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From the Alexandria Phoenix, Feb. 22.  
**THE NATION'S GUEST.**

In compliance with an invitation from his Masonic Brethren, our town was again honored on yesterday by the presence of this great and beloved man.

The inclemency of the morning excited an apprehension in many, that they would be disappointed in the pleasure so anxiously anticipated; but, at the appointed hour, they were relieved by the welcome information, that the Guest had arrived, accompanied by his friend Col. La Vasseur. He alighted from his carriage at the door of the City Hotel, at 4 o'clock, and was immediately conducted by the committee of arrangement to the antechamber of the Washington Lodge Room.

The Lodge had been formed at three, and were ready for his reception. In a few minutes after he had been conducted into the antechamber, one of the committee announced to the Worshipful Master that Brother Lafayette was in the adjoining room, and had requested to be introduced to his Brethren of Washington Lodge, No. 22. Instructions were given by the Worshipful Master to conduct him to the Lodge, and the Brethren were requested to rise and receive him.

In a few minutes the friend of Washington, clothed in the masonic habiliments, so often worn by the Father of his Country, entered the room, conducted by Brother Roberts, the Mayor of the Town, and by him was introduced to the Worshipful Master. The Worshipful Master then addressed the Guest as follows:

## Illustrious Brother Lafayette:

Among the various demonstrations of joy, which your arrival in the United States has elicited from the hearts of its grateful citizens, none have been more truly respectful, or more sincerely tendered, than the cordial welcome of your Masonic Brethren.

The services which you have rendered to our beloved country, in the war which attained its independence—when you abandoned family, friends, fortune and home, to aid the cause of liberty—to fight its battles, and to burst asunder the chains of bondage, are in our minds freshly remembered.

Through all the vicissitudes of your distinguished life, you have been present to our minds, and dear to our affections.

Whether as the conquering hero, on the victorious plains of York, or as a prisoner at Oltmutz to the enemies of freedom—whether asserting and defending the rights of liberty in the stormy councils of your country, or peacefully situated in the bosom of your family, at the happy mansion of La Grange; you have ever been revered as "one of the pillars of our Temple."

It affords me the inexpressible pleasure, to be the organ of my Brethren, here assembled, to welcome you into the bosom of this Lodge, in which your highly valued friend, the beloved Father of our country, was wont to preside over our labors, and inculcate the principles of our order—"Friendship, Morality, Brotherly Love and Charity." While it is our pride and boast that we had him to rule over us, we also esteem ourselves peculiarly happy in having you for our patron. When Masonry has such supporters, its principles will be maintained—its cause must flourish.

Accept, illustrious Sir & Brother, our most cordial welcome; though we are unable to pay the debt of gratitude which is due to you, you have our prayers that happiness may attend you, until the Grand Master of the universe shall summon you to eternal happiness in the Grand Lodge above.

To which the Venerable Guest replied,

"Worshipful Sir, and Brethren of Washington Lodge: I receive with peculiar sensations this mark of kindness and attention, and these expressions of esteem from my Masonic Brethren; and it is particularly gratifying to my feelings to visit a Lodge, over which our late illustrious Bro. Washington presided. I shall ever cherish a high regard for Masonry, and pray you, Worshipful Sir, and the rest of the Brethren, to accept my particular and grateful acknowledgments."

The master and officers of the Lodge, next presented their Brethren singly to the Guest, who received them in the most affectionate and fatherly manner, and often repeated his assurance that it was one of the happiest moments of his life. The scene was extremely interesting; and the recollections which naturally associated themselves, were such as are rarely experienced. The room was beautifully furnished, and decorated in the richest and simplest manner by the hands of our patriotic sisters. Over the Master's chair hung the portrait of its immortal first occupant—over that of the Senior Warden, was the portrait of the venerable George Washington, taken forty years ago, and held in veneration of the Lodge during the whole of that time;

and on other parts of the wall were those of all the Presidents of the United States, so striking as at once to be recognized by both the Guests. We regret that our limited time will not permit us to do justice to the description we have undertaken—we can only give a hasty sketch at present, & must make up for our deficiency hereafter. The ceremonies being over, the company was invited into a room, where refreshments were set out and soon afterwards, dinner being announced, the procession was formed, and moved to Clagett's Hotel.

We cannot convey, in terms sufficiently strong, the general satisfaction given by Mr. Clagett, in the splendid and sumptuous dinner, which he prepared for the occasion. Every thing that could be desired, was there, in the best order, and the most superior of its kind. Thanks were offered up by the Rev. Brother Hawley; and the company sat down about six o'clock, and partook of the finest feast we ever saw spread, with all the harmony, peculiar to the society. The cloths being removed, the following fixed toasts were drunk:

1. *George Washington*: First in the Cabinet, first in the Field, and first in the principles of Masonry.

2. *James Monroe*: The East proclaims his worth—the West echoes the same.

3. *Our illustrious Brother and Guest Lafayette*: His brethren take peculiar pleasure in receiving him in that Lodge, over which their beloved Washington was pleased to preside.

[This toast was received by the company standing, and answered by nine cheers. As soon as the seats had been resumed, General Lafayette rose and thanked his Brethren in affectionate terms for their friendly welcome: He made them judges of his feelings when he found himself in the Lodge where our beloved Washington for the last time fulfilled his masonic duties, and now in the room where for the last time he assisted at the celebration of his own birth day—He proposed the following toast:

The Masonic Temple of Alexandria, and the illustrious name under which it has been consecrated.]

4. *Masonry*: Though tyrants may persecute its votaries—its cause will triumph over bigotry and superstition.

5. *Our Brethren in South America*: The widow's son will never be refused assistance in the time of need.

6. *The memory of Warren, and other Brethren who fell in the war of Independence*: They have received *no rest*; which eternity cannot dim.

7. *Bolivar*—The chief corner stone of South American independence; may he continue the head of the corner.

8. *The Memory of Riego*—Having fought the good fight, and fallen a martyr to the cause of liberty, he now receives his wages at the hand of the Supreme Architect.

9. *The members of the Holy League*: Their superstitious horror of Free Masonry, begets for them the scorn and contempt of enlightened and liberal minds throughout the world.

[Upon his toast being given, General Lafayette expressed his great approbation; and joyfully observed—"The Holy Alliance are very much indebted to us for our attention—we toast them on all occasions."]

10. *Masonry*: Supporters of the just laws of their country—friends to liberty—Sufficient cause for the hatred of tyrants.

11. *The Brethren of our Glorious Craft*: May they ever be distinguished in the world by their regular lives, more than by their gloves and aprons.

12. *Masonry*: May virtue ever direct our actions towards our brothers—Justice, mercy, and charity, to all mankind.

The Pair: Though not admitted to share the mysteries of our order, they are dear to our affections, and honored in our ceremonies.

The regular toasts having been gone through, Brother W. M. A. WILLIAMS sang the following song, composed for the occasion:

## SONG.

"Hail to the chief" whom the world is adorning,  
Honours as first in the patriot band;  
"Hail to the chief" who in glory retiring,  
Freemen now greet in their own happy land.  
Welcome the chief who in war's dread combat,  
Bled in the contest that Tyrants commence,  
Whose arm has been ever in noble devotion,  
To Liberty's cause and Freedom's defence.  
All hail our noble Guest,  
Joy wake in every breast,  
Honor and love to the Chief we adore:  
Long may he live to see,  
Brave sons of liberty,  
Hail him as father from every shore.  
Dark was the hour when our foe men insulting,  
Brandished the torch and the murderous blade,  
Tyrants themselves in wild triumph exulting,  
Smiled on the ruin their victories made.  
'Twas then from the East the young hero arising,  
A glorious light to Columbia gave;  
Hope led the vanguard, and danger despising,  
Victory followed the noble and brave.  
All hail our noble Guest, we  
Europe, the darkness of ages dispelling,  
Shall rise on her despoils in glorious night,  
And battles for freedom shall not be rebell-ing.  
But scourging the rebels to reigns, and stars,  
Then and the name of our Hero be couched—  
The watch word of nations resolved to be free.  
Ages shall bless him, by freedom surrounded,  
And raise for his monument—LIBERTY.  
All hail our noble Guest, &c.

## VOLUNTEER TOASTS.

By Gen. Lafayette—Greets: Let us help each other.

By St. La Vasseur, Gen. Lafayette's friend—Our Persecuted Brethren in Europe! Their exertions will not be lost to Liberty!

By the Worshipful Master of Washington Lodge, No. 22—His excellency De Witt Clinton: The virtuous Mason, the able Statesman.

By Brother Roberts, the Mayor—The five points of Masonry, known to Masons, so they by Masons remembered.

By Brother James Carver—May Masons never feel want—nor want feeling.

By Brother Past Master Williams—Our distinguished statesman, Brother Henry Clay.

By Brother Chapin—Masonry: More ancient than the Golden Plecter or the Roman Eagle—more brilliant than the brightest gem that glitters in the Monarch's diadem.

By Brother James Col. Hugon: His conduct at the Castle of Oltmutz—a bright example of Masonic attachment.

By Brother C. T. Chapman—Brother Lafayette—As bright a gem of virtue, honor and valor as ever graced the world.

By Brother M. Lane—Col. La Vasseur: The amiable companion of our beloved Lafayette.

By Brother Page—The Foundation Stone of Masonry—Charity.

By Brother T. J. Martin—Gen. Sucre: May his late and brilliant victory secure to his country liberty and independence.

By Brother Edw'd A. May—Andrew Jackson, Grand Master of Tennessee, the firm Statesman and patriotic soldier.

By Brother James Barry—The three Lodges of Alexandria, and their sister associates, the Mechanic Relief, St. Andrew's and Hibernian Societies.

By Brother Swift—Our illustrious Brother, Gen. Lafayette: One of the master workmen, who assisted in fitting the Key Stone of the triumphal arch at York-Town; where a victorious termination was effected of our glorious struggle for Freedom and independence.

By Brother Alexander—The most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Virginia.

By Brother Singleton—General Lafayette: Though persecuted by the despots of Europe, and imprisoned in the walls of Oltmutz, he has "like the widow's son," maintained the same inflexible integrity.

By Brother Wheelwright—The Holy Alliance: Masonry, Civil and Religious Liberty.

By Brother E. Pittman—Ferdinand VII, and Alexander the Deliverer: "Heave them over among the rubbish!"

By Brother M. Guire—Our R. W. Brother, Gen. Jackson: His labors in the South, are dearly cherished in the West, and will be properly appreciated in the East.

By Brother D. Somers—May the Morning have no occasion to accuse the Night spent by Fre Masons.

A little after eight o'clock, the Guest expressed his great regret at being compelled to retire. The short time which remained to make arrangements for his southern tour, he hoped would plead his excuse for leaving a place which had so many attractions for him; but he still hoped to visit it again, and in the mean time should bear in lively remembrance the affectionate and hospitable manner in which he had been treated. He again renewed his wishes for our prosperity and happiness, and taking his leave, departed for Washington.—We learn that he will set out for the South on Wednesday evening, in the steam boat Potomac.

## Piracy.—The following narrative,

from a source entirely authentic, will afford to our readers a general idea of the horrors perpetrated in the West Indian Seas by the blood-thirsty bucaniers who have lately infested them.

## Nat. Int.

Extract of a letter from a very respectable American to a Senator of the United States.

"Ship," Matanzas, Jan. 8, 1825.

"The object of this letter is to acquaint you with one of the most horrible and atrocious acts the pirates have ever committed, which has come to light. The person, who alone has made his escape, and is able to tell the melancholy story, is now before me, and I feel it a duty to give you a detailed account of the affair, as related by him, particularly as I know you are feelingly alive on this subject, and are in a situation to do much towards putting a stop to those scenes of murder and rapine."

The person saved, and who now gives me the following account, is Mr. Daniel Collins, of Wiscasset, state of Maine. He was second officer of the vessel lost. He states that he left Wiscasset November 25th, in the brig Betsey, with Captain Ellis Hilton, bound to this port, that, when twenty-one days out, about 4 A. M. the vessel struck on one of the double headed Shot Keys. In about ten minutes she went to pieces—the deck load and boat being swept through a passage where the water was smooth, they all succeeded in getting into the boat.

At day light, blowing very hard from the westward, they altered the boat all that day and night to the Southward—in the morning, made a low sandy key, and discovered two buildings upon it—landed, and found five men, whom they supposed to be fishermen. They were with them two days. There was at this place one vessel of about eleven tons, and two canoes, which they said belonged to them. There were two other boats there which looked like the jaws of merchant vessels, and which the fishermen said did not belong to them, but to some people that were absent, and who would soon be back. Captain H. made an agreement with the head fish-

erman to take them to Matanzas for forty-one dollars, and was to help them load their vessel with fish, which Captain H. and crew did, with great labor and fatigue, being obliged to wade off a considerable distance from the shore, to put the fish on board. The vessel of eleven tons spoken of, the had got loaded, and were getting under way, when a boat of about ten tons came in, and fired several times at them with muskets and blunderbusses—then anchored and boarded them. Part of the piratical crew examined the fishing vessel, and went on shore to the huts. They gave one of the fishermen two doubloons, and took him and the others on board of their boat. There they drank and caroused about half an hour, making threatening menaces towards Captain H. in the fishing boat. During the time, they sent a jug of liquor to Capt. H. and crew, and made them drink some. Soon after, those who went to the huts joined the others, and came along side of the fishing vessel, with two canoes, drawn by the fishermen—the piratical crew accompanying, with swords and long knives, which they pointed at Capt. H. and his men, feeling of the edges of the knives, and making the most appalling signs to them. At length they took them and bound their arms behind them with cords, putting them in the greatest possible torment, then tumbled Captain Hilton and Mr. Merary, 1st officer, and two of the men, into one of the canoes, and Mr. Collins and the rest of the crew, two others, into the other canoe, and drew them round some distance into a cove. The fishermen, two at each canoe, drawing them, and the others wading beside with their knives and cutlasses drawn, giving them to understand that they were soon to feel them, which, horrible to relate, was the case. Mr. Collins says that they first struck the Captain with a cutlass on the side of his neck, then put his head across the gunwale of the boat, or canoe, and chopped it off. He saw the heads of Mr. Merary and the rest in the canoe, cleaved open, and their bodies stabbed and cut in the most horrible manner. The canoe that Mr. C. was in was nearest to the shore, and he sat in the middle between his two comrades—one of them an old man, by the name of Russel, had his head entirely split open to his body, his blood flying over Mr. C. Mr. C. attempted to spring from the canoe; at the same time he received a heavy blow on his head, which nearly stunned him. He however soon had his reason, so as to perceive himself out of the canoe, and under the water, and the lashing on his arms either cut or broken, which he supposed was either done by his great exertion made at the time of his springing from the canoe, or from a misdirected blow from one of their cutlasses. He instantly sprang upon his feet and made for the shore, with several of the pirates after him. One of them reached him, and in attempting to run him through with his sword, made a mis-step and fell his length into the water, which gave him a considerable start before the other could recover himself. His other comrade in the canoe, sprang from it the same instant with himself. He however saw the pirates overtake and stab him before he reached the shore, so that he is confident that no one escaped but himself. He got into the bushes and mangroves on the island, and ran with all his might until night—two of the murderers in pursuit of him, and which he did not lose sight of under two hours, and he could hear them in search of him until sundown. It was about nine or ten in the morning when he made his escape from the canoe. He secreted himself that night in a thick bushy mangrove tree. In the morning started again. He came to the beach, and saw at 2 or 3 miles distance another Key or Island, which he swam to, and then continued his march with all the speed that his exhausted nature would allow. After swimming and travelling from one island to another for several days, he reached the main Island Cuba, and espied a Plantation, where he stopped, and met with kind treatment, having been all the time without any sustenance but some lime which he found. The name of the plantation where he stopped was St. Clare. As soon as he was able to travel he obtained a passport, and set out for Matanzas, and arrived here yesterday. His feet are now so swollen and blistered that he is scarcely able to walk. He was before the Governor yesterday—I brought him on board to receive all the particulars of the case from his own mouth, to communicate to you, by my own desire, as well as that of several commanders here, and I have but just finished as he is sent for to go before the Governor again.

As if the measure of his sufferings had not been sufficiently filled by the murderous desperadoes of this Island, after he left St. Clare, and had proceeded on his journey about twenty

miles, passing a ship, two men, a Spaniard and a negro, came out, and forced him into the ship, robbed him of all the clothes and one dollar in money, which he had been kindly furnished with at St. Clare by an English carpenter, and beat him in the most shameful manner."

## CONGRESS.

### SENATE.

Friday, Feb. 18.

Mr. Smith, from the committee on Finance, to whom was referred the bill, entitled "An act making further appropriations for the military service for the year 1825," reported it with amendments, which were read.

Mr. King, of New York, rose, and said, in offering the resolution, he was about to submit, though it was a subject of great national importance, he did not desire to debate it, nor did he offer it with a view to its present consideration. He submitted it as a matter for the future consideration of the Senate, and hoped it would be received, by all the parts of the House, as one entitled to serious attention. He then laid on the table the following resolution:

Resolved, by the Senate of the United States of America: That, as soon as the portion of the existing funded debt of the United States, for the payment of which the public land of the United States is pledged, shall have been paid off, then, and thereupon, the whole of the public land of the United States, with the net proceeds of all future sales thereof, shall constitute and form a fund, which is hereby appropriated, and the faith of the United States is pledged, that the said fund shall be invariably applied to aid the emancipation of such slaves, within any of the United States, and to aid the removal of such slaves, and the removal of such free persons of color, in any of the said states, as by the laws of the states, respectively, may be allowed to be emancipated, or removed, to any territory or country without the limits of the United States of America; which was read, and, on motion of Mr. Benton, ordered to be printed.

Mr. Eaton submitted the following resolution:

Resolved, That the committee on the Judiciary, to whom the Judiciary Bill of the Senate has been referred, inquire into the expediency of dividing the United States into four divisions; each division to be arranged into three circuits, so that each circuit shall contain not less than one, nor more than three states; and to appoint—additional justices, that they inquire into the expediency of authorising the judges in their respective divisions, once in—year, to appoint one of their number, who, when appointed, shall, with the Chief Justice, be, for the time being, Justice of the Supreme Court, providing, that this provision shall not take effect during the continuance in office of the present associate justices; and providing that, where the constitutionality of any state law shall be pending in the Supreme Court, on any question affecting the right of any state, that the Chief Justice shall certify the same to the President of the United States, who, thereupon, on proclamation, shall convene the whole number of Associate Justices, at Washington, to hear and determine said cases.

Monday, Feb. 21.

Mr. Talbot, from the Committee on the Judiciary, to whom was referred the bill "to extend the Judicial System of the United States, and to provide for three additional Circuit Courts," reported it with amendments.

The Senate proceeded as in committee of the whole, to the consideration of the bill from the other House, "making an appropriation for certain fortifications in the United States for 1825."

The amendments reported by the Committee on Finance were read.

The first was an appropriation of 30,000 dollars, for the erection of a Fort at Beaufort, in North-Carolina, and 50,000 dollars for Forts at Cape Fear, in the same state.

A long discussion ensued on this amendment, which was supported by Messrs. Smith, Macon, Branch, Cobb, Hayne, and Johnston, of Lou. on the ground of right and necessity, and the pledge that had been given that the system of fortification, heretofore adopted, should be continued impartially. The appropriation was opposed by Messrs. Dickerson, Lowrie, Holmes, of Mo. and Chandler, who argued that there was no necessity for fortifying the two points in question; that the Secretary of War was opposed to it, at present, as there was no Engineer at the disposal of the Government, for the purpose, at this time.

The question was finally decided, by yeas and nays, in the affirmative, as follows:

Yeas.—Messrs. Barbour, Barton, Benton, Boulogny, Branch, Brown, Cobb, Elliot, Hayne, Jackson, Johnson of Ken., Johnston of Louis., King of Alabama, King of N. Y., Knight, Lloyd of Mass., McLean, Macon, Mills, Noble, Palmer, Parrett, Ruggles, Smith, Taylor, Tasewell, Thomas, Van Buren, Williams—29.

Nays.—Messrs. Bell, Chandler, Clayton, D'Wolf, Dickerson, Edwards, Findlay, Holmes of Maine, Linnard, Lowrie, Seymour—11.

The next amendment was that making an appropriation of \$9,940, for a school of practice for light artillery, at Fortress Monroe, which was agreed to.

The bill, as amended, was then passed to a third reading.

The Senate then proceeded, as in committee of the whole, to the consider-