

RALEIGH REGISTER,

AND

NORTH-CAROLINA STATE GAZETTE.

"Ours are the plans of fair, delightful peace,
"Unwarp'd by party rage to live like brothers."

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LAFAYETTE AT MR. GALLATIN'S.

We have received from a gentleman at Uniontown the annexed papers, than which the visit of Gen. LAFAYETTE to the United States has given rise to none more interesting.

The General arrived in the county (which bears his name) in which Mr. GALLATIN resides, on Thursday the 26th ult. at 6 P. M. and on the following morning set out, in company with Mr. GALLATIN, for the residence of that venerable Republican, where the General continued until the afternoon of the 28th, when he returned to Union, accompanied by his distinguished friend; and on the morning of the 29th, proceeded to Pittsburg. His reception in Fayette county, if less splendid than in the cities of the United States, has not been surpassed any where in testimonials of the gratitude the people entertain for his services and sacrifices.

At Mr. Gallatin's seat, a retired but most delightful spot, it was expected the General would be left to enjoy, without interruption, the society which he so much valued, of his friend and amiable family. But, on his arrival there, an immense multitude were in waiting. The generous proprietor threw open his house to them. It was a day of gladness, and all who "claimed kindred there had his claims allowed." The good Lafayette appeared to feel as if LA GRANGE was not far off, and none seemed more solicitous to gratify the anxious crowd than himself.

The following is a copy of the Address delivered to Gen. LAFAYETTE, on behalf of the People, on his arrival at Union, which has been transmitted to us for publication, by the Committee of Arrangement. It is of unusual length, but bears so strikingly the impress of the great mind from which it emanated, that no apology is necessary for its publication.

MR. GALLATIN'S ADDRESS.

GENERAL LAFAYETTE:—The citizens of this county would wish to express their joy on seeing you amongst them, their feelings of love and gratitude towards you. These sentiments you have always heard in a thousand places, and from a thousand voices: and what language so eloquent as those multitudes collected from every quarter to meet you—as those acclamations which greet you wherever you appear! Accept these demonstrations as the sincere and spontaneous effusions of a free people, impressed with respect for your character, and who entertain the most grateful sense of your services.

Of these services it is hardly necessary to speak; they are engraven in the heart of every American. Who, amongst them, has forgotten that Gen. Lafayette, in the prime of youth, relinquished, for the sake of America, all the advantages of birth and rank, the allurements, the splendor of a brilliant court, and, what was far more precious to him, the endearments of domestic happiness, of conjugal love? Who does not remember that he came to aid America at the most critical period of her struggle for independence? that he fought and bled for her? that he acquired the friendship and confidence of Washington, the love of all those who fought with him or approached him? that he prepared, that he shared in, the decisive triumph of Yorktown: His services were not confined to the field. Whilst he bore the fatigues and braved the dangers of every campaign, almost every winter he crossed the ocean to stimulate and encourage our friends, to hasten to obtain new succours from our illustrious and unfortunate ally. All these services he rendered with the most perfect disinterestedness, impairing his private fortune, instead of receiving a compensation from the United States.

The name which this county bears, an early evidence of public gratitude, that name, whilst it perpetually reminds us of your virtues and of your services, has also given us a more than common interest in all your fortunes. Let this be our apology for detaining you, even at the risk of wounding your modesty, a few minutes longer than is usual on occasions like this.

In the first Assembly of Notables it was on your motion that a report of one of its bureaux recommended the restoration of the Protestants of France to their civil rights, a report on which was founded the decree to that effect, issued the year before the commencement of the French Revolution.

When this last event took place, although belonging to a distinguished family of the privileged class, you instantaneously appeared as one of the most zealous and ablest defenders of the people. The part you took on all the momentous questions agitated at that time, is known to the world. But it has, perhaps, been a common error to believe that France had reaped no other fruits from her revolution than wretchedness and bloodshed, that no material benefits had ultimately accrued to the nation from that portentous event. If, however, the magnitude of the obstacles to be overcome in every quarter, shall be duly considered, and if we compare what France was at the epoch of our revolution, with what it now is, there will be found less cause of astonishment than no more was affected, than of regret that it should have been purchased at so dear a price.

A penal code, imperfect in its forms, but in its penalties as mild as our own, substituted to the sanguinary enactments of a barbarous age; an uniform civil code, adapted to the present state of society, taking the place of superannuated and contradictory usages; trial by jury in criminal, a public trial in all cases; the principles of a representative government adopted, and public moneys annually voted and accounted for; personal liberty rendered more secure, that of the press enlarged; that of conscience established; all the privileges of individuals, of classes, of corporations, of provinces, abrogated; servitude and feodality entirely abolished, and a people of vassals become a nation of freeholders.—All these together form a mass of improvements, a radical change in the internal policy of France, far greater than ever had been effected, within the same time, in any age or in any country. For almost if not all those advantages were obtained in the course of the three first years of the French revolution, of that short period, during which alone you had an influence, and a most powerful influence, over the affairs of France.

No, Sir, you have not lived in vain any more for France than for America. The foundation is laid, and the life of nations is not to be computed by years, but by generations. It does not belong to us to say what further improvements may still be wanted!—what are suitable to the state of France. We can only pray that, whatever they may be, they should flow from persuasion, and not be due to force; that they may be the result of mutual confidence restored, and not of new convulsions, of renewed sanguinary conflicts.

It did not depend on you that such should have been the early, the immediate termination of the French revolution. Taught, permit me the expression, taught at the school of rational liberty, under the illustrious founders of this republic, you were not a more energetic defender of the cause of liberty on the floor of the National Assembly of France, than conspicuous, as commander-in-chief of the National Guards, in preserving order, in checking excesses, in preventing crimes, in averting the effusion of blood. You were ever the refuge, often the protector of innocence and misfortune: And where your efforts failed, it was because the task was beyond the powers of man to perform.

When that Constitution, which you and your enlightened colleagues had thought best calculated to secure the liberties and to promote the welfare of France; when that Constitution which you had sworn to support, in vain threatened from abroad, was assailed from within by an infuriated band; with a prophetic spirit you foresaw the impending ruin. Faithful to your oaths, faithful to the people, regardless of forms, careless of personal consequences, you threw yourself in the breach; and, on that memorable occasion, to the cause of the people you sacrificed your own popularity—you, to whom the approbation & the love of the people were the only worldly rewards, which you ever deemed worthy of any consideration.

The sequel is well known. For, having attempted to save the country, you were persecuted, proscribed, despoiled of the inheritance of your fathers, as if you had been an enemy to the country. You did not expect to receive abroad the reward of your services in the cause of liberty and of France.—But, in a foreign land, the proscribed patriot found no asylum but a dungeon. Immured for years, fetters might bind your limbs; your mind remained unconquered, unbroken and free.

Your proscription was the signal for

the woes that awaited your devoted country. I will not dwell on the deplorable scenes that ensued. Liberty fled from a land polluted by crimes committed in her sacred name: for, if that first of blessings must be conquered by courage, virtue and wisdom can alone preserve it. When, after a lapse of years, you were restored to France, you found her in the hands of that extraordinary man, who had been designed to rule for a while her destinies and those of Europe. France was immersed in a sea of glory: she was no longer free. You rejoiced in the successes obtained over foreign enemies: you admired all that was great: you approved all that was good. But the honors, the dignities, the splendor, the glories of the new government you sternly refused to share. The right of suffrage was limited to a few electors designated by the Executive; the legislature was dumb, personal liberty insecure, that of the press annihilated, all the powers were centered in one man. You withdrew into honorable retirement, where, surrounded by a beloved family, you were, for near fourteen years, a pattern of every domestic, as you had been a model of every civic virtue. The baubles of ambition never were the object of your pursuit; and, in the simplicity of your heart, you did not even think that you made a sacrifice; but there still remained one to be made to your principles.

Your only son, the worthy inheritor of your name & your virtues, he whom we rejoice to see by your side, he was fighting under the banners of the Emperor; they were those of France. He could not but follow your steps; he distinguished himself in a remarkable manner. A rapid promotion seemed to await him, a career of honors and glory to be opened to him. He bore your name: that career was at once stopped; those brilliant prospects were shut up—and for life. And that last sacrifice was made by him and you, by you, the tenderness of fathers, rather than to give the powerful sanction of your name to a system destructive of that cause to which you had devoted your life.

And yet, when the Colossus fell, whilst flatterers betrayed or fled, you, who had resisted him when in the height of his power, you then only remembered, that to his first victories you had been indebted for your release from the prisons of Olmutz. And you were the first to suggest those means of safety, which were provided in time, & which, had it not been for a strange infatuation on his part, and for shameful treachery on that of false friends, would have preserved him from the fate which at last awaited him.

When the free suffrages of your fellow-citizens again called you on the public scene, no one doubted the part you would act. Vulgar minds alone could have recollected former persecution, or even neglect; whilst your heart beat in your bosom, you could not appear otherwise than as the defender of the rights of the people. Yet age might have cooled your ardor; disappointment might have damped your primitive hopes. But when the veteran of the cause of liberty, in both hemispheres, again came forth in the defence of that cause, for which he had fought and bled, for which he had suffered chains and proscription, it was with renovated vigor, with all the energy—all the purity—all the freshness of youth.

Such is the faint outline of a life exclusively devoted to the cause of man, of an active life of fifty years, untainted by vice, and which has not been disfigured by a single act of inconsistency. Your career has been no less arduous than brilliant. But after so many toils—severe trials—unjust persecutions, and domestic afflictions, it has pleased Divine Providence to grant to the evening of your days the reward most gratifying to your mind.

You left, sir, infant America still bleeding from the wounds of her Revolutionary contest, without commerce, without wealth, without credit, without an efficient general government.—After an absence of forty years, you have been permitted to revisit her shores; and you find her already in the strength of manhood, sustaining a distinguished rank amongst the nations of the earth; the asylum of the oppressed and of the unfortunate of every nation and of every description, having obtained a height of prosperity, unequalled, within so short a period, in the annals of mankind. Her villages are now populous cities; her ships cover the ocean; new states have, as by magic, arisen out of the wilderness; her progress in manufactures, in arts, in in-

ternal improvements, latterly in science and literature, has kept pace with that of her wealth and of her trebled population. We had been threatened with an infallible dissolution of our Union; and thirteen independent States were seen, voluntarily relinquishing a portion of their sovereignty, and vesting a general government with all the powers necessary for the common defence: an act of wisdom & patriotism of which, extraordinary as it may appear, history had not yet afforded an example.

The prosperity, the long peace they have enjoyed, has not enervated the Americans. The present generation have proved worthy of their fathers—your companions in arms. You go hence to erect a Monument on Bunker's Hill, on the spot where the British first learned what resistance they had to expect from a people who had willed to be free. And you arrive here from New-Orleans, the scene of an exploit not surpassed in this age of military wonders; of an extraordinary and complete victory, gained over veteran troops superior in numbers, by a band of citizen soldiers, led by a self-taught hero, one of themselves, one of the people.—At the same time, a Pennsylvania farmer, in a series of well fought actions, was sustaining the honor of the American arms on the Northern frontier.—And, with a still greater disparity of forces, our intrepid Navy were showing the world that, even on her own element, the ocean queen was not invincible. This magnificent spectacle affords the highest reward to your labors—above all, because that prosperity, those blessings which we are permitted to enjoy, are the results of our free institutions, withdrawing from the control of government the imprescriptible rights of men in their individual capacities, have left to each the liberty of conscience—the liberty of expressing and publishing his opinions—the free exercise of his faculties—the unrestrained expansion of his intellect—confining the operation of government to its legitimate objects, the protection of individuals against the cupidity and the passions of others—that of the community against foreign aggression—those institutions have vested all the powers necessary for those purposes, in a government emphatically of laws, in pure representative governments of the simplest form, founded on frequent elections and on universal suffrage. The fruits of that system are before the world, and none of those evils have befallen us which had been deemed the necessary consequence of popular governments.

Religion has preserved all her benign influence, amidst universal liberty of worship and conscience, and though the unholy connexion between church and state has been entirely dissolved, public tranquility has not been impaired, though personal liberty has been so perfectly respected in fact, as by law, to this day, the Habeas Corpus has not once been suspended. The unlimited, unrestrained liberty of the press, so far from shaking Government to its centre, has not in the slightest degree impaired its strength or impeded its action.

Universal suffrage has been tested by the choices generally made by the people. Frequent, multiplied elections have never been attended with the least commotions, and even when for the highest offices, though conducted with the energy of freemen, though inflamed by the freest publications of the press, they have ever been followed by an immediate acquiescence in the constitutional decisions.

All powers here emanate from the people and revert to the people.—It is our boast that, acknowledging, in their own laws whilst in force, at all times in the eternal laws of justice, an authority superior to themselves, they have not abused those powers. In our foreign relations, whilst government has been found competent to support our rights, what nation has been injured or insulted by the United States? In our internal concerns, whilst the laws have been duly and impartially administered, can, during a period of forty years, an instance be adduced of a citizen persecuted or oppressed?

The complete success of the great experiment made on the largest scale in this country, this living proof that we are capable of self-government, the splendid example given by the United States has not been lost to mankind.—Events, perhaps anticipated, but which we had viewed as belonging to posterity, have taken place in our own time.

A twelve month before you landed in America to join her standard, not a man, save the wild Indian, who did not

acknowledge the supremacy of an European power. And now, within less than the short span of one man's active life, from Cape Horn to the sources of the Mississippi, not a solitary province remains, that has not shaken off the foreign yoke. History will record the immense sacrifices, the acts of heroism and self-devotion, the undimmed perseverance by which those great events have been achieved. Our government, faithful to its principles, had neither excited nor encouraged the insurrections. In being the first to recognize the independence of South America, the first publicly to declare that they could not see with indifference an hostile interference on the part of other nations—that duty has been performed which their position and their moral situation in the world had assigned to the United States.

A new spirit pervades, animates the whole civilized world. It has penetrated through every class of society, teaching every man, each the most obscure & bitterly oppressed, to feel and to assert his rights; making, every day, new converts, even amongst the privileged ranks, sitting on the very footsteps of the thrones. And shall the voice prevail of a few infatuated men, who only dream what they cannot hope? Shall the power be given unto them of arresting light in its progress? Of making the human mind retrograde? The planets, also, to the eyes of man, appear, at times to have a retrograde motion; but they still pursue their unerring course, in obedience to the laws of nature—and to the first impulse of the Creator. And now, in the moral world, People, Nobles, Statesmen, Monarchs, are all carried away by the irresistible stream of public opinion and growing knowledge.

Do you ask for an irrefragable proof of that overwhelming influence? The British Ministry, composed exclusively of men, who, ten years ago opposed every revolution, and were tremblingly alive to the slightest appearance of the slightest innovation; they have, in less than a year, commenced the reform of their ancient and complex system of laws, destroyed colonial monopoly in their own colonies, recognized the independence of South-America, countenanced, if not assisted, the Greeks, and, if we are not misinformed, are at last on the eve of emancipating that long oppressed, long injured people, the friends of America, the Irish nation.

The flame of liberty has spread from the Peruvian Andes, from the extreme western boundary of the civilized world, to its most remote confines towards the East.

Greece, the cradle of European civilization and of our own—Greece, the classical land of firstborn liberty, had, for centuries, groaned under the most intolerable yoke. Her sons were believed to be utterly debased by slavery, degenerated, lost beyond redemption: their name had become a by-word of reproach, themselves an object of contempt rather than of pity. Suddenly they awakened from their lethargy—they fly to arms—they break their chains asunder: they receive no foreign assistance: Christian powers frown upon them; they are surrounded by innumerable enemies; they do not enquire how many these, but where they are. Every year, without a navy, they destroy formidable fleets; every year, without an army, disperse countless hosts; every year they astonish the world: they conquer its reluctant sympathy, by deeds worthy of the trophies of Salamis and Marathon, by exploits to which the love of Liberty could alone have given birth, by prodigies which would have been deemed fabulous did they not happen in our own days, and as under our own eyes. Whence that regeneration and its wonderful effects? From the progress of knowledge; from the superiority of intellect over brutal force. The Greeks had preserved their immortal language, the recollection of their ancestors, their religion, a national character. Patriotic individuals had, for the last 50 years, instituted schools, established printing presses, used every means to renovate and disseminate knowledge. Their stupid oppressors could not perceive or fear a progress hardly observed by Europe. But the seed was not thrown on a barren soil: the Turkish cinetiar had been less fatal to the human mind than the Spanish Inquisition.

The cause is not yet won! An almost miraculous resistance, may yet perhaps be overwhelmed by the tremendous superiority of numbers. And will the civilized, the christian world, for those

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