EASTERN-SHORE WHIG AND PEOPLE'S ADVOCATE.

VOL. IV.---NO. 13. EASTON, MD.---TUESDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 6, 1831. WHOLE NO. 169

PRINTED AND PUBLISHED
EVERY TUESDAY MORNING, BY
EDWARD MULLIKIN,
PUBLISHER OF THE LAWS OF THE UNION.

THE TERMS

Are Two Dollars and Fifty Cents per Annum payable half yearly in advance. Advertisements are inserted three times for One Dollar; and continued weekly for twenty-five cents per square.

Cash for Negroes.

THE subscriber agent for Austin Woolfolk of Baltimore, takes this method of acknowledging the many perferences in the purchase of negroes, and wishes the citizens of the Eastern Shore to still continue their preference to him for

FOR ONE HUNDRED
NEGROES,

from the age of twelve to twenty five years, he will give higher prices than any real purchaser that is now in the market, or may hereafter come. Any person having negroes, of the above ages, will do well in giving the preference to

SAMUEL REYNOLDS,
Who may be found at the Easton Hotel.
Nov. 29

WAS COMMITTED, to the Jail of Baltimore County, on the fourth day of November, 1331, by William A. Schaeffer, Esq a Justice of the Peace in and for the City of Baltimore, as a runaway, a mulatto woman, who calls herself ELLEN STEWART, but was committed by the name of Ellen Priestman, alias Stewart, says she came out of the family of Delany's, Cypress Marsh State of Delaware, about 20 miles below Dover, and was raised by her grand mother in the City of Philadelphia—said mulatto woman is about 19 years of age, 4 feet 10 inches high, has a black mole on the right side of her chin, and also one on the left arm.

Had on when committed, a red plaid handkerchief on her head, yellow frock, shoes but no stockings.

The owner of the above described colored woman is requested to come forward, prove property, pay charges and take her away, otherwise she will be discharged according to law.

DAVID W. HUDSON, Warden,
Baltimore County Jail.
nov. 17—22 3w

N. B. She is also charged with stealing some wearing apparel, the property of Hannah Wilson.

Notice.

TO Rent for the ensuing year, the House, Garden and Stable, on the Easton Point road, near the intersection of the back street, lately occupied by Mr Joseph Graham. The terms, to a good tenant, will be moderate.—Apply to Mrs. Susan Leockerman, or to the subscriber.

DANIEL CHEZUM.
nov. 22 w

For Sale,

ON a credit of six months, at the Farm called Oakland, near Easton, on WEDNESDAY, the 30th, day of the present month (November), at 10 o'clock, in the forenoon,

Horses, Cattle, Sheep,
HOGS, Farming Utensils, Household and Kitchen Furniture, a quantity of fine Corn and Corn Blades. The purchaser will be required to give notes with approved security before the removal of the property.

JOHN LEEDS KERR.

Easton, Nov. 22 1831.

P. S. I have negroes of different ages and sexes to hire, for the next year. All persons desirous of hireing them, and particularly those who hold any of them for the present year, will please to call on me immediately, as they must be immediately disposed of without reserve. Persons indebted to me for hire, will oblige by prompt payment.

J. L. K.

New Boot and Shoe Store.

The subscriber has again opened a
BOOT & SHOE STORE
in Easton, at the stand opposite the Market house, next door to the Drug Store of Dr Spencer, where he solicits the patronage of his old friends and customers, and assures them he will accommodate them on his usual pleasing terms. He has laid in, for their use and the public's;
A large and elegant assortment of
the above articles, to which he
HAS ADDED
CAPS, &c. &c.
of the best quality and newest fashions, all of which he will dispose of at much lower rates than has ever been done in Easton. He requests of his friends and the public to give him a call, view his assortment, enquire the price, and judge for themselves. He pledges himself that nothing on his part shall be wanting to give general satisfaction, and as he has been for years in the business, he has no doubt of doing so, if first rate articles, in his line, at low prices and on liberal terms will command it.

THOS. S. COOK.

Easton Nov. 8

JOB PRINTING,
OF EVERY DESCRIPTION NEATLY AND EXPEDITIOUSLY EXECUTED AT THE
WHIG OFFICE,
SUCH AS
HAND BILLS,
POSTING BILLS,
CIRCULAR LETTERS,
PAMPHLETS,
VISITING AND OTHER CARDS,
MAGISTRATES, and all other BLANKS,
ELECTION TICKETS, &c. &c.

[By request.]

Lines written on the death of Miss *Elizabeth Jones*, late of St. Michaels, who died on the 25th of May, in the triumphs of faith, and left a numerous train of friends and relations to mourn her early departure. By R. E. K.

Sister Pilgrim hast thou left us?
Why so soon did'st thou depart?
What in life did'st thou discover,
That could wound thy tender heart?

Was there nothing here to induce thee,
To have stayed a few more days?
Has not life for thee one pleasure;
Has not bliss for thee same rays?

Earthly bliss beams with refulgence,
On the giddy sons of mirth;
Could'st thou not share a portion,
Ere thou journied down to Earth?

Bliss, they say is found among us;
Life then must possess a charm.
O, for why didst thou forsake us?
Thy quick exit creates alarm.

Ah, me thinks I hear thee answer,
"My saviour called, I must obey,
Brighter ys joiny me were waiting,
Beyond the bounds of transient day."

Why then should'st thou wish to tarry,
On the shores of time and sense,
When the rude hand of affliction,
Was laid on to urge thee hence?

'Twas hard indeed to part from parents,
Who had done the parents' part,
The thought of leaving them behind me,
Oh 'twas painful to my heart."

Now no more you'll mourn for parents,
Now no more you'll heave a sigh
Methinks your spirit, fluttering, flying,
Has fled to fairer worlds on high.

PRAYER AT SEA AFTER VICTORY.

BY MRS. HEMANS.

——The land shall never run,
So England to herself do prove but true.—
SHAKSPEARE.

Through evening's bright repose
A voice of prayer arose,
When the sea fight was done;
The sons of England knelt,
With hearts that now could melt,
For, on the wave, her battle had been won.

Round their tall ship, the main
Heaved with a dark red stain,
Caught not from sunset's cloud;
While with the tide swept past
Pennon and shivered mast,
Which to the Ocean-Queen that day had bowed.

But free and fair on high,
A native of the sky,
Her streamer on the breeze;
It dowed o'er fearless men,
Though hushed and child-like then,
Before their God they gathered on the seas.

Oh! Did not thought of home
O'er each bold spirit come,
As from the land sweet gales?
In every word of prayer,
Had not some hearth a share,
Some bower, inviolate 'midst England's vales?

Yes! bright green spots that lay
In beauty far away,
Hearing no billow's roar,
Safer from touch of spoil,
For that day's fiery toil,
Rose on high hearts, that now with love gush'd o'er

A solemn scene, and dread!
The victors and the dead—
The breathless, burning sky!
And, passing with a race
Of waves that keep no trace,
The wild, brief signs of human victory!

A stern yet holy scene!
Billows, where strife had been,
Sinking to awful sleep;
And words that breathe the sense
Of God's omnipotence,
Making a minister of that silent deep!

Borne through such hours afar,
Thy flag hath been a star
Where eagle's wing ne'er flew;
England! the unprofaned,
Thou of the homes untrained!
Oh! to the banner and the shrine be true!

The following beautiful lines are from the Sabbath School Instructor—The style and initials stamp them at once as Mrs. Sigourney's:—

THE MOTHER.

"It may be autumn, yea, winter, with the woman; but with the mother, as a mother, it is always spring."—[Sermon of Rev. T. Cobbett, preached at Lynn, Massachusetts, 1656.]

I saw an aged woman bow
To weariness and care;
Time wrote his sorrows on her brow,
And in her frosted hair.

Hope from her breast had torn away
Its rooting scathed and dry—
And on the pleasures of the gay
She turned a joyless eye.

What was it that, like sunbeam clear,
O'er her wan features run,
As pressing toward her deafened ear
I named her absent son?

What was it?—Ask the mother's breast,
Through which a fountain flows,
Perennial, fathomless and blest,
By winter never froze.

What was it?—Ask the King of kings,
Who hath decreed above,
That change should mark all mortal things
Except a mother's love.

B. N. S.

PICTURE OF THE UNITED STATES.

From the Westminster Review.

Letters from English Emigrants *

With a view to the diffusion of information respecting the condition of the new settlers in the United States, Mr B. Smith sent out two persons in opposite directions, in the east of Sussex (whence emigrations to North America are frequents) with instruction to call at the cottages where letters had been lately received from America, and the first twenty-four that were so collected have been published without any other alternation, than such improvement in the spelling as was necessary to the clearing up of the sense. The unadorned view so obtained of the feelings, habits, and lot of the emigrants, is always curious, and often diverting. It is a peep at labouring life, more interesting to us, than all the telescopic exhibitions of the Beau Monde. A working man of England removed to the United States experiences a new being, and it is both instructive and amusing to mark how the change operates upon his mind. The first sentiment we observe, is generally one of rejoicing at deliverance from fiscal vexations, and this is succeeded by a sense of the dignity of industry. The collection commences with the letters of John Watson to his father—he represents the high value of labor in the State of New York, and says—

"I am acquainted with many here who came to this country, poor and pennyless, and who now possess fine freeholds of from one hundred to three hundred acres, fine houses, barns and orchards, thriving flocks of cattle, sheep, &c. What others have done, why may I not accomplish? This is in truth the land of hope; labour is a pleasurable exertion, because all its profits go to enrich yourself, and not another."

In another letter, he observes—

"We would recommend all our acquaintance who are tired of paying tithes and taxes to come here, where tithes are unknown, and taxes hardly worth mentioning, compared to what they are with you."

John then recites his possessions, all acquired within three years, during which time he had progressed as we shall describe in his own words—

"You will recollect that I started with my wife and our children in the brig Wellington, for St. Johns, New Brunswick, where we arrived June 15th, 1819, after losing one of our mates by lightning, and one seaman; there we remained till March 15th, 1820. Now in Brunswick, the winter is too severe to profit much by farming, I determined to leave it at all hazards; I therefore with my wife got a hand sleigh, in which I placed the children, and drew them on the ice up the St. John's river about three hundred and sixty miles.—Mary and myself walking, drawing the children after us. You must also recollect that one hundred miles of this was not settled, being all wood. We arrived at the head of St. John's river. We travelled on in the same manner across snow and ice to the great river St. Lawrence, about one hundred and eighty miles below Quebec, where we found the country along the bank thickly settled. I then built myself a light wagon, and had all our family provisioned during the time of making the wagon, for I thank you, the good people, who were French Canadians, wishing us very much to stay with them. In this wagon our children were drawn by myself for upwards of four hundred miles to Kingston, at the mouth of the lake Ontario. There (as at every other place,) we met with uncommon kindness; a gentleman, quite a stranger not only sent us free of all expense, by steam-boat, to Fort George, but put six or seven dollars in our pockets besides. From Fort George we crossed into the United States, and passed the summer at Geneva, Ontario county, New York State. Hearing a more favorable account of the State of Indiana, I once more started on a ramble, and travelling across the State of New York, I came to O Lean Point on the Allegany river, which river, a very rapid one, I come down in a flat boat to Pittsburgh; here I staid two days, and passing on, after being detained by head winds, and the water being very low, landed at Aurora, situated at the mouth of Hogan creek. Here I found myself a stranger, without friends, acquaintance, utensils of any kind, or money, having spent our last dollar, a day or two before; added to which myself and all our family were caught by illness for six or eight weeks, without the power of doing any thing. But no sooner was our situation known than we had plenty of provisions brought to us, and as our strength recovered I obtained work at digging, &c. My wife took in sewing, and by degrees we have worked it so that I have two cows, two calves, nine pigs, and one expected in August.'—1pp. 10—1

Within a year the stock had increased, we find, to one yoke of oxen, one cow, nine hogs, and he adds "the intention" of another cow. After the inventory of goods, we are pleased with this homely touch of natural affection, not the less kindly because it is rudely expressed,—"John (the writer's child) often talks of his grandmother, and says we could keep her without working." To complete the idea of their condition of affluence, the writer adds,—"while this letter is writing, my wife is eating preserved peaches and bread, and washing them down with good whiskey and water."—John then gives a catalogue raisonee of his children; one of them, he observes, by the way, is generally in mischief, like all other children, and he ends by declaring his value for letters from home, together with a notion that the sheet might be made to hold more for the postage. In a postscript, he conveys this agreeable reflection:

"Those animals, called in your country, Excisemen, are not known in this country, so that we boil soap, make candles, gather hops, and many other things without fear, which you must not do."

* Twenty-four Letters from Laborers in America to their friends in England.—E. Rainsford.—1829.

In a following letter, he communicates the tempting news, that "a man can get eighteen pounds of pork or beef for a day's work, or three pecks of wheat, and every other kind of provision accordingly." John seems the best of his emigrant party, but they all write as kindly disposed and religious people.

Stephen and Mary Watson's letter's which come next, offer a truly British inducement to emigration. In their joint hands they emphatically said to their parents, "If you was here I could get you a quart of gin for a shilling." Mary Jane Watson, daughter of the aforesaid, treats of delights more proper to her person. Having explained to her grandparents at Rye that she writes to them partly because they desire it, and partly from her paternal solicitude for them, she sets forth her estate as follows:

"I have been very fortunate; I have got good clothes, and can dress as well as any lady in Sedlescomb. I can enjoy a silk and white frock, and crape frocks and crape veil and Morocco shoes, without a parish grumbling about it. If you are not dressed well here, you are not respected. The girls here that go out to do house-work, dress as well as any lady in Sedlescomb. I don't think of going to meeting with leather shoes on: we wear Morocco and Prunella."—p. 21—2.

John and Hester Parks forcibly remark, that "there is no such thing as a poor industrious man in New York." The same couple, whom a fact has made thus eloquent, subscribe themselves their parents "undutiful son and daughter." James and Harriet, of the same name, hold forth thus: "Tell Miriam there's no sending children to bed without a supper, or sending them to work without dinners in their bags, in this country. See if you can't make Aberic mites in the Wimbletot's Company. Thank God I am not old ***, nor yet a slave; it is in an erroneous notion of you English, that a man cannot through any misfortune maintain his family, that they may starve;—it's an abominable lie. We have poor laws and poor taxes; the tax in this town (for this country is divided into townships instead of parishes,) amounts to about thirty or forty dollars per year for the whole town; and there's more people than in Ewhurst. We have no gipsies, swing settles, pikies, tramps, beggars, &c; they are not allowed to be about."—p. 30.

They add that a certain Joseph is quite well, and append to this news of *virtu*, "he has sold his nailed half boots to be put in the museum in Albany." They speak of the country as delightful and say in praise of its effects, "It agrees with Harriet, for she is as fat as a pig."

The following agreeable statement is from another correspondent, but all concur in representing the charity and hospitality of the Americans as most generous.

"But I should have said we arrived on the 2d of November: we hired a room and my husband bought a saw, and went sawing wood and doing any thing, and we thought we should get through the winter pretty well; but when he had been here three weeks, husband was taken ill; we were not aware it was any thing but a cold; it proved to be the typhus fever, and it is now six weeks since he was taken, but he is now mending very fast. We have had no parish to apply to for relief; but you would be astonished at the friends we have found, or rather, that have found us; for people that were quite strangers have called to know if a sick Englishman lived here, and one kind gentleman sent for a doctor; and another good old Methodist gave me leave to go the grocer's for any thing in his name, and others were equally kind; in short, I should never thought to have found such friends among strangers; they seem to feel a great pleasure in doing us good.—p. 34—35.

Sophia and Harriet Veness complain that "the bilious ocean," which is about the best epithet (if bilious *be* intended) we ever saw affixed to that stomach disturbing element.—Like all others, they describe their condition as extremely comfortable. J. and E Thorpe concur in the general representation of the kindness of the Americans to the new settlers.

"And now I must tell you a little what friends we met with when we landed in Hudson; such friends as we never found in England; but it was chiefly from the people that love and fear God. We had so much meat brought to us, that we could not eat it while it was good; a whole quarter of a calf at once; so we had two or three quarters in a little time, and seven stone of beef. One old gentleman come and brought us a wagon load of wood, and two chucks of bacon; some sent flour, some bread, some cheese, some soap, some candles, some chairs, some bedsteads. One class-leader sent us three shillings worth of tin ware, and many other things; so we can truly say godliness is profitable unto all things. We are in a land of plenty, and above all, where we can hear the sound of the gospel. The gentleman that we work for, has preaching in his own parlors, till he can build a chapel, it is begun not a quarter of a mile from where we live:—and may poor sinners be brought to Christ; for here is many that are drinking in of sin, like the ox the water."—p 43.

This devout couple add this interesting information: "Tell father I wish I could send him nine or ten pounds of tobacco, for it is one shilling a pound; *I chaws rarely.*"

The simplicity of the letters is amusing, but there is at least as much reason in them for the smile of satisfaction as for the smile of mirth. With an abundant and increasing population, it is well to be able to point out to depressed industry, its resources in North America; and it is cheering to have to show, from the evidence of those who have made the experiment, how much of encouragement belongs to it, where there is the diposition to make the best of circumstances. From the mode in which these letters were collected, the design of overrating advantages cannot be suspected.—There may be exaggerations in them, but they are only the exaggerations which denote the reality of the contents while they overrate its sources.

LETTER OF ROGER M. SHERMAN, ESQ.

To the Editor of the Connecticut Herald.

The votes I gave at the Convention lately held in Philadelphia, in which I had the honor to represent the New Haven Chamber of Commerce, have been misapprehended by several of the editors of newspapers in this State. As the ayes and noes, although recorded on all questions of importance, did not, generally, accompany the publication of their proceedings, the public had not the means of knowing the individual sentiments of the members who were present. Upon the motion of Mr. Gallatin, for striking out certain parts of the Address to the People of the United States, I voted in the affirmative; and on the general question of approving the Address, I voted in the negative. I gave this vote, because the Address adopted the opinion that the Tariff laws are unconstitutional, and some other sentiments in which I did not concur. However honestly that opinion may be held by some, it has ever seemed clear to me, that the power given to the Congress of the United States by our national Constitution, "to regulate commerce with foreign nations," confers on them authority so to control that important branch of our public interests, as *in their judgment*, shall best promote the general welfare. If they have made a bad law, we cannot pronounce it *no* law, nor infer the want of power from the abuse of it. Such reasoning would authorize the national court to deny the constitutionality of every Act of Congress, which, in their opinion, is unwise or injurious. Upon the wisdom or expediency of a law, the Legislature only, must decide; and the court in ascertaining its validity, cannot inquire whether it is beneficial or hurtful in its tendency.—On a question of *intent*, that inquiry may aid in the construction of a law, but can never be resorted to, to test its constitutionality.

But upon the great principles on which the Convention was assembled, I fully concurred in their opinion. The impolicy of the Tariff Laws, their partiality, injustice, and oppression, seem to me so palpable, that I am confident, nothing more is necessary to create a union of public sentiment, among all who are not recipients of their bounty, or associated with some political party for their support, than simply to understand their nature and operation. The several epithets which I have applied to the Tariff Laws, are not inconsiderately adopted, and the propriety of each is susceptible of certain demonstration. It is wonderful that those laws are so little understood; but there is a mystery in their structure which misleads the public mind. The cotton law speaks only of 25 per cent.: but by means of what is called its *minimum*, it imposes a tax rising from 25 to 175 *per cent* on most cotton fabrcics. The woollens law, upon almost all cloths which are worn for dress, nominally imposes a duty of 14 cents the square yard, on a part, under 33 1-3 cents, original value, and of from 45 to 50 per cent. *ad valorem* on the rest. This would seem sufficiently extravagant. But by reason of its *town minimums*, it actually taxes those articles from 45 to 225 per cent. In both instances, the tax is heaviest on the coarsest goods—such as are worn by the poor, and by persons in middling circumstances. In 1827, when the duties were less than at present, about seven-eighths of all the money paid by reason of the Tariff, on woollen goods, went into the pockets of the manufacturers, and one eighth into the public treasury. Where the Government received one hundred dollars, by reason of the tax, the manufacturers received seven hundred. The sum paid by the consumer on woollens in that year, over and above what accrued to the treasury, was, according to the best computations, more than twenty-three millions of dollars, and surpassed, by more than a million, the whole nett revenue of the United States, on every other article upon which a duty was imposed.—Since that time, the Tariff of 1828 has been adopted; and, if we estimate the whole consumption of woollens, in the country at seventy-two millions, the proportion of money paid in consequence of the tax on woollens, in 1830, would be about one twelfth to the Government, and eleven-twelfths to the manufacturers. I speak of *woollens* only. The amount paid to the manufacturers, in that and all other branches, by reason of the tax on importations, probably surpassed the whole national debt incurred by the war of independence.—[illegible] worn for dress, the first cost of which is $1 25 the square yard, are subject to ninety per cent. duty; and those baizes and flannels which cost, in the foreign markets, from 10 to 20 cents the square yard, are taxed from 112 to 225 per cent. Where this rapacity will end, if not checked by the public voice, it is impossible to foretell. Certain it is, that it still falls short of the claims set up in the memorials of some of the petitioners for protection. That the rates of taxation are correctly stated any person may decide for himself, on examining the Act of Congress.

But it is not my intention, at present, to enter on the merits of the controversy. I proceed to remark, that I voted for the resolutions by which the Committee is instructed on what principles to seek redress by a Memorial to Congress. Those resolutions did not express the opinion of the Convention on the constitutionality of the Tariff laws. Many of the capitalists who have made large investments in cotton and woollen establishments, and other branches sustained by extravagant taxation, had no agency in procuring the enactment of those laws; but, accommodating their business to the existing system, have adventured upon the encouragement it affords, and by a great and sudden change, would be involved in loss, if not in ruin. A return to a just system, should not be so accelerated as to do injustice to those who have placed confidence in this. A long and gradual reduction of duties, in such a manner as to cause no convulsion, is all that the resolutions contemplate. More moderation should be observed by the Government in relieving the people from those burdens, than was practised in imposing them. This relief will be obtained, if not at the next session of Congres, most certainly at no very remote period. A few thousand manufacturers cannot, for their own emolument, subject millions of their countrymen to an oppressive and perpetual contribution. The syren songs of "The American System," and "Domestic Industry,"—which, as here applied, are sounds without sense, have been sung and echoed from one extremity of our country to the other, but cannot long entrance an intelligent people.

I have protracted this communication beyond my intended limits. My primary object was to correct the misapprehension of my opinions, which has appeared in several newspapers. Many of my friends, both those who are engaged in manufactures, and those who are not, have known my sentiments on the Protecting System, from a period much earlier than the Tariff of 1816. All branches of useful and honest industry ought to be encouraged; but one should not be made tributary to another. Each should be permitted to retain the entire amount of its own emoluments.

ROGER M. SHERMAN.

October 28, 1831.

PRESENTATION OF SWORDS.

On Monday last in the Council Chamber, his Excellency Governor Howard presented swords to Captain Geisenger, Lieut. Smoot and Lieut. Contee, agreeably to the resolution of the last General Assembly of Maryland, in the presence of the Council, the Court and Bar of the Court of appeals, and a respectable number of citizens and strangers—among the latter were Commodore Bainbridge, Captain Ballard, and Lieut. Mayo.

The Annapolis Republican states that the following is the Address of the Governor on the occasion, and the replies of the respective gentlemen thereto.

Address of the Governor.

Gentlemen:—In every age and in every country it has been customary to pay some public tribute of respect to distinguished merit. The propriety of this custom established in the early ages of the world, is confirmed by its continuance at the present day, when civilization has become extended over so large a portion of our globe, and the inventions of human genius have arrived to such a point of perfection that we are at a loss to conceive how they can be further extended. The legislature of Maryland, in accordance with this long established custom, has from time to time selected from amongst her citizens, those who have signalized themselves by devotion to the public good, bestowing upon them some visible sign of her approbation.—It is upon such an occasion that we have met this day. It becomes my duty in my official station, in compliance with the directions of the representatives of the people of this State to bestow upon you, the highest reward the patriot and warrior can desire—these testimonials of the approbation of your native State, of your gallantry and good conduct in defence of the rights of your country. In this public recognition of your services, your names become recorded in the archieves of your native State. Having myself received the parental instruction of one who bore arms in our revolutionary struggle, I can readily conceive the feelings by which you are now agitated—feelings of pleasure mingled with that modesty natural to the brave, which would make you prefer your situation at the moment your laurels were won, to this when you are about to receive the reward of your exertions. It is a proud and gratifying fact, that I cannot refrain from mentioning, that in the generous strife who should be foremost in deeds of valor, the sons of Maryland were not undistinguished. In the records of our revolution, the names of Marylanders stand proudly prominent; and when at a later period our country again became involved in war with the same nation, with which our fathers so successfully contended, the same spirit which animated them, was found amongst their sons, who nobly redeemed the pledge of devotion to their country, given by their sires. In the gallant band which marched to seek the foe, you were found; and that you went forth, not in vain, the transactions of this day are proud evidences. You fought and conquered, carrying the Star Spangled Banner into every sea, and convincing your enemy, that they were not the only nation

"Whose march is on the mountain wave,
Whose home is on the deep.

The Java and the Guerriere—the Peacock and the Penguin—the Reindeer and the Avon, are proud trophies of this fact.

Your country is grateful to you. Your native State is proud of you, and through me as her organ, tenders to you these swords, as evidences of her feelings.

Captain Geisenger's Reply.

It is with peculiar pleasure that I receive from the hands of your Excellency the sword which is presented by the Legislature of my native State, as a mark of its approbation of my conduct during the late war. In the action [illegible] participator, as I then only held the station of a midshipman. Gratifying as is this kind and encouraging remembrance of the patriotic State of Maryland, yet it is mingled with the most painful recollections. The gallant Blakely and his devoted companions never lived to receive from their country, the cheering reward of gallant deeds. I am the only survivor of the officers who shared in the actions which you have this day so kindly celebrated.

For this sword, and for the very flattering expressions with which the presentation has been accompanied, accept my heartfelt thanks, and my solemn assurance that it shall never be drawn except in the defence of justice and of the country.

Mr. Contee's Reply.

The happiness I feel in receiving this testimonial of my native State, is highly increased from being presented by your excellency, a descendant of the illustrious hero of the Cowpens.

Should the fortune of war ever again place me on the military stage, may my career, like his, be crowned with victory and glory.

Lieut. Smoot's Reply.

I beg your Excellency to believe that I feel with deep sensibility the distinguished honor conferred upon me by the Legislature of my native State, in the presentation of this sword, as a reward for the feeble services rendered by me to my country, during the late war with Great Britain.

It is a proud consolation to me to know (humble as my services were,) that throughout that contest I felt an honest devotion to the cause of my country; and that I exerted in her service, whatever ability I possessed. I can only pledge a similar devotion in any future contest in which she may be engaged.

I make my most grateful acknowledgments to your Excellency for your kindness and courtesy on this occasion.

The speech of Gen. Lafayette which we give below, is, as will be seen, thoroughly American. He contrasts the prosperity flowing from, and the deeds achieved by, the democracy of the United States—with those of England's aristocracy, and strikes the balance largely in our favor. When he spoke of the American victory at New Orleans a member cried out "You should add that the Britons made themselves masters of the capital of the United States, the city of Washington." The readers are already apprized that the vote against the hereditary principle was decisive.

N. Y. Amer.

SPEECH OF GENERAL LAFAYETTE,

On the Question of an Hereditary Peerage, in the Chamber of Deputies, on the 8th October.

The question submitted to you, Gentlemen, is of such vast importance to the general cause of Liberty and Equality,—to the future constitutional destinies of France, and to the honor of this House, upon which all eyes are fixed; the interests of an hereditary Peerage have for a year past, though indirectly, exercised so great an influence upon the relations, and, in my judgment, upon the mistakes of the government, that I look with satisfaction at the moment which is to resolve it definitively. I unite, therefore, with the committee in rejecting that temporary provision of Ministers, which, in resting on an article of the Charter on a basis different from the others, would only prolong agitation and uncertainty; for I believe, without underrating other causes of disturbance, that it is the uncertainty of a system, balancing between the consequences of the revolution and the [illegible]

©Maryland State Archives, msa_sc4925_scm13073-0286.jpg