

**FOURTH OF JULY.**

On Wednesday last, the 51st anniversary of our Independence was celebrated with appropriate solemnities in this place. The day was ushered in with a National salute of 24 guns, while at the same time, the bells of the town rang forth responsive peals, to greet the coming Festival. The whole proceedings were conducted with the greatest regularity, and no instances of disorderly conduct occurred to tarnish the ceremonies of the day. At 11 o'clock, the citizens of the town assembled at the Presbyterian church, where, after an appropriate address to the throne of grace, by the Rev. J. Munsell, the following Ode was sung, composed for the occasion by Mr. Joseph Hutton:

**HYMN, FOR JULY 4th, 1827.**

Hail! hail! the word Jehovah spake,  
And shook the realms above;  
Let all your songs of praise awake,  
To crown him—God of love!

Our sires he led o'er mountain wave,  
And checked the tempest's wing;  
Then homage yield, for all he gave,  
And crown him—Lord and King!

He said—and this illustrious Day,  
Stands firm in fadless youth;  
Your praise, ye freeborn millions, pay,  
And crown him—God of Truth!

He guided still, war's fearful ire,  
A world his mercy freed;  
Strike! strike! upon each grateful lyre,  
And crown him—Lord indeed!

He broke th' oppressor's burning rod,  
Then bade the battle cease;  
Crown him a rescued people's God!  
Oh! crown him—God of Peace!

After which, Mr. Hutton made the following remarks, preparatory and subsequent to reading the Declaration of Independence:

*Fellow-Citizens.*—If ever there was an event in the annals of time, calculated to excite the gratitude of a whole people towards the Giver of all Good—If ever there was a day, whose returning anniversary should be hailed with enthusiasm—that event was the Declaration of our Independence, and that Day, the 4th of July, 1776.

The earliest sun beams of that eventful morning, threw their unwilling rays upon the oppressors and the oppressed; but before the shadows of evening had deepened into night—amidst the mingling shouts of ten thousand patriots, and the reverberating thunders of artillery, the oppressed were declared free, sovereign and independent!

Oh! sound transporting to every American ear! Oh! glorious privilege of American citizenship! may you stand immovable, until the brevity of time is swallowed up in the duration of eternity.

Well, indeed, might they shout—Well, indeed, might their deep mouthed cannon re-echo to approving Heaven! for they had prepared felicity for millions of their race. How they struggled—how they triumphed, it is not my province this day to rehearse; but we, fellow-citizens, are a part of those redeemed millions, and that our gratitude for all our fathers have done for us, may be renewed in our hearts, suffer me to read to you this adamantine palladium of your liberties!

[Here Mr. Hutton read the Declaration of Independence.]

This was the Declaration, which, in times when courage might have trembled without censure, and fortitude have fainted without infamy, astonished mankind, and raised your country to an elevated rank among the nations of the earth. This was the Declaration, conceived by the mind, and drawn by the pen of your immortal Solon, and advocated by the magic energy of your departed Tully!

Every year, henceforth, forever, let it be read to your children, and bid them transmit it, as a precious legacy to theirs, that future generations may say: "Oh! tell us of those times, that we may learn to emulate their virtue and their glory!"

John Rains, Esq., then arose and delivered the following

**ORATION.**

*Fellow Citizens:*

To celebrate select days with peculiar solemnities, either to aggrandize the person of a Prince, or the achievements of a warrior, or to commemorate a nation's conquests, or a nation's deliverance, has been the practice of every age and of every People. Time has hallowed the observance of such ceremonies, as a display of that noble and generous disposition of the mind, to acknowledge, with a due sense of gratitude, the favours and services which we have received in days that have gone by. Such celebrations are also a manifestation of regard for the honour of one's country. For it is a true and just remark, that the man who is regardless of the honour of his country, has no honour of his own.—We owe to our country the protection of "our lives, our fortunes, and our sacred honour;" on its existence rests our independence, on its strength, our security. And as the glory of the nation becomes great, so does the reputation of the individual increase in

estimation abroad. Where tyrants rule with supreme control, self-interest is the motive to action; but where there is no master to command nor slave to obey, where all enjoy the same privileges, except so far as subordination is necessary to the existence of Government, Patriotism is the actuating principle, and the reward expected, more durable than a title from a despot, or a monument of marble. Such, fellow-citizens, is the situation of the country in which it has pleased Providence to place us; and it is to commemorate the time when this important station was obtained, that we have assembled here this day. We have met together to keep alive the principles of civil and religious liberty, to show ourselves not unworthy of the charge which has been entrusted to us, and to transmit the rich inheritance, unimpaired, to the succeeding generation. The fourth of July, 1776, must always be remembered with gratitude by every American citizen, as the beginning of his independence. Never was there a day on which a people might more ardently pour forth their joy, and show by their actions, an illustrious example to youth, that they might imitate, while in childhood, principles, which will "grow with their growth and strengthen with their strength." Although we may not have the same enthusiastic feelings which quickened the spirits of the revolution, we may show by our reverence for this "GREAT AND GLORIOUS DAY," that we admire their heroism, strive to imitate their virtues, and are ever ready with our lives to maintain the principles which they established. Great was their excitement and perilous their situation. I cannot do better to show what were their sentiments, than to recite the words of one who held a conspicuous station in the eventful scenes of that period. I speak of the venerable Adams; who, on the 5th July, 1776, the day after the declaration of Independence had been adopted, says, in writing to a friend, "Yesterday the greatest question was decided which was ever decided among men. A resolution was passed, unanimously, that these United States are, and of right ought to be, free and independent States."

"The day is passed—the 4th of July, 1776, will be a memorable epoch in the history of America. I am apt to believe it will be celebrated by succeeding generations, as the GREAT ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL! It ought to be commemorated as the day of deliverance, by solemn acts of devotion to the Almighty God. It ought to be solemnized with pomp, shows, games, sports, guns, bells, bonfires, and illuminations, from one end of the continent to the other, from this time forever!—You will think me transported with enthusiasm; but I am not I am well aware of the toil, and blood, and treasure, it will cost to maintain this declaration, and to support and defend these states; yet through all the gloom, I can see a ray of light and glory."

Since this time, a Jubilee has been completed, and now one year more has rolled around, and found us still a prosperous people. Who can tell what will be the situation of our country, at the end of the next Jubilee? Will prosperity continue to crown her with success? Will the products of foreign climes continue to enrich the adventurous mariner? Will the horn of plenty continue to pour forth a abundance to reward the toils of the husbandman? Will the laurel leaf of victory continue to entwine the brows of those who fight her battles? Will she continue to be blest with "praise and honour and riches and power?"—Grant, O God! that this may be the fortunate lot of my country, that "length of days be in her right hand, and in her left hand, riches and honour. May her ways be ways of pleasantness, and all her paths be paths of peace."

A few years ago, fellow-citizens, the land which you now inhabit and cultivate, was a dreary wilderness, uninterrupted save by the Indian wig-wam, and the yell of its merciless inhabitants. A wilderness separated by an immense ocean from the seat of civilization and the arts.—The first colony settled, and the first person born in this country, was in the State of North Carolina. This colony was planted in the reign of Elizabeth, under the guidance of Sir Walter Raleigh; a man of distinguished genius and abilities, and lamented for his unmerited fate. This colony disappeared after awhile, and was never heard of again. No doubt they were massacred by the ruthless savages.

It was during the struggles and commotions in England, which brought the unfortunate Charles to the axe, and hurried the bigoted James from the throne, that the first settlers commenced emigrating to this country. They left their "sacred homes," and came prepared to encounter difficulties, rather than live in a state of oppression. Hard was their lot, and numerous the privations to which they were subject. Unnoticed and unprotected by the mother country, they settled and prospered.—A recurrence to those events, may sound to some of you like a twice told tale, dull and tiresome to the ear; but it is by setting before our eyes the arduous struggles of the first settlers of our country, by contrasting our situation with theirs, and by recurring to the subsequent scenes of the revolution, that we can best appreciate the blessings of that liberty which we now enjoy. The misguided policy of the British cabinet

was the cause of American freedom. All the remonstrances and petitions of the colonists against imposition, were disregarded; and they were told in the "cold, calm, and dictatorial style" of a master, that they must submit.—Submit to what?—Oppression?—Give up those privileges, for the enjoyment of which, they had left every thing which they held most dear, had encountered the rude tempests of the ocean, and toiled in the rough forest of a wild and unknown region. Nor stony tower, nor wall of beaten brass, Nor airless dungeon, nor strong links of iron Can be retentive to the strength of spirit.

England forgot the principles to establish which, she had struggled with the Plantagenets and the Stuarts in her struggle with America. The savage warriors of the wilderness too, were employed to compel the colonists to yield: our enemies associated with the savage, and many a scene of horror is recorded to have taken place on the unprotected frontier.—It is a view as which "virtue stands affrighted," a stain that will forever darken the page of history.—I cannot do better to describe the situation of the country at that period, than to recite the words of him who was.

"More than hero and just less than sage." The great Washington, who in his general orders on the 20th October, 1775, says, "The times, and the importance of the great cause we are engaged in, allow no room for hesitation and delay. When life, liberty, and prosperity are at stake; when our country is in danger of being a melancholy scene of bloodshed and desolation; when our towns are laid in ashes, innocent women and children driven from their peaceful habitations, exposed to the rigours of an inclement season, to depend, perhaps, on the hand of charity for support; when calamities like these, are staring us in the face, and a brutal savage enemy threatens us, and every thing we hold dear, with destruction from foreign troops, it little becomes the character of a soldier to shrink from danger." (It was before this, on the 20th May, 1775, that the citizens of North Carolina, in the county of Mecklenburg, claimed the honour of publishing a declaration of their independence.) Amidst these difficulties and dangers, when the storm of war had already approached, when the champions of liberty had already fought and bled upon the field of battle, a resolution passed the Congress unanimously, "that these United States are, and of right ought to be, free and independent States."

The Declaration of Independence, must forever hold a high station among the productions of man. In its language brief, mild, but determined, it boldly states the wrongs received, the fruitless applications for redress, and concludes by dissolving all political connection between this country and Great Britain. A sanguinary war followed this declaration, which eventually terminated in placing this country upon the scale of Nations. It would be needless to argue as to the correctness of the principles, which actuated the leaders of the revolution to declare their independence; these have been long ago ratified upon earth, and written by the "recording Angel in heaven's canopy."

And now, fellow-citizens, in mentioning the Declaration of Independence, let me call your attention to an event more extraordinary than ever appeared before in the annals of time—I speak of its author and its advocate. One year ago, when the Jubilee of American Independence was completed, these illustrious men breathed their last. Already had been heard the sounds of rejoicing, and the peals of triumph; but at once muffled was the drum, hushed the roar of artillery, and lowered in sign of mourning the "star-spangled banner." These venerable fathers of the revolution had yielded their souls to him "who maketh the clouds his chariot." Fellow-citizens, the hand that penned the immortal Declaration of your Independence, and the tongue that maintained and established it upon the floor of your Continental Congress, are still in the steep of death. The bodies of your Adams and your Jefferson are entombed in the sepulchres of their fathers, but their souls have gone to the abodes of the blest, and their memories are alive in the grateful recollections of their countrymen.

Both commenced their career in the struggles of the revolution—both filled the most important stations in their country—both had retired to the enjoyments of private life—and both, on the 4th July, 1826, departed from the "stage of action." It may not be improper to remark, that it seemed as though "the Almighty Ruler of the Universe had been pleased to permit these venerable men to view the increasing prosperity of their country, and to aid her with the wisdom of their counsels; and that, after fifty years had rolled away after the Jubilee of Independence had been completed, that he had said to each one in his turn, "well done thou good and faithful servant, enter thou into the joys of thy Lord."

Youths of America! Fond hopes of your country! Imitate the bright example which they have placed before you; and although you may despair to arrive at their excellence, yet by pursuing as far as you can the path which they have trodden, you will become better members

of society, and better citizens of your country. Fellow-citizens, the busy scenes of the revolution have long passed down the current of time. The din of war no longer resounds along your borders; the peaceful inhabitant is no longer aroused from his slumbers by the yell of the savage, stealing "like a ghost" upon his prey. And although "red battle" again stained the plains of your country, the "spirit of freedom" triumphed, and left unimpaired your rich inheritance. Where can you find a country that has been blest with more favours than this land of liberty, —Where the Queen of Arts, Inspiring vigour, Liberty abroad, Walks unconfin'd, even to thy farthest coasts, And scatters plenty with unsparing hand.

When our present constitution was adopted, it was predicted that anarchy and confusion would arise; that the several states would separate, either by internal dissension, or foreign war. It was an experiment which astonished the world: a form of government that startled the monarch on his throne. Under its benign influence, this country has risen to be a great and powerful nation.—It has stood the test of time; it has succeeded beyond the expectation of its friends, and contrary to the wishes of its enemies: it is a boon to the oppressed of other countries; a monument of liberty, "in peace, the gale of spring, in war the mountain storm."

The tone of foreign journals has of late wonderfully changed with respect to our country. Commendation has taken the place of censure, and that which was once reviled, is now honoured. Ye reviewers—ye who are renowned for the "arts and sciences,"—ye "self-constituted judges," will ye now say that statue is diminutive, and genius is debased in America? Will ye now ask, who reads an American book, ye may read it in a foreign language, American literature has been translated in the polite languages of Europe? Will ye again claim our useful inventions? Great is truth, and will prevail; posterity will learn to give credit where credit is due. Stand forth, ye vile calumniators of our country's institutions, and verify your charges. America has outgrown misrepresentation. Her march of improvement has been rapid and astonishing. The surplus population of the east, roll like successive waves to the west; and the great Mississippi, which once witnessed only the excursions of the Indian hunter, or the solitary cabin of the hardy adventurer, or served as a boundary to divide some insignificant tribe, now teema with cities along its banks, and groans under the produce of the fertile countries through which it flows. Commerce, too, has kept pace with the improvements of agriculture. And here let me pay a tribute of respect to the hardy sailor, who encounters the storms of the ocean to enrich his country, by bearing her produce to foreign climes; or for his country's glory, to make the thunders of her navy heard upon every sea.

Fellow-citizens, our peculiar fortunate condition is strikingly illustrated by contrasts. Here we are not oppressed with taxes for the support of government; its expenditures are small, but sufficient; here we are not burthened with tythes for the support of an established religion.—The free institutions of our country permit every man, whether "Jew or Gentile" to worship his God after the dictates of his own heart. But we have sent our missionaries into every corner of the world, to inculcate the doctrines of that religion which elevates the soul of man to heaven.

Our acknowledgments are now due to the ladies who have this day favoured us with their presence. They too have an interest in these proceedings. It is here they enjoy to their full extent, privileges which they are denied in many other countries. But they also lent their aid to achieve the independence of their country; and numerous are the instances on record, to show that the female bosom, too, can thro' with sentiments of patriotism. I cannot do better than to address them in the beautiful and pertinent language of another: "Qualified by the kindness of your nature, to soothe the rugged pathway of man's existence here, your presence in society even brings with it joy and delight. Far be it from the design of the speaker to sacrifice truth at the shrine of adulation, or to indulge in a single expression that is not the pure effusion of his heart—but there are emotions to which this theme gives rise, that he could not pass over in silence. When compared with the condition of your sex in many of the enslaved monarchies and despotisms of the old world, how vivid is the contrast?—It is here that you are permitted to participate in all the noble pursuits which are calculated to enlarge the mind and refine the taste—it is here, in a word, that you are the equal, the associate, and the companion of man. It is a proud association, in which you may indulge with consistency and pleasure, that this country, the seat of science, the land of the brave—this country, the home and asylum of the distressed, and persecuted from every clime—this country, the Eden of the world, whose tree of life is liberty—this country, an infant in years and a giant in strength—this country, with all its boasted privileges and high destinies, owes its discovery to the patronage of a single female, Isabella, queen

of Spain; who, to the imperishable honour of her sex, even pledged her jewels to sustain the expense of an adventure, which gave to Leon a new world, and to us the happy country in which we live." And now, fellow-citizens, what is more than all, let us not forget, for our increasing prosperity, to give thanks to the "King of Kings, & Lord of Lords," that he may speak to us in the encouraging language which he spake unto the childrep of Israel, "Fear thou not, for I am with thee; be not dismayed, for I am thy God."

At 8 o'clock, P. M. a number of the citizens assembled at the Masonic Hall, where an elegant dinner was prepared for the occasion. The Hon. John H. Bryan, was chosen President of the day, and Edward G. Pasteur, Esq. Vice-President. After the removal of the cloth, the following toasts were drunk:

**TOASTS.**  
1. The Day.—It is the Day of our Independence.—We will rejoice and be glad in it! 3 Guns, 3 Cheers.

2. The Memory of Washington. 3 Guns, 3 Cheers.

3. The Declaration of Independence.—Its author & its advocate.—On the same day they established the happiness of millions, and on the same day, received their reward—a glorious immortality. 3 Guns, 3 Cheers.

4. Charles Carroll, sole survivor of an assembly of sages. 3 Guns 3 Cheers.

5. The Heroes of the Revolution.—We think on their fame and sufferings, when "Each eye Like the dewy stars of evening smiles in tears!" 3 Guns 3 Cheers.

6. The Ex-Presidents Madison and Monroe.—Health, happiness, and the gratitude of their country in the evening of their lives. 3 Guns.

7. Our Country.—American patriotism should be purified from sectional prejudices. 2 Guns 9 Cheers.

8. The President of the United States.—Wisdom to his counsils, integrity to his heart. 3 Guns 3 Cheers.

9. The Army and Navy.—On land, on water, they have determined we shall be free! 2 Guns 6 Cheers.

10. Agriculture, Commerce, and Manufactures.—A firm whose partnership should never be dissolved. 3 Guns, 3 Cheers.

11. North Carolina.—The first to declare Independence.—she will be the last to abandon it. 3 Guns, 6 Cheers.

12. The Republics of the South.—We rejoice at their freedom, may they justly estimate their privileges. 2 Guns.

13. The Fair.—Their tears can melt, their injuries arouse, and their smiles reward, us. 3 Guns, 3 Cheers.

**VOLUNTEERS.**  
By the Hon. J. H. Bryan, President of the Day: The Constitution of the United States. Construed with wisdom and integrity, it will ever preserve unimpaired the Union of the States, and the States of the Union.

By Edw. G. Pasteur, Esq. Vice President: South Carolina and Louisiana; their benediction to the family of Jefferson, does them the highest honour.

It is twice bless'd,  
"It blesseth those that give, and those that receive it"

By Capt Bache, of the U S Engineers. The memory of Robert Morris; in whose energies the war of the revolution possessed a more hardly less productive than the far famed of Mexico or Peru.

By Mr Joseph Hutton. Benjamin Franklin, He snatched the lightning from Heaven, and the sceptre from Tyrants.

By Mr William B Toler. Greece; May she no longer live upon Turkey, but may Turkey be well basted by Greece.

By Mr George W Dixon. Education.—The firmest basis for the superstructure of Liberty—an enlightened people cannot be enslaved.

By Edward G Pasteur, Esq. The Orator of the day. His eloquence and his patriotism, demand our highest admiration.

The ceremonies of the day concluded at 8 o'clock, P. M. with a display of Fire Works, which gave general satisfaction.

**Canal Navigation.**—We have the pleasure of announcing the arrival at this port of the Packet Boat Experiment, Capt. Harry, by Canal from Beaufort, with several Passengers, who had been present at the meeting of the waters, which event took place on the 4th inst. in the presence of a numerous assemblage of citizens.

**THE COLONIAL TRADE.**  
What becomes of the rumour in the late National Intelligencer? What prospect is there of an immediate adjustment of the Colonial Question with Great Britain?—The Debate in the H. of Commons on the 7th May is one of the strongest Signs of the Times, which has been exhibited. It came up upon the motion of Gen. Gascoyne Liverpool, to appoint a committee to enquire into the present distressed state of the Bri. ship owners. Mr. Huskisson, the President of the Board of Trade, (the "first business man in England" as he is called, and the advocate of the new principles of Free Trade,) opposed the motion; vindicated the relaxations which had been introduced of the retractive system; and attempted to prove that they were not the causes of any embarrassment which were felt by the shipping interest. We shall publish the whole of his Speech hereafter; but in the mean time we lay before our readers the following extract, in which the U. S. are deeply concerned: "He would, however, maintain that we were bound, for the sake of the interests of navigation—to do what we had done, in allowing the countries of the North of Europe to trade in their own shipping with those colonies. If he understood any thing of the principle of the navigation laws, which were so much referred to, one of their chief objects next to that of securing great commercial pow-

of Spain; who, to the imperishable honour of her sex, even pledged her jewels to sustain the expense of an adventure, which gave to Leon a new world, and to us the happy country in which we live." And now, fellow-citizens, what is more than all, let us not forget, for our increasing prosperity, to give thanks to the "King of Kings, & Lord of Lords," that he may speak to us in the encouraging language which he spake unto the childrep of Israel, "Fear thou not, for I am with thee; be not dismayed, for I am thy God."

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