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## Biography.

FROM THE AMERICAN FARMER.

COL. J. E. HOWARD AND GEN. O. H. WILLIAMS.

In Caldwell's Biography of Major General Greene, lately published, we find the following honorable mention of two Maryland patriots; one of whom is still left us by Providence, to contemplate the fruits of his valor and perseverance in a glorious cause, and to illustrate the sincerity of his youthful patriotism, by the continued practice of integrity and virtue.

A third officer, of great distinction in the southern army, was Col. HOWARD, of Baltimore. He commanded the second regiment of Maryland-regulars; and for gallantry and firmness, decision of character, and sound judgment, was not exceeded by any officer of his rank, in the service of his country.

With great intelligence and skill in arms, he was one of those heroic spirits, on whom general Greene reposed his hopes, during the time he was deepest in adversity, and in his high determination to recover the south, or perish in the attempt.

Although he had been in commission, first, as captain, and afterwards as major, from the month of June, 1776, he does not appear to have been much engaged in action, until he took his station at the head of a regiment, in the southern army.

Accomplished in tactics, and ripe in experience, although only now in his twenty-seventh year, he was, in all respects, fitted for the operations of the field.

Accordingly, no sooner did an opportunity for action present itself, than his valor, as a soldier, and his reputation, as a commander, became conspicuous, in the midst of the accomplished and the brave.

His brightest laurel was gathered at the Cowpens, where, assuming to himself the responsibility of the act, he charged without orders, and at the point of the bayonet, discomfited and scattered a party of the enemy, superior in number to his own command, and consisting of the flower of the British army.

His interview, immediately after the action, with general Morgan, the commanding officer, was eminently interesting; and, were other evidence wanting, shows on how precarious a footing stands the reputation and the life of a warrior.

"My dear Howard," said Morgan, cordially pressing his hand as he spoke, "you have given me victory, and I love and honor you; but had you failed in your charge, which you risked without orders, I would have shot you."

Previously to this, colonel Howard had distinguished himself among those, who by their gallantry and good conduct, had sustained the character of the American arms, and prevented the utter destruction of the forces, in the battle near Camden, where Gates was defeated.

Nor was he entitled to less applause, for the spirit and judgment, which he afterwards displayed at Guilford, Hobkirk's Hill, and the Eutaw Springs; at the latter of which he was severely wounded.

But a letter from General Greene, dated November 14th, 1781, to a friend in Maryland, is conclusive, as to the military reputation of col. Howard.

"This will be handed to you (says the general) by colonel Howard, as good an officer as the world affords. He has great ability, and the best disposition to promote the service. My own obligations to him are great—the public's still more so. He deserves a statue of gold, no less than the Roman and Grecian heroes. He has been wounded, but has happily recovered, and now goes home, to pay a little attention to his private affairs, and to take charge of the fifth Maryland regiment, recruiting in your state.

"With great respect and esteem,

"I am, dear Sir, yours,

"N. GREENE."

Colonel Howard was born June 4th, 1752, on his ancestral estate, near the city of Baltimore. His paternal ancestors were from England, his maternal from Ireland. The descendant of a gentleman, easy in circumstances, his education was such as his rank and fortune entitled him to receive.

On the conclusion of the war he married Miss Chew, daughter of the honorable Benjamin Chew, of Philadelphia.

Contented and happy in domestic life, and much occupied with his private affairs, he has

never sought political honors, but left to others to govern the country, which he, by his valor, had contributed to set free.

He still resides on his patrimonial estate, surrounded by a large and respectable family, pre-eminent in affluence, and passing the evening of his life in that dignified and felicitous retirement, which a high and unsullied reputation, a peaceful conscience, a cultivated intellect, and polished manners alone can bestow.

A fourth officer, uniting in himself all that gives dignity and worth to the private citizen, and excellence to the commander, was Colonel (OTTO H. WILLIAMS, also a native of the state of Maryland.

This gentleman was favored for eminence in any station. His talents were of a high order, and his attainments various and extensive. Possessing a person of uncommon symmetry and peculiarly distinguished by the elegance of his manners, he would have graced alike, a court or a camp.

Rich in that species of military science, which is acquired by experience, and a correct, systematic, and severe disciplinarian, general Greene confided to him the important trust of adjutant general to the southern army. The services, which in this and other capacities, he rendered to that division of the American forces, in the course of their toilsome and perilous operations, were beyond all praise.

He was born in the county of Prince George, in 1749, and received, during his youth, but a slender education. This he so much improved by subsequent study, that few men had a finer taste, or a more cultivated intellect.

He commenced his military career, as lieutenant of a rifle company, in 1775; and in the course of the following year, was promoted to the rank of Major, in a rifle regiment.

In this corps, he very honorably distinguished himself, in the defence of Fort Washington, on York Island when assaulted by Sir William Howe; and on the surrender of that post, became a prisoner.

Having suffered much by close confinement, during his captivity, he was exchanged for Maj. Ackland, after the capture of Burgoyne, and immediately rejoined the standard of his country.

Being now promoted to the rank of colonel of a regiment of infantry, he was detached, under the baron de Kalb, to the army of the south.

General Gates having been appointed to the command of this division of the American forces, he was present with that officer, at his defeat before Camden; and during the action, manifested great valor and skill, in directing and leading the operations against the enemy, whilst resistance was practicable; and unequal degree of self-possession and address, in conducting the troops from the field, when compelled to retreat.

But, as an officer, his valor and skill in battle, were among the lowest of his qualifications. His penetration and sagacity, united to a profound judgment, and a capacious mind, rendered him, in the cabinet, particularly valuable.

Hence, he was one of General Greene's favorite counsellors, during the whole of his southern campaigns. Nor did any thing ever occur, either through neglect or mistake, to impair the confidence thus reposed in him. In no inconsiderable degree, he was to Greene, what that officer had been to General Washington, his strongest hope, in all emergencies, where great policy and address were required.

This was clearly manifested, by the post assigned to him by general Greene, during his celebrated retreat through North Carolina.

In that grand and memorable movement on which the fate of the south was staked, to Williams was confided the command of the rear guard, which was literally the shield and rampart of the army. Had he relaxed, but for a moment, in his vigilance and exertion, or been guilty of a single imprudent act, ruin must have ensued.

Nor was his command much less momentous, when re-crossing the Dan, Greene again advanced on the enemy. Still in the post of danger and honor, he now, in the van of the army, commanded the same corps, with which he had previously moved in the rear. But of these operations it will be our business to speak more particularly hereafter.

A military friend, who knew him well, has given us the following summary of his character:

"He possessed that range of mind, although self educated, which entitled him to the highest military station, and was actuated by true courage, which can refuse, as well as give battle. Soaring far above the reach of vulgar praise, he singly aimed at promoting the common weal, satisfied with the consciousness of doing right, and desiring only that share of applause, which was justly his own.

"There was a loftiness and liberality in his character, which forbade resort to intrigue and hypocrisy, in the accomplishment of his views, and rejected the contemptible practice of disparaging others to exalt himself.

"In the field of battle, he was self-possessed,

intelligent, and ardent; in camp, circum-spect, attentive, and systematic; in council sincere, deep, and perspicuous. During the campaigns of Gen. Greene, he was uniformly one of his few advisers, and held his unchanged confidence. Nor was he less esteemed by his brother officers, or less respected by his soldiery."

## Political.

FROM THE AURORA.  
A VIEW OF EUROPE:

BY A NATIVE AND RESIDENT OF SPAIN.  
JULY 11TH, 1819.

[The following is copied, without variation of the sentiment or expression of the writer, who has never been out of Spain, and whose knowledge of the language in which he writes was acquired in Spain.]

The situation of the continent of Europe is such as could be expected from the late revolution which every power has undergone, both with respect to their foreign connexions, and to their own intestine affairs; its different countries deeply feel the calamities of their past wars, and their actual indolent and passive state is to them a greater curse than all the horrors of martial valor, and bloody operations. Far from reaping those advantages which the dethroning of a powerful tyrant ought to create—a severe lesson to princes that people ought to be respected—every crowned head in Europe has strengthened the chaos under which whole nations groan, and all liberal ideas are seen with the greatest abhorrence by their rulers; nothing succeeds, in fact, but every thing which is base and despicable: to every man who has no just idea of his dignity, is represented as a model to form by the new race of mankind. Virtue, abilities, and honesty, are buried in oblivion; their possessors sink under misery, and out even of the knowledge of their fellow citizens; whilst the first places, the most brilliant stations, and the most important commissions, are entrusted to vice, ignorance, and want of every moral and religious principle. France, alone, under the gentle sway of a man whose school has been adversity, shows a bright proof that a government (let it be what it will) which is entirely directed by a free and liberal constitution, is the only path to happiness and welfare. Now that some severe examples have been given that the sacredness of oaths of fidelity is not to be played with—in which, by the bye, we cannot but believe that Louis ought to have been more indulgent—great men, from every description and from every opinion, are looked for, employed, and giving lustre to their country; of course, their fields are in the most flourishing situation, their arts and manufactures increase fast, and their commerce is by far the most safe and productive in Europe. Great Britain shows an entirely opposite perspective; a general discontent prevails, which is always threatening an explosion; and the administration, which is fearful of such an event, thinks of nothing but intrigues and plots. To see whether a flame can be lighted any where else to make a diversion for them, a most worthless spy is always supported by them in Paris, merely to keep on good terms with the Napoleon and Republican party; but he may as well think of returning home, as there is now but one whole mass of Frenchmen in the country. Another character, as well known for his military prowess as for his ambition and intriguing character, has been sent to Sweden, in order to quiet (they say) some disturbance arising from the treaty of Kiel; but it ought to be expected, that if he can bring on a rupture between Sweden, Denmark, Russia, and Prussia, he will not hesitate in doing it, so as to have a new title to add to the long list of his services and possessions. The Northern powers are in a state of confusion, and it would appear that Alexander would already have brought down his Cosacks, and get at least something to feed them, was it not because the Grand Signior has taken so very little notice of the late events as to send back unopened a letter under the own hand and signature of the Russian Emperor, as a hint that he does not care about what may happen. The emperor of Austria, who, it should appear, has little or nothing to do as his own house, has been on a visit to the Pope, and some other sovereigns in Italy; and it appears that they have all separated great friends, and enthusiasts of each other's virtues and abilities.

Spain alone is the country which makes the least noise beyond the Pyrenees; no one from abroad is found to give them a helping hand in their distresses. On the contrary, the whole world enjoys a sincere pleasure in looking at them, oppressed, vexed, and cursing their fate, imposed upon them by the perfidy of those who styled themselves their friends. However, amongst the Spaniards there is a number of intelligent and clever men, who are always working with an idea of effecting a change in their councils; and they are so fully aware of the advantages arising from it, they are so constant in their plans and views and they so very little take to heart their blows, and the examples of despotism inflicted on their heads; that they must eventually effect the change; and a most severe lesson will be given again to princes and rulers of all kinds. Several attempts have been made to publish again the constitution framed by the Cortez, and they have been baffled by the efforts of some of those concerned in the plans. Of late a most well disposed plan to effect it was meditated by a large force of troops which were not satisfied with the lot that had fallen to them; and from the manner in which the whole affair was planned, from the respectable persons connected in the same,

and from the inclinations of the inhabitants of a whole province, where the same was to be effected; all honest men were delighted at the approach of their liberty, and longed for the hour when the mine was to burst. Unfortunately, the very man who was at the head of the plot, who had the powers and means to carry it out without opposition, changed his mind all at once, at the very moment of advancing with his troops to the seat of government, and, instead of making use of the armed force as he had promised, to bring on a happy change, he secured with the same patriots and well intentioned men, who were at the head of the plot.

The failing of such attempts to better the general situation, can be most completely, the spirits of the generality of the people, been in the actual state of every class in the state highly calls for reformation. The military men, who ought to complain the least, because they are well fed, paid, and clothed, cannot however look with indifference at a war with the colonies, which shows no appearance of ever being near its end. Thousands of soldiers have already left their homes, their relations, and every thing which is dear to men, to meet an untimely death under a heaven not destitute of them. About 80,000 men are on the eve of embarking to meet an equal fate, and those that remain behind must fear that their turn must come next. The navy once the most respectable of the bulwarks of a powerful country, appears a shadow of what it was: the chivalry and the nobility are seeing every day new attacks on what they think is their own and daily attacks on what they contemplate their only barrier, over their privileges and prerogatives, which lessen not a little their allegiance and fidelity. The arts and manufactures grow, worse and worse every day, because of the want of the protection of government. The farmers are, above all, to be pitted, because their labors and their sweat only are a continued source of vexation to them. The allowance of the importation of foreign wheat has opened all the ports of Spain to the Russian, Turkish, and African wheat, which being brought to their markets at a third of the cost of that of the country, has ruined all the farmers in such a way that, out of the present crop, which has been a most fertile one, not one half has been collected, because the expenses attending sowing and collecting the same would not cover the cost; and rather than make new disbursements, the fields have been left open to the cattle and the church; commerce, at least what part of it goes under this name, although it does not deserve such an honorable name, affords only ruin and losses to speculators, and the want of protection to their navigation, makes that the fortunes of whole families are every day taken by a handful of cobblers, without the least object.

The government, in the mean time, does not even cast their eyes on such a melancholic scene. The blood of the people is every day taken away from them, to support the luxury and debauchery of an oriental court; the king and his *adulteree* do triumph—enjoy and lavish away whatever they lay their hands on, without thinking that ere long nobody will be able to contribute. Instead of economy in the palace, another of the worthy brothers of Ferdinand has been sent for, as if another idle fellow would not be a new burthen to the country. Immediately after his arrival they have looked mercifully on him, and given him a fellow for his bed from the Sicilian family; and the king himself, not wishing to run the risk of leaving his subjects without a successor, is about marrying to a Saxon princess—a new victim to tyranny and vice.

The only object which occupies now the Spanish councils, is the armament of a large force to act against the river Plate. It consists of six sail of the line, six frigates, eighteen sloops, brigs, and schooners, thirty gun boats, and one hundred and twenty transports, carrying twenty thousand men of all arms. This force is under the command of count Albaladejo, general O'Donnell, appointed viceroy of Buenos Ayres and who has the promises of an immediate submission to the royal authority, from a powerful party in the country, who are tired of the licentious rule. The ships of war and the transports are ready. The troops are all in the vicinity of Cadiz, and they are ordered to sail in August. Every thing is in the best order—the troops are as good as any in the world, and should they proceed on their destination, a severe blow must be given to the insurgents; but it is to be feared that foreign intrigue will prevent its being carried into effect.

The king has taken to himself all the period allowed by the treaty of Florida, to ratify the same. We cannot point out what line of conduct he will pursue at the expiration of the term; but we can most positively assert that the decision will depend on the actual state of his majesty's temper, at the time, no matter what the consequences may be to himself and his subjects.

## Foreign.

PRUSSIA, GERMANY, &c.—The following article translated from the Hamburg Commercial Gazette, (Hamburger Borson Halle,) under date of 20th July, throws some light upon the subject of the revolutionary plans which have threatened of late to convulse Germany, and gives some account of the proceedings adopted for their suppression.—*Nat. Int.*

BERLIN, JULY 20, 1819.

The official Gazette of this day contains the following important intelligence:

"It will be a matter of concern to the public