

**THE**  
**VIRGINIA HISTORICAL REGISTER**  
**AND**  
**LITERARY COMPANION.**

**EDITED BY**

**WILLIAM MAXWELL.**

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THE  
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JANUARY, 1853.

No. I.

THE BATTLE OF THE GREAT BRIDGE.

[We find the following cotemporary account of this memorable engagement in a manuscript collection of Historical Reminiscences which has been made by a worthy citizen of Portsmouth, and which he has most obligingly put into our hands, for our use in this work. It is stated to have been published in the old Virginia Gazette of the time, shortly after the action; and we have no doubt was so; but we have not the particular paper to refer to, and of course cannot vouch for the fact.]

From officers who have arrived in town from Col. Woodford's camp since the battle of the Great Bridge, I have I think collected a more particular account of that action, than any which has yet been communicated to the public. You will therefore oblige me by publishing it, and afford at the same time no disagreeable entertainment to *our* countrymen. As the scene of action is but little known to the generality of people, it may be necessary to give some description of it, that the relation may be more clear and satisfactory.

The Great Bridge is built over what is called the Southern branch of Elizabeth River, 12 miles South from Norfolk. The land on each side is marshy to a considerable

distance from the river, except at the two extremities of the Bridge, where are two pieces of firm land, which may not improperly be called islands, being entirely surrounded by water and marsh, and joined to the main land by causeway. On the little piece of ground on the farther, or Norfolk side, Lord Dunmore had erected his Fort in such a manner that his cannon commanded the causeway on his own side, and the bridge between him and us, with the marshes around him. The island on this side of the river contained six or seven houses, some of which were burnt down, (being those nearest the bridge) by the enemy after the arrival of our troops; in the others adjoining the causeway, on each side, were stationed a guard every night by Col. Woodford, but withdrawn before day, that they might not be exposed to the fire of the enemy's fort, in recrossing the causeway to our camp, this causeway being also commanded by their cannon. The causeway on *our* side (*the south side*) was in length about one hundred and sixty yards, and on the hither extremity our breast-work was thrown up. From the breast work ran a street gradually ascending about 400 yards to a church where our main body was encamped. The great trade to Norfolk in shingles, tar, pitch and turpentine, from the country back of this, had occasioned so many houses to be built here, whence these articles were conveyed to Norfolk by water. Such is the nature of the place as described to me, and such was our situation, and that of the enemy.

On Saturday the 9th inst.,\* after reveille beating, two great guns and some muskets were discharged from the enemy's fort, which as it was not an unusual thing, was but little regarded by Col. Woodford. However, soon afterwards he heard a call to the soldiers to *stand to their arms*; upon which with all expedition he made the

\* The 9th of December, 1775.

proper dispositions to receive the enemy. In the mean time the enemy had crossed the Bridge, fired the remaining houses upon the island, and some large piles of shingles, and attacked our guard in the breastwork. Our men returned the fire, and threw them into some confusion, but they were instantly rallied by Capt. Fordyce, and advanced along the causeway with great resolution, keeping up a constant and heavy fire as they approached. Two field pieces which had been brought across the bridge and planted on the edge of the island facing the left of our breastwork, played briskly at the same time upon us. Lieut. Travis who commanded in the breast-work, ordered his men to reserve their fire 'till the enemy came within the distance of 50 yards, and *then* they gave it to them with terrible execution. The brave Fordyce exerted himself to keep up their spirits, reminding them of their ancient glory and, waving his hat over his head, encouragingly told them "the day was their own." Thus pressing forward he fell within fifteen steps of the breast-work: his wounds were many, and his death would have been that of a hero, had he met it in a better cause. The progress of the enemy was now at an end, and they retreated over the causeway with precipitation, and were dreadfully galled in their rear.

Hitherto, on our side, only the guard consisting of twenty-five, and some others upon the whole amounting to not more than ninety, had been engaged. Only the Regulars of the 14th Regiment, in number about one hundred and twenty, upon the causeway, and about two hundred and thirty *tories* and negroes, had after crossing the bridge continued upon the island. The Regulars after retreating along the causeway, were again rallied by Captain Leslie, and the two field pieces continued to play upon our men. It was at this time that Col. Woodford was advancing down the street, to the breast-work, with the main body, and

against him was now directed the whole fire of the enemy. Never were cannon better served ; but yet in the face of them and the musketry, which kept up a continued blaze, our men marched on with the utmost intrepidity. Col. Stevens of the Culpeper Battalion, was sent round to the left to flank the enemy, which was done with so much spirit and activity that a route immediately ensued. The enemy fled into their fort, leaving behind them the two field pieces which however they took care to spike up with nails.

Many were killed and wounded in the flight, but Col. Woodford very prudently restrained his troops from urging their pursuit too far. From the beginning of the attack to the repulse from the breast-work, might be about fourteen or fifteen minutes ; 'till the total defeat, upwards of half an hour. It is said that some of the enemy preferred death to captivity, from a fear of being *scalped*, which Lord Dunmore inhumanly told them would be their fate should they be taken alive. Thirty-one killed and wounded fell into our hands, and the number borne off was much greater. Through the whole of the engagement, every officer and soldier behaved with the greatest courage and calmness. The conduct of our sentinels I cannot pass over in silence. Before they quitted their stations they fired at least three rounds as the enemy were crossing the bridge, and one of them who was posted behind some shingles, kept his ground 'till he had fired *eight times*, and after receiving the fire of a whole platoon, made his escape over the causeway into the breast-work. The scene was closed with as much humanity as it was conducted with bravery. The work of death being over, every one's attention was directed to the succour of the unhappy sufferers, and it is an undoubted fact that Captain Leslie was so affected with the tenderness of our troops towards those who were yet ca-

pable of receiving assistance, that he gave signs from the fort of his thankfulness for it. What is not to be paralleled in history, and will scarcely appear credible except to such as acknowledge a Providence over human affairs, this victory was gained at the expense of no more than a slight wound in a soldier's hand. One circumstance which renders it still more amazing, is that the field pieces raked the whole length of the street, and absolutely threw double headed shot as far as the church, and afterwards, as our troops approached, cannonaded them heavily with grape shot.

*Note.*—Our collector adds a note, which we give in his own words, as follows: "Many years before I read the foregoing account of the glorious victory at the Great Bridge, Captain Tho. Nash, late of Gosport, Virginia, had verbally given me a history of the affair, as he was one of the faithful and courageous soldiers who were engaged in it; and since I have read it, I have concluded that Captain N. was the only person on our side that was hurt on that glorious day, as I have often heard him speak of the wound which he received in his hand in the action. He has been dead many years, but is still remembered with honor by all who knew him.

Captain Nash informed me that at this famous battle, Billy Flora, a colored man, was the last sentinel that came into the breast work, and that he did not leave his post until he had fired several times. Billy had to cross a plank to get to the breast work, and had fairly passed over it when he was seen to turn back, and deliberately take up the plank after him, amidst a shower of musket balls. He was probably the very sentinel who is mentioned in the account as having fired "eight times." Billy Flora was well known in Portsmouth and the surrounding country, and was always greatly respected for his good conduct during the revolutionary war, and for his remarkable civility afterwards. He was a true patriot to the last. I recollect that when the troops of Norfolk and Portsmouth were under arms in service for a few days, in 1807, in consequence of the cowardly attack on the frigate Chesapeake by the British ship Leopard, Billy Flora made his appearance with his gun on his shoulder, and offered his services; observing that he had brought with him the same musket which he had fought with at the Great Bridge, and he would be "*battered*" (the only oath he was ever known to make) if he was not as ready to use her again as on that glori-



ous day. After the Gun Boats that were then at the Navy Yard were in readiness to defend the harbor if required. Billy volunteered to act as a marine under Commodore Decatur, who was then very busy in making suitable preparations to meet the British, and he remained on board one of the boats, until the services of the men were deemed no longer necessary. Billy Flora died in Portsmouth, in a good old age.

I have also heard Capt. Nash mention the names of all whom he remembered as present at the battle of the Great Bridge; among whom were the Wilsons, the Butts, Cunninghams, Tatem, Portlocks, Etheridges, Stokeses, Creekmores, Curlings, Porters, Trusses, Brannans, Brookses, Williamses, Foremans, Sykeses, Denbys, and many others. I have heard him speak particularly of Capt. Wm. Porter, Wm. Wilson, Senr., John Brooks, John Brannan, and Jonathan Denby, who were afterwards citizens of Portsmouth. The last five named gentlemen I recollect very well. I have been informed by the Rev. Jesse Nicholson, that Brannan was also in the battle of the Cowpens.

J. J.

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### CAPTAIN CUNNINGHAM.

[This interesting account of Captain Cunningham and his escapes, was written by the late Commodore Barron of Norfolk, and communicated by him for publication in our work. We submit it, accordingly, with much pleasure; and only regret that it is the last of the writer's valuable and pleasant papers, illustrating revolutionary times, that can appear in our pages.]

Capt. William Cunningham was a native of Hampton, Virginia, and in the early part of our revolutionary struggle, took a decided stand in the cause of his country. He first shouldered his firelock in one of the minute companies\* raised for the defence of his native town and county; and continued in that service until the State of Virginia pur-

\* Raised to march at a moment's warning, and thus called *minute companies*.

chased and armed a few fast-sailing, pilot-boat schooners. Among them was the schooner *Liberty*, which was never captured, although several times sunk in the rivers, to be concealed from the enemy. Captain Cunningham embarked in the *Liberty* as her first lieutenant, and continued in her for some time, until the war assumed a more regular form. The enemy varied his attacks from one State to another, sometimes leaving our waters in a measure free from his men-of-war. In one of these intervals, Captain Cunningham purchased a small schooner, which he loaded with tobacco, and sailed in her for St. Thomas. He arrived out safe, sold his cargo, and returned to Newbern, N. C., in twenty-one days, having realized an immense profit on his investment. He continued in this kind of traffic, at intervals, during the whole war, when his services were not immediately required by the State government. Sea officers were encouraged to engage in commerce, in this way, as the only means of procuring munitions of war.

On one of these occasions, Captain Cunningham was in command of a schooner called the *Polly*. During a thick fog, in the month of June, distant about ten leagues from Cape Henry, he heard a ship's bell strike *seven*!—in the direction of the wind, which was light, from the south-east. As may be supposed, this produced an immediate alarm; every preparation having been previously made for such an event, the crew were at their respective quarters in a moment; but as the sequel proved, they were not a second too soon; for at the same instant a frigate was seen, close aboard and directly astern. Both vessels were steering to the north-west. When the schooner was descried from the frigate, an imperious order was heard through a trumpet in the hands of an officer on the fore-castle—“strike your colors—haul down your light sails, and heave to, or I'll sink you.” This was a situation that required

the greatest skill and presence of mind, and Captain Cunningham proved to be fully competent to the discharge of his duty ; he exhibited that coolness and intrepidity which ever distinguish a brave man. The wind was light from the south-east, the fog very dense, and the direct course of the two vessels W. N. W.—the frigate being a little on the weather quarter of the schooner. Captain C. therefore determined to haul by the wind, on the larboard tack, and ordered the helm to starboard for that purpose ; and, as if in conformity with the order from the frigate, he directed aloud all the small sail halyards to be let go. This deceived the commander of the frigate, (who was the Hon. Captain Elphinstone, afterwards Lord Keith,) for a minute or two, and suspended the threatened firing ; during this short time, the schooner sprang to, nearly at right angles with the course of the frigate, and it was discovered that an escape, (if possible,) was determined on. At this moment the jib-boom of the frigate caught in the topping lift of the schooner's main boom ; Captain C. sprang up to the stern, with a knife in his hand, to cut the rope outboard the block to which it was attached, so that it might unreeve through the end of the boom, which it did, and thus freed the schooner from the grasp of the frigate. While in the very act, a marine on the forecastle shot Captain C. through the arm ; but this severe injury did not deprive him of that steady, cool determination which governed all his actions, and never was there an instance when deliberation was more conspicuous. *In ten minutes the schooner was out of sight of the frigate!* and arrived safely in Hampton Roads the next day. Although the escape was made under a shower of shot, the wound received by the Captain was the only damage sustained.

Some time after this affair the State of Virginia was invaded, and the Atlantic portion of it invested by the ene-

my, so that commercial operations were suspended. Captain Cunningham now took his land tacks aboard, and joined the army on the south side of James river; but he was not quite so much at home in this service as on his professional element, and he had the misfortune to be taken prisoner, while on some foraging expedition. He was carried to Portsmouth, where he was safely moored in the provost prison in that town, and remained there for some time until his patience was completely exhausted. Captain Cunningham had not been very long married to an excellent and amiable lady, of his own choice; and it was evident to his friends in the prison, (and there were many of them,) that he was meditating his escape, but not one person among them thought it possible. One day, he said to an uncle of his, (also a prisoner,) that he would see his wife the next evening, or perish in the attempt. "What! My dear Will, are you mad?" was the reply.

But to the act. This prison was a large building, well known by the appellation of the "Sugar House," and was built for that purpose; it stood at the extreme south end of the town, and was strongly enclosed by a stockade fence around it, with the principal gate opening to the south-west. At sunset, every evening, the guard, composed of from forty to fifty men, were relieved by fresh troops; and on their arrival the two guards, with their officers, were paraded in front of the prison, on each side of the pathway to the gate. At this hour, the ceremony observed on the occasion was in progress—the relieved guard had stacked their arms, and were looking up their baggage; the fresh guard were relieving sentinels, and in a degree at their ease. This was the time selected by Captain C. to make good his promise, or die in the attempt. The sentinel had just begun to pace his sacred ground, and awful indeed was the moment. Captain C. was justly a

great favorite with all the prisoners, and they, as well as his uncle, stood in silent terror, expecting soon to see their beloved compatriot pinned to the earth by many bayonets, for expostulation had been exhausted. "My wife, or death!" was the watch word. But he had carefully observed the sentinel's movements, and as he turned from the prison and marched towards the gate, Captain C. darted from the door of the house, overtook him before he turned, and knocked him down at his full length, by a butt of the head, for which he was famous.— It was now nearly dark. It would be useless to attempt a description of the astonishment, and instantaneous uproar and confusion, which the conduct of this dauntless man caused to the senses and feelings of all present. The soldiers, with their officers, as soon as they came sufficiently to their reason to act, ran out in the direction that the prisoner had taken, but he was gone! he had reached a marsh at the south end of the house, and was no where to be found. Volley after volley was fired, and some of the balls whistled about his head; but all in vain.

On reaching the southern branch of Elizabeth river, he plunged in and swam over, a little below the Navy Yard, at Gosport, and keeping along its margin until he came to the deserted residence of his father-in-law, about three-quarters of a mile above, he ventured to approach the house, and there found two faithful old servants, who assisted him to equip the only animal, (an old horse,) then remaining on the plantation; they gave him a direction to the northwest woods, where they said he would find the family and his wife, and where he found her indeed to his heart's delight.

J. B.

## SMYTH'S TRAVELS IN VIRGINIA, IN 1773.

[We begin here some extracts which we propose to make in this and following numbers from a work entitled "A Tour in the United States of America, &c., by J. F. D. Smyth, Esq. 2 vols., 8 vo., London, 1784," and which will be found to contain some lively and agreeable views and sketches of our State as first seen by the author in or about the year 1773, &c. We know nothing of the writer; but the books from which we copy are from the Library of the late John Randolph, of Roanoke, who, we are told, esteemed them as valuable and reliable memorials of the past.]

## CHAPTER I.

*First Appearance of Land. Capes of Virginia. Chesapeake Bay. Hampton-Roads. Musketoes. Norfolk. James-River. James-Town. Plantation. Williamsburg.*

We came in sight of land, on the fourth day of August, in the forenoon, in a fine day, with a clear serene sky. It appears at a distance like the tops of the trees just emerging above the horizon, on the surface of the water; and as the ship approached arose higher, but only the height of the pines, with which all the land on the sea board is covered; for the whole coast is very low, and soundings are found at a great distance from the shore, which gradually decrease as you advance nearer the land.

This regular decrease of the soundings, and the change of colour in the water, are the only preservatives of ships, in the night and hazy weather, from running on this dangerous, shallow, flat coast, without perceiving it until too late; for there is no light-house near the Capes of Virginia: a most laudable intention of erecting one on Cape Charles having been frustrated by a disagreement between the assemblies or parliaments of Virginia and Maryland, at

whose joint expence it was to have been built and supported.

We soon sailed within the Capes of Virginia, Cape Henry and Cape Charles, which last is an island named Smith's. We past Lynhaven Bay on our left, and the opening of the Chesapeake on the right, and in the evening anchored in Hampton Roads, which appears to be very safe.

The distance between the Capes is about twelve miles, but the vast bay of Chesapeak widens after you enter, until it becomes about thirty miles over, near thirty-five English leagues within land; then the breadth decreases from thence to the head of it, and is generally from fifteen to five miles, which is the breadth of it at its extremity, where the Elk and the mighty river Susquahannah fall into it, at about three hundred miles distance from the sea, through the whole of which vast extent the tide ebbs and flows.

The night being calm we were assaulted by great numbers of musketoos, a very noxious fly, which seems to be of the species of gnats, but larger and more poisonous, leaving a hard tumor wherever they bite, with an intolerable and painful itching; they penetrate the skin, fill themselves with blood, and make their principal attacks in the night, accompanied by a small, shrill, disagreeable note, the very sound of which effectually prevents you from sleep, after you have been once bit.

On the day following, the captain of the ship, Mr. R——, and I went up Elizabeth Biver, in the yaul, to Norfolk, about twenty miles, where we dined very agreeably, and returned that evening to the ship in Hampton Roads, so that I had not at this time an opportunity of seeing much of the town. However, it appears to be charmingly situated at the forks of a very pleasant river, the Elizabeth, on the north-east side, Mr. Sprowle's little village of Gosport being on the south, and the pretty town of Portsmouth

On the south-west side, over against Norfolk. at the distance of about eight hundred yards, which is the breadth of the river there; with sufficient depth of water for a ship of the line.

Norfolk is a corporation, with a mayor, aldermen, &c., in a flourishing state of improvement, and increasing daily; it contains about seven thousand inhabitants, of all colours and denominations, of which perhaps more than two thousand are whites. But it was by no means in such a state of increase and improvement as the more inland towns, at or near the falls of the great rivers; these being the chief emporiums of trade and commerce for the large, populous, and extensive back country, west and south of them; and, having also all the advantages of navigation, intercept the inland trade from Norfolk, which renders it, though flourishing, yet only so in an inferior degree.

On the sixth, the ship weighed anchor, and proceeded up James River. As the weather was extremely hot, I preferred going up in her to a journey by land; which, from Norfolk to Richmond, at the falls of James River, is about an hundred and thirty miles.

After passing a great number of most charming situations on each side of this beautiful river, we came to anchor before James Town, now a paltry place, not by any means deserving even the name of a village, although once the metropolis of Virginia, and still possessing several privileges in consequence thereof, one of which is sending a member to the assembly, or parliament; who is now Champion Traverse, esq. the proprietor of the whole town, and almost all the land adjacent, and I believe there are no more voters than himself.

On the seventh, Mr. R———— and I, having been furnished with horses by Mr. Traverse, made an excursion to



Williamsburg, which is but a few miles distant; perhaps eight or ten.

The roads are excellent, the face of the country is level, the soil rather sandy, but the whole land appears to be one continued immense forest, interspersed with openings where the trees have been cut down, and the ground is cultivated, of larger or less dimensions: these are called plantations, and are generally from one to four or five miles distant from each other, having a dwelling-house in the middle, with kitchens and out-houses all detached; at some little distance there are always large peach and apple orchards, &c.; and scattered over the plantations are the tobacco houses, large wooden edifices, for the cure of that grand staple produce.

We dined very agreeably at the Raleigh tavern, where we had exceeding good Madeira, and afterwards walked out to view the town, which is now the seat of government, and metropolis of Virginia.

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## CHAPTER II.

### *Williamsburg. Races. Breed of Running-Horses.*

Williamsburg is an inland town on the highest land about the middle between the rivers of York, on the north, and James, on the south, at the distance of seven miles from the nearest; and is healthy for the climate

There is one handsome street in it, just a mile in length; where the view is terminated by a commanding object each way; the Capitol, an elegant public building, in which the assembly, or senate, and courts of justice are held, at one end of the street; and the college of William and Mary, an old monastic structure, at the other end. About the middle between them, on the north side, a little distance

retired from the street, stands the palace, the residence of the governor; a large, commodious, and handsome building.

All the public edifices are built of brick, but the generality of the houses are of wood, chiefly painted white, and are every one detached from each other; which, with the street deep with sand, (not being paved) makes a singular appearance to an European; and is very disagreeable to walk in, especially in summer, when the rays of the sun are intensely hot, and not a little increased by the reflection of the white sand, wherein every step is almost above the shoe, and where there is no shade or shelter to walk under, unless you carry an umbrella.

There is a whimsical circumstance attends Williamsburg, which is, a part of the town (that has been added to it since it was first built) having the streets laid out in the form of a W.

Williamsburg is also the county-town of James-city county; where the courts of common pleas are held monthly, as they are also in every county in the colony; which amount to sixty-eight in number. The quarter sessions are also held quarterly in each county. Besides these, there are two courts of oyer and terminer held annually at Williamsburg; and likewise two general courts in April and October, which receive and determine appeals from every county, and all the inferior courts, as well as try original causes for sums above twenty pounds.

These, as also the courts of chancery, courts of admiralty, and assemblies or parliaments, besides the college, occasion a great resort and concourse of people to Williamsburg; and are indeed the chief, if not the whole, support of the place: for her share of commerce is very inconsiderable, and she does not possess a single manufacture.

There are races at Williamsburg twice a year; that is, every spring and fall, or autumn. Adjoining to the town is a very excellent course, for either two, three or four mile heats. Their purses are generally raised by subscription, and are gained by the horse that wins two four-mile heats out of three; they amount to an hundred pounds each for the first day's running, and fifty pounds each every day after; the races commonly continuing for a week. There are also matches and sweepstakes very often, for considerable sums. Besides these at Williamsburg, there are races established annually, almost at every town and considerable place in Virginia; and frequent matches, on which large sums of money depend; the inhabitants, almost to a man, being quite devoted to the diversion of horse-racing.

Very capital horses are started here, such as would make no despicable figure at Newmarket; nor is their speed, bottom, or blood inferior to their appearance; the gentlemen of Virginia sparing no pains, trouble, or expence in importing the best stock, and improving the excellence of the breed by proper and judicious crossing.

Indeed nothing can be more elegant and beautiful than the horses bred here, either for the turf, the field, the road, or the coach; and they have always fine long, full, flowing tails; but their carriage horses seldom are possessed of that weight and power, which distinguish those of the same kind in England.

Their stock is from old Cade, old Crab, old Partner, Regulus, Babraham, Bosphorus, Devonshire Childers, the Cullen Arabian, the Cumberland Arabian, &c. in England; and a horse from Arabia, named the Bellsizes, which was imported into America, and is now in existence.

In the southern part of the colony, and in North Carolina, they are much attached to *quarter-racing*, which is always a match between two horses, to run one quarter of a

mile straight out; being merely an excursion of speed; and they have a breed that perform it with astonishing velocity, beating every other, for that distance, with great ease; but they have no bottom. However, I am confident that there is not a horse in England, nor perhaps the whole world, that can excel them in rapid speed: and these likewise make excellent saddle horses for the road.

The Virginians, of all ranks and denominations, are excessively fond of horses, and especially those of the race breed. The gentlemen of fortune expend great sums on their studs, generally keeping handsome carriages, and several elegant sets of horses, as well as others for the race and road: even the most indigent person has his saddle-horse, which he rides to ever place, and on every occasion; for in this country nobody walks on foot the smallest distance, except when hunting: indeed a man will frequently go five miles to catch a horse, to ride only one mile upon afterwards. In short, their horses are their pleasure, and their pride.

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### CHAPTER III.

#### *The different beautiful Situations, and Gentlemen's Seats, on James River.*

In the evening, Mr. R—— and I were unfortunately separated, occasioned by a very ridiculous and singular accident; the effect of which had like to have been tragical enough to him. Just when we were ready to return to the ship, by some mistake, wrong horses were brought to the door; and not observing it, we mounted them: these horses being very spirited, and Mr. R——, having bid adieu to the gentlemen with whom we dined, suddenly clapped both his spurs in his horse's sides, inadvertently, with great

force; the horse instantly reared up, and sprung forwards, leaving poor R—— upon the ground, at the door, flat on his back, with his skull almost fractured. By this means the mistake in the change of our horses was discovered and rectified; but Mr. R—— was so much hurt, that he was obliged to be blooded, and carried into the Raleigh again, where I left him; and was thereby reduced to the necessity of returning alone to the ship.

On the ninth of August the ship got under weigh, and proceeded up the river, passing the delightful situations of Sandy-Point, Cabin-Point, Brandon, Flower de Hundred, Maycox, &c. on the south side; and Swine-Yards, belonging to Mr. Cole, Colonel Byrd's beautiful seat of Westover, Colonel Harrison's of Barclay, &c. on the north side: we anchored opposite to City-Point, at the confluence of the Appamatox River and the James, and about an hundred and thirty miles within land, from the capes of Virginia.

Here the second mate was carried on shore to the house of a Mrs. Brown, having been for a considerable time languishing, and in great pain, occasioned by a violent contusion he received by a fall on the deck from the main-yard-arm, reefing the main-sail in a gale of wind; and soon after he ended his days there.

As the ship was not to go much farther up, and was to receive great part of her cargo at this place, I hired a boat and four negroes, for one dollar and a half per day (about six shillings and ninepence sterling); and on the tenth I left the ship moored, and proceeded up the river in the boat; proposing to land at every place, whose beauty of perspective, or singular appearance of any kind, might strike the attention, or excite my curiosity.

I had almost omitted to mention an unfortunate accident that happened at this place, before I left the ship. A young

sailor, having killed and cut up a fine large sturgeon, that had leaped out of the water and fallen into the boat, along side of the ship, which happens frequently here; bringing in the last piece himself, in his hand, his foot slipped off the gunwale of the boat, between which and the ship he fell into the river, and was never seen or heard of more.

The principal situations that commanded my notice and admiration, were Shirley Hundred, a seat of Charles Carter, esq. at present in occupation of Mr. Bowler Cock: this is indeed a charming place; the buildings are of brick, large, convenient, and expensive, but now falling to decay; they were erected at a great charge, by Mr. Carter's father, who was secretary of the colony, and this was his favourite seat of residence. The present proprietor has a most opulent fortune, and possesses such a variety of seats, in situations so exceedingly delightful, that he overlooks this sweet one of Shirley, and suffers it to fall to ruin, although the buildings must have cost an immense sum in constructing; and would certainly be expensive to keep in repair, which expence, however, must be greatly increased by this neglect.

Varina, the seat of Ryland Randolph, esq. a most lovely and delightful spot: an elegant building, but unfinished, occasioned by the owner's versatility of taste, and perpetual alterations.

Chatsworth, the seat of William Randolph, esq. whose father was surveyor-general of the southern district of North-America, &c., is a very good house, with an agreeable perspective.

A Mr. Mayho's; a very pretty place also.—All on the north side of the James.

On the south side are the beautiful little towns of Bermuda Hundred, Osborn's, and Warwick: and a seat belonging to a Mr. Cary, a lovely situation, who has also

erected some extremely valuable mills, iron-works, &c. of equal emolument and importance to himself and the community. They are situated near the town of Warwick, about five miles below Richmond, and the falls of James-River.

I slept on board the boat; and on the eleventh, in the forenoon, landed at the town of Shokoes, at the falls of James-River, and immediately discharged the boat.

I then waited on Mr. ———, a merchant, at that place, on whom I had been furnished with letters of credit, &c. He was at home, and received me with kindness, attention, and friendship. He offered me apartments in his house, which I accepted, and he seemed studious to serve and amuse me.

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### THE VIRGINIA GAZETTE.

[The first newspaper established in our Colony was the "Virginia Gazette," a small weekly sheet published at Williamsburg, then the seat of government for the Colony; and the first number came out on Friday, August 6, 1736. It was edited by W. Parks, who announces his new undertaking with an "Introduction" characteristic of the times in which he lived, and containing some thoughts and hints which might be useful to his successors of the craft at the present day. This paper was continued with some changes, and perhaps some suspensions, for about fifty years; through the period of our subsequent colonial history, and to the end of our Revolutionary War. A complete file of it would be extremely valuable; but we suppose is not to be had. We have several volumes of it in the Library of our Virginia Historical Society, covering the period from the beginning in 1736, to the close of the year 1776, but with long chasms which we can hardly hope to fill. Besides these there are several other volumes of the work in our State Library,

from 1768 to 1776 inclusive. And there *were* also some volumes of it which had been collected by the care of Mr. Jefferson, in the Congressional Library at Washington; but these we understand, were all unfortunately destroyed by the recent fire in the Capitol—an irreparable loss. All these papers contain the most lively illustrations of the times in which they appeared, and furnish of course invaluable materials for any future history of our State. In the mean time, we propose to submit, from time to time, a few extracts from them which we think our readers will find both instructive and amusing.]

## GAZETTEIANA.

NO. I.

THE

## VIRGINIA GAZETTE.

Containing the freshest Advices, Foreign and Domestick.

Friday, August 6, 1736. [To be continued Weekly.]

## The PRINTER'S INTRODUCTION.

THE Usefulness of News-Papers is very evident, by the great Demand there is for them, and the vast Numbers printed Monthly, Weekly, and Daily, in England, and other Polite Countries in Europe: And since Presses have been set up in some of the American Plantations, News-Papers have been printed in New-England, New-York, Pennsylvania, Maryland, and South-Carolina; and in some of the Islands, as Jamaica, Barbadoes, &c. in all which Places I conceive the Undertakers find Encouragement, or they would not continue them.

From these Examples, the Encouragement of several Gentlemen, and the Prospect I have of Success, in this antient and best-settled Colony, VIRGINIA, I am induc'd



to set forth Weekly News-Papers here ; not doubting to meet with as good Encouragement as Others, or at least such as may enable me to carry them on.

The Design of These Papers, is to inform the Readers, of the most material Occurrences, as well of Europe, and other Foreign Parts of the World, as of these American Plantations; which relate to Peace and War, Trade and Navigation, Changes of Government, Parliamentary Affairs, Births, Marriages, Promotions and Deaths of Persons of Distinction, with many other Transactions of Consequence; by which the Readers may be improv'd, amus'd or diverted: which I shall faithfully collect, as well from the Public Prints, which I have ordered to be transmitted to me, from several Parts of England and the American Plantations, by all Opportunities, as from the private Accounts I may receive from my Correspondents. AND if any Ingenious, Public-spirited Gentlemen, who have Time to spare, will employ their leisure Hours in the Service of the Publick, by Writing any Speculative Letters, Poems, Essays, Translations, &c. which may tend to the Improvement of Mankind in general or the innocent Diversion or Entertainment of either Sex, without Offence to any in particular, they may depend on a Place in this Paper; and their names concealed if desir'd.

IT has been objected by some, that News-Papers are often pernicious, as they are instrumental in carrying on Party-Factions, and publishing Scandal and Detraction: It is true, some of them are too often abus'd that Way. But I beg Leave to assure my Readers, that I will, with the utmost Caution, avoid any thing of that Nature: For,

“ By the Liberty of the Press, we are not to understand  
“ any licentious Freedom, to revile our Governors and  
“ Magistrates; to traduce the establish'd Laws and Reli-  
“ gion of our Country; or any Attempts to weaken and

“ subvert by opprobrious Writings that sacred Respect and  
 “ Veneration which ought always to be maintain’d for Au-  
 “ thority, and Persons in Authority: Neither ought the  
 “ Press to be made an Engine to destroy the Reputation of  
 “ our Neighbours; or to prejudice any private Subject by  
 “ insulting his personal Frailties, Misfortunes, or Defects;  
 “ or by exposing the Secrets of his Family to public  
 “ Laughter and Ridicule; for as these are Things only of  
 “ a private Nature, which do not affect the Public, so the  
 “ Public has no right to the Knowledge of them.”

SO happy are we in this Government, that I know of no Party-Faction: And as for Scandal or Detraction, I shall be so far from publishing it myself, that I will endeavour in some of my future Papers to discountenance, if possible, that too common Vice in others; as it is the very Bane of good Society and Conversation: And I am not without Hopes that the Publishing these Papers Weekly will be of great Service in this Respect, by furnishing Public Matter of Discourse for Persons of that unhappy Disposition, which may prevent their descending to private Affairs.— And if the Gazettes shall be found to have this good Effect, I doubt not but they will be allowed to be of great Use in this Respect, as well as those before-mentioned; and therefore encouraged in all good Families: Which shall be the earnest Endeavor of,

Gentlemen, Your Most Humble Servant,  
 W. PARKS.

Virginia, August 9, 1736.

The Ship *Withers* is just arriv’d from the Coast of *Africa*, with near 300 choice Slaves, which are to be put to Sale at *York* this day, and to continue there ’til *Saturday* next: And at *West Point* on *Monday*, the 16th Instant, and there to continue ’til they are all sold, by

G. BRAXTON.

Ships cleared in the Port of York River between August 21 and Sept 2 1736. Lightfoot, of London, Thomas Harwood for London.

Burwell, of London, Constantine Cant, for London.

Nelson, of Whitehaven, William Tayloe, for London.

Braxton, of London, Thomas Dansie, for London—

Williamsburg, Sept. 10, 1736.

This Evening will be performed at the *Theatre*, by the young Gentlemen of the College, The Tragedy of CATO, And, on, *Monday*, *Wednesday*, and *Friday* next, will be acted the following *Comedies*, by the Gentlemen and Ladies of this Country, viz. The BUSY-BODY, The RECRUITING-OFFICER, and The BEAUX-STRATAGEM.

September 3, 1736.

All sorts of Labouring Persons, who are inclined to go to the new Settlement of *Georgia*, on this Continent, may have Twenty Five Shillings *Sterling* per Month, provided they will engage for 6 Months after their Arrival in that Colony. And any Persons, who are willing to become Inhabitants, and Freeholders there, are entitled to 50 Acres of Land, and a Town Lot, and will be allowed the following Encouragements, viz, One Year's Provision; Tools, and Household-stuff of all Sorts, necessary Arms of all Sorts, Iron-Work, and Nails, sufficient for building a House of 24 by 16 Feet; a Cow and a Calf, a Breeding Mare, and a Breeding Sow; With several other Advantages.

Any Persons, who will go to the said Colony, are desired to apply to Mr. *Miles Sweeney*, who is impowered to treat with them; and will put them in a Method of getting Passages thither, provided they can clear themselves, according to the Laws of this Country. He may be heard of at Mr. *Portlock's* in *Norfolk*, or by enquiring at the *Printing-Office* in *Williamsburg*.

**N. B.** Great Encouragement will be given to Merchants to trade to *Georgia*, if they send any kind of Provisions.

Pork will sell for 35s Sterling per Barrel. Beef for 30s. Wheat for 3s 6d per Bushel, Indian Corn for 1s 6d. Pease for 1s 6d. Flour for 12s 6d per Hundred. Tobacco for 5d per Pound. Live Stock of any sort will sell well; and all be paid for in *Sterling* Money, or good Bills of Exchange.

Pilots are always ready to attend, on firing a Gun, at *Dofusky-Sound*, *Tib's Point*, at the Mouth of *Savanna River*, and at *Jekyl's* (or *Polivanna*) Sound, at the Mouth of *Altamahaw River*, *St. Simon's Island*.

September 3rd, 1736.

To be Sold by the Subscriber, in *Goochland County*, a Tract of valuable, well timber'd Land, containing 4000 Acres lying on *Great-Guinea Creek*, in the said County. Any Person inclinable to Purchase, may have any Part of it for Ten Pounds per Hundred Acres, or at a cheaper Rate for the Whole Tract.

**DANIEL STONER.**

*Williamsburg*, Sept. 17, 1736. *Monday* Night will be perform'd the *Drummer* or *The Haunted House*, by the young Gentlemen of the *College*.

September 24th, 1736.

Last *Friday* died Mrs. *Mary Braxton*, Daughter of the late Col. *Carter*, and Wife of Mr. *George Braxton* of *King* and *Queen County*. She was a Gentlewoman of a very good Character, well belov'd by her neighbours and Acquaintance, and her Death is much lamented. She was lately delivered of a Son, and in a fair Way of Recovery, but unhapily catching Cold, was soon carried off; and the Child also died the *Monday* following.

October 15, 1736.

In the Gazette No. 8. We inform'd our Readers of the Death of Mrs. Braxton, and her Son, which Account we had from a Person who lives in the Same Neighbourhood, and depended on it for Truth, But the latter Part of it proves false; for the Child is still living.

Williamsburg, Oct. 13, 1736.

In obedience to an Instruction lately received, the Ministers of this Colony of *Virginia*, are desired and required, in their Prayers for the Royal Family (next after *His Royal Highness Frederick Prince of Wales*) to pray for the Princess of *Wales*, thus :

[Our Gracious Queen Caroline, Their Royal Highnesses Frederick Prince of Wales, the Princess of Wales, the Duke, the Princesses, and all the Royal Family.

JAMES BLAIR, Commissary.

Oct. 22nd, 1736.

Warner's Almanack for the year 1737, is in the Press, and will be publish'd in about Three Weeks.

*This Day is Published.*

Poems on several Occasions, never before printed. By a Gentleman of *Virginia*. Price stich'd 15d.

*Lately Publish'd.*

AN ESSAY on the PLEURISY : Wherein the Cause of that Disease is plainly accounted for, from the Circumstances of this Climate; a Remedy almost absolutely certain is prescribed, which is founded on Experience; and is a Vegetable that grows plentifully in many Places of this Country. By JOHN TENNENT. Williamsburg; Printed and Sold by William Parks. Price 1s 10½d.

Williamsburg, Oct. 29th, 1736.

Last Week *Lewis Burwell*, Esq. of *Glocester County* was

married to Mrs. *Mary Willis*, Daughter of Francis Willis, one of the Representatives in Assembly, for that County; a very agreeable young Lady, with a considerable Fortune.

Williamsburg, Nov. 5, 1736.

Last *Saturday* being His Majesty's Birth-Day, the same was observ'd here with firing of Guns, Illuminations and other Demonstrations of Loyalty: And at Night there was a handsome Appearance of Gentlemen and Ladies at His Honour the Governor's where was a Ball, and an elegant Entertainment for them.

On *Thursday* Morning dy'd the Rev. Mr. *John Skaiße* after a tedious indisposition. He was a Gentleman of an affable and courteous Behaviour, and was well belov'd by his Parishioners among whom he had exercised his Sacred Function near 30 Years with general Approbation. He was educated at *St. John's* College in *Cambridge* and was one of the Governours of *William* and *Mary* College, in this Colony.

#### *Advertisement.*

RAN away Two Negro Men Slaves; One of them called *Poplar* from my House in *King William* County, some time in *June* last; He is a lusty well-set likely Fellow, of a middle Stature, upwards of 30 Years old, and talks pretty good English: The other called *Planter* from my Plantation in *Roy's Neck* in the County of *King* and *Queen*, about the month of *August* following. He is a Young *Angola* Negro, very black, and his Lips are remarkably red,—He is supposed to be in Company with an old Negroe Fellow belonging to Col. *Corbin*, of a yellowish Hue, his Hair is like a *Madagascar's* and to be gone towards *Spotsylvania*. Whoever brings the said Negroes, or either of them to my House aforesaid, shall be paid a Pistole Reward for each. Or if already apprehended, any Person giving Notice there-

of, so as they, or either of them may be had again, shall be reasonably rewarded by

**BENJAMIN NEEDLE.**

**N. B.** The Negroe **POPLAR** is Outlaw'd.

**LOST**, in *Williamsburg* on *Monday* last, a Gold Mourning Ring, having on a Lozenge, a black enamel'd Cross, between 4 small Sparks and round the Hoop these Words: **H. Ludwell, vid, Ob. 4 Aprilis 1731. Æt 52.**

Whoever will bring the said Ring to me at the *College*, or to the Printer hereof, shall have Half a Pistole Reward.

Nov. 5, 1736.

**PHILIP LUDWELL.**

*Williamsburg, Nov 12, 1736.* (2)

On this Day was Sen'night, being the Fifth of *November*, the President, Masters, and Scholars of *William and Mary* College, went, according to their Annual Custom, in a Body, to the Governor's, to present His Honour with Two Copies of *Latin Verses*, in Obedience to their Charter, as a grateful Acknowledgment, for Two valuable Tracts of Land given the said College, by their late Majesties, *K. William* and *Q. Mary*. Mr. President delivered the Verses to His Honour; and Two of the Young Gentlemen spoke them. It is further observed, that there were upwards of 60 Scholars present; a much greater Number, than has been in any Year before, since the Foundation of the College.

*Williamsburg, Nov. 19.*

Yesterday was Fortnight, *Ralph Wormley*, of *Middlesex* County, Esq., a young Gentleman of a fine Estate, was married to the celebrated *Miss Salley Berkeley*, a young Lady of great Beauty, and Fortune.

*Williamsburg, November 26.*

The Inhabitants of *Norfolk* Town, in this Colony, hav-

ing for several Years past, flourish'd in Trade, by their sending Vessels to Sea, loaden with the Commodities of this Country, which returned with those of other Countries, by which several of the Merchants are become very considerable ; and the Number of their Inhabitants increasing, they lately petitioned the Governor for a Charter, to incorporate them, which was accordingly granted ; and an Act of Assembly pass'd the last Session, to confirm and strengthen the said Charter ; by which they are incorporated by the Name of the Borough of *Norfolk* ; and are to consist of a Maior, Recorder, and 8 Aldermen ; who have Power to hold a Court of *Hustings*, &c. and to choose 16 Common Council Men ; with several Privileges, Immunities, &c. granted by the said Charter ; in which the following Gentlemen are nominated, viz. Samuel Boush, Gent. Maior, Sir John Randolph, Knt. Recorder, George Newton, Samuel Boush, Jun., John Hutchins, Robert Tucker, John Taylor, Samuel Smith, Jun., James Ivy, and Alexander Campbell, Gentlemen, Aldermen. The first Maior dying soon after the Grant of the said Charter, he is succeeded by *G. Newton*, Gent.

Sir *John Randolph* being so appointed Recorder of the said Borough, made a Visit to them, and was on *Thursday* the 18th Instant, sworn into that Office accordingly : And he being impowered to appoint a Deputy, to act in his Absence, did appoint *David Osheall*, Gent. Deputy-Recorder of the said Borough, who was accordingly qualified.

On this Occasion of Sir *John's* Visit, the Gentlemen of the said Town and Neighbourhood, shew'd him all imaginable Respect, by displaying the Colours, and firing the Gns of the Vessels lying there, and entertaining him at their Houses, in the most elegant Manner, for several Days ; amply signaling their great Respect, on this joyful Occasion.



We hear from *Hanover* County, that on Tuesday next (being *St. Andrew's Day*) some merry dispos'd Gentlemen of the said County, design to celebrate that Festival, by setting up divers Prizes to be contended for in the following Manner (to wit,) A neat Hunting-Saddle with a fine Broad-cloth Housing, fring'd and flower'd, &c., to be run for (the Quarter,) by any Number of Horses and Mares; A fine Cremona Fiddle to be plaid for by any Number of Country Fiddlers, (Mr. *Langford's* Scholars excepted:) With divers other considerable Prizes, for Dancing, Singing, Foot-ball-play, Jumping, Wrestling, &c. particularly a fine Pair of Silk Stockings to be given to the *handsomest Maid* upon the Green, to be judg'd of by the Company.

At Page's Warehouse, commonly call'd Crutchfield in the said County of Hanover, where all Persons will find good Entertainment.

Williamsburg, Dec. 3, 1736.

Last *Tuesday* being *St. Andrew's Day*, the Mayor and Alderman of this City, met at the usual Place, in order to chuse their Mayor, where Mayor *Abraham Nicholas* resign'd his Mayoralty, and Mr. *Baradel* was immediately invested with the Authority. The new Mayor gave a handsome Entertainment to the Aldermen and Common-Council Men, and the Festival was celebrated with a general Joy.

Dec. 10, 1736.

The following Lines were wrote by a Gentleman of Virginia.

To A LADY.

On a Screen of Her WORKING.

A NEW CREATION charms the ravish'd Sight  
 Delightful Harmony of Shade and Light!  
 ART vies with NATURE in a doubtful Strife,  
 The finish'd Copy, which and which the Life..

The Blooming Flow'rs the painted Bow excel;  
 The gay Delusion courts and cheats the Smell.  
 What Beauty does ANEMONE disclose!  
 What flushing Glories the CARNATION shews!  
 The TULIP here displays her motley Pride;  
 The PIONY there in richest Crimson dy'd.  
 The HYACINTH, tho' rais'd by Phæbus Pow'r,  
 Derives from Female Skill a fairer Flow'r.  
 The POPPY with legarthic Force opprest,  
 Her Scarlet Head reclines upon her Breast; }  
 So *Henley's* drooping Hearers sink to rest. }  
 Incircling Beams the SUN FLOW'RS Orb surround;  
 With flaming Gold RENUNCULA is crown'd;  
 Array'd in SNOWY Tresses LILLIES shine,  
 Pure as Her Mind that form'd the neat Design;  
 The ROSE here buds, there opens ev'ry Grace;  
 So modest Blushes stain the Virgin Face.  
 Here we admire the NIGHT-SHADE's darker Blue;  
 The twining WOOD-BIND there of various Hue;  
 Here Silver Blooms of Golden ORANGE blow;  
 STOCK-GILLY-FLOWERS there and JONQUILS glow, }  
 And Leaves of chearful GREEN the ground bestrew; }  
 Refreshing *Green*, from Age preserve those Eyes,  
 By which You flourish in immortal Dies.

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### IDLENESS.

No person of any reflection will be abused at the present day by the puerile conceit that idleness is the privilege of any mind, however gifted it may be. If culture and severe application be the sole resources to which some have to trust, there is little difference in the need of them as the means of proficiency to all. Without them, no vigour, nor certainty of effort; no excellence, no taste or practical ability is to be looked for. The warning truth cannot be repeated too often.—*Quart. Rev.*

## THOMAS RANDOLPH.

This old poet who has some association with our State, as it seems he was the great uncle of our Sir John Randolph, was born in 1605, and died in 1634, in the 29th year of his age. His principal works are: "The Muses' Looking Glass," "Amyntas," and "Miscellanies." They have considerable merit, and may be read with some interest. We submit a few specimens.

## PRECEPTS.

First worship God ; he that forgets to pray,  
Bids not himself good morrow, nor good day ;  
Let thy first labour be, to purge thy sin,  
And serve Him first whence all things did begin.

Honor thy parents to prolong thine end ;  
With them, though for a truth, do not contend ;  
Whoever makes his father's heart to bleed  
Shall have a child that will avenge the deed.

Think what is just ; 'tis not enough to doe,  
Unless thy very thoughts are upright too.

Defend the truth ; for that who will not dye,  
A coward is, and gives himself the lye.

Take well whate'er shall chance, though bad it be,  
Take it for good, and 'twill be good to thee.

First think ; and if thy thoughts approve thy will,  
Then speak ; and after, that thou speak'st fulfil.

So live with men, as if God's curious eye  
 Did everywhere into thine actions pry;  
 For never yet was sin so void of sense,  
 So fully faced with brazen impudence,  
 As that it durst before men's eyes commit  
 Their brutal lusts, lest they should witness it;  
 How dare they then offend when God shall see,  
 That must alone both judge and jury be?

Would'st thou live long? The only means are these,  
 'Bove Galen's diet, or Hippocrates';  
 Strive to live well; tread in the upright ways,  
 And rather count thy actions than thy days,  
 Then thou hast lived enough amongst us here;  
 For every day well spent I count a year.  
 Live well, and then, how soon so e'er thou die,  
 Thou art of age to claim eternity.

The following is a pleasant sample of our poet's lighter vein.

### THE SEASONS.

To ———

Thou art my all; the **SPRING** remains.  
 In the fair violets of thy veins;  
 And that it is a **SUMMER's** day,  
 Ripe cherries in thy lips display.  
 And when for **AUTUMN** I would seek,  
 'Tis in the apples of thy cheek.  
 But that which only moves my smart  
 Is to see **WINTER** in thy heart.

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## ORIGINAL LETTER.

FROM GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GOVERNOR HARRISON.

NEWBURGH, 4TH MARCH, 1783.

[This letter has been obligingly copied for us from the original on file in the office of the Executive Department of State, and is here published, we believe, for the first time.]

*Dear Sir,*—Your favor of the 31st of January came to my hands the Post before last, and the account from Gen. Lavalette by the last Post. Upon the receipt of the latter, your letter and Lavalette's account was sent to Sir Guy Carleton with a request to remit the money to Col. Smith at Dobbs's Ferry; who is desired to forward it to the Chev'r de la Luzerne at Philadelphia.

You ask what my expectations of Peace are?—I answer, I am scarcely able to form any ideas on the subject, since I have seen (what is called, for we have no authentic account of its being so) the King's speech; and the variety of contradictory reports respecting the negotiations for it. The Enemy in New York are as impatient, and as much in the dark as we are on this occasion; not having received a Packet for more than two months. Although I cannot give you a decided opinion, under present appearances, I will transcribe the answer I gave about the first of January to a question similar to yours, from a Gentleman of my acquaintance in Maryland; which, as matters are yet undecided, or rather the decision, if any, unannounced, I see no occasion to depart from.

“My opinion of the matter, ever since the death of the  
“Marquis of Rockingham and the cession of Mr. Fox,  
“Burke, &c. has been uniformly the same; and no late  
“European accounts that I have met with, has given me  
“cause to alter it—it is, that no Peace would take place

“ before the meeting of the British Parliament ; and that  
“ then it would depend upon the influence of the Crown,  
“ and strength of the contending Parties.—that previous  
“ to the Session, the British Negotiators would be em-  
“ ployed at Intrigue. In an investigation of powers—  
“ hearing propositions—and probing the intentions of the  
“ Belligerent powers to the bottom—the latter being ac-  
“ complished, the minister (Lord Shelburne) if he found  
“ himself upon slippery ground,—or that the voice of the  
“ People was loud for peace, would inform the Parliament  
“ that after many months in negotiation such are the best  
“ terms he can obtain—and as they involve consequences  
“ of the greatest national concern, and have been the sub-  
“ ject of seven years war and debate—it now rests with  
“ Parliament to accept them—or provide vigorously for  
“ the prosecution of the war.—this places the matter upon  
“ the broadest Basis—removes responsibility from his  
“ door—and blunts the edge of opposition, which other-  
“ wise I am persuaded would be very keen.

“ The King having by his Letters Patent (copy of which  
“ I have seen) authorized Mr. Oswald to treat with any  
“ Commissioner or Commissioners from the *United States*  
“ of America, is certainly a great point gained ; but it was  
“ unavoidable on the part of England ; as our Commissioners  
“ would not enter upon business with Mr. Oswald with-  
“ out—and the Minister dared not to meet the Parliament  
“ without having attempted something under the Peace  
“ Bill which passed the Session before—Upon the whole I  
“ am of opinion that the terms of Peace were agreed on  
“ before the adjournment for the Christmas Hollidays,—or  
“ that we shall have at *least* another Campaign. How well  
“ the States are provided for the continuance of the war:  
“ let their acts and policy answer. The Army as usual is  
“ without pay—and a great part of the Soldiery without:

“ shirts—and though the patience of them is equally thread-bare, the States seem perfectly indifferent to their cries—in a word, if one was to hazard for them an opinion upon this subject, it would be that the Army had contracted such a habit of encountering difficulties and distress—and of living without money, that it would be impolitic and injurious to introduce other customs into it.”

What, my dear sir, could induce the State of Virginia to rescind its assent to the Impost Law? How are the numerous creditors of the public in civil life, and the Army to be paid if no regular and certain funds are established to discharge the Interest of Monies borrowed for these purposes?—and what Tax can be more just or better calculated to answer the end than an Impost?—The alarm Bell, which has been rung with such a tremendous sound by the State of Rhode Island, to shew the danger of intrusting Congress with money, is too selfish and feeble to require a serious answer. Congress are in fact, the People—they return to them at certain short periods—are amenable at all times for their conduct—and subject to a recall at any moment. What interest therefore can a man have, under these circumstances distinct from his Constituents—can it be supposed, that with design, he would form a junto, or pernicious Aristocracy that would operate against himself; in less than a month perhaps, after it was established? I cannot conceive it,—but from the observations I have made in the course of this war (and my intercourse with the States in their United as well as separate capacities has afforded ample opportunities of judging) I am decided in my opinion, that if the powers of Congress are not enlarged, and made competent to all *general purposes*, that the Blood which has been spilt—the expence that has been incurred—and the distresses which have been felt, will avail nothing; and that the band, already too weak, which holds

us together, will soon be broken; when anarchy and confusion will prevail.

I shall make no apology for the freedom of these sentiments—they proceed from an honest heart, altho' they may be the result of erroneous thinking,—they will at least prove the sincerity of my friendship, as they are altogether undisguised.

With the greatest esteem and regard,

I am, Dear Sir,

Y'r Most Obed't and

Affect'e H'ble Serv't,

G. WASHINGTON.

His Excellency Gov. HARRISON.

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## ARCHITECTURE IN VIRGINIA.

*Mr. Editor,*—You have asked me to give you a brief notice of the progress of Architecture in Virginia, as far as the subject has fallen under my own eye; and I will do so with much pleasure.

The first introduction of Architecture into Virginia after our Revolutionary War, was the erection of a new Capitol in the city of Richmond, begun, I believe about the year 1787, for which it is well known that Mr. Jefferson, then in France, furnished the model, being that of the celebrated Maison Quarreé of Nismes. This model is still preserved, in its original form, in the State Library, where it may be easily seen. In its general features, there is but little difference between the model and the building as it is; the main difference consists in the omission of the attic, or third story, with its windows, and the substitution of a basement story, less ornamental but more useful, and convenient for the public offices which it contains.



The architectural order of the Capitol is *Roman*; and though the material, which is brick and stucco, is inferior, the *details* are kept up remarkably well both in the exterior and interior. The dimensions on the Plan are 70 by 150ft.; its principal façade is to the South, and presents a Hexagonal Portico of two intercolumniations in depth, surmounted by a Pediment. The ground, or basement story, is occupied by the State Officers. On the 2nd, or principal floor are the two Halls of Legislation: the Senate on the South, the House on the North; the space between is occupied by the grand staircase and vestibule, the center by an open galleried Hall, in the middle of which stands the majestic *Marble Statue of Washington*. The Hall, as before observed, is surrounded by a gallery which extends up to the roof, and is lighted through an aperture there. The 3d floor is occupied by the office of the Governor of Virginia and his Council, the Secretary of State, and the State Library. All the rooms within are finished in the Roman Palladean style, and have a very venerable antique appearance. The building is situated on a high eminence, and commands an extensive prospect. I remember the impression it made on my mind when I first came in view of it, approaching from the South. It gave me an idea of the effect of those Greek Temples, similarly situated, which are the admiration of the world.

The erection of this imposing edifice naturally awakened the attention of the public to improve the style of their buildings; but as there were no architects in the State at that time, these attempts were awkward and abortive.

In 1790, Benjamin Henry Latrobe, Esq., an eminent English Architect and Engineer, came over from England to reside in Virginia. Shortly afterwards the *Penitentiary system* was introduced into Virginia, and Mr. Latrobe was employed to design the building and superintend its erec-

tion ; this building was projected upon Architectural principles, and was the best constructed and arranged prison then extant in the Union. In 1792, Mr. Latrobe was called to Philadelphia to design and erect the *Bank of Pennsylvania*, a beautiful marble structure of the Temple form, after that of Theseus at Athens ; and Virginia thus lost the personal and professional services of one of the first of Architects in any country. He was afterwards engaged as engineer upon the Delaware and Chesapeake Canal, and as Architect of the Capitol of the U. S. at Washington, at which time I entered as a student in his office, by the advice and recommendation of Mr. Jefferson, then President of the U. S. I had been previously pursuing my studies in the office of the Architect of the President's House, &c., and as there were no architectural works to be had, Mr. Jefferson kindly offered me the use of his library, where I found several of these works, all of Roman character, principally Palladios, of whom Mr. Jefferson was a great admirer. During this period, I made some plans and elevations for his mansion at Monticello, according to his views of interior arrangement, which were of the French character. He was then building this house, and prepared with his own hand all the *detail drawings* of the interior, and the roof, also the beautiful tessellated floor in the great Saloon. This constituted perhaps the third regular Architectural building erected in Virginia ; this was in 1801.

In 1815, I was engaged in the erection of the Monumental Church, built on the site of the *Theatre*, the conflagration of which had caused such a lamentable destruction of human life. The design of this building was somewhat original in its Plan, being *octagonal*, the front side being carried out to form the *monument* to the departed dead, the remains of whom were buried below. The rear side was

also elongated to form the base of the tower and steeple, and for the recess of the altar within. I also designed the City Hall, fronting on Capitol square, and several private houses, all which buildings were arranged on Architectural principles.

After the war of 1812, the progress of architecture in Virginia was rapid; the *University of Virginia* was under construction by its venerable founder, Thos. Jefferson, who gave it his personal supervision, arranging all the details, having previously determined upon the *general plan*, after consulting with eminent professional men, among them Mr. Latrobe. The Architectural arrangement of the University building is *unique*; it entered into the mind of Mr. Jefferson to exhibit *practically* to the students matriculating here, the proportions and character of the different orders of Architecture; the principal buildings constituting the University plan, are all finished in different style. The foliage of the trees fronting the buildings on the lawn, and the distance they are apart, separate them to the eye, and associate the idea of a city street, decorated according to individual taste. Architecture was, I may say, the hobby of Mr. Jefferson, and he seemed to wish to impress upon the Virginia youth a particular partiality for Architectural arrangement, and to imprint upon their minds the character and proportions of the different orders, upon which were based the principles of the art; he introduced upon their campus each of these orders in their full application, which they could not help seeing and admiring.

The general plan of these buildings disposes of them in parallel lines extending from North to South some six hundred feet, divided in the center by a wide lawn of 200 feet; at the distance of 200 feet East and West, another range of buildings extends the same length, divided or spaced off by cross passages or alleys for easy access to the several

blocks of buildings. At the head of the lawn to the North, is situate the Rotunda, which contains the Library and the principal Lecture rooms. This building, in its design resembles that at *Rome*, though not so large; its diameter being 70 feet, height 60 feet to the spring of the dome, and with the dome 70 feet, surmounted by a lantern light. The basement level is extended out on each side as wings, one for the chemical room, the other for a chapel.

The South front is ornamented by a beautiful treble colonnaded Portico of the Corinthian order, corresponding in richness of its Capital with those of the Pantheon at Rome. The Library on the 2d floor is a perfect circle in its Plan, surrounded by a colonnaded gallery; surmounted by a magnificent dome, with a skylight in the center.

The great increase of students to the University and the want of suitable rooms for their exercises, have caused the erection of a building in the rear of the Rotunda, 150 feet long including Porticoes, and 50 feet wide, which from the declivity of the ground, will afford 4 large lecture rooms, a large exhibition room and museum above, all accessible from the Rotunda, from which it is separated by a colonnaded space. The Northern front is ornamented by a similar Portico to that of the Rotunda, in which will be placed the *Statue of Mr. Jefferson*.

The view from this Portico will be magnificent, from the stretch of country lying North, and East, and West, terminated by the Blue ridge of mountains, a beautiful agricultural region watered by the Rivanna and its tributaries, and traversed by the Rail-road from Charlottesville to Staunton.

In the mean time, while these splendid structures have been going up. the city of Richmond, increasing rapidly in wealth and taste, has been adorning herself with a number of beautiful buildings both public and private, and is man-

ifestly diffusing the spirit of improvement through all parts  
of the State.

R. M.

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### THE OLD STOVE AGAIN.

*Mr. Editor*,—By reference to the Register for January 1848, it will be perceived that I made some enquiries about the origin and history of the Old Stove, in the Hall of the Capitol, which still retains its genial warmth.

The kindness of a literary friend has recently placed it in my power to give some very interesting particulars concerning this venerable relic, and as an antiquarian should always be satisfied of the veracity of his authorities, it is proper I should state that the letters now handed to you are copies of the original Manuscripts (in my possession,) found among the papers of the late Wilson Cary Nicholas, Esqr, one of the sons of Robert Carter Nicholas, Treasurer of the Colony of Virginia in 1766. This gentleman, the Hon. William Nelson, President of the Council, John Randolph, George Wythe and John Blair, Jr. Esqr., acted as friendly curators of the Estate of Lord Botetourt, after the death of that popular Governor, which occurred at Williamsburg, October 15th 1770, as stated in a letter from those gentlemen to the Duke of Beaufort, dated the 30th day of October 1770.

It would appear from the subjoined Documents, that the Stove was ordered by Lord Botetourt as a present to the House of Burgesses, but that his Lordship dying before it was sent to Virginia, his generous intention was handsomely carried out by his relation and Executor, the Duke of Beaufort. There would seem to be an error in the date of Mr Conway's letter, which was obviously written after Lord Botetourt's death,—it should have been 1771, instead

of '7770.' Mr. William Marshman to whom it is directed, was, as appears by other original documents in my possession, a very worthy and confidential English servant of Lord Botetourt's.

The letter of the manufacturer, "BUZAGLIO" or "Buzaglo," (and not "BUZAGIO" as it seems to be spelt upon the Stove,) is not directed, and the envelope is lost, but from its date and address, it was most probably written to Lord Botetourt himself. That Buzaglo was a foreigner, may be gathered from his style as well as his name, and the *Paraphe*, or individual flourish appended to it, but which cannot be imitated in type, and it also appears that Great Britain, and not the Continent, had the honor of producing this '*magnum opus*.'

It is amusing to see the unctious with which honest Buzaglo speaks of its magnificence, when we have it in its full proportions before us. Could he leave his narrow cell for a moment, and gaze on the fairy wonders which Berlin and Bermingham hourly produce from the same rugged material, and of which it may truly be said '*materiam superabat opus*,' what would he think of the condition of art in his day? But I will not detain your readers from the perusal of the curious documents entrusted to me by my friend.

"LONDON the 15th August 1770.

'*My Lord*,'—Sensible of the obligation by your Lordship's order I thankfully acknowledge the favor, flattering myself of having discharged my duty therein and that it will merit your Lordship's approbation, assuring your Lordship that cost nor trouble was spared in the execution; The Elegance of workmanship and Impression of every particular joint does honor to Great Britain, it excels in grandeur any thing ever seen of the kind, and is a Master piece not to be equalled in all Europe, it has met with General applause, and could not be sufficiently admired, The said

Machine &c: is contained in seven cases, and Inclosed Directions for Erecting it &c: Your Lordship will be pleased to order the strict observance thereof, as I am very particular that it may be faithfully Erected, I am with most profound respect

My Lord  
 Your Lordship's  
 most obedient  
 and most humble Serv't  
 BUZAGLO."

Very particular Printed Directions "for putting up the *new Invented* Warming Machines" and also for using them are among the papers in my possession.

The letter below is indorsed, (I think very probably by Robert Carter Nicholas,) as follows:

"Mr. Thos. Conway's Letter signifying the Duke of Beaufort's desire that the H. of Burgesses would accept the Stove wrote for by Lord Botetourt."

It is directed,—“To Mr. Marshman

at the Palace in  
 Williamsburgh  
 Virginia."

—  
 LONDON 28 Jan'y, 1770.

"Sir,—I wrote to you by the Royal Exchange to tell you that I knew the Duke of Beaufort would fulfill our most worthy and late friends Intention, and now I have in command from his Grace to desire Mr. Nelson &c to desire the House of Burgess to accept the Stove. I am

Your friend and Serv't;  
 THO. CONWAY."

Unhappily no light is thrown on the correct reading of the motto about which "A Quondam Delegate" in the April number 1848, rapped me gently over the knuckles. Tell your correspondent I know very well that if "regnum" is to be supplied, the reading should be "En dat Virginia Quartum;" but suppose it was 'regionem,' or 'coronam' that was understood, and the motto on the Stove

does not 'scratch Priscian' at all. At all events, I am not responsible for Buzaglo's Latin, and only purported to give the motto as it actually exists upon the Stove.

"*Esto perpetua*"—that is—the Stove—not the motto, and when in the fulness of years its vital spark shall be extinguished, I hope the Historical Society of Virginia will see that it has decent burial.

In the mean time, by way of keeping up its historical associations, I propose that it be called in future "THE BOTETOURT STOVE."

G. A. M.

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From the London News, Nov. 29.

### THE LATE MISS BERRY.

An event occurred last Saturday night week which makes us ask ourselves whether we have really passed the middle of our century. In the course of that night, Nov. 20, one died who could and did tell so much of what happened early in the reign of George III., that her hearers felt as if they were in personal relations with the men of that time. Miss Berry was remarkable enough in herself to have excited a good deal of emotion by dying any time within the last seventy years. Dying now, she leaves as strong as ever the impression of her amiable faculties, her generous and affectionate nature, and her high accomplishments, while awakening us to a retrospect of the changes and fashions of our English intellect, as expressed by literature. She was not only the woman of letters of the last century carried far forward into our own—she was not only the woman of fashion who was familiar with the gayeties of life before the fair daughters of George III. were seen abroad, but she was, in fact, the repository of the whole literary history of four-score years; and when she was pleased to throw open the folding doors of her memory, they were found to be mirrors, and in them was seen the whole procession of literature, from the mournful Cowper to Tennyson the laureate.



It was a curious sight—visible till recently, though now all are gone—the chatting of three ladies on the same sofa—the two Miss Berrys and their intimate friend, Lady Charlotte Lindsay. Lady Charlotte Lindsay was the daughter of Lord North; and the Miss Berrys had both received, as was never any secret, the offer of the hand of Horace Walpole. These ladies, of course, brought into our time a good deal of the manners, the conversation and the dress of the last century; but not at all in a way to cast any restraint on the youngest of their visitors, or to check the inclination to inquire into the thoughts and ways of men long dead, and the influence of modes long passed away. It was said that Miss Berry's parties were rather blue; and perhaps they were so; but she was not aware of it; and all thought of contempory pedantry dissolved under her stories of how she once found on the table, on her return from a ball, a volume of "Plays on the Passions," and how she kneeled on a chair at the table to see what the book was like, and was found there—feathers and satin shoes and all—by the servant who came to let in the winter morning light; or of how the world of literature was perplexed and distressed—as a swarm of bees that have lost their queen—when Dr. Johnson died; or of how Charles Fox used to wonder that people could make such fuss about that dullest of new books, Adam Smith's "Wealth of Nations." As she was entering on the novel-reading age, Evelina came out; and Fanny Burney's series of novels were to that generation of young people what Scott's were to the next but one. If the youths and maidens of that time had bad fiction, they had good history, for the learned Mr. Gibbon gave them volume after volume, which made them proud of their age. They talked about their poets, and no doubt each had an idol in that day as in ours and everybody's. The earnestness, sense, feeling, and point of Cowper delighted some; and they reverently told of the sorrows of his secluded life, as glimpses were caught of him in his walks with Mrs. Unwin. Others stood on tiptoe to peep into Dr. Darwin's "chaise" as he went his professional round, writing and polishing his verses as he went; and his admirers insisted that nothing so brilliant had ever been written before. Miss Berry must have well remembered the first exhibition of this brilliancy before the careless eyes

of the world; and she must have remembered the strangeness of the contrast when Crabbe tried the contrast of his homely pathos, encouraged to do so by Burke. And then came something which it is scarcely credible that the world should have received during the period of Johnson's old age, and the maturity of Gibbon, and Sir Wm. Jones and Burns—the wretched rhyming of the Batheaston set of sentimental pedants. In rebuke of them, the now mature woman saw the theory Wordsworth rise; and in rebuke of him, she saw the young and confident Jeffrey and his comrades arise, and in rebuke of them saw the *Quarterly Review* arise, when she was beginning to be elderly. She saw Joanna Baillie's great fame rise and decline, without either the rise or decline changing in the least the countenance or the mood of the happy being whose sunshine came from quite another luminary than fame. She saw the rise of Wordsworth's fame, growing as it did out of the reaction against the pomps and vanities of the Johnsonian and Darwinian schools; and she lived to see its decline when the great purpose was fulfilled, of inducing poets to say what they mean, in words which will answer that purpose. She saw the beginning and the end of Moore's popularity; and the rise and establishment of Campbell's. The short career of Byron passed before her eyes like a summer storm, and that of Scott constituted a great interest of her life for many years. What an experience—to have studied the period of horrors—represented by Monk Lewis—of conventionalism in Fanny Burney—of metaphysical fiction in Godwin—of historical romance in Scott—and of a new order of fiction in Dickens, which it is yet too soon to characterize by a phrase.

We might go on for hours, and not exhaust the history of what she saw on the side of literature alone. If we attempted to number the scientific men who have crossed her threshold—the foreigners who found within her doors the best of London and the cream of society, we should never have done. And of the political changes she saw—the continental wars, the establishment of American independence—the long series of French revolutions—the career of Washington, of Napoleon, of Nelson, of Wellington, with that of all the statesmen from Lord Chatham to Peel—from Franklin to Webster. But it is too much. It

is bewildering to us, though it never overpowered her. She seemed to forget nothing, and to notice everything, and to be able to bear so long a life in such times; but she might well be glad to sink to sleep as she did last Saturday night week, after so long drawn a pageant of the world's pomps and vanities, and transient idolatries, and eternal passions.

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### MEMOIRS OF A HUGUENOT FAMILY.

**Memoirs of a Huguenot Family: Translated and Compiled from the Original Autobiography of the Rev. James Fontaine, and other Family Manuscripts; comprising an Original Journal of Travels in Virginia, New York, etc. in 1715 and 1716. By Ann Maury. With an Appendix containing a Translation of the Edict of Nantes, the Edict of Revocation, and other Interesting Historical Documents. 12 mo. pp. 512. New York, Geo. P. Putnam & Co. 1853.**

This is a very pleasant volume to read, and besides the main matter, the very interesting and edifying narrative of the Rev. James Fontaine, a worthy and pious Huguenot, of an ancient and noble family, who on the revocation of the Edict of Nantes, went over to England where he remained some years; but afterwards removed to Ireland, where he finally settled in Dublin; and whence some of his sons subsequently emigrated to our colony of Virginia, about the beginning of the last century;—contains also a diary of one of these sons, John Fontaine, who landed on our shore in May, 1715, giving some account of Governor Spotswood's famous expedition over the mountains, which he joined in that year; and some letters from the Rev. Peter Fontaine, of Westover, (from 1749, to 1757,) and the Rev. James Maury, of Fredericksburg Parish, in Louisa county, (from August 9th, 1755, to December 31st, 1765,) which, besides domestic matters, contain some things concerning the state of society and public affairs in the colony at those periods, that we may all like to know.

Altogether, we regard the work as a highly valuable and interesting contribution to the historic literature of our State, and, in this point of view more particularly, we warmly commend it to the consideration of all who can duly appreciate its merits.

## Various Intelligence.

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### THE VIRGINIA HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

#### THE SIXTH ANNUAL MEETING.

The Sixth Annual Meeting of the Virginia Historical Society was held in the Hall of the Athenæum, on Tuesday evening, the 21st ult., and owing, no doubt, entirely to the unfavorable state of the weather, was rather badly attended.

William H. Macfarland, Esq., one of the Vice Presidents, presided; and, on taking the chair made a few appropriate remarks which were unanifestly well received. Thos. T. Giles, Esq., then read the Report of the Executive Committee; and the Secretary and Librarian, Mr. Maxwell, read a list of the Donations of books, paintings, &c., received during the past year, and announced the names of the Honorary Members who had been elected during the same period.

After these proceedings, Conway Robinson, Esq., read an able and interesting discourse on the Life of the Hon. Arthur Lee, prior to the Declaration of Independence; with a notice of some of the events which led to that memorable result;—which gave great satisfaction to all the company.

The following resolutions were then unanimously adopted:

**On motion of H. Robertson, Esq., of Norfolk:**

*Resolved,* That the thanks of the Society be and they are hereby presented to Conway Robinson, Esq., for his able and interesting discourse read this evening; and that he be requested to furnish the Executive Committee with a copy of it for preservation in the archives, and for publication in such form as they may think proper.

**On motion of Mr. Maxwell:**

*Resolved,* That the thanks of the Society be and they are hereby presented to Thomas Sully, Esq., of Philadelphia, for his portrait of Pocahontas, which he has so handsomely and generously painted for the ornament of our room, and which cannot fail to associate his own fame with that of our incomparable heroine, in the most happy and honorable manner, for years and ages to come.

**On motion of Mr. Myers:**

*Resolved,* That the thanks of the Society be and they are hereby returned to Robert M. Sully, Esq., artist of this city,

for his valuable and interesting portraits of Black Hawk, his Son, and the Prophet, painted by him, and most obligingly presented to the Society.

On motion of Dr. Maupin :

*Resolved*, That the thanks of the Society be and they are hereby presented to the Gentlemen, Philip St. George Cocke, Esq., and others, who have so generously contributed the sum of One Hundred Dollars each, making together the sum of \$1000, to increase the Permanent Fund of the Society, and so to increase the stability of our institution, and to enlarge and extend its salutary operations and influences for the benefit and honor of our State.

We will only add that the exercises of the occasion were highly satisfactory to all present, and altogether such as fairly promise the most happy effects.

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#### THE REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

We are much gratified in being enabled to inform the Society of a material addition to its permanent fund, since the last Annual Meeting. Philip St. George Cocke, Esq., of Powhatan, having liberally proposed to be one of ten gentlemen to subscribe a hundred dollars each, to enlarge this fund, that number has, within the past year, been made up ; so that there is a thousand dollars from this source ; and the life-members, paying fifty dollars each, having increased, since the Report of December, 1850, from thirty six, the number mentioned in that Report, to forty, there is from this source also, an increase of the fund. At the date of the Report in December, 1850, the whole amount invested in certificates of debt of the State of Virginia was sixteen hundred dollars. Now we expect our whole investment in such certificates, will soon be three thousand dollars.

The interest accruing on the permanent fund and what is paid by annual members, constitute our only means for defraying the annual expenses.

With such aid as we could give Mr. Maxwell, from these limited means, he has been enabled to continue the Virginia Historical Register, in a manner highly satisfactory to us, and we make no doubt equally so to the Members of the Society, and to the subscribers. We are more and more sensible of its value to the State as a repository of scattered letters and other manuscripts, bearing on its history ; which, unless preserved in this periodical, might be, and probably in many cases would be, forever lost.

Our means hitherto have not been sufficient to continue the publication of the "Early Voyages to America." From what, however, our Chairman has done towards its preparation, we feel confident that, if sufficient funds be obtained for the purpose, we shall soon be enabled to publish the second volume of that work, embracing an account of all the voyages to and along the Atlantic coast of North America from 1573 to 1606; and also to follow it with volumes embracing the subject from that date, and constituting the Annals of Virginia.

In the mean time, our materials for authentic History are accumulating. Among the manuscripts, which we have received, is a considerable number, of a very interesting character, deposited by Mr. Charles Carter Lee. These have been arranged in chronological order, and endorsed and filed; and the Society will be informed of the contents of some of them at its present meeting.

There being reason to apprehend that there might be a disappointment in having the annual address from the gentleman selected, within two or three weeks past, the Committee requested its chairman, after examining the manuscripts just mentioned, to give an account of such of those written before the 4th of July 1776, as might be of most interest, accompanied by such a narrative of cotemporaneous events as he might deem suitable. This, we are pleased to say, it is his purpose to do. The letters for the period mentioned were, for the most part, written by or to Arthur Lee; of whom it has been truly said, that he was concerned in the events of the American Revolution from its commencement to its conclusion,—was employed in high stations, and in the most sacred and confidential transactions. From the nature of Mr. Lee's employments, an account of his life before the declaration of independence, will at the same time be an account of the events leading to that declaration.

Besides the manuscripts, the contents of our Library room have been greatly increased in value during the past year, partly by additions of books, but still more by the portraits received. Of these, the Secretary has been desired to give you a particular account. Some, if not all of them deserve, and should receive particular notice from the Society.

With increased confidence in the permanence of the Society, and perfect assurance of its utility to the State, we again most earnestly recommend it to the favorable consideration of our Legislature, and to the liberal patronage of our Citizens.

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## DONATIONS.

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

Wheeler's History of North Carolina, 1 vol. large 8vo.; By Thomas Sully, Esq., of Philadelphia.

Narrative of Alvar Nunez Cabeca de Vaca, translated by Buckingham Smith; 1 vol. 4to; by Geo. W. Riggs, Esq., of Washington City.

Hampton's Polybius, 2 vols. Gillies's Greece, 4 vols. Baker's Livy, 6 vols. Murphy's Tacitus, 6 vols. Rapin's Acta Regis. 4 vols. History of England, by Hume, Smollet and Miller, 4. vols. Histoire de France, 3 vols. War in Hungary, 2 vols. American Gazetteer, 3 vols. Encyclopædia Britannica—Edit., 1798—18 vols. 4to. Edinburg Review from the beginning, 38 vols. 8vo. 1 Volume of the Virginia Gazette, for 1766. By Conway Robinson, Esq., of Richmond.

Universal Atlas, 2 vols. folio; by Dr. Socrates Maupin, of do. Smith's Historical and Literary Curiosities, 1 vol. 4to; by Moncure Robinson, Esq., of Philadelphia.

Ringold's Memoir and Maps of California, 1 vol. 4to; by Hon. John Y. Mason, of Richmond.

Headley's Lives of Scott and Jackson, 1 vol. 12mo; by John R. Thompson, Esq., of Richmond.

Lynch's Official Report of the Expedition to the Dead Sea, 1 vol. 4to.; by the author, Lieut. W. F. Lynch, U. S. N.

The Papers of Lewis Morris, Governor of the Province of New Jersey, from 1733, to 1746, being the Fourth volume of the Collections of the New Jersey Historical Society, 8vo; by the Society.

Schoolcraft's Information Respecting the History, Condition and Prospects of the Indian Tribes of the United States; 2 vols. 4to; by L. Lea, Com'r of Indian Affairs.

Smithsonian Contributions to Knowledge, vol. 4: 4to; by the Institution.

Washington's Farewell Address, 1 vol. 4to; by James Lenox, Esq., of New York.

## OTHER DONATIONS.

A Portrait of Pocahontas; by Thomas Sully, Esq., of Philadelphia.

Three Portraits, of Black Hawk, his Son, and the Prophet; by Robert M. Sully, Esq., of this City.

A Painting of Gen. Taylor at Palo Alto; by S. G. Wyman, Esq., of Baltimore.

An enamelled engraving of the late Rev. Dr. Alexander, of Princeton; by Dr. W. H. Mitchell, of Philadelphia.

A Medallion head of Inigo Jones; by A. Gifford, Esq., of Richmond.

Some Engravings of the Philadelphia Art Union; by the Secretary of the Society.

Some Engravings of Boydell's Shakspeare; by one of the agents of the Publishers.

### OFFICERS OF THE SOCIETY.

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

HON. WM. C. RIVES, <i>President.</i>	
HON. JAMES M. MASON,	} <i>Vice-Presidents.</i>
WM. H. MACFARLAND, Esq.,	
HON. JOHN Y MASON,	
WM. MAXWELL, <i>Secretary and Librarian.</i>	
GEORGE N. JOHNSON, <i>Treasurer.</i>	

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

CONWAY ROBINSON, <i>Chairman</i>	THOMAS T. GILES,
GUSTAVUS A. MYERS,	THOMAS H. ELLIS,
SOCRATES MAUPIN,	CHARLES CARTER LEE,
ARTHUR A. MORSON.	

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

### HONORARY MEMBERS,

*Elected during the past year.*

GEN'L JOHN H. COCKE, of Fluvanna.  
 REV. BENJ. H. RICE, D. D., of Prince Edward.  
 HON. JOHN J. ALLEN, President of the Court of Appeals.  
 HON. GEO. W. P. CUSTIS, of Arlington, D. C.  
 THOMAS SULLY, Esq., of Philadelphia.  
 HON. EDWARD EVERETT, of Boston.  
 REV. FRANCIS L. HAWKS, D. D., of New York.  
 HON. GEORGE BANCROFT, of New York.  
 JAMES L. PETTIGREW, Esq., of Charleston.  
 HON. ABBOTT LAWRENCE, of Boston.

### LIFE MEMBERS,

*Enrolled during the past year.*

J. H. BEHAN; MONCURE ROBINSON; JAQUELINE P. TAYLOR;  
 FREDERICK BRANSFORD.



## CONTRIBUTORS TO THE PERMANENT FUND.

The following is a List of Gentlemen who have contributed One Hundred Dollars each to increase the Permanent Fund of the Historical Society :

Philip St. Geo. Cocke, of Powhatan; John N. Tazewell, of Norfolk; Hon. Edward Coles, of Philadelphia; Thomas T. Giles, of Richmond; Geo. N. Johnson, do.; Wm. Barret, do.; Wm. H. Macfarland, do.; Jas. Thomas, Jr., do.; Anthony W. McIntosh, of Norfolk; Jaqueline P. Taylor, of Richmond.

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 THE LATE MR. WEBSTER.

We regret to record that the Hon. Daniel Webster, so long and so honorably known as a jurist, statesman and orator, of the highest order, at the bar and in the councils of our country—died at his seat of Marshfield, Massachusetts, on the morning of the 24th of October last, in the 71st year of his age.

We submit here, for convenient reference, a brief account of his life, taken substantially from an article which appeared in a Boston journal shortly after his death :

“ Daniel Webster was the son of Ebenezer Webster of Salisbury, New Hampshire. He was born in that part of Salisbury now called Boscawen, on the 18th of January, 1782. His father was a captain in the revolutionary army, and became subsequently, though not bred a lawyer, one of the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas. He received his academical education at Exeter and Dartmouth. He began his college studies at the latter seminary in 1797, and received his degree in 1801. During the intervals of study he taught a school. After leaving college, he took charge of an academy at Fryeburg, in Maine. He then applied himself to the study of the law, first with Mr. Thompson, a lawyer of Salisbury, and next with Christopher Gore, of Boston, who afterward became Governor of Massachusetts. He came to Boston in 1804, and was admitted to the bar in the following year.

“ Mr. Webster's father at this time strongly urged him to take the office of Clerk of the Court of Common Pleas in New Hampshire, which was tendered for his acceptance; but the son fortunately resisted the temptation—for such it then appeared in the eyes of every body. He remained at Boscawen till his father's death, in 1807. He then removed to Portsmouth, New Hampshire, where he formed an acquaintance with Dexter, Story, Mason, and other men, who became eminent at the bar and in public life. Mr. Webster was chosen Representa-

tive to Congress in November, 1812, and took his first seat in Congress at the extra Session in May, 1813. On the 10th of June, in that year, he delivered his first speech in that body, on the subject of the Orders in Council, and there he gave clear manifestations of those extraordinary powers of mind which his subsequent career brought out into so full a development.

“He was re-elected to Congress in 1814, and in December, 1815, removed to Boston, where he devoted himself to legal practice. His reputation as a lawyer had now risen high, and for five or six years he had little to do with politics. In 1820 he served as an Elector of President, and in 1821 as a member of the State Convention, which revised the Constitution of Massachusetts. In 1822 he was elected to Congress from the Boston district, and immediately became a leading member of that body. His speech on Greek Independence was delivered in 1823.

“Mr. Webster was re-elected to Congress from Boston in 1824. He delivered the address on laying the corner stone of the Bunker Hill Monument in 1825. He was again chosen to Congress in 1826, and in the following year he was elected a Senator of the United States by the Legislature of Massachusetts. In the same year he delivered his Eulogy on Adams and Jefferson.

“Mr. Webster’s ‘*Great Speech*,’ as it is deservedly called—great, both for its intrinsic qualities and for its effects upon the public mind—was delivered in the Senate on the 26th of January, 1830, in the debate on what are called ‘Foot’s Resolutions.’ Next to the Constitution itself, this speech is esteemed to be the most correct and ample definition of the true powers and functions of the Federal government.

“Mr. Webster continued in the Senate of the United States till 1840. When Mr. Van Buren was elected President in 1836, Mr. Webster received the electoral vote of Massachusetts. On the election of General Harrison in 1840, Mr. Webster was appointed Secretary of State. The sudden death of the President and the accession of Mr. Tyler, caused a breaking up of the cabinet, all the members of which, except Mr. Webster, resigned their places. The result of his remaining in office was the Ashburton treaty—negotiated by Mr. Webster in 1842, which settled the question of the northeastern boundary, and at once put an end to a long protracted and threatening dispute with Great Britain.

“Shortly after this, Mr. Webster resigned the office of Secretary of State, and was again chosen Senator from Massachusetts in March, 1845. On the death of General Taylor, in July, 1850, and the accession of Mr. Fillmore to the Presidency, he was again appointed Secretary of State, and in this office, he died at Marshfield, on the morning of the 24th of October, 1852.”

For his character, Mr. W. had many traits that we may highly admire, and as many perhaps that we may cordially approve. As a lawyer, he was distinguished for a soundness and solidity of good sense, which acting always on competent learning, and enforced by a grave and weighty style of argument, raised him by popular acclamation above all his peers, and placed him without hesitation at their head. As a statesman, he was famous for his clear, comprehensive and consistent views of all the great questions of national and constitutional law which came before him, and which he seemed to have been specially ordained and qualified to discuss and decide. At the same time, if not a great orator, he was at least a skilful and polished rhetorician, who knew how to embellish reason by a style which was always pure, chaste and becoming, and by a delivery which, on great occasions, and when he was thoroughly roused, became earnest, solemn, and effective in almost the highest degree.

With these strong claims to public honor, it is gratifying to learn from the numerous testimonies that have appeared, that he had also a large share of those gentler virtues which compose the charm of private life, and that must now endear his memory to many hearts.

For the rest, we are particularly pleased to learn that he was enabled to bear a dying testimony to the truth and power of our Christian faith, in its most essential doctrine, which, associated with his name and authority, must be of great value to many persons, and highly interesting indeed to all who know how to appreciate the worth, and enjoy the fame of such a man.

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### A SINGULAR RELIC.

In the Weekly Dispatch of November 26, we read as follows:

“The Wheeling Intelligencer speaks of an extraordinary relic recently found in Wetzel county, Virginia. It is nothing less than a crucifix from an Indian mound. The material of this most interesting object of antiquity is brass, or some substance resembling it, and iron. The cross is of this latter material, but the image of the Saviour, (a most beautiful piece of workmanship,) is of brass, or as some suppose, of gold intermixed with silver. The cross is greatly corroded, and everything indicates that it must have been there for hundreds, perhaps thousands of years. What strange and curious history is wrapped up in this little emblem of a Christian's hope! Whence came it? To whom did it belong? How got it there? are questions which

will trouble the antiquary in any part of the world. With it was found the remains of a human skeleton, and some minor relics of Indian Art."

There is no mystery in this relic. It is, no doubt, simply one of the many similar crucifixes which the French Roman Catholic missionaries, who, in the last century, hovered about their countrymen in their military movements, on our frontiers, from Canada to New Orleans, scattered freely among the Indians to draw them over to their faith.

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### THE AIR-SHIP.

It seems that we are on the verge of a new invention that bids fair to increase the comfort and pleasure of locomotion by water, in a very considerable degree. We allude of course to the New Air-Ship of Capt. Ericsson which is said to be a certainty and no mistake. We read at least that "the trial-trip of the Caloric Ship *Ericsson*, took place in the harbour of New York, on Tuesday, the 11th inst., in presence of a numerous deputation from the Press of the city, and scientific gentlemen invited to attend it; and that the success of the trip established the principle of the new motive power to the entire satisfaction of all who were privileged to witness the experiment. The ship left her moorings off the Battery at an early hour in the morning, proceeded down the Bay to a distance of nine and a half miles, and returned to her anchorage at noon, having accomplished the trip of nearly twenty miles, in about two hours and a half. The average rate of speed was ten knots per hour, against wind and tide; a fact which speaks loudly in favor of the new principle, and the advantage of its application to sea-going vessels. The augmentation of power, when necessary, is to be obtained by increasing the diameter of the cylinders. It is sufficient to add, that the performance of the vessel on this occasion exceeded the most ardent expectations of the gentlemen who have been concerned in her construction, and that the happy commencement of the new enterprise inspires reasonable anticipations of the ultimate triumph of Caloric over Steam, as a motive-power." We shall hear, no doubt, much more of this great invention before long.

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### GALT'S PSYCHE AGAIN.

In our last July number, we mentioned the pleasure we had had in transiently seeing, in Norfolk, this beautiful specimen of sculpture from the chisel of a young native artist, Mr. Alexander Galt, of that city; and we have now the satisfaction to add that it has since been brought to our metropolis, and enshrined

for some time at least, (and we hope a very long one.) in the hall of our Virginia Historical Society, where it seems, very naturally, to be quite at home. It has attracted, of course, a great many visitors, members of the General Assembly, ladies and gentlemen of the city, and others, who have all united in warm and lavish commendation of its charms. And no wonder, for it is indeed "beautiful exceedingly," and it is altogether impossible, we conceive, to look upon it without the purest and sweetest emotions of admiration and delight. After all, however, we do not regard it as great work of art, but only as a very pleasing and promising specimen of skill in a young artist who will do far better things hereafter. Indeed we can hardly look upon it as a work of art at all, for its great merit seems to be its nature, its perfect simplicity, its almost voluntary and conscious innocence of all pretension, (*ars est celare artem.*) its complaisant contentment to be just what it is—a pure embodiment of the immortal spirit which we call the Soul—the veritable Psyche herself alone. At the same time, we confess we regard it with still more satisfaction as being the first thing of the kind, the very first piece of sculpture, we believe, ever wrought by a Virginian hand, and brought home within our bounds. As such we consider it as marking a new era in the history of the fine arts in our State; and in this point of view more particularly, we think it is manifestly in its proper place in our historic hall.

We must add a word or two concerning the young artist himself, whom our readers may wish to know something more about. We do not know him personally, but we understand from the best authority that he was born and bred in Norfolk, and is the son of a worthy gentleman, Dr. Alexander Galt, of that city. "From his earliest boyhood," says one who knows him well, "he exhibited a remarkable talent for sculpture. Amongst the miscellaneous collection usually found in a school-boy's pocket, is a piece of chalk for chalking his law—this was the capital stock on which young Galt commenced business; his penknife was his graver, and many a pretty little figure did he rough-hew out of this coarse material. His next effort was in alabaster. Here his genius began to develop itself, till finally he aspired to the more elevated art of cutting cameos from the conch shell; and many a fair bosom is at this time decked with the products of his youthful skill. Four years ago he went to Italy, where he is now enthusiastically pursuing his profession," (not under Mr. Powers, as we erroneously stated in our former notice, nor under any one, but following the guidance of his own genius, and the lights of the land.) "His first effort in marble was a bust of Virginia which was purchased by the Arts Union of New York, and is now on exhibition there, and greatly admired. Psyche is the second piece, and belongs to a

company of Gentlemen in Norfolk. He is now engaged on a Bacchante and a Columbus, for gentlemen of Philadelphia and Virginia. His Bacchante was exhibited at the late annual meeting of the Society of Arts, in Florence, and Hart and others proclaimed it the best piece at the exhibition." (Whig, Dec'r 3rd, '52.) We shall, no doubt, hear of him again, and much more, hereafter.

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## Miscellany.

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### LINES ON GALT'S PSYCHE,

*In the Hall of the Virginia Historical Society.*

Yes! 'tis Psyche that I see!  
 Charming as she ought to be!  
 Wrought of marble white and warm,  
 In a lovely maiden's form;  
 For what other could impart  
 Such emotions to the heart?  
 'Tis a Symbol of the Soul,  
 Under Reason's mild control,  
 When the Passions all are still,  
 Governed by a loyal Will,  
 Loyal to her Lord above,  
 Whose sweet *law* is only *love*.  
 See! how innocent and calm!  
 Beaming beauty, breathing balm,  
 While her aspect, soft and true,  
 Falls upon our hearts like dew,  
 Melting them into the tone  
 Of a spirit like her own!  
 Oh! what gentleness and grace  
 Shine upon us from that face!  
 Never sure hath sculptor wrought  
 An embodiment of Thought,  
 Of Emotion, Wit, and Will;—  
 Such a specimen of skill,  
 So delightful—so divine—  
 Galt, as this fair maid of thine.  
 Go on, gentle, generous youth,  
 Wooing Nature, Beauty, Truth;

Finding all in one combined,  
 In the visions of thy mind ;  
 Working freely day by day,  
 Making toil itself a play ;  
 Always striving to excel  
 Others, and thyself as well ;  
 Till the marble shall express  
 All the soul of loveliness.  
 So shall Art inscribe thy name  
 On the starry arch of Fame,  
 And Virginia crown her son  
 With the wreath that he has won.

*Richmond, Jan. 10, 1853.*

EUPHAINOR.

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### THE STUDY OF NATURE.

The wisdom of God receives small honor from those vulgar heads that rudely stare about, and with a gross rusticity admire his works. Those only magnify him, whose judicious inquiry into his acts and deliberate research into his creatures, return the duty of a devout and learned admiration. Every essence, created or uncreated, hath its final cause, and some positive end both of essence and operation. This is the cause I grope after in the works of nature ; on this hangs the providence of God. To raise so beauteous a structure as the world and the creatures thereof was but his art ; but their sundry and divided operations, with their predestinated ends, are from the treasury of his wisdom.—*Sir Thomas Browne.*

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### *An Old Repartee Done into Rhyme:*

The belle had been shewing her musical skill,  
 And the song and the strings for a moment were still ;  
 When " I wish said a lawyer to sprightly Miss Sharpe,  
 " I wish, my dear lady, that I were a *harp* !"  
 " Indeed," replied she, " that you need not desire ;  
 For you're much the same thing—you're an elegant *liar*."

Q.

**THE**  
**VIRGINIA HISTORICAL REGISTER,**  
**AND**  
**LITERARY COMPANION.**

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APRIL, 1853.  
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No. 2.

**THE CAPTURE OF VINCENNES.**

[The Capture of Vincennes by Col. George Rogers Clark, in 1779, has always been considered as highly honorable to the councils and arms of Virginia, and merits of course a proper illustration in our work. The account of the affair which we have in Marshall's Life of Washington, is clear and compact, but otherwise hardly sufficient; and that in Girardin's History of Virginia, though somewhat longer and more florid, is still scarcely adequate to the importance and splendor of the event. We avail ourselves, therefore, with great pleasure, of the following more expanded commemoration of the exploit, which we find in an "Address delivered before the Vincennes Historical and Antiquarian Society, February 22, 1839," by Judge Law of that place; which handles the subject in a more extended and becoming manner, and which we are confident our readers will peruse with lively interest.]

The war between France and England, which broke out about 1754, deprived the former of all her possessions in this country; Canada was added to Great Britain, and Louisiana to Spain. The English, anxious to acquire possession of the country, soon after the peace of 1763 took possession of it. The subsequent events will intro-



duce the American population on the stage of action ; and a brief but accurate history of the events which have occurred since, will close my notice of it. The inhabitants occupying the Post, seem to have but little considered or regarded the change. Their old laws, customs, manners, and habits, were continued ; and, as remarked by one who was present, " the change of government would have hardly been known." The difficulties, however, between the mother country, and her colonies, were about to produce a change, which has been felt to the present day among the ancient inhabitants of the " Post." I refer to the capture of it by Gen. George Rogers Clark, February 23d, 1779. Of this expedition, of its results, of its importance, of the merits of those engaged in it, of their bravery, of their skill, of their prudence, of their success, a volume would not more than suffice for the details. Suffice it to say, that in my opinion—and I have accurately and critically weighed and examined all the results produced by any contests in which we were engaged during the revolutionary war—that for bravery, for hardships endured, for skill and consummate tact and prudence on the part of the commander, obedience, discipline and love of country on the part of his followers ; for the immense benefits acquired, and signal advantages obtained by it for the whole Union, it was second to no enterprize undertaken during that struggle : I might add, second to no undertaking in ancient or modern warfare. The whole credit of this conquest belongs to two men—Gen. George Rogers Clark, and Col. Francis Vigo. And when we consider that by it the whole territory now covered by the three great States of Indiana, Illinois, and Michigan, was added to the Union, and so admitted to be by the commissioners on the part of Great Britain, at the preliminaries for the settlement of the treaty of peace in 1783 ; and but for the very conquest the

boundaries of our territory west, would have been the Ohio, instead of the Mississippi, and so acknowledged and admitted both by our own, and the British commissioners at that conference—a territory embracing upwards of two million of people, the human mind is lost in the contemplation of its effects; and we can but wonder that a force of one hundred and seventy men, the whole number of Clark's troops, should, by this single action, have produced such important results. That they did so, however, all history attests.

“It was on the 10th day of December, 1777, that Col. Clark opened the plan of the Illinois campaign, against the British interests in this quarter, to the celebrated Patrick Henry then Governor of Virginia.” It is unnecessary now to go into all the causes which led to the adoption of the plan of a western campaign as suggested by Gen., then Col. Clark. Suffice it to say, that it was not without doubt as to its success, and great difficulty in preparing the material for the enterprize, that it was undertaken. Virginia herself, from whom the aid was demanded, and assistance in men and money was expected, was in the most critical period of her revolutionary struggle; her finance exhausted, her sons drawn from the cultivation of the soil, and from all the avocations of civil life—for the most part in the field, battling for freedom,—it is not to be wondered at, “that the counsels which advised so distant an expedition should have been listened to with doubt, and adopted with caution.” Fortunately for the country they were not unheeded. Gov. Henry, encouraged by the advice of some of Virginia's most prominent and patriotic sons, yielded to the solicitations of Clark; and, on the 2d of January, 1778, he received two sets of instructions,—“one public, directing him to proceed to Kentucky for its defence; the other, secret, ordering an attack on the British Post at Kaskas-

kia,"—and with the instructions, *twelve hundred pounds in depreciated currency*, as his *military chest* for conquering an empire. On the 24th of June, 1778, and during a total eclipse of the sun,—a sad forboding, as the party thought, of their future success, but which ultimately proved “the sun of Austerlitz,”—this patriotic band of four companies, under the command of Captains Montgomery, Helm, Bowman, and Harrod, crossed the falls of the Ohio, on their apparently “forlorn expedition.”

It is a well known matter of history, “that during the commencement of our revolutionary struggle, the heart-rending scenes and wide spread ravages of our Indian foes on the western frontier, were caused principally by the ammunition, arms, and clothing supplied at the British military stations of Detroit, Vincennes, and Kaskaskia,—then garrisoned by British troops.” To divert the attention of the enemy from our own frontier, and to occupy them in the defence of their own positions, it was necessary to carry the war into their own dominions. The active mind of Clark saw that, by doing this, a diversion would be created in our favor. “His first intention was to march directly to Vincennes; but on receiving his troops, the paucity of the number, and the want of all the material necessary for the attack of a fortified town, induced him to abandon this object, and to prosecute the one originally contemplated by his instructions, the capture of Kaskaskia.” It forms no part of the plan of this address to enter into the details of that expedition. Suffice it to say, that it was eminently successful, without the loss of a single man; and that, on the 4th of July, 1778, Kaskaskia yielded to the supremacy of American enterprize and valor, and with Cahokia surrendered to the American arms.

It must be recollected, that previous to this event, a treaty of peace had been concluded between France and

the United States. The intelligence of it had been communicated to Clark, on his descent down the Ohio. The effect of *this treaty* had a wonderful influence upon the subsequent events of the campaign. Among the individuals at Kaskaskia, at the time of its capture, was M. Gibault, the Roman Catholic priest at Vincennes. The capture of Vincennes, as Clark himself admits, "had never been out of his mind from the first moment he undertook the expedition westward." His success at Kaskaskia served only to inspire a wish for the accomplishment of the long desired achievement. Affairs being regulated at Kaskaskia, he sent for M Gibault, and explained to him his views. This patriotic individual, who subsequently received the public thanks of Virginia for his services, and whose strong attachment for the American cause is well known, readily and cheerfully sustained him. Dispatched by Clark, to sound the French population here, over whom he had great influence, he, on his arrival, assembled them in the church, explained the object of his mission, the alliance with France, and the negotiations with which he was entrusted. He had no sooner finished, than the population en masse took the oath of allegiance to the Commonwealth of Virginia. A commandant was elected, and the American flag displayed over the fort,—much to the astonishment of their Indian neighbors, who for the first time saw the glorious stars and stripes, instead of the Cross of St. George, unfurled to that breeze in which it has so often since waved triumphantly.

M. Gibault, returned to Kaskaskia with the gratifying intelligence of the perfect success of his mission; not less, it may be presumed, to the astonishment of Clark, than to his gratification. Capt. Helm was appointed commandant "and Agent for the Indian affairs in the department of the Wabash," and repaired to the "Post," at which it was the

intention of Clark to place a strong garrison, on the arrival of the reinforcements expected from Virginia. These reinforcements never arrived; and a new and important leaf in the chapter of our history is about to be unfolded, and another individual no less celebrated, and to us equally dear with the conqueror, and whose name will go down to posterity with his, in the history of our place, and, on the same bright page which records the valor of the commander, is to be introduced to your notice.

It was on the first of August, 1778, that M. Gibault returned to Kaskaskia with the intelligence of the submission of the French inhabitants here, to the American government, and of the circumstances above detailed. It was well known that Governor Abbott, the commander here, at the time of Clark's expedition to the Illinois, had gone to Detroit on business; and that no great time would elapse before reinforcements would be sent from that post to Vincennes. Clark could not, even had he have desired it, detailed any of his own command to garrison the place. Helm was here, a commandant in name simply, without a single soldier under his command. From the first of August, when M. Gibault returned, until the 29th of January, 1779, Clark had not received a single communication from Vincennes. How he obtained it, and the consequences resulting from the communication, it is now my purpose briefly to unfold.

Francis Vigo, better known to us under the military title of Col. Francis Vigo, a rank which he held during the territorial government, was born in Mondovi, in the kingdom of Sardina, in the year 1747. He left his parents and guardians at a very early age, and enlisted in a Spanish regiment as a private soldier. The regiment was ordered to the Havana, and a detachment of it subsequently to New Orleans, then a Spanish post, and which detachment

Col. Vigo accompanied. At what time, and under what circumstances he left the army, is not actually known. It is believed, that his attention to his duties, his natural intelligence, and highminded and honorable deportment, gained him the esteem and confidence of his commander; and that he received his discharge without any application on his own part. We find that shortly after his discharge—and probably by the aid of the same powerful friend, who had obtained it—he was supplied with goods, and engaged in the Indian trade on the Arkansas and its tributaries; and that a few years after, he made a settlement at St. Louis, also a Spanish post, and was connected in the closest relations of friendship and business with the Governor of Upper Louisiana, then residing at the same place, and whose confidence and affection he enjoyed in the highest degree. That a private soldier, a man without education—for he could but simply write his name—should in a few years, thus be enabled to make his way in the world, and, in so short a period, become so extensively engaged in business, so highly respected and beloved, as we know him to have been at the period to which I allude, as well as to the day of his death, shows him to have thus early been possessed of a goodness of heart, a purity of mind, a high, honorable, and chivalric bearing; qualities which grew with his growth and strengthened with his strength, until the very close of his long and useful life. At the time of Clark's capture of Kaskaskia, Col. Vigo was a resident of St. Louis, and extensively engaged under the patronage of the Governor in the Indian trade up the Missouri. A Spaniard by birth and allegiance, he was under no obligation to assist us. Spain was then at peace with Great Britain, and any interference on the part of her citizens was a breach of neutrality, and subjected an individual, especially of the high character and standing of

Col. Vigo, to all the contumely, loss, and vengeance, which British power on this side of the Mississippi could conflict. But Col. Vigo did not falter. With an innate love of liberty; an attachment to republican principles, and an ardent sympathy for an oppressed people struggling for their rights, he overlooked all personal consequences; and as soon as he learnt of Clark's arrival at Kaskaskia, he crossed the line—went there and tendered him his means, and his influence, both of which were joyfully accepted. Knowing Col. Vigo's influence with the ancient inhabitants of the country, and desirous of obtaining some information from Vincennes, from which he had not heard for several months, Col. Clark, in a conference with Col. Vigo, proposed, that he should come here and learn the actual state of affairs at the Post. Col. Vigo did not hesitate a moment in obeying this command. With a single servant he proceeded on his journey; and when on the Embarras, he was seized by a party of Indians, plundered of every thing he possessed, and brought a prisoner before Hamilton, then in possession of the place, which, with his troops, he had a short time before captured, holding Capt. Helm a prisoner of war. Being a Spanish subject, and consequently a non combatant, Governor Hamilton, although he strongly suspected the motives of his visit, dared not confine him; he accordingly admitted him to his parole, on the single condition, that he should daily report himself at the Fort. On his frequent visits there, his acute and discerning mind, aided by the most powerful memory I ever knew, enabled him early to ascertain the state of the garrison, its numerical force, means of defence, position, in fine all the matter necessary to make an accurate report, as soon as liberated. Hamilton in the mean time embarrassed by his detention, besieged by the French inhabitants of the town, by whom he was beloved, for his release; and

finally threatened by them, that unless released, they would refuse all supplies to the garrison, yielded, on condition that Col. Vigo would sign an article "not to do any act during the war injurious to the British interests." This he absolutely and positively refused. The matter was finally adjusted, on an agreement entered into on the part of Col. Vigo, "not to do any thing injurious to the British interests *on his way* to St. Louis." The agreement was signed, and the next day he departed in a periouge down the Wabash and the Ohio, and up the Mississippi with two voyagers accompanying him. Col. Vigo faithfully and religiously kept the very letter of the bond; *on his way* to St. Louis he did nothing injurious in the slightest degree to British interests. But he had no sooner set his foot on shore there, and changed his dress, than in the same periouge he hastened to Kaskaskia, and gave the information, and arranged the plan, through the means of which, and by which alone, Clark was enabled to succeed, and did succeed, in surprising Hamilton, and making captives of him and his garrison.

It was on the 5th of February, 1779, that a Spartan band of one hundred and seventy men, headed by as gallant a leader as ever led men to battle, crossed the Kaskaskia river, on their march to this place. The incidents of this campaign, their perils, their sufferings, their constancy, their success, would be incredible, were they not matters of history. In my opinion, as I have before remarked, no campaign either in ancient or modern warfare, taking into consideration the force employed, the want of material, the country passed over, the destitution of even the necessities of life, the object to be accomplished, and the glorious results flowing from it, is to be compared to it. And what is even yet more astonishing, is the fact, that a battle which decided the fate of an empire, a campaign which



added to our possessions a country more than equal in extent to the United Kingdoms of Great Britain, Scotland, and Ireland, has scarcely even a page of our revolutionary annals devoted to its details, or making even honorable mention of the brave and gallant men who so nobly and successfully conducted it.

Time would fail me, and your patience would be perhaps exhausted, were I to follow step by step, and day by day, this small, but brave, devoted, patriotic, and chivalrous corps, through the wilderness from Kaskaskia to this place. It would be but a repetition of daily sufferings, of fatigue, of peril, of constancy, of perseverance, and of hope. Day after day, without provisions, wading in ice and water to their necks, through the over-flowed bottoms of the Wabash, carrying their rifles above their heads, their gallant chief taking the lead, foremost in difficulty and in danger, did these patriotic soldiers struggle on, faint, weary, cold and starving, until the prize was in view, and their object was accomplished. Look around you, my friends, and see what this portion of our beloved Union is now. Look ahead, and tell me, if you can, what it is to be a half century hence, supposing the improvements to progress as they have the last twenty years—and the advancement will be geometrical—and then go back with me sixty years since, *this very day*, and learn from an actor in the scene—one holding command, and from whose unpublished journal, I make the extract, what the country was, and the difficulties and dangers, the perils and sufferings those endured who conquered it for you, and yours: and should you, or those who are to come after you, to the latest generation forget them, “may your right hands forget their cunning.”

“February 22nd, 1779. Col. Clark encouraged his men, which gave them great spirits. Marched on in the water; those that were weak and famished from so much

fatigue, went in the canoes. We came three miles farther to some sugar camps, where we stayed all night. Heard the evening and morning guns at the Fort. No provisions yet. The Lord help us.

“23rd. Set off to cross a plain called Horse Shoe Plain, about four miles long, all covered with water breast high. Here we expected some of our brave men must certainly perish, the water having froze in the night, and so long fasting. Having no other resource but wading this lake of frozen water, we plunged in with courage, *Col. Clark being first*. We took care to have boats by, to take those who were weak and benumbed with the cold into them. Never were men so animated with the thought of avenging the ravages done to their back settlements, as this small army was. About one o'clock we came in sight of the town. We halted on a small hill of dry land, called “Warren’s Island,” where we took a prisoner hunting ducks, who informed us that no person suspected our coming in that season of the year. Col. Clark wrote a letter by him to the inhabitants, as follows:—

“*To the Inhabitants of Post Vincennes.*”

“GENTLEMEN: Being now within two miles of your village with my army, determined to take your Fort this night, and not being willing to surprize you; I take this method of requesting such of you, as are true citizens, and willing to enjoy the liberity I bring you, to remain still in your houses. And those, if any there are, that are friends to the King, will instantly repair to the Fort, and join the **HAIR-BUYER GENERAL**, and fight like men. And if any such as do not go to the Fort, shall be discovered afterwards, they may depend on severe punishment. On the contrary, those who are true friends to liberty, will be well treated.

G. R. CLARK.”

In order to give effect to this letter, by having it communicated to the French inhabitants, the army encamped until about sun down, when they commenced their march, wading in water breast high, to the rising ground on which the town is situated. One portion of the army marched directly up along where the levee is now raised, and came in by the steam mill. While another party under Lieut. Bradley, deployed from the main body, and came in by the present Princeton road. An entrenchment was thrown up in front of the Fort, and the battle commenced from the British side by the discharge, though without effect, of their cannon, and the return on our side of rifle shot—the only arms which the Americans possessed. On the morning of the 24th, about 9 o'clock, Col. Clark sent in a flag of truce, with a letter to the British commander, during which time there was a cessation of hostilities, and the men were provided with a breakfast—the *first meal which they had had since the 18th, six days before*. The letter of Clark is so characteristic of the man, so laconic, and, under such trying circumstances, shows so much tact, self possession and firmness, that I will read it:

“SIR—In order to save yourself from the impending storm that now threatens you, I order you *immediately* to surrender yourself, with all your garrison, stores, &c., &c. For if I am obliged to storm, you may depend on such treatment as is justly due to a *murderer*. Beware of destroying stores of any kind, or any papers or letters that are in your possession, or hurting one house in town. For by Heavens, if you do, there shall be no mercy shown you.

G. R. CLARK.”

“TO GOV. HAMILTON.”

Since the days of Charles the XIIth, of Sweden, I doubt whether ever such a cartel, under such circumstances was

sent to an antagonist. Prudence, as Clark well knew would, indeed, have been a 'rascally virtue' on such an occasion. Hemmed in on one side by ice and water, with a fortified Post bristling with artillery in front, with one hundred and seventy soldiers—part Americans, part Creoles, without food, worn out, and armed only with rifles; it was, as Clark knew, only by acting the victor instead of the vanquished, (as was the real state of the case, if Hamilton had only known the fact) that he could hope to succeed. He acted wisely and he acted bravely; any other course, and he would have been a prisoner, instead of a conqueror. The very reply of Hamilton to this singular epistle shows he was already quailing:

“ Gov. Hamilton begs leave to acquaint Col. Clark, that he and his garrison are not disposed to *be awed* into any action unworthy British subjects.”

The battle was renewed; the skill of our western riflemen, celebrated even in our days, wounded several of the men in the Fort through the port-holes, the only place where a shot could be made effective. Clark with the skill of a practised commander, must have seen and felt from the answer returned to his communication, that another message would soon be delivered to him from the same quarter; and he was not long in receiving it. The flag of truce brought him as follows:

“ Gov. Hamilton proposes to Col. Clark a truce for three days, during which time he promises, that there shall be no defensive work carried on in the garrison, *on condition*, that Col. Clark will observe on his part a like cessation of offensive work; that is, he wishes to confer with Col. Clark, as soon as can be, and promises that whatever may pass between them two, and another person, mutually agreed

on to be present, shall remain secret till matters be finished; as he wishes, that whatever the result of the conference may be, it may tend to the honor and credit of each party. If Col. Clark makes a difficulty of coming into the Fort, Lieut. Gov. Hamilton will speak with him by the gate.

HENRY HAMILTON."

24th Feb'y, '79.

If Gov. Hamilton had known the man he was dealing with, he would have found ere this, that he would have made light of any difficulties "in getting into the Fort;" and if not already convinced of the daring of the foe, he was contending with, one would have supposed Clark's answer would have set him right:

"Col. Clark's compliments to Gov. Hamilton, and begs leave to say, that he will not agree to any terms, other than *Mr. Hamilton surrendering himself and garrison prisoners at discretion.*

"If Mr. Hamilton wants to talk with Col. Clark, he will meet him at the church with Capt. Helm."

Laconic enough surely, and easily understood; and so it was. For in less than one hour afterwards, Clark dictated himself the following terms, which were accepted, a meeting having taken place at the church:

"1st. Lieut. Gov. Hamilton agrees to deliver up to Col. Clark "*Fort Sackville,*" as it is at present, with all its stores, &c."

2nd. The garrison are to deliver themselves as prisoners of war, and march out with their arms and accoutrements.

3rd. The garrison to be delivered up to-morrow at ten o'clock.

4th. Three days time to be allowed the garrison to settle their accounts with the inhabitants and traders.

5th. The officers of the garrison to be allowed their necessary baggage, &c.

Signed at Post St. Vincents, this 24th of February, 1779: agreed for the following reasons:

1st. The remoteness from succor. 2nd. The state and quantity of provisions. 3rd. The *unanimity* of the officers and men in its expediency. 4th. The honorable terms allowed—and lastly, the confidence in a generous enemy.

HENRY HAMILTON,

*Lieut. Gov. and Superintendent.*”

It was on the twenty-fifth day of February, 1779, about ten o'clock in the forenoon, that the British troops marched out, and the Americans entered that Fort, acquired with the tact, skill, judgment, bravery, peril, and suffering, which I have so briefly attempted to describe. The British ensign was hauled down, and the American flag waved above its ramparts; that flag,

“ With whose folds  
Are wrapped, the treasures of our hearts,  
Where e'er its waving sheet is fanned,  
By breezes of the sea, or land.”

Time would not permit me, my friends, to dwell on the important results growing out of this conquest to our common country. A volume would be required to delineate fully, all the advantages which have been derived from it to that Union, a portion of which we now constitute. Calculate, if you can, the revenue which the Government already has, and will continue to derive from its public domain within the territory thus acquired. Bounded by the Lakes and the Miami on one side, and the Ohio and the Mississippi on the other, embracing three large states, with a population now of upwards of two millions, with a representation of six Senators in one branch of our National

Councils, and eleven Representatives in the other ; and which, within the last half century, was represented by a single Delegate, but, in the next half century to come, will have fifty Representatives ;—mild in its climate, rich in its soil, yielding in the abundance, variety, and excellence of its products, perhaps, a greater quantity than the same space of territory in the civilized world ; inhabited, and to be inhabited by a race of industrious, hard working, intelligent, high-minded, and patriotic people, attached to the institutions of their country ; lovers of order, liberty and law ; republicans in precepts and in practice ; trained from their earliest infancy to revere and to venerate, to love and to idolize the Constitution adopted by their fathers, for the government of themselves and their posterity ;—calculate if you can, the increase within this territory, of just such a population as I have described, within sixty years to come—its wealth, its influence, its power, its improvements, morally and socially—and when your minds are wearied in the immensity of the speculation, ask yourselves to whom all these blessings are to be attributed ; and whether national gratitude, in the fulness of national wealth and prosperity, can find treasures enough to repay those gallant men, and those who aided them in their glorious struggle, which I have thus attempted to describe.

#### NOTE.

Our author adds a note here which we copy, in part, as follows : I am indebted, and much indebted, to my friend Prof. Bliss of Louisville, Kentucky, for the letters of Gen. Clark and the extract from Major Bowman's journal of the capture of Vincennes, now for the first time published. I cannot but again repeat, what I have in the address so pointedly remarked, how little is known of the campaign of 1778, 1779, and the capture of Kaskaskia and Vincennes by Clark and his gallant followers. With the exception of a short notice of this in " Marshall's Life of Washington," and the more extended one of Butler's in his " History of Kentucky," a modern work, the incidents of

that campaign are hardly noticed. Yet it was, as it regards its ultimate effects to the Union, decidedly the most brilliant, and useful of any undertaking during the revolutionary war. Clark by that campaign added a territory embracing now *three* of the finest States in the Union, to the Confederacy, to wit, *Indiana, Illinois, and Michigan*; a territory, which, but for this very conquest, must now have been subject to British dominion, unless like Louisiana it had since been acquired by purchase. For the only pretence of title which our commissioners, in the negotiations which resulted in the Treaty of peace in 1783, set up to this immense territory, was "the capture of it by Clark and the possession of it by the Americans at the date of the conference." The argument of "*uti possidetis*" prevailed; and the mind would be lost in the calculation of dollars and cents, to say nothing of the other matters "*which constitute a State,*"—men "*who know their rights*" inhabiting it, and which the government has gained from the contest,—as to what will be the wealth and population of this same North Western Territory a half century hence?

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## SMYTH'S TRAVELS IN VIRGINIA, IN 1773.

### CHAPTER IV.

#### *Richmond. Falls of James River, &c.*

[We continue here our Extracts from Smyth's Travels in Virginia in 1773, &c., begun in our last number. See page 11.]

At this place the whole appearance of the country undergoes a total change. From the sea to the falls, about one hundred and fifty-five miles, there is not a hill to be seen; scarcely an eminence, being one continued flat level, without even a single stone to be found; nothing but sand and shells on the shores, and the land consists of loam, sand, and clay, but universally covered with woods.

Here a ledge of rocks interrupts the whole stream of the river, for the length of seven miles; during the course



of which, that vast current of water rushes down, raging with impetuosity, tumbling and dashing from rock to rock, with an astonishing roar, that is heard for many miles distance. The land suddenly swells into hills of a great height, and abounds with prodigious rocks, and large stones, as well as trees.

On the summits of those hills, most of which over-look, and many of them over-hang the falling torrent of the James, handsome houses are built, which command a wild, grand, and most elegant perspective.

The James, here, is about half a mile wide; the tide flows up to the very rocks of the falls, which continue to interrupt the current for the length of seven miles above. There are several islands in the river among the falls, which are chiefly covered with wood and rocks; but are of small extent: the tide reaches the lower end of one of these islands, which is serviseable in checking the violence of the torrent of the water in the falls, and thereby favours the passage of the ferry boats below.

There are three towns at this place. Richmond, the largest, is below the falls, and is separated only by a creek, named Shokoes, from the town of Shokoes, which joins the lower end of the falls; these are both on the north side of the river; on the south side stands the town of Chesterfield, best known by the name of Rocky-Ridge, from its situation.

Vessels of small burthen come up to the rocks of the falls, and large ships come within two miles of them to load.

At James town, the river is between two and three miles wide; and just above it is always fresh water: the breadth decreases gradually to the falls.

During my residence at Richmond, I made several little excursions around in the adjacent country, on visits to

several gentlemen, who honoured me with invitations. Among those, from whom I received particular attention and civilities, were Thomas Mann Randolph, of Tuckahoe, esq. R. Good, of Chesterfield, esq. Mr. Cary, &c.

I also rode as far as Westham, a small town on the James, seven miles above Richmond, just where the falls commence. Tobacco, the grand staple of Virginia, is navigated down the river from the back country to Westham, in hogsheads of a thousand weight each, ready for exportation, every hogshead upon two canoes lashed together; then it is brought by land-carriage to Shokoes, or Richmond, as the falls totally intercept and preclude all communication by water for their continuance of seven miles.

In floods, an immense body of water comes down the James, which swells to a great height and astonishing wideness, overflowing all the low grounds for many miles; but at the falls, where the mountains arise abruptly on each side, and confine the river within more narrow bounds, the noise, violence, and impetuosity of the torrent, is not to be described. It is dreadfully tremendous and awful.

It seems that once, when the river was in such a state, a man, who was bringing down his tobacco to market, instead of landing at Westham, being quite intoxicated with spirituous liquor, was carried down the torrent; and, amazing to think on! arrived safe at Shokoes warehouse-wharf below, with his tobacco; having been brought to the shore, after he had got over all the falls, by boats sent out from thence to his assistance, by those, who with astonishment and horror, observed him in his dreadful rapid descent and passage over them. When he was brought to the shore, he was still in a state of insensibility and stupefaction, occasioned by inebriation and terror.

This is indeed one of the most extraordinary accidents

that has occurred, or perhaps was ever heard of; but I have no reason to doubt the fact, as it was related to me, and vouched for, by several persons of credit and veracity, who were eye-witnesses of this singular event.

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#### CHAPTER V.

*Inhabitants. Climate. Sky. Thunder and Lightning. Face of the Country. Bullfrogs. Strange and tremendous Sounds. Inchantment. Negroes.*

The customs and manner of living of most of the white inhabitants here, I must confess, did not a little surprise me; being inactive, languid, and enervating to the last degree.

Indeed the whole appearance of the country, and face of nature, is strikingly novel and charming to an European, especially to a Briton.

The air, the sky, the water, the land, and the inhabitants, being two-thirds blacks, are objects entirely different from all that he had been accustomed to see before. The sky clear and serene, very seldom overcast, or any haze to be observed in the atmosphere; the rains falling in torrents, and the clouds immediately dispersing. Frequent dreadful thunder in loud contending peals; thunder gusts happening often daily, and always within every two or three days, at this season of the year. Eruscations and flashes of lightning, constantly succeeding each other, in quick and rapid transitions. The air dry, and intensely hot in the summer, cold and piercing in the winter, and always keen and penetrating. During the night, thousands of lights, like bright burning candles, being large winged insects, called fire-flies, gliding through the air in

every direction ; frequently vanishing, and perpetually succeeded by new ones. The rivers, large expanses of water, of enormous extent, and spreading under the eye as far as it can comprize ; nature here being on such a scale, that what are called great rivers in Europe, are here considered only as inconsiderable creeks or rivulets. The land, an immense forest, extended on a flat plain, almost without bounds ; or arising into abrupt ascents, and at length swelling into stupendous mountains, interspersed with rocks and precipices, yet covered with venerable trees, hoary with age, and torn with tempests. The mountains suddenly broken through, and severed by mighty rivers, raging in torrents at the bottom of the tremendous chasm, or gliding in awful majestic silence along the deep vallies between them. The agriculture on the plantations is different from every thing in Europe ; being either tobacco, three feet high, with the plants a yard apart ; or Indian corn, at the distance of six feet between each stalk, in regular streight rows, or avenues, frequently twelve or fifteen feet in height.

While the mind is filled with astonishment, and novel objects, all the senses are gratified.

The flowery shrubs which over-spread the land, regale the smell with odoriferous perfumes : and fruits of exquisite relish and flavor, delight the taste, and afford a most grateful refreshment.

The prodigious multitude of green frogs, reptiles, and large insects, on the trees, as well as the bull-frogs in the swamps, ponds, and places of water, during the spring, summer, and fall, make an incessant noise and clamour ; the bull-frogs, in particular, emitting a most tremendous roar, louder than the bellowing of a bull, from the similarity of whose voice they obtained their name ; but their note is harsh, sonorous, and abrupt, frequently appearing to pro-

nounce articulate sounds, in striking resemblance to the following words; *Hogshead tobacco. Knee deep. Ankle deep. Deeper and deeper. Piankitank*, and many others; but all equally grating and dissonant. They surprise a man exceedingly, as he will hear their hoarse, loud, bellying clamor just by him, and sometimes all around him, yet he cannot discover from whence it proceeds; they being all covered in water, and just raising their mouth only a little above the surface when they roar out, then instantly draw it under again. They are of the size of a man's foot.

Nor can you perceive the animals from whence the sounds in the trees proceed, they being most effectually hid among the leaves and branches. So that at first this absolutely appears to be a country of enchantments.

As I observed before, at least two-thirds of the inhabitants are negroes, whose difference of features and colour, and rank offensive smell, are extremely disagreeable and disgusting to Europeans: but, poor creatures! they are all humility and submission; and it is the greatest pleasure of their lives, when they can please the whites.

You cannot understand all of them, as great numbers, being Africans, are incapable of acquiring our language, and at best but very imperfectly, if at all; many of the others also speak a mixed dialect between the Guinea and English.

It is fortunate for humanity, that these poor creatures possess such a fund of contentment and resignation in their minds; for they indeed seem to be the happiest inhabitants in America, notwithstanding the hardness of their fare, the severity of their labour, and the unkindness, ignominy, and often barbarity of their treatment.

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## CHAPTER VI.

*Manner of Life of each Rank of the Inhabitants.*

To give an idea of the manner in which a white man spends his time in this country, a description is necessary of each degree in life.

The gentleman of fortune rises about nine o'clock ; he perhaps may make an excursion to walk as far as his stables to see his horses, which is seldom more than fifty yards from his house ; he returns to breakfast, between nine and ten, which is generally tea or coffee, bread and butter, and very thin slices of venison-ham, or hung beef. He then lies down on a pallat, on the floor, in the coolest room in the house, in his shirt and trousers only, with a negro at his head, and another at his feet, to fan him, and keep off the flies ; between twelve and one he takes a draught of bombo, or toddy, a liquor composed of water, sugar, rum, and nutmeg, which is made weak, and kept cool : he dines between two and three, and at every table, whatever else there may be, a ham and greens or cabbage, is always a standing dish ; at dinner he drinks cyder, toddy, punch, port, claret, and madeira, which is generally excellent here : having drank some few glasses of wine after dinner, he returns to his pallat, with his two blacks to fan him, and continues to drink toddy, or sangaree, all the afternoon : he does not always drink tea ; between nine and ten in the evening, he eats a light supper of milk and fruit, or wine, sugar, and fruit, &c. and almost immediately retires to bed, for the night ; in which, if it be not furnished with musketo curtains, he is generally so molested with the heat, and harrassed and tormented with those pernicious insects the musketoes, that he receives very little refreshment from sleep.

This is his general way of living in his family, when he

has no company. No doubt many differ from it, some in one respect, some in another; but more follow it than do not.

The lower, and many of the middling classes, live very differently. A man in this line rises in the morning about six o'clock; he then drinks a julap, made of rum, water, and sugar, but very strong; then he walks, or more generally rides, round his plantation, views all his stock, and all his crop, breakfasts about ten o'clock, on cold turkey, cold meat, fried homminy, toast and cyder, ham, bread and butter, tea, coffee, or chocolate, which last, however, is seldom tasted but by the women; the rest of the day he spends much in the same manner before described in a man of the first rank, only cyder supplies the place of wine at dinner, and he eats no supper; they never even think of it. The women very seldom drink tea in the afternoon; the men never.

The poor negro slaves alone work hard, and fare still harder. It is astonishing, and unaccountable to conceive what an amazing degree of fatigue these poor, but happy, wretches do undergo, and can support. He is called up in the morning at day break, and is seldom allowed time enough to swallow three mouthfuls of homminy, or hoe-cake, but is driven out immediately to the field to hard labour, at which he continues, without intermission, until noon; and it is observed, as a singular circumstance, that they always carry out a piece of fire with them, and kindle one just by their work, let the weather be ever so hot and sultry. About noon is the time he eats his dinner, and he is seldom allowed an hour for that purpose. His meal consists of homminy and salt, and, if his master be a man of humanity, he has a little fat, skimmed milk, rusty bacon, or salt herring to relish his homminy, or hoe-cake, which kind masters allow their slaves twice a week: but the number

Of those, it is much to be lamented, are very few ; for the poor slave generally fares the worse for his master's riches, which consisting of land and negroes, their numbers increase their hardships, and diminish their value to the proprietor, the expence precluding an extension of indulgence and liberality.

They then return to severe labour, which continues in the field until dusk in the evening, when they repair to the tobacco-houses, where each has his task in stripping allotted him, that employs him for some hours. If it be found, next morning, that he has neglected, slighted, or not performed his labour, he is tied up, and receives a number of lashes, on his bare back, most severely inflicted, at the discretion of those unfeeling sons of barbarity, the overseers, who are permitted to exercise an unlimited dominion over them.

It is late at night before he returns to his second scanty meal, and even the time taken up at it, encroaches upon his hours of sleep, which, altogether, do never exceed eight in number, for eating and repose.

But instead of retiring to rest, as might naturally be concluded he would be glad to do, he generally sets out from home, and walks six or seven miles in the night, be the weather ever so sultry, to a negroe dance, in which he performs with astonishing agility, and the most vigorous exertions, keeping time and cadence, most exactly, with the music of a banjor (a large hollow instrument with three strings), and a quaqua (somewhat resembling a drum), until he exhausts himself, and scarcely has time, or strength, to return home before the hour he is called forth to toil next morning.

When he sleeps, his comforts are equally miserable and limited ; for he lies on a bench, or on the ground, with only an old scanty single blanket, and not always even that,



to serve both for his bed and his covering. Nor is his cloathing less niggardly and wretched, being nothing but a shirt and trousers, made of coarse thin hard hempen stuff in the summer, with the addition of a sordid woollen jacket, breeches, and shoes, in the winter.

The female slaves fare, labour, and repose, just in the same manner; even when they breed, which is generally every two or three years, they seldom lose more than a week's work thereby, either in the delivery, or suckling the child.

In submission to injury and insults, they are likewise obliged to be entirely passive, nor dare any of them resist, or even defend himself against the whites, if they should attack him without the smallest provocation; for the law directs a negroe's arm to be struck off, who raises it against a white person, should it be only in his own defence, against the most wanton and wicked barbarity and outrage.

Yet notwithstanding this degrading situation, and rigid severity to which fate has subjected this wretched race, they are certainly devoid of care, and actually appear jovial, contented, and happy. Fortunate it is indeed for them, that they are blessed with this easy, satisfied disposition of mind, else human nature, unequal to the weight, must sink under the pressure of such complicated misery and wretchedness.

Having had occasion more than once to mention *homminy*, *hoe-cake*, &c, it may not be improper at this time to observe, that homminy is an American dish, made of Indian corn, freed from the husks, boiled whole, along with a small proportion of a large kind of French beans, until it becomes almost a pulp: it is in general use, and to my taste, very agreeable. Hoe-cake is Indian corn, ground into meal, kneaded into dough, and baked on a hot, broad,

iron hoe. This is also in common use, and to my palate, extremely harsh and unpleasant.

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## CHAPTER VII.

*Houses. Ordinaries, or Inns. A strange Animal. Black Snakes. Devour Frogs and Mice. Fascinate Birds in the Air. Flying Squirrels, &c.*

The houses here are almost all of wood, covered with the same; the roof with shingles, the sides and ends with thin boards, and not always lathed and plaistered within; only those of the better sort are finished in that manner, and painted on the outside. The chimneys are sometimes of brick, but more commonly of wood, coated on the inside with clay. The windows of the best sort have glass in them; the rest have none, and only wooden shutters.

There is no distinction here between inns, taverns, ordinaries, and public-houses; they are all in one, and are known by the appellation of taverns, public-houses, or ordinaries, which, in the general acceptance of the names here, are synonymous terms. They are all very indifferent indeed, compared with the inns in England: and three-fourths of them are in reality little better than mere shelters from the weather; yet the worst of them is by no means deficient in charging high.

When a person arrives at Richmond, his ears are continually assailed with the prodigious noise and roaring of the falls, which almost stuns him, and prevents him from sleeping for several nights, it being a considerable time before he becomes habituated to it.

My principal amusement was walking: I took great delight in wandering alone among the rocks and solitary romantic situations, around the falls. In these excursions

I always carried a book in my pocket, and when I came to any place that commanded my attention, either from the wildness and grandeur of the perspective, or from the observation of the raging torrent below, after admiring the beauties of the scene, I would frequently lie down in the shade, and amuse myself with reading, until I insensibly dropt asleep. This was my daily recreation, which I never neglected.

But I was once extremely surprised at beholding, as soon as I opened my eyes, a prodigious large snake, within a few feet of me, basking himself in the sun. He was jet black, with a copper-coloured belly, very fine sparkling eyes, and at least seven feet long. However he did me no injury; for I did not disturb him, nor did he molest me; but as soon as he heard the rustling of the leaves, on my moving, he went off with great precipitation and speed.

Another time, whilst I was reading in a very solitary retired place among the rocks and trees, on hearing some little noise near me, I looked around, and just had the glimpse of a very strange and singular animal, such as I had never seen even any resemblance of before. It appeared to me more like a fiddle with feet, than any thing else that I know; the sight I had of it was just as it was running behind a rock. I sought there, and every where for it immediately, to no purpose, for I could not discover even a trace thereof remaining.

When I returned, I mentioned what I had seen, but no one, from my description, could inform me what animal it was.\*

However, nothing is more common here than the black snake. He is very bold and daring; yet, to the human race, entirely harmless and inoffensive; nor is his bite poisonous, and is as readily cured as the scratch of a briar:

\* For a description of this animal, see chap. XLIII.

notwithstanding which, it is said, and I believe with truth, that he is master of all other snakes; even the rattle-snake submits to him. This superiority arises from the strength and power of his muscles, for he insinuates himself in spiral wreaths around his antagonist, and then contracting, by that means conquers or kills him. His prey, for food, he swallows whole.

It is confidently reported, and universally credited, that they devour squirrels, and that they have been found with squirrels whole in their bellies. I myself have seen them swallow frogs of a very large size. After the frog is almost wholly in, if you strike the snake, he will instantly disgorge it, and the frog will leap away.

The black snakes are particularly serviceable in destroying rats and mice, which they seek after very eagerly, and devour for food: for this purpose, they are even more useful than cats, because, by their slender form and peculiar make, they are enabled to pursue these vermin into their lurking holes and hiding places, which they generally do, and thereby at once destroy the whole progeny.

But the Americans, one and all, have such an aversion and antipathy to the very appearance of the whole species, that notwithstanding this kind of serpents are absolutely harmless, and indeed extremely serviceable for the purposes just mentioned, yet they are as eager to kill and destroy them, as the most noxious, virulent, and deleterious of the species, the rattle, moccasson, and horn-snakes.

I have heard many strange relations of the power of snakes, in charming birds, and drawing them down out of the air, to devour them, by a certain fascination in their eyes. To these tales I formerly gave no credit; but I have now had conviction of their truth, by frequent ocular demonstration.

I have observed a little bird, fluttering in the air, within

a small compass, gradually descending until it came down on a bush, then hopping from spray to spray, every time lower, constantly sending forth a tremulous, doleful note, expressive of dread and surprise, until at length it would drop into the jaws of a snake on the ground, that was gaping open ready to devour it.

On such occasions, I always struck the snake, and the instant he moved, the bird became liberated from his fascination, flying away with the greatest alertness, and would chirp, and soar over my head in the air, for some little distance, as if grateful for its deliverance from so formidable an enemy. This very extraordinary circumstance I have taken particular notice of several different times.

Squirrels of many various kinds abound prodigiously, but the grey fox-squirrels are the most plenty, and most common: you may see them any where in the woods, and at any time, jumping from tree to tree, and making most astonishing leaps, often fifteen, twenty, and sometimes thirty feet, from one branch to another. These are the largest, but the flying-squirrel, though much smaller, jumps twice as far; and indeed he takes such prodigious vaults, that he seems to fly, and appears to have wings, but they are only an expansion of some loose skin on each side of him, which affords him some little support in the air, and breaks his fall when he misses his hold, which indeed is very seldom.

The most beautiful of the whole species is the ground squirrel, which is small, and most delicately striped with contrasts of darker and lighter shades.

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## GAZETTEIANA.

## NO. II.

[We continue here our Extracts from the old Virginia Gazette, begun in our last number:—(See p. 20.)]

January 10, 1736.\*

The Ship *Industry*, lately built at *Norfolk*, *John Brown* Master, that will carry about 250 Hogsheads, will be in a few Days at the Hundred in *James River* to take in Tobacco, for *London*, on Freight at the usual Rate to be consigned to any Person.

It's propos'd the said Ship shall call at *Madeira*, on her Return hither from *London*: Any Gentlemen who want Freight for Wine from thence, may agree for the same with Mr. *John Hutchings*, Merchant in *Norfolk*, or the Captain aforesaid.

Williamsburg, January 21st.

Yesterday being the Birth Day of his Royal Highness FREDERICK Prince of WALES, it was observ'd here by the Firing of Guns, Displaying of Colours and other publick Demonstrations of joy. And at Night, His Honour the Governor gave a Ball, and an elegant Entertainment to the Ladies and Gentlemen.

On Monday last, the Reverend Mr. *John Fox* was unanimously elected Minister of *Ware-Parish*, in *Gloucester County*, in the room of the Reverend Mr. *Richards* sometime since deceased.

Williamsburg, January 28.

The Weather has been so excessive bad, for some time past, that there has been scarce any passing the Rivers, for

\* That is, old style; but 1737, new.

Ice, or travelling for Snow. And we have Accounts from several Places, of Persons being frozen to Death, and others drowned, by attempting to cross the Rivers. No Post has come from the Northward these 6 Weeks, and we may reasonably conclude, that as the Weather is so severe here, it is worse there.

*Arriv'd* in York River, since our last, the Ship *Staunton*, Capt *Carnock*, from *London*, belonging to Messieurs *CARY* and Company, full of Goods.

And in *James* River, the Ship —— Capt. *Barns* from *Bristol*.

\* \* *The Severity of the Weather for several Weeks past, has rendered the Dispersing of the Gazettes to the remote Counties, impossible without very great Danger in Travelling; for which 'tis hop'd the Printer will be excus'd. Complaints have been made That several Persons break open the Newspapers, who have no Right to them; and after having read them, instead of Sealing and Forwarding them to the Persons they are directed to, have kept or destroy'd them; which is a very mean and unjust Practice, as it not only disappoints the Subscribers, but must consequently injure the Publisher; and also renders the Guilty liable to the Penalty of the Law. It's therefore requested that all Gentlemen will discourage as much as possible, such Persons as shall be found offending therein.*

Williamsburg, February 25th.

The Ships arriv'd since our last, bring in a Confirmation of His Majesty's safe Arrival in England to the great Joy of his Subjects, after a very bad Passage, in which his Majesty was in great Danger; the Princess *Louisa* Man of War lost, and some others much damag'd.

We hear from *Gloucester* County, That Miss *Betty Washington*, Daughter of Major *John Washington* of that Coun-

ty, a young Gentlewoman of great Merit and Beauty, died there lately, very much lamented.

The Negro Woman who lately kill'd her Mistress, in *Nansemond*, upon her Tryal confess'd the Fact, received Sentence of Death, and is since burnt.

Two Negroes were hang'd last week, in *Charles City* County, for Robbing Mr. Harris's Store of Goods to a considerable Value; in which Robbery, 'tis said several others are concern'd; and it's hop'd will be brought to Justice.

Mr. MERCER'S Abridgment of the Laws of VIRGINIA, is fur advanc'd in the Press, and carrying on with all possible Expedition. To render the Work more complete than was at first propos'd, the Author not only adds, An Abridgment of the Laws made the last Session of Assembly, but also, A Collection of Forms and Precedents, of all Sorts peculiarly adapted to the Laws and Customs of this Colony; and very necessary for all Magistrates, and other Officers: which will make it the most useful Book of its Kind, that ever was publish'd in this Part of the World: And he hopes the Subscribers will consent to make the Subscription-Money Half a Pistole instead of Ten Shillings.

The Publick Business of the last Session of Assembly, the Severity of the Winter, and the large Additions to this Book, have prevented the Publication of it at the next General Court as was propos'd; but it will certainly be publish'd in June next, at the Time of the Court of Oyer and Terminer, unforeseen Accidents excepted.

All Persons who are willing to subscribe, are desired to be as expeditious as possible; and Those who have done Mr. Mercer the Favour of taking Subscriptions for the said Books are requested to return the Subscription-Papers to Him, or the Printer hereof, at the next General Court in April.



*THIS is to give Notice to all Gentlemen and Ladies, That Mrs. Barbara Degraffenriedt, intends to have a BALL on Tuesday the 26th of next April, and an ASSEMBLY on the 27th in Williamsburg: For which, Tickets will be deliver'd out at her House.*

Williamsburg, March 11th.

On *Monday* last, the Hon. Sir JOHN RANDOLPH, Knt. Speaker of the House of Burgesses, Treasurer of this Colony and Representative for *William* and *Mary* College, was interred in the Chapel of the said College. He was (according to his own Directions) carried from his House to the Place of Interment by Six honest, industrious, poor House-keepers of *Bruton* Parish, who are to have Twenty Pounds divided among them: And the Rev. Mr. *Dawson* one of the Professors of that College, pronounced a *Funeral Oration* in *Latin*. His Corps was attended by a very numerous Assembly of Gentlemen and others, who paid the last Honours to him, with great Solemnity, Decency and Respect. He was in the 44th Year of his Age, &c. (See our V. H. R., vol. 4 p. 138 for the rest.)

His Honour the Governor, has been pleas'd to appoint Col. Richard Randolph to be Treasurer of the Public Monies of this Colony, 'til the next Session of the Assembly, in the room of his Brother Sir John Randolph, dec'd.

Williamsburg, April 22, 1737.

On *Monday* last about Two o'clock in the Morning, Mr. *Heylin's* House in *Gloucester* Town, was robb'd by an *Indian* Servant of his, and a Mulatto Fellow belonging to Col. Lewis. They took away a Pair of Pistols, a Horse-Whip, and broke open a Trunk, out of which they stole some Clothes. They were seen the same Day about Eleven o'clock, going up *King* and *Queen*. The *Indian* rods

a Grey Stallion which he took belonging to his Master, and the Mulatto a Bay Horse, which belongs to Col. *Lewis*. They are supposed to be gone towards the Mountains, and from thence, either to *New-York* or *North-Carolina*. It is to be hoped that any Gentleman who meets with them will have them secured in order to their being brought to Justice, that others, by their Punishment, may be deterr'd from the like daring Insolence.

*THIS is to give Notice, That on the North Side of James River, near the Uppermost Landing, and a little below the Falls, is lately laid off by Major Mayo, a Town, called Richmond, with Streets 65 Feet wide, in a pleasant and healthy Situation, and well supply'd with Springs of good Water. It lies near the Publick Warehouse at Shoccoe's, and in the midst of great Quantities of Grain, and all kinds of Provisions. The Lots will be granted in Fee Simple, on Condition only of building a House in Three Years Time, of 24 by 16 Feet, fronting within 5 Feet of the Street. The Lots to be rated according to the Convenience of their Situation, and to be sold after this April General Court, by me,*

WILLIAM BYRD.

*THE Ship Johnston of Liverpool, Capt. James Gildart, is lately arriv'd at York from Angola, with 490 choice young Slaves. The Sale of them began on Tuesday the 12th Instant, and continues at York Town by Thomas Nelson.*

A Parcel of Kersey and plain narrow Cloth, sent from the West of England, to be sold for the Maker, by the Piece, as cheap as can be imported. Enquire of the Printer.

To the Gentlemen and Ladies.

THAT Mrs. Stagg proposes to have an ASSEMBLY, on Thursday the 28th, and another on Friday the 29th of this

Instant, at the Capitol: for which Tickets are to be delivered out, at Half a Pistole each, at the Capitol, before the ASSEMBLIES begin: And these Gentlemen and Ladies who will favour her with their Company, are requested not to pay any Money at the Door.

Note. There will be several valuable Things set up to be raffled for.

WHEREAS several Numbers of a large and curious History, entitled, The Universal History, a work in much Esteem among the Learned, and translated into several Languages, has been publish'd in London, containing 20 Sheets in each Number, and sold at 3s. 6d. a Piece, Notice is hereby given, That several of the said Numbers are to be seen and dispos'd of, at W. Parks's the Printer of this Paper.

RAN away lately from the Bristol Company's Iron Works, in King George County, a Servant Man, nam'd James Sumners, a West Country Man, and speaks thick, he is a short thick Fellow, with short black Hair and a Ruddy Complexion. Whoever secures the said Servant, and brings him to the said Iron-Works, or to the Hon. John Tayloe, Esq. in Richmond County, or gives Notice of him, so as he may be had again, shall be well rewarded, besides what the Law allows.

Williamsburg, July 22nd, 1737.

We hear from *Połowmack*, That a Ship is lately arriv'd there, from *London* with Convicts. Capt. *Augustine Washington*, and Capt. *Hugh French*, took their Passage in her, the Former is arriv'd in Health, but the Latter dy'd at Sea, and 'tis said of the Goal Distemper, which he got on Board.

Williamsburg, July 29.

Mr. *Richard Corbin* eldest Son of Col. *Gawin Corbin*, was lately married to Miss *Betty Tayloe*, Daughter of the Hon. *John Tayloe*, Esq., One of his Majesty's Council of this Colony, a young Lady of great Beauty and Fortune.

And we are inform'd, That *Philip Ludwell*, Esq., only Son and Heir of the Hon. *Philip Ludwell*, Esq., deceas'd, late one of his Majesty's Council of this Colony, was married to Miss *Fanny Grymes*, eldest Daughter of Col. *Chas. Grymes*, a young Lady of great Merit and Fortune.

Nansemond, July 14, 1737.

RAN away some Time in June last, from William Pierce, of Nansemond County, near Mr. Theophilus Pugh's Merchant; A Convict Servant Woman named Winifred Thomas. She is a Welsh Woman, short black Hair'd and young; mark'd on the Inside of her Right Arm with Gunpowder W. T., and the Date of the Year underneath. She knits and spins, and is suppos'd to be gone into North Carolina by the Way of Curratuck and Roanoke Inlet. Whoever brings her to her Master shall be paid a Pistole, besides what the Law allows, paid by

WILLIAM PIERCE.

Williamsburg, August 19.

Last Monday arriv'd in James River His Majesty's Ship the *Sea-horse* Capt. Compton, in less than 48 Hours from New-York.

There grew, this Summer, in the Garden of Mr. Daniel Parke Custis in New Kent County, a Cucumber of the Turkey or Morocco Kind, which measur'd a Yard in Length and near 14 Inches round the thickest Part of it. Great Care was taken in Watering it, the Weather having been

for a long Time very dry, and what is remarkable, it grew 5 Inches in Length in one Night. Several others grew on the same Vines, and some of them near as large as this. They are ribb'd almost like a Musk-melon, colour'd like a Water-melon; and taste much like the common Cucumber. Several curious Persons have been to view them, the like having never been seen in these Parts before.

Enter'd in York River.

Aug. 8. Brig John and William from White-haven with European goods—

Clear'd out.

July 21. Ship Hatley for London, Ralph Barres Master, with 366 Hogsheads of Tobacco, 4720 Staves, 1 Cask and a Bundle of Deer Skins and 9 Beaver Skins.

July 29th. Brig Mary of Virginia, Stephen Swaddle, Master, for London, with 105 Hogsheads of Tobacco, 1000 Staves, a Parcel of Sassafras, 13 Pipes of Madeira Wine, 16 Pounds of Beaver, and 6 Doe Skins.

Aug. 1st. Ship Juliana of Bristol, Thomas Collis, Master, with 307 Hogsheads of Tobacco, 1 Cask of Snake-Root, 16 Tons of Iron and 4300 Staves.

—— Brig Abingdon of Virginia, John Upcott, Master, for Barbadoes, with 2000 Bushels of Corn, 1500 Feet of Pine Plank and 700 Staves.

And a number of other vessels—

Enter'd in the Upper District of James River,

August 1st. Ship Antigna Merchant, of London, Arthur Payne Master, from London, by way of Antigna, with Eleven Negroes, and Two Hogsheads of Rum.

August 2. Sloop Speedwell of New-England, William Goodrich Master, from Salem, with 1 Barrel of Sugar, 4 Hogsheads of Molasses, 1 Tierce and 2 Hogsheads of

Rum, 2 Barrels of Raisins, 5 Hogsheads of Salt, 1 Pipe of Wine, some Earthen and Wooden Ware and sundry European Goods.

Clear'd out.

August 4. Ship Howard, Thomas Nicholson, Master, for Whitehaven with 270 Hogsheads and Three Barrels of Tobacco, 3900 Staves, 23 Walnut Planks and 1 Bundle of Skins.

v  
Aug. 4. Brig Owners Endeavour of Whitehaven, Richard Williamson Master, for Whitehaven, with 170 Hogsheads and 6 Barrels of Tobacco, 4000 Staves, 50 Foot of Walnut, and 250 Foot of Inch Oak Plank.

Williamsburg, Oct. 7, 1737.

We have Advice from *Hanover County*, That on *St. Andrew's Day*, being the 30th of *November* next, there are to be Horse Races and several other Diversions, for the Entertainment of the Gentlemen and Ladies, at the *Old Field* near *Capt. John Bickerton's* in that County, (if permitted by the Hon. William Byrd, Esq., Proprietor of the said Land,) The Substance of which are as follows, viz :

1. It is propos'd, That 20 Horses or Mares do run round a Three Miles Course, for a Prize of the Value of Five Pounds, according to the usual Rules of Racing; That every Horse that runs shall be first enter'd with Mr. Joseph Fox, and that no Person have the Liberty of putting in a Horse, unless he is a Subscriber towards defraying the Expence of this Entertainment, and pay to Mr. Fox Half a Pistole of it at entring his Horse.

2. That a Hat of the Value of 20s. be cudgell'd for, and that after the first Challenge made, the Drums are to beat, once every Quarter of an Hour, for Three Challenges round the Ring; on no Answer made, the Person chal-

lenging to be entitled to the Prize; and none to Play with their Left Hand.

3. That a Violin be played for by 20 Fiddlers, and to be given to him that shall be adjudged to play the best: No Person to have the Liberty of playing, unless he brings a Fiddle with him. After the Prize is won, they are all to play together, and each a different Tune; and to be treated by the Company.

4. That 12 Boys of 12 Years of Age do run 112 Yards for a Hat of the Value of 12 Shillings.

5. That a Flag be flying on the said Day 30 Feet high.

6. That a handsome Entertainment be provided for the Subscribers and their Wives; and such of them who are not so happy as to have Wives, may treat any other Lady. And that convenient Booths be erected for that Purpose.

7. That Drums, Trumpets, Haut boys, &c. will be provided, to play at the said Entertainment.

8. That after Dinner, the Royal Healths, his Honour the Governor's, &c. are to be drank.

9. That a Quire of Ballads be sung for, by a Number of Songsters, the best Songster to have the Prize, and all of them to have Liquor sufficient to clear their Wind Pipes.

10. That a Pair of Silver Buckles be Wrestled for, by a certain Number of brisk young Men.

11. That a Pair of handsome Shoes be danced for.

12. That a Pair of handsome Silk Stockings of One Pistole Value, be given to the handsomest young Country Maid that appears in the Field: With many other Whimsical and Comical Diversions, too tedious to mention here.

The Horse Race is to be run that Day, fair or foul; but if foul, the other diversions are to be continued the next Day.

The Subscription Money to be paid on the said Day in

the Field ; and Notice will be there given, who is to receive it.

And as this Mirth is design'd to be purely innocent, and void of Offence, all Persons resorting there are desir'd to behave themselves with Decency and Sobriety ; the Subscribers being resolv'd to discountenance all Immorality with the utmost Rigour.

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### WITHER'S LINES TO CAPTAIN SMITH.

There is a slight thread of association—very slight indeed, we admit,—which seems to connect the fine old Puritan Poet, George Wither, with the first planting of our State, and which, for that reason chiefly, we desire to preserve. It is simply this : In Smith's "Generall Historie of Virginia, New England, and the Summer Isles," &c., (2nd edition, London, 1632,) we find a copy of Lines addressed to "Our Captaine," (Capt. John Smith,) entitled "To his friend Captaine Smith, upon his description of New England ; signed "George Wither, *e societate Lincoln*, which shews that he was a warm and decided "fautor," or favorer of our Virginia Plantation. It is true the lines refer chiefly to the sister colony of New England ; but that colony, we may remember, was originally a part of "Virginia," (taking the term in the largest sense ; ) and the conclusion points more particularly to *our* "Virginia" proper ; and contains a hint which has proved prophetic, and which we hope will continue to be more and more realized, by both parties, as long as the stars of our Union shall shine together. But we submit the Lines to speak for themselves.



To his friend Captaine Smith, upon his Description of  
New-England.

SIR: your relations I have read: which shew,  
Ther's reason I should honour THEM and YOU;  
And if their meaning I have understood,  
I dare to censure thus: Your PROJECT's good;  
And may (if follow'd) doubtlesse quit the paine  
With honour, pleasure, and a treble gaine;  
Beside the benefit that shall arise,  
To make more happy our Posterities.

For would we daigne to spare, though twere no more  
Than what ore-fils, and surfets us in store,  
To order NATURE's fruitfulnessse a while,  
In that rude Garden, you New-England stile;  
With present good, ther's hope in after-daies,  
Thence to repaire what TIME and PRIDE decaies  
In this rich Kingdome. And the spacious West  
Being still more with English blood possest,  
The proud IBERIANS shall not rule those Seas,  
To checke our ships from sailing where they please;  
Nor future times make any forraine power  
Become so great to force a bound to OUR.

Much good my minde foretels would follow hence  
With little labour, and with lesse expence.  
Thrive therefore thy DESIGNE, whoe'er envy:  
ENGLAND may joy in ENGLAND's Colony,  
VIRGINIA seeke her Virgin sister's good,  
Be blessed in such happy neighbourhood:  
Or whatsoere Fate pleaseth to permit,  
Be thou still honour'd for first moving it.

GEORGE WITHER, *e Societate Lincol.*

There is certainly not much music in these lines; but the sentiment of them is good, and such as ought to be kept alive and glowing in all our hearts.

## TURKEY ISLAND.

This celebrated place commonly called Turkey Island, is not however exactly an island, but is only a piece or point of land situated at the lower end of Curle's Neck, on James River; and is the extreme lower portion of Henrico County; bounded on the South side by the James, and on the East by Turkey Island Creek, which as it runs, forms the dividing line between the counties of Henrico and Charles City. There is however, I understand, some slight pretext for calling the place an island, for I am informed by one of the oldest surviving members of the family to which it formerly belonged—a gentleman, moreover, well versed in antiquarian lore—that there is yet extant a very ancient plat of James River, drawn by Capt. John Smith himself, in which there is set down an island in the river, at the mouth of Bremono creek, and nominated Turkey Island, which of course must once have been thereabouts, but which, he says, was afterwards washed away by the memorable fresh of 1771, when the waters broke across the lower portion of Curle's Neck, and fairly plastered the island upon it, at the same time, very properly, labelling its old name (*ex vero ductum*) upon its new site. This is certainly an ingenious theory, which however I do not feel myself obliged to adopt, as, like most other geological speculations, it seems to want more positive proof.

But whatever may be the true history of this nominal island, there are some antiquities attached to the place which the curious may find worth exploring. In the first place, there is an old family vault of the Randolphs, which contains many marble slabs bearing the memorials of some of the most prominent members of the family—though I

am sorry to say it has no enclosure about it to guard its sacred relics, but lies all open to the rude visits of the cattle that occasionally grace and graze the neighboring plain. On this place, also, and about a mile and a quarter from the old homestead, is to be seen an obelisk erected by one of the family to commemorate the great fresh of 1771, already mentioned, when the river rose far above its banks, and sent its swelling waves, with great violence, over the surrounding fields. Some, indeed, suppose and assert that the obelisk marks the very spot where the proud waters were stayed; but this, I think, could hardly have been the fact; for the ground is at least forty five feet above the ordinary level of the river, and the low flat lands about the locality are so extensive, that the floods must have run off before they could have reached any thing like that elevation. The inscription of this obelisk reads as follows: "The foundation of this pillar was laid in the calamitous year 1771, when all the great rivers of this country were swept by inundations never before experienced; which changed the face of nature, and left traces of their violence that will remain for ages."

And, lastly, there is the relic or remnant of an old dwelling house, once, no doubt, the mansion of the Randolphs, apparently of one story only, but originally of two stories, and, it would seem, from the ends of charred timbers still protruding from the walls, once surrounded by porticos on three sides. The walls are very thick, built of brick that are said to have been imported from England, and the cement is still so hard in some places that it is difficult to break or perforate it. This old house which must have been erected about a hundred and fifty years ago, and was the seat of a distinguished family, for some years, is now only a negro quarter, and occupied by such rude tenants as are usually found in such a habitation.

The present dwelling house on this place is of brick, and supposed to have been built above a hundred years ago. The walls are very thick, the basement story  $2\frac{1}{2}$  feet, though bearing only a single story above it. It is true, however, that the centre portion of the building was originally two stories high, and was capped by a very large dome; but in the year 1809, this part of the structure was burned down to its present height, and the rest was thereupon finished off in its actual style.

I ought perhaps to add, that the house before the change induced by the fire was generally considered one of the most beautiful buildings in all the lower country. The materials were all of the very best quality, and the workmanship of the finest taste. It is said to have been seven years in building. An old man now dead, told me some years ago, that he had been bred a carpenter, and had served his apprenticeship in a single room of that house, where he had learned more of his trade than one could now do in building, or helping to build, a hundred houses. This house in former days was known by all nautical men, as the Bird Cage, so called from its ornamental dome, and from the great number of birds which were always seen hovering and singing about it. In its present state, I cannot say much for its external appearance, but I can still say that it has some substantial comfort within—and a warm welcome for all who may choose to come and see.

R. P.

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From the London Christian Spectator.

### OLD TREES.

There are few things which I like better to meet with in my walks and wanderings than an old tree. When I see one upon which the storms of some hundred winters have wasted themselves, sad and solemn feelings always come over me; I feel as if I could linger long about it; and sometimes, strange as it may appear, I could even prostrate myself before it, in mute and reverential awe. It is not that there is any thing very *beautiful* in an old tree—sometimes it is even the reverse; and when I pause to look at some broken trunk, with scarce a mark of verdure remaining on it, my friend who is with me will pull my arm, and wonder what I see in *that* to stare at. But to me, an old tree has always *associations* of a very interesting and pleasing character; and it is for these that I love to look at it, and feel a kind of friendship for it.

In the first place, the delightful idea of *constancy* associates itself with an old tree. Amidst the rush and push of this world's changes, there it has remained immovable for centuries; and whilst cities have crumbled away, and kingdoms have been revolutionized, and great empires have risen and fallen, it has "taken root downward, and borne fruit upward," and, year by year, its branches have spread themselves over head as a green canopy, and it has helped to make the face of nature lovelier and more beautiful. There is one tree in my neighborhood,—I think it is said that nine hundred years have rolled their clouds and played their lightnings over it,—under which I remember gambolling when I was a child; and, though many changes have since come over me, and I have had my share of dark and sorrowful days; though friends whom I loved have left me, and some have turned coldly away from me, who I never thought would have done so; I go now occasionally, and I find the tree unaltered:—

"So was it when my life began;  
So is it now I am a man;"—

the marks of age perhaps are more apparent, but it smiles upon me as it did of old; and in recalling, as I almost can,

the sweet and innocent thoughts and emotions which I indulged under it, and the remembrance of the dear departed ones with whom I stood at its feet, I can almost bring back the days so long gone, and fancy myself a boy again. And I am not the only one whom this old tree has cheered thus and encouraged : it smiled upon others before it smiled on me ; and it will continue to smile when I am gone and departed. The traveller has many a time looked upon it, as he has passed the village in which it stands ; and the broken-down soldier has recognised it with a tear, as he has returned after many battles abroad to the quiet home of his boyhood. For many a year the swallow, returning from her annual visit to a milder climate, has always found its branches ready for her as a resting-place ; and in many a summer, the panting flocks have sought and found a grateful shade beneath its boughs. How many human beings and other creatures have cause to be grateful to an old tree !

But an old tree has always associated with it thoughts of *the past*. How many persons have gazed upon it who will never gaze upon it again ; and with what different emotions has it been regarded at different times, and by different classes of character ! The noble has gazed upon it as he dashed by in his chariot ; and the poor lame beggar, as he hobbled past on his crutch. What tales it could tell, if it could but speak to us, of England in the olden time ; and what revelations could it furnish of events but now imperfectly pictured forth to us in the pages of history ! It has heard the old men talk of Alfred and of Canute, of the Conquest and William the Norman ; the tales of the Plantagenets and the Lancasters have been told in its presence ; it could speak to us of Magna Charta, and of the Crusades ; of Harry the Eighth and the Reformation ; it heard men talk with glistening eye of John Hampden and of Oliver Cromwell, and how they stood up gloriously against tyrants, and overthrew them ; it listened to their deep murmurs at the tyranny of James, and to their shouts of delight at the accession of the Prince of Orange ; and it has seen how the world, amidst its ups and downs, has been going forward all the while ; and how, from all things being a monopoly of the few, the rights of the many have come gradually to be recognised, so that the "greatest

happiness of *all*' is likely yet to become the politics of the world.

There is one lesson more which we may all very properly learn from the contemplation of an old tree. Amidst all the changes which have occurred around it, and notwithstanding the storms which have beaten upon it, it has stood firm and unmoved. How calmly it has witnessed the joys and sorrows, the crimes and miseries, of the world! Oh, to be as patient as the old tree amidst the storms and battles of life; ever, amidst changes and uncertainties, fulfilling our high duty and destiny, with calm and conquering firmness!

I cannot bear to see an old tree cut down. When the woodman's axe approaches it, I feel a sympathetic shudder, and protest indignantly against the intended sacrilege. It seems as if I myself were about to be felled, and as if one of my dearest ties to this green earth were to be torn away. But perhaps it is better so. My friends of former years are all leaving me; and it is well for me to be reminded that I must soon follow them.

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#### LOSSING'S PICTORIAL FIELD BOOK OF THE REVOLUTION.

The Pictorial Field Book of the Revolution; or, Illustrations, By Pen and Pencil, of the History, Biography, Scenery, Relics, and Traditions of the War for Independence. By Benson J. Lossing. With Several Hundred Engravings on Wood, By Lossing and Barritt, chiefly from Original Sketches by the Author. In Two Volumes Royal 8vo. New York: Harper and Brothers. 1851 and 2.

This work which has been coming out in numbers for some time past, is now complete in two large handsome volumes; and in its present state does great honor to the industry and talent of its author, who, it seems, is equally expert with the pencil and the pen. It does great honor also to his patriotic spirit, which alone could have sustained him in so arduous and troublesome an undertaking. It is indeed a perfect cabinet of curious and interesting collections relating to our revolutionary contest, many of which have never been seen before, and which Mr. L. has been the first to gather and preserve by his care and skill. In short, we regard it as a highly valuable appendage to any history of the United States that has been or may be written; and we warmly commend it to all the public favor which we think it amply deserves.

## Various Intelligence.

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### MINERAL WEALTH OF VIRGINIA.

Mr. John E. Penman, whose connection with North Carolina gold-mining we recently noticed, left with us a few days since, on a visit to his home in this place, a number of specimens of gold, copper, iron, lead and silver ores from the above named State and Eastern Virginia. Among them are galena, from Amherst co., Va., yielding *seventy per cent.* of lead, and another specimen from the same place, less rich in lead, but giving forty ounces of silver to the ton. This is more promising, to all appearance, than the gold veins of Charlotte, N. C., where \$20 to the ton is considered a good return. These lead mines are within seven miles of the James River and Kanawha Canal. Mr. P. has also coal from the Dan River seams, very much like anthracite, but more easily ignited.

Every day brings new warnings to Virginia of the measureless mineral treasures she is leaving neglected in the bosom of her hills. It is safe to say that she surpasses every one of her sister States, not only in her wealth of the description estimated in mass, but in almost every particular form of it which any one of them can boast. Thus, of iron, the most common and generally distributed of all the metals, she has as much as Tennessee or Mississippi; in coal, she is at least equal to Pennsylvania; in salt, none can compare with her; in lead, she is probably not behind Illinois; in copper, she yields only to Michigan; in gypsum, she is far before all; and in manganese and similar products, valuable to chemists, she is inferior to none. A bold and healthy system of improvement would ere this have put in rapid process of development enough of these hidden possessions to make her the very first State in the Union.

*Winchester Virginian.*

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### THE NEW CABINET.

WASHINGTON, March 7.

The President to-day sent in the names of the members of his Cabinet, and they were confirmed by the Senate as follows:  
 Secretary of State—Wm. L. Marcy, of New York.  
 Secretary of Treasury—James Guthrie, of Kentucky.



Secretary of War—Jefferson Davis, of Mississippi.  
 Secretary of Navy—James C. Dobbin, of North Carolina.  
 Secretary of Interior—Robert McClelland, of Michigan.  
 Postmaster General—James Campbell, of Pennsylvania.  
 Attorney General—Caleb Cushing, of Massachusetts.

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### THE MEDICAL COLLEGE.

The annual commencement at the Medical Department of Hampden Sydney College in this city, took place in the Chemical Hall of the College on Monday evening (14th ult.) The hall was filled to overflowing, and hundreds were unable to obtain admission. After music from the Armory Band, the Rev. B. Mauly, Jr., opened the exercises of the evening with prayer. The names of the candidates for degrees, twenty-six in number, were then announced by the Dean of the Faculty, and the degrees of M. D. were then conferred by the President of the College, Rev. L. W. Green, D. D., upon the following gentlemen:

William Henry Abbott, Appomattox, Virginia. Thomas H. Barnes, Nansemond, Virginia. Blair Burwell, Jr., Powhatan. William M. Clarke, Warrenton, North Carolina. George H. Cooke, Richmond, Virginia. John Syng Dorsey Cullen, Richmond, Virginia. Edward Carrington Drew, Henrico, Virginia. Alfred T. Goodloe, Franklin, Alabama. John R. Hendricks, Russell, Virginia. Thomas S. Hening, Chesterfield, Virginia. Robert R. S. Hough, Morgantown, Virginia. Wm. H. Hughart, Prince Edward, Virginia. Thomas E. James, Portsmouth, Virginia. Isham D. Jordan, Isle of Wight, Virginia. William Latane, Essex, Virginia. Horace M. Mackan, Middlesex, Virginia. Marion L. Mayo, Cumberland, Virginia. Theodorick P. Mayo, Richmond, Virginia. Samuel Meredith, Richmond, Virginia. Thomas M. Page, New Kent, Virginia. Edward Ransone, Gloucester, Virginia. Joseph A. Reynolds, Patrick, Virginia. J. Junius Roane, Charles City, Virginia. Edward J. Rowsee, Hanover, Virginia. Leroy C. Thrusher, Monroe, Virginia. Alexander C. W. Young, Portsmouth, Virginia.

The Gold Medal for the Prize Essay on the "Absorption of Medicines and the Mode of Action" was awarded to Edward Carrington Drew, of Henrico county, and was presented, with appropriate remarks, by Professor Maupin, who then delivered the Valedictory Address.

The exercises were concluded with the benediction.

*Dispatch.*

## RAIL ROADS IN VIRGINIA.

The following list of Railroads, will show the extent to which the State is embarked in these important works :

	<i>Length.</i>	<i>Completed.</i>
Baltimore and Ohio road	251	251
Parkersburg branch	100	70
Winchester and Potomac	32	32
Manassa's Gap	130	39
Loudoun and Hampshire	180	—
Fred'bg and Gordonsville	38	—
Orange and Alexandria	175	60
Richmond and Fred'rg	76	76
Richmond and Petersburg	22	22
Petersburg and Roanoke	60	60
Clover Hill	15	15
Appomattox	9	9
Greensville and Roanoke	21	21
Richmond and York River	42	—
Central	200	100
Covington and Ohio	228	—
Norfolk and Petersburg	80	—
South Side	122	62
Virginia and Tennessee	208	60
Cumberland Gap	115	—
New River	77	—
Richmond and Danville	147	78
Seaboard and Roanoke	77	77
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	2405	1047

## THE CALORIC INVENTION.

We have no wish to say a word against the new method of propulsion that is about to be tested in its application to the *Ericsson*, which vessel in the course of a short period may be expected to arrive in this country from America. All that we wish to draw attention to, without disparagement to any successful modification that Capt. Ericsson may put in operation connected with heated air as a motive power, is the fact that the invention, said to be his, is not new. About thirty years ago a vessel named the *Highland Lad*, that many of our readers will remember as a passage-boat on the Clyde, was fitted up by Messrs. Claud, Girdwood & Co., of Glasgow, with a

caloric engine, the invention, we believe, of the Rev. Mr. Stirling, now minister of a parish—Galston, we think—near Kilmarnock. This engine propelled the vessel at the moderate rate that gave satisfaction in those days, being estimated as working to twenty horses power. It was subsequently removed from the vessel in consequence of the working parts yielding to the enormous heat, and thereby becoming soft and giving way, and its place was supplied by an ordinary steam engine. We fear that Captain Ericsson's engine will labor under a like disadvantage; but, be that as it may, he must content himself as ranking in this country as the mere modifier of the invention of Mr. Stirling, whose caloric engine we saw working regularly in Dundee, in 1844, in a factory.—*Glasgow Advertiser*.

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### THE ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH.

We see it stated in an article in the *National Intelligencer* of the 9th inst., that Arthur Young in his "Travels in France," published in 1792, records that he had spent the evening of the 16th of September, 1787, in the company of M. Lomond, whom he describes as a very ingenious and inventive mechanic, who had made some improvements in machinery for spinning cotton. He then proceeds:

"In electricity he has made a remarkable discovery. You write two or three words on a paper, he takes it with him into a room and turns a machine enclosed in a cylindrical case, at the top of which is an electrometer, a small fine pithe ball; a wire connects with a similar cylinder and electrometer in a distant apartment, and his wife, by remarking the corresponding motions of the ball, writes down the words they indicate, from which it appears he has formed an alphabet of motions. As the length of the wire makes no difference in the effect, a correspondence might be carried on at any distance—within and without a besieged town for instance, or for a purpose much more worthy and a thousand times more harmless, between two lovers prohibited or prevented from any better connexion. Whatever the use may be, the invention is beautiful."

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### THE POTATOE.

Although Sir Walter Raleigh was, unexpectedly, prevented from accompanying Sir Humphrey Gilbert to Newfoundland,

he eventually proved one of the greatest benefactors to that island, by the introduction of the potato on his return from America in the following year, viz. 1584. It is said that this root was first planted on Sir Walter's estate at Youghall, which he afterwards sold to the Earl of Cork : but that, not having given sufficient directions to the person who had the management of the land, the latter mistook the apples for the fruit and most valuable part of the plant, and, on tasting them, rejected them as a pernicious exotic. Some time afterwards, turning up the earth, he found the roots spread to a great distance, and in considerable quantities; and from this stock the whole kingdom was soon after supplied with this valuable plant, which gradually spread throughout all Europe and North America. Its name, *potatoc*, in Irish *paitey*, and in French *patate*, is said to be derived from the original language of Mexico, of which it is supposed to be a native. In Newfoundland, it is an essential article of subsistence: it generally supplies the place of bread at dinner, and frequently also at breakfast and supper: the people there can more easily reconcile themselves to a scarcity, or even a total privation of bread, than they could of potatoes.

*Anspach's History of Newfoundland.*

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### STEEL PENS.

All the steel pens made in England, and a great many of those sold in France, Germany, and America, whatever names or devices they may bear, are manufactured in Birmingham. In this respect, as in many others of the same nature, the Birmingham manufacturers are very accommodating, and quite prepared to stamp on their productions the American eagle, the cap of liberty, the effigy of Pio Nono or of the Comte de Chambord, if they get the order, the cash, or a good credit. There are eighteen steel pen manufacturers in the Birmingham Directory, and eight penholder makers. Two manufacturers employ about one thousand hands, and the other seventeen about as many more. We can most of us remember when a long hard steel pen, which required the nicest management to make it write, cost a shilling, and was used more as a curiosity, than as a useful, comfortable instrument. About 1820 or 1821 the first gross of three-slit pens was sold wholesale at £7 4s. the gross of twelve dozen. A better article is now sold at 6*d.* a gross. The cheapest pens are now sold at 2*d.* a gross; the best at from 3*s.* 6*d.* to 5*s.*; and it has been calculated that Birmingham produces not less than a thousand million steel pens every year.

America is the best foreign customer, in spite of a duty of twenty-four per cent. ; France ranks next, for the French pens are bad and dear.—*Chambers's Edinburgh Journal*.

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#### WASHINGTON TREASURES AT ARLINGTON HOUSE.

We learn that Benson J. Lossing, Esq., a distinguished artist of New York, and favorably known to the American public by a work entitled the *Field Book of the Revolution*, has been for some days at Arlington House, engaged in making drawings of the venerable articles in that mansion that were formerly of Mount Vernon, with a view to engravings of the same, to be published in *Harper's Magazine*.

Among these touching memorials of the past are several of considerable antiquity. The sideboard that stood in the family dining room at Mount Vernon in the days of Lawrence Washington, and an iron lamp that hung in the hall an hundred years ago, and shed its light upon the youthful Washington, then in the bloom of early manhood, and about to start on his high career of fame in the perilous expedition to Fort Du Quesne in 1755.

There are also various memorials of the *First Presidency, and the Last Days at Mount Vernon*, [consisting of pieces of plate and domestic articles.]

Drawings have also been made from the original pictures of Peale, Trumbull, and Sharpless, and of several ancient and magnificent pictures by Vandyke, Sir Godfrey Kneller, and Woolaston, from two centuries to a century and a half old. The *Revolutionary Battle Pieces*, painted by Mr. Custis have been copied for engraving. They consist of Trenton, Princeton, Monmouth, Germantown, and Yorktown. The last is a very large painting, on a canvass of eight feet six, by six feet four. As it is rather large for a private residence, it is probable the painter will either present it to the State of Virginia, in whose bosom occurred the glorious and ever memorable *Surrender of Yorktown*, the crowning glory of the war of independence, or to the city of Washington.

To each of the engravings will be attached a descriptive history of the subject represented. From the superior style in which the Messrs. Harpers will get up these venerable and most interesting reminiscences of the past we augur a rich treat to all those who will delight in perusing, in the relics of by gone days, the memories of the beloved Washington.—*Alex. Gazette*.

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## ACCOUNTS FROM LIBERIA.

- Accounts from Liberia, via England, are to Jan. 25th. Numerous letters have been received from the Colonists, from recent emigrants, and from Bishop Scott, of the Methodist Church, and from Bishop Payne of the Protestant Episcopal Church. These all give encouraging accounts of Liberia. The three emigrant vessels which sailed last November, the Joseph Maxwell from Wilmington, N. C., the Linda Stewart from Norfolk, and the Shirley from Baltimore, also the Oriole, which sailed from New-York in October—had arrived in safety, with three hundred and sixty emigrants. These, so far as appears, are pleased with the country, have passed safely through the acclimating fever, and are full of hope and courage for the future. Bishop Payne, who is visiting the Protestant Episcopal missionary stations in Liberia, appears to be much pleased with what he has seen of the country and its inhabitants. He had made arrangements for extending the missionary operations of the Episcopal church to Monrovia. President Roberts had returned from his recent visit to England and France. The settlement of the Fishtown territory had been resumed, with encouraging prospects. The saw-mill at Buchanan was in successful operation.

A letter from John D. Johnson, who emigrated from Williamsburgh, N. Y. a few months since, contains the following :

“ I have not ability to describe the advantages to be reaped in this country, nor have I the time. My business is so much better than it ever was before, that I am constantly occupied in attending to it.

This is a great country for men and women who love liberty and who love themselves, for money can be made here.”

*N. Y. Observer.*

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 THE STATE OF EUROPE.

The item of chief interest by the last steamer from England relates to the proceedings of Russia against Turkey. The prospect for a general war seemed very favorable at the beginning—but the latest intelligence, without going into particulars, gives us to understand that all difficulties will probably be adjusted peaceably.

The Porte, in its old age and infirmities, has become the standing subject for bullying on the part of the European powers. France commenced the game last fall, and extorted great com-

cessions with respect to the Holy Places for the Catholics of Syria. Austria recently resorted to the same expedient to gain its point in the Montenegrin territory. Russia, not to be behind hand, has, by its ostentatious arrogance, outstripped all competitors, and not content with effecting its ends privately, seems disposed to insult and degrade the Ottoman Empire openly and before the eyes of all the world. The concessions made to France, touching the Holy Places, are pronounced injurious to the Greek Church, of which the Russian Emperor is the head and protector. If this be so, and Russia insists on the withdrawal of those concessions, an issue must arise between France and the Porte, or France and Russia.

From the tone of the London Times, which we suppose speaks the sentiments of the British Ministry, England is not disposed to support the French pretensions against Russia, and is not very averse to the dismemberment of Turkey. The London News—the organ of the Radicals, gives expression to very different views.

The truth of the matter is, that all the powers desire to partition the Turkish Empire—and the difficulty is to settle among themselves the portion which each shall have. Austria wants nearly all the Turkish territory in Europe—Russia is intent upon Constantinople and the Asiatic possessions extending in the direction of the British dominions in India—France wants Syria and Egypt—England wants Egypt, and she is jealous of Russia becoming her neighbor in the East;—and Russia, on account of the pretensions of her church to the Holy Places, is unwilling to surrender Palestine to France.

Where there is so much ambition and such diversity of interest, the only way to settle the matter will be by the sword. The quarrel may be deferred—but sooner or later, it will be inevitable.—*Whig of April 9th.*

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## THE ADJOURNMENT OF THE LEGISLATURE.

The Legislature which has been occupying the capitol of our State in this city for some months past, closed its long and laborious session, the first under the new constitution, on Monday evening last, the 11th inst., and the members, we suppose, have all very generally returned to their homes. The session, we believe, has been the longest yet known in our annals, having been, exclusive of the last summer recess, of nine and a half month's duration. We see it stated in the Enquirer, that "the number of bills passed at its first session, of 1851-2, was about 475, and the number passed at the session now just closed is,

over 600, making in all about 1100 bills." It adds: "The Legislature now dissolved, maugre all that has been said to the contrary, has been a working Legislature, as the immense amount of business dispatched proves." The Whig is not quite so complimentary to the departed bodies, but says: "Well, they assembled near *eighteen months ago*, and with the exception of a recess for a few months last summer, have been in session all the time. This is the first specimen they have given the people of what they mean by biennial sessions,—not one session in two years, but one session two years long. What have they done during that whole period of time? From the 10th of January, 1852, to the 1st of June in the same year, their legislation is scarcely more than a blank leaf. A recess was taken from the time when the Presidential campaign opened, until it closed; and then our Democratic Legislature reassembled. With the exception of a number of Internal Improvement bills, and a few bills of a general character, their time has been devoted to party manœuvring, to secure a monopoly of State patronage to the Democratic party," &c. We do not, of course, undertake to decide between these views; but leave them to speak for themselves. We may fairly say, however, that among the acts passed there were some in which the most intelligent members of both parties concurred, and which, we trust, will greatly promote the best interests of our State. We allude here more particularly to the acts relating to rail-roads and other public works, which notwithstanding some waste, and some mistake perhaps on some points, must, on the whole, do great good. We refer also with great satisfaction to the bill which has been passed appropriating \$42,000 annually to be applied to the removal of our free people of colour to Liberia—an act of wisdom and charity which must be eminently salutary and benign.

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### SEBASTIAN CANO.

Sebastian Cano, or Caus, a Biscayan by birth, attended the celebrated Magellan in his voyages; and passed those straits with him which were subsequently called after his name. He retired to Seville in 1522, Charles V. presented him with a globe having this device; "Primus me circumdedisti." You first went round me.



## TRUTH AND FALSEHOOD.

Truth is always consistent with itself, and needs nothing to help it out. It is always near at hand, and sits upon our lips, and is ready to drop out before we are aware; whereas a lie is troublesome, and sets a man's invention upon the rack: and one trick needs a great many more to make it good.—*Tillotson.*

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## Miscellany.

## THE DESIRE OF FAME.

Great kings and conquering nations have been the subject of these ancient histories, which have been preserved, and yet remain among us, and with all of so many tragical poets, as, in the persons of powerful princes and other mighty men, have complained against infidelity, time, destiny, and, most of all, against the variable success of worldly things and instability of fortune. To these undertakings these great lords of the world have been stirred up, rather by the desire of fame, which ploweth up the air and soweth in the wind, than by the affection of bearing rule, which draweth after it so much vexation and so many cares. And that this is true, the good advice of Cineas to Pyrrhus proves. And certainly as fame hath often been dangerous to the living, so to the dead it is of no use at all, because separate from knowledge: which were it otherwise, and the extreme ill bargain of buying this lasting discourse understood by them which are dissolved, they themselves would then rather have wished to have stolen out of the world without noise, than to be put in mind that they have purchased the report of their actions in the world by rapine, oppression, and cruelty, by giving in spoil the innocent and labouring soul to the idle and insolent, and by having emptied the cities of the world of their ancient inhabitants, and filled them again with so many variable sorts of sorrows.—*Sir Walter Raleigh.*

## A COMPLIMENT TO A STATUE.

They tell us that Michael Angelo once found the following graceful compliment written on the pedestal of his beautiful statue of Night—represented as a sleeping woman—in the Grand Duke's Gallery at Florence:

“ La Notte che tu vedi in sì dolci atti  
Dormire, fu da un Angelo scolpita  
In questo sasso ; e perchè dorme ha vita ;  
Destala se no'l credi, e parleratti.”

The poetical artist immediately answered the lines with these ; supposed to be spoken by the statue herself—in her sleep.

“ Grato m'è il sonno, ma piu l'esser di sasso,  
Mentre che il danno e la vergogna dura ;  
Non veder e non sentir m'è gran ventura,  
Però non mi destar—deh ! parla basso.”

We add here the translations of these verses by Mr. Bland, for the benefit of those of our readers who cannot enjoy the originals in the Italian—or even if they can—for it is always pleasant to compare.

*Inscription on the Statue of Night.*

“ Night in this lovely posture you behold.  
An Angel's art to rugged marble gives  
This slumbering form. Because she sleeps, she lives.  
Doubt you ? Then wake her ; by herself be told.”

B.

*The Answer.*

“ Grateful is sleep—but more to be of stone,  
While guilt and shame upon the earth appear.  
My lot is happy nor to see nor hear :  
Then wake me not—I fain would slumber on.”

B.

We add also the following translations by another hand,

which some of our readers may perhaps like better: or they will at least vary the pleasure.

*Inscription.*

This lovely Night, so soft and meek,  
Was fashioned by an Angel's hand;  
Of stone; but sleeps, you understand,  
So lives; awake her and she'll speak.

*The Answer.*

'Tis sweet to me to sleep—and so  
In stone—while crimes and woes abound,  
And fill the waking world around,  
I would not see nor hear—speak low.

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POETRY AND RELIGION.

The poetry of our thoughts, like our religion, is apt to be kept apart from our every day lives; neither influences us as it ought to do. We should be wiser and happier if instead of secluding them in some secret shrine in our hearts, we suffered their humanizing qualities to temper our habitual words and actions.

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ANNE AND JANE.

Anne and Jane are such a pair  
I could fancy either fair,  
And to either plight my troth;—  
So I must be false to both.

*Martial Minor.*

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IN VINO VERITAS.

*In Vino Veritas*—in wine is truth:  
Hear this old saw, ye gay and giddy youth,  
Nor drink too freely, lest ye should reveal  
What ye would do more wisely to conceal.

*Mentor.*

THE  
VIRGINIA HISTORICAL REGISTER,  
AND  
LITERARY COMPANION.

Vol. VI.

JULY, 1853.

No. III.

LORD CORNWALLIS'S ACCOUNT OF HIS CAM-  
PAIGN IN VIRGINIA, IN 1781.

[We have here before us, at this time, a small volume entitled "An Answer to that Part of the Narrative of Lieutenant General Sir Henry Clinton, K. B., which relates to the Conduct of Lieutenant General Earl Cornwallis, During the Campaign in North America, in the year 1781. By Earl Cornwallis. London: Printed for J. Debrett, (successor to Mr. Almon.) opposite Burlington House, Piccadilly. 1783. 1 vol. 8vo, pp. 260; and we propose to give our readers so much of this publication as relates to his Lordship's famous campaign in our State in 1781, or at least what we think the best part of it, as the whole would be quite too long for our pages. With this view, we submit now what his lordship calls "The Introduction," and which explains his reasons for coming into our State; and we shall follow it up, in our next number, with several of his Letters to General Clinton, in which he describes his movements within our limits, until the final surrender of his post and army at York Town; all which we think our readers will find highly interesting.]

THE INTRODUCTION.

The feelings, which dictate this publication, have originated from the contents of a Narrative, signed by Sir Henry Clinton, late Commander in Chief in America. In which

Narrative, events are attributed to my conduct during the campaign of 1781, which, I trust, it will appear, were by no means the unavoidable consequences of any part of it.

The materials, hitherto produced, cannot be deemed complete, either in form or substance. There were many deficiencies in the papers laid before the House of Lords; in particular, four letters, dated July the 24th, August the 16th, 20th, and 22d, from me to Sir Henry Clinton, were wanting; one of which contained my reasons at large for undertaking the march into Virginia: This omission, as the Secretary of State informed the House, was owing to their not having been transmitted by the Commander in Chief. Four other letters (three of them dated the 2d, 27th, and 30th of August, and one the 14th, 15th, and 18th of October) from Sir Henry Clinton to me, were read to the Lords, according to the order of their dates; although they were only delivered to me, by the Secretary to the Commander in Chief, in the latter end of November, at New-York, above a month after my surrender; and consequently, their contents could not influence my conduct in any manner.

I own I am perfectly aware of the impropriety of publishing official letters for private reasons; but since the measures with respect to America have now undergone a total change, I hope, I shall in some degree stand excused for producing the whole correspondence, in my possession, relative to the principal transactions of that campaign; as it is the most candid and complete mode, in my power, of submitting them to the public consideration.

The perusal of this Correspondence will, I think, render not only the military, but every other reader a competent judge of the propriety of my conduct, either when I acted under positive orders, pressing contingencies, or discretionary powers.

It is foreign to the present purpose, and I shall therefore not endeavour to enumerate the many difficulties, which I had to struggle with, in my command of the Southern district, previous to the march into North Carolina, in the beginning of the year 1781. This measure was thought expedient not only by me, but by the Commander in Chief. I was principally induced to decide in favour of its expediency from a clear conviction, that the men and treasures of Britain would be lavished in vain upon the American war, without the most active exertions of the troops allotted for that service; and, that, while the enemy could draw their supplies from North Carolina and Virginia, the defence of the frontier of South Carolina, even against an inferior army, would be from its extent, the nature of the climate, and the disposition of the inhabitants, utterly impracticable. The many untoward circumstances, which occurred during the four months succeeding the complete victory of Camden, had entirely confirmed me in this opinion. Our hopes of success, in offensive operations, were not founded only upon the efforts of the corps under my immediate command, which did not much exceed three thousand men; but principally, upon the most positive assurances, given by apparently credible deputies and emissaries, that, upon the appearance of a British army in North Carolina, a great body of the inhabitants were ready to join and co-operate with it, in endeavouring to restore his Majesty's Government.

The disaster of the 17th of January cannot be imputed to any defect in my conduct, as the detachment was certainly superior to the force against which it was sent, and put under the command of an officer of experience and tried abilities. This misfortune, however, did not appear irretrievable; and to have abandoned, without absolute necessity, the plan of the campaign, would have been ruinous

and disgraceful : ruinous, by engaging us in a defensive system, the impracticability of which I have already stated ; and disgraceful, because the reasons for the undertaking still existed in their full strength, the public faith was pledged to our friends in North Carolina, and I believed my remaining force to be superior to that under the command of General Greene. That this opinion was well founded, the precipitate retreat of that General from North Carolina, and our victory at Guilford, after his return with Virginia reinforcements, are sufficient proofs.

The unexpected failure of our friends rendered the victory of Guilford of little value. I know that it has been asserted or insinuated that they were not sufficiently tried upon this occasion : But can any dispassionate person believe, that I did not give every encouragement to people of all descriptions to join and assist us, when my own reputation, the safety of the army, and the interests of my country, were so deeply concerned in that junction and assistance? All inducements in my power were made use of without material effect ; and every man in the army must have been convinced, that the accounts of our emissaries had greatly exaggerated the number of those who professed friendship for us, as they must have observed, that a very inconsiderable part of them could be prevailed upon to remain with us, or to exert themselves in any form whatever.

This disappointment, and the wants and distresses of the army, compelled me to move to Cross-creek ; but meeting there with no material part of the promised assistance and supplies, I was obliged to continue my march to Wilmington, where hospitals and stores were ready for us. Of this move I sent information by several expresses to Lord Rawdon, but unfortunately they all failed. My intention then was, as soon as I should have equipped my

own corps, and received a part of the expected reinforcement from Ireland, to return to the upper country ; in hopes of giving some protection to South Carolina, and of preserving the health of the troops, until new measures could be concerted with the Commander in Chief.

The march of General Greene into South Carolina, and Lord Rawdon's danger, made my situation very critical. Having heard of the arrival of a packet from Europe, without any certain accounts of the sailing of the reinforcement, I thought it too hazardous to remain inactive ; and, as it was impossible to receive in time any orders or opinions from Sir Henry Clinton to direct me, it became my duty to act from my own judgment and experience ; I therefore, upon mature deliberation, decided to march into Virginia, as the safest and most effectual means of employing the small corps, under my command, in contributing towards the general success of the war. I came to this resolution principally for the following reasons,—I could not remain at Wilmington, lest General Greene should succeed against Lord Rawdon, and, by returning to North Carolina, have it in his power to cut off every means of saving my small corps, except that disgraceful one of an embarkation, with the loss of the cavalry, and every horse in the army : From the shortness of Lord Rawdon's stock of provisions, and the great distance from Wilmington to Camden, it appeared impossible, that any direct move of mine could afford him the least prospect of relief : in the attempt, in case of a misfortune to him, the safety of my own corps might have been endangered ; or if he extricated himself, the force in South Carolina, when assembled, was, in my opinion, sufficient to secure what was valuable to us, and capable of defence in that province. I was likewise influenced by having just received an account from Charles-town of the arrival of a frigate with



dispatches from the Commander in Chief, the substance of which, then transmitted to me, was, that General Phillips had been detached to the Chesapeak, and put under my orders; which induced me to hope, that solid operations might be adopted in that quarter: and I was most firmly persuaded, that, until Virginia was reduced, we could not hold the more southern provinces; and that, after its reduction, they would fall without much resistance, and be retained without much difficulty.

With these sentiments I joined General Phillips's corps at Petersburg on the 20th of May, a few days after his death; but from his papers, and dispatches from the Commander in Chief, directed to him, which I received at that place on the 24th of May, I found there were other projects in contemplation, which to me were entirely new. The Commander in Chief having desired General Phillips to give his opinion concerning the scheme of operations in the Upper Chesapeak, and the design upon Philadelphia, I thought it my duty, as I was then in his place, to offer mine: which was, that I could not see sufficient grounds for approving of either of these schemes; nor indeed could I bring myself to think any other plan, but the attempt to reduce Virginia, at that time either expedient or important. But I informed Sir Henry Clinton that I should repair to Williamsburgh about the time when I should probably receive his answer, in order to be in readiness to execute his commands; and that I should employ the intermediate space in destroying such of the enemy's stores and magazines, as might be within my reach.

Whoever reads the Correspondence will see, that, since Sir Henry Clinton had declared positively in his first, and in several subsequent dispatches, against the plan of reducing Virginia, no explicit alternative was left to me, between complying with the requisition (contained in his let-

ters of the 11th and 15th of June) of such troops as I could spare from a healthy defensive station, or engaging in operations in the Upper Chesapeak: The choice of an healthy situation was controlled by other material considerations; for, whilst he stated in such strong terms the imminent danger of New York, or the important effects, which he expected from the expedition against Philadelphia, I did not think myself authorized to detain any part of the troops he so earnestly required; merely upon my opinion of the difference of the quality of the air of Williamsburg, York, or Portsmouth; from the latter of which only, as it was already fortified, I could afford an immediate detachment. And with respect to the operations in the Upper Chesapeake, it will be remarked, that, although that plan had been for some time under the consideration of the Commander in Chief, he did not seem inclined to take more share in the responsibility than barely to recommend it: and many reasons, but particularly my recent failure in a similar attempt, deterred me from undertaking it, without an explicit instruction. Accordingly, that I might be enabled to comply with those orders of the 11th and 15th of June, I passed James-river, (my remaining force being insufficient to fortify and maintain a post on the Williamsburgh Neck) and embarked the troops required with all possible dispatch. And it will be seen by the Correspondence, that the Commander in Chief's opinion of the indispensable necessity of an harbour for line of battle ships only appears in his letter of the 11th of July, after he had been acquainted, that the troops, intended for the expedition against Philadelphia, would be soon ready to sail.

Hampton-road was recommended by that order; but, as it was, upon examination, found totally unfit for the purpose desired, every person can judge, whether the order did not then, in its spirit, become positive to occupy York

and Gloucester; the only harbour in the Chesapeake, that I knew of then, or indeed that I have heard of since, in which line of battle ships can be received, and protected against a superior naval force: and, as the harbour was the indispensable object, I thought it unnecessary to enter into a description of the disadvantage of the ground, against a land attack, since there remained no other choice.

When the arrival of the French fleet, and the approach of General Washington, were known to Sir Henry Clinton, it will appear by the Correspondence, that his promises of relief in person were uniform; without giving me the smallest particle of discretionary power, different from holding the posts that I occupied. Every reader will therefore be competent to judge, whether, under these circumstances, and as I could not but suppose that the Commander in Chief spoke from a perfect knowledge of his own resources, and of the force of the enemy, it would have been justifiable in me either to abandon, by the evacuation of York, a considerable quantity of artillery, the ships of war, transports, provisions, stores, and hospitals, or, by venturing an action, without the most manifest advantage, to run the risk of precipitating the loss of them.

Although the Marquis de la Fayette advanced his light troops early in September to Williamsburgh, he did not take post there with his army until reinforced with the French troops from the West Indies, under the command of Brigadier de St. Simon. I could, at that time, after leaving some slight guards in the works, have marched out a little more than four thousand men, partly composed of troops unaccustomed to action. The enemy were in a strong position, and considerably superior in number, but I should have attacked them without hesitation, if I had thought myself at liberty, after a victory, to escape into the Carolinas, with the troops that were able to march.

No other object appeared sufficient to justify this measure; for our labour would have been materially interrupted by an action, and even a victory, unless it had extended to the annihilation of the Marquis de la Fayette's corps, without considerable loss on our side, (two events not to be expected,) would not have enabled us to make a successful defence against the army then approaching, under the command of General Washington: But a defeat would probably have been followed with the immediate loss of our post, which, until the end of September, was in a most defenceless state: and as I could never have proved, that I should not have been relieved, I should have been exposed to public execration, as a man, who, having reason to expect the early arrival of the Commander in Chief to supersede him in his command, had, in hopes of personal reputation from a victory, sacrificed the essential interest of his country. Far less could I have ventured an action without the most evident advantage, after the junction of General Washington; a decision, which nothing could have justified, but a certainty that I could not be relieved: in that case, I should have fought before I was hemmed in by the enemy's works, believing a victory, over great disparity of numbers in the open field, to be possible; but a successful defence, without relief, in such a post, and against such an attack, to be impossible.

My resolution at last, of attempting to escape with part of the army, could only have been dictated by despair. The enemy's immense train of battering artillery had now nearly reduced our fresh earthen works to ruins: The attacks were conducted with so much caution, that we had no opportunity of making any material impression upon them: The batteries of the second parallel, which I knew in a few hours would compel us to surrender at discretion, were nearly completed; and I had then lost all hopes of

relief. If the sudden gale of wind had not prevented our passage of the river, Brigadier de Choisy, who lay with a small corps a few miles from Gloucester, would have been attacked at day-break by the greatest part of our force; after which, being without baggage, I should have gained the upper country by rapid marches, mounting my infantry, by collecting horses on the way, and leaving my intended route doubtful, until I was opposite to the fords of the great rivers; I then intended to have turned off to the northward, expecting that the enemy would principally take their measures to prevent my escape to the southward. The success of this attempt would, no doubt, have been precarious; and I cannot say that it would have been practicable to have reached New York; but, in our desperate situation, I thought it well deserved a trial.

I shall make no other remark upon the enumeration that is made of the troops under my orders, than that a great part of them were dispersed in garrisons, totally out of my reach, and that some regiments had hardly any existence, but in name. I am not in possession of the general returns of the southern district for the year 1781, but those of the corps under my immediate command, at different periods, are annexed to the Correspondence.

During that campaign, I reckoned among the many other embarrassments which I had to encounter, that, on some important occasions, it was impossible to communicate with, or to receive instructions from the Commander in Chief, in time to enable me to act according to his wishes: But, I trust, it will appear from the Correspondence now laid before the public,—that our failure in North Carolina was not occasioned by our want of force to protect the rising of our friends, but by their timidity, and unwillingness to take an active and useful part,—that the move to Wilmington was rendered necessary from the distresses of the

troops, and the sufferings of the numerous sick and wounded,—that the march into Virginia was undertaken for urgent reasons, which could not admit of my waiting for the approbation of the Commander in Chief,—that I did not establish the station in Virginia, but only reinforce it,—that I occupied the posts of York and Gloucester by order, and was induced to remain in them by the prospect of relief, uniformly held out to me by the Commander in Chief,—and, that, during the considerable interval between my arrival at Petersburg, and that of the French fleet in the Chesapeak, my corps was completely at the disposal of Sir Henry Clinton, either to be withdrawn, or employed in the Upper Chesapeak, or sent back to the Carolinas,—and consequently, that my conduct and opinions were not the causes of the catastrophe, which terminated the unfortunate campaign of 1781.

CORNWALLIS.

MANSFIELD-STREET, Feb. 10, 1783.

### SMYTH'S TRAVELS IN VIRGINIA, IN 1773.

[We continue here our Extracts from Smyth's Travels in Virginia in 1773, &c., begun in our last January number, (page 11,) and concluded in this.]

#### CHAPTER VIII.

*Quality and Appearance of Soil. Wheat. Indian Corn. Tobacco. Petersburg. Falls of Appomattox. Blandford. Pokahuntas. Indian Emperor's Daughter. Randolph and Bolling Families. The River Appomattox.*

The most commanding and excellent situations about Richmond are, the seat of a Mr. Adams, on the summit of the hill which over-looks the town; and Belvidera, an ele-

gant villa belonging to the late colonel William Bird, of Westover, who formerly possessed a princely fortune in America, and was almost the sole proprietor of all the land adjoining the falls, for many miles, even above Westham.

Just below the falls there are very lucrative fisheries, on each side of the river; as there are many more on the James in different places, that yield great profit to the owners.

On the south side are most valuable mills and iron-works, which are worked by means of a canal, cut from the adjoining falls of the James.

The low grounds on the James are extremely rich and fertile, producing vast quantities of Indian-corn, wheat, and tobacco. The soil is of a dark redish colour, and one foot and a half deep pure loam.

The high land is of an inferior quality, yet sufficiently fertile to produce good crops of tobacco, wheat, and Indian corn; some of it is of a redish colour, mixed with clay, which is the best; and the worst is of a light brown, intermixed with sand.

The low grounds yield an increase in wheat of twenty-five, thirty, and sometimes thirty-five bushels, from one of seed: the high land from eight to fifteen for one. This is generally the produce of one acre. Much about the same quantity of Indian corn is produced from an acre, according to the quality and excellence of the soil, though it does not require more than a peck of seed to plant it. The produce of an acre, in the culture of tobacco, in the best land, is about sixteen hundred and sixty pounds weight: on the worst, about five hundred pounds weight. An acre always contains nearly twelve hundred and fifty hills of Indian corn, with two, three, and sometimes, in strong land, four stalks in each hill; or about five thousand plants of tobacco.

Above the falls, the high land becomes again tolerably level, and is equal in height to the summit of the first hills.

The towns of Richmond and Shokoes are in Henrico county; and Chesterfield, or Rocky Bridge, is in the county of Chesterfield.

On the twenty-eighth of August, I set out on a journey to the southward, and as there is no such thing as post-chaises to be obtained in all America to hire, and not having furnished myself with horses at Richmond, because I was informed that I could purchase them much better and cheaper at Petersburg, which was about twenty-five miles distant, and directly in my way, I rode a horse of Mr. \_\_\_\_\_'s, who pressed me to make use of him.

I was fortunate in the company of a Mr. Buchanan, who was also going as far as Petersburg. We crossed the James in the ferry-boat, early in the morning, rode through the towns of Rocky-bridge, and Warwick, which is about five miles from it.

We halted at a town named Osborn's, eight miles farther on, to bait our horses, after passing Chesterfield county court-house, and a church, or chapel, at this little town. Here we dined, and in the afternoon, mounting our horses, we arrived at Blandford, having crossed the Appamattox river, on a lofty wooden bridge, at the town of Pokahuntas.

Here we put up at Boyd's, which is the best house of public entertainment in the place.

I shall never forget the prodigious and incessant noise and clamour that continually assailed my ears, during the whole of this day's ride, proceeding from the green-frogs, and a multitude of other large insects on the trees, and the bull-frogs in the swamps and places of water, on both sides of the road. I was perpetually questioning Mr. Buchanan if they were not birds; and was astonished that I



could not possibly discover one of them : but the noise of the bull-frogs was absolutely tremendous.

Here, at the falls of the river Appamattox, are three towns, viz. Blandford, Petersburg, and Pokahuntas.

Over the river, just below the falls, there is a large wooden bridge, at the town of Pokahuntas which stands on the north side of the river named after the daughter of the famed Indian emperor, or chief, Powhattan (which is also the Indian appellation of the river James,) who gave all the land around this place, as a portion in marriage, with his daughter Pokahuntas, to an ancestor of the present Randolph and Bolling families, from which ancient royal blood, a branch of the Randolphs, and the whole of the Bollings (two of the most respectable houses in Virginia), are actually descended.

On the south side of the river is the town of Petersburg, situated under a hill, amongst rocks, and is extremely unhealthy.

A little distance, perhaps half a mile below, on the south side also of the Appomattox, stands the charming pretty town of Blandford, in a beautiful plain, on the river brink, on a very pleasant and delightful spot.

The town of Pokahuntas is in Chesterfield county; Petersburg is in the county of Dinwiddie, in the lower corner; and Blandford stands in the upper end of Prince George's county; but neither of them is a county-town.

The principal tobacco trade in America centers at Petersburg, or Bolling's Point, which it is generally called, from the name of a family (a branch of whose origin I have just related), to which the greater part of the town and adjoining lands belong.

It is something remarkable, that no child born at this place ever grew up to maturity, excepting the present proprietor, Mr. Bolling, whose seat overlooks Peters-

burg and the adjacent country and river; which is occasioned by the insalubrity of the air, and the extreme unhealthiness of the situation.

There are also some valuable mills in the vicinity of this place, erected by Mr. Bannister, a very public spirited man, who resides in an elegant house near Petersburg, which are carried on by means of a canal, cut from the neighbouring falls of the Appamattox.

The Appamattox is a small river, much about the size of the Thames, and runs into the James at City Point, about twelve miles, in a direct line, below Blandford. Sailing vessels, sloops, schooners, and flats, or lighters, come up to the bridge at the falls; but ships of burden take in their cargoes five and eight miles below.

In Blandford I found an excellent ordinary at Boyd's, and a tolerably agreeable mixed company of ladies and gentlemen. Amongst the rest, were a couple of old gentlemen, one of whom was a major in the army, with gay young wives, who did not seem altogether at ease, however, they afforded us diversion and entertainment enough to observe their various manœuvres on both sides, or rather on all sides; for each of the four appeared to be a commander in chief, and to have different pursuits and objects in view.

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#### CHAPTER IX.

##### *General Character, and great Hospitality of the Virginians. Number of Inhabitants in Virginia.*

The Virginians are generous, extremely hospitable, and possess very liberal sentiments.

There is a greater distinction supported between the different classes of life here, than perhaps in any of the rest

of the colonies ; nor does that spirit of equality, and leveling principle, which pervades the greatest part of America, prevail to such an extent in Virginia.

However, there appears to be but three degrees of rank amongst all the inhabitants, exclusive of the negroes.

The first consists of gentlemen of the best families and fortunes of the colony, who are here much more respectable and numerous than in any other province in America. These in general have had a liberal education, possess enlightened understandings, and a thorough knowledge of the world, that furnishes them with an ease and freedom of manners and conversation, highly to their advantage in exterior, which no vicissitude of fortune or place can divest them of ; they being actually, according to my ideas, the most agreeable and best companions, friends, and neighbours, that need be desired.

The greater number of them keep their carriages, and have handsome services of plate ; but they all, without exception, have studs, as well as sets of elegant and beautiful horses.

Those of the second degree in rank are very numerous, being perhaps half the inhabitants, and consist of such a variety, singularity, and mixture of characters, that the exact general criterion and leading feature can scarcely be ascertained.

However, they are generous, friendly, and hospitable in the extreme ; but mixed with such an appearance of rudeness, ferocity, and haughtiness, which is in fact only a want of polish, occasioned by their deficiencies in education, and in knowledge of mankind, as well as by their general intercourse with slaves, over whom they are accustomed to exercise an harsh and absolute command.

Many of them possess fortunes superior to some of the

first rank, but their families are not so ancient, nor respectable; a circumstance here held in some estimation.

They are all excessively attached to every species of sport, gaming, and dissipation, particularly horse-racing; and that most barbarous of all diversions, that peculiar species of cruelty, cock-fighting.

In short, take them altogether, they form a strange combination of incongruous contradictory qualities, and principles directly opposite; the best and the worst, the most valuable and the most worthless, elegant accomplishments and savage brutality, being in many of them most unaccountably blended.

Yet indeed, notwithstanding this apparent inconsistency of character, principle, and conduct, numbers of them are truly valuable members of society, and few, or none, deficient in the excellencies of the intellectual faculties, and a natural genius, which, though in a great measure unimproved, is generally bright and splendid in an uncommon degree.

The third, or lower class of the people (who ever compose the bulk of mankind), are in Virginia more few in number, in proportion to the rest of the inhabitants, than perhaps in any other country in the universe. Even these are kind, hospitable, and generous; yet illiberal, noisy, and rude.

They are much addicted to inebriety, and averse to labour.

They are likewise over-burdened with an impertinent and insuperable curiosity, that renders them peculiarly disagreeable and troublesome to strangers; yet these undesirable qualities they possess by no means in an equal degree with the generality of the inhabitants of New England, whose religion and government have encouraged, and indeed instituted and established, a kind of inquisition, of

forward impertinence and prying intrusion, against every person that may be compelled to pass through that troublesome, illiberal country: from which description, however, there are no doubt many exceptions.

To communicate an idea of the general hospitality that prevails in Virginia, and indeed through all the southern provinces, it may not be improper to represent some peculiar customs that are universal; for instance:

If a traveller, even a negroe, observes an orchard full of fine fruit, either apples or peaches, in, or near his way, he alights, without ceremony, and fills his pockets, or even a bag, if he has one, without asking permission; and if the proprietor should see him, he is not in the least offended, but makes him perfectly welcome, and assists him in choosing out the finest fruit.

But this is less to be admired at, when it is considered that there is no sale here for any kind of fruit, and the finest peaches imaginable are so abundant, that the inhabitants daily feed their hogs with them during the season.

In the time of pressing cyder, if a traveller should call, to enquire his way, he is generally offered as much fine cyder as he can drink, and is frequently requested to stay all night, and made heartily drunk in the bargain, if he chooses it.

When a person of more genteel figure than common calls at an ordinary (the name of their inns), for refreshment and lodging for a night, as soon as any of the gentlemen of fortune in the neighbourhood hears of it, he either comes for him himself, or sends him a polite and pressing invitation to his house, where he meets with entertainment and accommodation, infinitely superior, in every respect, to what he could have received at the inn. If he should happen to be fatigued with travelling, he is treated in the most hospitable and genteel manner; and his servants and

horses also fare plenteously, for as long a time as he chooses to stay. All this is done with the best grace imaginable, without even a hint being thrown out of a curiosity or wish to know his name.

However, it must be acknowledged, that many of the second, and almost all the lower class of the people, are ignorant in the extreme.

Their sentiments, and all their ideas are illiberal, narrow, and contracted; occasioned by their inactive situation, confined to a small compass, and very limited sphere of knowledge, wherein the same objects are ever presented to their view, without any variation, change, or novelty, being thereby precluded from a more general intercourse with the world, and the different members of society at large.

I compute the true number of souls in Virginia to be about five hundred thousand in the whole, of whom about two thirds are slaves; and they have certainly decreased in population since that time.

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#### CHAPTER X.

*A wretched Situation. Nottoway-River. Horses refuse to eat Bacon. Mahirrin-River.*

I purchased two horses at Petersburg; for the best I gave fifteen pounds, the worst cost me twenty-five pounds; and a negro boy, whose price was forty pounds.

I began to prepare for my journey southward, having had the honour to visit, by invitation, several of the principal families in and near this place, among whom were Mr. Buchanan's, Mr. Bolling's, Mr. Bannister's, Mr. Eppes's, Mr. Bland's, &c.

I took my departure from Blandford, on the fourth of

September, in company with a young lad from North Carolina, then on his return.

After having rode about fifteen miles we stopped to bait our horses, and dine, at Hattan's ordinary, where the fare was ordinary indeed, and very indifferent.

The day being extremely hot and sultry, it was rather late in the afternoon before we set out again on our journey, and by that means I was prevented from reaching Stewart's ordinary, the house I intended to put up at that night; for being taken very ill, and as it was growing dark, I was obliged to take shelter in a shell of a house, wherein an overseer lived, and five or six negroes besides.

The young man from Carolina left me here, and continued on his journey.

My accommodation at this wretched place was miserable indeed, and it was fortunate for me, that I found myself better in the morning, or I might have been in actual danger of perishing for want of common necessaries, if my sickness had detained me therein.

If my situation, but for one night, was so intolerable, what must his be, whose constant residence it was?

It is indeed hardly to be conceived in what an uncomfortable state that poor forlorn young man, the overseer, then lived.

There might be about fifty acres of land cleared of woods, and chiefly under culture for Indian corn.

There was not another house nor hut upon the plantation, nor a single fruit-tree.

That miserable shell, a poor apology for a house, consisted but of one small room, which served for the accommodation of the overseer and six negroes: it was not lathed nor plastered, neither ceiled nor lofted above, and only very thin boards for its covering; it had a door in each side, and one window, but no glass in it; it had not even

a brick chimney, and, as it stood on blocks about a foot above upon the ground, the hogs lay constantly under the floor, which made it swarm with fleas; water was near half a mile distant, and that very bad; there was not a neighbour within five miles on one side, and eight miles on the other; no book, no convenience, no furniture, no comfort in the house, unless you call by that name a miserable thin chaff bed, somewhat raised from the floor, in a corner of the room, which alternately served him for his chair, his table, and his couch.

In this wretched habitation I had little sleep, and no refreshment, although the poor young man permitted me to lie on his bed alone, and did not come there himself, but lay on the floor with the negroes; for they were shelling Indian-corn with their hands all the former part of the night, when their songs kept me awake; and the disagreeable idea of such a parcel of nasty black devils, all snoring in the same room with me, with the assistance of the musketoos, prevented me from sleep until day-break, when I arose, and having gratified the poor inhabitants of this mansion of misery with a trifle, I mounted my horse, and pursued my journey.

This morning I crossed over a pretty river named Nottoway, at Swede's-bridge, which is constructed of timber. There is some very good land on this river, both low grounds and high; it is what is called mulatto land by the planters, from its colour.

This river is here about as large as the Thames at Kew, but is much incumbered with wood and fallen trees, brought down by the floods.

I arrived at Stewart's ordinary to breakfast, which was toasted Indian hoe-cake, and very excellent cyder, after a ride this morning of about eleven miles.

Being always particularly careful of my horses, and they



having fared very indifferently the night before, I ordered the hostler to give them plenty of meat. The man stared at me, and asked me if they would eat it? Being somewhat irritated at his seeming impertinence, and out of humour by fatigue, indisposition, and want of rest, I answered, that I desired he would make the experiment, and immediately, turning away from him, went into the house.

In a few minutes, on looking out at the window, I was much surprised to find all the people of the place in the road before the door; and going out to enquire into the cause of their assembling there, I met the hostler and my boy, with each a large piece of bacon in his hand, telling me the horse would not eat a morsel of it.

They acquainted me, that it was to see the horses eat meat, by which they understood *bacon*, that excited the people's curiosity, and had drawn them forth into the road. I laughed heartily, and directed the hostler, since the poor silly horses could not be prevailed on to taste his bacon, to give them whatever else they would choose to eat, and as much of it as they pleased.

By the bye, it was a great inconvenience, and extremely troublesome, that my boy, being an African, was of very little service to me; for he scarcely understood a single word that I said to him, nor did I know one syllable of his language.

Proceeding on our journey, we crossed a considerable stream of water, named the Three Creeks, on three wooden bridges; and a considerable river named Maherrin, larger than the Thames, at Hicks's bridge which is remarkably lofty, and built of timber, as all in the southern part of America appear to be; having passed a fine plantation, the seat of Mr. Willis, a man of fortune, and proprietor of the original stock of extraordinary swift horses, for which this

part of America is noted, that vanquish all others in quarter-racing.

About thirty miles higher up, on the side of this river, near one Ingram's plantation, there have been lately discovered some very valuable medicinal springs of mineral waters, which have already performed many most remarkable and astonishing cures on persons afflicted with various kinds of lameness, infirmity, and disease, who annually resort to these springs, from an hundred and fifty miles around.

We took some refreshment at Edwards's ordinary, an exceeding good building, with excellent accommodations, lately erected at this place, which is exactly twenty-eight miles north from Halifax, in North Carolina, and forty-seven south from Petersburg in Virginia.

We rested but a very short time here, and, although it continued to rain fast, proceeded on our journey.

At the distance of ten miles from Hicks's bridge and ford, we entered the province of North Carolina, and three miles farther on, crossed a large stream of water named Fountain's creek, fifteen miles north of Halifax town, which we reached that night, after crossing the river Roan-oak, in a flat ferry boat, on the south bank of which the town is built.\*

[\* Here we leave our traveller to pursue his journey in North Carolina, and thence to the West by himself; but we join him again on his return to our borders, and continue his narrative as follows :]

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## CHAPTER LVI.

*Leave Edenton. Arrive at Suffolk in Virginia. Description of Suffolk. Smithfield. Pagon's Creek. Cross James River at Hog Island. Arrive at Williamsburg. Part with Mr. Morris. College of William and Mary at Williamsburg. Foundation of it. Education of Indians. Return to their former savage and uncivilized State.*

We remained in Edenton only a few days, and then pursued our journey northward, through a country covered with sand and pines, a continued dead flat, infested with swamps, and the land every where miserably poor and barren.

On the second day after we left Edenton in North Carolina we arrived at a town named Suffolk, in Virginia, having also travelled around on the edge of the *Great Dismal* the principal part of this journey.

Suffolk is situated on a small navigable water-course named Nansimond River, a branch of the James River, which it enters at Crany Island on the west side of Hampton Roads, opposite to New Port-Noose.

It is sixty miles from Edenton, and about twenty-two miles within the boundary line of Virginia.

Suffolk contains about an hundred houses, and carries on a pretty brisk trade, having a very considerable share of the commerce of the northern counties of North Carolina.

It is ninety miles from Halifax, and thirty from Norfolk, the road to which from hence is carried round, and through part of the *Great Dismal*. . . .

Suffolk stands on a soil so very sandy, that in every step in the street the sand comes above your ankles, which renders it extremely disagreeable; to remedy this inconvenience in some small degree, near their doors they have emptied barrels of tar or pitch, which spreads wide, the

sand incorporating with it, and forming a hard solid consistence, some kind of an apology for pavement, and thereby renders walking much more tolerable.

The houses in Suffolk are low, being generally not more than one story high, which is indeed the ground story only; the river Nansemond is navigable at and above the town, but there is a wooden bridge over it here, and only small vessels can come up even to Suffolk.

The trade of this place consists chiefly of turpentine, tar, pitch, tobacco, and pork which is killed, salted, and barrelled up here, also lumber, Indian corn, and some wheat.

We tarried only one day in Suffolk, and on the following afternoon rode through a little town called Smithfield, situated upon a small branch of James River named Pagan's Creek.

This town is scarcely half as large as Suffolk, and carries on but a very inconsiderable trade, which is chiefly in tobacco, here being an inspection for that commodity, and public warehouses likewise, named Pagans. Smithfield is about eighteen or twenty miles from Suffolk.

It is very unwholesome on account of extensive marshes just in its vicinity, and Pagan's Creek is navigable to the town. This creek is crossed in a ferry boat, which is both disagreeable and dangerous.

We went about twelve miles beyond Smithfield that night, and next morning arrived at James River.

The weather being fine, and the water remarkably smooth and calm, we had a very agreeable passage over at a place called Hog Island Ferry, and arrived at Williamsburg to dinner.

As the college of William and Mary at Williamsburg, being the only institution of the kind in the southern part of America, has not as yet been adverted to, I shall em-

brace this opportunity of just giving a sketch of its foundation, and present establishment, before I leave the colony of Virginia, and close this chapter.

This college was founded by the reverend Mr. James Blair, a Scots clergyman, by voluntary subscription, towards which King William and Queen Mary, whose names it bears, gave two thousand pounds sterling in money, and twenty thousand acres of land, with authority to purchase and hold lands to the annual value of two thousand pounds, and likewise granted it a duty of one penny per pound on all tobacco exported from Virginia to the other plantations. Mr. Blair was the first president, and continued in that situation near fifty years.

There is a president, six professors, and other officers, who are nominated by the governors and visitors.

The honourable Mr. Boyle made a very large donation to this college for the education of Indian children; but this part of the institution has not by any means succeeded.

Some experiments have evinced that those Indians who have been educated at this college, and thereby brought to civilized and polished manners, have always embraced the first opportunity of returning to their former wild habits, and uninformed state, into which they immediately plunged, forgetting and totally losing every trace of their former civilization, and of all they had been taught. Yet notwithstanding this, their geniusses are found to be bright, and they receive any branch of education with great facility.

Here I shall terminate this tour, which has included the greatest part of the places of note throughout the southern part of the British Settlements in North America, after having travelled at least four thousand eight hundred miles, and undergone a multitude of dangers and extreme fatigue; accompanied, and attended almost the whole way, much to my convenience and satisfaction, by my faithful back-

wood's man, whom at first I considered as little better than a savage, but from whom I found more assistance than I could possibly have received from the most complete professed servant in Europe. For these American back-wood's men can perform a little not only almost in every handicraft, or necessary mechanical trade, but they possess a fund of resources, more serviceable on such occasions than money; for in many places money could not procure them, nor supply the wants which are furnished by their ready and indeed singular contrivances.

Having settled in Virginia soon after this, and being particularly attached to planting, agriculture, and rural amusements, I continued to employ this faithful back-wood's man as an overseer, in which capacity he acquitted himself as well, and equally to my advantage and satisfaction, as he had done during our journey.

*Note.*

In closing our extracts from this work, we are gratified in being able to append the following brief communication from a friend in Norfolk, (an intelligent bibliographer,) giving a more particular account of the author than we have yet seen, and which we think ought to be preserved.

*For the Virginia Historical Register.*

The extracts from the *Travels of Smyth*, which are appearing in the *Register*, will not only afford present amusement, but will be useful for future reference. I know of but four copies of the work, which was published by subscription in London on near the close of the last century, in this country, and of these I possess two copies, your society has the third, and the State library of North Carolina has the fourth. Smyth was a captain in the British army, and had several plantations, at different times, on the Roanoke. He was a great traveller, and of indomitable perseverance, as his trip at that early period from North Carolina westward to the Mississippi, and thence to New Orleans, fairly proves. He was at the battle of Point Pleasant, and fought bravely against the Indians. He was also at the battle of Princeton, on the British side, when Gen.

Nash, whom he had known in Carolina, fell mortally wounded. I have often heard our departed townsman, Robert Farmer, speak of having seen and known Smyth on his visit to Norfolk, mentioned in his book. So far as I know, it contains the only printed account extant of the state of society in Pittsylvania and the neighbouring region as it was before the breaking out of the Revolutionary war, and a most graphic account it is.

One word about the copy of the work from which you quote. It is true, as stated by you, that it was from the library of the late John Randolph; but it was not Mr. R's. favorite copy, which was handsomely bound, and is freely annotated by him, and which I purchased at his sale. From the blank leaf next the title-page, I copy the following memorandum, neatly written in pencil by Mr. R. in the year 1822, and which gives his opinion of the book:

"This book, although replete with calumny and falsehood, contains the truest picture of the state of society and manners in Virginia (such as it was about half a century ago) that is extant. Traces of the same manners could be found some years subsequent to the adoption of the federal constitution—say, to the end of the century. At this time not a vestige remains. We are a new people."

H. B. G.

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## GAZETTEIANA.

### NO. III.

[We continue here our Extracts from the old Virginia Gazette, begun in our last January number: see page 20.]

April 28, 1738.

ALEXANDER SPOTSWOOD, Esq: Sole Deputy Post-Master-General of *America*, having lately form'd a new Regulation for carrying on the several Post-Stages with greater Expedition and Certainty than hitherto, this is to advertize the Publick thereof, &c., &c. (See our 1st vol. p. 67, for this advertisement at large.)

June 9, 1738.

Gentlemen who have any sort of Metals or Oars that they want to know the Value of, may have them try'd and their true Value shewn to them by plain Demonstration, if they apply to Dr. *Tschiffely*, Chemist, and Practitioner in Physick, at Richmond, in Henrico County.

Williamsburg, July 28, 1738.

We hear from *Henrico* county, That on *Thursday*, the 13th Instant, the Rev. Mr. *William Stith* was married to Miss *Judith Randolph*, Sister of *William Randolph*, Esq., of *Tuckahoe*; an agreeable Lady, with a very considerable Fortune.

Williamsburg, Oct. 6, 1738.

Last *Friday* arriv'd in *James River*, in about 8 Weeks from *England*, His Majesty's Sloop the *Wolf*, Capt. *William Dandridge* Commander, which, together with the *Hector* Man-of-War, Sir *Yelverton Peyton* Commander, are, we hear, Order'd for this Station, to protect the valuable Trade of this Country, against any Insults that may be attempted upon it.

*Edward Burwell*, Esq; who was appointed by His Honor the Governor, to succeed *John Clayton*, Esq; deceas'd, as Attorney-General of this Colony, is by His Majesty confirm'd in the said Office; and hath receiv'd his Commission for the same.

Williamsburg, Oct. 26, 1738.

Last *Saturday* was Se'nnight died at his House in *King William* County, Mr. *Humphrey Brooke*, a Merchant of considerable Note; and a Justice of Peace of the said County. He was a tender Husband, an indulgent Father, and a good Neighbour; he justly deserv'd the good Character he had acquir'd, and his Death is much lamented.



Williamsburg, Nov. 3, 1738.

Last *Friday* came on the Election of a Burgess, to represent the Borough of *Norfolk* in this present Assembly, when Capt. *John Hutchings* was declared duly elected; and he hath since qualified himself in the House.

Last *Monday* being the Anniversary of His Majesty's Birth Day, was observ'd in this City with all the distinguishing Marks of Loyalty we are capable of shewing. In the Morning the Publick Flag was hoisted on the Capitol; at Noon the Cannon at the Governor's House were trebly discharg'd; and at Night most of the Gentlemen's and Other Houses of Note, were illuminated. His Honour the Governor, was pleas'd to give a handsome Entertainment for the Gentlemen and Ladies together with a Ball; and the Evening concluded with agreeable Mirth, in every respect suitable to the Occasion. The King's Ships, and the Forts, in this Colony, also proclaimed their Loyalty from the Mouths of their Cannon.

Williamsburg, Jan. 5, 1738.

Towards the Close of the last Session of Assembly, a Proposal was presented to the House of Burgesses by Mr. *Joshua Fry*, Major *Robert Brooke*, and Major *William Mayo*, to make an exact Survey of this Colony, and present and publish a Map thereof; in which shall be laid down, the Bay, the navigable Rivers, with the Soundings, the Counties, Parishes, Towns, and Gentlemen's Seats, or whatever else is useful or remarkable; if the House should see fit to encourage the same. But as the said Proposal was presented too late in the Session it was *Ordered*, That the Consideration thereof should be referred to the next Session of Assembly. There is no doubt, that so useful an Undertaking, hitherto so much wanted and desired, will meet with suitable Encouragement.

Williamsburg, Nov. 30, 1739.

On the 12th Day of the next Month, a FAIR will be held in this City, for the Buying and Selling of Horses, Cattle, Hogs, Sheep, &c. and all sorts of Goods, Wares, and Merchandize. And it is assur'd, That good Encouragement will be given to Persons who shall bring such Things to the said Fair, for Sale.

There will be several PRIZES of considerable Value, given by the Inhabitants of the said City, to be contended for, by Horse and Foot Racing and several other sorts of Diversions; the Particulars of which will be in our next.

Williamsburg, December 14, 1739.

We hear from Philadelphia, That the Reverend Mr. *Whitfield* (the celebrated Preacher) was arrived there from *England*, and had preach'd in that City 19 Times, and *New-York* 8 Times; that vast Numbers of People flock'd to hear him, and the Churches not being large enough to contain the Hearers, he had preach'd in the open Fields to 8 or 10,000 People at a Time. He preached at several other Places on his Way to *Maryland*, and last *Friday* he preach'd at *Annopolis*, before the Governor, several of the Council, and a great Number of People.

This Evening the Rev. Mr. *Whitfield* arrived here, on his Way to *Georgia*. We hear he is to preach at our Church on *Sunday*, and on *Monday* goes on his journey.

Williamsburg, December 21, 1739.

On *Sunday* Morning last, the Rev. Mr. *Whitfield* preach'd at our Church on the Words, " *What think ye of Christ?*" There was a numerous Congregation, and 'tis thought there wou'd have been many more, if timely Notice had been given of his Preaching. His extraordinary Manner of Preaching, gains him the admiration and Applause of most of his Hearers. He is gone to *Carolina*, on his way to

*Georgia*; And 'tis said he intends to be here again next *April* or *May*.

January 25, 1739.

This Week was published the Rev. Mr. Whitefield's Sermon on the Marks of the New Birth. Printed and sold by W Parks, price 7½d. Where also may be had the Rev. Mr. Whitefield's Sermon on the Indwelling of the Spirit, the common Priviledge of all Believers. Price 7½d.

February 1st, 1739.

By a Letter from *Jamaica*, we have Advice, That Admiral *Vernon* is gone with 7 Sail of Men of War and 300 Soldiers, to *Porto Bello*, to burn the Ships there.

Williamsburg, May 9th, 1745.

We have Advice that the Ship *Hanover*, Capt. Churchman, and the *James River*, Capt. Kennon, bound from Bristol to Virginia, are taken and carried into France. There is a report, that the Forces which lately went from N. England, on an expedition against *Cape Breton*, are landed near *Lewisburg*, and that they make no doubt of soon becoming Masters of that Place. We impatiently expect a Confirmation of this News by the *Northern Post*.

Williamsburg, Nov. 21.

We have advice from *New York*, that the *Indians*, who met their Governor at Albany, have taken up the *Hatchet* against the *French* Indians; upon condition that they cannot obtain satisfaction for the Hostilities committed by the *French* Indians against his Majesty's Subjects in *New-England*; and required only Two Moons Time for the Purpose.

We hear from *Nansemond* County, that on Friday last, died, after a few Days Sickness, Col. *Theophilus Pugh*, who has been many years a very great Trader.

The Subscriber living in Essex county, gives this publick Notice, that he intends (God willing) to go to England, by the first convenient opportunity in the *Spring*.

*John Corbin.*

The Subscriber, who lives near *Williamsburg*, close on the Road, from Mr. Forneau's to Town, and who has for many Years entertained Travellers with Accommodations for themselves and Horses, to Satisfaction, hereby gives Notice, that for the future, all such as come to his House, shall be accommodated cheaper than has been hitherto done by himself, or any others who have published themselves in opposition to him, viz. Twenty Pence for Man and Horse, for Twenty Four Hours: which is as reasonable as can possibly be expected, or afforded.

*John Crawley.*

Virginia ss.

By his Majesty's Lieutenant Governor and Commander in Chief of His Dominions. A Proclamation for the Meeting of the GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

Whereas the General Assembly stood prorogued to the Third Thursday in May next, and I have judged it proper for his Majesty's Service and the Honour and Interest of this Colony, that the said Assembly should meet sooner, &c: (ordered to meet on the 3rd Thursday in October next.) And, whereas a wicked and horrid Rebellion has been raised against our Sovereign Lord King George, his Crown and Government; It is also *Ordered*, by the Governor, with the Advice of his Majesty's Council, that Wednesday the 26th day of February next, be observed as a *General Fast and Humiliation*, before Almighty God, in a most devout and solemn Manner, by our Prayers and Supplications, for obtaining Pardon for our Sins, for averting those heavy judgments we have justly deserved, and im-

ploring his Divine Blessing and Assistance on his Majesty's Arms, against all his Enemies, Foreign and Domes-tick, in a most especial manner against the Pretender and all his Adherents, and for restoring and perpetuating Peace, Safety, and Prosperity to our only rightful and lawful Sovereign King GEORGE, and to his Kingdoms and Dominions.

William Gooch.

Williamsburg, Jan. 30.

On Thursday last, his Majesty's Ship Mermaid, Capt. Clark Gayton, sail'd from Hampton Road for England, with 35 Sail of Merchantmen under her Convoy

In our last we mentioned a Fleet, bound for Cape Breton, with Forces, being spoke with off our Coast, and that Two of the Transport Ships were arriv'd. Since that, his Majesty's Ships, the Dover, Capt. Collins, and the Torrington, Capt. Hardy, of forty Guns each, are arriv'd in Hampton Road, with five more of the Transport Ships, two of which are gone to York, the others are at Hampton; one of the Fleet is not yet come in; they have with them 1500 Soldiers, and their Officers.

Virginia ss.

By His Majesty's Lieutenant Governor, and Commander in Chief of this Dominion,

A Proclamation,

Whereas the two Regiments bound for Cape Breton, have been forced into this Colony, and will be obliged to continue here until they can be able to get into the Harbour of Louisburg, and prosecute that important Service to which they are destin'd: I have thought proper to order, and do hereby strictly order and require all Persons to treat the soldiers with Civility and Kindness, and to furnish them with such Necessaries they shall want, at the lowest and most reasonable Rates. And if any Soldier

shall be found rambling above the Distance of two Miles from York, Hampton, or Norfolk, where they are quartered, whoever shall apprehend such Soldier, and carry him before his respective Commanding Officer, may depend upon being handsomely rewarded for his Trouble.

William Gooch.

GOD SAVE THE KING.

Virginia ss.

By the Hon. William Gooch, Esq<sup>r</sup>: His Majesty's Lieutenant Governor, and Commander in Chief of this Dominion.

A PROCLAMATION.

WHEREAS, it has been represented to me, in Council, that several *Roman Catholic* Priests are lately come from Maryland to *Fairfax* county, in this Colony, and are endeavoring, by crafty Insinuations, to seduce his Majesty's good Subjects from their Fidelity and Loyalty to his Majesty King GEORGE, and his Royal House; I have therefore thought fit, with the advice of His Majesty's Council, to issue this Proclamation, requiring all Magistrates, Sheriffs, Constables, and other His Majesty's Liege People, within this Colony, to be diligent in apprehending and bringing to Justice, the said *Romish* Priests, or any of them, so that they may be prosecuted according to Law.

Given under my hand at the Council Chamber, in *Williamsburg*, this 24th day of *April*, in the Nineteenth Year of His Majesty's Reign.

William Gooch.

GOD SAVE THE KING.

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## GEORGE SANDYS.

This fine old English Poet, besides his actual merit as a writer and as a man, has some special associations with the history of our Colony of Virginia which very fairly entitle his memory to a niche in our work.

He was the seventh and youngest son of the venerable Edwin, Archbishop of York, and was born at the Archbishopal palace of Bishop-Thorp in 1577. In 1589, he was entered at St. Mary Hall, Oxford, but received his tuition, (as Wood writes) in Corpus Christi College; and in 1610 began his travels into the East, Turkey, Egypt, and the Holy Land, of which, on his return, he published an account in 1615, which was well received by the small reading public of that time.

In 1621, having been appointed by the London Company Treasurer of Virginia, he came over to Jamestown with Sir Francis Wyat, the newly appointed Governor, the Secretary, Physician-General, Surveyor, and other officers, in a fleet of nine ships, all which arrived safe about the month of October, without the loss of a single passenger.

Here, of course, he applied himself at once to the duties of his office which he discharged, no doubt, with all due diligence and fidelity; but, as these did not engross his whole time, he continued very properly to woo the Muses in his hours of leisure, and with good effect. In 1622, the Indians suddenly rose upon the English and put many of them to death before the plot was discovered; but our poet happily escaped without any personal injury or loss. This massacre subsequently provoked a dreadful retaliation from the English against the savages in which many of the latter were slain. (See Stith, p. 302.) But "in the midst of all these tumults and alarms," (as our historian writes,) "the Muses were not silent." For at this

time, Mr. George Sandys, the Company's Treasurer of Virginia, made his Translation of Ovid's *Metamorphoses*; a very laudable performance for the times;" and which he afterwards, on his return to England, published with a dedication to King Charles I., in which he tells him, that "it was limned by that imperfect light which was snatched from the hours of night and repose. For the day was not his own, but dedicated to the service of his father (the king's) and himself; and had that service proved as fortunate as it was faithful in him, as well as others more worthy, they had hoped, before the revolution of many years, to have presented his Majesty with a rich and well-peopled Kingdom. But as things had turned, he had only been able to bring from thence himself and that composition, which needed more than a single denization. For it was doubly a stranger, being sprung from an ancient Roman stock, and bred up in the New World, of the rudeness whereof it could not but participate; especially as it was produced among wars and tumults, instead of under the kindly and peaceful influences of the Muses."

This work also was very favorably received by all competent judges, and established his fame as one of the best poets of his age. It was first published in 1627, with the first book of Virgil's *Æneid*, and twice afterwards.

His "Paraphrase upon the Psalmes of David, and upon the Hymnes dispersed throughout the Old and New Testament" appeared in 1636, 12 mo., a book which Wood tells us King Charles "delighted to read in, while prisoner in Carisbrooke Castle." This, together with a Paraphrase upon Job, Ecclesiastes, Lamentations, &c., was reprinted in 1638 fol. and in 1676, 8vo.

His tragedy called "Christ's Passion," translated from



the latin of Hugo Grotius, was first printed in 1640, and has been highly praised.

Few incidents of his life have been preserved, and he was in fact but little known. For the most part of his latter days, he lived with Sir Francis Wenman, of Caswell, near Witney in Oxfordshire, who had married his sister. He died at the house of his nephew, Sir Francis Wyat, at Bexley, in Kent, in 1643; and was interred in the chancel of that parish church, without any inscription.

For his *character*, Wood says, he was "an accomplished gentleman,"—master of several languages, of a fluent and ready discourse, and excellent comportment. He had also naturally a poetical fancy, and a zealous inclination to all human learning." His face may still be seen in the Effigies Poeticæ, where "with a prepossessing and striking countenance, and his hair, which looks "sable silvered," his slashed dress, and his collar of lace, he forms altogether an exceedingly graceful picture. The eyes are mild and intelligent; and the mouth has a pleasant expression. The portrait is not that of a scholar, or a courtier, or a soldier, or a mere traveller; but it is rather a combination of all."

Sandys' writings, and especially his poems, have survived the author many years, and may still be read with interest by all who can appreciate their real merit. Dryden pronounced him the best versifier of his age, and Pope, in the notes to his Illiad, warmly declared that English poetry owed much of its then present beauty to his translations. Montgomery more recently adds, that "his Psalms are incomparably the most poetical in the English language, and yet," he says, "they are scarcely known." Some of them, however, have found their way into several of our collections, and are highly esteemed.

We submit here two or three specimens of our author's

Muse, which, we think, some of our readers may enjoy.

We take the following from the verses entitled "Urania to the Queen," the celebrated Henrietta, of France, wife of Charles I., prefixed to his "Translation of Ovid's Metamorphoses."

The muses by your favour blest,  
 Fair queen, invite you to their feast.  
 The Graces will rejoice and sue,  
 Since so excell'd, to wait on you.  
 Ambrosia taste, which frees from death,  
 And nectar, fragrant as your breath,  
 By Hebe fill'd, who states the prime  
 Of youth, and brails the wing of Time.  
 Here in Adonis' gardens grow  
 What neither age or winter know.  
 The boy with whom Love seem'd to die,  
 Bleeds in this pale anemony.  
 Self-lov'd Narcissus in the mirror  
 Of your fair eyes now sees his error,  
 And from the flattering fountain turns;  
 The Hyacinth no longer mourns.  
 This Heliotrope, which did pursue  
 Th' adored sun, converts to you.

And more of the same strain. But he rises to a "higher mood" and sings:

There be who our delights despise  
 As shadows, and vain fantasies.  
 Those sons of earth enthralled to sense,  
 Condemn what is our excellence.  
 The air, immortal souls, the skies,  
 The angels in their hierarchies,  
 Unseen, to all things seen dispense  
 Breath, life, protection, influence.  
 Our high conceptions crave a mind,  
 From earth and ignorance refined;  
 Crown Virtue; Fortune's pride control;  
 Raise objects equal to the soul;

At will create ; eternity  
 Bestow on mortals born to die.  
 Yet we who life to others give,  
 Fair Queen, would by your favor live !

We select a single passage from the Translation itself which has been much admired by a critic of fine taste : it relates to the change of Cadmus and Hermione into serpents, not a very pleasing subject, but one which he has treated with great skill.

His tongue was yet in motion, when it cleft  
 In two, forthwith of human speech bereft :  
 He hissed, when he his sorrows sought to vent,  
 The only language now which nature lent.  
 His wife her naked bosom beats, and cries  
 " Stay, Cadmus, and put off these prodigies.  
 You Gods, why also am I not a snake ?"  
 He licked her willing lips even as she spake.  
 Into her well-known bosom glides ; her waste  
 And yielding neck with loving twines embraced.  
 Now are they two, who crept together chained  
 Till they the covert of the wood attained.  
*These gentle dragons, knowing what they were,  
 Doe hurt to no man, no man's presence fear.*

The following is his Dedication of the " Paraphrase of the Psalms," to King Charles I., and contains a retrospective glance at his past life.

The Muse who from your influence took her birth,  
 First wander'd through the many-peopled earth ;  
 Next sung the change of things : disclos'd the unknown,  
 Then to a nobler shape transform'd her own,  
 Fetched from Engaddie spice, from Jewry balm,  
 And bound her brow with Idumæar. palm ;  
 Now old, hath her last voyage made, and brought  
 To royal harbour this her sacred fraught :  
 Who to her king bequeathes the wealth of kings ;  
 And dying, her own epicedium sings.

We regret that we must omit an extract from an Address

“Deo. Opt. Max.” at the end of the same volume, which is very beautiful, but too long for our space; but we *must* submit the following version of a Psalm of praise, which, we think can hardly be excelled.

## PSALM CXLVIII.

Ye who dwell above the skies,  
Free from human miseries;  
Ye whom highest heaven embowers,  
Praise the Lord with all your powers!  
Angels, your clear voices raise!  
Him ye heavenly armies praise!  
Sun, and moon with borrow'd light,  
All you sparkling eyes of night,  
Waters hanging in the air,  
Heaven of heavens, his praise declare!  
His deserved praise record,  
His, who made you by a word,  
Made you evermore to last,  
Set you bounds not to be past.  
Let the earth his praise resound;  
Monstrous whales, and seas profound,  
Vapours, lightning, hail and snow,  
Storms, which when he bids them, blow!  
Flowery hills, and mountains high,  
Cedars, neighbours to the sky,  
Trees that fruit in season yield,  
All the cattle of the field,  
Savage beasts, all creeping things,  
All that cut the air with wings!  
Ye who awful sceptres sway,  
Ye inured to obey.  
Princes, judges of the earth,  
All, of high and humble birth!  
Youths, and virgins flourishing  
In the beauty of your spring;  
Ye who bow with age's weight,  
Ye who were but born of late;  
Praise his name with one consent:  
O how great! how excellent!

## THE GOOD SHIP RENOWN,

## AND THE REST OF THE FLEET.

[We are indebted to Charles A. Grice, Esq., of Portsmouth for the loan of a manuscript copy of a Memoir of his father, the late Joseph Grice, of Philadelphia, written by himself, which contains some curious and amusing details of his life, and among the rest, an account of a voyage performed in the good Ship Renown, Captain, or rather Commodore Lewis, master, (having a small fleet of other vessels along with him,) from Hamp-tou Roads to St. Eustatia, in July 1780, which furnishes a highly interesting illustration of the management of our maritime affairs during our revolutionary war, and exhibits the spirit of our seamen of that period, to great advantage. This comes of course within the range of our work, and we take it accordingly into our pages with great pleasure. We ought perhaps to premise that the writer of the narrative was born in Philadelphia on the 23d of December, 1759, and bred up, under his father, to the business of ship-building; but, on the breaking out of our revolutionary war, "fired," as he says, "with the spirit of liberty," rife at that time, he entered a volunteer company composed entirely of young men, and joined the American army; was in the battle of Princeton, and afterwards in that of Brandy-wine, &c., &c. At length, getting "tired of soldiering on shore," he shipped himself as carpenter on board a privateer called the Mars, Captain Nicholas Vallance commander, mounting 10 double fortified 6 pounders, on a voyage to St. Eustatia and back. The vessel made a good run out, but in returning was cast away near Currituck Inlet—whence our writer found his way to South Quay, in Southampton county, in this State, and thence to Portsmouth where we take him up, and his narrative proceeds as follows:]

I was then about to go to Philadelphia, but the owners of the schooner Happy Return, Captain Carmon, who I had sailed with, owned a part if not all of a ship of Twenty Guns called the *Renown*, and they wished me to go in

her as carpenter ; she was bound to St. Eustatia and from thence to Philadelphia, which induced me to ship on board of her. She was then lying at Flower de Hundred on James River, the crew was sent to her from Norfolk and Portsmouth. After our arrival in Hampton-Roads, Captain Elliott came on board and brought Captain Lewis with him, who, he told us, was to have command of the ship, and dissatisfied the crew very much ; but after an explanation they appeared to be satisfied : but before we got under way to go to sea, a report was in circulation, that the ship was ordered to Surrinam in South America where all flesh dies. The crew was so dissatisfied, that they, with all the forward officers except myself, refused to weigh anchor to go to sea, and it took some time to appease them. The owners of the ship were obliged to come down on board, before the crew was satisfied that she was not bound to Surrinam.

All things being now settled, the fleet, of which our ship carried the Commodore's flag, only waited for a wind to get underweigh to go to sea. While lying in the Roads of a very calm day, the Sergeant of Marines filled his hat with powder from the magazine, and carried it on deck to fill the powder horns in the arm chest, which stood on the quarter deck ; after unlocking it, and lifting up the lid, a strap on the underside of it caught in the cock of one of the muskets, and lifted it up some distance, when it fell and it fired off, it set fire to the powder in the Sergeant's hat and blew him up, or rather blew him away from the chest, set off several other muskets, &c. The fire immediately flew to the mizen rigging, ran up the mast, and alarmed the crew so much, that several of them jumped overboard. The vessels at anchor near us manned boats and came to our assistance. Captain Lewis was dining out of the ship, on board one of the fleet, he came on

board immediately, and the fire was got under without much damage.

All things being again put in order, we embraced the first wind and got underweigh for sea. As soon as we arrived abreast of Cape Henry, we discovered a fleet of British vessels, standing from the south with a view to attack us and cut us off from the land; our fleet by signal hove about, and stood in for Hampton Roads again; the enemy pursuing us with all the sail they could crowd. Off Lynhaven bay they overhauled us so fast that a new Brig, commanded by Captain Brown of Portsmouth, was near falling into their possession; when our Captain (or I should say Commodore of the fleet) proposed to his officers and crew, to put about, and attack the headmost ship, which appeared to be of our size and weight of *mettle*. This proposition was agreed to with *three cheers*. Our ship was then put about and we stood back, we hailed Captain Brown as we passed him, and desired him to persevere and stand on, as he was then in the act of putting his Brig on the beach to avoid being captured. He then stood on for the Roads, and we stood on for the enemy, and were along side of the headmost ship in a few minutes. We gave her a *Broadside*, then passed under her stern, *raked* her as we crossed, and came abreast of her, and gave her the second Broadside, before they were well prepared to return it. What damage we did we could not tell, but heard much noise and confusion on board of her as we passed. By this time the Brig and the rest of the fleet were a considerable distance ahead of the enemy; we pressed all sail we could, and soon came up with them. The enemy finding they could not overtake us *gave up the chase*. The whole of our fleet came to anchor that night near Newports-Noose; the next morning our Commodore gave orders to get the fleet underweigh, we stood up the

river as far as James' island, where the fleet came to anchor, and remained for several days filling up water, &c.

The whole fleet came down to the Roads again, and anchored near our old ground, where we lay for several days before we again attempted to get to sea. When we got underweigh again several of the owners of the fleet were on board of our ship, and the ship *America* of our size and force, and also belonging to Portsmouth; they continued on board until the pilots left us. As none of the enemy was in sight, and it being near sun set, the whole of our fleet put to sea, and stood to the eastward, by which means we expected to pass those vessels of the enemy, which we were confident were on the look out for us: but about 12 o'clock at night, all hands being at our quarters, we, the headmost ship, fell in with them, and as we passed just to windward of them, we fired our broadside into them: upon looking astern we saw that the firing had commenced from all the vessels on both sides. After scattering the *small fry* astern, the large ships pursued us, and continued the chase all the next day. They captured the new brig, Captain Brown, not far astern of us; the frigate that took her appeared as if she would be along side of us before we caught the breeze; many a *timid* captain would have struck to her, had they been in our situation, but Captain Lewis was a brave fearless man, and encouraged the crew who worked the sweeps, &c. in the calm, which saved us from capture at that time. About six or seven of our fleet kept together, until we made the island of St. Martins, in the West Indies.

As soon as we made the land in the West Indies, we saw a small schooner, which appeared to fear us, but our captain observed that the fellow wanted to deceive us, by drawing us from the land, before we came up with the passage between St. Martins and St. Bartholomews. Our



captain was correct, for by the time we opened the passage we saw two frigates endeavoring to cut us off; but we entered the passage before they got up to it. They entered it also and gave chase to us, (it was then near sunset) with all the sail they could crowd, and at times came so near us (before we caught the breeze) as to fire their bow guns over us. Our first officer, proving deficient of courage, wanted Captain Lewis to "*give up the ship*," but the firmness of Captain Lewis was such, that he told him before he would do that he would put the ship ashore among the rocks, and take a chance for our lives; this I heard being on the quarter deck at the time. I then informed our sailing master, Mr. Snow, that Mr. Christie, our boatswain, was a good *pilot* and could take the ship into the harbor of Great Bay in St. Martins, night or day; which information he conveyed to the captain; the boatswain was then sent for, and interrogated respecting my reports, to which he answered in the affirmative. He was then desired to take charge of the ship as *Pilot*, and he ran her so close to the reef of *rocks* off the mouth of the harbor of Great Bay as to run the frigate which was chasing us on them, as he told Captain Lewis he could do. This took place about 9 o'clock at night; all was confusion on board the frigate, but she got off again in the night, which she must have accomplished by throwing some of her heavy articles overboard.

As soon as we came to anchor five sail of us, all that arrived there out of the whole fleet, our captain sent a letter on shore to the Governor of the island informing him who we were, and that we had put in for protection. He answered the letter immediatly and said that the island and forts were in a very feeble state for protection, but that all the assistance in his power he would give us, and desired us to do what we could to protect ourselves.

All was quiet through the night, and all hands kept at their quarters the whole time, on the look out for the enemy. At sunrise we fired a gun as a signal for our fleet to hoist their colors, as we observed a Frigate off the mouth of the harbour, distance about one mile. As soon as our gun was fired for the aforesaid signal, it brought the Frigate's broad side to bear on us, and she fired directly among us into the *harbour*. Our Captain immediately ordered springs upon our cables, and requested the ship *America*, which was near us, to do the same, and while we were employed upon that duty, and bringing our broad side to bear on the enemy, she made sail and left us. I would here observe that the ship *America* was close by us as we came through the passage, and within hail, when Capt. Lewis told her commander, that we were going into Great Bay, and requested him to keep company with us, which he did. There were at that time two Frigates in chase of us, one soon gave up the chase, and pursued after one or two of the small vessels that hauled their wind and left us. We afterwards learnt that they all got safe into St. Eustatia. Shortly afterwards our Captain went down there, and returned in a few days, when we commenced discharging our cargo, which consisted of Tobacco. All the other vessels did so also. The cargo was discharging in lighters, and the foremast entirely stripped of all its rigging, so as to be ready for the new tressel-trees, when several vessels of war appeared off the harbour; our colors, and those of all the Americans in port were immediately hoisted. As soon as those vessels of war were discovered coming into the harbour, it was thought by the officers of our vessels, that their object was to take out all the foreigners out of our vessels, as we had a number of them on board. They were immediately ordered into the boats and sent on shore. But to the surprise of all, a

Sixty-four Gun Ship, Capt. Robison, laid herself close along side of our Ship, and between us and the Ship America, and ordered our colors to be hauled down; which much surprised our Captain, and all the rest of the officers and crews of our vessels that were on shore, to see our flags hauled down in a *neutral port*.

The enemy's boats soon came on shore, and Capt. Robison of the Sixty-four Gun ship, informed the Governor that if a single shot was fired from the Fort he would blow the Town down. This prevented any defence from being made, for our Captain had mustered the whole of us that were on shore, and obtained the Governors consent to go into the Fort: which Capt. Robison was informed of, and his threat prevented it. Our Captain was very desirous to *fire*, even *one* shot from the *Dutch Fort*, as that he thought would have been sufficient to create a *Dutch War*, and then we would have had more assistance; but we did not succeed, and were obliged to fly into the country, to avoid being captured, as a number of Marines were in the act of coming on shore to take us prisoners. Here we wandered about for some time, supporting ourselves as we could, till at length arriving again in sight of the town we had left, we took a situation on a mountain that overlooked the whole harbour, and rested our wearied limbs, until three o'clock in the afternoon: when, as we saw, the *Men of War* got underweigh, and took the whole of the American vessels off with them.

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#### AN OLD SWORD.

DEAR SIR,—I happen to have an Old Sword in my possession which I value very highly as a family relic, and which has also some historical associations connected with it, which, I think, you will like to know a little something about.

Its first owner, as I understand, was a certain Bartholo-

mew Dupuy, a good Huguenot who was born in France about the year 1652, and flourished in the reign of Louis the 14th. Though brought up in the Protestant faith, he was a loyal subject of the king, and for a number of years, a gallant officer in his army, and often engaged in the wars in Flanders. He had entered the service as a private but soon raised himself to a captaincy by his merit. At this time he enjoyed the privilege of his religion by virtue of the Edict of Nantes, passed by Henry the 4th, in 1598, which you know secured liberty of conscience and the right of worship to all his Protestant subjects. But in the year 1685, the grand monarch, influenced by sinister counsels, thought proper to repeal the said edict, and to set all his reformed subjects adrift. This rash measure proved fatal to the hopes and happiness of thousands of the best people in his kingdom, and sent them off into a painful and humiliating exile in foreign countries. About this time our captain having retired from the army with a competency, and residing on his own estate, had married a young and beautiful lady, and was as happy as he could well be, when he was waited on one day by the emissaries of the priestly party to know whether he would renounce his religion, and become a Romanist. To this serious enquiry he asked a reasonable time to consider the subject and make up his mind what to do—which was accordingly granted. Thereupon, having already decided on his course, he converted as many of his effects as could be disposed of into ready money, and equipping his devoted wife in male attire, as his servitor, he set off with her to the nearest outlet to the German dominions. Here he found that the passes were all guarded by soldiers who were placed to prevent the escape of disaffected emigrants; but nothing daunted, he appeared before them in his full military dress, and having been often engaged in the recruiting service, in those parts, was well known to many of them, and commonly allowed to pass. Sometimes, however, he was challenged, and his passports demanded, when he claimed his privilege as an officer in the king's service, and would offer no passport but his sword which he wore—and was ready to draw. In this way, and with much difficulty, he succeeded, in about twelve or fifteen days, in making good his escape into a friendly land, when, with a grateful heart, he kneeled down, and sang the 40th Psalm.

He remained in Germany twelve or thirteen years, and thence found his way to England, where he resided about two years longer. About the year 1700, he came over to this country with a large number of French refugees, or Huguenots, to occupy the grant of land which had been so liberally and handsomely conferred upon them by the crown of England in 1690, known here as Manikin Town, in Powhatan county, about 25 miles above Richmond, on James River. Of course he brought the sword over with him, which has been handed down in the direct male line of the family ever since, and is at present held by me. I design it for my son who bears an old family name; whenever he may claim it.

The sword itself is a plain article, and has nothing very remarkable about it for the eye. It is rather triangular or three edged, of a spear-like form, about three feet long, and not large. The workmanship is plain, but although not so highly wrought as some others, has probably been as well used as most weapons of the sort in modern times. Manuscript and traditionary accounts say that it was used by the original proprietor in fourteen pitched battles, and in many duels also—always with honor. What is still more creditable to it, it was worn and drawn by my father, at the battle of Guilford in our revolutionary war, and I suppose with some effect. At any rate, it appears that during the evolutions of that day, on the battle field, the old scabbard was lost; but luckily another was found on the ground, which happened to fit it exactly, and is now attached to it. It is mounted with silver, and is supposed to have belonged to some British officer who, during the engagement, had dropped, or perhaps in great valor had thrown it away.

W. J. D.

*Petersburg.*

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## THE BATTLE OF BUNKER HILL.

This memorable occurrence has been often described; but fresh details of it will always be interesting, and more especially such cotemporary accounts as serve to show the spirit of the times. We therefore copy here the following original letter from Mr. Winthrop to John Adams, which has recently appeared in the Boston Post, and which we think deserves a place in our pages.

"21st June, 1775. Dear Sir:—I received your favor of May 29 by Messrs Halls. I was much concerned that I had it not in my power to treat those young gentlemen with as much respect as their characters and your recommendation entitle them to. When your letter was delivered me, which was but a few days ago, we were all in the utmost hurry, packing up the library and apparatus for their removal to a distance in the country for safety, in consequence of an order of the provincial congress which was sent us that day—so that the young gentlemen could only take a transient view of things as they lay in confusion. It was then universally expected that there would be an action in a day or two, which happened accordingly. The night following, a body of our men were sent to throw up an entrenchment on a hill in Charlestown. As soon as the day light appeared they were discovered and fired upon from the men of war, and battery on Copp's Hill. That day, 17th inst., exhibited a most shocking spectacle. About 2, afternoon, a large body of regulars were carried over to Charlestown, and at 4 in the afternoon the men of war's boats set fire to the town in different places, which in a few hours was burnt to the ground. When it was all in flames they attacked our entrenchment, which was very imperfect, being only the work of a few hours; but they were vigorously opposed, and a hot engagement ensued, which lasted above an hour, in which numbers fell.

When our soldiers had fired away almost all their cartridges, and the regulars were entering the entrenchment with their bayonets charged, and incessant fire of artillery kept on them on all sides from the men of war and the floating batteries, our people retreated and left them in possession of the hill. This advantage they probably purchased dear, though what their loss was, we may never know exactly. 'Tis affirmed their dead were seen lying on the ground. Our loss was considerable; but being now

above twenty miles from the scene of action, I cannot give you any particular information about it. We lost some very good officers, but none is more universally lamented than our friend Dr. Warren, who had been appointed a major general but a day or two before. I own I was sorry when I heard of this appointment, because I thought a man so much better qualified to act in other capacities than most are, ought not to be exposed in this way, unless in case of necessity. But his zeal hurried him on, and he was killed in the entrenchment soon after he got there.

We are now involved in all the horrors of war, and are every moment expecting to hear of another action. Is it not necessary, sir, that our army should be effectually supported, in order to bring this cruel war to a speedy and fortunate issue, especially as there is no immediate prospect of war in any other part of America, and a vigorous support here may probably prevent its spreading to the other colonies.

I am surprised to find you have so little intelligence from hence. I thought there had been a constant intercourse kept up between the provincial and Continental Congresses. I mentioned this hint of yours to Dr. Warren the evening before that fatal day; he promised that he would write and put his friends on writing. But, alas!—

God Almighty bless your counsels, and render them effectual for the preservation of America.

Your faithful friend and humble servant.

June 22. Since writing the above, I have received two accounts from different hands of the loss on each side. I send them as I had them. I have been also told that the Regulars acknowledge 428 killed.

Boston almost deserted by the inhabitants—Charlestown burnt down—Cambridge, Medford, Salem, Danvers and Marblehead almost deserted. 'Tis impossible at your distance to conceive of the distress."

This battle, as the Post remarks, brought matters to a crisis. After the conflict of Lexington and Concord, reconciliation with the mother country continued to be urged in some quarters—but this event—the burning of Charlestown and the severity of the engagement—settled the question that there should be open war. And when the sun of the day of Bunker Hill went down, there was no longer ground for any other basis of settlement than that of independence.

## Various Intelligence.

From the Dublin University Magazine.

### THE CHERRY.

The bright, round, shining Cherry, the favorite plaything with children (who has not loved bob-cherry?) has a pleasing reminiscence connected with it. After the early reformer, John Huss, had perished at the stake, his followers, the Hussites, or Bohemian Protestants, took up arms in their self-defence. During the prolonged war, they besieged the city of Naumburg (in Saxony) in 1482; and Procopius Nossa, their general, declared his intention to raise the place, and exterminate the inhabitants, in revenge for the people having formerly voted for the death of John Huss, at the Synod of Kernitz. The Naumburgers, seeing themselves on the very verge of destruction, were in despair, when a citizen, named Wolf, proposed an experiment to mollify the fury of the general. At Wolf's suggestion, all the children from the ages of seven to fourteen, were dressed in shrouds, and each holding a green bough and a lemon (which it was customary for mourners at German funerals to carry,) were sent into the Hussite camp, to intercede with the general for the safety of their relatives and their native city. Procopius was moved by the tears of the young suppliants; he granted their petition, treated them with kindness, and ordered them refreshments, and in particular regaled them with a quantity of cherries (it was then the month of July.) The delighted children returned home singing and rejoicing, and carrying branches of cherry trees, laden with their handsome fruit, instead of the former funeral emblems. The Naumburgers, in commemoration of their deliverance, ever after celebrated a festival, called Kirschenfest, or the Feast of the Cherries, on the 20th of July, the day of the infant deputation. At the commencement of the festivities, troops of children, gayly dressed and crowned with flowers, paraded the streets in procession, carrying branches adorned with cherries.

The cherry was introduced into Ireland by Sir Walter Raleigh, and first planted at Affane, near Cappoquin, county Waterford, on lands granted to him out of the forfeiture of the Desmonds, the most celebrated house in Irish history, to one of whose most renowned ladies a cherry-tree of Sir Walter's proved fatal, according to local tradition. The famous old Countess of Desmond was born about 1465; she danced with Richard III. at



court, just before the battle of Bosworth, in 1485, and lived to see the vicissitudes of the Desmonds, and the fall of their vast power and wealth in the attainder of 1586. She went to London, being then over one hundred and twenty, to plead for the preservation of her jointure, and succeeded, and returned to live at her birth-place and usual abode, Dromana (near Affane) a castle of the Desmonds, and now the seat of a noble descendant of that house, Lord Stuart de Decies. One day, when she was (according to the tradition) a hundred and forty years old, she saw some very fine cherries on one of the trees at Affane, and having no attendant at hand to gather them, she attempted to climb up to them, but fell, and soon after died from the effects of the fall. Her picture, painted when she was extremely old, is preserved at Dromana.

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### WASHINGTON'S LETTERS.

The little literary drama, which has been in progress for a few years on this subject, may be considered as now at an end. On the authority of Mr. William B. Reed's reprint of his grandfather's letters from Washington, certain critics, known and unknown, attacked Mr. Sparks.

1. For altering the text of Washington, in his edition,
2. For attempting to conceal opinions of Washington.
3. For varying from Judge Marshall's rule about passages omitted.

Mr. Sparks has replied on general grounds before. The publication now of an exact transcript of Mr. Reed's MSS. enables him to show further, in a pamphlet just published,

1. That Mr. Reed's own edition of those MSS. was less accurate than his.
2. That the most important passage of the alleged concealment, where "Connecticut" was printed by Mr. Sparks instead of "Continental," was Mr. Sparks' accuracy, and Mr. Reed's inaccuracy—That "Cobweb Scheme" one of Mr. Sparks' supposed additions—was in the original, and omitted by Mr. Reed.
3. That Judge Marshall's habit in making omissions was exactly the same as Mr. Sparks'.

The curious reader finds also, in some hundred instances, specimens of the sort of variations between the "letter books"—Mr. Sparks' chief authority—and the letters sent by Washington. But the instances above spoken of, on which so much of the controversy has hinged, are from MSS. not copied in the letter books.

Mr. Spark's last pamphlet has been called forth by Mr. Wil-

liam B. Reed's reprint of the original letters from Washington to Joseph Reed. It is a very thorough demolition of the whole case against him; his single authority being the chief witness called by his critics.—*Daily Advertiser*.

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### ANECDOTE OF GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Towards the fall of the year 1775, General Washington and staff visited Chelsea on horseback, to view the features of the land thereabouts. They went from the camp in Cambridge, through Medford and Malden, and stopped by the way for rest and refreshment at the residence of Mr. John Dexter, situated in Malden, by the brook, just before you enter the central village on the north side of the old road leading from Medford. This house was about fifteen rods from the street, and distinguished for its convenience and the beauty of its situation, having many stately elm trees growing in regular lines in an open park in front, besides others growing by the roadside near, and was thus well calculated to tempt a troop of weary horsemen on a summer's day to dismount, to enjoy the coolness of the shade and the hospitalities of the mansion. Here Washington and his suite alighted, and, after hitching their horses under the trees, entered the house by invitation of Mr. Dexter, and partook of refreshments. When the party came out to remount their horses, one of the gentlemen accidentally knocked off a stone from one of the walls which run along from the house to the street outside of the rows of trees. Washington remarked to him that he had better replace the stone. The officer, having remounted, replied, "No, I will leave that for somebody else to do." Washington then went quietly and replaced the stone himself, saying, as he did so, "I always make it my rule when visiting a place to leave things in as good order as I find them."

This incident was related to us by Captain Richard Dexter, the son of the said John Dexter, who was witness of the facts related, and at the time about nineteen years of age.

*Bunker Hill Aurora.*

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### DIPLOMATIC APPOINTMENTS.

The principal diplomatic appointments have been made, with the exception of that of Minister to France, which is still vacant, and are as follows:

*Ministers Plenipotentiary.*—James Buchanan, of Pennsylva-

nia, to Great Britain; Thomas H. Seymour, of Connecticut, to Russia; James Gadsden, of South Carolina, to Mexico; Pierre A. Soule, of Louisiana, to Spain; Peter D. Vroom, of New Jersey, to Prussia; Solon Borland, of Arkansas, to Central America; William Trousdale, of Tennessee, to Brazil; Samuel Medary, of Ohio, to Chili; John R. Clay, to Peru; Theodore S. Fay, Minister Resident in Switzerland;

*Charges d' Affaires.*—J. J. Seibels, of Alabama, for Belgium. Auguste Belmont, of New York, for Netherlands; Richard K. Meade, of Virginia, for Sardinia; Robert Dale Owen, of Indiana, for Two Sicilies; Henry R. Jackson, of Georgia, for Austria; Charles Levi Woodbury, of N. H., for Bolivia; Henry Bedinger, of Virginia, for Denmark; William H. Bissell, of Illinois, for Buenos Ayres; James S. Green, of Missouri, for New Granada; Shelton F. Leake, of Virginia, for Sandwich Islands.

*Consuls.*—Charles L. Denman, of California, at Acapulco; Edward D. Leon, of South Carolina, at Alexandria; David S. Lee, of Iowa, at Basle; John M. Howdin, of Ohio, at Bermuda; Alfred Gilmore, of Pennsylvania, at Bordeaux; William Hildebrand, of Wisconsin, at Bremen; Dennis Mullins, of New York, at Cork; M. J. Lych, of Illinois, at Dublin; William H. De Wolf, of Rhode Island, at Dundee; Alexander M. Clayton, of Mississippi, at Havana; S. M. Johnson, of Michigan, at Hamburg; James Kenan, of Pennsylvania, at Hong-Kong; Benjamin F. Angel, of New York, at Honolulu; George W. Chase, of Maine, at Lahaina; Nathaniel Hawthorne, of Mass., at Liverpool; James M. Tarleton, of Alabama, at Melbourne; George Sanders, of New York, at London; Thomas W. Ward, of Texas, at Panama; Duncan K. McRae, of North Carolina, at Paris; Robert G. Scott, of Virginia, at Rio Janeiro; Charles J. Helm, of Kentucky, at St. Thomas; Wyndham Robertson, of Louisiana, at Trieste; John Hubbard, of Maine, at Trinidad, de Cuba; Reuben Wood, of Ohio, at Valparaiso; Donald G. Mitchell, of Connecticut, at Venice; George F. Goundi, of Pennsylvania, at Zurich.

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### PILGRIM'S PROGRESS.

One of the finest and most elaborate works of art, and to the publishers one of the most expensive, which our country has ever produced, is about to be issued by John P. Jewett & Co., of Boston. It is a large engraving twenty-four by thirty inches, of Bunyan's immortal work, and is a more graphic and successful representation of its various scenes, than could be conceived excepting by the mind of an artist. It takes the

pilgrim up in the valley of destruction, and by a winding route carries him through all the vicissitudes of his progress, until he has crossed the river and is received into the Celestial city. It is not a mere picture but a poem in itself, an epic speaking to the eye, and through it most powerfully to the imagination, having the same effect upon the latter faculty which is produced by the Pilgrim's Progress itself. As a family piece, and especially in its adaptedness to impress upon the mind of the young the narrative and truth's of Bunyan's work, it has a value far beyond its price. It is executed in the highest style of the art of engraving, at a cost to the Publishers of \$5,000, having had the labor of four years and a half expended on it, and it is furnished to subscribers only at \$10 for India proof impressions, or \$5 for ordinary copies. We are confident that the publishers will be abundantly remunerated by its sale.

This engraving is highly recommended by Edward Everett, Rufus Choate, Rev. Edward Kirk, and other distinguished gentlemen.—*N. Y. Observer.*

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### SIR FRANCIS DRAKE.

Sir Francis Drake has left behind him the character of a brave and skilful seaman. He first, after Sebastian Cano, a native of Spain, sailed round the world; which voyage he performed in two years and eight months, setting off December 13th, 1577; and coming back November 3d, 1580. The following verses were written on his return, and are preserved in Camden's Life of Queen Elizabeth:—

Drace, pererrati quem novit terminus orbis,  
 Quemque simul mundi vidit uterque polus.  
 Si taceant homines, facient te sidera notum,  
 Sol nescit comitis non memor esse sui.

Where'er old Ocean's boundless waters roll,  
 Have borne, great Drake, thy bark from pole to pole.  
 Should envious mortals o'er thy labours sleep,  
 The stars, which led thee thro' the ventrous deep,  
 Shall tell thy praises; and thy well-earn'd fame  
 The sun, thy fellow traveller, proclaim.

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## Miscellany.

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### TRUST IN PROVIDENCE.

What a sublime sentiment is Trust in Providence, and how grandly has Milton expressed his own felt experience of it in the following passage, when reflecting on his blindness, he writes: "I have made up my mind to my case, as one evidently beyond the reach of cure; and I often reflect that, as "many days of darkness," according to the wise man, are allotted to us all, mine, which by the singular pleasure of Deity, are divided between leisure and study, are recreated by the conversation and intercourse of my friends, are far more agreeable than those deadly shades of which Solomon was speaking. But if, as it is written "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God," why should not each of us likewise acquiesce in the reflection, that he receives the benefits of sight not from his eyes alone, but from the guidance and providence of the same Supreme Being. Whilst He looks out, and provides for me as he does, and leads me about, as it were, with his hand, through the paths of life, I willingly surrender my own faculty of vision in conformity to his good pleasures." What a lesson for us all!

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### RIDICULE.

Fontinelle said: "I am eighty years old; I am a Frenchman; and I have never, in all my life, treated the smallest virtue with the slightest ridicule." Madame de Stael who gives us this dictum of the philosopher, remarks upon it: "This saying implied a profound knowledge of society. Fontinelle was not a man of much sensibility, but he had a great deal of intelligence; and as often as any one is endowed with superiority

of any kind, he feels the necessity of something serious and solid in human nature. It is only middling people who would wish that the foundation of all things were sand, in order that no man might leave any trace or impression upon the earth more durable than their own."

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### TIME AND OBLIVION.

Time sadly overcometh all things, and is now dominant, and sitteth upon a sphinx, and looketh unto Memphis and old Thebes; while his sister Oblivion reclineth semisomnous on a pyramid, gloriously triumphing, making puzzles of Titanian erections, and turning old glories into dreams. History sinketh beneath her cloud. The traveller, as he paceth amazedly through those deserts, asketh of her who builded them, and she mumbleth something, but what it is he heareth not.—*Sir Thomas Browne.*

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### THE OXFORD AND CAMBRIDGE EPIGRAMS.

It is well known that when the house of Hanover was placed on the British throne, the tories were in a state little short of rebellion. Oxford led the way in opposing the new dynasty; Cambridge was more liberal. To the former of these universities the king sent a troop of horse, to the latter a present of books; which occasioned the two following epigrams; the first by an Oxford, the last by a Cambridge man. The wit of the whig epigram called forth the praise of Johnson himself.

#### *The Oxford Epigram.*

The king observing with judicious eyes,  
 The state of both his universities,  
 To one he sends a regiment; for why?  
 That *learned* body wanted *loyalty*;  
 To th' other books he gave, as well discerning,  
 How much that *loyal* body wanted *learning*.

*The Cambridge Reply.*

The king to Oxford sent a troop of horse,  
 For Tories own no *argument* but *force* ;  
 With equal care, to Cambridge, books he sent,  
 For Whigs allow no *force* but *argument*.

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## EPIGRAM FROM MARTIAL.

TO CALVUS.

If honor, as they say, is due  
 To every one with hoary hair,  
 What, Calvus, shall we pay to you,  
 Whose head-piece is so bald and bare ? Q.

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## EPIGRAM FROM BOILEAU.

Old Quackabout asserts, I hear,  
 That he has kept me from my bier ;  
 To prove I never tried his skill,  
 You see that I am living still. Q.

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## TRUE CONSOLATION.

One adequate support  
 For the calamities of mortal life  
 Exists—one only ; an assured belief  
 That the procession of our fate, how'er  
 Sad or disturb'd, is ordered by a Being  
 Of infinite benevolence and power ;  
*Whose everlasting purposes embrace  
 All accidents, converting them to good."*  
*Wordsworth.*

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No. IV.

LORD CORNWALLIS'S MOVEMENTS AND OPERATIONS IN VIRGINIA, IN 1781.

[We submit here, as we promised in our last number, the Letters of Lord Cornwallis to General Clinton, detailing his Movements and Operations in Virginia, in 1781, concluding with his Surrender at York; which we think our readers will find highly interesting.]

LETTERS FROM LORD CORNWALLIS TO SIR HENRY CLINTON.

*Earl Cornwallis to Sir Henry Clinton, K. B. dated Byrd's Plantation, North of James River, 26th of May, 1781.*

Sir,—The reinforcement is safely arrived in James River, and I opened all your dispatches to poor Phillips, marked *On his Majesty's service.*

The arrival of the reinforcement has made me easy about Portsmouth for the present. I have sent General Leslie thither with the seventeenth regiment and the two battalions of Anspach, keeping the forty-third regiment with the army. I shall now proceed to dislodge La Fayette from Richmond, and with my light troops to destroy any magazines or stores in the neighbourhood which may have been collected either for his use or for General Greene's army.



From thence I propose to move to the Neck at Williamsburgh, which is represented as healthy, and where some subsistence may be procured; and keep myself unengaged from operations which might interfere with your plan for the campaign, until I have the satisfaction of hearing from you. I hope I shall then have an opportunity to receive better information than has hitherto been in my power to procure, relative to a proper harbour and place of arms. At present I am inclined to think well of York. The objections to Portsmouth are, that it cannot be made strong without an army to defend it, that it is remarkably unhealthy, and can give no protection to a ship of the line. Wayne has not yet joined La Fayette; nor can I positively learn where he is, nor what is his force. Greene's cavalry are said to be coming this way; but I have no certain accounts of it.

I shall take the liberty of repeating, that, if offensive war is intended, Virginia appears to me to be the only province in which it can be carried on, and in which there is a stake. But to reduce the province, and keep possession of the country, a considerable army would be necessary; for, with a small force, the business would probably terminate unfavourably, though the beginning might be successful. In case it is thought expedient, and a proper army for the attempt can be formed, I hope your Excellency will do me the justice to believe, that I neither wish nor expect to have the command of it, leaving you at New York on the defensive. Such sentiments are so far from my heart, that I can with great truth assure you, that few things could give me greater pleasure than being relieved by your presence from a situation of so much anxiety and responsibility.

Colonel Robinson's corps is so weak, and deserts so fast,

that at the recommendation of General Arnold, I have consented that it shall return in the transports to New-York.

I have the honour to be, &c.

CORNWALLIS.

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*Williamsburg, June 30, 1781.*

*Sir*,—After passing James river, at Westover, I moved to Hanover court-house, and crossed the South Anna; the Marquis de la Fayette marched to his left, keeping above at the distance of about twenty miles.

By pushing my light troops over the North Anna, I alarmed the enemy for Fredericksburgh, and for the junction with General Wayne, who was then marching through Maryland. From what I could learn of the present state of Hunter's iron manufactory, it did not appear of so much importance as the stores on the other side of the country, and it was impossible to prevent the junction between the Marquis and Wayne: I therefore took advantage of the Marquis's passing the Rhappahannock, and detached Lieutenant-colonels Simcoe and Tarleton to disturb the assembly then fitting at Charlottesville, and to destroy the stores there, at Old Albermarle court-house, and the Point of Fork; moving with the infantry to the mouth of Byrd creek, near the Point of Fork, to receive those detachments. Lieutenant colonel Tarleton took some members of the assembly at Charlotteville, and destroyed there and on his return one thousand stand of good arms, some cloathing and other stores, and between four and five hundred barrels of powder, without opposition.

Baron Stuben, who commanded about eight hundred twelvemonths-men and militia, retired with great precipitation from the Point of Fork. Lieutenant-colonel Simcoe, after using every exertion to attack his rear-guard, destroyed there and at places adjacent, about three thousand

three hundred stand of arms, most of which unserviceable, but then under repair, some salt, harness, &c. and about one hundred and fifty barrels of powder. I then moved by Richmond, and arrived at Williamsburgh on the 25th instant, having, in addition to the articles already mentioned, destroyed on this expedition at different places above 2000 hogsheads of tobacco, and a great number of iron guns, and brought off four brass thirteen-inch mortars, five brass eight-inch howitzes, and four long brass nine-pounders, all French. We found near Hanover courthouse ten French brass twenty-four pounders, which we could not carry, and had not time or means to destroy farther than spiking, and throwing five or six of them into the Pamunkey; and we found at Williamsburgh, a considerable quantity of shot and shells, which are embarked. General Wayne joined the Marquis about the middle of the month, as did Baron Stuben soon after; and their army has generally kept about twenty miles from us, without any material attempt by detachment, except in an attack on Lieutenant-colonel Simcoe, on the 26th, as he was returning with his corps and the yagers from the destruction of some boats and stores on the Chickahominy. The enemy, though much superior in numbers, were repulsed with considerable loss, three officers and twenty-eight privates were made prisoners: the Rangers had three officers and thirty privates killed and wounded; Lieutenant Jones, who was killed, behaved with the greatest spirit, and is much lamented by Lieutenant-colonel Simcoe.

Upon viewing York, I was clearly of opinion, that it far exceeds our power, consistent with your plans, to make safe defensive posts there and at Gloucester, both of which would be necessary for the protection of shipping.

The state of the transports has not yet been reported to me, but I have ordered the few that are at Portsmouth to

be got resdy; and as soon as I past James River (for which purpose the boats are collecting), and can get a convoy, they shall be dispatched with as many troops as they will contain, and shall be followed by others as fast as you send transports to receive them. When I see Portsmouth, I shall give my opinion of the number of men necessary for its defence, or of any other post that may be thought more proper. But as magazines, &c. may be destroyed by occasional expeditions from New York, and there is little chance of being able to establish a post capable of giving effectual protection to ships of war, I submit it to your Excellency's consideration, whether it is worth while to hold a sickly defensive post in this Bay, which will always be exposed to a sudden French attack, and, which experience has now shewn, makes no diversion in favour of the southern army.

La Fayette's continentals, I believe, consist of about seventeen or eighteen hundred men, exclusive of some twelvemonth's men, collected by Steuben. He has received considerable reinforcements of militia, and about eight hundred mountain rifle-men under Campbell. He keeps with his main body about eighteen or twenty miles from us; his advanced corps about ten or twelve; probably with an intention of insulting our rear guard when we pass James River. I hope, however, to put that out of his power, by crossing at James City Island; and if I can get a favourable opportunity of striking a blow at him without loss of time, I will certainly try it. I will likewise attempt water expeditions, if proper objects present themselves after my arrival at Portsmouth.

I have the honor to be, &c.

CORNWALLIS.

*Cobham, July 8, 1781.*

*Sir*,—I was this morning honoured with your dispatch of the 28th ult. The troops are perfectly ready, and will proceed to Portsmouth to wait the arrival of the transports. I will give immediate orders about the artillery, stores, &c.

The transports now at Portsmouth are sufficient to carry the light infantry; I had prepared them to receive that corps, and should have sent them to you in a few days, if your last order had not arrived.

The boats and naval assistance having been sent to me by Captain Hudson, I marched on the 4th from Williamsburgh to a camp which covered a ford into the island of James-town. The Queen's Rangers passed the river that evening. On the 5th, I sent over all the wheel carriages, and on the 6th the bat-horses and baggage of every kind, intending to pass with the army on the 7th. About noon on the 6th, information was brought me of the approach of the enemy, and about four in the afternoon a large body attacked our out-posts. Concluding that the enemy would not bring a considerable force within our reach, unless they supposed, that nothing was left but a rear-guard, I took every means to convince them of my weakness, and suffered my piquets to be insulted and driven back; nothing, however, appeared near us but riflemen and militia till near sun-set, when a body of continentals with artillery began to form in the front of our camp. I then put the troops under arms, and ordered the army to advance in two lines. The attack was begun by the first line with great spirit; there being nothing but militia opposed to the light infantry, the action was soon over on the right, but Lieut. Col. Dundas's brigade, consisting of the forty-third, seventy-sixth, and eightieth regiments, which formed the left wing, meeting the Pennsylvania line, and a detachment of the Marquis de la Fayette's continentals, with two six-

pounders, a smart action ensued for some minutes, when the enemy gave way and abandoned their cannon. The cavalry were perfectly ready to pursue, but the darkness of the evening prevented my being able to make use of them. I cannot sufficiently commend the spirit and good behaviour of the officers and soldiers of the whole army; but the seventy-sixth and eightyeth regiments, on whom the brunt of the action fell, had an opportunity of distinguishing themselves particularly, and Lieutenant-colonel Dundas's conduct and gallantry deserve the highest praise. The force of the enemy in the field was about two thousand, and their loss, I believe, between two and three hundred. Half an hour more of day-light would have probably given us the greatest part of the corps.

I have enclosed a list of our killed and wounded. We finished our passage yesterday, which has been an operation of great labour and difficulty, as the river is three miles wide at this place; I have great obligations to Captain Alpin and the officers of the navy and seamen, for their great exertions and attentions on this occasion.

I have the honor to be, &c.

CORNWALLIS.

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*York town, Virginia, 22nd August, 1781.*

*Sir,*—Portsmouth having been completely evacuated without any interruption from the enemy, General O'Hara arrived here this day with the stores and troops; and a great number of refugees have accompanied him from the counties of Norfolk, Suffolk, and Princess Anne.

The engineer has finished his survey and examination of this place, and has proposed his plan for fortifying it; which appearing judicious, I have approved of, and directed to be executed.

The Works at Gloucester are now in such forwardness,

that a smaller detachment than the present garrison would be in safety against a sudden attack, but I make no alteration there, as I cannot hope that the labour of the whole will complete that post in less than five or six weeks.

My experience there of the fatigue and difficulty of constructing works in this warm season, convinces me, that all the labour that the troops here will be capable of, without ruining their health, will be required at least for six weeks to put the intended works at this place in a tolerable state of defence. And as your Excellency has been pleased to communicate to me your intention of recommencing operations in the Chesapeake about the beginning of October, I will not venture to take any step that might retard the establishing of this post: but I request that your Excellency will be pleased to decide whether it is more important for your plans that a detachment of a thousand or twelve hundred men, which I think I can spare from every other purpose but that of labour, should be sent to you from hence, or that the whole of the troops here should be employed in expediting the works.

My last accounts of the enemy were, that the Marquis de la Fayette was encamped in the fork of the Pamunky and Matapony with his own detachment of Continentals, a considerable body of eighteen-months men, and two brigades of militia under Stevens and Lawson; that he had armed four hundred of the seven hundred Virginia prisoners lately arrived from Charles-town, and expected to be joined in a short time by General Smallwood with seven hundred eighteen-months men from Maryland; and that Generals Wayne and Morgan having returned from the other side of James river, were likewise on their march to join him.

There being only four eighteens and one twenty-four pounder here, more heavy guns will be wanted for the sea

batteries at this place, and we are likewise in want of many other artillery and engineer's stores, the returns of which I take the liberty to inclose.

It is proper to mention to your Excellency, that you may make your arrangements accordingly, that there are only about six hundred stand of spare arms in the Chesapeak; and that our consumption of provisions is considerably increased by a number of refugees lately come to us, and by negroes that are employed in different branches of the public service. I have the honor to be, &c.

CORNWALLIS.

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*York-Town in Virginia, September 29, 1781.*

Sir,—I have ventured these last two days to look General Washington's whole force in the face in the position on the outside of my works, and I have the pleasure to assure your Excellency, that there was but one wish throughout the whole army, which was, that the enemy would advance.

I have this evening received your letter of the 24th, which has given me the greatest satisfaction. I shall retire this night within the works, and have no doubt, if relief arrives in any reasonable time, York and Gloucester will be both in possession of his Majesty's troops.

I believe your Excellency must depend more on the sound of our cannon than the signal of smokes for information; however, I will attempt it on the Gloucester side. Medicines are wanted.

I have the honour to be, &c.

CORNWALLIS.

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*York-Town, Virginia, October 3, 1781.*

Sir,—I received your letter of the 25th of September last night. The enemy are encamped about two miles from us. On the night of the 30th of September they broke



ground, and made two redoubts about eleven hundred yards from our works, which, with some works that had been constructed to secure our exterior position occupy a gorge between two creeks which nearly embrace this post. They have finished these redoubts, and I expect they will go on with their works this night. From the time that the enemy have given us, and the uncommon exertions of the troops, our works are in a better state of defence than we had reason to hope.

I can see no means of forming a junction with me but by York river, and I do not think that any diversion would be of use to us. Our accounts of the strength of the French fleet have in general been, that they were thirty-five or thirty-six sail of the line; they have frequently changed their position; two ships of the line and one frigate lie at the mouth of this river; and our last accounts were, that the body of the fleet lay between the tail of the Horse shoe and York spit. And it is likewise said, that four line of battle ships lay a few days ago in Hampton road. I see little chance of my being able to send persons to wait for you at the capes, but I will if possible.

I have the honour to be, &c.

CORNWALLIS.

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*York-Town, October 15, 1781.*

*Sir,*—Last evening the enemy carried my two advanced redoubts on the left by storm, and during the night have included them in their second parallel, which they are at present busy in perfecting. My situation now becomes very critical; we dare not shew a gun to their old batteries, and I expect that their new ones will open to-morrow morning; experience has shewn that our fresh earthen works do not resist their powerful artillery, so that we shall soon be exposed to an assault in ruined works, in a bad

position, and with weakened numbers. The safety of the place is, therefore, so precarious, that I cannot recommend that the fleet and army should run great risque in endeavouring to save us. I have the honour to be, &c.

CORNWALLIS.

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*York-Town, Virginia, October 20, 1781.*

*Sir,*—I have the mortification to inform your Excellency that I have been forced to give up the post of York and Gloucester, and to surrender the troops under my command, by capitulation on the 19th inst. as prisoners of war to the combined forces of America and France.

I never saw this post in a very favorable light, but when I found I was to be attacked in it in so unprepared a state, by so powerful an army and artillery, nothing but the hopes of relief would have induced me to attempt its defence; for I would either have endeavoured to escape to New-York, by rapid marches from the Gloucester side, immediately on the arrival of General Washington's troops at Williamsburgh, or I would notwithstanding the disparity of numbers have attacked them in the open field, where it might have been just possible that fortune would have favoured the gallantry of the handful of troops under my command: but being assured by your Excellency's letters, that every possible means would be tried by the navy and army to relieve us, I could not think myself at liberty to venture upon either of those desperate attempts; therefore, after remaining for two days in a strong position in front of this place, in hopes of being attacked, upon observing that the enemy were taking measures, which could not fail of turning my left flank in a short time, and receiving on the second evening your letter of the 24th of September, informing that the relief would fail about the 5th of October, I withdrew within the works on the night of the 29th

of September, hoping by the labour and firmness of the soldiers, to protract the defence until you could arrive. Every thing was to be expected from the spirit of the troops, but every disadvantage attended their labour, as the works were to be continued under the enemy's fire, and our stock of intrenching tools, which did not much exceed four hundred, when we began to work in the latter end of August, was now much diminished.

The enemy broke ground on the night of the 30th, and constructed on that night, and the two following days and nights, two redoubts, which, with some works that had belonged to our outward position, occupied a gorge between two creeks or ravines, which come from the river on each side of the town. On the night of the 6th of October they made their first parallel, extending from its right on the river to a deep ravine on the left, nearly opposite to the center of this place, and embracing our whole left at the distance of six hundred yards. Having perfected this parallel, their batteries opened on the evening of the 9th, against our left, and other batteries fired at the same time against a redoubt, advanced over the Creek upon our right, and defended by about one hundred and twenty men of the 23d regiment and marines, who maintained that post within uncommon gallantry. The fire continued incessant from heavy cannon and from mortars and howitzers, throwing shells from eight to sixteen inches, until all our guns on the left were silenced, our work much damaged, and our loss of men considerable. On the night of the 11th they began their second parallel, about three hundred yards nearer to us; the troops being much weakened by sickness as well as by the fire of the besiegers, and observing that the enemy had not only secured their flanks, but proceeded in every respect with the utmost regularity and caution, I could not venture so large forties, as to hope from them

any considerable effect ; but otherwise, I did every thing in my power to interrupt this work, by opening new embrazures for guns, and keeping up a constant fire with all the howitzers and small mortars that we could man. On the evening of the 14th, they assaulted and carried two redoubts that had been advanced about three hundred yards for the purpose of delaying their approaches, and covering our left flank, and during the night included them in their second parallel, on which they continued to work with the utmost exertion. Being perfectly sensible that our works could not stand many hours after the opening of the batteries of that parallel, we not only continued a constant fire with all our mortars, and every gun that could be brought to bear upon it, but a little before day break on the morning of the 16th, I ordered a sortie of about three hundred and fifty men under the direction of Lieutenant-colonel Abercrombie to attack two batteries, which appeared to be in the greatest forwardness, and to spike the guns. A detachment of guards with the eightieth company of Grenadiers, under the command of Lieutenant-colonel Lake attacked the one, and one of Light Infantry under the command of Major Armstrong attacked the other, and both succeeded by forcing the redoubts that covered them, spiking eleven guns, and killing or wounding about one hundred of the French troops, who had the guard of that part of the trenches, and with little loss on our side. This action, though extremely honourable to the officers and soldiers who executed it, proved of little public advantage, for the cannon having been spiked in a hurry, were soon rendered fit for service again, and before dark the whole parallel and batteries appeared to be nearly complete. At this time we knew that there was no part of the whole front attacked, on which we could show a single gun, and our shells were nearly expended ; I therefore had only to

chuse between preparing to surrender next day, or endeavouring to get off with the greatest part of the troops, and I determined to attempt the latter, reflecting that though it should prove unsuccessful in its immediate object, it might at least delay the enemy in the prosecution of further enterprises : sixteen large boats were prepared, and upon other pretexts were ordered to be in readiness to receive troops precisely at ten o'clock. With these I hoped to pass the infantry during the night, abandoning our baggage, and leaving a detachment to capitulate for the town's people, and the sick and wounded ; on which subject a letter was ready to be delivered to General Washington. After making my arrangements with the utmost secrecy, the Light Infantry, greatest part of the Guards, and part of the twenty third regiment landed at Gloucester ; but at this critical moment, the weather from being moderate and calm, changed to a most violent storm of wind and rain, and drove all the boats, some of which had troops on board, down the river. It was soon evident that the intended passage was impracticable, and the absence of the boats rendered it equally impossible to bring back the troops that had passed ; which I had ordered about two in the morning. In this situation, with my little force divided, the enemy's batteries opened at day break ; the passage between this place and Gloucester was much exposed, but the boats having now returned, they were ordered to bring back the troops that had passed during the night, and they joined us in the forenoon without much loss. Our works in the mean time were going to ruin, and not having been able to strengthen them by abatis, nor in any other manner but by a slight fraizing which the enemy's artillery were demolishing wherever they fired, my opinion entirely coincided with that of the engineer and principal officers of the army, that they were in many places assailable in the forenoon, and

that by the continuance of the same fire for a few hours longer, they would be in such a state as to render it desperate with our numbers to attempt to maintain them. We at that time could not fire a single gun, only one eight-inch and little more than an hundred cohorn shells remained ; a diversion by the French ships of war that lay at the mouth of York-river, was to be expected. Our numbers had been diminished by the enemy's fire, but particularly by sickness, and the strength and spirits of those in the works were much exhausted by the fatigue of constant watching and unremitting duty. Under all these circumstances, I thought it would have been wanton and inhuman to the last degree to sacrifice the lives of this small body of gallant soldiers, who had ever behaved with so much fidelity and courage, by exposing them to an assault, which from the numbers and precautions of the enemy could not fail to succeed. I therefore proposed to capitulate, and I have the honour to inclose to your Excellency the copy of the correspondence between General Washington and me on that subject, and the terms of capitulation agreed upon. I sincerely lament that better could not be obtained, but I have neglected nothing in my power to alleviate the misfortune and distress of both officers and soldiers. The men are well cloathed and provided with necessaries, and I trust will be regularly supplied by the means of the officers that are permitted to remain with them. The treatment, in general, that we have received from the enemy since our surrender, has been perfectly good and proper ; but the kindness and attention that has been shewn to us by the French officers in particular, their delicate sensibility of our situation, their generous and pressing offer of money both public and private, to any amount, has really gone beyond what I can possibly describe, and will, I hope, make an impression on the breast

of every British officer, whenever the fortune of war should put any of them into our power.

Although the event has been so unfortunate, the patience of the soldiers in bearing the greatest fatigues, and their firmness and intrepidity under a persevering fire of shot and shells, that I believe has not often been exceeded, deserved the highest admiration and praise. A successful defence, however, in our situation was perhaps impossible, for the place could only be reckoned an intrenched camp, subject in most places to enfilade, and the ground in general so disadvantageous, that nothing but the necessity of fortifying it as a post to protect the navy, could have induced any person to erect works upon it. Our force diminished daily by sickness and other losses, and was reduced when we offered to capitulate on this side to little more than three thousand two hundred rank and file fit for duty, including officers, servants, and artificers; and at Gloucester about six hundred, including cavalry. The enemy's army consisted of upwards of eight thousand French, nearly as many continentals, and five thousand militia. They brought an immense train of heavy artillery, most amply furnished with ammunition, and perfectly well manned.

The constant and universal cheerfulness and spirit of the officers in all hardships and danger, deserve my warmest acknowledgments; and I have been particularly indebted to Brigadier-general O'Hara, and to Lieutenant-colonel Abercrombie, the former commanding on the right and the latter on the left, for their attention and exertion on every occasion. The detachment of the twenty-third regiment of Marines in the redoubt on the right, commanded by Captain Apthorpe, and the subsequent detachments commanded by Lieutenant-colonel Johnson, deserve particular commendation. Captain Rochfort who commanded the artillery, and indeed every officer and soldier of that distin-

guished corps; and Lieutenant Sutherland the commanding Engineer have merited in every respect my highest approbation; and I cannot sufficiently acknowledge my obligations to Captain Symonds, who commanded his Majesty's ships, and to the other officers and seamen of the navy or their active and zealous co-operation.

I transmit returns of our killed and wounded; the loss of seamen and towns people was likewise considerable.

I trust that your Excellency will please to hasten the return of the Bonetta, after landing her passengers, in compliance with the article of capitulation.

Lieutenant-colonel Abercrombie will have the honour to deliver this dispatch, and is well qualified to explain to your Excellency every particular relating to our past and present situation.

I have the honour to be, &c.

CORNWALLIS.

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## THE MARQUIS DE LA FAYETTE'S

### MOVEMENTS AND OPERATIONS IN VIRGINIA, IN 1781.

[We submit here an Extract from a small pamphlet, entitled "A Narrative of My Life, for my Family;" by the Late Judge Brooke: which may well follow the preceding article, as it gives us some further items of information relating to Lord Cornwallis's Movements and Operations in Virginia, in 1781, and the consequences of them; and, more particularly, furnishes us with some account of the Marquis de La Fayette's Movements and Operations in our State, while he was watching and waiting on him, during the same period; all which our readers will find pleasant and interesting.]

The condition of Virginia can hardly be imagined, her soldiers were nearly all in the army of Gen. Green; her



military stores exhausted by constant supplies to the Southern Army—yet there was a spirit and energy in her people to overcome all her difficulties. I was continued in the command of the Magazine. Lord Cornwallis having crossed the James river, at Westover, I was ordered to remove it to the South side of the river, and carried it to Brittan's Ferry, on the opposite side of the river, from whence I was ordered to remove it back again to Westham, where it remained until I was ordered to throw the cannon into the creek, and carry the rest of the stores to the Point of Fork, now Columbia—as I did. From thence I was ordered to carry a large portion of the powder and small arms, &c., to Henderson's Ford, now Milton, four miles below Charlottesville; there I remained until Col. Tarleton came to the latter place. There was a Capt. Lieutenant Bohannon, who had come a few days before, and who ordered me to remain where I was, and defend the Magazine against any detachment that might be sent to take it, until I heard that Tarleton had crossed the river at Charlottesville, after which I should join the Baron Steuben, at the Point of Fork. About eleven o'clock, I heard that Tarleton had crossed the river at Charlottesville, and driven away the Legislature. I then commenced my march to join the Baron Steuben. My Orderly, through an interval in the wood, pointed out some of Tarleton's dragoons on the mountain, those that had been sent to catch the Governor, Jefferson. I continued my march, but took the Blenheim road, instead of the Point of Fork road, by mistake, by which I escaped Tarleton; as he says in his book which I have, that, immediately on dispersing the Legislature and Governor, he took the road to the Point of Fork, to meet Lord Cornwallis' Eighth Infantry. By the road I took, I was thrown on the South of him, and, about a quarter of an hour by sun, I met a man who, on my inquiry,

informed me I was five miles from the Baron's encampment, then occupied by Lord Cornwallis' light infantry, who had driven the Baron across the river that morning. Capt. Bohannon having ordered me, if I could not join the Baron, to proceed to Staunton, and from thence to join the corps to which I belonged, in the army of the Marquis La Fayette, I required the man to conduct me to the nearest crossing place on the South branch of James river, by sunrise the next morning, and he conducted me to the mouth of Hardware, and I there crossed the river.

The next day I met Col. Davis who, under the Baron, had the ordering the new recruits and detached parties. I had known him before, and without any salutations, he asked me where I was going. I told him I was going to Buckingham Court-House, to get provisions for the men, for that though I had an impress warrant in my pocket, I did not like to execute it, when public stores could be got; to which he replied, that Lord Cornwallis' light infantry would be there before me. I said, I had left them in the Fork the night before; on which he said, "you will do as you please."

Such was the panic every where, that on the next day, the soldiers under my command, seemed to have caught it, for in turning a lane on our march, some recruits of Capt. Armand's troop came in front, and most of them fled and left me standing in the road almost alone; yet these men had fought under that gallant officer, Major Porterfield, at Gates' defeat! They returned, however, to their ranks, and we continued our march to Staunton, to which place I was ordered, as I have said, if I could not join the Baron Steuben, at the Point of Fork.

The next day I crossed the Ridge, about six miles to the South of Rockfish Gap. When I got to where Waynesborough is, I found a large force of eight hundred or a

thousand riflemen, under the command of a General McDowell, who Gov. McDowell has told me, was from North Carolina. He stopped me, saying he had orders to stop all troops and to defend the Gap. I replied that I belonged to the Continental Army, and had orders to go to Staunton, and said to the men, "move on," and he let me pass.

At that time I suppose a regimental coat had never been seen on that side of the mountains—nothing but hunting-shirts—I marched with drums beating and colors flying, and some one seeing the troops, carried the news to Staunton, that Tarleton had crossed the Mountain, and the Legislature then sitting there, ran off again; but, learning the mistake, rallied and returned next day. In the morning I entered the town. There, for a few days, I heard Patrick Henry, Richard Henry' Lee, George Nicholas, and my neighbour, Mann Page, of Mansfield.

It may seem strange that so young as I was, not yet seventeen years old, that I should have the command that I had. But I had been in command of about seventy-five men, to guard the Magazine and to make cartridges, post-fire, &c., and when I arrived at Staunton, Col. Davis whom I found there, insisted on retaining me in that service, but Capt. Fleming Gaines, who belonged to Harrison's regiment of artillery, ordered me to join my corps as speedily as I could in the army of the Marquis, and furnished me with his horses and servant to do so.

In a few days I left Staunton, and took the road by what is now Port Republic, to cross the Ridge at Swift Run Gap. A curious incident occurred; one of the horses was taken lame, and I stopped at a smith's shop to have his shoes repaired. The people were all Dutch and spoke no English; seeing me in regimentals, they took me for a British officer, and detained me some time as their prisoner, until one of them came who understood some English, and I showed

him my commission, and they let me pass. At that time Lord Cornwallis having learned that the Pennsylvania line had arrived at Culpeper Court-House, changed his route. His first design was to burn Hunter's Iron Works, above Falmouth, which were very valuable. His information must have been very bad; the Pennsylvania line, as it was called, had been disbanded for mutiny in the North, and again recruited, and did not number more than six or seven hundred men, commanded by Gen. Wayne. Gen. Weedon at the same time commanded a small body of militia, near Fredericksburg, from which he had nothing to fear in his progress to burn the iron works. He, however, began to retire, when the Marquis re-crossed the Rappahannock, at the Raccoon Ford, and by opening an old road, threw himself between Lord Cornwallis and our remaining stores in the upper country, and followed Lord Cornwallis at a respectful distance.

The corps of Tarleton and Simcoe, in the mean time, rejoined him, and he halted but one day on the heights, above Goochland Court-House; when the Marquis also retrograded and placed the army behind Mechunck's Creek—I think they called it, in Fluvanna. Both armies proceeded slowly towards Richmond, and at Westham I found a corps of which my brother ROBERT, afterwards Governor of the State, was a volunteer. He was captured by a troop of Simcoe's regiment, commanded by Capt. Loller. Lord Cornwallis kept on his way to Williamsburg, and the Marquis halted a few miles below New Kent Court House, where, on the 4th of July, the army was reviewed and fired a feu de joie.

I was attached to Gen. Lawson's brigade, with one six pounder, and had some opportunity to know the whole force of the American army. It consisted of eight thousand militia, Stephens' and Lawson's brigades; of one

thousand light infantry, New England troops, brought on by the Marquis, (fine troops they were;) the Pennsylvania line, as it was called, between six and seven hundred men, commanded by Gen. Wayne, with a good train of artillery; one thousand Riflemen, under Gen. Campbell, of King's Mountain, and part of the regiment of Virginia Continental troops, under Colonel Febiger, a Dane; a vidette corps of dragoons, under Captain Larkin Smith; and a single company of Harrison's regiment of artillery to which I belonged; there were some additional militia, under Major Willis. The British army was more efficient; seven thousand infantry, who had fought the battles of the South; Tarleton's and Simcoe's full regiments of cavalry, and a fine train of artillery. These were all troops that could not be easily driven out of a field of battle. The Marquis, in a few days, marched to the Cross-roads and the Burnt Ordinary, sixteen miles from Williamsburg. (The skirmish at Hot Water, by Col. Butler, of the Pennsylvania line, and Major John Willis, with some Virginia militia, had occurred a few days before.)

While the army lay on this ground, Lord Cornwallis marched from Williamsburg to Green Spring, or Jamestown. The morning of that battle, Major Geo. Washington, an old schoolmate, the second aid to the Marquis, was at our quarters, and was asked if the Marquis knew where Lord Cornwallis was, and whether he had crossed the river. His reply was, that Gen. Wayne had been sent on that morning to find out where he was. Tarleton, in his journal, says, that one or two days before, he had bribed a white man and a negro to go out, and, if they met with any American detachments, to inform them that the British army, except a small portion of it, had crossed the river. It was this negro who fell in with Gen. Wayne, who, on his report, marched down and attacked the whole

British army. Tarleton is wrong in supposing that the Marquis intended to bring on a general engagement; on the contrary, at 12 o'clock, when he learned that Wayne was in some danger, he ordered Col. Galvan, who belonged to his light infantry, to run down with only one hundred men to his relief, while he, with Capt. John F. Mercer's troop of horse, who had lately joined, and some militia riflemen, followed to support him. The Marquis certainly had no idea of a general battle, as the rest of the army remained quietly in their encampment the whole of the day. General Wayne brought on the battle; relying on the intelligence the negro gave him, whom Tarleton had bribed; for which his troops suffered very much. He, as Tarleton says, attacked the whole British army, and got off only by Lord Cornwallis supposing that a general action was intended by the Marquis, and taking time to prepare for it. Wayne not only lost his artillery, but had, I think, eleven officers badly wounded, whom I saw the next morning under the hands of the Surgeon, at the church, in the rear of our encampment. I think it is very certain that the Marquis, at this time, intended no general battle; nor did Lord Cornwallis either. His object was to cross the river and fall down to Portsmouth, that he might send the reinforcement required of him by Gen. Clinton, who apprehended an attack by Gen. Washington, and the Count Rochambeau, who was hourly expected to arrive with the French troops from the West Indies.

In a few days after the battle of Green Spring, the single company of artillery of Harrison's regiment to which I belonged, was ordered to the South. It was to proceed to Charlottesville by the way of Goochland Court-House. All the officers, except myself, had leave to take their homes in their way, and I was left to conduct the company until they should join at the general rendezvous at Cum-

berland old Court House, where Col. Febiger, a Dane, an officer in the Continental army of Virginia, an excellent tactician, had the command.

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## A RECOLLECTION OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTIONARY WAR.

BY A BRITISH OFFICER.

[We find the following narrative which we may well consider as a sort of Sequel to Lord Cornwallis's Surrender at York, in an old volume of the Military and Naval Magazine of the U. S. where it appears as taken from the United Service Journal, of November, 1834; and readily transfer it to our own pages where it will be at least equally in place.]

All the world is aware, that in the month of October 1781, after a defence which scarcely sustained his high reputation as a commander, Lord Cornwallis came to the melancholy resolution of surrendering to the arms of France and America the posts of Yorktown and Gloucester. Deceived he doubtless had been by Sir Henry Clinton, and the defences of the place, imperfect at the best, were in ruins. His projected burst from Gloucester, likewise, had been thwarted; though it may admit of a question whether it ought not sooner to have been tried. But however this may be—and at present it is not my business to argue the point—his Lordship found himself incapable of further resistance; and on the 17th wrote to General Washington a despatch, of which the following is a copy:—

“SIR,—I propose a cessation of hostilities for twenty-four hours, and that two officers may be appointed by each side to meet at Mr. Moore's house, to settle terms for the surrender of the posts at York and Gloucester.”

General Washington's reply was very characteristic of the man—gentlemanlike, formal, but quite decided:—

“MY LORD,—I have the honor of receiving your Lordship's letter of this date. An ardent desire to save the effusion of blood will readily incline me to listen to such terms for the surrender of your posts and garrisons at York and Gloucester as are admissible. I wish, previous to the meeting of the commissioners, that your Lordship's proposals may be sent to the American lines, for which purpose a suspension of hostilities during two hours from the delivery of this letter, shall be granted.”

So began a negotiation, concerning which all the world is aware that it ended in a treaty by which the posts in question were given up, and the British and German troops, to the number of 7,000 men, together with the crews of one or two armed vessels, which kept guard in the river, became prisoners of war—the former to the Americans, the latter, with the shipping and stores, to the French Admiral.

On the 18th of October the terms of capitulation were ratified, and on the 19th the garrison marched to the spot agreed upon. Drums were beat, but the colors remained in their cases—an idle retaliation for a very idle slight which had been put by our people on the American garrison of Charleston; and the regiments having formed in columns at quarter distance, the men laid down their arms. It is a sorry reminiscence this; yet the scene made a deep impression at the moment, for the mortification and unfeigned sorrow of the soldiers will never fade from my memory. Some went so far as to shed tears, while one man, a corporal, who stood near me, embraced his firelock, and then threw it on the ground, exclaiming, “May you never get so good a master again!” Nevertheless, to do them justice, the Americans behaved with great delicacy and forbearance; while the French, by what motive actuated I



will not pretend to say, were profuse in their protestations of sympathy. Crapeau is a singular compound of good and bad qualities; brave, insolent, vain even in his acts of kindness, yet not wanting in generosity and chivalrous feeling. For myself, when I visited their lines, which I did immediately after our parade had been dismissed, I was overwhelmed with the civility of my late enemies. One pointed to a newly made grave in the parapet of a battery, which our troops, in the course of a recent sortie, had entered. "Un de vos braves gens," said he; and it was so; for there lay a sergeant of the Guards, who had fallen in the attack. While others freely tendered their purses, of which, fortunately for myself, and perhaps not less fortunately for them, I was not under the necessity of taking advantage. "Je n'ai rien à vous offrir," said one officer, evidently a person of rank, though his name I had no opportunity to ascertain, "car je n'aurai rien pour cinquante ans de service que la petite croix et le rhumatisme." I made my acknowledgments in the best way I could, and returned to my comrades.

Among other stipulations, it had been agreed upon by article 5, that "the soldiers should be kept in Virginia, Maryland, or in Pennsylvania, as much by regiments as possible, and that they should be supplied with the same rations of provisions as are allowed to soldiers in the service of America." The article went on to say, "A field officer from each nation, to wit, British, Anspach, and Hessian, and other officers on parole, in the proportion of one to fifty men, to be allowed to reside near their respective regiments, to visit them frequently, and to be witnesses of their treatment." I happened to be numbered among the officers on whom the lot fell to keep with the men; and our British field-officer was Major Gordon—a man whose memoir will be cherished as long as a single individual

shall survive of all who shared in that captivity. He took the place of a field officer of the Guards, whose turn of duty it was, but who exhibited such reluctance that this high-minded officer interfered, rightly judging that he whose heart is not with his men will never apply, as he ought to do, his whole faculties to ensure their comfort. But let that pass. My purpose is sufficiently served when I say that Major Gordon acted as our superintendent, and that we never found cause to express other feelings than those of thankfulness that the case was so.

On the 20th of October the British troops marched out of York in two divisions; one of which, guarded by State soldiers, proceeded towards Maryland, while the other, to which I was attached, went, under an escort of militia, to the westward of Virginia. The journey was as little disagreeable as any compulsory movement, performed under such circumstances, could well be. The militia-men proved particularly kind; for they not only permitted our people to carry away fence-rails for fire-wood, but protected them, while in the act of doing so, from the threatened vengeance of the proprietors. To be sure there was a motive for this, apart from a generous desire to see their prisoners accommodated: no good understanding existed at this time between the inhabitants of Lower and Upper Virginia, and as our guards chanced to belong to the latter province, they were not very fastidious in their dealings with the proprietors of the former.

In the course of this march we traversed the lower ridge of the Blue Mountains, by a pass called Ashby's Gap. While the head of the column was yet a good way off, I rode forward, and alighted at an inn which was kept by a person named Ashby, about half-way down the gorge. The hostess met me at the door—"A militiaman, I guess," said she. "No, ma'm," was my reply. "Continental,

mayhap? "No m<sup>a</sup>'m." "Oh, I see," exclaimed the old lady, "you're one of the sarpants—ould Wallace's men. Well, now, I have two sons—one was at the catching of Johnny Burgoyne, the other at the catching of you, and they are both going next year to catch Clinton at New York. But you shall be kindly treated: my mother was from the old country." And the honest woman kept her word. I was very kindly treated; and what is more, the reckoning proved to be unusually moderate, even for that cheap country.

I pass over the remainder of our march, during which no adventure befell that deserves, as far as my memory bears me out, minute repetition. Winchester was the place of our destination; an inconsiderable town in those days, and surrounded at a short distance by gigantic forests, amid which were erected some straggling villages of log-huts, for the accommodation partly of the prisoners taken in the affair of Cowpens, partly of the troops employed to watch them. Thither our men were conducted; and though the lodging was indifferent, and the issue of provisions, particularly of flour, very irregular, of the treatment which they received, both from the guards and the country people, they had no reason to complain. The former put them under little or no restraint; while the latter gave them frequent invitations to their farm-houses, from accepting which we did not, for obvious reasons, think it necessary to restrict them.

As the winter drew on, the hardships to which our men became exposed, increased greatly. The huts, besides that they were inconveniently few in number, proved, in many instances, pervious to the weather, and the health of their inmates began in consequence to suffer. I applied, under such circumstances, to the commissary and obtained from him an order that a church in town, capable of containing

500 persons, should be set apart for their use. But the arrangement was scarcely complete when I received a message from Brigadier-General Morgan, intimating that the church must be immediately given up. I ventured to remonstrate, in a letter written with all possible mildness, and in a strain which could not fail, as I conceived, to melt the heart of the rugged republican. The following is a copy of his answer:—

“SARATOGA, 28th Nov. 1781.

SIR,—I received your letter of this day's date, and am really surprised at the contents of it. Two or three days before Christmas, our army began to hut at Middleton, in the Jerseys, and had nothing to keep off the inclemency of the weather till huts were built. You have time enough. This snow won't last long; it will be gone immediately. If your men don't know how to work, they must learn. We did not send for them to come amongst us, neither can we work for them to build them houses. I have been a prisoner as well as they, and was kept in close jail five months and thirteen days—thirty-six officers and their servants in one room, so that when we lay down on our straw, we covered the whole floor. Consider this, and your men have nothing to grumble at. Colonel Holmes, though a commissary of prisoners, is under control. You have nothing to do but hut your men as fast as you can, for that must be the case. I have sent to General Washington, informing him of all matters—of what I had done and intended to do; and as he has never yet found fault with my conduct, you'll conclude from this that Colonel Holmes must obey my orders. The sooner your men hut themselves the better, for they must not remain in town much longer. I will try to redress every grievance as well as I can; but this I cannot look upon as a grievance. If we

had barracks to afford them, they should have them; but as we have them not, they must cover themselves—at least, I would recommend it to them, or they will suffer. I have written this letter in a plain rough style, that you might know what you had to depend upon, at which I hope you will not take umbrage.”

The receipt of this letter, while it left little reason to hope that the writer would be induced by further discussion to change his mind, excited in me a good deal of curiosity to meet him; and I was very glad when, a few days afterwards, he visited Winchester. I sent him an invitation to dinner, which he accepted without scruple; and a very pleasant evening we spent together. The landlord of the house in which I lodged being a militia colonel, made one of the party, between whom and the brigadier some interesting conversation passed. It may be necessary to state that Morgan had commanded a battalion of riflemen, which performed good service in various quarters, and that he had been actively engaged in the operations which ended in the surrender of General Burgoyne. He alluded to that affair with undisguised triumph, and spoke with more volubility, perhaps, than good taste, of his own exploits on the occasion. “Oh, we whopped them tarnation well, surelie,” said he, rubbing his hands; “though to be sure they gave us tough work too. But it was on the 7th of October that the rifles settled the business. Me and my boys attacked a height that day, and druv Ackland and his grenadiers; but we were hardly on the top when the British rallied, and came on again with such fury that nothing could stop them. I saw that they were led by an officer on a grey horse—a devilish brave fellow; so, when we took the height a second time, says I to one of my best shots, says I, you get up into that there tree, and single out him on the white horse. Dang it, ’twas no sooner said

than done. On came the British again, with the grey horseman leading; but his career was short enough this time. I jist tuck my eyes off him for a moment, and when I turned them to the place where he had been—pooh, he was gone!”

I knew at once that he spoke of General Fraser, who rode that day a grey horse, and fell from a rifle ball through the body. But Morgan did not confine his loquacity to communications like this. He told us that the British owed him a lash: that he drove one of the waggons which accompanied General Braddock's army, and being a giddy young man, that he had, on a certain occasion, knocked down a sentinel; for that offence he had been condemned to receive four hundred lashes, of which only three hundred and ninety-nine were inflicted—“I counted them myself,” continued he, laughing, “and am sure that I am right; nay, I convinced the drum-major of his mistake, but they wouldn't tie me up again; so I am still their creditor to the amount of one lash.”

Whether the intercourse which I had thus established with General Morgan operated at all in our favor, I do not know; but within a few days an order arrived directing us to march, not into the woods again, but to a comfortable barrack, surrounded by a high stockade, about ten miles south of the Susquehanna river. Here, in the vicinity of Little York, we passed some time agreeably enough; for though the men were more strictly watched than at Winchester, their quarters were much less inconvenient, and their provisions more abundant, as well as supplied with increased regularity. Besides, we had frequent opportunities of communicating with Philadelphia, and occasionally with New York itself; while the newspapers that from time to time reached us from the former city, proved extremely acceptable.

## GAZETTEIANA.

NO. IV.

[We conclude here our Extracts from the old Virginia Gazette, begun in our last January number: see page 20.]

Williamsburg, April 4, 1766.

*At a meeting of a considerable number of inhabitants of the town and county of Norfolk and others, SONS OF LIBERTY, at the court-house of the said county, in the Colony of Virginia, on Monday the 31st of March, 1766.*

HAVING taken into consideration the evil tendency of that oppressive and unconstitutional act of Parliament commonly called the Stamp Act, and being desirous that our sentiments should be known to posterity, and recollecting that we are a part of that colony who first, in General Assembly, openly expressed their detestation of the said act, which is pregnant with ruin, and productive of the most pernicious consequences; and unwilling to rivet the shackles of slavery and oppression on ourselves, and millions yet unborn, have unanimously come to the following resolutions:

I. Resolved, That we acknowledge our Sovereign Lord King George III. to be our rightful and lawful King, and that we will, at all times, to the utmost of our power and ability, support and defend his most sacred person, crown, and dignity; and will be always ready, when constitutionally called upon, to assist his Majesty with our lives and fortunes, and defend all his just rights and prerogatives.

II. Resolved, That we will by all lawful ways and means, which Divine Providence hath put into our hands, defend ourselves in the full enjoyment of, and preserve inviolate to posterity, those inestimable privileges of all free born British subjects, of being taxed by none but Rep-

representatives of their own choosing, and of being tried only by a Jury of their own Peers; for if we quietly submit to the execution of the said Stamp Act, all our claims to civil liberty will be lost, and we and our posterity become absolute slaves.

III. Resolved, That we will on any future occasion, sacrifice our lives and fortunes, in concurrence with the other Sons of Liberty, in the American provinces, to defend and preserve those invaluable blessings transmitted by our ancestors.

IV. Resolved, That whoever is concerned, directly or indirectly, in using, or causing to be used, in any way or manner whatever, within this colony, unless authorized by the General Assembly thereof, those detestable papers called the Stamps, shall be deemed to all intents and purposes, an enemy to his country, and by the Sons of Liberty treated accordingly, &c.

Williamsburg, May 2.

GREAT AND GLORIOUS NEWS TO AMERICA, and comfortable news to the PRINTER of the VIRGINIA Gazette.

An Express arrived in town this evening from Mr. Jordan, who came passenger in the *Lord Baltimore*, Captain *Mitchell*, arrived in *York river* from *London*, who brings a certain account of the repeal of the abhorred STAMP ACT. The publication of our paper, upon this account, will be later than usual; but the occasion of it, we are almost sure, will plead our excuse. After reading the following, let the cheerful song go round; for Britons, *Britons* never will be slaves. L

“A bill for the better securing the dependency of his Majesty's dominions of America upon the crown and Parliament of Great Britain,” &c.



Williamsburg, June 20.

On Friday last, a good deal of company being in town at the Oyer and Terminer Court, our gratitude and thankfulness upon the joyful occasion of the repeal of the Stamp Act, and the universal pleasure and satisfaction it gives that all differences between the mother country and her colonies are so happily terminated, was manifested here by general illuminations, and a ball and elegant entertainment at the Capitol, at which was present His Honour the Governour, many of the Members of His Majesty's Council, and a large and genteel company of Ladies and Gentlemen, who spent the evening with much mirth and decorum, and drank all the loyal and patriotick toasts.

[NOTE.—The "glorious news" had been celebrated in the loyal and patriotic Borough of Norfolk, (always foremost in festivities,) on Thursday the 22d of May before.]

Williamsburg, Jan. 20, 1774.

A Lady's Adieu to her TEA TABLE.

FAREWELL the Tea Board, with its gaudy Equipage,  
 Of Cups and Saucers, Cream Bucket, Sugar Tongs,  
 The pretty Tea Chest also lately stor'd  
 With Hyson, Congo, and best Double Fine.  
 Full many a joyous Moment have I sat by ye  
 Hearing the Girls' Tattle, the Old Maids talk Scandal,  
 And the spruce Coxcomb laugh at—may be—Nothing.  
 No more shall I dish ont the once lov'd Liqueur,  
 Though now detestable [it is to me,]  
 Because I'm taught (and I believe it true)  
 Its use will *fasten slavish Chains upon my Country,*  
 And LIBERTY's the Goddess I would choose  
 To reign triumphant in AMERICA.

Williamsburg, Feb. 17, 1774.

MAJOR General LEE, in his Polish Majesty's Service,

but a Native of Great Britain, arrived a few Days ago at Hampton, from New York, on a tour through the Colonies.

### Marriages.

ARCHIBALD BOLLING, Esq, to Miss JANE RANDOLPH, second Daughter of Richard Randolph Esq, of Curle's.

JOHN PARKE CUSTIS Esq to Miss ELEANOR CALVERT of Maryland.

Williamsburg, March 3rd, 1774.

LAST Saturday Evening the Right Honourable the Countess of DUNMORE, with Lord Fincastle, the Honourable Alexander and John Murray, and the Ladies Catharine, Augusta and Susan Murray, accompanied by Captain Foy and his Lady, arrived at the Palace in this City; to the great joy of his Excellency the Governour, and the inexpressible Pleasure and Satisfaction of the Inhabitants, who made a general Illumination upon the happy Occasion, and with repeated Acclamations welcomed her Ladyship and Family to Virginia.

Williamsburg, March 24, 1774.

By the Brigantine Abby, Captain Herbert, arrived at Norfolk, we learn that Advice was received in England of the Destruction of the East India Company's Tea at Boston, which had caused several Meetings of the Directors, but did not make that Noise which was first expected.

April 7, 1774.

LENT to some of my Acquaintance, or lost, DR. BEATTIE ON TRUTH, and REID ON THE HUMAN MIND. Any Person who has either of those Books will oblige me by informing the Printer thereof, or returning them to me. The Name at the Bottom of the Coat of Arms denotes the Owner.

RALPH WORMLEY Junior.

March 24th, 1774.

THE next Meeting of The Subscribers to the Fund for the Relief of the Widows and Orphans of Clergymen is to be held on Saturday the 30th of April. Officers for the present Year are the Reverend John Camm, Treasurer, Reverend Benjamin Blagrove, Henry Skyring, James Maury Fontaine, Thomas Price, William Bland, and Alexander White, Trustees, the Reverend William Leigh, Morning Preacher, and the Reverend John Bracken, Afternoon Preacher.

Jacob Bruce, Clerk.

Williamsburg, April 21st, 1774.

The Members of the Society lately instituted for promoting useful knowledge are desired to attend at the Capital on Tuesday the 3rd of May, that being one of the Days appointed for their annual Meetings.

THE Fair in *Richmond* Town begins the second *Thursday* in *May*, (being the 12th.) &c.

SUFFOLK, March 15, 1774.

THE Subscriber has for Sale about 19,000 Weight of VIRGINIA RICE thought to be equal in Quality to that of SOUTH CAROLINA. Any Person wanting to purchase may, in my Absence apply to Mr. *Wills Cowper*, Merchant in *Suffolk*.

JOHN WASHINGTON.

NORFOLK, April 21, 1774.

NOTICE is hereby given, that a Number of Vessels will be wanted this Summer to bring about 6000 Tons of STONE from Mr. Brooke's Quarry on Rappahannock, and land the same on *Cape Henry*, for the Lighthouse, &c., &c.

BASSETT MOSELEY.

NORFOLK, May 3, 1774.

Yesterday was celebrated in this Place the Anniversary of ST. TAMMINY, the tutelar Saint of the *American Colonies*. At one o'clock a Royal Salute of 21 Guns, from a Battery erected for the Purpose, ushered in the Rejoicings of the Day; and in the Evening a grand Entertainment was given, at the Mason's Hall, by the Sons of the Saint, to which there was a general Invitation and the Company exceedingly numerous and brilliant, consisting of near 400 Persons. At six the Ball was opened, by one of our Burgesses, in the Character of KING TAMMINY, properly accoutred in the ancient Habit of this Country, at which Time another Royal Salute was given. The Ladies, whose fair Bosoms on this Occasion seemed more particularly animated with a generous Love of their Country, indulged the Company with their Presence till four in the Morning, and after their Retirement, the Sons of ST. TAMMINY, according to the immemorial Custom of these Countries, encircled their *King*, and practised the ancient mysterious *War Dance*, so highly descriptive of the warmest Attachment and Freedom of Spirit. The whole was conducted with the strictest Decorum, and to the universal Satisfaction of the Assembly; while the Cordiality with which the Sons of the brother Saints, *St. George, St. Andrew, St. Patrick and St. David* entered into the general Mirth of the Evening, gave particular Pleasure; and was truly emblematical of that happy Union which has long subsisted between the Parent State and her Colonies, while *Britain* was *just* and *America* was *free*, and which every Lover of his Country would wish should still subsist, for *Age*; yet to come.

Fredericksburg, June 2nd, 1774.

Yesterday being the Day set apart by the Members of

✓ the late House of Burgesses as a Day of Fasting, Humiliation, and Prayer, devoutly to implore the Divine Interposition for averting the heavy Calamity which threatens Destruction to the civil Rights of America, the same was accordingly observed by the Inhabitants of this Place, who repaired to Church and heard an excellent Sermon preached by the Reverend James Marye, from Psalm xii, Verse iii—Help Lord, for the godly Man *ceaseth, for the Faithful fail from among the Children of Men*—The Reverend Mr. Wilson read Prayers.

✓ Much Credit is due to the Ladies for the Part they took in our Association, and it does Honour to their Sex; for no sooner were they made acquainted with the Resolution to prohibit the use of TEA, after the first of June; but before the Day came, they sealed up the stock which they had on Hand and vowed never more to use it till the oppressive Act imposing a Duty thereon should be repealed. May their Example be followed by all the Ladies on this Continent!

Williamsburg, June 16, 1774.

Yesterday the Society for the Advancement of useful Knowledge met at the Capitol, when the Honourable *John Page* of *Rosewell* was chosen President, *George Wythe*, Esq, Vice-President, Mr. *James Madison*, Professor of Natural Philosophy in the College of *William & Mary*, and the Reverend Mr. *Robert Andrews* of *York* Secretary, *David Jameison*, Esq., Treasurer, and Mr. *James Madison* Curator.

A pecuniary Reward and Medal were voted to Mr. *Holiday* for his Model of a very ingenious and useful Machine for threshing out Wheat.

Doctor *Franklin* and Doctor *Lettsom* of *London*, the Reverend *Thomas Baldwin*, and *John Baldwin*, Esq. of *Chester*

in England, Doctor *Smith* Provost of the College, Doctor *Morgan*, Doctor *Rush*, and Mr. *Rittenhouse* of *Philädelphia*, *Edward Fay*, Esq; of New York, Doctor *Steward* of *Bla-densburg*, Maryland, and Doctor *Smibert* of *Boston* were chosen corresponding Members.

Williamsburg, August 11, 1774.

In Consequence of an Invitation from the Honourable **PEYTON RANDOLPH**, Esq; our worthy Representative, there was yesterday a very full Meeting of the Inhabitants of this City at the Courthouse, when they generally approved of the Association entered into by the Delegates from the several Counties of this Colony, and subscribed thereto; and, at the same time, contributed most generously for the Relief of our distressed Fellow Subjects at Boston, both in Cash and Provisions.

Williamsburg, Aug. 25th, 1774.

Last Night an Express arrived from Pittsylvania County, who brings the melancholy Intelligence that several Families have been lately cut off at Sinking Creek, on the Line between this Colony and North Carolina, by Parties of Choctaw, Shawanese, and Delaware Indians; and that it was reported there were ten Nations who had leagued to go to War against the Settlements, some of them very powerful. We hear the Express was sent by Colonel Gordon of Pittsylvania, requesting a Supply of Arms and Ammunition (of which it seems the back Inhabitants are in great Want) the young Men there having declared their Readiness to go out in their Country's Defence, and for the Protection of their Properties and Friends from the Cruelty and Depredations of the Savages.

Lord Dunmore, we hear, with about 1500 Men under his Command, was to march in a few days for the Mouth of New River, where he is to be joined by Colonel Lewis

and Colonel Preston with a Body of 12 or 1500 Men more; their Destination is said to be against some of the Indian Towns.

Williamsburg, Oct. 6th, 1774.

By Advices from the Frontiers, we learn that his Excellency the Right Honourable the Earl of Dunmore has concluded a Peace with the Tribe of Delaware Indians, and purchased from them their Lands, which they are speedily to evacuate, and that they have given the strongest Assurances, that they never more will take up the Hatchet against the English.

Williamsburg, Friday Oct. 28th, 1774.

We have just received Intelligence that EDMUND PENDLETON and PATRICK HENRY Esquires are come home from the General Congress, which broke up last Saturday; and that the Honourable PEYTON RANDOLPH, Esq, with some more of the Delegates were to leave Philadelphia the Day after, so that they may be hourly expected.

Williamsburg, January 20, 1775.

The several counties and corporations in this Colony are requested to elect Delegates to represent them in Convention, who are desired to meet at the Town of RICHMOND, in the County of HENRICO, on Monday the 21st of March next.

PEYTON RANDOLPH, Moderator.

Williamsburg, Feb. 4, 1775.

Yesterday at a meeting of the inhabitants of this city, the Hon. PEYTON RANDOLPH, Esq; was unanimously chosen their Delegate to attend the Convention at the Town of Richmond, on the 20th of next month.

The squadron in North America under command of Vice

Admiral Graves, now consists of 24 ships of war and armed schooners, their total amount of guns 502, and 3475 men.

The following is said to be a message from Captain Logan, (an Indian warrior,) to Governor Dunmore, after the battle in which Col. Charles Lewis was slain, delivered at the treaty. "I appeal to any white man to say that he ever entered Logan's cabin but I gave him meat; that he ever came naked but I clothed him. In the course of the last war, Logan remained in his cabin an advocate for peace. I had such an affection for the white people, that I was pointed at by the rest of my nation. I should have ever lived with them had it not been for Colonel Cressop, who last year cut off, in cold blood, all the relations of Logan, not sparing women and children; there runs not a drop of my blood in the veins of any human creature. This called upon me for revenge; I have sought it, I have killed many,—and fully glutted my revenge. I am glad that there is a prospect of peace, on account of the nation; but I beg you will not entertain a thought that any thing I have said proceeds from fear! Logan disdains the thought! He will not turn on his heel to save his life! Who is there to mourn for Logan? No one."

March 4, 1775.

#### A PROPHECY OF THE FUTURE GLORY OF AMERICA.

To years far distant, and to scenes more bright,  
Along the vale of time extend thy sight,  
Where hours and days and years, from yon bright pole,  
Wave following wave, in long succession roll;  
There see in pomp, for ages without end,  
The glories of the Western World ascend!



See, this blest Land in her bright morn appears,  
Wak'd from dead slumbers of six thousand years,  
While clouds of darkness veiled each cheering ray ;  
To savage beasts and savage men a prey ;  
Fair Freedom now her ensigns bright displays,  
And peace and plenty bless the golden days.  
In mighty pomp America shall rise,  
Her glories spreading to the boundless skies ;  
Of ev'ry fair she boasts th' assembled charms,  
The Queen of empires, and the nurse of arms.  
See where her Heroes mark their glorious way,  
Arm'd for the fight and blazing on the day ;  
Blood stains their steps, and o'er the conqu'ring plain,  
Mid fighting thousands, and mid thousands slain,  
Their eager swords promiscuous carnage blend,  
And ghastly deaths their raging course attend,  
Her mighty power the subject world shall see,  
For laurell'd conquest waits her high degree.

See her bold vessels rushing to the main,  
Catch the swift gales, and sweep the watery plain,  
Or led by commerce, at the merchant's door,  
Unlade the treasures of each distant shore ;  
Or arm'd with thunder, on the guilty foe,  
Rush—big with death and aim the impending blow ;  
Bid every realm that hears the trump of fame,  
Quake at the distant terror of her name.

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THE TWO RIVERS—THE THAMES AND THE  
JAMES.

We all remember how greatly pleased honest old Captain Fluellin, (in the play of Henry V.) was, with his notable discovery of the resemblance between Macedon and Monmouth, for "look you," said he, "there is a river in Macedon; and there is also moreover a river at Monmouth: it is called Wye, at Monmouth; but it is out of my brains what is the name of the other river; but 'tis all one, 'tis so like as my fingers is to my fingers, *and there is salmons in both.*" Now I have felt something of the same sort of pleasure in finding that there is a still more remarkable resemblance between the two rivers, the Thames in old England, and the James in our old Virginia—at least in their courses. Thus old Fuller writes:

"Rowing on the Thames, the waterman confirmed me in what formerly I had learnt from the maps; how that river, westward, runs so crooked, as likely to lose itself in a labyrinth of its own making. From Reading to London by land, thirty; by water a hundred miles. So wantonly that stream disporteth itself, as if as yet unresolved whether to advance to the sea or retreat to its fountain. But the same being past London, (as if sensible of its former laziness, and fearing to be checked of the ocean, the mother of all rivers, for so long loitering; or else, as if weary with wandering, and loth to lose more way; or lastly, as if conceiving such wildness inconsistent with the gravity of his channel, now grown old, and ready to be buried in the sea, runs in so direct a line, that from London to Gravesend, are equally twenty both by land and by water."—(*Fuller's Occasional Meditations.*)

Now will not this description of the Thames answer almost as well for our James—or at least with some little

“mutabilities and variations” which, according to old Captain Fluellin, we must look for in all things? It is true that taking Richmond for our London, our river is not quite so full of turnings and windings to the West; (though crooked enough in all conscience;) and the most remarkable set of convolutions, or circumgyrations in it, occurs *below*; (at the Dutchman’s Gap;) yet if we were to take our stand-point, in imagination, at our old capital of Jamestown, we should find the courses of the two rivers tally almost exactly; and even as it is, there is certainly a pretty strong likeness between them.

For the rest, though I do not know that there are any salmons in either river (we have certainly none in the James, but some fine sturgeon and plenty of shad, and other fish,) the two noble streams may well be compared, in other and better respects; and we may very properly apply the memorable lines of Sir John Denham on the Thames, to our own river; and say, exultingly:

Though with those streams he no resemblance hold,  
Whose foam is amber and their gravel gold;  
His genuine and less guilty wealth ’t explore,  
Search not his bottom, but survey his shore.

A READER.

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*From Fraser’s Magazine.*

### EDMUND BURKE AND HIS VIEWS OF OUR ANGLO-AMERICAN COLONIES.

The seeds of great empires, like the germs of all true greatness, in both the natural and the moral world, are imperceptibly sown. The acorn is blown about for months, the sport of every fitful breeze, before it finally takes root in the soil; and season must follow season, and fashions

ebb and flow for many years, before the matured oak spreads its branches to the skies, and bids defiance to the wintry blast. Myriads of little shell-fish die, and for centuries the waters roll above them before the coral reef is formed; but it is formed, and slowly yet surely raises its head above the waves, and wrecks the proudest vessel as it proceeds on its way. As it is with the growth of an oak, as it is with the growth of a coral reef, so it is with the growth of a great empire.

It was thus that the great empire on the American continent at first struggled into existence. It was engendered by persecution, it had its birth amid darkness, convulsion, and blood. Two centuries ago, emigration was not the matter of course that it now is. A man who left England to cross the Atlantic, did not expect to see another England on the distant shore. Wild Indians brandishing their tomahawks, savage beasts prowling through the forests, and making the solitudes re-echo with their bellying, were the welcome that the daring adventurer had to anticipate. But the great decree of Providence had gone forth, and the Saxon race was to increase and multiply in a new world, where the soil had not yet been upturned by the plough, where the sky had not yet been darkened with the smoke of great cities, nor the mighty rivers been defiled by the tarry keels of heavily laden vessels. The word "colony" had not at all to English ears a majestic sound: it, at most, brought to mind the idea of a handful of men, who were erecting huts, felling trees, and with the utmost difficulty preventing themselves from being scalped and eaten. The Greeks and Romans had a much nobler idea of colonization than any of our countrymen ever entertained until the speeches of Burke were given to the world.

These colonies had flourished by neglect: they were

not coddled in their infancy; they were left to the energies of unassisted nature, and this was enough to make them great and prosperous. Hume, in his *History of England*, during the reigns of James I., Charles I., Charles II. and James II., scarcely deigns to mention them; and when Grenville first determined to tax them, he seemed to care no more about what they thought of his financial scheme than an omnibus-driver considers the weight of the passengers that his horses have to draw up Holborn Hill.

Nor, indeed, was Grenville behind his age; nearly all his countrymen shared in his delusion. This is proved by the way in which the Stamp Act was first received. As long as the English language is spoken, that important, that inconsiderate, that most unhappy measure will be remembered; for from the day in which it was introduced into the House of Commons must date the independence of America. It told the hardy laborers across the Atlantic, for the first time, that English statesmen did not consider them as Englishmen, and that they had not the same rights and privileges as the English people. Learning that they were not Englishmen, they began to look upon themselves as Americans; and as wrong followed wrong, and oppression was heaped upon oppression, they grasped their rifles, and swore to make their title good. When the Stamp Act was passing, so little was thought of it in England, that there was actually only a single division during the whole of its progress through both houses of Parliament, and in that division the minority did not amount to forty. Able editors thought it not worthy the employment of their pens; nor great orators of their eloquence; nor one noble lord of a protest. 'See, my son,' said a great man, 'with how little wisdom the world is governed.' 'The history of all ages proves the truth of this saying;

but never was it found truer than when applied to our quarrels with America.

There was, however, one man, and perhaps but one man, in all England at that time aware of the awful responsibility that our legislators were incurring. Burke sat, a mere stranger in the gallery of the House of Commons, and listened to the languid debate; he afterwards declared that it was one of the dullest discussions he had ever heard. He was well acquainted with the subject, much better, indeed, than any one of the honorable gentlemen who exulted in the idea that the colonies should be placed at the feet of the British Parliament. It cannot be doubted that the wise and just sentiments which the Marquis of Rockingham always held on this subject, were inspired by his eloquent and philosophical private secretary. Burke, whilst endeavoring to support himself by his pen, had been engaged in drawing up *An Account of the European Settlements in America*, and indeed at that time was inclined to push his fortunes in the New World.

The manner in which he looked on our colonies was peculiar to his great mind. While all other statesmen saw nothing but the object of the hour, he loved to let his imagination play on the future glories of America. But while thus indulging in his prophetic visions, he never forgot the realities of this working world.

It has been said with truth of Bacon, that he first brought philosophy into the workshop, the factory and the laboratory; and it may be said with equal truth of Burke that he first introduced real philosophy into the House of Commons. As Coleridge says, he habitually recurred to principles; he was a scientific statesman. And then his dreams were like Bacon's; his imagination was as splendid; his visions about America have all been, even in the period of less than a century, almost literally fulfilled. He

delighted in contemplating these brave descendants of Englishmen, who had sought in the American wildernesses a place of refuge, where they might worship God in the way that their hearts and minds most approved. He exulted in their flourishing condition, in the increase of their wealth, their commerce, and their numbers. He pictured them reaping their golden harvest, throwing the harpoon on the coast of Africa, and penetrating amid icebergs into "Hudson's Bay" and "Davis's Straits," meeting in their provincial assemblies, and with true English feeling attempting to form an image of English freedom, congregating on Sundays in their plain buildings for prayer and thanksgiving, and thus gradually striking the roots of the Protestant religion deep into the American soil.

The angel that he introduced into his speech on "Conciliation," drawing up the curtain and unfolding the rising glories of America, was not brought in, as even such a man as Lord Erskine appears to have believed, merely to afford the orator an opportunity for the display of his eloquence. So far from that noble passage being a mere beautiful episode, the statistics that preceded it are not more properly used to give his hearers a just idea of the subject. Had his applauding admirers been less inclined to consider his illustrations as beautiful metaphors, and had they opened their minds to the importance of the great empire they professed to govern, our thirteen colonies would not have been so disgracefully torn from the bosom of the mother country. Not many years elapsed, after the publication of the two great speeches on America, before even Lord North was obliged to admit that Burke's eloquence was really profound wisdom.

These always were Burke's opinions. Even in his speeches on America, he never indulged in any loose expressions. We see here, as everywhere, his aversion to

those general principles that had no relation to times and different social conditions. He never liked to discuss the abstract rights of Parliament. 'Be content,' he exclaimed, when taunted about the rights of the colonies, 'to bind America by laws of trade; you have always done it. Let this be your reason for binding their trade. Do not burden them by taxes; you were not used to do so from the beginning. Let this be your reason for not taxing. These are the arguments of states and kingdoms. Leave the rest to the schools; for there only they may be discussed with safety.' And then he says that he considers the imperial rights of Great Britain and the privileges of the colonies to be quite reconcilable. The Parliament sat at the head of the empire in two capacities: the one as the local legislature of this island; the other, as the superintendent, guide, and controller of all inferior legislatures. The powers of Parliament were therefore boundless; but it did not follow that it was wise on all occasions to use those boundless powers. There ought to be a competent sovereign power; but it ought to be no ordinary power, and never used in the first instance. 'Such, sir,' said Burke, 'is my idea of the constitution of the British empire, as distinguished from the constitution of Britain; and on these grounds I think subordination and liberty may be sufficiently reconciled through the whole; whether to serve a refining speculatist or a factious demagogue, I know not; but enough, surely, for the ease and happiness of man.'

We might close here, but our sketch would perhaps be incomplete if we were to make no mention of Burke's visit to France about the year before he delivered his speech on American taxation. His mind was then occupied with these Transatlantic affairs. But he little knew all the mighty effects that the American revolt would have on the world. Grenville, in one sense, may be said to have caus-



ed the great continental revolution; for undoubtedly his ill-judged and arbitrary proceedings awoke the infant democracy that was slumbering amid the American forests. The spirit, however, once roused, was not to be again laid at rest. Deep called unto deep; young democracy from the other side of the Atlantic gave the death-stab to the old feudalism of Europe. Thus society was dying, and society was being born; the old system was going out, and the new was coming in. It may seem singular, but to those who really understand his writings, quite natural and proper, that Burke should have been the greatest admirer and defender both of Young America and Old France. He stood by the cradle of the one; he watched the death-bed of the other.

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*From the Examiner.*

### NAPIER'S NOTICES OF LORD BACON AND SIR WALTER RALEIGH.

This volume contains an essay on Lord Bacon, read in 1818 to the Royal Society of Edinburgh, and a biographical study of Sir Walter Raleigh, first published in the form of a long article in the *Edinburgh Review* nine or ten years ago. As a book it is remarkable for the clearness and simplicity with which use is made in it of a large quantity of reading, solid, earnest and various, and for the striking contrast offered by its style to the pretensions with which authorities are cited by those who refer at second-hand to books they have never seen. The whole grace of Mr. Napier's style consists in its clearness; he has no other, and the writer does not want another who is extensively acquainted with the matter of which he treats, and can convey his knowledge in plain sentences.

The essay upon Lord Bacon is devoted wholly to a proof of the fact that his genius as a philosopher was widely re-

cognized in his own time and by immediately succeeding generations, in all parts of Europe. The study of Sir Walter Raleigh, which occupies three-fourths of the book, is in its kind masterly. It was written after very diligent examination of authorities, including some both in print and MS., that had before escaped attention. We believe that we may fairly call it the most sensible and thoughtful monograph on Raleigh that has yet been written, though Raleigh's life, either as a sketch or in the set form of a biography, has employed many pens. The biographer of Raleigh who is yet to come will not fail to derive many useful hints from Mr. Napier's article. In the mean time, while we are all waiting for him, the public cannot do better than to turn to this reprint from the scattered works of a deceased scholar, for such a sketch of the adventurous genius and of the good and bad that must be said of him as can be had nowhere else within the compass of a single volume.



*From the Examiner, Aug. 13.*

### MAURY'S SAILING DIRECTIONS.

A volume of "Sailing Directions" conveys to an Englishman the idea of some "Sea Torch," full of bearings, distances and soundings, or at best of a modernized version of Hamilton Moore's *Navigation*; but very different indeed is the work of Lieut. Maury, bearing the trite and unpretending title we have named. The intention of the book is to impart so much scientific information as to stimulate and qualify the reader to furnish materials serving as a basis for further discoveries. It shows, in a popular way, the present state of knowledge respecting winds, tides, currents; and it invites observations, the results to be drawn from which may improve and extend the knowledge now possessed. The book is admirably calculated to excite an intelligent curiosity, and to direct it to objects ministering to scientific information of the highest utility. The aim of it is to make the officers of ships observers and reporters upon nature. The principle on which the plan is founded is that every phenomenon has its significance, that every fact is a letter as it were in the great book of

nature, to read which a right nothing must be omitted or neglected as valueless. "Lend me your eyes," says Lt. Maury to the thousands of intelligent voyagers. And he shows how the eyes are to be directed, and the method of recording their observations so as to make them minister to the purposes of science. All this is beautifully executed, and the book will be read almost with as much pleasure by landsmen as with profit by seamen. It is indeed to be desired that it may be reprinted in a form more convenient and cheap than its present shape, a quarto, and so brought within the reach of the general reader.

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### FORREST'S NORFOLK AND VICINITY.

Historical and Descriptive Sketches of Norfolk and Vicinity, including Portsmouth and the adjacent Counties, During a period of Two Hundred Years. Also, Sketches of Williamsburg, Hampton, Suffolk, Smithfield and other Places, with Descriptions of some of the Principal Objects of Interest in Eastern Virginia. By Wm. S. Forrest. 1 Vol. 8vo. Philadelphia: Lindsay & Blakiston. 1853.

We have looked into this handsome volume with some interest—especially as it relates to our own *natale solum*—and are well disposed of course to give it all the praise which it fairly merits. It is not, indeed, we must say, quite all that we could have wished, or that we had perhaps some right to expect from the subject; and we *might* find some fault with the work for its many omissions which we regret, and still more for some of its admissions which we can hardly excuse; but we *will* not, and will merely say that, as it is, it contains a good deal of useful and agreeable information concerning Norfolk, and the low country of our State, which cannot be found any where else that we know so conveniently; and we commend it accordingly to all who may have occasion to refer to its pages.

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## Various Intelligence.

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From the Virginia Republican.

### FIRST STEAM EXPERIMENT.

Mr. Editor,—I see a communication in your paper between Col. Strother of Morgan county and the Attorney General of the United States, Mr. Cushing, on the subject of steam power. I know something of Mr. Rumsey's experiment at Shepherdstown. About the year 1787, I, at the age of 14 years, lived in Shepherdstown—went there from Hagerstown—continued there from the fall of the year above, for nine months, and frequently saw there, during the time, a keel boat about 15 or 20 feet in length, lying on the shoal, in a Mr. Entler's saw mill dam; there was a large iron pot and a small cog wheel in it; all else must have been removed therefrom. I was told it was a boat Mr. Rumsey had made to run up stream by the force of steam, and that he had with him in the boat Gen. George Washington and several other distinguished gentlemen, commissioners of the Potomac Company, who were about that time in Shepherdstown, on the Company's business, and that the said Rumsey did run his boat up the current of the stream at Shepherdstown several hundred yards. The above gentlemen pronounced his principle practicable, and that it would be useful on a larger scale. Rumsey, on the strength of this experiment, had his boat hauled up out of the river and put in the saw mill pond, and left for New York. His idea of the steam invention was ridiculed, and he could get no encouragement at home to aid him, being straightened in pecuniary means—and so it was said of old—no prophet had honor at home. He fell in with a Mr. Fulton, who was also an enthusiast on the subject of steam power. They went to England, and in a short time Rumsey died, and Fulton secured the benefit and *estate* of steam power invention. I saw the boat almost every day whilst I remained in Shepherdstown. Being exposed to the sun and rain, it appeared somewhat the worse to look on. If my recollection serves me, I was not on it, the boys not being permitted to go in her. The iron pot and cog wheel could plainly be seen, the rest of the machinery having been taken out. The next year I left for Hagerstown, and remained there until 1799, and then came back to Virginia and settled in the town of Martinsburg and ever since have remained in the vicinity, 54 years.

What became of Rumsey's boat I know not; but the invention of steam power by him is one of the most useful ever discovered, and deserves an imperishable monument.

Sir John's Run would have been a dangerous place for Rumsey to have engaged in his steam project, on account of the dreadful destruction then making by the Indians. It was said in 1780 or '81 he made the trial, but I saw the boat in 1787. The steam action was conveyed to a wheel to which the paddles were affixed, which propelled the boat at Shepherdstown. The boat was like the keel bottom flour boat used on the river at that time. It is certain that steam power was first attempted there, and that Rumsey is the man that invented it. A Mr. Elliot, near Baltimore, made an iron keg to try the power of steam, and placing it on the hearth of his furnace, heated it red hot, when it bursted and took off his arm and the roof of his shop. I saw him oftentimes with his one arm. This was about the time of Rumsey's experiment. N.

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### SOUTHWESTERN VIRGINIA.

The last Abingdon Virginian, speaking of the wealth and resources of that section of the State, mentions facts which will be read with interest by the friends of internal improvement, who expect to see all the resources of this country developed by the Virginia and Tennessee Railroad. We have considered it, in many respects, the best part of our State, and all that is necessary to allay any doubt that may exist, is to give the people a market. Already the coal of Montgomery and the lead of Wythe, are seeking an eastern market, which, heretofore, could not bear wagon transportation, and as the railroad advances, these minerals will be sent in larger quantities.

“For mineral wealth, no country upon earth is superior to Virginia. California may glitter in her gold, but where is her iron and her copper. Missouri may boast of her copper, but where is her gypsum and saltpetre? Pennsylvania may revel in her anthracite, but where is her salt and lead? Kentucky may boast of her coal, but where is her silver and magnesia? These are all found in Southwestern Virginia, and in inexhaustible abundance. Carroll has its gold and silver, Grayson its copper and iron, Wythe its lead and coal, Smythe its salt and plaster, Tazewell, Russell, Scott and Lee their hills filled with rich treasures, and Washington is behind none of them in all these elements of wealth. In addition to all this we have the finest water power in the world, the largest forests, the purest air and coolest water, and the very country itself seems to rest upon a limestone foundation. We have no epidemics nor con-

ragions—no ague or yellow fever—no small pox or cholera—no hydrophobia nor lockjaw—and last, as well as least, no ticks nor moschetos.”—*Roanoke Beacon*.

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## THE MINERAL WEALTH OF AUGUSTA.

We have not a shadow of doubt, that Augusta is destined to become one of the most wealthy and populous of counties.— We have in its bounds all the elements necessary to make up a great and wealthy place. Its vast and almost boundless resources are just beginning to develop themselves, in fields of coal, iron, and other minerals of scarcely less value—all in vast and almost inexhaustible quantities.<sup>1</sup> Coal and iron have been found in their greatest purity, extending over vast areas and in close vicinity of each other. Indeed, so extensive do these articles appear to be that there seems to be no kind of doubt, that the company, now in possession of them, will be able to compete, successfully, with the most favored companies of the most favored States of the Union, when they shall once have the means of sending the products of their labor to market through short connecting lines—with the Central road at Staunton, and the Manassa at Harrisonburg. It is calculated, by the best informed on the subject, that iron can be made at a profit at these mines, or, at the works of the company, now formed to work the mines, at the low price of eight dollars the ton! and that coal can be sent from them to New York at a profit of one dollar the ton over the coal from the Cumberland mines. But the coal of the Augusta mines is said to be a superior article of coal to that of the Cumberland, and, consequently, is expected to bring even a better price than the coal of that region. These coal and iron mines are situated in the Northwestern part of this county, about 135 miles West of Washington City, 18 from Staunton, and about the same distance from Harrisonburg.

It is calculated that this coal can be mined for 50 cents the ton, and that it can be transported to Alexandria for \$1 35; thence to New York for \$1 25; or at a cost of \$3 10 per ton; and make a profit of \$1 15 per ton at that. The company that has been formed to work these mines, is styled “The Dora Coal and Iron Manufacturing Company.” It was chartered at the late session of the Virginia Legislature, with a capital stock of not less than \$50,000 nor more than \$2,000,000. Under this act the company has been organized, with a capital of \$1,000,000 in shares of \$10 each, and has purchased about 15,000 acres of land, for the purposes specified. The

company is a wealthy one, having been formed in Wall Street New York, and will, no doubt, be an energetic one. The mines of this company have been examined by the best Geologists, and pronounced to be the very best of the kind in the country. The coal is said to contain 93 per cent. of pure carbon—no sulphur or iron mixed with it, which adapts it particularly to the manufacture of iron, which, as before stated, exists in the vicinity of the coal in the greatest abundance.—*Staunton Messenger.*

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### ATMOSPHERIC TELEGRAPH.

The success of the experiment in transmitting packages from one point to another by means of Richardson's atmospheric telegraph, as exhibited at the Mechanic's Fair, is quite complete. We cannot discover, after having examined its operation carefully, any reason why packages may not be eventually, and before long, transmitted in this manner from one city to another with all the certainty with which they are now carried by railroad, and at a rate almost equal to that of the magnetic telegraph, or, as Mr. Richardson states, one thousand miles per hour. In all atmospheric telegraphs heretofore proposed the motion of a long column of air behind the plunger or ball has presented an insuperable obstacle to its operating effectively. To obviate this difficulty new air is admitted along the line behind the plunger, and thus a new force is added. The feasibility of the plan seems to be established.

A company is now being formed, with a capital of five hundred thousand dollars, for the purpose of constructing a line of telegraph from Boston to New York, having a cylinder two feet in diameter, by means of which it is believed that packages may be transmitted from one city to the other in fifteen minutes. It has been objected by some that the power required to exhaust the tube for so great a distance would be so great that no reasonable number of pumps would be able to accomplish it. But this object is answered by the fact that it is not proposed by the plan of Mr. R. to exhaust the air through the whole length of the tube at once; but as a portion of the air is exhausted and the plunger rushes through the tube, the air is cut off behind it, and a new column of air commences to act upon it. The scheme is attracting favor.—*Boston Traveller.*

## THE CRYSTAL PALACE.

We are gratified to learn as we do from all quarters, that the Great Exhibition at the Crystal Palace in New York, has come off so well. The opening, indeed, we understand, though graced with the personal countenance of the President, and favoured by a speech from his lips, was, a little flat—the performers were hardly ready, and the pieces were not fully come in. The show, however, brightened up afterwards, and became quite a splendid affair. The contributions from all the countries of Europe, and especially from France, have been numerous and striking; and we are, of course, particularly pleased to notice that our own exhibitors have maintained a highly honorable position among their foreign but friendly rivals in the display. We regret, indeed, to learn that our townsman, Mr. Hubard, has been prevented from exhibiting his splendid east of Houdon's statue of Washington, by an accident which befell it in getting it out of the steamer at New York; but, on the other hand, we are happy to hear that our young artist of Norfolk, Mr. Galt, has handsomely sustained the honor of our State by his beautiful busts of Psyche and Bacchante which have attracted great attention, and won distinguished praise from all who saw them.

## ASPARAGUS.

The delicate ASPARAGUS, with its pretty Greek name (*ασπαραγος*, a young shoot not yet opened into leaf.) Is there not much beauty in a bed of asparagus run to seed? The tall, slender, feathery, green sprays, with their shining, bead-like berries, have an air of great elegance, especially when bejewelled by the morning dew. Asparagus was first cultivated in England about 1662. Some species of the wild asparagus are still found in Wales, in the Isle of Portland, and near Bristol. Tavernier mentions having found some enormous asparagus on the banks of the Euphrates; and Pliny mentions asparagus cultivated at Ravenna, three of which would weigh a pound.

The wild asparagus being full of prickles, yet agreeable and wholesome to eat, its sprays were used by the Bœotians as wedding garlands, to signify to the bride, that as she had given her lover trouble in wooing her, so she ought to recompense him by the pleasantness of her manners in wedded life.



## Miscellany.

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### THE GRANDEUR OF DEATH.

What a superlatively grand and consoling idea is that of Death ! Without this radiant idea, this delightful morning-star, indicating that the luminary of eternity is going to rise, life would, to my view, darken into midnight melancholy. Oh ! the expectation of living *here*, and living *thus*, always, would be indeed a prospect of overwhelming despair. But thanks to that decree that dooms us to die—thanks to that Gospel which opens the visions of an endless life, and thanks above all, to that Saviour-friend who has promised to conduct all the faithful through the sacred trance of death into scenes of paradise and everlasting delight!—*John Foster.*

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### MAKING MANY BOOKS.

There is no truer word than that of Solomon—"there is no end of making many books." There *is* no end ; indeed it were pity there should be ; for God hath given to man a busy soul, the agitation whereof cannot but, through time and experience, work out many hidden truths, to suppress which would be no otherwise than injurious to mankind, whose minds, like unto so many caudles, should be kindled by each other.—*Bishop Hall.*

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### TWO OLD ENGLISH COMPLIMENTS.

The following two old English compliments are almost historical, and certainly very fine in their way. They are both *professional*, and it is really difficult to tell which is the best, the lawyer's or the parson's ; they are so nearly equal. So we shall not undertake to decide, but leave the reader to choose as he pleases between them.

## A LAWYER'S COMPLIMENT.

*The following Lines were handed up to a beautiful young Lady who was attending the trial of criminals at the Assizes in Surry (England,) about a century ago.*

Whilst petty offences and felonies smart,  
Is there no jurisdiction for stealing one's heart?  
You, fair one, will smile, and say laws, I defy you,  
Assur'd that no *peers* can be summoned to try you;  
But think not this way to escape from our fury,  
For the Muses and Graces will just make a jury.

## A PARSON'S COMPLIMENT.

*A Country Parson's Answer to a young Lady who sent him her Compliments on the Ten of Hearts.*

Your compliments, dear lady, pray forbear,  
Old English services are more sincere.  
You send ten hearts; the *tythe* is only mine,  
Give me but one, and burn the other nine.

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 THOUGHTS.

"The strongest wing of merit," says old Fuller, "cannot mount if a stronger weight of malice doth depress it."

"After all," says the late Mr. Webster, "nothing is so beautiful as truth."

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 MR. CANNING'S RIDDLE.

The following riddle by Mr. Canning has been much admired, chiefly perhaps from its association with so distinguished a man.

A noun there is of plural number,  
Foe to peace and tranquil slumber:  
Now any other noun you take,  
By adding *s* you plural make;

But if you add an *s* to this,  
 Strange is the metamorphosis;  
 Plural is plural now no more,  
 And sweet what bitter was before.

*Note.*

The word intended here, I guess,  
 Is "cares," which, add another *s*,  
 Becomes, of course, a sweet "caress."

*Quivis.*

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*Lines suggested by the phrase "The Dead Past," in one of  
 Prof. Longfellow's Poems, entitled "A Psalm of Life."*

Oh! say not that the Past is dead,  
 For well I feel it cannot die,  
 But e'en when Time's last breath has fled,  
 Will still live on in memory.

There fixed by fate—and formed for aye—  
 Eternal every word and deed;  
 When all on earth has passed away,  
 Remembrance shall rejoice or bleed.

P.

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CONCLUSION.

With this number we close our present volume, and conclude our work. In parting accordingly with our readers, we thank the members of our Virginia Historical Society for their liberal and constant support of our publication from the beginning. We thank our subscribers also for the moderate aid they have afforded us in our pleasant toils; and we thank our correspondents, more particularly, for their various contributions, which have given a value and interest to our pages that they could not otherwise have had. And, lastly, we now commend our work, in its finished form, to all that favor of the public which it may honestly and fairly claim.