

## Communications.

For the Free Press.

### THE VOTES OF THE STATES.

I will say nothing of the state of North-Carolina, the people are good—the celebrated Patrick Henry, once said of us, "That North-Carolina was a poor despised state;" but I will say something of the Representatives of the people of this state, if they are worth saying any thing about—that they have set at defiance and disregarded the unanimous voice of their constituents, I need not tell the public, for which I foster the hope that the people will in due season turn them to grass, like Nebuchadnezzar of old to crawl on their bellies, a fit situation for most of them. Sir, once a year our worthy representatives, like the serpent of old, throw off their slough and appear at the City of Washington as new creatures, in vivid colors—ready to wriggle themselves in where there is any thing to be got; and to wriggle out when there is nothing to be got; their situation only makes elementary meanness mere conspicuous, and in short, were our whole representation, (except one or two) mixed in their mother clay, and the breath of inspiration blown in their nostrils, they would not make more than one member of Congress. But the severest cut of all is, the vote from the state of Louisiana—ungrateful people! have you forgot, "when the blast of war whistled in your ears," and when a barbarian General issued his proclamation to a licentious and brutal soldiery—"booty and beauty of New-Orleans," in order to excite their cupidity and ferocity: and have you forgot at that time who it was that saved you! who it was that rushed into the field of battle and sealed his patriotism with his blood! Ungrateful people! but you are not Americans; you are Cosmopolites, from every quarter of the earth—your population is an incoherent disjointed mass, without heart and without feeling—as heterogenous in the feelings and notions of the blessings of liberty as those of the witches' cauldron, in Macbeth—"It is here a finger, and there a thumb—of frog and blind worm's sting—baboon's blood, stale and good."

NUMA.



## HALIFAX:

FRIDAY, MARCH 4, 1825.

### GEN. LA FAYETTE.

We have been enabled to procure, for the gratification of our readers, an imperfect sketch of the arrival and reception of the NATION'S GUEST in North Carolina. The rapidity of the General's movement, and consequent bustle and confusion of the citizens must be our apology for any error or omission which may appear in the following statement.

On Saturday last the state deputation, consisting of Chief Justice Taylor, Gen. Polk, Gen. Daniel, Gen. Williams and Maj. Stanly, arrived at this place, and having ascertained that it would be impracticable for them to meet Gen. La

Fayette at the Virginia line, as originally contemplated, they deputed Robt. Potter, Esq. who proceeded to Murfreesboro', where the General according to advices was expected to lodge that night. The General arrived at Murfreesboro' shortly after Mr. Potter, who tendered to him the respects and congratulations of the Governor, & explained the cause which had led to the detention of the escort and conveyance destined by the Executive for his reception. A courier was then despatched to inform our citizens that the General would in all probability be with them on the evening of the next day.

On Sunday the escort proceeded, accompanied by the carriages provided by the State for the conveyance of Gen. La Fayette and suite, to meet the Nation's Guest. At Northampton Court-house they were met by the General, who was thus addressed by Chief Justice Taylor:

**General La Fayette:**—We are sent by the Governor to offer you a warm and affectionate reception in the State of North-Carolina. Associated as your name is with that of the beloved father of our country, not less in the dark and dismal nights of the Revolution, than in the periods of its glory; we cannot but greatly rejoice at your arrival among us, that you may receive the grateful salutations of a free people, some of whom have witnessed your generous exertions in their cause, and all of whom have been accustomed to connect your name with whatever is just and elevated in sentiment, or praiseworthy and beneficent in conduct.

Consistently devoted as your life has been to the cause of rational liberty, and liberal institutions in two hemispheres, it must be a source of the purest gratification to you to survey in this, that fabric of political freedom which has grown up and flourished under the practical operation of principles, for which you have made so many sacrifices; to witness the powerful effects of a just government in expanding the moral energies of man, and laying deep the foundations of his happiness.

We rejoice, General, that after an interval of nearly half a century, you see the sons of those in whose cause you fought and bled, in the tranquil enjoyments of all those blessings, deeply sensible of their value, and firmly resolved to transmit them unimpaired to their children; and although in your long extensive tour through our country, you will of course, see different degrees of improvement, and find some of our sister states more happily situated to give you a reception suited to the universal estimate of your worth, yet amid the thousands who hail your arrival, there are none to whom it affords higher satisfaction than to our fellow-citizens. Nor can a mind like yours view with indifference the improvements made in the state, since your former journey through it to join our army in the most hopeless crisis of the struggle. You will now see smiling villages and cultivated fields, and an industrious population, where before an almost trackless forest overspread the country. You will see a nation of farmers, unobtrusively cherishing the domestic virtues, practising that of hospitality in its primitive purity, and gratefully feeling that a more fit occasion for its exercise never can occur than in welcoming to their hearts and firesides, the last surviving

General of the Revolution, their venerable and beloved fellow-citizen, LA FAYETTE.

The reply of the General was short, pithy, and full of feeling and sentiment. The members composing the deputation were then presented to him. The salutation of our revolutionary worthy, Gen. Polk, was affecting in the extreme, and appeared to have an electric effect on all present. About 5 o'clock, in the evening of Sunday, the roar of artillery and the ringing of bells, announced the approach of our illustrious guest. The mounted escort, consisting of 24 of our citizens under the command of Col. D. C. Fenner, paraded to receive the General, and proceeded to the river, accompanied by the deputation of the corporation and county of Halifax, consisting of Messrs. L. Long, Wm. E. Webb, Jos. Branch, and R. A. Jones, on the part of the citizens—and Messrs. J. B. Osborn, A. Williams, J. McLemore, and Geo. Anderson on the part of Royal White Hart Lodge. The citizens and members of the Lodge were formed in front of the Hotel, under the direction of Mr. M. H. Pettway and Col. A. Joyner as Marshalls, and a numerous collection of Ladies occupied the piazza with Maj. A. J. Davie, Hon. J. J. Daniel, and Mr. R. Eppes. On the arrival of the General in front of the Hotel, he descended from the carriage, was introduced to the persons composing the deputation individually, and was conducted through the line to the piazza of the Hotel. The waving of handkerchiefs by the Ladies, the Masonic salutation, the respectful raising of the hat by the citizens, and the universal murmur which ran through the assembly, "WELCOME, LA FAYETTE," evinced the deep sensibility which his presence inspired. The following address was then delivered by Maj. A. J. Davie:

**Gen. La Fayette:** Amidst the congratulations that surround the Nation's Guest, permit me to offer you those of the citizens of Halifax; they, sir, offer you the homage of hearts which are no strangers to that universal joy which your presence has spread in our country.

Although most of the sires of the Revolution are no more, and few are now left to hail and welcome their old friend and fellow-soldier; yet, ere the grave had claimed all that mortality could pay, they engraved on the hearts and the memories of their sons a deep and indelible impression, of your many eminent and splendid services, bestowed on our country in the darkest hour of her fortunes; but they did not, could not, leave us language to pourtray our warm, fervent, and lasting gratitude.

It is a gratifying circumstance that we have the pleasure to receive Gen. LA FAYETTE, in that house which may be considered as the birth-place of the freedom of North-Carolina; it was here the constitution of our State was formed; it was under this roof the Legislature voted all the best energies of the State to aid that Revolution in which you, Sir, bore so distinguished a part.

This day shall long be remembered by the citizens of Halifax; our children's children will account it a high festival and keep it holy; for on this day we have been suffered to pour out the effusions of our gratitude to the friend of Washington, the benefactor of America, and the patriot of France.

We beg you, sir, to accept the hospitalities of our little village, and permit me to assure you, (that as the son of your

old friend Gen. Davie) it is to me a source of the highest personal gratification to have been selected as the organ of the public wishes on the present occasion.

The General, in reply, observed:

**Sir:** It has long been my desire to visit the citizens of Halifax, where the constitution of the state was framed and the principles of liberty declared. The regard and respect evinced towards me by its citizens are highly gratifying to my feelings, and they are rendered more so by being tendered to me by the son of an old and esteemed friend.

The General was then conducted to his rooms, and after a short interval was presented by Maj. A. J. Davie to the ladies who were arranged in the drawing room for that purpose. George Washington La Fayette, was also presented to the Ladies by Mr. Wm. E. Webb. The Ladies having retired, the citizens generally had an opportunity to offer their individual congratulations, and partake of an excellent repast, in company with their noble Guests, prepared by Mr. E. P. Guion, in his usual sumptuous manner; the Hon. J. J. Daniel and R. Eppes, Esq. presiding. The cloth being removed, the following sentiments, among others, were offered:

**By the President:** The memory of Gen. Washington.

**By the Vice President:** The President of the United States.

**By Gen. La Fayette:** The State of North-Carolina and the town of Halifax—early in asserting the principles of liberty, may they long enjoy its blessings.

**By G. W. La Fayette:** The hospitality of the citizens of North Carolina, it will long be remembered with gratitude by one who now feels its effects.

**By Chief Justice Taylor:** France—may she soon enjoy the happiness of our country under the shelter of the same free principles.

**By Gen. Polk:** Hamilton and Laurens, Viominiel and La Fayette—who made the first impression on the British works at York.

**By Gen. Williams:** The rising generation—may they follow the examples of Washington and La Fayette.

**By Gen. Bryan:** Gen. Bolivar, the Washington of South America.

**By Col. A. Joyner:** The gratitude of the nation as recently manifested—equally honorable to the nation as just towards the illustrious individual on whom it has been conferred.

**By R. A. Jones, Esq.:** The constitution of the United States—may it be limited in its construction, but unlimited in its duration.

**By Wm. E. Webb:** Our country and its Republican institutions—may they be as permanent and unalterable as the principles of La Fayette.

**By Wm. Drew, Esq.:** I know, General, (addressing La Fayette,) that it will not be unpleasant to you if I bring to the notice of this company the name of one of our Revolutionary patriots although he was not in the field during our struggle for liberty and independence, yet in that tremendous hour of danger his pen was not idle, his writings contributed much to the general cause—I mean, Mr. President, *Thomas Paine*, the immortal author of the Rights of Man—of Common Sense

—I therefore drink to his memory.

**By S. Hillman, Esq.:** Our distinguished guest, Gen. La Fayette, who has ever proved by his conduct that his only mottoes were "God and my country," and "My God and the rights of man."

**By Dr. J. B. Osborn:** Our worthy guests...may they, after having passed through the rough and rugged ways thus far, find their roads more pleasant until they arrive at that Stately building which contains the sign of our State.

**Maj. A. J. Davie** when called on for a toast rose and said, that as the Ladies had been that day under his special care, he could not suffer them to be neglected—*Woman*, herself the fairest emblem and source of all virtue.

The company retired at an early hour, and the General was conducted to the rooms prepared for his reception.

On the morning of Monday, the mounted escort, in company with a numerous body of the citizens, accompanied the General some distance on his route. Gen. La Fayette having previously made known his intention of visiting Mrs. Jones, relief of the late Mr. Willie Jones, whose advanced age and bad health had prevented her from waiting on him at the Hotel, the carriages and escort halted in front of her house, when the General, his son, and suite, with Gens. Polk, Williams and Daniel alighted. The meeting of Gen. La Fayette and this venerable lady was truly affecting; there was not a dry eye in that room, the aged frame of Mrs. Jones was convulsed with feeling, and the General sunk in a chair overpowered with various and conflicting emotions. The Gen. was then introduced to Mrs. Burton, the lady of our Governor, and daughter of Mrs. Jones. Mr. G. W. La Fayette was also introduced to the family, and evinced all that sensibility for which himself and noble father have ever been remarkable.

After spending about an hour in the enjoyment of that hospitable mansion, of which the whole escort partook in front of the house, the General, having taken an affectionate leave of the whole family, was again conducted to his carriage and proceeded on his route. Some miles from town the escort halted in line on each side of the road and dismounted, when the General, being assisted from his carriage by Maj. A. J. Davie, and attended by Gens. Polk and Williams, proceeded to take leave of each individual, and expressed to each, as he took him by the hand, his grateful thanks for their kind attention—it was an effort almost too great even for Gen. La Fayette, and on taking leave of Maj. Davie at his carriage, he expressed in warm but broken language, the grateful feeling with which the conduct of our citizens had filled his heart.

Washington, Feb. 23.

GENERAL LA FAYETTE, with his Son and Secretary, sat out last evening on his tour through the Southern and Western States. He left here in the steam-boat Potomac, for Norfolk, whence he will proceed through the Carolinas, Georgia, and Alabama, to New-Orleans; thence up the Mississippi as far as St. Louis, visiting the Seats of Government of the States on its banks; then those of the western and Northwestern States, and returning to the Atlantic via Pittsburg, &c. Be-