

MR. ADAMS'S ORATION ON LAFAYETTE.

Oration on the Life and Character of GILBERT MOTIER DE LAFAYETTE, delivered at the request of both Houses of Congress of the United States, before them, in the House of Representatives at Washington, on the 31st December, 1834. By JOHN QUINCY ADAMS, a Member of the House.

Fellow Citizens of the Senate and House of Representatives:

If the authority by which I am now called to address you is one of the highest honors that could be conferred upon a citizen of this Union by his countrymen, I cannot dissemble to myself that it embraces at the same time one of the most arduous duties that could be imposed.

Grateful to you for the honor conferred upon me by your invitation, a sentiment of irrespressible and fearful diffidence absorbs every faculty of my soul in contemplating the magnitude, the difficulties, and the delicacy of the task which it has been your pleasure to assign me.

I am to speak to the North American States and People, assembled here in the persons of their honored and confidential Lawgivers and Representatives. I am to speak to them, by their own appointment, upon the Life and Character of a man whose life was, for nearly three score years, the history of the civilized world—a man, of whose character, to say that it is indissolubly identified with the Revolution of our Independence, is little more than to mark the features of his childhood—of a man, the personified image of self-circumscribed liberty.

Nor can it escape the most superficial observation, that, in speaking to the fathers of the land upon the Life and Character of LAFAYETTE, I cannot forbear to touch upon topics which are yet deeply convulsing the world, both of opinion and action. I am to walk between burning ploughshares—to tread upon fires which have not yet even collected cinders to cover them.

If, in addressing their countrymen upon their most important interests, the Orators of Antiquity were accustomed to begin by supplication to their gods that nothing unsuitable to be said or unworthy to be heard might escape from their lips, how much more forcible is my obligation to invoke the favor of Him "who touched Isaiah's hallowed lips with fire," not only to extinguish in the mind every conception unadapted to the grandeur and sublimity of the theme, but to draw from the bosom of the deepest conviction, thoughts congenial to the merits which it is the duty of the discourse to unfold, and words not unworthy the dignity of the auditory before whom I appear.

In order to form a just estimate of the Life and Character of Lafayette, it may be necessary to advert, not only to the circumstances connected with his birth, education, and lineage, but to the political condition of his country and of Great Britain, her national rival and adversary, at the time of his birth, and during his years of childhood.

On the sixth day of September, one thousand seven hundred and fifty-seven, the hereditary Monarch of the British Islands was a native of Germany. A rude, illiterate old soldier of the wars for the Spanish accession, little versed even in the language of the nations over which he ruled; educated to the maxims and principles of the Feudal Law, of openly licentious life, and of moral character far from creditable, he styled himself, by the grace of God, of Great Britain, France, and Ireland, King; but there was another and real King, with whom perhaps worse, than himself, and with whom he was then at war. This was Louis the first, the name, great grandson of his immediate predecessor, Louis the Fourteenth, sometimes denominated the Great. These two Kings held their thrones by the law of hereditary succession, variously modified, in France by the Roman Catholic, and in Britain by Protestant Reformed Christianity.

They were at this time engaged in conflicting claims to the possession of the Western Wilderness of North America—a prize, the possibilities of which are now unfolding themselves with a grandeur and magnificence unexampled in the history of the world; but of which, if the nominal possession had remained in either of the two Princes, who were staking their Kingdoms upon the issue of the strife, the buffalo and the beaver, with their hunter, the Indian savage, would, at this day, have been as they then were, the only inhabitants.

In this war, GEORGE WASHINGTON, then at the age of twenty-four, was on the side of the British German King, a youthful but heroic combatant; and, in the same war, the father of Lafayette was on the opposite side, exposing his life in the heart of Germany, for the cause of the King of France.

On that day, the sixth of September, one thousand seven hundred and fifty-seven, was born GILBERT MOTIER DE LAFAYETTE, at the Castle of Chavaniac, in Auvergne, and a few months after his birth his father fell in battle at Minden.

Let us here observe the influence of political institutions over the destinies and the characters of men. George the Second was a German Prince; he had been made King of the British Islands by the accident of his birth; that is to say, because his great grandmother had been the daughter of James the first; that great grandmother had been married to the King of Bohemia, and her youngest daughter had been married to the Elector of Hanover. George the Second's father was her son, and when James the Second had been expelled from his throne and his country by the indignation of his people, revolted against his tyranny, and when his daughter, who succeeded him, had died without issue, George the first, the son of the Electress of Hanover, became King of Great Britain, by the settlement of an Act of Parliament, blending together the principle of hereditary succession with that of Reformed Protestant Christianity, and the rites of the Church of England.

The throne of France was occupied by virtue of the same principle of hereditary succession, differently modified, and blended with the Christianity of the Church of Rome. From this line of succession all females were inflexibly excluded. Louis the Fifteenth, at the age of six years had become the absolute sovereign of France, because he was the great grandson of his immediate predecessor. He was of the third generation, in descent from the preceding King, and, by the law of primogeniture, entitled upon that of lineal succession, did, by the death of his ancestor, forthwith succeed, in childhood, to an absolute throne, in preference to numerous descendants from that same ancestor, then in the full vigor of manhood.

The first reflection that must occur to a rational being, in contemplating these two results of the principle of hereditary succession, as resorted to for designating the rulers of nations, is, that two persons more unfit to occupy the thrones of Britain and of France, at the time of their respective accessions, could scarcely have been found upon the face of the Globe—George the Second, a foreigner, the son and grandson of foreigners, born beyond the seas, educated in unbecoming manners, ignorant of the Constitution, of the Laws, even of the Language of the People over whom he was to rule; and Louis the Fifteenth, an infant, incapable of discern-

ing his right hand from his left. Yet, strange as it may sound to the ear of unaccustomed reason, the British nation were wedded to the belief that this act of settlement, fixing their crown upon the heads of this succession of total strangers, was the brightest and most glorious exemplification of their national freedom; and not less strange, if aught in the perfection of human reason could seem strange, was that deep conviction of the French People, at the same period, that their chief glory and happiness consisted in the veneration of their affection for their King, because he was descended in an unbroken male line of genealogy from Saint Louis.

It was at this state of the conflict, and immediately after the Declaration of Independence, that it drew the attention, and called into action the moral sensibilities and the intellectual faculties of Lafayette, then in the nineteenth year of his age.

The war was revolutionary. It began by the dissolution of the British Government in the Colonies; the people of which were, by that operation, left without any Government whatever. They were then at one and the same time maintaining their independent national existence by war, and forming new social compacts for their own government thenceforward. The construction of civil society; the extent and limitation of organized power; the establishment of a system of government combining the greatest enlargement of individual liberty with the most perfect preservation of public order, were the continual occupations of every mind. The consequences of this state of things to the history of mankind, especially of Europe, were foreseen by none—Europe saw nothing but the war, a people struggling for liberty, and against oppression; and the people in every part of Europe sympathized with the people of the American Colonies.

With their governments it was not so. The people of the American Colonies were insurgents; all Governments abhor insurrection; they were revolted colonists. The great maritime Powers of Europe had Colonies of their own, to which the example of resistance against oppression might be contagious. The American Colonies were situated in all the official acts of the British Government, and rebellion to the governing part of mankind is the sin of witchcraft. The Governments of Europe, therefore, were, at heart, on the side of the British Government in this war, and the people of Europe were on the side of the American people.

Lafayette, by his position and condition in life, was one of those who, governed by the noblest impulses which influence and control the conduct of men, would have sided in sentiment with the British or Royal cause.

Lafayette was born a subject of the most absolute and most splendid monarch of Europe, and in the highest rank of her proud and chivalrous nobility. He had been educated at a college of the University of Paris, founded by the royal munificence of Louis the Fourteenth, or his Minister, Cardinal Richelieu. Left orphan in early childhood, with the inheritance of a noble fortune, he had been married, at sixteen years of age, to a daughter of the house of Noailles, the most distinguished family of the kingdom, scarcely deemed in public consideration inferior to that which wore the Crown. He came into active life, at the change from boy to man, and a husband a father, in the full enjoyment of every thing that avarice could covet, with a certain prospect before him of all that ambition could crave.

Happy in his domestic affections, incapable from the benignity of his nature, of envy, hatred, or revenge, a life of "ignoble ease and indolent repose" seemed to be that which nature and fortune had combined to prepare before him. To men of ordinary mould this condition would have led to a life of luxurious idleness and sensual indulgence. Such was the life into which, from the operation of the same happy influences, Louis the Fifteenth had sunk, with his husband and court, while Lafayette was rising to manhood, surrounded by the contemplation of their example. Had his natural endowments been even of the higher and nobler order of such as adhere to virtue, even in the lap of prosperity, and in the bosom of temptation, he might have lived and died a pattern of the nobility of France, to be classed in after-times, with the Turennes and the Montausiers, or age of Louis the Fourteenth, or with the Villars and the Lamignons of the age immediately preceding his own.

But as in the firmament of Heaven that rolls over our heads, there is, among the stars of the first magnitude, one so pre-eminent in splendor, in the opinion of astronomers, to constitute a class by itself; so, in the fourteen hundred years of the French Monarchy, among the multitudes of great and mighty men which it has evolved, the name of Lafayette stands unrivalled in the annals of glory.

In contenting himself with the threshold of life, a career was to open before him. He had the option of the Court and the Camp. An accident rendered to him in the household of the King's brother, the Count de Provence, since successively a royal Exile and a reinstated King, the servitude and inaction of a Court had no charms for him; he preferred a commission in the army, and, at the time of the Declaration of Independence, was a captain of dragoons in garrison at Metz.

There, at an entertainment given by his relative, the Maréchal de Broglie, the Commandant of the place, to the Duke of Gloucester, brother to the British King, and then a transient traveller through that part of France, he learns, as an incident of intelligence received that morning by the English Prince from London, that the Congress of Rebels, at Philadelphia, had issued a Declaration of Independence; and a conversation ensues upon the causes and upon the consequences which may be expected to flow from it. The imagination of Lafayette has caught across the Atlantic tide the spark emitted from the Declaration of Independence; his heart has kindled at the shock, and, before he slumbers upon his pillow, he has resolved to devote his life and fortune to the cause.

You have before you the cause and the man. The self-devotion of Lafayette was twofold. First, to the people, maintaining a bold and seemingly desperate struggle against oppression, and for national existence. Secondly, and chiefly, to the principles of their Declaration, which first unfurled before his eyes the consecrated standard of human rights. To that standard, without instant hesitation, he repaired. Where it would lead him, it was then identical with the stars and stripes of the American Union, floating in the breeze from the Hall of Independence, at Philadelphia. Nor sordid avarice, nor vulgar ambition, could point his footsteps to the pathway leading to that banner. To the love of ease or pleasure nothing could be more repulsive. Something may be allowed to the beatings of the youthful breast, which make ambition virtue, and something to the spirit of military adventure, im-

(Continued on first page.)

REMOVAL.

MRS. M. A. GIBBS; RESPECTFULLY informs the Ladies of Easton and its vicinity, that she has removed her Millinery and Fancy Store to the house formerly occupied by the late Rev. Lot Warfield, situated on Washington street, next door to the corner of Dover street, where she constantly has the

LATEST FASHIONS FROM BALTIMORE AND PHILADELPHIA, and solicits the Ladies of Talbot and the adjacent counties to give her a call, view her assortment and judge for themselves. She returns her sincere thanks for the liberal encouragement she has received since she commenced the above business, and solicits a continuance of the same.

Jan. 28 3w

POSTPONED SALE.

THE sale of the schooner "SEA FLOWER," advertised to be sold on the 24th inst. was postponed until Saturday next, the 31st inst. when (if not before sold at private sale) she will be offered to the highest bidder, for cash, at Easton Point, between the hours of 10 o'clock, A. M. and 4 o'clock, P. M. Persons wishing to purchase will do well to call at the Point and examine her.

The "Sea Flower" is a fine sailor, built of the best materials, of about 25 tons, and will carry from 800 to 1000 bushels of grain.

WM. C. RIDGWAY, Con. Jan 27.

CO-PARTNERSHIP.

THE subscriber respectfully informs the citizens of Easton and its vicinity that he has taken his Son, RICHARD GIBBS, in co-partnership with him, in the BUTCHERING BUSINESS

The business will hereafter be carried on under the name of EDWARD B. GIBBS & SON; they solicit a share of the public patronage.

E. B. GIBBS. N. B. Those persons indebted to E. B. Gibbs are requested to make immediate payment, as he wishes to close his old accounts.

Jan. 27 3w

PASSENGERS' LINE.

SCHOONER SOPHIA

HAS commenced her regular route, and will run, during the session of the Legislature, for the accommodation of the public, leaving Haddaway's Ferry on Mondays and Thursdays for Annapolis, and returning will leave Annapolis on Tuesdays and Saturdays. The subscriber has supplied himself with comfortable Carriages, for the conveyance of all who may patronize his line to Easton and to every other place on the Eastern Shore.

The public's obt. servt. W. H. DAWSON. Jan 27 3t

Talbot County, to wit:

Application to me the subscriber, one of the Justices of the Orphans' Court of the county aforesaid by petition in writing of James Vinson, stating that he is under execution, and praying for the benefit of the act of Assembly, passed at November session, eighteen hundred and five, for the relief Insolvent Debtors, and the several supplements thereto, on the terms mentioned in the said acts; and the said James Vinson having complied with the several requisites required by the acts of Assembly—I do hereby order and adjudge that the said James Vinson be discharged from his imprisonment, and that he be and appear before the Judges of Talbot County Court, on the first Saturday of May Term next, and at such other days and times as the Court shall direct; the same time is appointed for the creditors of the said James Vinson to attend, and show cause, if any they have, why the said James Vinson should not have the benefit of the said acts of Assembly. Given under my hand the 11th day of October, 1834.

LAMBERT W. SPENCER. Jan 24 3t

GENERAL AGENCY.

THE subscriber, having more leisure than he wishes, has consented to undertake the adjustment and collection of accounts, generally, against persons residing in Talbot County. He will give particular and strict attention to all business confided to him, with as little delay as possible.

To his brethren of the type—the publishers of newspapers and periodicals,—he offers his services, and hopes such as feel disposed to advertise two or three insertions, by which they will acknowledge him as their agent.

Being Post Master, the subscriber will possess facilities for the collection of accounts, especially those of publishers,—not enjoyed by others; and all communications to him, by mail, will be without cost.

Persons residing in this county, also, who have accounts and business which they cannot conveniently attend to in person, and which they do not wish to place in the hands of officers, may find their advantage in employing the subscriber.

EDWARD MULLIKIN, Post Master. Easton, Jan. 6th, 1835. tf

LOST.

TAKEN from Mr. Lowe's Bar, it is supposed by mistake, a dark drab Pocket-sham Box Coat, with round lapels and pocket flaps; in the lining of the left skirt there were three spots. Any person having seen or found such a coat, will oblige the subscriber by leaving it at the office of the Eastern Shore Whig, or by giving notice of it to JAS. G. ELLIOTT, Head of Wye. Jan 10 tf

A CARD.

THE customers of my blacksmith's shop or 1834 are drawn off and left at the Post Office with Edward Mullikin, Esq. on whom they are requested to call and settle the same, either by payment or acknowledgment. RICHARD SPENCER. Jan 24

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Cart-wheel, Plough, and Wagon

THE subscriber acknowledges his obligations to the public for the liberal share of patronage which they have extended to him in the line of his business, since he came to Easton. He still continues to carry on the business of Cart-wheel, Plough & Wagon Wright, in all its branches, at the old stand at the upper end of Washington street. Having laid in a supply of the

BEST MATERIALS, he is prepared to execute all orders in the most and most substantial manner, for cash, or on a liberal credit to good customers, for any kind of country produce at fair prices. JOHN B. FIRBANK. (G cow3w) Jan 6 tf

BLACKSMITHING.

THE subscriber tenders his grateful acknowledgments to a generous public for the liberal encouragement he has received, and informs them that he still carries on the above business in all its variety, at his old stand on Dover street. He has now in his employ a FIRST RATE WORKMAN, and, in addition to the other branches of the business, he is prepared to make and repair all kinds of cast steel edge tools, and repair Common and Percussion Gun Locks, ON MODERATE TERMS.

He is also prepared for Horse-shoeing, to which strict attention will be paid, and in this line of his business he feels assured that he is excelled by none. He has now on hand an excellent assortment of MATERIALS, and every effort will be made to give perfect satisfaction to those who may favor him with their custom.

The public's obedient servant, WM. VANDERFORD. Jan 6 tf

NEW GROCERY AND VARIETY STORE.

Thos. Oldson & Wm. H. Hopkins BEG leave to inform the public that they have associated themselves together under the firm of OLDSON & HOPKINS, and have opened in the store room lately occupied by John T. Goldsmith, at the corner of Washington and Court Streets, a GROCERY & VARIETY STORE.

They have just returned from Baltimore with a general assortment of articles in their line, such as GROCERIES, FRUITS, CONFECTIONARY, &c. &c. which they will sell low for cash. Their friends and the public generally are invited to call and examine for themselves.

N. B. O. & H. will take in country produce to sell on commission. dec 20 1m

Millinery and Mantua Making.

MISS ELIZABETH MILLS, HAVING lately returned from Baltimore, where she has been at work in the above business, in the employment and under the instruction of a lady considered equal to any in the city, in the style and finish of her work, and having made arrangements for the early and regular receipt of the fashions as they appear, offers her services to the ladies of Easton and the adjoining country, in the business of MILLINERY & MANTUA MAKING generally. She has taken the room or store formerly occupied by Mrs. Gibbs, between the residence of Dr. Thomas H. Dawson and the residence of Mr. Jas. Wilson, where she would be pleased that the ladies would call and give her work a trial. Jan 17 tf

WINTER ARRANGEMENT, VIA BROAD CREEK.

THE MAIL STAGE from Easton, via Wye Mills and Queenstown to Broad Creek, will leave Easton every Sunday and Wednesday morning, at 7 o'clock, and reach Broad Creek at 2 o'clock, P. M. in time for passengers to arrive at Annapolis at an early hour in the evening in the mail packet, MARTIN VAN BUREN.

Returning, leave Broad Creek at 11 o'clock, A. M. or immediately after the arrival of the Mail Packet from Annapolis, and reach Easton the same evening. The MAIL leaves Easton every Tuesday and Saturday afternoon at half past 12 o'clock, for Cambridge, and returns same evening.

The MAIL STAGE for Centreville, leaves Easton every Monday, Wednesday and Friday afternoon at half past 1 o'clock, and reaches Centreville in time for an early supper. Returning, leaves Centreville at 9 o'clock, A. M. and arrives at Easton by 12 o'clock.

Fare from Annapolis to Easton, \$3.50 Or—from Annapolis to Broad Creek, \$1.00 " from Broad Creek to Queenstown, 1.00 " from Queenstown to Wye Mills, .50 " Wye Mills to Easton, 1.00 " from Easton to Cambridge Ferry, 1.00 " from Easton to Centreville, 1.50 " Wye Mills to Centreville, .50 All Baggage at the risk of the owners.

The Maryland Gazette will copy the above during the Session. Easton, Jan. 24, 1835.

REMOVAL

THE subscriber begs leave to return his thanks to his friends and the public generally, for the liberal support and encouragement which they have extended to him in the way of his business.

Having removed his hat store to the house lately occupied by Mr. Wm. L. Jones, as a Clock and Watch-maker's shop, directly opposite to the Saddler's shop of Mr. William W. Higgins, he intends keeping on hand A LARGE AND GENERAL ASSORTMENT OF HATS,

which he thinks he can safely warrant to be equal, in faithfulness of workmanship and quality generally, to any manufactured in the State, and will sell on the most accommodating terms. To country merchants or others, buying to sell again, he will sell, by the dozen, as low as the same quality of hats can be had in a city market.

Furs of all kinds, purchased or taken in exchange, at the HIGHEST cash prices. ENNALLS ROSZELL. Easton, Jan. 10 tf

COACH, GIG AND HARNESS



MAKING.

THE undersigned respectfully return their grateful acknowledgments to their friends, and the public generally, for the liberal and extensive patronage they continue to receive, and beg leave to inform them that they still pursue and carry on the above business in all its various branches, and having considerably enlarged their establishment by adding thereto a plater's shop, and an additional smith's shop, they will be more fully enabled to meet the wishes and demands of their various patrons. They have recently returned from Philadelphia and Baltimore,

With a large and extensive assortment of MATERIALS,

embracing every variety, selected with the utmost attention and care, and confidently believe that with the experience they have in the business, and the assistance of the very best workmen, together with the facilities they now have, they will be able to meet the wishes of all those who may favor them with their custom, in all orders for Coaches, Barouches, Gigs, Carrials,

or any description of Carriage, at the shortest notice, in the most substantial and fashionable style, and at the lowest possible prices. They have at present, on hand, and for sale, A LARGE ASSORTMENT OF GIGS, new and second hand,

of various kinds and prices, which they will dispose of on the most reasonable terms, for cash, and guaranteed paper, country produce, or in exchange for old carriages at fair prices.

They assure the public, that all their work, will be attended to with the promptness and all kinds of repairing done at the shortest notice, in the best manner and on the most accommodating terms. All letters addressed to the subscribers specifying the kind of carriage wanted, will be immediately attended to, and the carriage brought to the door of the person ordering it,—also all kind of Steel Springs made and repaired to order, and all kinds of Silver plating done as low as it can be in the city.

The public's obedient servants, ANDERSON & HOPKINS. N. B. They wish to take three apprentices of steady habits, from 14 to 16 years of age, one at each of the following branches, viz. smithing, plating and painting.

They respectfully remind those whose accounts have been standing longer than twelve months, to come forward, and settle immediately, otherwise they will be placed in officers hands for collection, according to law, without respect to persons. A. & H. Jan 20 tf

The Eastern Gazette, Cambridge Chronicle, and Caroline Advocate, will copy the above.

THE STEAM BOAT



MARYLAND

WILL make her last trip for the season, to the Eastern Shore on Tuesday next, the 6th of January, inst., weather permitting. She will continue to run between Baltimore and Annapolis three times a week, when practicable, during the sitting of the Legislature. Immediately after the adjournment of the Legislature, she will be hauled up to undergo the necessary repairs preparatory to resuming her regular routes in the Spring, of which due notice will be given. L. G. TAYLOR, Capt. Jan 3

TO TRAVELLERS.



HAVING taken upon myself the contract for the transportation of the Mail from Cambridge to Snow Hill, passengers will hereafter be conveyed from Cambridge to Princess Anne, or from Princess Anne to Cambridge, or any of the intermediate places, on moderate terms, by means of the two horse Mail Stage, now running between those towns. The Stage leaves Cambridge every Wednesday and Sunday morning, at 6 o'clock; and returning, departs from Princess Anne, at the same hour on Tuesday and Saturday of each week.

dec 30 N. B. All baggage at the risk of the owners. ROBERT COOPER.

WAS committed to the Jail of Baltimore

city and county, on the 31st day of December, 1834, by E. Smith, Esq. a Justice of the Peace in and for the city of Baltimore, as a runaway, a negro woman who calls herself ELIZABETH OLMAN; says she was born free, and was raised by her mother, Jane OLMAN, in Gloster, Va. aged about 40 years, 5 feet 5 inches high; has a scar on her right arm, and a pink flat nose. Had on when committed, a broad gingham frock, check apron, cotton handkerchief on her head, cotton stockings, and old pair of shoes.

The owner (if any) of the above described negro woman, is requested to come forward, prove property, pay charges and take her away, otherwise she will be disposed of as the law directs. D. W. HUDSON, Warden of Baltimore City and County Jail. Jan 24 3w

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City and County, on the 31st day of December, 1834, by E. Smith, Esq. a Justice of the Peace, in and for the city of Baltimore, as a runaway, a negro woman, who calls herself SUSAN OLMAN; says she was born free, and was raised by her mother Elizabeth OLMAN, in Gloster, Virginia, aged about 21 years, 5 feet 2 inches high, has a scar on the back of her left hand, and a scar under the left eye. Had on when committed, a dark calico frock, blue cotton handkerchief on her head, purple striped shawl on her neck, and an old pair of boots.