had little countenances, nay, that our statesmen (when time was) had store of Gondemore's gold 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 hundred of thousands of pounds; for Gundemore did affirm to his friends, that he had commission from his master to ruin that plantation. For, said he, should they thrive and go on increasing, as they have done under the government of that popular L. of Southampton, my master's West Indies, and his Mexico would shortly be visited by sea and by land, from those planters in Virginia. And Mar-

quis Hambleton told the Earl of Southampton, that Gundemore said to King James, that the Virginia courts, was but a seminary to a seditious parliament. But this is but a touch by the way, and for a future item to our country not to despise plantations.

51. The land in Virginia is most fruitful, and produceth, with very great increase, whatsoever is committed into the bowels of it, planted, sowed. A fat rich soil every where watered with many fine springs, small rivulets, and wholesome waters.

52. The country is with pleasant rising small ascents and descents, valleys, hills, meadows, and some level upland : it's woody all over, but where labour hath cleared the ground from trees, and this truly is the great labour in Virginia, to fell trees, and to get up the roots, and so make clear ground for the plough.

53. Stones, and rocks, and quarries of several kinds, and very fit for the iron furnaces (as trial hath been made to endure fire) are in divers places found in Virginia.

54. There is divers skins of beasts for merchandise and uses, as beavers, otters, squirrels, wild-cats, and christal is there found.

55. Divers kinds of drugs, gums, dyes, paints, that the Indians use.

56. There is a kind of flax the Indians use to make threads of and strings, we call it silk-grass, it's fine to make both linen and stuff of it ; abundance in many places of it groweth.

57. To the southward of James River, some fifty miles by land, and eighty by sea, lies the River Chawanok : whither Master Porey went by land, and reported, the king there told him, that within ten days' journey westward towards sunsetting, there were a people that did gather out of a river sand, the which they washed in sieves, and had a thing out of it, that they then put into the fire, which melted, and became like to our copper, and offered to send some of his people to guide him to that place. But Master Porey being not provided with men as he would have had of English, he returned to Sir George Yearly, and acquainted him with the relation. But before they could prepare for the journey, and discovery, the first massacre happened, and so to this day it hath been unattempted. The company also in Eng-

land was dissolved, their patent most unjustly, against all law and conscience, taken from them. Procured by the Spanish gold and faction, and the colony never looked after, whether sink or swim ; and hath now these twenty-four years since, laboured for life, and only to subsist with much ado ; the cattle then left, increased to what you hear, and in all these many years no more people in it, and they have little encouragement, and great uncertainties, whether ever to be continued a colony, whereby men have had no heart to plant for posterity, but every man for the present, planted tobacco to get a livelihood by it.

And had not this present governour been sent as he was, and continued, who hath done all a gentleman could do to maintain it alive : it had upon this second massacre been utterly deserted and ruined ; as things stand in our own land. If any demand the cause of this late massacre, all having been forgiven and forgotten, what the Indians did the first time ; those that are planters there, write the occasion of the Indians doing so wicked an act was. ↪ That some of them confessed, that their great king was by some English informed, that all was under the sword in England, in their native country, and such divisions in our land ; that now was his time, or never, to root out all the English ; for those that they could not surprise and kill under the feigned mask of friendship and feasting, and the rest would be by wants ; and having no supplies from their own country which could not help them, be suddenly consumed and famished. The Indians alaruming them night and day, and killing all their cattle, as with ease they might do, and by destroying in the nights, all their corn fields, which the English could not defend. All this had (as they write) taken full effect, if God had not abated the courages of the savages in that moment of time, they so treacherously slew the English ; who were presently (the act done) so affrighted in their own minds, that they had not the heart to follow the counsels their king had commanded : but to the admiration of the English, prosecuted not their opportunity, nor were constant to their own principles. But fled away and retired themselves many miles distant off the colony ; which little space of time gave the

English opportunity to gather themselves together, call an assembly, secure their cattle, and to think upon some way to defend themselves, if need were, and then to offend their enemies; which by the great mercy of God was done and effected; and the particulars of all is worthy in some other place to be remembered and manifested to the world, that the great God may have his due glory, honour, and praise for ever and ever, Amen, amen, amen. And now at this present the colony is in good estate (and never a third time to be so surprised by a seeming friend.) And they conclude, their conditions are now, such as they may and will greatly improve the advancement and welfare of the colony, even by this late sad accident; and the pit their enemies digged for them, they are like to fall into themselves, and their mischief will and hath assuredly fallen far more upon their own pates; since their great king was taken prisoner.

And in these, they say in three letters, that if God please, in mercy, now to look upon poor England, that it fall not into a second war, nor relapses, but a happy peace settled in their native country. Then they in Virginia shall be as happy a people as any under heaven, for there is nothing wanting there to produce them, plenty, health, and wealth.

58. Concerning New England, that they have trade with them to and fro, and are but four days' sail off from Virginia, that they have had many cattle from Virginia, and corn, and many other things; that New England, is in a good condition for livelihood. But for matter of any great hopes but fishing, there is not much in that land; for it's as Scotland is to England, so much difference, and lies upon the same land northward, as Scotland doth to England; there is much cold, frost and snow, and their land so barren, except a herring be put into the hole that you set the corn or maize in, it will not come up; and it was great pity, all those people being now about twenty thousand, did not seat themselves at first to the south of Virginia, in a warm and rich country, where their industry would have produced sugar, indigo, ginger, cotton, and the like commodities.

And it's now reported in Virginia that thousands of them are

removing (with many from Summer Islands also) unto the Bahana Islands, near the Cape of Florida; and that's the right way for them to go and thrive.

Letters came now this March, 1648, relate further.

THAT Opachankenow the old emperour being dead since he was taken prisoner by our governour, there is chosen a new one, called Nickotawance, who acknowledges to hold his government under King Charles, and is become tributary to him, and this March 1648, Nickotawance came to Jamestown to our noble governour Sir William Bearkley with five more petty kings attending him, and brought twenty beavers' skins to be sent to King Charles as he said for tribute; and after a long oration, he concluded with this protestation; that the sun and moon should first lose their glorious lights and shining, before he, or his people should evermore hereafter wrong the English in any kind, but they would ever hold love and friendship together: and to give the English better assurance of their faith, he had decreed, that if any Indian be seen to come within the limits of the English colony, (except they come with some message from him, with such and such tokens) that it shall be lawful to kill them presently; and the English shall be free to pass at all times when and where they please throughout his dominions.

And the Indians have of late acquainted our governour, that within five days' journey to the westward and by south, there is a great high mountain, and at foot thereof, great rivers that run into a great sea; and that there are men that come hither in ships, (but not the same as ours be) they wear apparel and have *reed caps on their heads, and ride on beasts like our horses, but have much longer ears and other circumstances they declare for the certainty of these things.

That Sir William was hereupon preparing fifty horse and fifty foot, to go and discover this thing himself in person, and take

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all needful provisions in that case requisite along with them; he was ready to go when these last ships set sail for England in April last: and we hope to give a good account of it by the next ships, God giving a blessing to the enterprise, which will mightily advance and enrich this country; for it must needs prove a passage to the South Sea (as we call it) and also some part of China and the East Indies.

The governour Sir William, caused half a bushel of rice (which he had procured) to be sown and it prospered gallantly, and he had fifteen bushels of it, excellent good rice, so that all these fifteen bushels will be sown again this year; and we doubt not in a short time to have rice so plentiful as to afford it at 2*d.* a pound if not cheaper, for we perceive the ground and climate is very proper for it as our negroes affirm, which in their country is most of their food, and very healthful for our bodies.

We have many thousand of acres of clear land, I mean where the wood is all off it (for you must know all Virginia is full of trees) and we have now going near upon a hundred and fifty ploughs, with many brave yoke of oxen, and we sow excellent wheat, barley, rye, beans, peas, oats; and our increase is wonderful, and better grain not in the world.

One Captain Brocas, a gentleman of the council, a great traveller, caused a vineyard to be planted, and hath most excellent wine made, and the country, he saith, as proper for vines as any in Christendom, vines indeed naturally growing over all the country in abundance: only skilful men wanting here.

That at last Christmas we had trading here ten ships from London, two from Bristol, twelve Hollanders, and seven from New England.

Mr. Richard Bennet had this year out of his orchard as many apples as he made twenty butts of excellent cider.

And Mr. Richard Kinsman hath had for this three or four years, forty or fifty butts of perry made out of his orchard, pure and good.

So that you may perceive how proper our country is for these fruits, and men begin now to plant great orchards, and find the

way of grafting upon crab stocks, best for lasting, here being naturally in this land store of wild crab trees.

Mr. Hough at Nausamund, hath a curious orchard also, with all kind and variety of several fruits; the governour in his new orchard hath fifteen hundred fruit trees, besides his apricots, peaches, mellicotons, quinces, wardenes, and such like fruits.

I mention these particular men, that all may know the truth of things.

Worthy Captain Matthews an old planter of above thirty years' standing, one of the council, and a most deserving commonwealth's man, I may not omit to let you know this gentleman's industry.

He hath a fine house, and all things answerable to it; he sows yearly store of hemp and flax, and causes it to be spun; he keeps weavers, and hath a tan house, causes leather to be dressed, hath eight shoemakers employed in their trade, hath forty negro servants, brings them up to trades in his house; he yearly sows abundance of wheat, barley, &c. the wheat he selleth at four shillings the bushel, kills store of beeves, and sells them to victual the ships when they come thither: hath abundance of kine, a brave dairy, swine great store, and poultry; he married the daughter of Sir Thomas Hinton, and in a word, keeps a good house, lives bravely, and a true lover of Virginia; he is worthy of much honor.

Our spring begins the tenth of February, the trees bud, the grass springs, and our autumn and fall of leaf is in November, our winter short, and most years very gentle, snow lies but little, yet ice some years.

I may not forget to tell you we have a free school, with two hundred acres of land, a fine house upon it, forty milch kine, and other accommodations to it; the benefactor deserves perpetual memory; his name Mr. Benjamin Symes, worthy to be chronicled; other petty schools also we have.

We have most rare coloured parraketoës, and one bird we call the mock-bird; for he will imitate all other birds' notes, and cries both day and night birds, yea, the owls and nightingales.

For bees there is in the country which thrive and prosper very well there; one Mr. George Pelton, alias, Strayton, a ancient planter of twenty-five years' standing that had store of them, he made thirty pounds a year profit of them; but by misfortune his house was burnt down, and many of his hives perished, he makes excellent good metheglin, a pleasant and strong drink, and it serves him and his family for good liquor: If men would endeavour to increase this kind of creature, there would be here in a short time abundance of wax and honey, for there is all the country over delicate food for bees, and there is also bees naturally in the land, though we account not of them.

59. These are the several sorts and kinds of beasts, birds, fish, &c. in Virginia.

Beasts, great and small as followeth; above twenty several kinds.

1. Lions.
2. Bears.
3. Leopard.
4. Elks.

But all these four sorts are up in the higher parts of the country, on the hills and mountains, few to be seen in the lower parts where the English are; the elks are as great as oxen, their horns six foot wide, and have two calves at a time; the skins make good buff, and the flesh as good as beef.

5. Deer.
6. Foxes.
7. Wild-cats.
8. Rackoons, as good meat as lamb.
9. Passonnes. This beast hath a bag under her belly into which she takes her young

- ones, if at any time affrighted, and carries them away.
10. Two sorts of squirrels. One called a flying one, for that she spreads like a bat a certain loose skin she hath and so flies a good way.
13. A musk-rat, so called for his great sweetness and shape.
14. Hares.
15. Beavers.
16. Otters.
17. Dogs, but bark not, after the shape of a wolf, and foxes smell not; wolves but little, neither not fierce.
18. Wolves.
19. Martins, pole-cats, weasels, minks; but these vermin hurt not hens, chickens or eggs, at any time.
20. A little beast like a cony, the foxes kill many of them.

Birds are these, viz. above twenty-five several kinds.

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Eagles. 2. Hawks of six several kinds. 3. Partridges many. 4. Wild turkies, some weighing sixty pound weight. 5. Red-birds, that sing rarely. 6. Nightingales. 7. Blue-birds, smaller than a wren. 8. Black-birds. 9. Thrushes. 10. Heath-cocks. 11. Swans. 12. Cranes. 13. Herons. | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 14. Geese. 15. Brants. 16. Ducks. 17. Widgeons. 18. Dotterels. 19. Oxeyes. 20. Parrots. 21. Pigeons. 22. Owls. <p>Many more that have no English names; for one called the mock-bird, that counterfeits all other several birds' cries and tunes.</p> |
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Fish are these in their kind, above thirty sorts.

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Cod. 2. Bass. 3. Drums six foot long. 4. Sheepsheads, this fish makes broth so like mutton broth, that the difference is hardly known. 5. Conger. 6. Eels. 7. Trouts. 8. Mulletts. 9. Plaice. 10. Grampus. 11. Porpus. 12. Scales. 13. Sturgeons, of ten foot long. 14. Stingraes. 15. Brets. | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 16. White salmon. 17. Soles. 18. Herring. 19. Cony-fish. 20. Rock-fish. 21. Lampries. 22. Craw-fish. 23. Shads. 24. Perch. 25. Crabs. 26. Shrimps. 27. Crecy-fish. 28. Oysters. 29. Cockles. 30. Muscles. 31. St. George-fish. 32. Toad-fish. |
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Trees above twenty kinds, and many no English names.

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Oaks red & white wood. 2. Ash. 3. Walnut, two kinds. 4. Elms. | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. Cedar. 6. Cypress three fathoms about. 7. Mulberry trees great and good. |
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| 8. Chesnut trees. | | 12. Cherries. |
| 9. Plum trees of many kinds. | | 13. Crahes. |
| 10. The puchamine tree. | | 14. Vines. |
| 11. The laurel. | | 15. Sassafras. |

Fruits they have, strawberries, gooseberries, raspberries, maracokos, puchamines, muskmellons, pumpions, and for fruits brought thither and planted. Apples, pears, quinces, apricots, peaches; and many more kinds excellent good, &c.

CAPT. BYRD'S LETTERS CONTINUED.

Virginia, March the 29th, 1685.

TO MESSRS PERRY & LANE.

Gent.—This serves to accompany Capt. Bradley with Sixty one Hds. of Tobacco and 6 of Skins, which I hope will come safe to hand. Since my last, I rec'd your acct via Maryland. Truly I believe the Wm. & Mary a very hard pennyworth. I wish shee gets well home, for shee is a very dull sailer by all report. I am sorry the losse of Sugars keeps mee so far behind hand, and Hall coming in so late the Tobacco was generally bought up before his arrivall, so that I fear I shall make a bad hand of it this year, but hope shall send enough to clear all and pay for what I have sent for. I have received great complaints of my Duffields, the colour is too light, a Darker blew pleases better. The trade is plentifully supplied, and if I have not as good Goods as others, I must not expect to sell them to any advantage. Great rates all ready offered for Tobacco next year, and the planter (if God say Amen) designes a great Crop and hath prepared accordingly.

Paggen's concerne have certain intelligence of a negro Ship, which will bee here by the last of May, if no extraordinary accident intervene. They offer high for the trade. I believe Tobacco may doe well another year, but I am sure, they that are not

early supplied here can expect little, and I am halfe out of heart with Hall, unlesse hee comes out a month or two before any other.

Mr. Brain (who hath married Mrs. Grendon) pretends great matters though I cannot conceive what encouragement they have found this year, comeing into the Country in Sept. with 30 Servants and 1000 or £1200 worth of Goods, and could not (notwithstanding they took 100 Hhds. freight) dispatch a small ship of about 350 or 360 Hhds.

If your designe by Barbadoes fails, wee shall bee fairly disappointed for without Servants or Slaves no great Crop is now to bee purchased.

By Capt. Morgan (who designes to saile with or before this) I shall send my Invoice and by him write what's furthur necessary. I hope to hear from you by all opportunitys and shall not trouble you farther at present but with my best respects and service take leave.

Gent. your reall fr'd and serv't,

W. B.

Virginia, March 31st, 1685.

TO FATHER HORSMONDEN.

Worthy Sir,—We received yours by Mr. Brodnax, which was a great satisfaction to hear of your and our Children's Wellfare. My wife hath all this year urged mee to send little Nutty home to you, to which I have at last condescended, and hope you'll please to excuse the trouble. I must confesse she could learne nothing good here, in a great family of Negros. Shee comes in the Ship Culpeper where the master hath promised shee shall want nothing that's necessary for her. I have writ to Mr. North and Mr. Coe to supply her with what necessary's shee wants. I pray God send her safe to you.

All our friends here are in health but poor Coz Grendon who dyed at Sea the 10th of Oct'r last, and my Aunt was married

again about the latter end of Jan'y to one Mr. Edward Brain a Stranger to all here, but pretends to bee worth money, if not the Old Woman may thanke herselfe. Capt. Randolph and my selfe are Ex'rs for the Estate in Virginia, and they are now about to Sue us for the £1500 Jointure Mr. Grendon made her.

I have lately been at great trouble and charge in building two Grist Mills, and therefore intreat you (if it bee possible) to procure mee one or two honest millers, though I should bee at some more than ordinary charge about them. According to your desire I have herewith sent you 5 doz. of Muskrat skins and ordered them to be left with Mr. Perry & Lane. My wife and little Molly are well and give their duty to yourselfe and mother. Praying to God to send us a happy meeting in England,

I remain, worthy sir,

Your obed't Son and serv't,

W. B.

Pray give our blessings to our son and daughter.

Virginia, March 31st, 1685.

To Mr. CHRISTOPHER GLASSCOCK, per Culpeper.

Sir,—The good Character I ever rec'd of your person gave me much satisfaction that my son was placed under so worthy a Tutor, and the good account you give mee of him by your letter could not bee displeasing to mee, but oblidges mee to returne you my hearty thanks for your care of him, and hope by no means hee may bee discouraged in his fair proceedings. I hope in a short time to see my native soile, when I shall not bee wanting farther to acknowledge your kindnesse, and till then remain Sir,

Your oblidged friend to serve you,

W. B.

Virginia, March 31st, 1685.

To WILL, per Culpeper.

Dear Son,—I rec'd your letter and am glad to hear you are

with so good a Master who I hope will see you improve your time, and that you bee carefull to serve God as you ought, without which you cannot expect to doe well here or hereafter. Pray bee dutifull to your Godfather and Godmother. Your Mother is well, and wee both give you our blessings. Your Sister Ursula comes for England with this ship. Your Sister Molly is well here. God blesse thee, and send thou mayest live to serve him as you ought, is the prayer of your loving father,

W. B.

Virginia, June 5th, 1685.

To my father, **HORSMONDEN.**

My last to you I sent by the Culpeper, with my little Nutty, who I hope by this time is near her port. My wife (I thanke God) is well and fair for another; in the meantime little Molly (who thrives apace) diverts us.

About 5 weeks since here happened such a deluge that the like hath not been heard of in the memory of man; the Water overflowing all my plantation, came into my dwelling house. It swept away all our fences, destroyed all that was on the ground and carried away the Hills (that were made for Tobacco) with all the top of the manured land, and what's more strange, carryed away a new Mill (Stones, House and all as they were standing) about 150 yds downe the Creeke, and being discovered by some of my people, they went with Boats and Ropes, towed her backe and moored her within 30 foot of the place shee stood in before; but I am forced to pull her to pieces again. The Water hath ruined my Crop and most of my neighbours, so that I fear wee shall make little this year. All our friends in these parts are in health and give you their best respects and service. Pray Sir, give mine where due, with our blessings to our Children, and accept of our duty to yourselfe and Mother, with many hearty thanks for all your favours from,

Your obedient Son and serv't,

W. B.

Virginia, June 5th, 1685.

To Mr. COE.

Dear Sir,—I wrote you about 2 months since by Capt. Morgan which I hope found you well and have made bold to trouble you now for some things for my selfe. Pray lett the shoes bee a large size bigger than those my Coz. Grendon bought for me last year, for I have not had any would fitt me this 2 years, nor a hatt, since I had those from you, which makes me now desire that trouble of you again. Wee sent you by Col. Hill a token to bee spent amongst our friends as formerly. Pray present my service to all that aske for mee, and accept of mine with my wive's most unfeignedly to yourselfe and Lady, with our hearty thanks for all your favors from

Dear Sir, your most obliged fr'd and serv't,

W. B.

Virginia, June 5th, 1685.

To Mr. NORTH.

Dear Sir,—My last to you by Ruddes, with the acc't I sent is I hope ere this come safe to hand. I have little now to adde, only to acquaint you how affairs goe in these parts. About the latter end of Aprill wee had a very great fresh, the biggest that has been knowne since the English seated here. The water came into my dwelling house and was near 2 foot high in the parlor. It destroyed all our plants, carryed away all the fences, with much other damage too tedious to bee here mentioned. Since which hath been a great drought, that unlesse rain comes suddenly, wee (especially hereabouts) can not expect to make either Corne or Tobacco.

The Saddle you sent mee was too dear. There was no girths and but single furniture, viz. bridle girths, breastplate and crupper, besides only the Stirrup of a Side Saddle (now returned by Capt. Tibbott.) Your Duffields much too light a blew, Beads

5d. a pound dearer than others, which are the better than they for our trade. Cloth col'd Plains, Starke naught. But enough of this. I hope they will be mended next time, and that my Indian trucke may come in early, which may bee an advantage. I hope my Tobacco and fures may pay all, otherwise you may abate so much of the English Goods sent for (charge interest for what's past (if you please) for I doe not desire to remain in debt. Pray pay Mr. Coe what hee is out for mee. Wee sent you a token by Col. Hill to bee spent amongst our friends, to whom give my best respects and service, and accept the same yourselfe from your reall friend and serv't,

W. B.

I am heartily sorry for the death of Coz. Grendon and wish you may secure yourselfe in England, for the Old Woman will unaccountably carry away all here.

AN OLD PLATE.

The following is a copy of an inscription on an old Plate which has been very politely left with us for our inspection by James M. Laidley, Esq., a member of the House of Delegates, from Kanawha, with a letter of explanation in these words :

RICHMOND, FEBRUARY 1ST, 1849.

Dear Sir,—Knowing the lively interest you take in the preservation of aught that is connected with the early history of our Old Commonwealth, I procured, for your inspection, on my way to this city, the accompanying plate, which, about three years since, was found deposited a few inches below the surface of the earth, immediately at the confluence of the Great Kanawha and Ohio rivers.

This curious relique of Louis XV. shows one of the modes he adopted of asserting and perpetuating his dominion over *New*

France—which, I think, embraced all that region lying west of the Alleghany chain of mountains, and extending from Canada to New Orleans—He has bestowed, as you will perceive, upon our beautiful Kanawha, *the river of the woods*, a name, (Chinodahichetha) which, so far as I can learn “by tale or history,” it has never otherwise borne.

I remain, with high respect,

Truly yours,

JAMES M. LAIDLEY.

To WM. MAXWELL, Esq.

The plate is a flat piece of lead about 12 inches long and 8 inches wide, and perhaps about an $\frac{1}{4}$ th of an inch thick. It has been somewhat worn by time and dirt together, but still shows an inscription upon it in old French words, all in capitals, and pretty nearly as follows :

L'AN 1749 DV REGNE DE LOVIS XV ROY DE
FRANCE NOVS CELORON COMMANDANT DVN DE-
TACHMENT ENVOIE PAR MONSIEVR LE DUC DE
CALISSONIERE COMMANDANT GENERAL DE LA
NOVELLE FRANCE POVR RETABLIR LA TRANQVILLITE
DANS QVELQVES VILLAGES SAUVAGES DE CES CANTONS
AVONS ENTERRE CETTE PLAQVE A LENTREE DE LA
RIVIERE CHINODAHICHETHA LE 18 AOUST
PRES DE LA RIVIERE OYO AUTREMENT BELLE
RIVIERE POVR MONVMENT DV RENOVVELLEMENT DE
POSSESSION QVE NOVS AVONS PRIS DE LA DITTE
RIVIERE OYO ET DE TOVTES CELLES QVE Y TOMBENT
ET DE TOVES LES TERRES DES DEVX COTES JVSQVE
AVX SOVRCES DES DITTES RIVIES VINSI QVEN ONT
JOVY OV DV JOVIR LES PRECEDENTS ROYS DE FRANCE
ET QVILS SISONT MAINTENVS PAR LES ARMES ET
PAR LES TRAITTES SPECIALEMENT PAR CEVX DE
RISVVICK DVTRCHT ET DAIX LA CHPELLE

We may add that the letters of the original are rudely cut, or indented in the plate, and have manifestly been executed by some illiterate hand who has misspelt some words, and mutilated others, till it is rather difficult to make them out.

We subjoin the following translation of the Inscription for the benefit of those who may not be acquainted with the French language.

In the year 1749, in the reign of Louis XV., King of France, we, Celoron, Commandant of a Detachment sent by the Duke of Calissoniere, Commandant General of New France, to re-establish tranquillity in some savage villages of these cantons, have interred this Plate at the entry of the river Chinodahichetha, the 18th of August, near the river Ohio, otherwise Belle Riviere, (or Beautiful River,) for a monument of the renewal of possession which we have taken of the said river Ohio, and of all those which fall into it, and of all the lands on both sides, to the sources of said rivers, as the preceding kings of France have, or ought to have enjoyed them, and as they are maintained by arms, and by treaties, and especially by the treaties of Riswick, of Utrecht, and of Aix La Chapelle.

THE NATIONAL OBSERVATORY.

The following article is a copy of the valuable and interesting paper which, as we have heretofore stated, was read by Lieut. M. F. Maury, Superintendent of the National Observatory at Washington, before the Virginia Historical Society at its last Annual Meeting, since filed in the Archives; and will be read, we are sure, with great satisfaction by all who can appreciate its merits.

There are a few facts relating to the early history of the Observatory which I should be glad to have placed among the records of this Society.

They are like the under currents of the ocean, which seldom rise to the surface and which generally escape the observation of the world, though they bear a most important part in the beneficent system of aqueous circulation which tempers the frigid and cools the torrid zones of the earth.

These under-tows, whether in the physical or the moral world, are felt perhaps, with their true force, only by those whose course in life is affected by them.

Many of the little events that are passing around us in silence, are to constitute the fillings-up of history. They are the under-currents, the eddies, and the drifts in the tide of Times, by the effects of which the main current is made to pass along down to posterity with the proper force, clearness and beauty.

On taking charge of the National Observatory, my first duty, after getting the instruments in proper position and adjustment, was to train a corps of observers. As soon as this was done, I began to cast about for that plan of operations, which should be the most useful to the world and creditable to the country.

The Sun and Moon, the planets, and certain fixed stars of the larger magnitudes, called fundamental stars, have been the subjects of observation ever since practical Astronomy assumed the character of an exact science. It is nevertheless necessary to continue observations upon them, in order to obtain the requisite data for the American Nautical Almanac: But the time required for this would afford full employment neither to the instruments nor the observers. What then should be done with the spare time? Should it be left unoccupied: or should we follow the example of most of the Government Observatories in Europe, and fill it up with observations on the stars at random having neither definite object, aim or system in view? The genius of our Institutions and the habit of thought among the American people forbade this. For to the honor of the one and the glory of the other, be it said, they are eminently utilitarian and practical in their exactions.

When the American people in their national character undertake anything, they never do it by halves. Their National Observatory is furnished with a most splendid set of instruments. There is but one observatory in the world superior to it in this respect. And when I was ordered to the charge of it, I felt that a heavy responsibility had been imposed upon me. It is a post that I never sought, but being assigned to it in the line of duty, I could not as an officer decline with propriety. I knew that the public expected it so to be conducted as to afford results the most useful to the world and creditable to the country. There-

fore, besides the observations already alluded to, I resolved to give effect to a favorite idea, and to commence a catalogue of the stars upon a plan which, when complete, would afford a work which I thought would not be altogether unworthy of the Nation.

With splendid instruments, and industrious observers; with beautiful skies, and more of the heavens above us than they in Europe have, arrangements were commenced for a catalogue of the starry host upon a larger scale, and a more comprehensive plan than had ever before been attempted by any single astronomer. The want of such a work as a book of reference for Astronomers, has been felt for ages.

I do not mean to intimate that there are no catalogues of stars; but I mean to say there is no catalogue of *the* stars that are visible at any one place. Nor is there any one catalogue, which, besides magnitude, R. A. and Declination, gives also colour, angle of position and distance, with maps of the binary systems, and clusters of the stars with drawings of the Nebulae. There are catalogues, too numerous to mention; but the most extensive are Lalande's, Struve's and Bessel's.

Lalande's was commenced in 1789 and ended in 1801: It extends from the North Pole to the Tropic of Capricorn, and contains about 50,000 stars, but it gives position and size only down to the ninth magnitude. Bessel commenced in 1821 and finished in 1833. He worked from 45° N. to 15° S. Declination, and obtained a list of about 75,000 stars to which he assigned position and magnitude only.

Struve's is the most extensive catalogue, by far, of the double stars. It gives magnitude, colour, angle of position and distance; but it does not pretend to be a complete catalogue even of all the double stars that are visible in Russia; and yet it is considered as one of the most valuable contributions of the age to Astronomy.

The plan finally adopted for the Washington Catalogue, was to penetrate regularly and systematically with some one of our powerful telescopes, every point of space in the visible heavens, for the purpose not only of determining accurately the position

of every star, cluster, and nebula, that the instruments can reach, but for the purpose also of recording magnitude and colour, with angle of position and distance of binary stars, and of making drawings and giving descriptions of all clusters and nebulae. And for this, arrangements were commenced in 1845.

Now it may be asked, why make this work so extensive? Why comprehend in it objects that never have been, and never can be seen by the naked eye?

The answer is ready with reasons abundant. The heavens like the earth, are obedient to the great law of change. The stars are undergoing perpetual change, some change their position, some vary in magnitude, some in colour, and some have blazed forth like flaming meteors in the sky, dazzled the world, and then disappeared forever.

The appearance of a new star in the firmament induced Hipparchus before the Christian era to undertake the first catalogue, which although lost to the world was productive of great practical good. Ptolemy is said to have borrowed over freely from it.

In November 1572, a star appeared all at once in great splendor. It surpassed Sirius in brilliancy, and was brighter than Jupiter in perigee. It could be seen in the day time, with the naked eye, and after two years it passed away and disappeared. Its place in the sky is now vacant. It induced Tycho Brahe to undertake his catalogue.

It may be that there is now, at this very time in the firmament above, a world on fire. „Argus, a well known star in the Southern hemisphere, has suddenly blazed forth, and from a star of the 2nd or 3rd magnitude, now glares with the brilliancy of the first.

It is man's boast that he was made to look aloft; for his alone is the privilege to pry into "Nature's infinite book of secresy," and can it be, therefore profitless to him and of no value to posterity to survey the skies, map the stars and contemplate "the eternal flowers of heaven?"

The generation that succeeds is always wiser than that which precedes; for this begins with knowledge, advancement, and

discovery where that left off. Our ancestors gathered facts, and recorded observations, which in our hands have become clues guiding to knowledge, or leading to discovery. Shall we do less? He who has the privilege of interrogating nature in the name of society, and yet fails to preserve her answers, is regarded by the scientific world as one who betrays his trust, and thereby wrongs the living and defrauds posterity.

In 1795, Lalande saw a star, and entered it upon his catalogue. In 1847 it was discovered at the Washington Observatory that that star was the planet Neptune. Thus, by the fidelity of that observer, and the means of his catalogue, we are enabled to know at once what otherwise we should have had to wait fifty years to learn. But for that observation of Lalande, astronomers would have had to wait half a century for data to enable them to determine the orbit of that planet as accurately as Mr. Walker, formerly an assistant at the National Observatory, has done in consequence of the discovery there.

Perhaps the most exquisitely beautiful objects in the heavens; are the double stars, with their contrast of colors. When the telescope is turned upon these objects, the most richly colored orange star may be seen dancing along with its companion of bright green, or smalt blue. They are arranged in pairs or groups, with their components diversified with almost all the colors of the rainbow.

It was a long time a question whether these stars were really double, or only optically so. It was thought they appeared double, only because they happened to be situated nearly in the same direction; that one was placed at an infinite distance beyond the other. It was said, therefore, that they appeared optically near each other only, like lamps afar off in a dark night, which, though at a great distance apart, appear close together to one who sees them nearly in the same straight line.

These stars are so remote from us, that a snail might travel at his usual gait many times around the earth, before that type of velocity with us, a cannon ball, could reach the nearest of them.

How then could it ever be ascertained whether they were physically double, or only optically so?

Catalogues and the resources of science have enabled astronomers to settle the question.

If while looking at the leaves on the trees of a forest, I hold up a dime at a certain distance before me, I will see that it hides certain leaves. If now I hold a dollar at the same place, I will find that the additional leaves hid by it, will exceed, many times in number the first, because the leaves are situated one beyond the other. They are optically close together; and the additional space optically hid by the dollar is much larger than that hid only by the dime.

Now apply this test to the double stars. Take the space in the heavens about each star, that would be hid by a pin's head when held at a convenient distance for vision, and count the stars that would be included within the space so hid. Now hold a half dime at the same distance from the eye, and count the *additional* stars hid by it.

The first will be found to exceed the last in numbers many times. Thus the probability was established that these stars were in physical and not in mere optical connection. The Telescope was now brought to bear. Observations were made and recorded in Catalogues, and, after the lapse of years, it was discovered that many of these stars were suns actually revolving about each other.

Thus systems in which there are many suns and the most complicated motions have been detected. In some, one sun revolves about another. In others, one pair of suns is seen revolving about each other, and they two around another pair. Some have suns of sapphire blue, emerald green, orange yellow, or flaming red. And there, instead of having the alternations of light and darkness as we have here, it may be supposed that their days and nights alternate with blue, green, red or yellow light, according to the color of the sun which may be in the ascendant.

There may be some ready to say,—though I am sure there are

none such here,—of what good is it to us to know that there be suns among the stars, and days of different hues, in the remote regions of space! I hold myself to be a *utilitarian* of the strictest sect. But I regard every fact that man can gather from the physical world, to be of value. In the book of nature we see God's own hand-writing; and there is not to be found throughout his handy work, a single fact, word or syllable which does not relate to the destiny of man. We may not understand its bearings or comprehend its import, but it is not because it is without meaning,—it is because we are not wise enough to read the interpretation thereof. We have received more than any generation ever received of its ancestors, for the generation that preceded us had its own treasures of knowledge added to all that it received from the world before, to hand down to us. As we have received more, we are required to give more. Therefore, let us interrogate nature diligently for her laws, and for facts which are the expounders of her laws, feeling assured that the course of Man is upward and onward, and that if we ourselves can make nothing of her answers, there may be DANIELS coming after us, who will have the wisdom to read them aright, be they in characters never so strange and incomprehensible to us.

It is a part of the plan of the American Catalogue accurately to determine distance and angle of position of the double stars,—to record magnitude, color, right ascension and declination, and so enable those who come after us hundreds or thousands of years hence to compare their observations with ours and to determine therefrom the orbits and Anni Magni of these wonderful suns and curious systems. The oldest of the observations of this kind that have been handed to us, are too recent, in comparison with the myriads of our years which some of these suns require to complete a single revolution, to enable us to determine any thing as to their periods.

Perhaps of all the objects in the sky, the Nebulae are the most wonderful and mysterious. We may trace them up through the telescope from shapes the most fantastical to forms the most

symmetrical and graceful. They are beyond the reach of the unaided eye. But with the telescope turned in a certain direction, we may see a mere sploch of curious light, presenting a Nebula without form, and apparently void;—with the telescope in another direction, we will see them beginning to assume regularity of outline, with marks of aggregation and condensation, as though they were in process of formation, and these several shapes were merely the nebulous stuff in different stages of growth. Some have the graceful convolutions of the smoke curl,—some are spiral,—some are rent in pieces as though they were curdling into more dense aggregations of matter; these leave black rents in the sky, through which stars are often seen to peep out from the darkness apparently at an immense distance beyond. Following them on, we trace them up into the circular form, with marks of condensation about the centre; then comes the globular appearance, with a decided nucleus; and finally, we come across the perfectly formed star, surrounded with a thin haze of nebulous matter, as though it had not yet all been quite condensed into the shining substance of the star.

The oldest observation upon these wonderful objects is of too recent a date to tell us anything as to their changes and growth, if growth they have.

The Catalogue contemplates accurate drawings of the Nebulae and the leaving by this means to posterity, the clue to that knowledge, with regard to this class of objects, which we ourselves would be so glad to have.

Under the space penetrating powers of the telescope many of these objects are resolved into stars. Among the clusters are to be seen at one view and in a single spot not larger than Ahab's Cloud, aggregations of stars, far exceeding in number all that the unaided eye of man ever beheld in the azure vault above.

God "by his spirit hath garnished the heavens." But it is not until one of these gorgeous clusters is seen through the telescope, that one can feel in its full force the prophet's saying—"The host of Heaven cannot be numbered."

"Canst thou bind the sweet influences of the Pleiades?"

It may be that catalogues and the telescope have enabled us to see, though darkly, the scope of the Almighty question.

By means of catalogues, it has been discovered that the stars in a certain quarter of the heavens are getting optically closer and closer together, while those in an opposite quarter, are apparently separating from each other and getting wider apart, precisely in the same way as though we were receding from the one set and approaching the other.

This, therefore, suggested the idea, that our system itself might be moving in obedience to the influences of some vast center of revolution in the remote regions of space. And it has recently been shown, with such *verisimilitude* as to throw the onus of proof upon those who deny the conclusion:—that the sun with its splendid retinue of planets, satellites and comets is in motion about a center inconceivably remote; that though we are moving about it at the rate of many millions of miles in a year, the period is so immense, the distance from the center to the circumference of the orbit so great, as to require myriads and myriads of ages to complete a revolution. *And that center is in the direction of the star Alcyon, ONE OF THE PLEIADES.* Who, therefore, can “bind those sweet influences,” which guide the sun and moon and earth through the trackless regions of space, and hold them so they fall not?

To me the simple passage through the Transit instrument of a star across the meridian is the height of astronomical sublimity.

At the dead hour of the night, when the world is hushed in sleep and all is still; when there is not a sound to be heard save the dead beat escapement of the clock, counting with hollow voice the footsteps of time in his ceaseless round, I turn to the Ephemeris and find there, by calculation made years ago, that when that clock tells a certain hour, a star which I never saw will be in the field of the telescope for a moment, flit through and then disappear. The instrument is set;—the moment approaches and is intently awaited;—I look;—the star mute with eloquence that gathers sublimity from the silence of the night, comes smiling and dancing into the field, and at the instant pre-

dicted, even to the fraction of a second, it makes its transit and is gone! With emotions too deep for the organs of speech, the heart swells out with unutterable anthems; we then see that there is harmony in the heavens above; and though we cannot hear, we feel "the music of the spheres."

The time is recorded and the declination being determined, the star is entered in the Catalogue, there to stand as a record forever of its magnitude and position for that day and hour. Thus for every star, a point will be given from which in time to come, Astronomers may reckon its motions.

When the sky is clear, there is every night, and all night long, an eye at every telescope in the observatory, working for this Catalogue; and that no star shall escape us, the part of the heavens that is gone over to-night, is re-explored to-morrow night by fresh observers with different instruments. Thus every star is to be seen at least twice, by two observers, and on two occasions; so that in time to come, it may be said by astronomers, such a star was in the heavens at the date of the Washington Catalogue, because it is in that work; but it has since disappeared, because it is not now in the heavens; or, such a star which is now visible was not so at the date of the Washington Catalogue, because it is not in that work.

Already, as the result of the first year's work, about 15,000 stars have been observed for the Catalogue; most of which are new.

Should this work be carried on and completed according to the original plan, the time may come when facts connected with the history of it will not be altogether without interest.

Here is an official order in relation to it.

"NAVY DEPARTMENT, MARCH 6TH, 1846.

Sir,—Desirous that the numerous and able corps employed at the National Observatory, at Washington, may produce results important to maritime science, and to the Navy, I approve your course in making the series of Astronomical Observations, more immediately necessary for the preparation of a Nautical Almanac.

The country expects, also, that the Observatory will make adequate contributions to Astronomical science. The most celebrated European Catalogues of the Stars, "Bessel's Zone Observations" and "Struve's Dorpat Catalogue" of double stars, having extended to only fifteen degrees South of the Equator, and the Washington Observatory, by its geographical position, commanding a zone of fifteen degrees further South; and being provided with all instruments requisite for extending these catalogues, you are hereby authorized and directed to enter upon the observation of the heavens commencing at the lowest parallel of South Declination, which you may find practicable. You will embrace in your Catalogue all stars even of the smallest magnitude which your instruments can accurately observe. You will, when convenient, make duplicate observations of stars for each Catalogue; and, when time permits, you will determine with precision, by the Meridian instruments, the position of the principal stars in each pair or multiple of stars.

Simultaneously with these observations, you will, as far as practicable, determine the positions of such stars as have different declinations or right ascensions assigned to them in the most accredited Ephemerides.

You will, from time to time, report directly to this Department the progress of the work.

Respectfully, yours,

(Signed)

GEORGE BANCROFT.

LIEUT. M. F. MAURY,

Superintendent of the Observatory, Washington."

The foregoing is a true copy of a letter printed in the Appendix to the "Washington Astronomical Observations."

J. S. KENNARD,

Passed Mid'n U. S. Navy.

This order is the surface current, and without looking deeper, it may hereafter be construed into the original first idea. Its date is "March 6;" but here is the little under current which took its rise two months before, and makes the upper one clear.

"ORDER

OBSERVATIONS FOR 1846.

A regular series to be kept up on Polaris, α Lyrae, and 61 Cygni, and on the Sun, Moon and Planets; and by the West Transit on the Moon culminators of the Nautical Almanac.

At least ten observations with each of the Meridional instruments are to be made on every Nautical Almanac Star visible during the year.

The list of clock stars to be revised. The Prime Vertical will continue its observations upon α Lyrae daily; and upon 61 Cygni, and m Lacertae, as soon as the last two shall be in position. It will also observe upon as many stars of the first or second magnitude as practicable, and will catalogue between the Zenith and 30° N. Declination.

The Meridian and Mural Circles will catalogue in alternate belts of 5° Declination, the former commencing with 45° South, and extending to 35° South; one observation upon each star, cluster, and nebula will suffice for the Catalogue in this part of the heavens.

The West Transit will sweep in belts adjoining the Mural.

Each instrument will number its own stars, beginning with No. 1, and will also quote magnitudes of the stars (standards for which have been given) and assign weight to every observation.

(Signed)

M. F. MAURY.

January 5th, 1846."

The above is a true copy of an order printed in the Appendix to the "Washington Astronomical Observations."

J. S. KENNARD,

Passed Mid'n U. S. Navy.

I have therefore chosen, gentlemen, to take this memorial from its humble place in the Observatory, to bring it with me, and ask to have it placed on record here with the Historical Society of my native State. It may be useless—we cannot tell. It is our duty to keep the stream of history as it passes by us, pure and clear; and then, we can safely leave the rest to time.

A THOUGHT.

A happy lot must sure be his,
 The lord, not slave of things,
 Who values life by what it is,
 And not by what it brings.—*J. Sterling.*

ORIGINAL LETTERS.

FROM GENERAL WASHINGTON TO COL. BASSETT.

FREDERICKSBURG IN THE STATE OF NEW YORK, }
 October 30th, 1778. }

This letter from General Washington to the late Col. Burwell Bassett of New Kent, is copied from the original in the possession of a lady of this city, (a grand-niece of the writer,) who has, very obligingly, permitted us to publish it in our work.

Dear Sir,—By Mr. Custis I took the liberty of requesting the favor of you to set a value upon the Stock of every kind belonging to me at Claiborne; except the Horses and Plantation Utensils which I have given to him—I have wrote to him (of this date) proposing that he should take all the Corn, Wheat and Provender for the Cattle, so soon as it can be ascertained, at such prices as you shall affix; and if he agrees to it, I shall be much obliged to you for conferring this additional favor on me.

It will be better for both of us, that there should be but one Interest on the Plantation; and that the property thereon should not be separated, which necessarily would be the case, if he was to stock it for the use of the Negroes and Cattle, while the Grain and Provender raised thereon remained mine, and kept distinct from his waiting for occasional Markets. The Cotton, I expect Mrs. Washington will require for her own use; and trust that the Tobacco will be stripped, prized and Inspected with all the dispatch possible; after which, and paying Davenport his share, I have directed Mr. Hill to put the rest into your hands, and shall be obliged to you for selling it for me, in the same manner, and at the same time you do your own.

I shall make no apology, my dear Sir, for giving you this trouble, especially as Mrs. Washington in a late letter informs me (but I had no doubt of it before) that you would readily render me any services of this kind in your power.

We still remain in a disagreeable state of suspense respecting the intentions of the Enemy. There are reasons for and against a total evacuation of New York. I ought rather to have said, there are circumstances and evidences for and against it—for reason will allow no alternative, so clearly does it point out the absurdity of an Ideal conquest of the United States, and the folly of longer continuing in their present fruitless pursuits. A few days now, must, I think, develope Sir Henry's views, as they have advanced a hundred and fifty transports with Troops, stores &c., to Sandy Hook ready for sea, and are still going on in their Imbarkation.

Our affairs now, are, I think, so far reduced to a certainty, that nothing but our own want of Virtue, or palpable mismanagement, can overset or injure our Independence—but here, that is, in this want of Virtue, we have a many-headed Monster to encounter, and unless forestallers and engrossers can be hung up to view as Enemies of the worst kind, and punished in the most exemplary and conspicuous manner, the most fatal consequences, in my opinion, are yet to be dreaded. *But correct this evil and continue resolutely*, and frequently, to keep up the credit of the Money, and there is not a doubt, but under the Smiles of that Providence which has never yet forsaken us, we shall go triumphantly through this great struggle.*

My compliments to all enquiring friends.

Dr Sir your Obed't Serv't,
G. WASHINGTON.

* The words and letters printed in italics are not in the original, but have been supplied to fill some small vacancies in it, (owing to the present state of the paper,) and to complete the sense.

FROM RICHARD HENRY LEE TO _____.

We copy this letter from the original in the archives of the Virginia Historical Society, to which it has been, very politely, transmitted by

Joseph Segar, Esq., of Hampton, with a letter of introduction which we also copy:

HAMPTON, DEC. 26TH, 1848.

My Dear Sir,—Looking over my old papers a few days since, I met with the enclosed original letter of Richard Henry Lee, presented to me some fifteen or twenty years ago, by a friend who is no longer “in the land of the living.” The history of the document I have forgotten; nor do I retain even the name of the person to whom it was addressed.

Supposing that it may be interesting as a relic of the eminent Orator and Statesman whose name it bears, and that it may throw some light upon the political history of the times to which it refers; and desiring to commit it to a safer depository than the keeping of a private individual, I have determined to hand it over to the Virginia Historical Society, to which it may prove acceptable.

Committing it to you, as the Secretary of the Society, I am,
Very respectfully and faithfully, yours,

JOS. SEGAR.

WM. MAXWELL, Esq.

CHANTILLY, MAY THE 26TH, 1788.

Dear Sir,—The manner in which we have together struggled for the just rights of human nature, with the friendly correspondence that we have maintained, entitles us, I hope, to the most unreserved confidence in each other upon the subject of human rights and the liberty of our country. It is probable that yourself, no more than I do, propose to be hereafter politically engaged; neither therefore expecting to gain or fearing to lose, the candid part of mankind will admit us to be *impartial* Judges, at least, of the arduous business that calls you to Richmond on the 2nd of next month.

I do not recollect to have met with a sensible and candid man who has not admitted that it would be both safer and better if amendments were made to the Constitution proposed for the government of the U. States; but the friends to the idea of amendments divide about the mode of obtaining them—some thinking that a second Convention might do the business, whilst

others fear that the attempt to remedy by another Convention would risk the whole. I have been informed that you wished amendments, but disliked the plan of another Convention. The just weight that you have sir in the councils of your Country may put it in your power to save from arbitrary rule a great and free people. I have used the words Arbitrary Rule because great numbers fear that this *will* be the case, when they consider that it *may* be so under the new proposed system, and reflect on the unvarying progress of power in the hands of frail man. To accomplish the ends of society by being equal to contingencies infinite, demands the deposit of power great and extensive indeed in the hands of rulers. So great, as to render abuse probable, unless prevented by the most careful precautions: among which, the freedom and frequency of elections, the liberty of the Press, the Trial by Jury, and the Independency of the Judges, seem to be so capital and essential; that they ought to be secured by a Bill of Rights to regulate the discretion of rulers in a legal way, restraining the progress of ambition and avarice within just bounds. Rulers must act by subordinate agents generally, and however the former may be secure from the pursuits of Justice, the latter are forever kept in check by the trial by Jury where that exists "in all its rights." This most excellent security against oppression, is an universal, powerful and equal protector of *all*. But the benefit to be derived from this system is most effectually to be obtained from a well informed and enlightened people. Here arises the necessity for the freedom of the Press, which is the happiest organ of communication ever yet devised, the quickest and surest means of conveying intelligence to the human mind. I am grieved to be forced to think, after the most mature consideration of the subject, that the proposed Constitution leaves the three essential securities before stated, under the mere pleasure of the new rulers! And why should it be so sir, since the violation of these cannot be necessary to *good* government, but will be always extremely convenient for bad. It is a question deserving intense consideration, whether the State sovereignties ought not to be supported, perhaps in the

way proposed by Massachusetts in their 1st, 3d, and 4th amendments. Force and opinion seem to be the two ways alone by which men can be governed—the latter appears the most proper for a free people—but remove that, and obedience, I apprehend, can only be found to result from *fear*, the offspring of *force*. If this be so, can opinion exist among the great mass of mankind without competent knowledge of those who govern, and can that knowledge take place in a country so extensive as the territory of the U. States which is stated by Capt. Hutchins at a million of square miles, whilst the empire of Germany contains but 192,000, and the kingdom of France but 163,000 square miles. The almost infinite variety of climates, soils, productions, manners, customs and interests renders this still more difficult for the general government of one Legislature; but very practicable to Confederated States united for mutual safety and happiness, each contributing to the federal head such a portion of its sovereignty as would render the government fully adequate to these purposes and *no more*. The people would govern themselves more easily, the laws of each State being well adapted to its own genius and circumstances; the liberties of the U. States would probably be more secure than under the proposed plan, which, carefully attended to will be found capable of annihilating the State sovereignties by perishing the operations of their State governments under the general Legislative right of commanding Taxes without restraint. So that the productive revenues that the States may happily fall upon for their own support, can be seized by superior power supported by the Congressional Courts of Justice, and by the sacred obligation of Oath imposed on all the State Judges to regard the laws of Congress as supreme over the laws and Constitutions of the States! Thus circumstanced we shall probably find resistance vain, and the State governments as feeble and contemptible as was the Senatorial power under the Roman Emperors. The *name* existed but the *thing* was gone. I have observed sir that the sensible and candid friends of the proposed plan agree that amendments would be proper, but fear the consequences of another Convention. I submit the follow-

ing as an effectual compromise between the majorities, and the formidable minorities that generally prevail.

It seems probable that the determinations of four States will be materially influenced by what Virginia shall do. This places a strong obligation on our country to be unusually cautious and circumspect in our Conventional conduct. The mode that I would propose is something like that pursued by the Convention Parliament of England in 1688. In our ratification insert plainly and strongly such amendments as can be agreed upon, and say; that the people of Virginia do insist upon and mean to retain them as their undoubted rights and liberties which they intend not to part with; and if these are not obtained and secured by the mode pointed out in the 5th article of the Convention plan in two years after the meeting of the new Congress, that Virginia shall be considered as disengaged from this ratification. In the 5th article it is stated that two thirds of Congress may propose amendments, which being approved by three fourths of the Legislatures become parts of the Constitution—So that the new Congress may obtain the amendments of Virginia without risking the convulsion of Conventions. Thus the beneficial parts of the new system may be retained, and a just security be given for Civil Liberty; whilst the friends of the system will be gratified in what they say is necessary, to wit, the putting the government in motion, when, as they again say, amendments may and ought to be made. The good consequences resulting from this method will probably be, that the undetermined States may be brought to harmonize, and the formidable minorities in many assenting States be quieted by so friendly and reasonable an accommodation. In this way may be happily prevented the perpetual opposition that will inevitably follow (the total adoption of the plan) from the State Legislatures; and united exertions take place. In the formation of these amendments Localities ought to be avoided as much as possible. The danger of Monopolized Trade may be avoided by calling for the consent of 3 fourths of the U. States on regulations of Commerce. The trial by Jury to be according to the course of proceeding in the State

where the cause criminal or civil is tried, and confining the Supreme federal Court to the jurisdiction of Law excluding Fact. To prevent surprises, and the fixing of injurious laws, it would seem to be prudent to declare against the making perpetual laws until the experience of two years at least shall have vouched their utility. It being much more easy to get a good Law continued than a bad one repealed. The amendments of Massachusetts appear to be good so far as they go, except the 2nd and extending the 7th to foreigners as well as the Citizens of other States in this Union. For their adoption the aid of that powerful State may be secured. The freedom of the Press is by no means sufficiently attended to by Massachusetts, nor have they remedied the want of responsibility by the impolitic combinations of President and Senate. No person, I think, can be alarmed at that part of the above proposition which proposes our discharge if the requisite amendments are not made; because, in all human probability it will be the certain means of securing their adoption for the following reasons—N. C., N. Y., R. I. and N. H. are the 4 States that are to determine after Virginia, and there being abundant reason to suppose that they will be much influenced by our determination; if they, or 3 of them join us, I presume it cannot be fairly imagined that the rest, suppose 9, will hesitate a moment to make amendments which are of a general nature, clearly for the safety of Civil Liberty against the future designs of despotism to destroy it; and which indeed is requir'd by at least half of most of those States who have adopted the new Plan; and which finally obstruct not good but bad government.

It does appear to me, that in the present temper of America, if the Massachusetts amendments, with those herein suggested being added, and were inserted in the form of our ratification as before stated, that Virginia may safely agree, and I believe that the most salutary consequences would ensue. I am sure that America and the World too look with anxious expectation at us, if we change the Liberty that we have so well deserved for elective Despotism we shall suffer the evils of the change while we

labor under the contempt of mankind—I pray sir that God may bless the Convention with wisdom, maturity of counsel, and constant care of the public liberty; and that he may have you in his holy keeping. I find that as usual, I have written to *you* a long letter—but you are good, and the subject is copious—I like to reason with a reasonable man, but I disdain to notice those scribblers in the newspapers altho' they have honored me with their abuse—My attention to them will never exist whilst there is a Cat or a Spaniel in the House!

With very great esteem and regard

I have the honor to be Dear Sir

Your most obedient servant,

RICHARD HENRY LEE.

THE LATE MR. LEIGH.

Since the date of our last number, a noble spirit, long and well known amongst us in the manly form of Benjamin Watkins Leigh, has passed away from our city and State forever. Yet not entirely; for his memory still remains with us, to honor and cherish as we ought,—to celebrate with due praise,—and to embalm, with grateful veneration, in all our hearts.

Mr. Leigh was undoubtedly one of the most distinguished men of his time;—an able lawyer—an eloquent speaker—a superior statesman, and withal a truly honest and honorable man. The splendor of his public character was enhanced by the softer radiance of his private life, and his talents and virtues together always rightly aimed and strenuously exerted, seemed to sanction the far-and-wide-spread reputation which he had so fairly won, and so properly enjoyed. As a politician, more particularly, we believe he was generally considered as the most perfectly upright and disinterested actor on the stage; and in this opinion of him we cordially unite. For ourselves at least, we always regarded him as, in many respects, the very

model of a public man ; and we love to recall his image now as that of a true patriot of the old Roman, or, we would rather say, of the old Virginian stamp—all for his country and nothing for himself. He was, indeed, eminently and almost peculiarly Virginian in all his traits. It is true he loved his country—his whole country—and he appreciated, no doubt, our glorious Union at its own priceless value ; but he loved his native State with a first and filial affection which Nature herself had infused into his breast, from his earliest years, and which nothing but death, at last, could ever subdue. He loved her, indeed, even *we* must say, in some points, “ not wisely, but too well ;” for he was, we believe, warmly and zealously attached to *all* her institutions, with all the principles and even prejudices—worn out in the minds of many but still fresh in his heart—embedded in them ; and which he delighted to blazon, with all the various powers of his vigorous and discursive genius. In the Convention, accordingly, where he was undoubtedly the leading member of the Conservative party, he contended earnestly and zealously, and with a degree of ability and eloquence rarely equalled, for the old basis of our polity as established at the revolution, without any new-fangled innovations, and with only such moderate and reasonable changes as time and circumstances had rendered absolutely and indispensably necessary and proper. In this spirit, he was for retaining our county courts, freehold suffrage, and such a scale of representation as should secure the rights and property of the East, from the hard taxation, and from all the possible and imaginable aggression of the West. It was here, accordingly, that “ he beamed himself,”—put out all his rays,—and culminated, we may say, in the very highest ascension of his public character and fame.

And yet, we are disposed to think, that his services in the ensuing session of the Legislature were hardly less substantial and important. It was here, at least, as we thought at the time, that his parliamentary talents appeared to the greatest advantage ; and we readily award him the highest praise. He was not, indeed, we should say, a fine and fascinating speaker, or a dexter-

rous manager, like a Townshend, or a Canning; but he was certainly a free, forcible, and fertile debater, like a Fox, or a Brougham, (but with points of his own;) and always ready to pour out a stream of earnest and impassioned reasoning on all the various subjects or cases that came upon him, or across him, in the course of business in the House. It was still, however, chiefly on legal questions and topics, that he displayed his superior ability; and he certainly took the best course to secure his fame by entwining it, as he did, permanently, and we trust perennially, with the laws of the land.

We are not writing a memoir, but only a mere notice of the deceased, and can only allude to the signal and splendid honor which he afterwards attained when he was called by the unanimous vote of both Houses of the General Assembly, to undertake an important and interesting mission of conciliation to the sovereign State of South Carolina, then on the perilous edge of a conflict with the national authority of the United States; and, aided no doubt by other and stronger influences, most happily succeeded in preserving peace between the high contending parties, with the perfect honor of both, and with the general approbation of all for the part which he had so gracefully performed. And here, to our minds, if Providence had pleased, might have been a beautiful and becoming close of his public life; but he was reserved for another scene, and a different exit. We refer here to his subsequent elevation to the Senate of the United States; where it might seem that he was at last in his proper sphere, and where he did indeed shine out, on several occasions, with great lustre; but where, under the peculiar circumstances in which he was placed, he had hardly time or scope for the full display of all his faculties; and could only remain long enough to "signalize," as he said, his inflexible opposition to what he deemed the assumption of arbitrary power, and to prove his own indomitable fidelity to the constitution of his country;—when he felt himself compelled, by private and pressing considerations, to resign his seat, and retire once more, and finally, to the shades of private life.

It may be fairly inferred from this slight account of him, that Mr. Leigh could not have been destitute of that principle which another eminent jurist and statesman has lately pronounced to be an "indispensable element in any great human character,"—the principle of religion;—nor was he indeed. On the contrary, we are happy to be able to state, on the best authority, that from his earliest years he had imbibed the pure precepts of the word of God from the lips of his pious parents; and that he always through life avowed his firm and conscientious belief in the truth and excellence of the Christian faith. He had, then, no doubt, the "indispensable element" in him; but how far it was developed or defined, we are not informed, and cannot of course, assume to determine. We believe, however, that this was the real secret of his superiority to some who might otherwise have been his equals, and raised him indeed far above the vulgar herd of selfish and sordid politicians.

With this estimate of the deceased, we earnestly hope that a proper memorial of his life, character and services, prepared by some competent writer, will soon be given to the public. In the mean time, we have been gratified to see that some friendly hands have been paying their grateful tributes to his shade, in various prints. One of these, we observe, in the warmth of his zeal, has called our departed patriot, "*Ultimus Romanorum*"—"the Last of the Romans." But highly as we honored him, we cannot sanction this lavish compliment to his memory, at the expense of some others, like if not equal, who yet survive him; and at the expense, too, by implication, of our State herself; for we must trust that our old Commonwealth, the "*Magna parens virum*"—the mighty mother of great men—is still "a fruitful vine," and, like the classical tree that bore the golden branch,—

————— *Primo avulso non deficit alter
Aureus; et simili frondescit virga metallo—*

will continue to bear her radiant offspring, with becoming honor, to the end of time.

THE SOUTH WESTERN RAIL ROAD.

It is really curious and almost amusing to observe that this great improvement, now happily secured by the late act of the General Assembly, is but the fulfilment of an old prediction, or rather, we would say, the carrying out of an old project conceived by our fathers of Virginia, many years ago, in the early period of our colonial history, and whose happy accomplishment has been reserved for our day; but so it is! Let our readers ponder the following passage in the old pamphlet which we have republished in this number, in the article entitled "Virginia in 1648," and more particularly the parts we have put in italics, and they will see it at once.

48. "That for matter of their better knowledge of the land they dwell in, the planters resolve to make a further discovery into the country, *west and by south* up above the falls and over the hills, and are confident upon what they have learned from the Indians, to find a way to a *west or south sea*," (the Pacific Ocean) "*by land or rivers, and to discover a way to China and East Indies, or unto some other sea that shall carry them thither;*" &c.

"*And by such a discovery the planters in Virginia shall gain the rich trade of the East India, and so cause it to be driven through the Continent of Virginia, PART BY LAND AND PART BY WATER,*" (by rail road and canal,) "*in a most gainful way and safe, and far less expensful and dangerous than now it is.*"

Now if our South Western rail road can be brought to fall in, as it may, with other works connecting with Col. Benton's magnificent project, or any other route that is, or may be proposed, to the Pacific Ocean, shall we not realize the golden dreams of our fathers at last, in a most surprising and delightful manner? And have we not here a most singular and pleasant illustration of the common saying, "Old Virginia never tire?" And are we not a most constant and persevering people to hang on, in this way, to a splendid project for two centuries and more, and then when the latter end of the speculation had fairly forgot the be-

ginning, and we had even fallen asleep over it—and slept on for generations—to wake up on a bright spring morning, in this year, and realize it at last;—or, at least, see it all in glorious vision before our eyes! For we have no doubt now that we shall finish the work with due speed. And will not all the world acknowledge, after this, that we are a most steady and pertinacious race, as well as a scheming and spouting one, and that we can actually accomplish great things as well as talk about them?—if they will only give us time.

A REVOLUTIONARY RELIC.

We read, some time ago, a short article in the daily Whig of this city, pleasantly entitled “A Gem for the Virginia Historical Society,” and which ran in these words: “H. A. Muhlenburg, Esq., the author of the Life of Gen. Peter Muhlenburg, noticed by us some days ago, says in one of his notes, “The regimental color of this corps (8th Virginia Regiment of the Line,) is still in the writer’s possession. It is made of plain salmon-colored silk, with a broad fringe of the same, having a simple white scroll in the centre, upon which are inscribed the words, ‘VIII Virga. Reg’t.’ The spear-head is brass, considerably ornamented. The banner bears the traces of warm service, and is probably the only revolutionary flag in existence.’ It is a great pity the Historical Society cannot get possession of this flag, furnishing as it does such a noble memento of Revolutionary glory,” &c. We thank the Whig for this complimentary hint, and have no doubt that our Historical Society would be happy to obtain such “a gem” as he would give her, and would esteem it indeed as a precious jewel, reflecting brightly, by association, the honor of the State which she naturally feels as her own. But we really cannot help thinking that it belongs still more properly to the State herself; and that it would grace the Capitol even more becomingly than our hall; and we rather wonder indeed that Mr. Muhlenburg has not thought of giving it this destination; if it

were only to perpetuate, in the best way, the fame of his distinguished relative, already entwined with our history in its fairest praise. We throw out this hint for him, and for our General Assembly; and for any and all others whom it may properly concern.

THE PAST PRESERVED.

Within translucent halls above the moon,
 Where ether spreads beneath a blue lagoon,
 And faintly 'mid a web of cloud and star
 The still earth gleams unfathomed leagues afar,
 The Past and Future dwell, and both are one,
 An endless Present that has ne'er begun.
 The new-born infant dead in Norway's cold,
 The Pharaoh lapt in hieroglyphic gold,
 All fronts that show the pure baptismal ray,
 And all whom Islam bids repent and pray,
 And Trajan's worshippers and Timour's host,
 In calm light live on that eternal coast,
 Where change has never urged its fluctuant bark,
 Nor sunless moon has faded into dark.
 For all that each successive age has seen
 In this low world is always there serene;
 And e'en the glow-worm, crushed by Nimrod's hoof,
 Lives like the Assyrian king from pain aloof.
 There all is perfect ever, all is clear,
 But dimmed how soon in this our hemisphere,
 Where e'en the deed of yestereve grows pale
 In twilight thought before this morning's tale,—
 Unless for Sons of Memory, who by lot
 Enjoy the bliss of all things else forgot;
 Dwell in the house above, and from that hold
 Entrance mankind with wonders manifold;
 And making that has been once more to be,
 Reclothe in foliage bare Oblivion's tree.—*J. Sterling.*

Various Intelligence.

THE NEW ADMINISTRATION.

The new President elect of the United States, General Zachary Taylor, was solemnly inaugurated, and entered on the duties of his office, on the 5th ult., (the 4th falling on Sunday this year,) in the presence of a large concourse of citizens from all parts of the country attending to witness the scene.

His Inaugural Address (since published) was short, sensible, and altogether suitable to the occasion.

The Cabinet as it was afterwards nominated by him to the Senate, and confirmed by that body, stands as follows :

John M. Clayton, of Delaware, Secretary of State.

Wm. M. Meredith, of Pennsylvania, Secretary of the Treasury.

Geo. W. Crawford, of Georgia, Secretary of War.

Wm. B. Preston, of Virginia, Secretary of the Navy.

Thos. Ewing, of Ohio, Secretary of the Home Department.

Jacob Collamer, of Vermont, Post Master General.

Reverdy Johnson, of Maryland, Attorney General.

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

This body adjourned over on the 19th ult., to the 28th of next month, when it will meet again to complete the revival of the laws. The session was one of unusual interest, and will be memorable for the passage of several acts of the highest importance to the State.

From the Times.

IMPROVEMENT BILLS OF THE LATE SESSION.

With a good deal of care and labor, we have prepared for the information of our readers, the following list of the various works of internal improvement, to which the aid of the State was granted during the late session of the Legislature, with the amount of that aid in each case, whether in form of direct appropriations from the Treasury, or of a release of money due to it, or of a guaranty of Compa-

nies' bonds, or of authority to the Board of Public Works to make subscriptions in behalf of the State, or finally of a transfer of stock now held by the State in an existing work.

We think that most of our readers will concur with us in the opinion, that although the amount of liability likely to be incurred by this legislation is considerable, it is by no means such as to excite alarm for the credit of the State. According to the reports of the committee of Finance, at the close of the session, the present income of the Treasury is more than sufficient to meet the interest of the present debt, and of these appropriations also, whenever they shall be called for.

DIRECT APPROPRIATIONS.

Blue Ridge Railroad Tunnel \$100,000 annually, say	-	\$400,000
Macadamizing part of Staunton and Parkersburg road, \$20,000 per annum,	-	60,000
Do. North Western Road \$30,000 per annum,	-	60,000
Stem of Moorefield and Alleghany Turnpike,	-	4,500
Turnpike—Fork's of Sandy to Kanawha Road,	-	2,500
Alleghany and Huntersville Turnpike,	-	5,000
Madison and Page do	-	1,500
Little Stone Gap do	-	650
Logan and Mercer do	-	2,000
Richlands and Kentucky line do	-	2,500
Sistersville and Salem do	-	5,000
Turnpike from Harrisonburg to Moorfield in Hardy and Franklin in Pendleton,	-	1,000
		<hr/>
		\$544,640

DEBT RELEASED.

By a bill passed, the State releases to the town of Portsmouth, the purchase money for the Portsmouth railroad, viz :	-	\$50,000
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GIVING THE STATE'S GUARANTY.

James River and Kanawha Company—Dock Connexion,	\$350,000
Do—South Side and Rivanna do	150,000
Chesapeake and Ohio Canal Company for repairs of canal.	200,000
	<hr/>
	\$700,000

SUBSCRIPTIONS AUTHORIZED.

Virginia and Tennessee Railroad—three fifths—\$150,000 in 1849; \$300,000 in 1850; \$400,000 in 1851; and each year thereafter,	\$1,800,000
Orange and Alexandria Railroad—(additional fifth) total	540,000
Blue Ridge do. to Staunton—three fifths,	90,000
Guyandotte Navigation—three fifths,	45,000

Martinsburg and Winchester Turnpike—three fifths,	-	27,000
Moorefield and Alleghany,	do. do. -	9,000
Moorefield and North Branch,	do. do. -	10,800
Philippi and Buchanan,	do. do. -	6,000
Hillsboro' and Harpers' Ferry,	do. do. -	6,000
Twelve Pole River,	do. do. -	1,800
Morgantown and Beverly,	do. do. -	3,000
Clarksburg and Philippi,	do. do. -	6,000
Red Sweet Springs in Alleghany, through Rich Patch to Bote-		
tourt,	do. do. -	7,200
Dibrell's Springs to Buchanan,	do. do. -	5,400
Giles, Fayette and Kanawha Turnpike—additional subscrip-		
tion,	-	8,000
Grenville and Charleston do—three fifths	- - -	12,000
Sweet and Salt Sulphur Springs, do. do.	- - -	7,200
Weston and Fairmount,	do. do. - - -	12,000
Wellsburg and Bethany,	do. do. - - -	9,000
Morgantown and Bridgeport,	do. do. - - -	6,000
Warrenton and Rappahannock,	do. do. - - -	12,000
Berkeley and Jefferson,	do. do. - - -	12,000
Orlean and Salem,	do. do. - - -	3,000
Howardsville and Rockfish do.—increased to three fifths		21,000
Logan, Raleigh and Monroe do—three-fifths	-	18,000
Martinsburg and Potomac do.	do. -	18,000
Knobly Valley, do.	do. -	8,400
Do. for increase of capital	- - -	6,000
Tazewell C. H. and Fancy Gap do—three fifths,	-	19,200
Buchanan and Little Kanawha. do. do.	-	7,200
Charleston and Point Pleasant do—(additional,)	-	8,000
Williamsport (in Wood) and Parkersburg do—three fifths,		3,000
Hampshire and Morgan do.,	- - -	6,600
Coal River Navigation,	- - -	6,000
Hardy and Winchester do—increased to three fifths,	-	18,000
New Market and Sperryville,	- - -	30,000
Virginia and Maryland Bridge Co. [when \$25,000 subscribed,]		10,000

STOCK TRANSFERRED.

By the bill amending the charter of the Southside Railroad Company, the state transfers to that work its stock in the Petersburg and Roanoke Railroad amounting to, \$322,500

SUBSCRIPTIONS AUTHORIZED—AMOUNT NOT ASCERTAINED.

Ringwood and West Union Turnpike—three fifths,
 Cheat River Bridge, do.
 Staunton and James River Turnpike, do.
 Monongahela Navigation, do.
 Berryville and Charleston Turnpike, do.
 Thornton's Gap, do.
 Harrisville, do.
 Smith's River Navigation—three quarters of two fifths.

RECAPITULATION.

Direct appropriations,	-	-	-	-	-	\$544,650
Debt released,	-	-	-	-	-	50,000
Guaranties authorized,	-	-	-	-	-	700,000
Subscriptions authorized,	-	-	-	-	-	2,817,800
Stock transferred,	-	-	-	-	-	323,500
Total						\$4,435,950

MISCELLANEOUS APPROPRIATIONS.

Va. Military Institute—new cadets—annually,	-	-	-	-	-	\$710
Eastern Lunatic Asylum, [furniture,]	-	-	-	-	-	6,266
Western do.	-	-	-	-	-	8,500
Governor's house—repairs,	-	-	-	-	-	5,000
Deaf and Dumb and Blind Institutes (laundry and bakehouse,)	-	-	-	-	-	4,000
Washington's Monument, (if there be no further subscriptions)	-	-	-	-	-	58,266
Virginia Regiment Volunteers,	-	-	-	-	-	6,000
Davis's Criminal Law,	-	-	-	-	-	2,000
C. Crozet—extra pay for map,	-	-	-	-	-	150
Thomas Green—agent for claims on Congress,	-	-	-	-	-	2,722
Primary schools—additional annuity,	-	-	-	-	-	4,200
						\$107,814

THE LEAD ORE IN NELSON.

The following facts relative to this discovery have been communicated to us. The mine was first discovered on a tract of land purchased by Mr. William Faber, on the edge of the Albemarle Line, and eight miles from the James River Canal. The lead lies four feet below the surface, and the vein is four feet and a half wide; being at least a foot wider than any other known to the world. It has already been traced four miles, and the probability is, that it extends the whole length of the State, upon that line of longitude. The yield is enormous, being eighty per cent. of pure Lead, and two of Silver.

The owner has applied to the Legislature for a charter.

[*Richmond Whig*, Feb. 10th, 1849.]

GOLD IN VIRGINIA.

We understand that the gold digging at Stockton & Heiss' location is still very successful.— The amount raised in January, with fifteen

or twenty hands, was about \$26,000, and the amount in this month is proportionably as much. A deposit of 800 ounces has just been made at the mint. The new machinery was not in operation when the above results were obtained. The success of this Company is quite equal to the average gains in the famous valley of Sacramento.

[*N. Y. Tribune.*]

THE MEDICAL COLLEGE.

The Annual Commencement of this institution was held in the Chemical Hall of the College, on Tuesday the 20th ult. with the usual ceremonies, and some eclat. The audience attending was large, and the menacing aspect of the clouds did not prevent many ladies from gracing the scene with their presence. The Rev. Mr. Hoge made the introductory prayer, in appropriate terms, after which the Dean of the Faculty, Dr. Maupin (in the absence of the President of Hampden Sidney College the Rev. Dr. Green, who was detained at home by sickness,) proceeded to confer the degree of M. D. on the members of the graduating class who had been duly admitted to the honor. Their names are as follows:

David E. Bass, Appomattox; Wm. C. Battaïle, Caroline; Jas. E. Bell, Princess Anne; Crispen D. Boaz, Pittsylvania; Montgomery Bottom, Amelia; Paul Carrington, Cumberland; Frederick A. Clarke, Chesterfield; Benj. T. Davies, Bedford; P. Aylett Fitzhugh, Middlesex; Alex. Harris, Louisa; John E. Harris, Dinwiddie; Marion Howard, Richmond; John C. James, Rockingham, N. C.; Thos. W. Leftwick, Bedford; John N. Lumpkin, King & Queen; Wm. Pannill, Orange; Wm. A. Pearman, Charles City; James S. Pendleton, Botetourt; Arthur E. Petticolos, Richmond; John A. Robertson, Amelia; James E. Rodes, Nelson; Robert H. Ragland, King & Queen; Andrew S. Smith, Greenbrier; Wm. R. Vaughan, Hampton.

The Gold Medal for the Prize Essay was awarded to Dr. Arthur E. Petticolos of this city, who received it with becoming modesty amidst the applause of his competitors.

The honorary degree of Doctor of Medicine was conferred on Philip Thornton, a distinguished gentleman of Rappahannock county.

The Valedictory Address was now delivered by the Dean;—clear

and judicious throughout, with some touches of "a higher mood" towards the end that were truly grateful and refreshing.

We rejoice to learn that the College is in a flourishing and improving state. We regard it as an honor and ornament to our city, and heartily wish it all the support, of every kind, which it so richly merits.

WESTERN VIRGINIA.

We are pleased to see that Dr. Wills De Hass, of Wheeling, (or Grave Creek, in Marshall county) a Corresponding Member of the New York Historical Society, well known for his valuable scientific researches, proposes to publish a "History of the Early Settlement and Indian Wars of Western Virginia, and Adjacent Parts of Pennsylvania and Ohio;" with an Appendix, &c., also "A Topographical Description of North Western Virginia,—its Antiquities, &c., illustrated by several engravings;" in one volume of about 400 pages. It is stated in the Prospectus, that

"The distinctive merits of the work now offered, will consist of a clear, concise and authentic narrative of events connected with the early settlement of Western Virginia and country adjacent, possessing superior accuracy both as to facts and dates, with an uninterrupted continuity of interest from first to last. The author has labored to be correct, to accomplish which he has spared neither trouble nor expense. He has visited at their abodes the few 'living witnesses' who still linger among us, and from these intelligent but frail participators in our border wars—sole depositories of important historical facts, much valuable information has been derived. The work will cover a period of nearly half a century, reaching from 1753 to 1796, during the greater part of which our entire frontier was one continual scene of alarm, conflict, conflagration and massacre. It will comprise in addition to a history of the Indian wars in the region of the Ohio, an authentic account of the several Expeditions and Campaigns into the North-West Territory. It will also embrace in the form of an appendix, highly interesting biographical memoirs and sketches of adventure of many of the old frontier men, who, amid untold dangers, privations and suffering, founded in the depth of the primeval forest, the institutions of freedom we now enjoy". &c.

We have no doubt that such a work, if executed with the ability which we have a right to expect from the author, will be highly valuable and acceptable to all Virginians, (and many others;) and we shall welcome its appearance from the Press with great interest.

ELECTRIC LIGHT.

The idea of producing lights that should displace the use of lamps by means of the galvanic battery, is not new. It was spoken of as a probable attainment thirty years ago. But now electrical lights give promise of soon being a practical reality. We have previously alluded to the experiments in progress in London by Mr. Staite. He has brought his apparatus to produce such results as to have created no small panic in the gas companies of London. His apparatus consists of an ordinary Voltaic battery, having an hundred cells. To each wire or pole is attached a piece of carbon, artificially prepared. The light is produced by first bringing the points of these two pieces into contact, and then setting them a small distance apart—the distance varying with the intensity of the electric current. His model battery produces a light equal to 800 wax candles; and what is specially wonderful about it is, that all this is done at *less than no expense*. The apparatus is actually making money while it produces the light; for the materials used in the battery to excite the electrical action undergo a chemical change, which enhances their value as an article of merchandise. This invention unquestionably promises the most important results.

[*N. Eng. Puritan.*]

THE LATE REV. DR. ATKINSON.

We regret to record that the Rev. Dr. Wm. M. Atkinson, of Winchester, died at his dwelling in that place on Saturday night, the 24th of February last, in the 53rd year of his age. Dr. A. was a man of great worth—fine talents—and noble spirit. He was formerly, and for some time, a lawyer at the bar of Petersburg, and was warmly esteemed by his associates of that profession. He afterwards became a minister of the gospel in the Presbyterian church, and was greatly respected and beloved by his brethren of that denomination, and many others of every branch of the christian communion, whom his large and liberal heart embraced with cordial regard. His eminent services as the able and eloquent Agent of the Virginia Bible Society, and his extraordinary success in the cause, will long be remembered with grateful interest by his friends, and by all the friends of religion in our State.

We may add, that we regard his death as a loss to our Commonwealth, more especially at this time, when he had just received the appointment of Agent of our Virginia Colonization Society (recently revived) and if life and health had permitted, would have entered upon this new service with all the generous ardor of his manly, christian, and patriotic heart.

THE STATE OF EUROPE.

By the latest intelligence, to the 26th ult., the present State of Europe is as follows: Great Britain firm and vigilant. France unsettled. The political affairs of the nation are assuming a more exciting aspect. A change in the Ministry is expected.

All efforts used by the governments of France and Great Britain to continue the armistice between Sardinia and Austria have failed. Hostilities are therefore renewed, and will be carried on with vigor on both sides. In spite of sympathies, it is generally feared that King Charles Albert will be defeated by his enemy.

Naples is in a distracted state. The King has great difficulty to keep his throne.

Accounts from Hungary state that the Imperialists were making little headway against the Magyars, as success had latterly crowned Kossoth and his followers. The Austrians had been again beaten in several battles.

The proposal to appoint the King of Prussia Emperor of Germany has been rejected in the German Parliament.

California gold had been received by various mercantile houses in London, amounting to over 40,000 pounds sterling.

 Miscellany.

LITERARY MINUTES.

THE MOON.

I have always admired that fine stanza in Childe Harold, in which the poet describes, and almost paints, a gorgeous sunset in Italy, beginning with the lines :

The Moon is up, and yet it is not night—
 Sunset divides the sky with her—a sea
 Of glory streams along the Alpine height
 Of blue Friuli's mountains; &c.

And ending with the strain :

While, on the other hand, meek Dian's crest
Floats through the azure air—*an island of the blest.*

How aptly and beautifully does this last touch finish the picture ! It seems to me that nothing in the whole compass of language could have done it so well. It is the classic fancy—so natural to a Greek—of “an island of the blest,” (manifestly a reflection of Paradise,) only subtilized and refined, placed not at the far-off end of the earth, but raised and sublimed above it; and not anchored in the water, but set floating through the air—the “azure air;”—so etherealizing the thought into a delightful abstraction, for imagination to enjoy. It suggests, too, the very association, that, somehow or other, I have always had in looking upon that pure and placid orb, the sight of which naturally melts my heart into a tenderness of emotion—

“Soft as the memory of buried love.”

For indeed I can never see the full-orbed Moon, when I am alone, without immediately thinking of some absent friend whom I have loved and lost, and whom I hope to see again in another and better world. I do not mean, however, to assert that the moon is actually the very “place of departed spirits;” for the Bible, I know, does not authorize me to say so; and I must take care not to be “wise,” or romantic, “above what is written;” but I only mean to say that, somehow or other, there is some sort of connection, or association, in my own mind at least, between the lovely orb and that happy region, wherever its *ubi*, or particular locality may be. I do not, of course, dogmatize on this point, or even care to descant about it. I only desire to dream. * *

MAXIMS, BY HOWARD.

Our superfluities should be given up for the convenience of others;
Our conveniences should give place to the necessities of others;
And even our necessities should give way to the extremities of the poor.

THE SEASON.

Spring, the year's youth, fair mother of new flowers,
 New leaves, new loves, drawn by the winged hours,
 Thou art return'd, but nought returns with thee,
 Save my lost joys' regretful memory ;
 Thou art the self-same thing thou wert before,
 As fair, as jocund ; but I am no more
 The thing I was.—*R. Fanshawe*—1653.

VERNAL WALKS.

In those vernal seasons of the year when the air is calm and pleasant, it were an injury and sullenness against Nature, not to go out and see her riches, and participate in her rejoicings with heaven and earth.—*Milton*.

AN APOLOGY FOR THE TELEGRAPH,

In answer to "A Quidnunc," in the last number.

Would you know, my dear Quid, how these "heavenly wires,"
 As all the world owns them, are sometimes such "liars?"
 Whatever you write down they certainly send,
 And if they tell twangs,—'tis the man at the end.

QUIVIS.

TO READERS AND CORRESPONDENTS.

We propose to prepare a brief Memoir, or Biographical Notice, of the late Mr. Leigh, for preservation in our Register ; and will be much obliged to any one who will furnish us with any proper materials—speeches, writings, sayings, anecdotes, &c., which may aid us in the service.

We have several valuable communications in hand which we shall publish as soon as possible.

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No. III.

COL. NORWOOD'S VOYAGE TO VIRGINIA, IN 1649.

We have before us here, at this time, an old tract entitled "A Voyage to Virginia, by Colonel Norwood," which we find republished in Churchill's Collections of Voyages and Travels, (one of a small parcel of rare and valuable works lately imported by our Virginia Historical Society from London,) which we have read with much interest; and which we should be glad to lay before our readers entire. It is, however, quite too long for our pages; and much the greater part of it might, perhaps, be regarded as rather irrelevant to the subject of our work. We shall therefore, content ourselves for the present with giving our readers a running abridgment of the Colonel's narrative until we get him fairly landed on the coast of our country, somewhere South of New Netherlands, (since called New York,) and ready to set out for "*Achomat*," (as he spells it) on our own Eastern Shore; from which point we shall allow him to give the rest of his story, which comes very clearly within the scope of our publication, in his own words. But before we proceed to discharge our duty in this way, we shall present our author's introduction to his Voyage, which glances at the state of things at the time of his undertaking it, and seems necessary to the full understanding of the whole,—as follows:

"The month of *August*, *Anno* 1649, being the time I engag'd to meet my two comrades, Major *Francis Morrison*, and Major *Richard Fox*, at *London*, in order to a full accomplishment of our

purpose to seek our fortunes in *Virginia*, (pursuant to our agreement the year before in *Holland*) all parties very punctually appear'd at the time and place assign'd, and were all still in the same mind, fully bent to put in practice what we had so solemnly agreed upon, our inclinations that way being nothing abated, but were rather quicken'd, by the new changes that we saw in the state of things, and that very much for the worse: For if our spirits were somewhat depress'd in contemplation of a barbarous restraint upon the person of our king in the *Isle of Wight*; to what horrors and despairs must our minds be reduc'd at the bloody and bitter stroke of his assassination, at his palace of *Whitehall*?

This unparallel'd butchery made the rebels cast away the scabbards of their swords with both their hands, in full resolution never to let them meet again, either by submission or capitulation; so that the sad prospect of affairs in this juncture, gave such a damp to all the royal party who had resolved to persevere in the principle which engaged them in the war, that a very considerable number of nobility, clergy, and gentry, so circumstanc'd, did fly from their native country, as from a place infected with the plague, and did betake themselves to travel any where to shun so hot a contagion, there being no point on the compass that would not suit with some of our tempers and circumstances, for transportation into foreign lands.

Of the number who chose to steer their course for *America*, such of them as inclin'd to try their fortunes at *Surinam*, *Barbados*, *Antigua*, and the *Leeward Islands*, were to be men of the first rate, who wanted not money or credit to balance the expence necessary to the carrying on the sugar works: And this consideration alone was enough to determine our choice for *Virginia*, had we wanted other arguments to engage us in the voyage. The honour I had of being nearly related to Sir *William Barkeley* the governor, was no small incitation to encourage me with a little stock to this adventure: Major *Morrison* had the king's commission to be captain of the fort; and Mr. *Fox* was to share in our good or bad success: But my best cargaroon was

his majesty's gracious letter in my favour, which took effect beyond my expectation, because it recommended me (above whatever I had or could deserve) to the governor's particular care.

To proceed then, without any further *exordium*, to the subject of this narrative: It fell out to be about the first day of *September, Anno. 1649*, that we grew acquainted on the *Royal Exchange* with Capt. *John Locker*, whose bills upon the posts made us know he was master of a good ship, (untruly so call'd) *The Virginia Merchant*, burden three hundred tons, of force thirty guns, or more: We were not long in treaty with the captain, but agreed with him for ourselves and servants at six pounds a head, to be transported into *James River*; our goods to be paid for at the current price.

About the fifteenth day, we were ordered to meet the ship at *Gravesend*, where the captain was to clear with his merchants, and we to make our several payments; which when we had performed, we staid not for the ship, but took post for the *Downs*, where, with some impatience, we expected her coming there. About the sixteenth *ditto*, we could see the whole fleet under sail, with a south-west wind; which having brought them to that road, kept them there at anchor, until our money was almost spent at *Deal*.

September 23. the wind veered to the east, and we were summoned by signs and guns to repair on board. We had a fresh large gale three days, which cleared us of the channel, and put us out of soundings. With this propitious beginning we pursued our course for about twenty days, desiring to make the western islands; at which time the cooper began to complain, that our water-cask was almost empty, alledging, that there was not enough in hold, for our great family (about three hundred and thirty souls) to serve a month."

On receiving this alarming information, the Captain resolved to make for the first port, which was *Fyal*, where he arrived on the 14th of October. Here our voyagers were very agreeably entertained for some days, and the ship having obtained her supplies of water and other necessaries, set sail again, and proceed-

ed on her voyage, on the 22nd of the same month. "We parted," says the Colonel with an easterly wind, a topsail gale, which soon brought us into a trade-wind that favored us at fifty or sixty leagues in twenty-four hours, till we came to the height of *Bermudas*." Here, of course, he looked out for a storm; and he was not disappointed. "In that latitude," says he, "it is the general observation of seamen, that the seas are rough, and the weather stormy." *Bermudas*, our readers may remember, was notoriously haunted *at that period* by a pack of evil spirits that used to raise the winds for sport when they pleased, and always pleased when they saw a ship in sight. So they got up an extempore storm this time, for the Colonel to enjoy if he could, and with a new object, it seems, for his special entertainment. "It was my fortune," says he, "to have a curiosity to look out, when the officer on the watch showed me a more than ordinary agitation of the sea in one particular place above the rest; which was the effect of what they call a *spout*; a raging in the bowels of the sea, (like a violent birth,) striving to break out, and at last springs up like a mine at land, with weight and force enough to have hoisted our ship out of her proper element into the air, (had the helm been for it,) and to have made her do the supersalt; but God's providence secured us from that danger."

"The sight of the island," however, we read, "was welcome to all: as the mariners learned thereby our true distance from Cape *Hatteras*; and the passengers were relieved with hopes to be soon at shore from a hungry pester'd ship and company." Flattering these hopes, the gale continued fair till the 8th of November, when they got within soundings; but towards break of day mate Putts, on watch, roused up the whole company, crying out "*All hands aloft! Breaches, Breaches on both sides! All hands aloft!*" They were, indeed, in great and imminent danger; but they swayed off this time from the lee shore, and "by the miraculous mercy of God," got once more out to sea.

But here again they encountered another violent storm, which rising at last above itself, in its rage, broke out into open fury with a crash from aloft which brought down "the fore-topmast

by the board, and not alone but with the fore-mast head broken short off, just under the cap." This was "a sore business," and "put all to their wits end to recover to any competent condition;" but it was followed by other and worse damage—"the loss of the fore-castle with six guns, and our anchors, (all but one fastened to a cable,) together with our two cooks, whereof one was recovered by a strange providence." Then "the bowsprit having lost all stays and rigging that should keep it steady, swayed to and fro with such bangs on the bows," that they were obliged to cut it close off to save the ship. After this, "all things were in miserable disorder, and it was evident our danger increased upon us: the stays of all the masts were gone, the shrouds that remained were loose and useless," and very soon, as they foresaw, "both main and topmast all came down together, and, in one shock, fell all to the windward clear into the sea;" but, fortunately, "without hurt to any man." This wreck was, of course, soon cut away, and now "abandoned in this manner to the fury of the raging sea, tossed up and down without any rigging to keep the ship steady, *our seamen* frequently fell overboard, without any one regarding the loss of another, every man expecting the same fate, though in a different manner." Here, however, Divine Providence interposed to relieve them from their fears,—though not to "bring them into their desired haven." The storm at last abated, and, "on the 7th day, the seas were much appeased."

The mizen-mast was still standing, and the stump of the fore-mast "stood its ground." So they proceeded to set sails to them as well as they could; and the "*good ship*," *Virginia Merchant*, shot ahead again, and so swiftly that when, by some error in their reckoning, they thought themselves still south of Cape Henry—when they came to get an observation on a clear sunshine day, "we found ourselves considerably shot to the north of *Achomat*, and that, in the opinion of mate Putts, who was as our north star." This was a great trial to their patience; but there was no help for it, for "the gale blew fresh again, (as it uses to do,) towards night, and made a western sea that carried us off at a great rate." And still "the wind continued many days and

nights to send us out into the ocean, insomuch that until we thought ourselves at least an hundred leagues from the capes, the north-west gale gave us no time to consider what was best to do." Here our author observes, very considerately, "It would be too great a trial of the reader's patience to be entertained with every circumstance of our sufferings in the remaining part of this voyage, which continued in great extremity for at least forty days from the time we left the land, our miseries increasing every hour." We agree with him; and passing, accordingly, over many incidents, we hasten to bring the ship back to the coast, which she began to approach once more on the 3rd of January, 1650; "and as the morning of the 4th day gave us light, we saw the land, but in what latitude we could not tell." Here, however, they hovered about the coast, till "about the hours of 3 or 4 in the afternoon of the 12th eve, we were shot in fair to the shore. The evening was clear and calm, the water smooth; the land we saw nearest was some six or seven English miles distant from us, our soundings twenty-five fathoms in good ground for anchor-hold."

"Here, then, by the vote of the majority of the company on board, "the anchor was let loose," and mate Putts, getting into the boat with Major Morrison, and "twelve sickly passengers, who fancied the shore would cure them," along with him, pulled away for the nearest land. "In four or five hours time, we could discover the boat returning with mate *Putts* alone for a setter, which we looked upon as a signal of happy success. When he came on board, his mouth was full of good tidings, as namely, that he discovered a creek, that would harbour our ship, and that there was a depth of water on the bar, sufficient for her draught when she was light. That there was excellent fresh water, (a taste whereof Major Morrison had sent me in a bottle.) That the shore swarmed with fowl, and that Major Morrison stayed behind in expectation of the whole ship's company, to follow." On this, our author gladly jumped into the wherry, accompanied by the Captain and some others, and hastened for the shore. Here he was soon regaled with a glorious draught

of fresh water, which he took, he says, "prostrating himself on his belly, and setting his mouth against the stream, that it might run into his thirsty stomach without stop;"—and which, he says, "I thought the greatest pleasure I ever enjoyed on earth." Then came the shooting, roasting and eating of a duck, and then, better still, "in passing a small gullet, we trod on an oyster bank that did happily furnish us with a good addition to our duck." In short, the Colonel and his party fared well, and finding their new quarters so agreeable, were strongly disposed to bring the ship in, and unload her there, without trusting themselves on board of her again. Towards break of day, however, the Captain who lay near him, whispered in his ear, and asked him "if he would go back with him on board the ship?" He answered "no—for he thought it would be useless, as the ship was to come in." Whereupon the captain rose, and went off with his kinsman in the boat. "But no sooner had he cleared himself of the shore," says our Colonel, "but the day-break made me see my error in not closing with his motion in my ear; for the first object we saw at sea was the ship under sail, standing for the capes (of Virginia) with what canvass could be made to serve the turn. It was a very heavy prospect to us who remained (we knew not where) on shore, to see ourselves thus abandoned by the ship, and more, to be forsaken by the boat, so contrary to our mutual agreement. Many hours of hard labour and toil were spent before the boat could fetch the ship: and the seamen (whose act it was to set sail without the Captain's order, as we were told after,) car'd not for the boat whilst the wind was large to carry them to the capes. But mate *Putts*, who was more sober and better natured, discovering the boat from the mizzen top, lay by till she came with the Captain on board." We may add here what we learn sometime afterwards, that the ship subsequently got into the Capes, and into James River, (though not to James Town,) where the Captain, of course, informed the governor, Sir William Berkeley, of their misadventures, and of their having left his kinsman, the Colonel, with Major Morrison and the rest of his companions of the voyage behind.

In the mean time, the gentlemen thus left, exploring their new territory more carefully, discovered that it was an island, which damped their spirits for a while, but soon roused their wit and courage to invent some mode of getting over to the main land, and proceeding to Virginia, which they rightly judged lay somewhere to the South-West. While they were preparing for this new adventure, however, the Indians of the neighboring forests had found them out, and began to show themselves on the shore;—then to visit the outskirts of the new settlement on the island, carrying shell-fish to the poor sick women, in the most friendly manner, and making signs that they would return again. Accordingly they came back next day, some twenty or thirty in all, with cheerful, smiling faces, without arms, bringing ears of corn, and other provision for the famishing strangers, and treating them with the utmost humanity and kindness. The intercourse thus opened, was again renewed, and continued from time to time for some days, and the feeling of friendship was constantly growing between the parties, though their sociability was greatly embarrassed by their ignorance of each other's language. At last, however, says our Colonel, "it came into my head that I had long since read Mr. Smith's travels through those parts of America, and that the word *Werowance*, (a word frequently pronounced by the old man—one of the Indians,) was in English the *king*. That word, spoken by me, with strong emphasis, together with the motions of my body, speaking my desire of going to him, was very pleasing to him, who thereupon embraced me with more than common kindness, and by all demonstrations of satisfaction, did show that he understood my meaning. This one word was all the Indian I could speak, which (like a little armour well-placed) contributed to the saving of our lives." The old Indian, accordingly, took our Colonel by the hand and led him to a canoe—the other passengers were taken to other canoes—and they crossed the inlet—and were led to the Werowance, or king, who received them all with the utmost civility. We must pass over the incidents of many days—the sketches of Indian life—the King—the Queen—the Princess—the Venison

feast, &c., &c., though they are interesting and amusing enough—for we must save our space. The Colonel had at last made out to let the king know, that he was bound to *Achomat*, and earnestly desired to proceed thither; whereupon *his majesty* “did forthwith cause a lusty young man to be called to him, to whom, by the earnestness of his motions, he seemed to give ample instructions to do something for our service, but what it was we were not yet able to resolve.”

In the mean time, the Colonel and his party were impatient to be gone, and were resolving, from day to day, to set out on their journey alone; when one morning, his young governess, (as he calls her) the king's daughter, who was charged with the care of him, “put herself in a posture to lead the way back to the king's house, and after a very good repast of stew'd muscles, led him away with great swiftness, to the king.” Here he learned, with equal surprise and satisfaction, that the messengers from Virginia had arrived, and were waiting to see him. “I hastened,” says the Colonel, “to see *those angels*, and addressing myself to one of them in English habits, asked him the occasion of his coming there? He told me his business was to trade for furs, and no more; but as soon as I told him my name, and the accidents of our being there, he acknowledged he came under the guidance of the *Kichotank Indian*, (which I imagined, but was not sure, the king had sent,) in quest of me, and those that were left on shore, sent by the Governor of Virginia's order, to enquire after us, but knew not where to find us, till that Indian came to his house. He then gave me a large account of the ship's arrival, and the many dangers and difficulties she encountered before she could come into James river, where she ran ashore, resolving there to lay her bones. His name was *Jenkins Price*, he had brought an *Indian* of his neighborhood with him that was very well acquainted in those parts, for our conduct back to *Achomac*, which *Indian* was called Jack.” Having thus brought our readers (somewhat hurriedly) to the proper point, we shall now allow the Colonel, as we promised, to tell the rest of his story in his own words.

By better acquaintance with these our deliverers, we learn'd that we were about fifty *English* miles from *Virginia*: That part of it where *Jenkin* did govern, was call'd *Littleton's Plantation*, and was the first *English* ground we did expect to see. He gave me great encouragement to endure the length of the way, by assuring me I should not find either stone or shrub to hurt my feet thorow my thin-soaled boots, for the whole colony had neither stone nor underwood; and having thus satisfy'd my curiosity in the knowledge of what *Jenkin Price* could communicate, we deferred no longer to resolve how and when to begin our journey to *Achomack*.

The *Indian* he brought with him (who afterwards lived and died my servant) was very expert, and a most incomparable guide in the woods we were to pass, being a native of those parts, so that he was as our sheet-anchor in this our peregrination. The king was loth to let us go till the weather was better temper'd for our bodies; but when he saw we were fully resolved, and had pitch'd upon the next morning to begin our journey, he found himself much defeated in a purpose he had taken to call together all the flower of his kingdom to entertain us with a dance, to the end that nothing might be omitted on his part for our divertisement, as well as our nourishment, which his small territory could produce. Most of our company would gladly have deferred our march a day longer, to see this masquerade, but I was wholly bent for *Achomack*, to which place I was to dance almost on my bare feet, the thoughts of which took off the edge I might otherwise have had to novelties of that kind.

When the good old king saw we were fully determined to be gone the next day, he desired as a pledge of my affection to him, that I would give him my camblet coat, which he vowed to wear whilst he lived for my sake; I shook hands to shew my willingness to please him in that or in any other thing he would command, and was the more willing to do myself the honor of compliance in this particular, because he was the first king I could call to mind that had ever shew'd any inclinations to wear my old cloaths.

To the young princess, that had so signally obliged me, I presented a piece of two-penny scarlet ribbon, and a *French* tweezer, that I had in my pocket, which made her skip for joy, and to show how little she fancy'd our way of carrying them concealed, she retired apart for some time, and taking out every individual piece of which it was furnish'd, she tied a snip of ribbon to each, and so came back with scissars, knives and bodkins hanging at her ears, neck and hair. The case itself was not excus'd, but bore a part in this new dress: and to the end we might not part without leaving deep impressions of her beauty in our minds, she had prepared on her forefingers, a lick of paint on each, the colours (to my best remembrance) green and yellow, which at one motion she discharg'd on her face, beginning upon her temples, and continuing it in an oval line downwards as far as it would hold out. I could have wish'd this young princess would have contented herself with what nature had done for her, without this addition of paint (which, I thought, made her more fulsome than handsome); but I had reason to imagine the royal family were only to use this ornament exclusive of all others, for that I saw none other of her sex so set off; and this conceit made it turn again, and appear lovely, as all things should do that are honour'd with the royal stamp.

I was not furnish'd with any thing upon the place, fit to make a return to the two queens for the great charity they used to feed and warm me; but when I came into a place where I could be supply'd, I was not wanting that way, according to my power.

Early next morning we put our selves in posture to be gone, (*viz.*) major *Stephens*, myself, and three or four more, whose names are worn out of my mind. Major *Morrison* was so far recovered as to be heart-whole, but he wanted strength to go thro' so great a labour as this was like to prove. We left him with some others to be brought in boats that the governor had order'd for their accommodation; and with them the two weak women, who were much recover'd by the good care and nourishment they receiv'd in the poor fisherman's house.

Breakfast being done, and our pilot *Jack* ready to set out, we

took a solemn leave of the good king. He inclosed me in his arms with kind embraces, not without expressions of sorrow to part, beyond the common rate of new acquaintance. I made *Jack* pump up his best compliments, which at present was all I was capable to return to the king's kindness; and so, after many *Hanna haes*, we parted.

We were not gone far till the fatigue and tediousness of the journey discovered itself in the many creeks we were forc'd to head, and swamps to pass (like *Irish* bogs) which made the way at least double to what it would have amounted to in a strait line: and it was our wonder to see our guide *Jack* lead on the way with the same confidence of going right, as if he had had a *London* road to keep him from straying. Howbeit he would many times stand still and look about for land-marks; and when on one hand and the other his marks bore right for his direction, he would shew himself greatly satisfied. As to the purpose, an old deform'd tree that lay north-west, opposite to a small hammock of pines to the southeast, would evidence his going right in all weathers. It is true, they know not the compass by the loadstone, but, which is equivalent, they never are ignorant of the north-west point, which gives them the rest; and that they know by the weather-beaten moss that grows on that side of every oak, different from the rest of the tree, which is their compass. Towards evening we saw smoak (an infallible sign of an *Indian* town) which *Jack* knew to arise from *Gingo Teague*. We went boldly into the king's house (by advice of his brother of *Kickotank*) who was also a very humane prince. What the place and season produc'd was set before us with all convenient speed, which was enough to satisfy hunger, and to fit us for repose.

I was extremely tir'd with this tedious journey; and it was the more irksome to me, because I perform'd it in boots (my shoes being worn out) which at that time were commonly worn to walk in; so that I was much more sleepy than I had been hungry. The alliance I had newly made at *Kickotank* did already stand me in some stead, for that it qualified me to a lodging apart,

and gave me a first taste of all we had to eat, tho' the variety was not so great as I had seen in other courts.

As yet (as we see in all worldly honours) this grandeur of mine was not without its alloy; for as it gave me accommodation of eating and sleeping in preference to my comrades, so did it raise the hopes of the royal progeny of gifts and presents, beyond what I was either able or willing to afford them: for when I would have taken my rest, I was troubled beyond measure with their visits, and saw by their carriage what they would be at; wherefore, to free myself of further disturbance, and to put myself out of the pain of denials, I resolv'd to comply with the necessities of nature, which press'd me hard to sleep; and to that end I took the freedom by *Jack*, to desire they would all withdraw until I found myself refresh'd.

I pass'd the night till almost day-break in one intire sleep; and when I did awake (not suddenly able to collect who, or where I was) I found myself strangely confounded, to see a damsel plac'd close to my side, of no meaner extract than the king's eldest daughter, who had completely finish'd the rape of all the gold and silver buttons that adorn'd the king of *Kicko-lank's* coat, yet on my back. When I was broad awake, and saw this was no enchantment (like those trances knights-errant use to be in) but that I was really despoiled of what was not in my power to dispense withal, I called for *Jack*, and made him declare my resentment and much dislike of this princess's too great liberty upon so small acquaintance, which made me have a mean opinion of her. *Jack* shew'd more anger than myself to see such usage by any of his country, and much more was he scandaliz'd, that one of the blood royal should purloin.

But the king, upon notice of the fact and party concerned in it, immediately caused the buttons to be found out and returned, with no slight reprimand to his daughter, and then all was well, and so much the better by the gift of such small presents as I was able to make to the king and princess. Breakfast was given us, and we hasten'd to proceed in our journey to *Achomack*.

The uneasiness of boots to travel in, made me by much the

more weary of the former day's journey, and caus'd me to enter very unwillingly upon this second day's work. We reckon'd our selves about twenty-five miles distant from *Jenkin's* house. It pleased God to send us dry weather, and not excessive cold. We had made provision of *Pone* to bait on by the way, and we found good water to refresh us; but all this did not hinder my being tir'd and spent almost to the last degree. *Jack* very kindly offer'd his service to carry me on his shoulders (for I was brought to a moderate weight by the strict diet I had been in) but that would have been more uneasy to me, in contemplation of his more than double pains, and so I resolv'd to try my utmost strength, without placing so great a weight on his shoulders.

The hopes of seeing *English* ground in *America*, and that in so short a time as they made us expect, did animate my spirits to the utmost point. *Jack* fearing the worst, was of opinion, that we should call at his aunt's town, the queen of *Pomumkin*, not far out of the way: but *Jenkin Price* oppos'd that motion, and did assure me our journey's end was at hand. His words and my own inclination carried the question, and I resolv'd, by God's help, that night to sleep at *Jenkin's* house.

But the distance proving yet greater than had been described, and my boots trashing me almost beyond all sufferance, I became desperate, and ready to sink and lie down. *Jenkin* lull'd me on still with words that spurr'd me to the quick; and would demonstrate the little distance betwixt us and his plantation, by the sight of hogs and cattle, of which species the *Indians* were not masters. I was fully convinc'd of what he said, but would however have consented to a motion of lying without doors on the ground, within two or three flights shot of the place, to save the labour of so small a remainder.

The close of the evening, and a little more patience (thro' the infinite goodness of the Almighty) did put a happy period to our cross adventure. A large bed of sweet straw was spread ready in *Jenkin's* house for our reception, upon which I did hasten to extend and stretch my wearied limbs. And being thus brought into safe harbour by the many miracles of divine mercy, from

all the storms and fatigues, perils and necessities to which we had been exposed by sea and land for almost the space of four months, I cannot conclude this voyage in more proper terms, than the words that are the burthen of that psalm of providence, *O that men would therefore praise the Lord for his goodness, and for his wondrous works unto the children of men.*

Our landlord *Jenkin Price*, and conductor *Jack* took great care to provide meat for us; and there being a dairy and hens, we could not want. As for our stomachs, they were open at all hours to eat whatever was set before us, as soon as our wearied bodies were refreshed with sleep. It was on *Saturday* the — day of *January*, that we ended this our wearisome pilgrimage, and entered into our king's dominions at *Achomat*, called by the *English*, *Northampton* county, which is the only county on that side of the bay belonging to the colony of *Virginia*, and is the best of the whole for all sorts of necessaries for human life.

Having been thus refreshed in *Jenkin's* house this night with all our hearts could wish, on the next morning, being *Sunday*, we would have been glad to have found a church for the performance of our duty to God, and to have rendered our hearty thanks to him in the public assembly, for his unspeakable mercies vouchsafed to us; but we were not yet arrived to the heart of the country where there were churches, and ministry perform'd as our laws direct, but were glad to continue our own chaplains, as formerly. As we advanced into the plantations that lay thicker together, we had our choice of hosts for our entertainment, without money or its value; in which we did not begin any novelty, for there are no inns in the colony; nor do they take other payment for what they furnish to coasters, but by requital of such courtesies in the same way, as occasions offer.

When I came to the house of one *Stephen Charlton*, he did not only outdo all that I had visited before him, in variety of dishes at his table, which was very well order'd in the kitchen, but would also oblige me to put on a good farmer-like suit of his own wearing cloaths, for exchange of my dirty habit; and this

gave me opportunity to deliver my camlet coat to *Jack*, for the use of my brother of *Kickotank*, with other things to make it worth his acceptance.

Having been thus frankly entertain'd at Mr. *Charlton's*, our company were in condition to take care for themselves. We took leave of each other, and my next stage was to esquire *Yardly*, a gentleman of good name, whose father had sometimes been governor of *Virginia*. There I was received and treated as if I had in truth and reality been that man of honor my brother of *Kickotank* had created me. It fell out very luckily for my better welcome, that he had not long before brought over a wife from *Rotterdam*, that I had known almost from a child. Her father (*Custis* by name) kept a victualling house in that town, liv'd in good repute, and was the general host of our nation there. The esquire knowing I had the honour to be the governor's kinsman, and his wife knowing my conversation in *Holland*, I was receiv'd and caress'd more like a domestick and near relation, than a man in misery, and a stranger. I stay'd there for a passage over the bay, about ten days, welcomed and feasted not only by the esquire and his wife, but by many neighbours that were not too remote.

About the midst of *February*, I had an opportunity to cross the bay in a sloop, and with much ado landed in *York* river, at esquire *Ludlow's* plantation, a most pleasant situation. I was civilly receiv'd by him, who presently order'd an accommodation for me in a most obliging manner. But it fell out at that time, that captain *Wormly* (of his majesty's council) had guests in his house (not a furlong distant from Mr. *Ludlow's*) feasting and carousing, that were lately come from *England*, and most of them my intimate acquaintance. I took a sudden leave of Mr. *Ludlow*, thank'd him for his kind intentions to me, and using the common freedom of the country, I thrust myself amongst captain *Wormly's* guests in crossing the creek, and had a kind reception from them all, which answered (if not exceeded) my expectation.

Sir *Thomas Lundsford*, Sir *Henry Chickly*, Sir *Philip Honywood*, and colonel *Hamond* were the persons I met there, and enjoy'd

that night with very good cheer, but left them early the next morning, out of a passionate desire I had to see the governor, whose care for my preservation had been so full of kindness.

Captain *Wormly* mounted me for *James Town*, where the governor was pleased to receive and take me to his house at *Green-spring*, and there I pass'd my hours (as at mine own house) until *May* following; at which time he sent me for *Holland* to find out the king, and to sollicite his majesty for the treasurer's place of *Virginia*, which the governor took to be void by the delinquency of *Cluybourne*, who had long enjoy'd it. He furnish'd me with a sum of money to bear the charge of this sollicitation; which took effect, tho' the king was then in *Scotland*. He was not only thus kind to me (who had a more than ordinary pretence to his favour by our near affinity in blood) but, on many occasions, he shew'd great respect to all the royal party, who made that colony their refuge. His house and purse were open to all that were so qualify'd. To one of my comrades (major *Fox*) who had no friend at all to subsist on, he shew'd a generosity that was like himself; and to my other (major *Morrison*) he was more kind, for he did not only place him in the command of the fort, which was profitable to him whilst it held under the king, but did advance him after to the government of the country, wherein he got a competent estate.

And thus (by the good providence of a gracious God, who helpeth us in our low estate, and causeth his angels to pitch tents round about them that trust in him) have I given as faithful an account of this signal instance of his goodness to the miserable objects of his mercy in this voyage, as I have been able to call to a clear remembrance.

EXAMPLE.

"Example," says Edmund Burke, "is the school of mankind, and they will learn at no other." Hence the value of History, which is but the record of what our race has done; or, in other words, the register of example.

JAMESTOWN.

It is well known, that our Fathers of Virginia made their first settlement in our State on a peninsula which they found on the North side of James river, (about fifty miles from its mouth,) and which they called James City, in honor of king James, under whose auspices they made their adventure. This peninsula was bounded on the North by a small, but deep and navigable river, which united on the East with the main stream; on the South by the main river itself, and on the West by the same, being connected with the main land, at this end, by a short neck, or isthmus, so low as to be entirely covered by very high tides, when the peninsula became an island. The peninsula contained about two thousand acres of arable land, low at the Eastern end, and rising gradually Westward; and several thousand acres of marsh, covered with water at high tide. Of this tract the settlers selected the West end, being the highest part, for the site of a Town, which they called "*Jamestowne*," after the king. Here the colonists proceeded to build their houses—knocking up small sheds, or shanties, in great haste, and thatching them with the long grass taken from the marshes—rude buildings enough, but sufficient to shelter their heads from the sun and rain.

For some years after this, the history of the town is hardly separable from that of the colony, of which it soon became the capital; but I must keep it by itself as well as I can. In 1611, we read in Smith, that "James towne hath two rows of houses of framed timber, and some of them two stories, and a garret higher, three large Store-houses, joined together in length, and hee (the Governor) hath newly strongly impaled the towne." After this, I suppose, the town still went on increasing and improving in its way, until the year 1641, when it took a sudden start under Sir Wm. Berkeley, who came over Governor in that year, and, to signalize his administration, caused thirty-two brick houses to be built in it at public expense, and occupied one of them himself. He caused also a brick church to be erected, and the burying ground attached to it to be enclosed with a substantial brick wall. It is a

fragment of the steeple of this church—or of one subsequently built on its site—that we still see; and it is the same burying ground that is still before us at this day. In it the remains of some of the first settlers and their successors, our fathers and mothers of Virginia, are deposited in silent dust. Here lie the ashes of Lady Berkeley, who remained behind when Sir William returned to England in 1677, and afterwards inherited his estate, with which, as I have heretofore mentioned, she enriched her third husband, Philip Ludwell, a member of the Council, and a man of great worth and influence in the Colony. Her grave, however, cannot now be identified, for, somehow or other, it is not marked by any monument or tomb. Here also lie the bodies of the Reverend Commissary Blair and his wife; and many others.

In October 1660, an act of assembly was passed for building a State House in James City “for the right Honorable the Governor and Council, to keep courts, and for future Grand Assemblies to meet in.” This was accordingly erected under the superintendence of Sir William Berkeley, and a Committee consisting of Col. William Barber, Col. Gerard Fowkes, Col. Kendall, Mr. Thomas Warren, Mr. Rawleigh Traverse, and Mr. Thomas Lucas. It was built with bricks made in the town, or at least near it. There is good reason to believe that the State House was adjacent to Sir William Berkeley’s residence, and the thirty-two brick houses erected at public expense, as already mentioned. All these houses, however, with the church which was Eastward of them, and a little lower down, were burnt by Richard Lawrence, one of Bacon’s men, in 1676; the magazine was the only house left, and that is still standing.

I will only add that the great body of the town, which however was never very large, was certainly west of the Old Steeple still visible, and is now entirely, or very nearly, submerged in the river. This is clearly proved by the old deeds for lots in the town, recorded in the office of James City county court, which call for bounds that are now under water; and, more palpably, by vast numbers of broken bricks, and other relics of buildings that may still be seen in the Western bank, at low tide.

R. R.

ORIGINAL LETTERS.

FROM GENERAL WASHINGTON TO COLONEL BAYLOR.

These letters from General Washington to Col. Baylor, are copied from a manuscript collection in the possession of the venerable Mrs. Baylor, of Warrenton, who has, very obligingly allowed us to publish them in our work.

TO GEORGE BAYLOR, ESQ.

CAMBRIDGE, 28TH NOVEMBER, 1775.

Dear Sir,—I forgot to desire you to hire Horses if more than those you carried should be wanted,—and therefore I mention it by Capt. Blewer. I should be glad if you could send on, and let me know a little before you come to town,—the evening before if convenient. I wish you a pleasant and uninterrupted journey, and am Dr. Sir,

Your obedient,

G. WASHINGTON.

P. S.—I forgot to give you money before you went away, but keep an account of your expenses and they shall be paid so soon as you return to camp.

To George Baylor, Esq. Colonel of a Regiment of Horse to be raised in Virginia.

MORRIS TOWN, JAN'Y 9TH, 1777.

Dear Baylor,—Your letter of the 1st from Baltimore came to my hands this day. Your desires of commanding a Reg't of Horse I cheerfully yield to, because it is the recommendation of Congress—your own wish—and my desire.

As nothing contributes so much to the constitution of a good Regiment as a good Corps of Officers, and no method so likely to obtain these as leaving the choice in a great measure to the gentleman who is to reap the honours, or share the disgrace arising from their behaviour, I shall vest you with the power of

nominating the officers of your own regiment—except the field officers, and those of the troop commanded by Geo. Lewis, which I shall annex to your Regiment (instead of Sheldon's,) and except a Lieutenancy in some Troop for little Stark. When I talk of giving you the nomination of the officers, I would have it understood, that I reserve to myself a negative upon a part, or the whole, if I have reason to suspect an improper choice.

I earnestly recommend to you to be circumspect in your choice of officers. Take none but Gentlemen—let no local attachments influence you—do not suffer your good nature (when an application is made) to say Yes, when you ought to say No. Remember that it is a public, not a private cause that is to be injured, or benefited by your choice. Recollect, also, that no instance has yet happened of good, or bad behaviour in any Corps of our service, that has not originated with the officers. Do not take old men, nor yet fill your Corps with Boys—especially for Captains. Col. Landon Carter some time ago recommended a Grandson of his to me,—If he still inclines to serve, and a Lieutenancy would satisfy him, make him the offer of it.

I have wrote to a Major Clough to accept the Majority of your Regiment. He is an experienced officer in the Horse service, and a gentlemanlike man, as far as I have seen of him. The Lieut. Col. I have not yet absolutely fixed on, tho' I have a person in my eye.

For further instructions I refer you to Mr. Harrison, who will furnish you with a copy of those given to Col. Sheldon. One Hundred and twenty Dollars will be allowed you as the average price of the Horses. The money for these and your accoutrements, you must call upon Congress for, and I have to entreat that you will not delay a moment that can be avoided, in preparing to take the field early. You must be upon your Mettle, for others are engaged in the same service and will exert themselves to the utmost to out-do you. I can say nothing respecting your uniform, as that will depend upon the cloth to be had. Mr. James Mease of Philadelphia is appointed Clothier General to the Army, and to him you must apply for this article. Where you will

be able to get proper saddles, I know not.—If Maryland and Virginia, together with Lancaster and York, could furnish you, perhaps it would be better than to depend upon Philadelphia, as it is likely there may be a run upon that City for more than it can furnish in a short time. Let me hear frequently from you.

I am very sincerely, yours,

G. WASHINGTON.

To the Same.

MORRIS TOWN, JAN. 17TH, 1777.

Dear Baylor,—There is a Gentleman, a friend of mine, whom I should be glad to provide for in your Regiment of Horse. I therefore desire you will reserve a Troop for him.

The Lieut. and other Officers of the Company must raise the men &c. The Gentleman I have in my view is now in the service, and cannot conveniently leave this place, at this time; nor indeed have I said any thing to him on the subject as yet.

Let me hear from you by every Post. Send me a list of the Officers you have fixed on,—and again let me urge to you, how much every thing depends upon dispatch.

I am very sincerely your affectionate

Friend and Servant,

G. WASHINGTON.

To the Same.

MORRISTOWN, FEB. 15TH, 1777.

Dear Baylor,—Two young gentlemen, namesakes of mine, the one son to Mr. Lawrence Washington, the other to Mr. Robert Washington, both of Stafford County, are desirous of entering into the Horse service. If therefore, you have not disposed of

all the Cornetcies in your Regiment, I should be glad if you would appoint each of them one.

I am very sincerely Dr. Sir,

Yr. affect'e,

G. WASHINGTON.

To the Same.

HEAD QUARTERS, MORRISTOWN, MARCH 1ST, 1777.

Dear Sir,—Your several favours of the 31st January and 7th February are now before me. I am happy in being informed that the Gov. of Virg'a has consented that their Musket factory shall equip your Regiment with Carbines and Pistols. I have no doubt of your keeping the workmen closely to their duty; nor of your using your best endeavors to purchase proper horses. As I am not acquainted with all the Gentlemen mentioned in y'r letter, shall defer my approbation of them till they join the army. I observe that you have appointed Messrs. Jno. Smith and Will'm Armistead. If they are the Gentle'n who were in the 4th and 6th Virg'a Battalions, I must disapprove the choice. They left the Army without permission, and must return to their Companies immediately, or expect to be treated roughly. If you find upon inquiry, the fact to be as I suppose it is, you will inform these Gentle'n of my Resolution, and fill up their vacancies. Wishing you success equal to your warmest desire,

I am, Dear Sir,

Your most ob't serv't,

G. WASHINGTON.

To the Same.

HEAD QUARTERS, MORRISTOWN, 28TH MARCH, 1777.

Dear Sir,—I am glad to discover by your favour of the 26th ult. that you have a prospect of getting your Horses. We want

them much. Inclosed is a letter to Mr. Finnie the Dep'y Quar. Mast. Gen'l directing him to supply you with the Continental Rations for horses.

Mr. James Mease of Phil'a, the Clothier General, will furnish you with Clothing whenever you call upon him and send for them. I presume the men will have the same allowance of Clothes or money in lieu, made them as the Foot have. But I question much whether the Public will pay the expense of such articles of clothing as are peculiarly necessary for the Horsemen. Is not their advanced pay intended as an equivalent for the Boots, Cap, &c. ?

I must desire that you will inoculate your men as fast as they are enlisted ; that while preparations are making for them to take the Field, they may not be retarded on that account. Let them not at any rate be detained for Carbines ; but on the other hand, forward them to Camp as fast as a Troop is made up and out of the Small Pox. Surely Mr. Hunter can furnish pistols as fast as they are wanted.

Before your letter reached me, and indeed, before I had information of Col. Nelson's desire to enter into the Horse service, I appointed P. H. Byrd to the vacancy you mention. Although there cannot be the smallest objection of any sort to Col. Nelson, yet he is now provided for very genteelly, and Mr. Byrd was entirely out of the service.

Terms of distinction can be productive of nothing but Jealousy and Discontent. To obviate all this, I cannot consent to your request.

Your favour of the 17th inst. this moment came to hand. I have forwarded your letter to Capt. Lewis and am

Yr. most ob't serv't,

G. WASHINGTON.

The Mr. Stith I mentioned is here. You may appoint the Gent'n you speak of.

To the Same.

MORRISTOWN, APRIL 25TH, 1777.

Dear Sir,—Your favor of the 14th is this day come to hand, and for the instructions you require respecting your clothing, I refer you to mine of the 28th ult., the receipt of which you now acknowledge.

The mode of exchange you speak of (large men for small of other Regiments) I have no sort of objection to, provided the men received and given in exchange are made fully acquainted with the particulars beforehand, and voluntarily accord to it.

The Captaincy become vacant in your Regiment is to be filled by a Mr. John Swan of Frederick County, Maryland, a Gentleman strongly recommended to me by some Members of Congress, and whom (from other accounts) you will find fully qualified to give great satisfaction in the execution of his duty. He is at present under confinement in Phil'a, occasioned by a wound rec'd in an action near this place some time ago. I have written to him to join you with all convenient expedition, and receive your instructions how he is to proceed.

I repeat my request that you will send on your Regiment, troop by troop, as fast as you can equip them.

I am, dear sir,

Y'r most ob't serv't,

G. WASHINGTON.

TO GEORGE BAYLOR, ESQ.

Col. of a Regiment of Dragoons, Fredericksburg.

—
To the Same.

MORRISTOWN, MAY 17TH, 1777.

Dear Baylor,—The inclosed copy of a resolution of Congress, and extract from the President's letter founded upon it, will discover to you their desire of your being furnished with a good Horse properly caparisoned at the expense of the States.

Though it has been my wish to comply with their Resolve in

your favour, yet, for want of opportunity and by reason of the multiplicity of business which constantly engrosses my time and attention, I have not had it in my power. I therefore request, that you will take the matter upon yourself, and procure such a Horse and furniture, as will please your fancy and answer the generous views of Congress. Whatever expenses are incurred upon the occasion, I shall order to be paid on the earliest notice.

I have nothing further to add, than to recommend your utmost industry in completing your Corps, and to assure you that I am,

Dear sir, your affect'e humble serv't,

G. WASHINGTON.

P. S.—I wish you to send on your troops as fast as you can raise and equip any tolerable number of each. You must not wait for the whole to be complete in numbers, or every article, before any come. I wrote you before on this subject.

G. W.

THE SHIP MARQUIS LAFAYETTE.

The following narrative of the escape and subsequent cruises of the private armed ship Marquis Lafayette, during our revolutionary war, was written by the late John Cowper, Esq., of Norfolk, at the request of the subscriber, who was intimately acquainted with Capt. Meredith, and several of the other officers; amongst them Capt. Christopher Tompkins, Col. George Wray, and Mr. Ross Mitchell, the pilot, all of whom were from Hampton.

This gallant ship was frigate built, and sailed fast. The circumstances narrated by Mr. Cowper who was a volunteer on board of her, are still familiar to those who have any distinct recollection of the transactions of those days, and are exemplary proofs of what may be accomplished by perseverance, judgment, and bravery.

J. B.

NORFOLK, APRIL 6TH, 1833.

Dear Sir,—I have often promised you that I would put on paper the circumstances attending the remarkable escape of the private armed ship Marquis Lafayette, from Nansemond river, through

Hampton Roads, during the revolutionary war. This promise I shall now redeem, as far as some memoranda, which, by accident, I recently found, and memory will permit. The circumstances are yet very strongly impressed on my mind, having occurred at a period of my life, when very strong impressions are made; besides which, I was deeply interested in many ways, in the result of an attempt deemed so very difficult, if not impossible, at the time it was undertaken.

The ship *Marquis Lafayette* was owned by my father and his two brothers, trading as merchants, under the firm of *Wills Cowper & Co.*, and residing near *Suffolk*, that town having been destroyed by the enemy in the year 1779. The ship was commanded by *Captain Joseph Meredith*, and was calculated to carry 26 guns, including 6 quarter deck guns; but at the time alluded to, mounted only 12 guns, six pounders, and was manned with only 40 persons of all descriptions.

There was something so extraordinary in the fortunes of this ship, that although not connected with her escape, they may not be deemed to be without interest. She was built within half a mile of *Suffolk*, and every preparation for launching her was made, to be carried into execution the next day, when an express arrived, stating the arrival in *Hampton Roads* of a British fleet. This was about the middle or latter part of *October, 1780*. It proved to be a fleet of ships of war and transports, having on board an army under the command of *Major General Leslie*. The main army landed without a moment's delay, and took possession of *Portsmouth*, while two detachments were sent up *Nansemond river*, one landing on the south side of the river, and the other on the north side, intending to unite (as they afterwards did) at *Suffolk*. The owners of this ship, apprized of the approach of the enemy, hastened their preparations for launching, to prevent her being burned on the stocks. They completed their operations of launching, and had her scuttled and sunk in about eighteen feet water, only about half an hour before the detachment that landed on the south side of *Nansemond river* arrived at *Suffolk*. Whether from the haste in sinking it was imperfectly done, is

not known; but in a very few hours she was raised, and subsequently taken down to Portsmouth. Fortunately her sails and rigging had been removed to about seven miles from Suffolk. On the night of the same day on which she was removed, the detachment that landed on the north side, came to the place where the sails, rigging, &c. were stored, and remained nearly half a day, but did not open the house where they were stored.

On the arrival of the ship at Portsmouth, preparations were made to fit her out and send her to New York; but at this moment, General Leslie received orders to evacuate Virginia without delay, which he did; and the ship was again sunk at Gosport. The owners lost no time in raising her, and taking her up Nansemond river. They had nearly prepared for sea, when about the latter end of December, or early in January, Arnold arrived in Virginia, and was subsequently followed by General Philips, and the State permanently invaded; in addition to which, Lord Cornwallis was expected in Virginia.

It was at this juncture that Captain Meredith took command, and prepared for the enterprise in which he afterwards succeeded. Those who know what situation the country was in at that time, will appreciate the difficulties which presented themselves to such an undertaking. The cavalry and infantry of the enemy were daily, and the artillery occasionally, on the shores of the Nansemond, as high up as the head waters. It was most dangerous to remain a moment in the narrow waters, and accordingly the ship was moved near the mouth of the river, where it is wide; but this movement brought her in full view of the enemy's ships. The entrance of Nansemond river is extremely difficult, and it was believed that the enemy had not a pilot, who could bring a ship of sufficient force to attack this ship into that river. They did not attempt it, but sent some boats in the night, which were discovered, and retreated without making the attempt.

In this situation the ship remained a long time, until about the 1st of May, 1781. This delay arose from the difficulty to procure seamen to navigate her, should we succeed in putting her to sea. At length, however, they were procured, and about this

time, the movements of the enemy indicated that the delay of one night might render all further attempts abortive. To my best recollection, it was on the second or third of May that it was decided that on that night the attempt should be made, although the moon was advanced in her second quarter. In the morning Captain Meredith, with one of the owners, accompanied by a skilful Hampton pilot, named Ross Mitchell, went down in the ship's barge to reconnoitre the position of the enemy's ships. They were distributed nearly as follows: One ship of the line, a frigate, and a sloop of war lay under Newport Noose; two frigates and two sloops lay off Hampton bar, about half a mile from each other; three vessels of war were at the entrance of Elizabeth river, near Seawell's point; and several vessels of war, of what description or number I do not now remember, were near Old Point Comfort. The transports and merchant vessels, about eighty to one hundred, were distributed in different parts of the road, and from whom nothing was to be apprehended, unless those higher up should give notice of our approach; which was also to be apprehended from the ships under Newport Noose. It ought to have been stated, that the orders were issued by Captain Meredith in the morning, before he went down to the Roads. All spirits were forbidden to be used on that day. After entering Hampton Roads, the duty of the ship was to be carried on in a tone so low as not to be heard out of the ship. The guns to be loaded, but not to be fired without special order, even if we were fired into. Captain Meredith stated to his officers, that by not returning the fire of the enemy, we might pass for one of their own ships, and it might cease; but if we fired, our character could not be mistaken. He further stated, that upon entering the Roads, almost a dead silence must be observed. His plan was to get among the transports, as near to them as possible, and to keep one or more of them between him and the ships of war.

All things being ready at dark, we got under way, with the ebb tide, and a moderate breeze at about w.n.w. and proceeded down. Having cleared the river the road pilot took charge, and a boat was ready to take off the river pilot, when the wind be-

came light, and in a short time it was calm. This was an awful moment—to return was impossible, on account of the tide—nothing remained but to anchor. Captain Meredith was pacing the quarter deck, and with much anxiety looking to the north west, when an officer came and said that all was ready to let go, and that the pilot notified that it must be done immediately, as the ship could not be commanded. Orders were given to let go the anchor, when Captain Meredith called out “stop!” I was near to him and heard him exclaim, “I see the cloud from whence we shall have a wind.” At this moment the higher sails began to swell, the top-sails bent, and immediately spread themselves to the breeze. Those who know how a north west wind comes on, will know what was the effect.

We now entered fully into the roads. The first ships we passed were those under Newport Noose; we saw them very distinctly when the clouds did not obscure the moon. They probably did not see us, as they gave no signal to the ships below. We now approached the frigate that was highest up, and passed her at the distance of a quarter of a mile. We soon got among the transports, passing them most rapidly, and often so near as to hear the conversation on board. We were never hailed by one. It may be well imagined that with a strong ebb tide—wind sufficient—a fast sailing ship—a press of sail—and a smooth water—there was little time for observation; and I am certain that, by the time a gun could have been brought to bear, we should have been out of sight. The great danger was from notice being given by the ships above to those below.

At length we passed the ships near Old Point Comfort, and began to feel easy, when we approached a very large ship at anchor, near Willoughby's Point. She hailed us, but no answer was given; and what she was we never knew—probably some ship that had come in that afternoon, and anchored upon the making of the ebb tide.

A very short time elapsed before we cleared Cape Henry, and after a sound sleep I found myself on blue water; and I was as much rejoiced as I had ever been, on my return to port after a

long voyage. Escaped from an enemy that was gathering round us every day, and by whose grasp we must have been shortly seized, the ocean was hailed as our deliverer.

These are the material facts of an escape that was thought miraculous at the time, but to me it appears to have been less so than I could have supposed. The rapidity of the ships movement when under way was such, that it was impossible to have stopped her unless it was known that she was on the way down; and it is surprising that the enemy's ships did not keep a better look out. My father, who was a prisoner in Norfolk at the time, told me that the enemy had not supposed the attempt would be made on a moonlight night—nor would it have been made but from pressing necessity. The boldness of the enterprize made the enemy less vigilant.

This narrative may shew to those in difficulty, that success is one half secured, when we are determined on a bold enterprize. Placed in the circumstances in which Captain Meredith and the owners were, from the situation of the country, many persons would have saved the materials and equipments, and abandoned the hull.

As the history of this ship, to her final end, has excited an interest with you, although not important, I will resume.

After getting to sea, Captain Meredith decided to get into the first port, and accordingly he made for the Delaware, and early in the morning made land a little to the south of Cape Henlopen. Upon coming up with that Cape, we saw a large British frigate (as supposed) at anchor, who was soon under way, in chase of us. By four o'clock, P. M., she gave up the chase, and we pursued our way for Rhode Island, where we arrived without accident.

At Rhode Island the ship was completely armed and fitted with 18 guns—6 pounders—on the battery, and 6 fours on the quarter deck, and 140 men, with which she proceeded on a cruise off the port of Charlestown, (as then called) S. C. which was

occupied by the British. Within four miles of the bar, we captured a British brig of 400 tons, with a cargo of dry goods, worth, at that time, in the United States 350,000 dollars; and on the same day, captured two other vessels of no great value, burned one, and with the brig and the other, proceeded for Rhode Island.

Our movements had not passed without notice by the enemy. We boarded a Flag the next morning, from whom we learned, that two frigates and two sloops of war passed the bar, in the afternoon of the same day we disappeared. On the second morning, some time before day, saw a large ship under the lee; Captain Meredith hailed the prizes, and ordered them to haul to the eastward, and proceed according to their instructions in case of separation.

For the safety of his own ship Captain M. had no fear, from her superior sailing; but feared for his rich prize, a very dull sailer. He practised a manœuvre which, I think, succeeded in preventing the enemy from knowing our size; for, had we presented the broadside, it would have shewn him the distance between the masts; but we bore down upon him. There is reason to believe that we saw this vessel before we were seen, as it was nearly three quarters of an hour after we parted with our prizes, before any movement was discovered by the enemy. Day was now breaking. The vessel was a large frigate, and was preparing for action. In the mean time, every thing on board our ship was prepared to haul on a wind for running. As the morning advanced, we could no longer practice the imposition, and hauled our wind. The chase then commenced; our prizes were three or four miles to the eastward; the enemy either did not notice them, or did not care for them. Our enemy proved to be a better sailer than we expected; for, after getting into our wake—which Captain M. permitted, our ship to do her best required the wind a little free—she kept even with us, or pretty nearly so, which induced us to go more large; but at that moment we made another ship to leeward, which it would be difficult to pass, as we were then standing. The ship astern kept way with us, and it was thought would have come up with us, if

we hauled upon a wind to avoid the ship to leeward. Captain M. was always prompt in his decision, and determined to pass the ship to leeward, even if exposed to a broadside or two. This ship proved a very inferior sailer to her consort, and though she was almost in our path, she only gave us one fire from her broadside, and at the same time her consort opened upon us astern. Their fire did us little damage, and we were soon relieved from the ship last seen, who bore away, leaving us to her consort, who kept up the chase until four o'clock P. M. when, for the first time, we began to feel confident of our superior sailing. At sun down she gave up the chase. Next morning, we boarded another cartel, and from the prisoners we learned that the ships that had chased us were the Blonde and the Carysfort; the former a very fast ship.

After returning to Rhode Island, Captain Meredith proceeded on another cruise, which was cut very short by the following circumstances. Captain M. determined to look into the Chesapeake, and then proceed to Charleston and Savannah. On the 5th of September, 1781, being off Hogg Island, stood in to the south, and about meridian saw a fleet ahead, and to leeward; upon standing on, perceived it was a fleet of British ships of war, formed into a line of battle. Presently we saw a French fleet beating out of the Capes of Virginia. About 3 or 4 o'clock an action commenced. These were the fleets of De Grasse and Graves. About sun down, the French bore away for the Capes. It was this naval action, and the arrival of the Rhode Island squadron, which we also saw going in, that put an end to the hopes of Lord Cornwallis at York. The French, by the junction of D'Barras, from Rhode Island, with De Grasse, gave them a superiority which the British, in those seas, dared not face. All this time the British were between us and our friends.

About dark we hauled off to the eastward, wind light, and so continued until daylight; when we saw two frigates, about two miles to leeward and abreast of us. Captain Meredith immediately tacked ship to the westward. It may be proper here to state, that after our return to Rhode Island, under the impression

that our ship required more sail, a change took place in sparring her. The foremast was sprung at the head, in the early part of last cruise in chase; it was well fished, and answered very well; but it was taken out, the mainmast put in for a foremast, and a new mainmast procured. It is astonishing how these changes affected the sailing of the ship; and the very day we made the fleets, Captain M. had decided to return to Rhode Island, and take his old Virginia mast again. It is said that sharp vessels are easily put out of trim; and therefore, when they are found to sail *well*, beating every thing they meet, it is not wise to *try* to make them sail better.

Captain Meredith was afraid of a long chase, and tacked to the westward, being about twelve leagues from the land. The chase commenced, and we were in great danger, and must have been taken, if the headmost frigate had not so very frequently rounded to, in order to give her broadside. This she was induced to do by our nearing the land. Captain M. now consulted his pilot, Ross Mitchell of Hampton, upon the soundings, and to know if he could anchor him, so as to be out of close gunshot of the frigate. He said he could. The necessary preparations were made, and the chase continued, until we got in three fathoms water, and an order was issued to let go the anchor, when the frigates hauled off, and made for the fleet. It was understood that they were the Iris and Richmond. We returned to Rhode Island, where Captain M. and the writer left her.

The old Virginia foremast was again taken in, and the mainmast replaced, when the ship sailed as at first; which should be a caution to innovators.

She made another successful cruise under Captain Munroe, and had a severe engagement with a Liverpool Letter of Marque, of 16 nine pounders and 87 men, which she captured. Captain Munroe received a wound which obliged him to leave the ship, and from which he never recovered, though he lived several years after.

The Marquis returned to Rhode Island, and was ordered to Virginia (to take a cargo of tobacco, for France,) to be copper-

ed, which in those days could not be well done here. She was now drawing to a premature death. Under an indiscreet commander, a little to the southward of Cape Henry, she was chased by a frigate, from whom she was getting away fast, when another frigate was discovered, shaping her course to cut the Marquis off from Cape Henry. The Virginia officers that remained, assured the commander that they could round the Cape, without the danger of more than one or two broadsides at most, and perhaps without one. He was not a Meredith, but ordered the helm to be put up, and run this gallant, enterprising little ship ashore; and thus, after so many hair-breadth escapes from danger, she was lost, when the danger existed only in apprehension.

I have written this in great haste, and with other business before me, requiring immediate attention.

Very respectfully,

Dear Sir, Yours,

J. C.

FORKS.

In considering the manners and customs of our Fathers of Virginia, I think I may venture to state it as a fact, (though I acknowledge I do not find it mentioned by any of our Historians,) that at the time of the landing at Jamestown, and for some years after, (I hardly know how many,) they used no forks with their knives at table. And why, you may ask, did they not? Was it because, on leaving London, in a hurry, they had forgot to bring any of these useful little instruments along with them? Why no—not exactly that—but for the best reason in the world—it was simply because, at that period, there were no forks in London for them to get; for, strange as it may now seem to some, forks had not yet been invented—or at least had not yet been introduced into England;—and our fathers were, therefore, satis-

fied to use their fingers for forks, as Queen Elizabeth had done before them, when she ate her beefsteaks for breakfast, and as King James himself was actually doing in his palace, at the time. The proof of this fact is easy, and I could quote many passages from English authors to establish it; but I will only give one or two that will be quite sufficient for my purpose.

In the first place, then, Coryat, in his book of travels published in 1611, under the quaint title of "Crudities, hastily gobbled up in five months travels in France, Savoy, Italy," &c. (in 1608,) has the following passage, which, from its amusing singularity, I shall give at length.

"I observed a custome in all those Italian cities and townes through the whiche I passed, that is not used in any other countrie that I saw in my travels, neither do I thinke that any other nation of Christendome doth use it, but only Italy. The Italian, and also most strangers that are commorant in Italy, do alwaies at their meales use a little forke when they cut their meate; for while with their knife, whiche they hold in one hand, they cut the meate out of the dish, they fasten their forke, which they hold in their other hand, upon the same dish so that whatsoever he be that, sitting in the company of any others at meale, should unadvisedly touch the dish of meate with his fingers, from the whiche all the table doe cut, he will give occasion of offence unto the company, as having transgressed the laws of good manners, insomuch that for his error he shall be at least brow-beaten, if not reprehended in wordes. This form of feeding, I understand, is generally used in all places of Italy; their forkes being, for the most part, made of yron or steele, and some of silver, but those are used only by gentlemen. The reason of this their curiosity is, because the Italian cannot by any means endure to have his dish troubled with fingers, seeing all mens fingers are not alike cleane; thereupon I myself thought good to imitate the Italian fashion by this forked cutting of meate, not only while I was in Italy, but also in Germany, and oftentimes in England since I came home; being once quipped for that frequent using of my forke by a certain learned gentleman, a familiar friend of mine, one Mr. Laurence Whitaker, who in his merry humour doubted not to call me at table *furcifer*, only for using a forke at feeding, but for no other cause."

It is clear, then, that forks were not used in England by any one until the year 1608, or 1609, (a year or two after the landing at Jamestown,) and then only by Coryat, on his return from his travels, who was the only *furcifer* of his day, and who was no doubt prettily laughed at for sporting such a toy.

But, again, that they were still considered as a novelty in that country, in 1616, I may prove by a passage which occurs in Ben Jonson's play entitled "The Devil is an Asse," first acted in that year, and in which you will observe that *Meercraft*, an imposing projector, represents himself as about to obtain a patent for the manufacture of them, as a new invention, to save the linen napkins then used to wipe the fingers that had been employed in handling the meat.

Meercraft.—Do you hear, sirs,

Have I deserv'd this from you two ? for all
My pains at Court to get you each a patent.

Guilthead.—For what ?

Meercraft.—Upon my project of the *Forkes*.

Sledge. *Forkes!* What be they ?

Meercraft.—The laudable use of *Forkes* ;

Brought into custom here as they are in *Italy*,
To the sparing of napkins. That, that should have made
Your bellowes goe at the forge, as his at the furnace.

I ha' procur'd it, ha' the signet for it.

Dealt with the linen drapers on my private,
By-cause, I feared they were the lykelyest ever
To stirre against, to cross it ; for 'twill be

A mighty saver of linen through the kingdome,
(Aud that is one of my grounds, and to spare washing.)

Now on you two, I had laid all the profits,
Guilthead to have the making of all those
Of gold and silver for the better personages,
And you of those of steele for the common sorts, &c.

And, lastly, that the custom of using forks was slowly adopted, and was some years in getting into vogue, I may fairly infer from the following passage which occurs in "The Accomplished Lady's rich Closet of Rarities," a manual of cookery and manners for the instruction of the fair sex, published in London in 1653, in which, among other amusing directions for polite behaviour, I find the following words : "A gentlewoman being at table, &c.

"In carving, at your own table, distribute the best pieces first, and it will appeare very decent and comely to use a forke ; so touch no piece of meate without it."

Forks, then, we may fairly say, were not commonly used in

England before 1660 ; and as our colony was still a new country at that time, it is not likely that they would be imported here for some years afterwards—hardly until the glorious revolution of 1688—though it is quite possible that Sir William Berkeley, and Lady Frances, and some others of “the better personages,” may have used them occasionally—and silver ones too—some years before.

SODALIS.

THE OLD SWAN.

I have a thousand associations and recollections connected with the old building formerly known by this name, as it used to stand, (and still stands under a new title,) on H, now called Broad Street, near the Rail-Road Depot. When I say *old* building, I do not mean to insinuate that it was so *very* old, and, in truth, with its present painted face and altered aspect, it is difficult to regard it as a relic of antiquity. It *is*, however, an old building ; for I have passed my tenth lustrum, (some time,) and I can remember it as the *old* Swan even in my boyish days, and even then it looked to my young eyes like a time-worn mansion, not quite old enough indeed to have existed *ab urbe condita*, but clearly to have been erected at a period not long after the commencement of our revolutionary war ; and I am confident that it must have been nearly coeval with that memorable event. I shall leave the point, however, to the investigation of the chroniclers about me.

Now I have certainly no ill will to the present proprietors of this venerable establishment, but I confess I did feel something like a shock, and perhaps a very little rising of cholera, when, passing by the building one morning, a few months ago, I discovered, for the first time, that the good old bird with its well-remembered graceful neck of tarnished gilt, that used to stand out on the sign, in all weathers, had entirely disappeared, and that, in lieu of it, there was only a plain blue ground, with the

words, "Broad Street Hotel," thereon; (how flat, and prosaic in the comparison!) to amaze and offend my eyes. Indeed how could I be otherwise than shocked when this discovery not only gave me a sudden start of surprise, but seemed, at the moment, to scatter and dispel a thousand pleasant and long-cherished associations connected with the old sign, and the old house? I had looked at the brave bird perhaps a thousand times, and always with great satisfaction; but it was now gone, and forever. And the old tavern which it so appropriately announced and symbolized—how metamorphosed! It looked, for all the world, like an old lady trying to pass herself off for a young one, by putting on a fine dress;—and I could hardly tell whether it was itself or another. My thoughts were all confused, and my recollections scattered about; but I have rallied them again, as well as I could to Head Quarters, and will now put them down here on paper, to preserve them, as far as possible, against any further chance or change that may happen hereafter.

It is, I suppose, some forty-five years since this famous ordinary had attained its highest and fairest fame. There was at that period, a great deal of competition among the members of the Boniface fraternity, in our rising city. The House near the old market, which had been formerly kept by Col. Bowler, famous for his sandy-colored wig and revolutionary cocked hat, was perhaps *un peu passè*, but still not without reputation; and the Eagle, then one of the most conspicuous buildings on Main Street, was the resort of many visiters of all classes; country merchants and planters, lovers of sport, and rich young gentlemen in pursuit of pleasure and gaiety. But the old Swan was even a tip above that. It was the resort of a more select, and yet considerable, circle of customers whom business or recreation attracted to the metropolis. Here were to be seen, at the regular seasons, the venerable judges of the Court of Appeals;—lawyers of eminence from various parts of the State;—and leading members of both Houses of the General Assembly. The company indeed was the pride of the establishment. The house itself was but a plain building, of ordinary and almost rustic appearance. The

furniture too, was as plain as possible. There were no gas-lighted chandeliers to blind your eyes, nor costly mirrors to reproach your extravagance by their reflections; but every thing was old-fashioned and unpretending. But if the standard of ostentation was low, that of comfort was at the highest point. Then, the keeper of the house was the very pink of landlords. Colonel John Moss, who was also the proprietor, was in fact, in many respects, the head of his class. He was, to be sure, a little starched and stately, and looked as if he was always on duty; but then he was not above his business, nor above himself. The whole house reflected his character. Every thing was clean and neat—exactly so. The floors, in summer, were always bright and polished by hard rubbing, and, in winter, covered with comely rag-carpets. If the chambers were rather small and inconvenient, the beds and bedding were always clean and well-aired; and if the table never glittered with plate, nor groaned under French dishes, nor sparkled with costly champagne, the ham was always prime, the meats the very best the market could afford—the cooking unrivalled—and the wine the best London particular imported direct from Madeira in exchange for old Virginia corn. It is true it was often whispered about the table that “mine host” was a very nice calculator, and filled the mouths of his guests so exactly, that it was shrewdly suspected he must have counted their noses; but still they always had enough, and of the best to eat, and could not reasonably complain that they had not more to waste. Then the Colonel was so kind and obliging in his way, that it was impossible not to feel the greatest respect for his personal presence; and a deep sense of his superior merit.

Next in rank and importance to the Colonel, was the Major-domo, or bar-keeper, by the name of Lovell, who besides possessing some of his employer’s peculiarities, was something of a wag, and frequently displayed his ready wit at the expense of others. Lovell was remarkable for a long aquiline nose, and wore an exceedingly short and shabby coat,—probably more from poverty than choice. A member of the Legislature from N——, by the

name of R——, one of the regular lodgers, and a constant customer at the bar, was much in the habit of teasing Lovell, and I remember, that on one occasion, I witnessed a small passage of wit between them, which caused some little laugh at the time; and, boy as I was, amused me greatly. “Lovell,” said R—— with a droll look, and tugging at the scanty garment of the bar-keeper from behind, “your coat, old boy, is entirely too short.” “It may be too short now,” replied the other huffishly, “but I think it will be *long* enough before I get another.”—“Perhaps it will,” rejoined R——, “but in the mean time, to make amends for the shortness of your coat, you are supplied, I see, with a very *long bill*;”—accompanying his words with a gesture that seemed to threaten the tapster’s nose with a tweak. But said he, “my bill may be a long one, but not so long as yours will be at the end of the session, unless you slacken your visits to the bar-room.”—Here R—— whose rubicund face seemed to give point to the bar-keeper’s wit, was evidently confused, and shuffling off some idle remark or other, was glad to make good his retreat through the door.

But what were these small “wit-crackers” of the porch, to the lights of law, and luminaries of learning, within that attic dome? Here, no doubt, was “the feast of reason and the flow of soul.” Here was “the sprightly dialogue, the tart reply, the logic, and the wisdom, and the wit.” Oh how I longed to hear them all; and to share in those *noctes cœnaque deum*, as I verily thought them at the time! But alas I was yet too young to be admitted into those “penetralia Vestæ,” and could only, as yet, imagine the treat which I hoped to be one day admitted to enjoy. In the mean time, I had now and then some furtive glimpses of the great classics of the establishment, which pleased me not a little. Once, in particular, I recollect, I was the bearer of a paper or document of some kind or other, to the venerable judge Pendleton, a short time before his death. I found him sitting alone in his chamber, reading some record, I suppose, of the Court of Appeals, and his emaciated form, with his pale face and white-cap, made a deep and indelible impres-

sion upon my mind. He was probably engaged, at the very time I saw him, in preparing his opinion on the great question of the constitutionality of the act of assembly confiscating the Glebe lands. That opinion, I have always understood, was adverse to what was afterwards the decision of the court in the case; and was to have been delivered on the very day on which he died. How mysterious this intervention of Divine Providence appeared to many at the time; and yet who does not now see that it was "all for the best."

But again, I remember that sometime in the summer of the year 1807, shortly after the memorable attack of the Leopard upon the Chesapeake—when our whole city rang with patriotic indignation against the British—and a meeting of our citizens had been summoned to convene in the Capitol that evening, I went over, in the afternoon, to see a young friend, a student of medicine, who boarded at the Swan; when I found his room partly occupied by a stranger whom I had never seen before. He was apparently about the age of six or seven and twenty, elegant in his manners, and uncommonly handsome. He conversed familiarly with us who, compared with him, were but boys, and I observed that his dark eyes flashed with meteor brilliancy as he spoke of the recent outrage of the British, and the contemplated meeting at the Capitol. I remember that he fascinated me at once by his eye and his tongue, and that, like Desdemona, I did, "with greedy ear, devour up his discourse." I determined accordingly, and my young medical friend with me, that we would be at the Capitol that evening, for we felt assured that *he* also would be there. We went accordingly, at an early hour, and I recollect climbing up into one of the niches in the Hall, to take a full view of the scene before me. After a while, the object of the meeting was announced, and the Committee appointed for the purpose had reported resolutions of a very warlike tone, when two gentlemen, J. G. G——, of Richmond, and C. F. M.——, of Loudon, both men of note and talent, proposed an amendment somewhat softening and qualifying the language of the resolutions, whereupon a stranger, whom I im-

mediately recognised as the handsome and dark-eyed lodger of the Swan, rose from his seat, mounted the platform erected for the speakers, and poured out a strain of bold and fervid eloquence that electrified the whole assembly at once. He protested vehemently against all efforts to dilute and qualify the resolutions, and dwelt upon the manifold wrongs which had been inflicted upon us by England, with overwhelming effect. His speech produced, of course, a powerful and palpable impression upon the meeting; and I saw, for the first time, how "the stormy wave of the multitude" (as Curran has it,) could be both raised and quelled by the orator's exciting and yet subduing blasts. The resolutions were adopted at once, by acclamation; and the hall rang aloud with the praises of the speaker, whose name was now on every tongue. And who was he? Who was he indeed but Benjamin Watkins Leigh;—then a young lawyer residing in the town of Petersburg—but soon to be the pride of our own city, and of our whole state. But alas! he too is gone, and I often feel, when I think of him, (in the spirit of Shenstone's celebrated inscription) how much less it is to hear the speeches of others, than to remember his.

H.

THE HORSEMAN'S ESCAPE.

A REVOLUTIONARY ANECDOTE.

In the summer of 1781, Capt. Carter Page's troop of horse was quartered for the night, in a lot at Newcastle, enclosed with a post and rail fence; when William Dandridge Claiborne, one of the troop, had leave to visit his farm, (Liberty Hall,) in King William, to return in the morning. In the night, Capt. Page, having received information of the approach of Tarleton and Simcoe, with a superior force, roused his men and moved off before day. Soon after sunrise, Tarleton came on, and took possession of the lot which Page had left; and his men had strip-

ped their horses and were feeding and grooming them, when Claiborne, ignorant of what had happened in his absence, returned and rode into the lot. On seeing him, Tarleton's men, delighted to obtain a fine horse, shut the gate, and called out to Claiborne, "We have got you, my lad." "Yes," thought Claiborne, "almost, but not quite;" and clapping spurs to his horse, he cleared the post and rail like a flash—laughed at Tarleton's men whose horses were all unsaddled—and riding off at a full gallop, he joined his company in a hearty breakfast at Hanover Court House.

R. R.

A WORD FOR THE DAY.

In a late article of the London Times, upon the subject of "the British Colonies," we find a short paragraph which strikes us as worth noting. It contains, we think, a precious confession, and intimates a glorious truth.

"In the general retrospect of her opportunities and duties, England cannot be acquitted of the most lamentable short-coming in the matter of emigration. At the death of Elizabeth, more than a century after the discovery of America, there was not one Englishman settled on that continent or on its islands. In the course of the ensuing century and a half there grew up a colony of religious exiles, of outcasts, of penal convicts, of slaves, and of "planters." Its misgovernment was as bad as its materials, and the natural result of both was a war, which cost this government a hundred millions of money; certainly more than twenty times as much as England had ever spent for the good of the colony; and which was, happily, unsuccessful on our part. Those hundred millions, that estrangement of feelings, that disgrace to our arms, were not the worst result of our colonial impolicy. It was from the banks of the Hudson and the Potomac that the spirit of Democracy recoiled upon Europe; and a whole age of universal revolution and war might be traced to a custom-house squabble at Boston."

This is all very true; but why lament it? Has it not been all for the best? It is certainly true that England managed her ma

ters in our colonies—and especially, we think, in our Virginia—in the worst possible manner; and she has, no doubt, at first sight, ample cause for repentance and self-reproach. It must be a sad and sore thing indeed for her to think, that if she had only laid out one half of that hundred millions, as she ought to have done, in improving and embellishing our colonies—in making canals and roads, and establishing colleges and schools,—she would have done herself some honor, and might perhaps have kept us in her power for at least half a century more. But Divine Wisdom overruled her folly and infatuation for good—even to her—and still more to our United States. She saved her money for the time, till it grew perhaps to many more millions in her pocket; and we only waited for the nick to improve and educate ourselves far more wisely and effectively than she could ever have done with all her wealth and pains.

It is true also, no doubt, that there was some disgrace on her part, in the war which followed, both from the barbarous manner in which she sometimes waged it, and from the final discomfiture of her arms. But she may console herself very well, we think, on this point, by reflecting that she was only vanquished at last by her own sons—shoots from her own Saxon stock,—(with a few scientific Frenchmen and others to help us,) and that the result was actually far more happy for herself, (as our writer admits,) than the opposite one would have been; while it was infinitely more beneficial for us;—so that all, so far, was undoubtedly well.

And now as for “the spirit of our democracy recoiling upon Europe”—that, we take it, is still better, and just cause indeed for great and general joy. For is not that spirit, rightly considered, unquestionably benign? Is it not, in fact, congenial with the spirit of Christianity, which has come down from heaven to enliven and enlighten the world; and to bless the whole race of man, “from the rising of the sun to the going down thereof,”—to the end of time?

And if the progress of this spirit must incidentally and inevitably cause a dreadful outpouring of human blood, “even to the

bridles of the horses ;"—which however may be more justly charged to the account of its enemies, the autocrats and tyrants of the times,—will not the ultimate and consummate fruits be altogether delightful and divine? So at least we hope and believe; and we rejoice accordingly in all the associations of this Day of our Independence, and welcome it again, with all our heart, as an aera of true happiness and real glory for our own country—and for Europe—and eventually for all the world.

THE LATE COLONEL CARRINGTON.

The late Colonel Clement Carrington, of Charlotte, was the son of Judge Paul Carrington, the elder, and was born, we suppose, at his father's seat in that county, some time in the year 1762. In 1774, he was sent to Hampden Sidney Academy, then recently opened in the neighboring county of Prince Edward, under the auspices of the celebrated Rev. Samuel Stanhope Smith, (afterwards President of Princeton College,) and was prosecuting his studies at that institution, when the breaking out of the revolutionary war roused his patriotic spirit, and hurried him into the field. We have an account of this first ebullition of his zeal, and of his subsequent military acts, in a short autobiographical memorandum which he wrote at a late period of his life, (found among his papers after his death,) which has been, very politely, communicated to us by one of his relatives, and which we are happy to preserve in our pages.

“ Early in the war of the revolution, the British landed in some considerable force at Norfolk. The Governor, Mr. Henry, called on the different counties for their quota of militia to repel the invasion; the regulars being all at the North. A company was drafted from Prince Edward, when I was a student of Hampden Sydney College, and being under the age of sixteen was exemp-

ted from the draft of course ; but on applying was admitted as a volunteer with some hesitation, as it was thought that I could not endure the hardships of war. On our approach to the enemy, they embarked, and the troops were dismissed. I returned to College. Some time after, Gen. Lesly being on his way to Charleston, landed a very considerable army at Norfolk. I was then about eighteen years of age. Volunteers were called for. Gen. Lawson raised a Brigade of volunteers. I was in that Brigade, in the troop of Capt. Watkins of Prince Edward. The Brigade marched to Petersburg, and Capt. Watkins' troop was advanced to Brandon, on James River, to watch the enemy, and send intelligence of his advance ; but in a short time the enemy again embarked, and the troops were dismissed. I returned home, but in a short time after, at dead of night, a man hailed at our gate, and with a loud voice said, that Gen. Green was then at Halifax old Court House, and Cornwallis was on the banks of Dan river, where he was waiting the fall of water. The Colonel Commandant of Charlotte county, Thos. Read, Sen'r, had the levy in mass of Charlotte county at Coles' Ferry, in 44 hours. Gen. Green called for a company of mounted gun-men from Read's command. It was made out promptly under Walker Daniel. It was advanced over Dan to check the plundering parties, and bring information of the enemy's movements. I was one of that company, and am the only one of it now living. The company remained in that sort of Guerilla service till the bloody battle of Guilford ; after which the enemy retreating to the far South, all the militia volunteers returned home except the subject of this narrative. He then joined the Infantry of Lee's legion as a cadet or volunteer, whose duty is that of a common soldier in the ranks, without pay or clothes. I served two summers in the burning sands and fœtid marshes of South Carolina in the ranks, till the decisive battle of Eutaw Springs. I was in that desperate charge of the Virginia and Maryland lines, who, delivering their fire at point blank shot, advanced with trailed arms and quick step, till we were mixed with the enemy. Col. Lee says in his Memoirs that some of the soldiers were after the battle found

transfixed with their bayonets and dead. The British fled in general rout. A part in the retreat took possession of a brick house, and defended it with great valor. The first check that met the victors was this house; a six pounder firing from the door, and every window manned by musketry. In advancing on the house, I received a bad wound by a shot from one of the windows; having a few moments before received a bayonet wound in my breast from one of the Carolina line, mistaking me for a British officer. I was borne from the field, and had my wounds dressed, and during the dressing I heard it said several times by those looking on, what a fortunate fellow! what a beautiful wound! Such was the patriotic ardor that impelled the heroes of that little army under Green."

At the end of the campaign, there being no further call for his services, our young soldier returned home to his father's house in Charlotte, and shortly afterwards undertook an adventurous expedition into the then unsettled territories of Kentucky and Ohio. Finding nothing, however, very tempting in that region, he came back to his native county, where he now established himself as a planter, and entering at once upon a course of regular and judicious industry, soon began to acquire a handsome estate. The traits of his character, indeed, and the whole course of his conduct were such as naturally and properly ensure success in life. "He was emphatically an honest man,—punctual, exact, and scrupulously just in all his dealings. At the same time, while he was economical and frugal upon principle, he was capable of the most ready liberality towards any cause which promised to promote the welfare or honor of his native State—for he was Virginian in all his feelings." We may mention particularly on this point, that while he was a Trustee of his old Alma Mater, Hampden Sidney College, and afterwards, he cheerfully contributed to support it not only by his counsels, which were always valuable, but by repeated and generous donations to its funds.

"In the office of a magistrate which he held for more than

fifty years, he was unsurpassed; always at the post of duty, up right, impartial, and intelligent in the administration of justice." At the same time, we are assured that "this unbending integrity in the discharge of his public duties was admirably blended with all the amiable virtues which adorn private life. He was the fondest of fathers, and the purest of friends. His greatest happiness was found in the exercise of family affections, and in social intercourse with those whom he loved and esteemed. His conversational powers were fine and always ready, furnishing a constant stream of sensible observation, pointed remark, droll humour, or sparkling wit. This was even more remarkably the case during his later years, when though his body was worn with age, his memory was still good, and his mind with all its faculties seemed to be in its highest perfection."

With such a character, and a course of conduct corresponding with it, pursued through a long and useful life, it is not surprising that Col. C. should have enjoyed as he did the high respect of the whole community in which he lived, and the warm esteem of a large circle of relatives and friends. Nor, with these advantages, and a genial temperament to give a zest to them, is it wonderful that he should have found it, as he said, "a delightful world to live in." But worn at length with age, and attacked by sickness (induced more immediately by the discharge of his duty as a magistrate, on a special occasion,) he was called to leave it; and he prepared to do so without reluctance or complaint. It is gratifying, indeed, to learn that he retained the constancy of his character, in all its finest traits, to his last hour; and, more particularly, that he "expressed a hope of pardon and acceptance at the bar of the God of revelation,"—through grace in Christ. He died on the 28th of November, 1847, in the 85th year of his age,—leaving a name and memory that may well be prized and cherished by all his descendants.*

* We have taken this account of Col. C. for the most part, from a communication which appeared in the Times of this city, shortly after his death, and which was written, we understand, by a gentleman who knew him well, and who is worthy of all credit.

I T A L Y .

The following address to Italy—by the veteran poet Rogers—is very beautiful; and almost as applicable at the present time, as it was when it first appeared.

O Italy, how beautiful thou art;
 Yet I could weep—for thou art lying, alas,
 Low in the dust; and they who come admire thee
 As we admire the beautiful in death.
 Thine was a dangerous gift,—the gift of Beauty,
 Would thou hadst less, or wert as once thou wast,
 Inspiring awe in those who now enslave thee!
 —But why despair? Twice hast thou lived already;
 Twice shone among the nations of the world,
 As the sun shines among the lesser lights
 Of heaven; and shalt again. The hour shall come
 When they who think to bind the ethereal spirit,
 Who, like the eagle cowering o'er his prey,
 Watch with quick eye, and strike and strike again
 If but a sinew vibrate, shall confess
 Their wisdom folly. Even now the flame
 Bursts forth where once it burnt so gloriously,
 And dying left a splendour like the day,
 That like the day diffused itself, and still
 Blesses the earth—the light of genius, virtue,
 Greatness in thought and act, contempt of death,
 God-like example, echoes that have slept
 Since Athens, Lacedæmon, were themselves,
 Since men invoked “By those in Marathon!”
 Awake along the Ægean; and the dead,
 They of that sacred shore, have heard the call,
 And thro' the ranks, from wing to wing, are seen
 Moving as once they were—instead of rage,
 Breathing deliberate valour!

Various Intelligence.

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

The General Assembly of our State convened in this city, according to adjournment, on Monday, the 28th of May last, for the special purpose of considering the new Revised Code of Laws, which by the extraordinary diligence of the Revisors, and of the Committee, was ready for their inspection. It was soon apparent, however, that the apprehended increase of the cholera which had just begun to show itself here, had discomposed the minds of some of the members so much, that they were in no proper state to proceed in the business before them; and, all things considered, the Houses deemed it most expedient to adjourn, on the 4th ult.—to meet again on the 11th, at the Fauquier Springs, where they afterwards assembled accordingly, and where, we learn, they have since been discharging their duty with due diligence, and, we hope, with happy effect.

THE CHOLERA.

We regret to record that this alarming epidemic which visited our State and country for the first time in 1832, has returned upon us this year, with sad effects. It appeared, we learn, at Norfolk, about the 9th of May,—subsequently showed itself at the Salt Works on the Kanawha,—and, more recently, has visited our metropolis, and some places in the country,—spreading much distress, with great alarm, and frequent death. Generally speaking, however, the mortality has not been, by any means, equal to that which attended its first visitation. In Norfolk, we observe by a statement in the Herald, it is calculated that “the deaths to the 3rd inst., have been only 74, about equal as to the color of the victims. In 1832, they were about 400 in something more than six weeks, mostly blacks, while during its present visit, the deaths average less than two a day. Yet our population is nearly one third greater than it was then.”

In our own city, we find it stated in the Times, that since its appearance here on the 19th of May, the whole number of cases reported by the Board of Health last week, (to the 7th inst.) was 78; the

interments from Cholera in the Shockoe Hill Burying Ground, reached 57, of which 46 were colored, and 11 white." This, for our population, is not a great mortality. We have reason indeed to be devoutly grateful to a kind Providence for visiting our City so lightly, in comparison with many other parts of our land.

THE DEATH OF GEN. GAINES.

The veteran Gen. Gaines died at New Orleans on the 6th ult., of Cholera. We find the following sketch of his life in one of our papers.

“He was born in Culpepper co., Virginia, March 20, 1777, and named after his great uncle Edmund Pendleton, long presiding Judge of the Virginia Court of Appeals. His father served temporarily in the Revolutionary War, and toward its close removed to the north-west corner of North Carolina, and afterwards to East Tennessee, where the son was early engaged in Indian warfare, being chosen a lieutenant at the age of eighteen. His educational advantages were very moderate, and he was engaged in the study of law, when in 1799 he obtained an ensign’s commission in the army. In 1804, he was appointed a Military Collector for the District of Mobile, then mainly in possession of the Spaniards, and in 1806 he was actively engaged in the Government measures of resistance to Aaron Burr’s projects, personally commanding at Burr’s arrest. About this time he was made a captain, and soon after—seeing no remaining prospect of active service—obtained a furlough, and commenced the practice of law in Mississippi Territory, now Alabama.

“Just as he was getting into practice the war of 1812 was declared, and he promptly resumed his position in the army. He was in Wilkinson’s blundering expedition of 1813, and commanded the 25th infantry at the battle of Chrysler’s Fields, November 11th, won distinction in the fight, and covered the retreat of our army with a gallantry and success which elicited general admiration. He was a Brigadier-General, March 9, 1814, and commanded at Sackett’s Harbor until August, reaching Fort Erie and taking command there on the 5th. The gallant and successful defence of General Gaines of that post, forms one of the most brilliant chapters of our military annals. At

length, having been severely wounded by a shell, he resigned the command to General Ripley, and crossed to Buffalo. He did not recover in time to engage in the farther prosecution of the war, which closed the next spring, but he received the thanks of Congress, with a medal and the brevet rank of Major General, for his brilliant defence.

“He was soon after transferred to the south, and engaged under Jackson in the Creek war of 1812. He afterward commanded in the southern military district until the reduction of the army in 1821, when he was retained as a Brigadier, and the western division assigned him. He was afterwards the senior officer during what is vulgarly known as “the Sauk fuss,” in 1831-3, and was for a time engaged in the Seminole war of 1836. When the Mexican war broke out, he called out a liberal allowance of south-western militia, without awaiting orders from Washington. He was court-martialed for this, but was not censured. He was soon after transferred to the eastern division, and only returned to the south during the last winter. Though seventy-two years old, he seemed in good general health, and his death has taken us by surprise. He was a man of extreme simplicity of character, and the most unquestioned integrity.”

THE DEATH OF MR. POLK.

We regret to record, that the Hon. James K. Polk, who had so recently filled the highest office in our country, died at his residence in Nashville, on the 15th ult., after an illness of some days. He had been previously distinguished as Governor of Tennessee, and as a member of Congress, having been Speaker of the House for some sessions. As President of the United States, more particularly, he had the fortune to connect his name closely and permanently with some of the most important events of the age; and his administration will always be memorable in the annals of our country. His death at this time does not immediately affect any public interest; but taken in all its circumstances, has been very generally felt to be deeply impressive, and furnishes indeed, a new and solemn illustration of the oft-quoted but still striking sentiment of Burke, “What shadows we are, and what shadows we pursue!”

THE UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA.

The 24th session of the University of Virginia, closed yesterday with exercises of a deeply interesting character. The spacious Rotunda was filled to overflowing by a highly respectable and intelligent audience, assembled to manifest their interest in the prosperity of the Institution. At 11 o'clock, the Visitors, Faculty, Alumni and Students met near the foot of the Lawn and marched in procession to the Rotunda, where Diplomas were delivered to the Graduates in the various schools, and the names of those who had distinguished themselves were announced. The number of Graduates is much larger than ever before since the foundation of the University. The degree of Master of Arts was conferred on two of the Students, and that of Bachelor of Arts on two others. After the awarding of the Diplomas and an Address by Mr. Thos. M. Ambler, Bachelor of Arts, the Annual Address before the Alumni was delivered by Prof. Dabney of Washington College. It was a most successful effort—chaste, eloquent and replete with sound sense.

At the close of the exercises, Dr. Harrison rose, and in the name of the Faculty, congratulated the Students upon the success which had attended their labors, and the good order and kind feelings by which the session had been characterized; and tendered to them the best wishes of the Faculty for their prosperity and happiness through life.

The meeting of the Society of Alumni was quite well attended;—several members from a distance being present. A committee was appointed to enquire into the expediency of publishing a Catalogue of the Alumni, to report at the next meeting. The next session of the University being the 25th, it was deemed appropriate to celebrate its close with peculiar *eclat*, and it was determined that an Oration should be delivered specially commemorative of the epoch in its history. Mr. Muscoe R. H. Garnett, of Essex, was elected Orator, and Mr. John Randolph Tucker, of Winchester, alternate.

The Board of Visitors have determined to add another Professorship,—viz: of History and English Literature; but it is understood that no appointment will be made till their next annual meeting, at the close of the next session. The want of such a Chair has long been felt, but the funds of the University would not admit of its establishment.—*Char. Advocate.*

OUR COLLEGES.

We observe with interest, that most of our Colleges,—Randolph Macon, Hampden Sidney, and Washington,—have recently held their Commencements, (on different days in the last month.) in handsome style; and from the accounts of them which we have seen in the papers, we may infer, we presume, that all these institutions are in a fair and rather prosperous state. We regret that we have not space to give the particulars.

CUSTIS'S RECOLLECTIONS OF WASHINGTON.

We are pleased to see, by an article in the National Intelligencer, that Mr. Custis intends to give his Recollections of Washington to the public, in a suitable form.

“The Recollections,” he says, will be published in two volumes with fine engravings from the four originals at Arlington House, viz. the Provincial Colonel, in 1772, by the elder Peale; the retired General and illustrious Farmer of Mount Vernon, bas relief of Houdon, 1785; the splendid equestrian Portrait by Col. Trumbull, 1790; and the President of the United States, (the best possible likeness,) by Sharpless, 1796. In this form the work will be hereafter published.

The work will also contain the private letters of the Commander in Chief to his stepson, and aid-de-camp, John Parke Custis, (the father of the author,) during the whole of the war of the Revolution; also the paternal letters of Washington to the author, his adopted son, when a student at College in 1796, '97, and 98. Neither the Revolutionary nor Paternal letters have ever been published.

“The labors of America's distinguished historians' have given to his country and the world the life and actions of Washington, as connected with the age in which he flourished, and the mighty events thereof in which he bore so prominent and illustrious a part. It has become the honored duty of the author of the Recollections, to lift the veil that always conceals the private life of a great man from the public gaze, and to show the Paler Patriae amid the shades of domestic retirement, where in the bosom of his family, on his farm, and at his fireside, friendship, kindness, and hospitality shed their benignant lustre upon his latter days.”—*Nat. Int.*

KENNEDY'S LIFE OF WIRT.

"The admirers of Wirt are aware, that the Hon. John P. Kennedy, of Maryland, has for some time contemplated the preparation of a new biography of that highly endowed lawyer and admirable orator. We are happy to learn that Mr. K. has the work in a state of forwardness, and hopes shortly to be able to yield it to the press. It is one which considerably exceeds in bulk the original anticipations of the biographer, materials growing with the search after them, and with the study of the subject. From Mr. K.'s known habits of study, admirable judgment, keen research, and excellent style of composition, we may expect a work at once complete, truthful and eloquent."

[*Southern Quarterly Review.*]

A COLLECTION OF AUTOGRAPHS.

Mr. J. K. Tefft, of Savannah, a gentleman of remarkable and persevering industry, and originally a Boston boy, favored me with a sight of his enormous collection of autographs of distinguished characters. During the last twenty-five years, he has obtained thirty-five thousand autographs. The more distinguished individuals have each their portraits attached. He has one volume—a large folio—containing letters from all the signers of the Declaration of Independence, and another with letters from all those who framed and signed our Constitution, accompanied with an engraving of each person. The former book would sell for \$1500 under the hammer in London. I was much pleased with the perusal of a letter from John Adams to his intended wife, under date of July 5, 1776, in which he alludes to the signature of a document on the preceding day, which, with much confidence, he declares will eventually raise our nation to the rank of one of the first powers upon the earth. He closes his communication by an allusion to the continual changes of locality of the British army, and their present station on Staten Island, and adds, "Like Noah's dove, but without its innocence, they can find no rest."

Mr. Tefft has documents signed by all the kings from Henry VII. to date, with many by that monarch's predecessors, the English councilors and statesmen, for century after century. One old paper I noticed, was signed by Charles II. and eighteen English noblemen. He has documents from the crowned-heads, statesmen and literati of every

country in Europe, particularly in France. Shakspeare, Milton, Montesquieu, Robespierre, Mozart, Goethe, and thousands of others, have each contributed to swell his collection. An interesting letter from Kosciusko to the lady of an officer in Charleston, closed with an affectionate inquiry as to the state of her husband's health; "for," continued he, "if he is dead, I wish to marry you, as I have always been one of your particular admirers; but if he is alive and well, pray give my compliments to him." The entire collection of Mr. Tefft could probably be disposed of for \$200,000. It is the largest and best in America, if not in the World.—*Corres. Boston Traveller.*

THE NATIONAL FAST.

We observe, with great pleasure, that the President has issued a proclamation recommending that the first Friday in August be observed as a day of fasting, humiliation, and prayer, on account of the prevalence of the Cholera:

The following is a copy of the document.

At a season when the Providence of God has manifested itself, in the visitation of a fearful pestilence, which is spreading its ravages throughout the land, it is fitting that a people, whose reliance has ever been on His protection, should humble themselves before His throne, and, while acknowledging past transgressions, ask a continuance of Divine mercy.

It is, therefore, earnestly recommended that the first Friday in August be observed throughout the United States, as a day of fasting, humiliation and prayer. All business will be suspended in the various branches of the public service on that day; and it is recommended to persons of all religious denominations to abstain, as far as practicable, from secular occupations, and to assemble in their respective places of public worship, to acknowledge the infinite goodness which has watched over our existence as a nation, and so long crowned us with manifold blessings; and to implore the Almighty, in His own good time, to stay the destroying hand which is now lifted up against us.

Z. TAYLOR.

Washington, July 3, 1849.

THE STATE OF EUROPE.

By the latest intelligence, to the 23rd ult., the state of Europe is as follows :

England.—There is nothing of any political interest. The cotton and corn markets are firm, and more business doing. The metal markets are improving. Money plentiful, and discounts easy.

France.—The attempted insurrection of Paris has been followed by a more formidable resistance to the laws at Lyons. A serious engagement took place in the streets of that city between the troops and the mob, in the course of which a considerable number of lives were lost on both sides. Barricades were thrown up which were not taken until they had been battered down by the cannon.

Great excitement existed in different places, and it is evident that the conspiracy of the Paris Reds extended not only to every department of France, but to every town.

It appears to be the general opinion that the failure of the conspiracy of the 13th of June, 1849 is a greater blow to the Red Republicans than even that of June, 1848.

Hungary and Austria.—The news is contradictory, some accounts giving the advantage to the Austrians.

The *London Globe* of the evening of the 22d says ; we have intelligence from Vienna to June 16. The great news is a tremendous encounter with the Hungarians. The Austrians and Russians are said to have been completely defeated, and to have left on the field the fabulous number of 23,000 killed. This battle took place on the 13th, 14th and 15th, on the large plain between Raab and Weiselburg. It lasted 64 hours. The loss of the Magyars is stated at 8,000. The Austrians were commended by Haynan, the Russians by Rudiger and the Hungarians by Seagey.

Although the news of this battle has been received in private letters, no papers allude to it.

Germany.—In the German States, bordering the Rhine where a general insurrection is going on, the Prussians have now advanced ; and a struggle has taken place at Manheim, the result of which was not known.

Miscellanp.

LITERARY MINUTES.

NATALE SOLUM.

I have no doubt that the fine sentiment we call Patriotism is, in the first instance at least, an instinctive feeling of attachment to the place of our nativity—the spot of earth on which we were born. It is certainly, a feeble thing in its inception, and we are hardly conscious of its existence; but the germ is in our breasts;—it grows with our growth, and strengthens with our strength;—it is fed and nursed by a thousand various associations, till it becomes a principle and a passion capable of daring all dangers, and braving death itself, with the words which Horace wrote, and Warren repeated on his way to Bunker Hill, (and which he was soon to illustrate by his splendid fate;)—

Dulce et decorum est pro patria mori.

Metastasio has painted this passion very finely, to my taste, in his opera of *Il Themistocle*, in which he describes the Athenian general, an exile at the court of Xerxes, assailed by strong temptations to turn his counsels and arms against his ungrateful country; but in vain.

Them.—And wouldst thou have Themistocles a rebel,
To o’erturn his native walls?

Xer.—Not Athens now, this palace is thy country;
The first proscribes thee and pursues thy life;
The last receives, defends, and gives thee being.

Them.—Whoe’er defends me, *I was born at Athens*,
And ’tis by nature’s instinct that we cherish
Our dear paternal seats.—In forest glooms,
The savage beasts still love their native caves.

Xer.—Then Athens still remains
The mistress of thy heart? But what in her
Can still Themistocles so highly prize?

Them.—ALL, sovereign Lord! The ashes of our fathers;
The sacred laws, the tutelary gods,
The language, manners, my repeated toils
For her endured; the honors heaped upon me;
The very air, the trees, the soil, the walls.

THE CREATION OF THE SUN.

For so the light of the world, in the morning of the creation, was spread abroad like a curtain, and dwelt no where; that filled the expanse with a dissemination great as the unfoldings of the air's looser garment, or the wilder fringes of the fire, without knots, or order, or combination; but God gathered the beams in his hand, and united them into a globe of fire, and all the light of the world became the body of the sun.—*Jeremy Taylor.*

 LINES FOR A STATUE OF SLEEP.

Warton (Thomas) wrote the following inscription to be placed under the statue of Somnus, in the garden of Harris, the author of *Hermes*.

*Somne levis, quanquam certissima mortis imago,
 Consortem cupio te tamen esse tori;
 Alma quies, optata, veni, nam sic sine vita,
 Vivere quam suave est; sic sine morte mori!*

Wolcott has translated this beautiful epigram in a manner worthy of the original.

Come gentle sleep, attend thy votary's prayer,
 And, though death's image, to my couch repair;
 How sweet, though lifeless, yet with life to lie,
 And, without dying, O how sweet to die!

 TO READERS AND CORRESPONDENTS.

We regret that a notice of Macaulay's History of England, and some other articles, which ought to have appeared in this number, have been unavoidably omitted.

We would say to our Correspondent J. T. (as we have already written in a letter which we fear has not reached him,) that the books and manuscripts which he wrote to us about some time ago, will be very welcome: we hope he will send them to us without delay.

THE
VIRGINIA HISTORICAL REGISTER,
AND
LITERARY ADVERTISER.

Vol. II.

OCTOBER, 1849.

No. IV.

THE SURRENDER OF VIRGINIA IN 1651.

We submit here the public papers relating to an important and interesting event in the early history of our State—the Surrender of the Colony of Virginia to the Parliament of the Commonwealth of England, in 1651,—taken from our ancient records. They have been published before; first, (the first and third of them,) by Mr. Jefferson, in his Notes on Virginia. (Query XIII,) and subsequently, (all of them,) by Mr. Hening, in his Statutes at Large, (Vol. 1st. p. 264.) But we give them again because we wish our work to be as complete as possible in itself, and to furnish all the most essential documents at least on the subject we have undertaken to illustrate, without turning off our readers to look for them, less conveniently, in other books.

Beverley relates the transaction to which these documents refer, in the following terms :

“ At last the King was traiterously beheaded in England, and Oliver installed Protector. However his authority was not acknowledged in Virginia for several years after, till they were forced to it by the last necessity. For in the year 1651, by Cromwell’s command, Capt. Dennis, with a squadron of men of war, arrived there from the Caribbee Islands, where they had been subduing Barbadoes. The country at first held out vigorously against him ; and Sir William Berkeley, by the assistance of such Dutch vessels as were then there, made a brave resistance. But at last Dennis contrived a stratagem, which betrayed the country. He had got a considerable parcel of goods aboard, which belonged to two of the Council ; and found a method of informing them of it. By this means they were reduced to the dilemma either of submitting, or losing their goods. This occasioned fac-

tions among them; so that at last, after the surrender of all the other English plantations, Sir William was forced to submit to the Usurper on the terms of a general pardon. However, it ought to be remembered to his praise, and to the immortal honour of that Colony, that it was the last of all the king's dominions that submitted to the usurpation, and afterwards the first that cast it off; and he never took any post or office under the Usurper.''
Beverley's History of Virginia, 2nd Edition, p. 52.

The accounts of the affair which are given us by Chalmers, Graham, Burk, and Howison, are a little more full and particular; but are all apparently based upon this brief of Beverley, and are substantially the same.

ARTICLES AT THE SURRENDER OF THE COUNTRY.

Articles agreed on and concluded at James Cittie in Virginia for the surrendering and settling of that plantation under the obedience and government of the Common Wealth of England, by the commissioners of the Councill of State, by authoritie of the Parliament of England and by the Grand Assembly of the Governour, Councill and Burgesses of that countrey.

First, it is agreed and cons'ted that the plantation of Virginia, and all the inhabitants thereof, shall be and remaine in due obedience and subjection to the common wealth of England, according to the lawes there established, And that this submission and subscription bee acknowledged a voluntary act not forced nor constrained by a conquest vpon the countrey, And that they shall have and enjoy such freedomes and priviledges as belong to the free borne people of England, and that the former government by the commissions and instructions be void and null.

2dly. Secondly, that the Grand Assembly as formerly shall convene and transact the affairs of Virginia, wherein nothing is to be acted or done contrarie to the government of the common wealth of England and the lawes there established.

3dly. That there shall be a full and totall remission and in-

dempntie of all acts, words or writings done or spoken against the parliament of England in relation to the same.

4thly. That Virginia shall have and enjoy the antient bounds and lymitts granted by the charters of the former Kings, and that we shall seek a new charter from the parliament to that purpose against any that have intrencht vpon the rights thereof.

5thly. That all the pattents of land granted vnder the collony seale, by any of the precedent Governours shall be and remaine in their full force and strength.

6thly. That the priviledge of haveing ffiftie acres of land for every person transported in the collony shall continue as formerly granted.

7thly. That the people of Virginia have free trade as the people of England do enjoy to all places and with all nations according to the lawes of that common wealth, And that Virginia shall enjoy all priviledges equall with any English plantations in America,

8thly. That Virginia shall be free from all taxes, customes and impositions whatsoever, and none to be imposed on them without consent of the Grand Assembly, And soe that neither ffortes nor castles bee erected or garrisons maintained without their consent.

9thly. That noe charge shall be required from this country in respect of this present ffileet.

10thly. That for the future settlement of the countrey in their due obedience, the engagement shall be tendred to all the inhabitants according to act of parliament made to that purpose, that all persons who shall refuse to subscribe the said engagement, shall have a yeares time if they please to remove themselves, and their estates out of Virginia, and in the mean time during the said yeare to have equall justice as formerly.

11thly. That the vse of the booke of common prayer shall be permitted for one yeare ensueinge with reference to the consent

of the major part of the parishes, Provided that those things which relate to kingship or that government be not used publicly; and the continuance of ministers in their places, they not misdemeaning themselves: And the payment of their accustomed dues and agreements made with them respectively shall be left as they now stand during this ensuing year.

12thly. That no man's cattle shall be questioned as the companies unless such as have been entrusted with them or have disposed of them without order.

13thly. That all ammunition, powder and arms, other than for private use shall be delivered up, securities being given to make satisfaction for it.

14thly. That all goods already brought hither by the Dutch or others which are now on shore shall be free from surprisall.

15thly. That the quitrents granted unto us by the late King for seven years be confirmed.

16thly. That the commissioners for the parliament subscribing these articles engage themselves and the honour of the parliament for the full performance thereof: And that the present Governour and the Council and the Burgesses do likewise subscribe and engage the whole colony on their parts.

RICH: BENNETT, *Seale.*

Wm. CLAIBORNE, *Seale.*

EDMOND CURTIS, *Seale.*

These articles were signed and sealed by the commissioners of the Council of State for the Common Wealth of England, the twelfth day of March, 1651.

Articles for the surrendering Virginia to the subjection of the Parliament of the Common wealth of England, agreed vpon by the honourable the Commissioners for the Parliament and the hon'ble. the Governour and Council of State.

First, That neither Governour nor council shall be obliged to

take any oath or engagement to the Common-Wealth of England for one whole yeare, And that neither Governour nor Councill be censured for praying for or speaking well of the King for one whole yeare in their private houses or neighbouring conference.

2dly. That there be one sent home at the present Governour's choice to give an accompt to his Ma'tie of the surrender of his cuntry, the present Governour bearing his charges, that is Sr. William Berkley.

3dly. That the present Governour, that is Sr. William Berkeley and the Councill shall have leave to sell and dispose of their estates, and to transporte themselves whether they please.

4thly. That the Governour and Council though they take not the engagement for one whole yeare shall yet have equall and free justice in all courtes of Virginia vntill the expiration of one whole yeare.

5thly. That all the Governour's and Councill's land and houses, and whatsoever belongeth to them bee perticularly secured and provided for in these articles.

6thly. That all debts of the Governour's by act of Assembly, and all debts due to the officers made by the Assembly bee perfectly made good to them, And that the Governour be paid out of the goods remaining in the cuntry of the Dutch ship that went away cleer for Holland without paying his customs.

7thly. That the Governour may have free leave to hire a shipp for England or Holland to carrie away the Governour's goods, and the Councill's, and what he or they have to transporte for Holland or England without any lett or any molestation of any of the State's shippes att sea or in their rivers or elsewhere by any of the shippes in the common wealth of England whatsoever.

8thly. That the Capt. of the fforte be allowed satisfaction for the building of his house in fforte Island.

9thly. That all persons that are now in this collonie of what quality or condition soever that have served the King here or in England shall be free from all dangers, punishment or mulkt whatsoever, here or elsewhere, and this art'e. as all other articles bee in as cleer termes as the learned in the law of arms can express.

10thly. That the same instant that the commissions are resigned an act of indempnittie and oblivion be issued out vnder the hands and seales of the comissioners for the parliament, And that noe persons in any courte of justice in Virginia be questioned for their opinions given in any causes determined by them.

11thly. That the Governour and Councill shall have their passes to go away from hence in anie shippes in any time within a year: And in case they gee for London or other place in England that they or anie of them shall bee free from anie trouble or hindrance of arrests or such like in England, and that they may follow their occasions for the space of six monthes after their arrivall.

RICH: BENNETT, *Seale.*

Wm. CLAIBORNE, *Seale.*

EDMOND CURTIS, *Seale.*

These articles were signed, sealed, sworne vnto by vs the commissioners for the parliament of the common wealthe of England, the 12th of March, 1651.

An Act of Indempnittie made att the Surrender of the Countrey.

Whereas by the authoritie of the parliament of England, wee the comissioners appointed by the Councill of State authorized thereto having brought a fletee and force before James Cittie in Virginia to reduce that collonie vnder the obedience of the common-wealthe of England, and finding force raised by the Governour and countrey to make opposition against the said fletee, whereby assured danger appearinge of the ruine and destruction

of the plantation, for prevention whereof the Burgesses of all the severall plantations being called to advise and assist therein, vpon long and serious debate, and in sad contemplation of the greate miseries and certaine destruction, which were soe neerly hovering over this whole countrey; Wee the said comissioners have thought fitt and condescended and granted to signe and confirme vnder our hands, seales and by our oath, Articles bearing date with these presents, And do further declare, That by the authoritie of the parliament and comon wealth of England derived vnto vs their comissioners, That according to the articles in gennerall, Wee have granted an act of indempnitie and oblivion to all the inhabitants of this colloney, from all words, actions or writings that have been spoken, acted or writt against the parliament or common wealth of England or any other person from the beginning of the world to this daye, And this wee have done, That all the inhabitants of the collonie may live quietly and securely vnder the common-wealth of England, And wee do promise that the parliament and common-wealth of England shall confirme and make good all those transactions of ours, Wittnes our hands and seales this 12th day of March, 1651.

RICHARD BENNETT, *Seale.*

Wm. CLAIBORNE, *Seale.*

EDM: CURTIS, *Seale.*

THE BURIAL OF POCAHONTAS.

We have been politely favored by the worthy Chairman of the Executive Committee of our Virginia Historical Society, Conway Robinson, Esq., with the following copy of a letter from Charles Wykeham Martin, Esq., M. P. of London, on the subject of the Burial of the celebrated Pocahontas, who makes so fine a figure in the early annals of our State. It is well known, we suppose, to all our readers, that this admirable woman, after having married Mr. John Rolfe, and

been baptized, on her profession of christianity, by the new name of Rebecca, went over to England, along with her husband, under the auspices of Sir Thomas Dale, in the year 1616; and that she unfortunately died at Gravesend, in that country, some time in the same year; but the precise date of her death has not hitherto been known, as it is not stated by Smith, Stith, Beverley, or, as far as we remember, by any other of our early historians. We are now at last, however, by the zeal of our indefatigable Chairman, and the care of his intelligent correspondent, and his colaborers, enabled to supply this interesting item of information, (very nearly at least,) as will appear by the documents which we now submit.

CONWAY ROBINSON, ESQ., RICHMOND, VIRGINIA.

Dear Sir,—When Mr. Slaughter was in England last summer, he contemplated making a trip to Gravesend in order to find out whether any inscription existed to the memory of that interesting character, Pocahontas, who died there in 1617. I immediately set some of my antiquarian friends to work, and it is only within these few days that I have obtained any information whatever. What I now send is rather meagre, but I send it still because I doubt not that you would be glad to have what there is, though it be but little. And I find that it shews at least this, that her husband's name is incorrectly spelt, and that his christian name was not what it is supposed to have been. John Rolfe is the name usually given—Thomas Wroth or Wrothe the name recorded in the Register. My friend adds in another letter, "there was a family formerly residing near Gravesend, at Blenden Hall, in Henley parish, of the name of Wroth, created Barons in 1660, but since extinct. Qy. was the Lady's husband of the same family, the name being corruptly spelled Rolfe by the careless mode of spelling in those times. Gravesend church having been destroyed by fire in 1727, as I mentioned in a former note to you, if there had been any monument to the memory of this Lady, it was then destroyed."

The date [Mar. 21, 1616,] so exactly corresponds with the recorded circumstances, that I think I have found the right entry. I send it to *you* because I begin to despair of seeing Mr. Slaugh-

ter, and if he should come, I shall still be able to tell him that I have sent you this extract from the Gravesend register. If there is any thing that interests the Virginia Historical Society in the way of antiquarian research in this country, I am not unlikely to be able to assist you, as I have several friends who are possessed of antiquarian information, and persons of that turn of mind are always fond of communicating their own knowledge and assisting the researches of others.

Believe me,

My dear sir,

Very truly yours,

CHARLES WYKEHAM MARTIN.

Leed's Castle, May 10, 1849.

Mr. Anderson, the author of the History of the Colonial Church is an old school-fellow of mine and we are *most intimate*.

MANYTOWN, 5TH MAY, 1849.

My Dear Sir,—The within extract from the Parish Register of Burials in the Parish of Gravesend, in the County of Kent, I examined with the original at the time the extract was made, the termination of the word *Wrothe* is rather obscure, but I think that the abbreviation was meant for a final *e*.

The date, 1616, is the civil year, but according to the computation of the Historical year it is 1617.

I am, my dear sir,

Yours very truly,

CLEM T. SMYTHE.

CHARLES WYKEHAM MARTIN, Esq., M. P. }
Leeds Castle, Kent. }

1616.

March 21.—Rebecca Wrothe wyffe of
Thomas Wrothe gent. A Virginia
Lady borne was buried in the
Chauncell.

I certify that the above is a true copy of the Burial Register of this Parish.

May 3d, 1849.

ROBT. JOYNES,
Rector of Gravesend.

THE MODE OF ACQUIRING LANDS IN VIRGINIA IN EARLY TIMES.

We are indebted for the following brief to an eminent jurist whose intimate acquaintance with our early annals, and whose high personal authority, stamp a special value on any, the slightest effusions of his pen.

The mode of acquiring separate property in lands and the time at which this was first effected, is a matter too important to be over-look'd in any account of the settlement of a country; and I propose, accordingly, to submit a short but sufficient statement of it, as far as concerns our Colony of Virginia, in this place. Our early writers, have bestowed so little attention upon this subject, that it will be necessary for me to examine it, much more minutely, than has been done by any of them.

The first adventurers who came to Virginia as Colonists, were, in the general, servants to the London Company.(a) They were brought hither at the expense of the Company, supported by its means, bound by contract to obey all its orders, and subject to the most rigorous of all forms of government that of Martial Law. Five years was the agreed period during which this servitude was to continue. Upon the expiration of this term, they were "*set free.*" Upon their emancipation, they were entitled to one hundred acres of land, to be chosen wherever they thought proper within the Colony, and within any of the established corporations; provided, the land selected was not included within any of the reservations before mentioned.(b) The one hundred acres of land so allotted, was called the dividend, or as it is more usually spelt "*the dividit*" of the planter. If this dividend was planted and seated, that is to say, if it was improved by building a house upon it, clearing a small portion of its area and planting a few fruit trees, within the period of three years from the date of the grant, the first divided was augmented by a second grant of one hundred acres more, to be selected as in the former case. But if the allotted dividend was not planted

and seated within the three years, the land granted was said to be "*deserted*" or lapsed. It then reverted to the grantor and was subject to be appropriated again, by any other person, upon complying with the customary and prescribed conditions required for obtaining any grant of lands. The lands of orphans, however, were specially exempted from forfeiture for desertion, until three years after their full age. This is the most ancient mode of acquiring lands in Virginia; and all of our earliest grants are made upon this consideration. Such grants are confined to the "*Old Planters*," which description comprehends none other than those who were in the country "*at the last coming of Sir Thomas Gates*," that is August, 1611.(c)

By one of the Ordinances adopted by the London Company, which was continued in force by the Crown after the revocation of the Charter, every person removing to Virginia at his own expense, with the intention to settle and remain there, was entitled to Fifty acres of land. The same rule was extended also to every member of his family; and a husband was entitled to the same number of acres for his wife and each of his children: So too, if any person brought others into the colony, at his own proper cost and charges, he became thereby entitled to fifty acres of land for each person so imported. All of these rights were called "*Head Rights*." They were assignable; and under the assignment the purchaser acquired the same benefit to which the original holder would have been entitled. This was the most common mode of acquiring lands in Virginia for very many years after its first settlement.(d)

The manner of taking up lands was this. The individual entitled to any dividend or Head right, proved his title by making an affidavit of the facts whereon his claim was founded. To this affidavit was subjoined a list of the names of those to whom the rights claimed originally attached. This list being carried to the Secretary's office was there examined and verified; and if found regular was recorded. A certificate or warrant was then given to the claimant, which he might exhibit to the surveyor of the plantation or corporation within which he proposed to locate his

claim ; and the land desired to be acquired by the claimant was shown by him to the said surveyor. It was then the duty of the surveyor, to survey and lay off the required quantity of land wherever it was desired, if such land had not been previously appropriated, and to bound the land surveyed, either by natural boundaries, or by chopping notches in the trees that were found on the lines of his courses. The survey being thus made, a copy of it together with the warrant whereon it had been made, was returned to the Secretary's office. There, if no objection was urged, a Patent was made out in conformity with the survey and warrant. This Patent was then submitted to the Governor and Council ; and if found to be regular, it was passed, signed by the Governor, with the seal of the Colony attached, and ordered to be recorded in the Secretary's office.(e)

A Patent so obtained, gave to the grantee a fee simple estate in the lands conveyed, upon condition of paying an annual "quit rent" of one shilling for every fifty acres, and of planting and seating thereon within three years from the date of the grant. If this condition was not performed, the land granted became lapsed or deserted, and any one was at liberty to obtain a new patent for it in his own name. But if before any petition was preferred for a conveyance of the lapsed land, the original patentee thought proper to incur the expense of taking out a new patent for the same land, he did it, and so acquired farther time for seating and planting it. This will explain why two or more patents to the same person, for the same land, are sometimes found recorded in the Register's office. The manner in which lands were formerly surveyed and laid off to the claimants, is a matter which has been no where described, so far as I know ; but it may be detailed as follows :

All our earliest grants, are of lands situated on some water-course. The first claimant of lands in any particular region, having pitched upon some notorious point on the water-course as the beginning of his survey, the surveyor ran a meridional line from thence along the margin of the water-course, to a distance, on poles, equal to half of the number of acres to which the claim-

ant was entitled. Then, from either extremity of this base line, if it was necessary to do so, the surveyor ran another straight line, at right angles to the first, to the distance of one statute mile or 320 poles. These side lines he marked, as has been stated; and the survey was then complete. The same course was pursued with the next survey of the land contiguous to the first. The base of this was established on the same water-course, as before; and from the farther extremity of this base a side line was drawn, parallel to the marked side line of the contiguous survey, which side line was also extended one mile and marked as before. Each succeeding survey being made in the same manner, the first grants constituted a series of parallelograms, all fronting on the water-course and running back to the distance of one mile from its margin. The back lines of this first series of grants, were then made either the base or side-lines of a new series, as the face of the country required. The determined length of one mile was fixed upon to facilitate the calculation of quantity. A breadth of one pole, with this given length, would necessarily include two acres of land. So that the base line being given, the whole area was known; or the length of the base line might be readily inferred from the extent of the given area.

Such having been the mode in which all lands were laid off and the surveys made at first, it would be easy to determine the scite and exact limits of all the original grants, even at this day, but for the inaccuracy of the instruments used and the negligence practised in making the first surveys. The compass employed, at that day, was graduated as is a Mariner's Compass, the subdivisions of which extend only to a quarter of a point, or about $2^{\circ} 49'$. Hence there must have been a constant source of error in the bearings of objects observed by such a compass, the mean of which errors could not be estimated at less than $1^{\circ} 25'$, if measured by the surveyors compass now in use. And the variation of the compass, if known to the old surveyors, was never noted by them in their surveys.

Besides this, so great was the desire then felt of establishing a natural boundary as the limit of every grant, that in running out

the side lines of a survey, if the required distance exceeded or fell short a little of any water-course, or other natural object, these lines were always contracted or extended so as to terminate at this object, altho' the length of the lines was still represented to be one mile or 320 poles. Arbitrary allowances too were made for useless lands, and for the errors necessarily caused by the attempt to extend a surveyor's chain through the thick brush-wood of a primitive forest. These errors and inaccuracies, render it always difficult and sometimes impossible to determine now the original limits of an old grant, with accurate precision. The most exact adjustment of these limits that can now be made, will very rarely present an area the quantity of which corresponds precisely with that called for by the grant. This quantity generally exceeds that within the adjusted boundaries, although the reverse is sometimes found to be the case. The remarks made above, will suffice to explain the causes of all such diversities.

T.

- (a) Note — Stat. at Large, Vol. 1, page 124.
 (b) Note — (c) Hening's
 (d) Beverley's Hist. of Virgi-
 (e) Do. Ibid. (f) Do. page 242.
 (f) Do. page 242.

LOVE.

There is no life on earth but being in love!
 There are no studies, no delights, no business,
 No intercourse, or trade of sense, or soul,
 But what is love! I was the laziest creature,
 The most unprofitable sign of nothing,
 The veriest drone, and slept away my life
 Beyond the dormouse, till I was in love!
 And now I can out-wake the nightingale,
 Out-watch an usurer, and out-walk him too,
 Stalk like a ghost that haunted 'bout a treasure;
 And all that fancied treasure, it is love!—*Ben Jonson.*

From the British Quarterly Review.

THE ROYAL SOCIETY.

This article, besides its own interest, has a certain bearing upon the history of science and letters, and the progress of society, in our colony and state, (as may be seen hereafter,) which makes it, we think, particularly proper for insertion in our pages.

It is reported of Thomas Carlyle that he once half-jestingly declared his intention of writing a life of Charles II., as one who was no sham or half man, but the perfect specimen of a bad king. Charles, however, if he did no other good thing, founded the Royal Society, and by so doing saved his portrait from being cut out in untinted black, by the stern humorist's scissors.

The thoughtless monarch, no doubt, did as little for science as he well could. The only incident in his life which can be referred to as indicating a personal interest in it, is his sending the society a recipe for the cure of hydrophobia, but the act was probably prompted as much by his love of dogs as his love of science. Sheer carelessness on his part appears to have been the cause of the society's not obtaining confiscated lands in Ireland, which he was willing it should possess, and which would have ultimately yielded an ample revenue. The members besought him for apartments where they might meet and keep their library, curiosities, and apparatus. Charles at last gave them a dilapidated college and grounds at Chelsea; but characteristically enough, it turned out that the property was only in part his to give; and the society finding it had inherited little else than a multitude of law suits, was glad to restore the college to government, and accept a small sum in exchange. Yet Charles did more for science, at a time too when royal patronage was a precious thing, than many wiser and better monarchs have done, and it would be difficult to discover any sinister or interested motive which the king had in assisting the philosopher. He probably did not pretend (except in the society's charters, which in all likelihood he never read) to revere science as truth, or covet it as power, but he could wonder at it as marvellous. It dealt in novelties, and he was too intelligent and inquisitive, not to be struck by them. It helped him through a morning to attend, on occasion, "An anatomical administration," at Gresham College, and see an executed criminal dissected. From time to time, also, the members of the Royal Society showed him their more

curious experiments, and Charles first smiled approbation, and then generally found something to laugh at, either in the experiment or the experimenter. It occasioned him no little diversion, as we learn from Pepys, to witness the philosophers "weighing of ayre." He had too strong and practised a sense of the ludicrous not to be keenly alive to the little pedantries and formalities of some of the fellows; and too little reverence in his nature to deny himself a laugh at their weaknesses and follies. He was sometimes, no doubt, entitled to his smile at the experimenter; and always, if he saw fit, at the experiment. For everything on this earth has its ludicrous, as well as its serious, aspect, and the grave man need not grudge the merry man his smile at what he thinks strange.

An experiment, too, was a thing on the result of which a bet could be laid as well, as on the issue of a game at cards or a cock-fight. The Royal Society was, on one occasion, instructed that "his majesty has wagered 50*l.* to 5*l.* for the compression of air by water." A trial, accordingly, was made by one of its most distinguished members, and the king, as may be surmised, won his wager.

It is impossible to read the histories and eulogies of the Royal Society, without detecting in them, in spite of all their laudations of its kingly founder, a subdued, but irrepressible conviction, that by no address of the annalist can Charles II. be made to figure as an august patron and promoter of science. It is not that he will not brook comparison with such princes as Leo X., or the Florentine dukes. Charles could not be expected to equal them, but he took such pains to show that he had the progress of science as little at heart as the maintenance of personal virtue, or public morality, that he has baffled the most adroit royalist to say much in his praise. He was often expected at the public meetings of the society, but he never accomplished an official visit. He dreaded, no doubt, the formality and tediousness of the *seance*, and his presence might have recalled the caustic proverb, "Is Saul, too, among the prophets?"

Nevertheless, it might have fallen to the Royal Society's lot to have had a worse founder. Its seeds were sown and had even germinated in the days of James I., but the philosophers were fortunate in escaping the patronage of the most learned of the Stuarts. James would have plagued them as much as Frederick the Great did the *savans* he favored. His sacred majesty would have dictated to the wisest of them what they should discover, and how they should discover it. A wayward genius like Hooke would have paid many a visit to the Tower, or one to Tower Hill; and any refractory philosopher who persisted in interpreting a

phenomenon otherwise than the royal pedant thought he should interpret it, would have been summarily reminded of the "king's divine right to rule," and treated as a disloyal subject.

Charles I., we can well believe, looked on with measured interest at Harvey's dissection of the deer's heart, and demonstration of his great discovery of the circulation of the blood. Whatever that monarch's faults may have been, he had too religious a spirit not to have honored science, and too kingly a manner to have insulted its students. But his patronage would have compromised the liberties and lives of the philosophers during the civil war, and we should grudge now if the perversest cavalier among them had paid with his life for his scientific royalism.

The uncrowned king that followed the first Charles, had his hands too full of work, and his head and heart too much occupied with very different things, to have much patience with weighers of air, or makers of "solid glass bubbles." But a hint that they could have helped him to a recipe for "keeping his powder dry," or improved the build of his ships, or the practice of navigation, would at once have secured the favor of the sagacious protector. When the restoration came, however, such services to Cromwell would have procured for the philosophers a swift and bloody reward.

Things fell out, as it was, for the best. The infant society escaped the dangerous favors of king and protector, till the notice of royalty could only serve it: and then it received just as much of courtly favor as preserved it from becoming the prey of knavish hatchers of sham plots, and other disturbers of its peace; and so little of substantial assistance that its self-reliance and independence were not forfeited in the smallest. Charles the Second did the Royal Society the immense service of leaving it to itself, and an institution numbering among its members such men as Newton, Boyle, and Hooke, (to mention no others,) needed only security from interruption, and could dispense with other favors. And it had to dispense with them. The title of the society is apt to convey the impression that it had the government to lean upon, and was dowered from its treasury. But this was not the case. The society was not fondled into greatness by royal nursing. Charles' only *bona fide* gift to it, was what Bishop Horsley, in an angry mood, denounced as "that toy," the famous bauble mace, which the original warrant for its making, calls "one guilt mace of one hundred and fifty oz."

In return for this benefaction the society presented their patron with a succession of remarkable discoveries and inventions, which told directly on the commercial prosperity of his kingdom. The art, above all others the most important to this coun-

try, navigation, owes its present perfection in great part to the experiments on the weight of the air, and on the rise and fall of the barometer, to the improvements in time-keepers, and the astronomical discoveries and observations which Boyle, Hooke, Newton, and other members of the Royal Society made during Charles the Second's reign. The one hundred and fifty ounces of silver gilt were returned to the treasury in his lifetime.

In exchange for the regal title which they received, the society made the monarch's reign memorable by the great discoveries which signalized that era, and under his nominal leadership won for him the only honorable conquests which can be connected with his name. Estimated in coin, or in honor, given and received, the king stands more indebted to the society than the society to him.

We will not, however, strive to lessen Charles' merit. The gift of the mace, "bauble" though it was, may be accounted a sincere expression of good will. It probably appeared to the donor, an act of self-denial to let so much bullion of the realm go past the profligates of both sexes, who emptied his pockets so much faster than he could fill them; and the deed may pass for a liberal one. We willingly make the most of it. Charles the Second's reign is, from first to last, such a soiled and blotted page, that we are thankful for one small spot, which, like the happy ancients, we can mark with white. CAROLUS SECUNDUS REX, we think of with contempt, and loathing or indignation; but Charles Stuart, F. R. S., meant on the whole well, and did some little good in his day.

Charles' connection with the Royal Society, however, is a small matter in its history. He was its latest name-giver, not its founder. If any single person can claim that honor, it is Lord Bacon, who, by the specific suggestions in his "New Atlantis," but also, and we believe still more, by the whole tenor of his "Novum Organum," and other works on science, showed his countrymen how much can be done for its furtherance, by the co-operation of many laborers. But even Bacon must share the honor with others; learned societies are not kingdoms which the monarchs of intellect found; but republics, which grow out of the common sympathies of many minds. Fraternity is the rule, though not equality, and there is no prating about liberty, for it is enjoyed by all.

A Bacon or a Descartes does not act on his fellows like a great magnet, attracting to itself all the congenial metal within its range. A brotherhood grows as a crystal does. Particle seeks out like particle, and the atoms aggregate into a symmetrical whole. The crystal, when completed, has not the same proper-

ties in every part, but it is not the presence of a peculiarly endowed molecule at the centre, or the summit, that occasions the difference.

It seems a vain thing, accordingly, to insist on singling out individuals, however gifted, as the founders of learned "bodies." The very title we apply to them might show us the folly of it. "The body is not one member, but many." It was not the brain that produced it, nor the heart, although it may be true that these were first and fullest developed, and were essential to the knitting together of the weaker and less vital members.

The association of gifted men, which afterwards became the Royal Society, rose into being simultaneously with many similar institutions, in other parts of Europe. These were not copies of each other, but originated in the kindred sympathies of their several founders. Why such societies should have sprung up in the seventeenth century, and not earlier, or later, is a question not to be answered by reference to any single cause. It will not solve the problem, to say that Bacon was born at a certain epoch, or Galileo, or Newton. The birth of those and other great men, is as much part of the phenomenon to be explained, as the explanation of it. Neither will the invention of printing, nor the outburst of the Reformation, supply more than a part of the rationale. What we have to account for is this: Mankind stood for ages, with closed eyelids, before the magnificence of un-ideal nature, or opened them only to gaze at her with the eyes of poets, painters, and mystics. They saw wondrous visions, and clothed nature with splendid vestments, which they wove for her. All at once they bethought themselves, that the robes which God had flung over the nakedness of the material world, might be worth looking at, and might prove a more glorious apparel than the ideal garments which man's imagination had fashioned for the universe.

The sleep of centuries was broken in a day. The first glances at the outer world were so delightful, that the eye was not satisfied with seeing, nor the ear with hearing. Men longed to extend their grasp beyond the reach of the unassisted senses. Within a few years of each other, the telescope, the microscope, the thermometer, the barometer, the air-pump, the diving-bell, and other instruments of research, were invented and brought to no inconsiderable perfection. The air, the earth, the sea, the sky, were gauged and measured, weighed, tested, and analyzed. The world had been satisfied for hundreds of years with the one half of the Hebrew monarch's proverb, "It is the glory of God to conceal a thing." The verse was now read to the end, "but the honor of kings is to search out a matter."

The searching out of the willingly divulged secrets of nature, was not delayed till the seventeenth century, because none but Bacons, Newtons, Galileos, Descartes, and Pascals were competent to the task. We need not ask whether men of as ample, or exactly the same gifts, had preceded those great ones. It is certain that men with endowments, liberal enough to have discovered much, if not all, that has been left for us and our immediate forefathers to find out, adorned even the darkest epoch of the earlier ages. Among the astrologers and alchemists, were men of such rare genius, that, if by some choice anæsthetic, they could have been flung into a trance, and kept pleasantly dreaming of "the joy of Jupiter," and the elixir of life, till the present time, they would awake to dispute the palm with our Herschels and Faradays. We will attempt no other explanation of the sudden, universal, and catholic recognition of the interest and importance of physical science, which characterized the seventeenth century, than this—that mankind, as a whole, is possessed of a progressive intellectual life, which, like organic life, is marked at intervals by sudden crises of permanent expansion. The seed shoots forth the germ. The petals blow into the flower; the chrysalis bursts into the butterfly. The boy starts into the youth; his thoughts are elevated, his desires changed; and so the whole race, in a brief interval of time, is lifted to a higher intellectual level, and its speculations directed into new channels.

The aloe buds, thorns, and leaves only for ninety-nine years, and we have to wait till the hundredth comes, before the flower blooms. The flower is not an accident of the hundredth year, but its complement and crown. Had the thorns not protected the leaves, and the leaves elaborated the juices during the ninety-nine barren years, the century would not have been crowned by the flower. Yet why the aloe blooms in its hundredth, rather than in its fiftieth or its tenth year, is not explained by this acknowledgment.

The contest between Charles the First and the English people, was contemporaneous with an aloe flowering of the genius of the nations of Europe. It was no accident, or mere result of a certain century having arrived. The printing press, and the Reformation, the births of great men, and much else, were its thorns and leaves, and the wide-spread supporting roots; but we cannot say, *therefore*, the revolution in men's scientific tastes occurred after 1600, rather than after 1500 or 1700, any more than we can demonstrate that 1848 was the necessary and infallible year for the overturning of the thrones of Europe.

The Royal Society was one of the choicest buds of this blossoming of the European intellect. Its beginnings were some

two hundred years ago, about 1645, when "divers ingenious persons" met weekly in London, to make experiments and discuss the truths they taught. "We barred," says Dr. Wallis, one of their members, "all discourses of divinity, of state affairs, and of news, other than what concerned our business of philosophy."

About the year 1648-9, some of their company removed to Oxford, upon which, the society, like a polypus, divided itself into two. The one half, provided with a new tail, remained in London, the other, furnished with a new head, thrived at Oxford. It was afterwards matter of dispute which was the better half, but we need not discuss the question. The halves came together in London, and after Charles the Second's return, "were, about the beginning of the year 1662, by his majesty's grace and favor, incorporated by the name of the Royal Society." It had no fixed title before its incorporation. Boyle spoke of it as the "Invisible College." Evelyn wrote of it as a "Philosophic Mathematic College." Cowley called it the "Philosophical College." Only sickly infants are christened in haste. It was an earnest of the Royal Society's longevity that it had long been weaned, and was out of leading-strings, before it was named.

The history of the Royal Society is a part of the History of the Empire. For nearly two hundred years it has gathered together one great division of the highest intellects of the nation, and given unity and a practical aim to their labors. All its doings have not been wise, or its works fruitful. But its errors have been singularly few, and its most abstract, and apparently visionary occupations have, in the great majority of cases, been found, in the end, ministering to the welfare of all men. It has expanded the intellect of the whole people; been the true, though sometimes unconscious and generally distrusted ally of Religion; and the faithful, though too often unthanked, servant of government, which it has aided and guided in increasing the commercial and political greatness of the country.

The society will never be thanked as it deserves for its direct services to the empire, much less for its indirect ones. It is not that men are unthankful, but that they are slow to perceive that there is occasion for thanks, and they are blind to their true benefactors. Rarely does a scientific inquiry like "Davy's Researches on Flame," bud, blossom, and bear fruit, like Aaron's rod, in a single night, and show forth, on the morrow, a Safety Lamp, the value of which men hasten to acknowledge by cheques on their bankers, and a service of plate to Sir Humphry. In general, one man sows and another reaps; the acorn is planted in this age, and the oak felled in the next. The seed-time is for-

gotten before the harvest comes. Too often, also, while the sower was a very wise man, the reaper is only a very needy or greedy one. He puts a money value on the grain, which the public pays, and cries quits. It would be difficult to extort from many a London or Liverpool shipowner an acknowledgment that the Royal Society did him a service by persuading government to spend a round sum of money in sending out vessels to observe the transit of Venus over the sun's disk. It would be still more difficult to persuade him that he owed thanks to the astronomers of Charles the Second's reign, for watching, night after night, the immersions and emersions of Jupiter's moons; that Dr. Robert Hooke was his benefactor, by experimenting upon the properties of spiral springs, and Dr. Gowan Knight by making artificial magnets. The shipowner furnishes his captains with nautical almanacs, chronometers, and compasses, and thanks no one. The bookseller and instrument-maker have got their own price for their goods. Business-men do not thank one another when value is given for value. All London has been out gaping at the new electric light. It has gone home with dazzled eyes, not to meditate statues to Volta, or Davy, or Faraday, but to reflect that the light is patent, and must be paid for, and to consider the propriety of disposing of its shares in the gas companies, and retiring from the oil and tallow trade.

We do not make these remarks complainingly. Scientific men have, at present, a fair share of the sympathy and gratitude of their unscientific brethren, and are every day receiving fuller and more kindly acknowledgment of the value of their services.

Whilst we are writing, Mr. Macaulay's eloquent recognition of the debt of gratitude which the nation owes the Royal Society has appeared, to wipe away its reproach among the ignorant. He must be an exacting man of science who is not satisfied with the graceful tribute to the worth of his labors which a great literary man has so willingly paid.

We have spoken of the past glories of the Royal Society, but though its history has been four, we may say five times written, it has not become an historical thing. It never ranked a greater number of men of genius among its fellows than it does at present, and we trust the time is far distant when the society shall end with the name with which it began, and become, in sad earnest, the Invisible College.

CAPT. BYRD'S LETTERS CONTINUED.

Virg'a, X'ber 8th, 1685.

To MR. GOWER per HALL.

Sir,—I received two letters from you this year, and am sorry to find you retain so ill an opinion of Capt. Randolph and myselfe, which wee thinke neither of us have deserved. What we have done (relating to Mr. Grendon's estate) wee dare referre to any equall Judges in the world and therefore I assure you, I take very unkindly these untoward reflections you have been pleased to put upon us. Whoever are your authors (that wee have possessd ourselves of the Estate, paid ourselves Legacys ct'a,) are Lyers, which we dare affirme to their faces, lett them bee who they will. I once had thoughts Col. Hill might bee the man, who utterly denyes itt. If Jenings, or any else have done itt, wee neither care for, nor value them, and are onely unhappy they gave you occasion to have ill thoughts of us. However we are neither afraid nor ashamed to have our actions scanned by any men of sence or reason, since what wee have done is upon the records of this Country where any person concerned may view them. This I thought my selfe obliged to in answer to yours, but otherwise being sensible of the obligations I and some of my relations have rec'd from you, doe acknowledge myselfe, sir

Your Humble Servant,

W. B.

Virginia, X'ber, 8th, 1685.

To MR. COE.

Sir,—Yours is rec'd and I am sorry to find those unhappy reflections made on Capt. Randolph and myselfe, which I thinke neither of us have deserved (relating to Mr. Grendon's Estate) neither of us (I dare boldly say) being one farthing the better, but at a great deale of trouble and charge about itt, without the

least advantage to ourselves, as is falsely suggested. We are sorry those that pretended kindnesse to us, should so readily or rather greedily, not onely retain but foment their unworthy sentiments of us and our proceedings, which being public and on record, wee doe refer to God and the World to judge. Advantage to ourselves wee never made, and if through our ignorance or folly wee have miscarryed, our friends might have been more modest than to have publickly taxed us for fools or knaves, which wee thinke wee deserve no more than others, therefore shall not value much their thoughts of us. This in answer to those severe reflections made on us, I thought myself obliged to. What things you and your lady was pleased to send for mee and my wife, ct'a, are come to hand, for which trouble wee returne you our hearty thanks. As also for your and your Lady's kindnesse (especially) to little Nutty. I shall take care Messrs. Perry and Lane shall discharge the charges of my Child'n hereafter. Being heartily sorry I have trespassed so much on you for which I beg pardon, and it shall ever be acknowledged by sir

Your Humble Serv't,

W. B.

Virg'a, X'ber, 8th, 1685.

TO MR. NORTH.

My last to you by the Booth about 10 days since, I hope will come safe to hand with the 20 Hhds. of Tobacco therewith sent and consigned to you. I am at present under much dissatisfaction for the sence you seem to have of mine and Capt. Randolphs proceedings about Mr. Grendon's Estate, and thinke wee have no ways deserved those reflections you and others have been pleased to make on our carriage therein, since wee never intended nor obtained any advantage to ourselves; but reap'd a great deale of trouble, and were at some charge to come to the composition wee did with Brame, which wee thought might bee for the advantage of the Creditors. If itt proves otherwise you must

blame our ignorance, and that of our pretenders to the Law (no doubt not so well read as your Learned Sages.) Itt was June before wee could bring the old Gentlewoman to Swear to the Inventory, when all our James River Ships being gone out, you need not have urg'd our designe to keepe you (as you pretend) in ignorance. I going suddenly after to N. Yorke and Albany by a public command, and Capt. Randolph liveing so remote, had not the convenience to write to you about your affair, nor to any else of his owne Concerne, neither doe I conceive Mr. North soe much a Stranger to the affairs of this Country, that hee thinks they may bee done at the Exchange or Coffee House ; nor an Estate consisting in Servants, Slaves, Horses, Cattle, Sheep and Hogs, so easily managed as Land, Houses or Money. For your attaching the money in Messrs. Perry and Lane's hands, wee are no whit concerned, but glad to find you any way Lawfully secured. For our not consigning the — to you, wee had the advice of our greatest pretenders to the law in itt, that wee could not safely doe it, since if you had kept the money in your hands as Creditor, wee had been answerable for itt as Assetts to the Virginia Estate.

The Attachment of Will Randolph's £20 in Mr. Coe's hands is ill taken, itt being his owne proper money, and I must say Mr. Coe was unkind in itt, and will make men take care how they put money in his hands. But here's enough, if not too much of this.

Wee are willing you should not bee disappointed, nor a looser by Bradly's. Wee therefore have agreed with him for halfe the Ship Vizt. Col'o. Hill †. Will Randolph and Alfr'd Epes †. Ben Harrison † and myselfe †, for which wee designe to charge bills on you, and consigne her to you, onely W. R. thinks hee possibly may bee lo safer in that, than hee was in the money to Mr. Coe. I doubt not but shee will Saile Loaden within a moneth, and in that time hope to persuade him to comply, though I thinke I have no great reason for itt.

What you sent by the Booth, I have not yett had much time to Examine, (though most of the Goods sold) by reason of my

late arriveall from N. Yorke and our Assembly now Sitting, onely this I am sure, the Saine and Saine twine quite rotten and (except Corks and Leads) not worth one Farthing. Shall not trouble you farther, but beg pardon for this freedome, and conclude with best respects to your Lady and all our friends from sir,

Your friend and serv't,

W. B.

Virg'a, Feb'y 10th, 1685.

TO MESSRS. SADLER & THOMAS, Merchants in Barbadoes per WELLS.

Gent.—I should long since have acquainted you with the rec't of yours by Wynne, but was prevented by my long stay at New Yorke. Mr. Wynne sailed for England in 9ber last, and hath orders to returne by Barbadoes. By him I desire the goods and negroes hereunder written. I have allready wrote to Messrs. Perry & Lane about itt. Pray lett care be taken about the Caskes ffor Rum and Molasses, for wee suffered great losse by the last. Though mine escaped the best, yett I lost all the Lime juice, one Caske of Rum wholly out, many others $\frac{1}{2}$ and $\frac{1}{4}$. I hope suddenly to send you a few Barrels of flower for a Sample, next year hope to provide better, being yet in want of a Bolting Mill and other conveniencys. Shall not trouble you farther, but with due respects take leave.

Gent., Yr. Humble Serv't,

W. B.

I desire these following Goods may bee sent on my particular account, vizt.

4 Negroes, 2 men and 2 women, not to exceed 25 years old and to bee likely.

About 1200 Gallons of Rum.

3000 lbs. Muscovado Sugar.

1 Barrell of White S. about 2 cwt.

3 Tun of Molasses.

1 Caske Limejuice and 2 cwt. Ginger.

Feb'ye, 15th, 1685.

TO LORD EFFINGHAM.

May it please yr. Excellency :

This Bearer Mr. Mercer of New Yorke hearing your L'dship had rec'd information that hee being a Frenchman borne (contrary to the act of navigation) came Master of a small sloop, and therefore is in danger of suffering by the said act, hee affirms that being made free of the City of N. Yorke and having a kind of Denization from Col. Dongan, was persuaded that he might safely trade in any of his Majesty's Plantations, but not knowing how far those things may weigh here, hath therefore carryed them to your Excellency ; being willing wholly to rely on your Lordship's clemency, and if hee must bee seized and brought to try all, desires it may bee suddenly, hee haveing disposed of most of that small trucke hee brought with him, and ready to take in his Ladeing to returne backe, and fearing to fall into the hands of Capt. Crofts by whom (hee saith) hee hath been hardly used already ; hee hopes your Excellence will shew him all the favour his cause will admit of, which will bee thankfully acknowledged by the Gent. of N. Yorke.

I humbly beg yr. L'dships pardon for this trouble and for not waiting on yr. Excellency this winter, the weather having been so bad, and indeed my hands so full of businesse, that I have not had any opportunity, but shall on all occasions bee ready to acknowledge myselfe

My Lord,

Your Excellency's most

Humble and Obedient Serv't,

W. B.

Virginia, March 8th, 1685.

TO BRO. DAN'L per RUDS.

Dear Brother,—Yours of the 16th of 7ber last came safe to Hand by the good Lady Berkeley—Am heartily glad to hear of

little Nutty's safe arriveall att Purleigh, where I doubt not her kind reception ; having had such large experience of your kindness before.

I was a great part of lasr Summer at N. Yorke about 100 leagues to the Northward of this place, and found a very Honorable reception there from the noble Governor (Col. Thomas Dongan) and all the Gent. of that place. Its a pretty pleasant towne consisting of about 700 Houses, and a very handsome strong forte wherein is the Governours House, a great Church, Secretary's office, and convenient Lodgings for the officers and Soldiers of the Garrison, with other conveniences. The Inhabitants are about six eighths Dutch, the remainder French and English. They have as many Sects of religion there as att Amsterdam, all being tolerated, yet the people seem not concerned what religion their Neighbour is of, or whether hee hath any or none. From thence I went to Albany about 150 miles up Hudson's River. The Towne consists of about 300 Houses, all Dutch, where I met the Indians I went to speake with. They gave mee a great many fair words, but how they will performe I cannot promise. About the beginning of 8ber, I came from N. Yorke, and had a very tempestuous passage of 21 days before I got within our Capes. Att my Arriveall home, I found my wife safely delivered of a Boy since Xned Warham. They are (I thanke God) with little Molly in good health.

I am heartily glad it pleased God to deliver our nation so speedily from such a dangerous rebellion, which must soon (if the Body had suffered) have afflicted all the members. I hope wee may see peacable times, that Trade may bee encouraged, and the nation Happy. Will Randolph and Jno. Banister are both in health and give you their Service. Pray give mine to all where it is due—Mine with my wives blessing to our poor Children, and accept our most sincere respects to yourselfe with hearty thanks for all favors.

Dear Sir,

Your affectionate Bro. and Serv't,

W. B.

Virginia, March 8th, 1685.

To CAPT. RUDS per his SON.

Dear Uncle,—I cannot but reckon itt a great misfortune amongst many others that wee are wholly deprived of ever having your good company in Virginia again, where wee have been so often merry together, and I must assure you its seldome the upland Gange meets but wee remember your good health, though wee so often forgett our owne. I have great hopes (God willing) to see England next year, and then doubt not but I shall bee so happy as to see you in London. In the interim, I heartily wish you all prosperity. All our friends here are in health. B. B. is as you left her, and soe is Bumble B. Dumble B, only Bradly and Hall quarrell who Spins most Cotton. Pray give my best respects and service to my aunt Ruds, and tell her I beg her acceptance of an Otter Skin herewith sent. Remember me to Mrs. Bradley, Coz Nanny and your good Daughter, not forgetting all the small girls.

Dear Uncle,

Your obliged Cousin and Servant,

WM. B.

AN OLD EPITAPH.

A friend has favored us with the following copy of an inscription which he found on an old time-worn tombstone in the family burying ground, on his plantation in Surry county, called Four-Mile-Tree.

.....
 Here lyeth buried the body of
 Alice Miles Daughter of John
 Miles of Branton in Hereford—
 Gent. and late wife of Mr. Geo.
 Jordan in Virginia, who departed this
 life the 7th Jan. 1650.
 Reader her dust is here enclosed
 who was of witt & grace composed.
 Her life was virtuous during breath—
 but highly glorious in her death.

HINTS TO THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

It has now passed into an axiom, that History should tell not merely, or mainly, the transactions of the *government* of a country, but the doings, the progress, the character, of its *people*. All facts, all incidents, that throw light upon these topics, ought, of course, to engage the attention of the Virginia Historical Society. I respectfully submit, then, that its archives should show—

1. When it was, that a hospital was first provided in Virginia, for the insane—when the second Hospital was provided—when the *moral system* of treating lunatics (with kindness, fresh air, exercise, proper diet, and the careful culture of their moral and intellectual natures) was substituted, at Williamsburg and at Staunton, for the chain, the dungeon, the ducking-stool, and the lash—and when idiots were first excluded by law from those hospitals, as incurable.

2. When public provision was made for teaching the deaf and dumb.

3. *When*, for the blind.

4. *When*, for instructing the poor; with detailed as well as general views of the success which has attended our primary schools.

5. *When*, and *what* efforts have been made, and what measures adopted, to establish, either generally or particularly, common schools like those of New England, New York, Prussia, France and Austria.

6. To what extent, and in what regions, certain demi-savage pastimes prevailed; and when, and how far they have disappeared. *Ex. gr.*, cock-fighting, gander-pulling and horse-racing.

7. To what extent *treating for elections* was once practised; illustrated by descriptions of scenes in which that foul usage was very rich: and how far, and in what counties, or districts, it is yet kept up.

I could suggest several other topics of inquiry, by which light would be shed upon the history of the *people*, as contra-distinguished from that of the government. But my space is out.

L. M.

THE FRIGATE ALLIANCE.

The Continental frigate *Alliance* was built at Salisbury, on the river Merrimack, in Massachusetts. The alliance formed with France, in 1778, induced our government to give her the name she bore.

The Alliance was commanded by many of the most distinguished officers of the Continental Navy—Barry, Jones, Nicholson and others; Commodore Dale served in her, at one time, as first lieutenant under Jones.

The history of this ship furnishes many pleasant anecdotes illustrative of great gallantry, and good humor; many of them occurring at periods of time when it might be supposed that the minds of responsible officers would be otherwise engaged.

The frigate Alliance, while convoying the sloop of war—commanded by Captain Green, from Havana, having on board the money that founded the Bank of North America, was chased by a seventy four, and a large class sloop of war; the seventy-four and our sloop sailed nearly the same; but the English sloop outsailed ours, and no doubt, would have come up with her, and in all probability, have so injured her masts and sails, as to allow the seventy four to come up, when she would, of course, have been taken: on each of those attempts to close with our sloop, Commodore Barry, who took his station on the weather quarter of our sloop, bore down on the English sloop and engaged her. The Alliance being of superior force, the English sloop was compelled to sheer off, and thus the money was preserved, which contributed much to the happy termination of our war with England.

In one of the encounters of the Alliance frigate and British sloop, a shot entered the corner of the Alliance's counter, and made its way into a locker, where all the china belonging to the Captain, was kept; an African servant of the Commodore's a great favourite, ran up to the quarter deck and called out "Massa, dat dam Ingresse-man broke all e chana!" "You rascal," said

the Commodore, "why did you not stop the ball?" "Sha, massa, cannon ball muss hab a room."

At another time, the Alliance, while still commanded by Com. Barry, was chased by the Chatham, sixty-four, off from the entrance of the Delaware Bay; and it has been said, that, on that occasion, the ship sailed fifteen knots, and run down the Speedwell, British sloop of war, the Commander of which attempted to prevent the escape of the Alliance.

At the close of the war the Alliance was sold by the government, and purchased by Robert Morris; and Captain Green, with Commodore Dale in the capacity of chief mate, made the first voyage from Philadelphia to China, that ever was attempted out of that port; and little did they suppose, at the time they started, that a small craft from Salem, was on her way before them; but such was the fact;—for, on their arrival in the Indian ocean, they fell in with a small Yankee schooner, and on hailing her, were answered "from Salem." Captain Green enquired what charts they had; the answer was "none, for there were none to be had, but we have Gutherie's grammar." This passage was performed out of season, and it is believed to have been the first ever made outside of New Holland, by an American.

The Alliance, after all her wonderful escapes from the enemy, and long and perilous voyages, died a natural death in the port of Philadelphia, and laid her bones on Pellet's Island, opposite that city.

In the year 1802, an officer attached to Commodore Dale's squadron, met with Captain Vashon, of the British Navy, at Gibraltar, who then commanded the Dreadnaught, ninety eight; and was informed by him, that he commanded the English sloop of war, before spoken of.—Captain Vashon made the most respectful enquiries after Commodore Barry, and stated the facts, as they had been frequently related before, by the Commodore himself; and in the most magnanimous terms accorded to that gallant officer, a full and generous portion of his approbation, for the masterly manœuvring of the Alliance, on that occasion. Captain Vashon stood high in the British Navy, as a distinguish-

ed seaman, and observed, that the Commander of the seventy four, who was then an Admiral, spoke often to him, on the subject of their pursuit of the frigate Alliance; always giving her Commander great credit for his conduct. Commodore Barry, on this, as on all other occasions, evinced his love of justice, and spoke of Captain Vashon's conduct, bravery and ability, in terms of the highest commendation.

J. B.

ORIGINAL LETTERS.

FROM GENERAL WASHINGTON TO COLONEL BAYLOR.

MORRISTOWN, MAY 23RD, 1777.

Dear Sir,—By this day's post, I received your favor of the 13th inst. I am sorry to find you have to combat so many difficulties in raising your Regiment. These however, I flatter myself, in a little time will all be surmounted by your persevering activity.

A Chaplain is part of the establishment of a Corps of Cavalry, and I see no objection to your having one, unless you suppose yours will be too virtuous and moral to require instruction. Let him be a man of character and good conversation, and who will influence the manners of the Corps both by precept and example. A Paymaster is indispensably necessary, and as his duty will be to make up all abstracts and receive and pay all money due to the Corps, and also to keep and settle all transactions respecting it, he must be a person of good character and well versed in accounts. His pay will be fifty dollars pr. month, and I hope you will make choice of one who will answer the description I have given.

I am dear Baylor,

Your affectionate Humble Servant,

G. WASHINGTON.

To the Same.

HEAD QUARTERS, MIDDLE BROOK, JUNE 19TH, 1777.

Dear Baylor,—Yours of the 2nd inst. I received by yesterday's post.

I must request that you will spare no pains to forward on the troops you have enlisted. If they are not equipped, they must not wait. Our demand for Light Horse is such, that they cannot be dispensed with.

You should be extremely cautious in your enquiries into the character of those who are not natives, who offer to enlist. Desertions among men of that class have been so frequent, that unless you find them on examination to be of good unsuspecting conduct, they should not be taken by any means. Otherwise, most probably they will deceive you,—add no strength to our arms, but much expense to the public account, and upon the first opportunity will join the enemy. If those you have enlisted who are to be suspected will exchange places with men in the marching Regiments, I have no objection. I think it will be prudent they should, but you cannot compel them without violating the conditions of their enlistment and doing an act of injustice.

As a Regimental promotion, is to be the governing rule for filling all vacancies under those of Field Officers, when there lies no substantial objection to the next eldest officer, and where it may not be necessary to promote out of that line for signal services, Mr. Randolph must succeed to the Lieutenancy made vacant by Mr. Gresham's death. His having been constantly in service since he marched from Virginia with Weedon's Regiment, surely cannot operate to his prejudice.

I am dear Baylor,

Your aff. H'ble Servant,

G. WASHINGTON.

P. S.—As Mr. Randolph is here, he will stay and do duty with Capt. Lewis till the Troop comes up which he is to join as a Lieutenant.

To the Same.

PHILADELPHIA, 5TH AUG., 1777.

Dear Baylor,—I received your favor of the 19th of July, and according to your request inclose a warrant on the Paymaster in Virginia for Twenty thousand Dollars. I fully expected the sum you had drawn before, would have completed your Regiment.

I must urge you in the most pressing terms to use your utmost exertions and diligence in completing your Regiment and proceeding with it, without loss of time to Camp.

I am dear Sir,

Your most humble serv't,

G. WASHINGTON.

To the Same.

WILMINGTON, AUG. 25TH, 1777.

Dear Baylor,—I received your letter of the 18th by this day's post. I have never doubted of your assiduity and industry to raise your Regiment, and am but too well satisfied of the difficulties you have met with. I wish you to come on, with such men as you have ready, and that you will leave proper officers to recruit the Troop you mention to be deficient, and also the remainder of the Regiment, if you think there is a probability of doing it.

The fleet are lying in Elk River, and by an express received this evening, the Troops were landing on the west side this morning. As matters are thus circumstanced, I think the upper road should be your Route.

I am dear Baylor,

Your most ob't Serv't,

G. WASHINGTON.

To the Same.

VALLEY FORGE. MAY 3RD, 1778.

Dear Sir,—You will receive another letter from me by this conveyance, and to which I refer;—but cannot help again cautioning you against making new appointments and filling up vacancies in your regiment without first obtaining full powers for that purpose. If there are any Gentlemen whom you would wish to get into your Regiment, and who would do credit to the service, it will always meet with my concurrence, but you would do well to mention the matter previously, to avoid the imputation of assuming power and setting a bad example. Mr. Peregrine Fitzhugh (son to Col. Wm. Fitzhugh of Maryland) I intend a Cornetcy for in your Regiment,—and I daresay shall readily acquiesce in any choice you may have made of others.

I am with great regard,

Yr. affectionate H'ble Serv't,

G. WASHINGTON.

To the Same.

HEAD QUARTERS, VALLEY FORGE, 15TH MAY, 1778.

Dear Sir,—I am glad to find by yours of the 4th inst., that you have been so successful in the purchase of horses, and I hope that as the favorable news from Europe has already begun to produce a visible effect on the value of paper money in this quarter, that it will extend its influence and reduce the price of horses and every other article. If you have not received an answer from the Treasury Board before this reaches you, I would have you send a good officer to them which may have more effect than writing.

I can see no objection to applying part of the money rec'd for purchasing horses, to paying bounty to your recruits. In my letter of the first of May I desired you not to make any absolute

appointment of officers, as the augmentation of the cavalry was only recommended by the committee of Congress, but not yet adopted.

I am, dear sir,

Your very humble serv't,

G. WASHINGTON.

To the Same.

HEAD QUARTERS, WHITE PLAINS, 3RD AUG., 1778.

Dear Sir,—I am favored with yours of the 13th ult. As you seem to have proceeded as far as you can in the purchase of Horses, without indulging the exorbitant demands of the holders, I would have you desist and come immediately to Camp with all the officers, men and Horses. If you have any arms or accoutrements unfinished, or any men and Horses unfit to come forward when this order reaches you, I would have you leave an officer upon whose diligence you can depend, to bring them on when they are ready.

Lieut. Baylor under arrest for gaming, is to come on with you.

I have written to Col. Bland, and desired him to give over purchasing and to come on to Camp also, as it is my intent to draw as strong a Body of Cavalry as possible together, that we may keep the enemy from foraging or drawing other supplies from this part of the country.

I am dear sir,

Your most ob't serv't,

G. WASHINGTON.

To the Same.

HEAD QUARTERS, 22ND SEPT., 1778.

Dear Sir,—Your letter of the 20th inst., I had the pleasure of receiving yesterday.

I would wish you to ascertain with as much precision as pos-

sible the number of troops that embark, and the time of their departure from N. York, with what other circumstances can be gained respecting them. For this purpose, you will use every means in your power, and transmit the result of the enquiry to me with all expedition.

I am Sir,

Your most ob't Serv't,

G. WASHINGTON.

P. S.—You will keep a careful and constant look out on the North River, and should you observe any number of the transports in motion this way, you will give the earliest notice possible to the remainder at West Point.

OLD FRIENDS.

Beware a speedy friend, the Arabian said,
 And wisely was it he advised distrust.
 The flower of spring soon fades, and turns to dust.
 But see yon oak that lifts its stately head,
 And dallies with th' autumnal storm, whose rage
 Tempests the ocean waves; slowly it rose,
 Slowly its strength increased. Through many an age,
 And timidly did its light leaves unclose,
 As doubtful of the spring, their palest green.
 They to the summer cautiously expand,
 And by the warmer sun and season bland
 Matured, their foliage in the grove is seen,
 When the bare forest by the wintry blast
 Is swept, still lingering on the boughs the last.

From the Newark Sentinel.

TREES.

We find the following pleasant article in the Literary World of the 8th ult., (taken into that paper from the Newark Sentinel,) and readily adopt it into our work, for which it almost seems to have been written—as indeed it ought to have been by good right; for the author who signs himself *Cæsariensis*, (a New-Jersey man, as he is at present,) is really *Virginiensis*—a certain *Virginian* whom we know, as the piece itself intimates; and some of our readers in Charlotte will easily recognise him by the token of his allusions to those old oaks, &c., as one whom—with his honored father—they often think and talk of with fond and affectionate regret.

You may be disposed to think, Mr. Editor, that after the papers which you kindly published some years ago, on Civic and Rural Decoration, I can have very little more to say on the subject of Trees. Yet the older I grow, the more I feel interested for posterity, and desire my sons and grandsons to have abundance of shade. The jests about the tree-less condition of Scotland have gone on for so many years, that if Dr. Johnson could return and renew his tour, he would find umbrageous plantations on every hand: indeed the very best method of transplanting mature trees comes to us from Scotland. Dr. Witherspoon used to say, that when he sailed up the Delaware, on his arrival in this country, he was at every turn tempted to ask what nobleman's seat he was looking at; so accustomed was he to associate a grove with wealth and artificial plantation. Dreadful havoc has, however, been made in these forests during the last century; and even the trees around old mansions have, upon a change of owners, been barbarously hewn down.

It was my lot to live several years in the neighborhood of the eccentric and eloquent John Randolph of Roanoke; and I often heard the remark made, that he would not allow even any lopping or trimming of his trees. He used to say, in reference to the connexion between aristocracy and "ancestral trees," "Any

upstart can build a fine house, but he cannot build the old oaks." In that same county I was most familiar with a spot settled by a retired officer of the Revolution, but now dismantled, and occupied by an overseer; yet four matchless oaks still tower above the ruins, and there are the remains of four rows of catalpa trees, which once extended nearly half a mile. When I lived there, it was a pleasant thought that my honored father had lived there also, and had enjoyed the same shade thirty years before: how sacred then must be the associations of one who walks among trees which have sheltered his forefathers for centuries! Are we to give up all such fancies at the beck of communists and red republicans?

Trees have figured in literature, and struck their roots deep in the poetry of all ages. Although a taste for the picturesque does not characterize the ancients, and there is little description of natural scenery in their prose-works, yet we find exceptions in regard to trees. One remarkable instance will promptly occur to all classical scholars: it is the famous platanus, in the shade of which Socrates kept his place while he discoursed, constantly moving from the sun; it is mentioned both by Plato and Cicero.*

The choral allusions to groves, in Greek tragedy, are also familiar. The Latin word *lucus* carried religious associations which belonged to no other term, and was shadowy with such imaginations as hover over Virgil's line,

Et caligantem nigra formidine lucum.

These superstitions were founded on natural sentiment; as he may understand who will recall some twilight hour, when he found himself musing and gazing into the recesses of a dark ancient tree, till overtaken by night. The poet is one who can unfold the Herculanean papyrus of such thoughts, and decipher the hieroglyphic of imagination, and translate the vagueness of these inklings into the idiom of common life. Perhaps it has never

* Plat. Phaedr., Cic. de Orat. I. 17.

been more completely done, than by Wordsworth, in the **YEW TREES** :

“ A pillar'd shade,
 Upon whose grassless floor of red-brown hue,
 By sheddings from the pining umbrage tinged
 Perennially—beneath whose sable roof
 Of boughs, as if for festal purpose decked
 With unrejoicing berries ghostly Shapes
 May meet at noontide—Fear and trembling Hope,
 Silence and Foresight—Death the Skeleton,
 And Time the Shadow,”—etc.

I wish attention were more frequently drawn, by parents and other educators, to the individuality of great trees, which have each their physiognomy, as much as so many men. And could we read the character, in these lineaments of trunk and boughs and “ shadowing shroud” (a noble old English word, for which we have no substitute*), we should read the impressions of spring tides, of droughts, and of tempests. An old tree is an old friend, and we do well to take pains that our sons may hereafter love its very wrinkles. The tree of the park or pleasance, and the tree of the forest, are as different as the old knotty, gnarled, unmovable baron, and the alert, smooth, thriving, average dweller in cities. The same reasons operate in both cases. Character becomes more inspissated, juicy, full of tannin and fibrin, where there has been elbowroom for the mighty branches to wrestle with the winds. Look at an “ old field” of the South, in which a thousand young pines have sprung up spontaneously, side by side, and you are instantly reminded of a boarding school of sweet young ladies; the same name would do for all. On the other hand, I do know a solitary tree, fit for Druids and predominating over a waste meadow, which is so reverend in its eloquence that it preaches a sermon to me whenever I pass or contemplate it. “ Those mossed trees, that have outlived the eagles,” should covenant with us to leave something of their kind for our descendants.

* Ezekiel xxxi. 3.

Of the ways and means of planting, and of woodcraft in general, I know as little as other idle, pragmatic speculators: I admire and love the poem that I cannot make. But I heartily honor those of my accomplished countrymen who are writing on this subject, and stimulating our people to care for trees. The inhabitants of Newark have a standing, living pledge of the superior taste possessed by their elders, in the elms of their beautiful parks; and the absence of such mementos in New York is only another token left by the axe of Mammon on our utilitarian city. I remember to have paused on crossing a certain ferry of the Roanoke, near the mansion of the late Sir Peyton Skipwith, and inwardly to have thanked the considerate love which spared on the further bank a clump of picturesque and gigantic trees, the sight and shadow of which were refreshing after a wearisome day's journey. Plant or preserve a lordly tree by the wayside, and you secure what is "a joy for ever:" the deed may be as benign as the "cup of cold water." The oaks of the Old Testament have a brood of recollections nestling in their foliage; the oak of Jacob; the oak of the Law, the oak of Rebekah, the angel's oak, the oaks of Saul, of Abimelech, of Absalom, and of Bashan.—Gen. xxxv. 4, 8; Josh. xxiv. 26; Judges vi. 11; Judges ix. 6; 2 Sam. xviii. 9; 1 Chron. x. 12; Zech. xi. 12; Isaiah ii. 13. What elegiac meaning in "the oak of weeping!" Burckhardt found thick oaks remaining in the hills of Gilead and Bashan, and Lord Lindsay makes frequent mention of the oaks of Palestine. These verily were to the Hebrews what Prometheus, in *Æschylus*, calls "accosting oaks." (*Prom. Vinc.* 831.) Nor is there anything void of reason which so addresses the imagination, as a venerable tree. Such power and stability, joined to such vicissitude of garb and flexibility of member; such gravity, such lightness; such fearful brandishing of arms, yet such shade in heat, smiles in sunshine, and tears in dew; such a world of summer leaves, and such nakedness in winter. Landscape painting, an art of modern times, one of the few in which we exceed the ancients, and one which is making daily advances, has led to a new study of the physiognomy of trees, and the discernment

of differences, not merely generic or specific, but particular. The day was when the painter invented his tree, and hence it eluded all botanic laws; but a tree of Cole or Durand has not only a face of its own, but an expression in its countenance. Sketchers know this, and have their port-crayon always ready to snatch the flitting glance, just as the portrait painter seizes on a happy cast of his sitter's face. But the most affectionate study of trees must be of those which one has planted: it is a pleasure I cannot enjoy, for my pinfold would not contain more than one, and that not a live-oak, plane, or cedar of Lebanon, but some puny nursling—a morus or an ailanthus.

CÆSARIENSIS.

MACAULAY'S HISTORY OF ENGLAND.*

We have here at last the very work—or something like it—that we have long been wishing but hardly hoping to see in our time. It is true we have as yet but two volumes of a long series which according to the author's purpose are to bring down the history of England “from the accession of King James the Second to a time which is within the memory of men still living,” but they are complete in themselves, and no doubt fair samples of all the rest. We need not say that they are well and beautifully written. We have long regarded Mr. Macaulay as the most graceful and fascinating writer of the times, and we are ready to unite with the critics of his own country—of all parties—in bestowing the highest praises upon this new performance of his pen. It has, indeed, a thousand beauties—*mille habet ornatus*—and if it has some defects also, even in a literary point of view,

* The History of England from the Accession of James the Second. By Thomas Babbington Macaulay. 2 vols. 8vo., pp. 680-684. Longman, Brown, Green, and Longmans. London. 1849.

it is only because after all it is but a human production, and cannot, of course, be perfect.

With this sense of its merit, we have read this portion of the work with great interest;—and not merely for its own sake, but still more perhaps for the aid which it promises to afford us in our present engagement—to collect and preserve all the far-and-wide-spread materials for the History of our own State. It is true that, so far, Mr. M. has not bestowed a single sentence that we remember upon our sometime colony of Virginia, in any part of these volumes; and we might perhaps very fairly take some little umbrage at this slight if we chose; but he has promised, we see, to notice us in due time, when he says, in his introduction, “I shall relate how, in America, the British colonies rapidly became far mightier and wealthier than the realms which Cortez and Pizarro had added to the dominions of Charles the Fifth,” &c. So we must wait patiently till our turn comes. And, in the mean time, we think he has done us a real and substantial service by this portion of his work. The truth is, the history of our State, at least down to the period of our revolution, or the peace that crowned it, is so intimately connected with that of England, that any work which sheds new light upon the latter must necessarily scatter some few rays of it upon the former. A History of England need not say very much about Virginia, for some time; but a History of Virginia cannot avoid referring continually to the cotemporary History of England. It is in this way, then, that Mr. Macaulay has indirectly done us a great favor without intending, or perhaps once thinking of it, by giving us at last what we have long felt to be a desideratum—a fair, readable, and reliable history of our mother country—at a most important and interesting era in her annals. For hitherto, and until the appearance of these volumes, we have had no proper account of the memorable Revolution of 1688—so important in all its bearings and influences upon our own far more glorious Revolution of 1776,—or none at least that we could fully adopt. For, on the one hand, the plausible but fallacious narrative of Hume, which Lord Chatham aptly termed his Apology for the

House of Stuart, does not fully embrace the event, and evidently does not appreciate its grandeur ; but passes lightly and coldly over some of its most interesting features ; and, on the other, the more liberal and philosophical productions of Fox and Mackintosh, with all their merits, are hardly adequate to the subject, or altogether worthy of their authors ; and we naturally desired another and better work for our purpose. We desired but hardly hoped ; yet here we have it at last achieved and accomplished for us by a writer who is manifestly fully qualified for the task, and who has executed it so far with a force, and grace, and spirit that leaves us nothing further to wish. We have now at least, we believe, a fair, honest, and impartial history which we may read with a general and comfortable reliance that it is all substantially, and, for the most part, even circumstantially, true. We have the narrative, too, written in a free, florid, and yet familiar style, that is always clear and pleasing, and sometimes, indeed often, graceful and elegant in the highest degree. We have characters finely and accurately drawn, (only with a little too much particularity, perhaps, to be altogether true) and painted with a beauty and charm of colouring that has never been excelled. We have sound judicious reflections ; rather too frequent and copious, we think, but always fair, and generally just. In short, we can almost say that Mr. M. has united all the good qualities of all our classical historians, ancient and modern, and without their faults. He is Herodotus and Tacitus, more particularly, blended together. He has the free, natural, story-telling faculty of the first, with the judgment, fancy, and sensibility of the last, and with a certain charm of his own that makes him superior to both. With these merits and graces, then, we shall accept Mr. M. most cheerfully and gladly, as the chosen companion of all our future excursions into the pleasant fields of our Virginian history ; and we may occasionally, perhaps, contrive to enliven our pages by some "elegant extracts" from his truly able and most agreeable work.

As some earnest of our promise on this point, we should be glad to give our readers our author's most happy and spirited

sketches of James the First, and Charles the First, and Cromwell (to whom he does something like justice at last,) and the more extended characters of Charles the Second, and James the Second, (the nominal hero, for some time, of his work, and who cuts so sorry a figure in it,) and above all, of William the Third, a real hero, whom he has drawn, and painted, and finished off with all the finest powers of his masterly hand;—but we have really no room for them at present, and must therefore reserve them—with some remarks upon them—for another time.

DR. GREEN'S ADDRESS.

INAUGURAL ADDRESS, Delivered before the Board of Trustees of Hampden Sidney College, January 10th, 1849. By L. W. Green, D.D., President. 8vo., pp. 29. Pittsburg. 1849.

This is rather a dithyrambic speech; but good notwithstanding, and, in some parts, really excellent. We have been particularly pleased with the author's explanation of the collegiate course of studies which displays, we think, uncommon ability, and proves him to be amply qualified (in point of genius and learning at least) for the important chair which he has been called to fill.

Dr. G. is a new-comer amongst us; but he comes from a kindred State—from warm and generous Kentucky—(of an old Virginia stock, we believe,) and besides his brilliant talents, has many amiable and attractive qualities that will soon make him at home in all our hearts.

We cordially congratulate the college—in whose welfare we feel a lively interest—on the acquisition of such a President, who, we may hope, with the aid of his zealous and efficient co-laborers, and by the blessing of God, will be able to raise it up again to something like, or even far above its most palmy state at any former time. At any rate, he has our best wishes for his most perfect success.

DR. JUNKIN'S ADDRESS.

CHRISTIANITY the Patron of Literature and Science. An Address Delivered February 22nd, 1849. On the occasion of the Author's Inauguration as President of Washington College, Virginia. By the Rev. George Junkin, D. D. With an Appendix, containing a brief history of the College. Philadelphia. Published by order of the Board of Trustees. 8vo., pp. 39. 1849.

This is a learned and argumentative discourse which does great credit to the author, and augurs well for the continued prosperity of the venerable institution over which he has been called to preside. We think Dr. J. has very amply and sufficiently proved some of his leading propositions—"that a college is a private and not a public institution"—"that it is the main business of the Church to teach, and of the State to govern, that is, to enact and enforce law, and to administer justice," &c. We are not, however, exactly prepared to adopt at once all the conclusions which he seems to suppose are involved in them. Indeed some of them appear to come in such "questionable shapes" that we might "speak to them" a little. But we cannot pursue the subject at present. We may, perhaps, recur to it again.

MR. SMITH'S ADDRESS.

THE BIBLE, A Book for the World. An Address delivered before the Cadet's Bible Society of the Virginia Military Institute, May 1st, 1849. By B. M. Smith, Pastor of the Presbyterian Church, Staunton, Va. 8vo., pp. 23. New York, John Wiley. 1849.

An excellent Address. The topics are well chosen, and the whole subject—of the highest importance—is treated with great judgment and happy effect. It ought to be circulated as a tract; and we should be happy to see a copy of it in every house in our State.

LINES

ON THE DEATH OF GENERAL WASHINGTON.

The following Lines on the Death of Washington, are from the *Edinburgh Magazine*; "in which journal they appeared shortly after the demise of the illustrious personage whom they celebrate," in 1799. We have found them republished in the *Port Folio* for 1824, (vol. 18th, p. 73.) and now record them here.

Amid the incense of a world's applause,
 That hails the champion of his country's cause,
 By virtue's tears embalmed, to merit just,
 Thy ashes, WASHINGTON! return to dust.
 But not to Death's oblivious shade return
 Thy soul's warm energies—they guard thy urn.
 When Freedom, shrieking through the western sky,
 Call'd all her sons to conquer, or to die,
 Turn'd her fair face, and shuddering as she view'd
 The kindred hosts with civil blood imbrued,
 Full in the van thy withering arm revealed
 Its awful sweep,—and conquest had the field:
 When torn Humanity in sorrow stood,
 As war's wild vengeance poured the crimson flood;
 Thine was the boast, mid ranks with terror lin'd,
 To blend the feeling with the mighty mind!
 In scenes of havock and devouring flame,
 No brutal carnage stained thy glorious name;
 No voice of misery in vain implored
 The meed of mercy from thy conquering sword.
 These were the triumphs, whose supporting power
 Shed its soft influence on thy dying hour.
 To thee no terrors deepened into gloom
 The long unfathomed twilight of the tomb;
 That heart, with virtue's purest feelings warm,
 That arm, the first in battle's raging storm,
 Still shield thy country, and embalm thy name,
 The brightest, noblest on the rolls of fame.

A. B.

Various Intelligence.

THE PEACE CONGRESS AT PARIS.

This illustrious Convention closed its sittings in Paris, on Friday the 24th of August last.

Great prominence was given to the Congress in the eyes of the people, by a part of the government of France. M. de Tocqueville, (so well known in America,) who is now Minister of Foreign Affairs, gave a grand soiree to the members of the Congress; and the Minister of the Public Works threw open the public works and palaces in and around Paris to the free ingress and egress of the delegates. These public buildings at other times can only be visited by passport.

The soiree at M. de Tocqueville's was a most brilliant affair. At least six hundred Anglo-Saxons were present, many of whom were Quakers. And it was a strange sight to behold these plain, peaceful men wandering through the gorgeous saloons of a former military royalty, and now of a military republic, and mingling in social harmony with officers in citizens' dress, and with the starred and trinketed ambassadors of kingdoms, whose weapons of war are even now freshly stained with the blood of their antagonists.

The *elite* of Paris were present, and doubtless were as much entertained by the appearance of the English and Americans, as the English and Americans were surprised and delighted with the magnificence of rich-tapestried rooms, illuminated gardens, and splendid music.

The soiree was necessarily upon Saturday evening, but before 12 o'clock arrived, the English and Americans bade adieu to Mr. and Madame de Tocqueville, and retired from the place where they had been so kindly and sumptuously entertained; thus setting an example to the Parisians of a respect for the day of God which was soon to follow.—*Cor. of N. Y. Obs.*

A MACHINE FOR OPENING OYSTERS.

The Editor of the Evening Post, now travelling in Europe, says that the old fashioned way of rapping the shell of an oyster, forcing a knife into the body of the unfortunate animal, and fetching him to light

with a "How many, sir?" has been superseded in Paris by a machine. "Mr. Baudon, with his *ecailleres*, reforms the barbarities altogether. The oyster is laid over so gently in a groove—the screw is turned once, twice—*le voila*—the unconscious oyster is before you, blinded by the light, without a gaping wound. There is no series of raps to warn the oyster of his doom—no proportion of the castle is breached, but the vice is turned, the valves fly apart, and, blinded and bewildered, the live oyster is consigned to tickle your palate with his dying agonies."

THE MANUFACTURE OF ENVELOPES.

The recent changes in the Post Office regulations, have enabled letter writers to make use of the desirable facility and guard of an envelope. It may seem a little thing to manufacture this article, but the machinery employed is of the most complex and ingenious character, and the various stages of the operation are highly interesting. We had the pleasure of spending an hour or two yesterday, in the establishment of Messrs. Coleman and Jones, South Fifth street, and of viewing the processes through which the paper passes before being converted into its destined form.

A pile of paper is first laid under the cutting press, and the flat forms of the envelope are cut out at once. These are then taken to the folding machine, which is one of the most singularly constructed and beautiful pieces of mechanism we have ever seen. It requires but one person to feed it, and performs all the rest of the operations itself; for the paper, cut in the proper form, being placed in a fixed position, is seized by nippers and drawn forward to a bed, where it is held firmly by an overhanging plate of metal which covers just so much as marks the size intended to be made, leaving the parts to be folded over loose. The sides are then, by means of plates advanced towards each other, folded over, and as they retire, a roller covered with gum, passes under the surface of a double curved piece of brass, which instantly falls upon the outside fold, while, at the same time, a roller presses on it and causes adhesion. This being done, the bed on which the envelope rests falls to an inclined position; and being caught between rollers, the finished article is passed through a trough into a receiving basket. The only remaining labor is to gather the envelopes up and sort them into packages of twenty-five each. The whole is

done with great rapidity, and so various and contrary are the motions of the machine, that it appears almost to be in some degree, sentient.

The number of envelopes consumed is enormous, and Messrs. Coleman and Jones are doing their best to supply the demand. They are now actively engaged in the production of embossed work, and the patterns we saw were as beautiful as the finest English or French ones. The folding machine is the invention of Mr. Coleman; and while in the establishment we saw a model of an improvement of it, by which it is very probable he will be able to make it self-feeding, and thus render it independent of the ministry of the hands. In every respect it is a most ingenious, as well as a most useful machine.—*Phila. N. American.*

MAIZE IN ENGLAND.

The London Times gives a very flattering account of an experiment—a successful one, if the Times is to be credited—recently made in England, on the practicability of advantageously cultivating maize in that land of wet, cold summers. The description of the plant given in the Times, is somewhat novel. It says—

“The appearance of the plant is peculiarly graceful—far more so, indeed, than that of any ordinary corn-field. The stems, which run up perfectly straight, are generally from four to five feet high, and are much thicker than the larger wheat straw. They throw out from the root upwards, a succession of flag-like leaves, the stem terminating in a little tuft, from which spring the ears of corn, somewhat irregularly clustered; and, in this instance, apparently not heavily laden.”

The Philadelphia American, speaking of this subject, alludes to the failure of the Cobbett experiment some twenty years ago, and expresses a fear that the present experimentalists have got hold of the wrong plant, and are expending their energies on broom corn. From the description given in the Times, there is certainly some ground for such a fear.—*Balt. American.*

AN ARRIVAL OF SHEEP.

In the Virginian, of 9th July, we published a letter from Mr. H. N. Dox, of Western New York, to Sterling Claiborne, Esq., of Amherst,

in which the writer stated that he should, within a few weeks, leave his home for Virginia, with a flock of 400 sheep, intending to take up his future residence in this vicinity. We are gratified to state that Mr. Dox arrived, two or three days ago in Amherst, with a flock of near 800 of the best American Saxony sheep, whose wool ranks as No. 1 in quality. He has not yet made a purchase, and the sheep are, for the present, quartered upon the lands of Mr. Claiborne. We learn from Mr. Dox, that he took a very direct route through Pennsylvania, crossing the Potomac near Martinsburg, and the Blue Ridge at Rock Fish Gap, avoiding the Valley Turnpike. The time occupied in the drive was 42 days. There was great difficulty in parts of Pennsylvania and in the lower end of the Valley, in finding pasture, owing to the distressing drought. Notwithstanding this, all the sheep stood the long drive remarkably well, and the flock was diminished by only seven, when it arrived in Amherst—and these were sold on the way in consequence of injuries received from accidents. The daily drive was about 12 miles—on one day twenty-three miles was accomplished.

We hail this arrival as an important event. We trust and believe it is but the pioneer corps of a multitudinous invasion, of like character, from the same quarter. Many of his neighbors and acquaintance but wait to hear Mr. Dox's report, to drive their flocks Southwardly and settle among us. We tender to all a cordial welcome.

Lynchburg Virginian.

NORFOLK.

The present indications in Norfolk give unmistakeable evidence of her advancement and prosperity as a city. Within a fortnight, gas-pipes have been planted through her streets with almost the rapidity of light—a telegraphic communication, between this point and Petersburg, is in progress of construction, and in a short time we shall no longer be a city of isolated position, but shall be in wired communication with our sister towns. Within the same period, our people have authorized a subscription of \$200,000 to the Seaboard and Roanoke Railroad. The day after the vote the President and Engineer of the Company proceeded to the North for the purpose of filling up their subscriptions and procuring iron to carry on the work; and we have

every reason to expect that they will be in readiness to commence vigorous operations early in October. With these signs before us, who can doubt that our city is on the full tide of successful experiment.

Norfolk Argus.

FIRST FLASH FROM PETERSBURG.

By the following despatch from our worthy friend of the Petersburg Intelligencer, dated on Wednesday, it will be seen that the wires of the Norfolk line of telegraph reached Petersburg on that day.

Norfolk Herald of Friday.

PETERSBURG, October 10th, 1849.

J. W. Syme sends his respects to his old friend, Commodore Broughton, and is glad that they can now talk with each other by the Lightning.

RICHMOND COLLEGE.

The First Commencement of this institution was held in the second Baptist Church in this city, on Wednesday evening, the 10th instant, and, notwithstanding the unfavorableness of the weather, was respectably attended. The exercises of the occasion were pleasing and interesting. They were: an Oration on "The Law of Progress," by Josiah Ryland, of King and Queen, and an Oration on "The Age of Chivalry," by Poindexter S. Heuson of Fluvanna;—both creditable to the young performers, and the last, particularly, delivered with considerable taste. The Address of President Ryland to the youthful Bachelors, was highly appropriate—full of good advice expressed in apt and gracious words, and read with deep and earnest impression.

The literary exercises were agreeably relieved by several anthems from the choir, sustained by musical instruments, which gave great satisfaction to all the audience.

Altogether, the Commencement was a good beginning, and augurs well for the future prosperity of the College, which deserves, we think, the cordial support of its immediate friends, and the liberal favor of all our citizens.

THE STATE OF EUROPE.

The state of Europe, by the latest news, to the 10th inst., may be summed up in a few words :

Venice subdued by the Austrians—Rome by the French—the Pope restored—Hungary prostrate at the feet of Russia—her fugitive generals received by Turkey who refuses to deliver them up to the imperial Autocrat—England and France united to sustain her in her position—all hushed but hardly composed—and what next ?

 Miscellany.

 ROME.

The appearance of Rome is just what the traveller expects. The great number of churches and the heavy architecture of the buildings, give a sombre grandeur to its streets, which accords with our ideas of its ancient and "buried state." I saw scarcely a new brick wall, and not one light, flashing color in all Rome; nothing which could break the reverie into which the contemplation of its ruins plunged me. It is a city given up to the Past, where one may lose himself in the recollection of ages, and find nothing to recall him to the Present. Those who love to dwell among ruins, who cherish the melancholy that springs from contemplating memorials of man's greatness and of his decay, should live at Rome.—*Cor. of N. Y. Obs.*

NOTE.—This was written before the late flagrant invasion of the eternal city by the French, the traces of whose ravages might suggest some still more melancholy and far less soothing reflections.

 RESOLUTION.

"We live in times that call for wisdom in contemplation and virtue in action; but in which virtue and wisdom will not do without resolution."—*Sir Philip Francis.*

AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS.

The more I am acquainted with agricultural affairs, the better I am pleased with them; insomuch that I can nowhere find so great satisfaction as in those innocent and useful pursuits. In indulging those feelings, I am led to reflect how much more delightful to an undebauched mind is the task of making improvements on the earth, than all the vain glory which can be acquired from ravaging it by the most uninterrupted career of conquest.—*Washington's Letters to Arthur Young.*

A WOMAN'S WORDS.

“It is incalculable what comfort and encouragement a kind and wise woman may give to timid merit, what support to uncertain virtue, what wings to noble aspirations.”—So writes a lady in *Frazer's Magazine*, who signs herself S. A., (perhaps Sarah Austin,) and we cordially echo her sentiment. We remember also, by the association of ideas, what an old poet wrote before her, to the same effect:

Let no man value at a little price,
 A virtuous woman's counsaile; her winged spirit
 Is feathered oftentimes with heavenly words,
 And (like her beauty) ravishing and pure,
 The weaker bodie still the stronger soule,
 When great endeavours do her powers applie,
 Her love draws nearest man's felicitie.—*Chapman.*

GOOD BREEDING.

The most familiar and intimate habitudes, connexions, and friendships, require a degree of good breeding both to preserve and cement them.—*Lord Chesterfield.*

HOW WE LIVE.

In youth, we live too much out of ourselves, and in old age too much within ourselves. Mature age is between the two extremes.
The Prince de Ligne.

LINES ON NEÆRA.

Among the Latin poems of Buchanan, are some Lines on Neæra, which are pointed and pretty enough.

*Illa mihi semper præsentì dura Neæra.
Me, quoties absum, semper abesse dolet;
Non desiderio nostri, non mæret amore,
Sed se non nostro posse dolore frui.*

Whene'er I woo sweet Fanny Gay,
She only laughs at all I say,
And bids me go and sigh;
Yet when I leave her—far away—
She lures me back again—for why?
Ah not from love, or gentle grief;
Ah not to give my heart relief;—
But just to see me die.

ON THE PORTRAIT OF A GOOD BUT HOMELY WOMAN.

Blame not the brush that could not trace
This woman's beauty in her face;
For, far beyond the reach of art,
Her loveliness was in her heart.

Q.

TO READERS AND CORRESPONDENTS.

We have recently received some valuable communications from different correspondents, for which we return them our grateful thanks.

We have now ample materials on hand for the prosecution of our work for the ensuing year. Yet we earnestly solicit more; as it is always desirable to have as great a variety as possible out of which to make our immediate selections.



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.*