



THE "FREE PRESS,"

By George Howard,

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COMMUNICATIONS.

FOR THE FREE PRESS.

"Measures and men."

Mr. Editor:

The safety and prosperity of this growing Republic depends upon the unanimity of its citizens, and upon the wisdom, zeal for the public welfare, and a steady adherence to its interests of those who are called to preside over its destinies. Our citizens will soon have to perform, in the choice of a Chief Magistrate, one of the most important duties of a free people; this event is swelled into more than ordinary importance by the diversity of opinion respecting the claims of the individuals who are at present before the public for that elevated station. As all the candidates profess the same political faith, it was supposed that the contest would be decided by superior qualifications and meritorious services; recently, however, important principles in direct opposition to each other have been avowed, and it remains for the people to determine which of the two they shall choose.

Gen. JACKSON gives it as his opinion that individuals "who are most conspicuous for their probity, virtue, capacity and firmness," should be selected, without regard to party, to fill important offices: and that "the Chief Magistrate of a great and powerful nation should never indulge in party feelings—his conduct should be liberal and disinterested, always bearing in mind that he acts for the whole, not a part of the community." These sentiments have been directly opposed by the advocates of Mr. CRAWFORD: they state that the ancient landmarks of party must be observed; that the Chief Magistrate should be the head of the party, and the people must be governed by party views and party measures. The following publication, by one of their *leading men*, exhibits in a manner not to be mistaken, the discipline of the advocates of Mr. C.

"It has been determined by the *leading men* of the nation, that the democratic party shall be sustained as such with all its systems and accredited usages, and that the regularly nominated candidates at Washington shall be supported."

Such, fellow-citizens, are the political sentiments which are offered for your acceptance; and it remains to be seen whether the "true whig principles of '98," are to continue to direct our affairs, or whether a *radical* reform is to be introduced. Can it be possible for the people to maintain their just rights, should our rulers place their security in party distinctions, and perpetuate their power by sowing discord amongst the citizens, there-

by depriving them of that mutual love and confidence which are necessary for the tranquility of the country? Yet such is in truth and in fact the avowed object of the supporters of Mr. Crawford.

The watchword of this republic has uniformly been "united we stand, divided we fall:" Washington, the father of his country, in his farewell address particularly directed the attention of the people to this hydra of the state, party spirit; he prophetically pointed out the evils likely to result from its animosities, and said it ought to be discouraged, because it "is truly their worst enemy—and serves always to distract the public councils and enfeeble the public administration." Jefferson the high-priest of Republicanism, emphatically pronounced us "all federalists, all republicans." Madison and Monroe, treading in the footsteps of their illustrious predecessors, have distinguished themselves by their patriotic devotion to the true interests of the country; and, governed by the same principles, have successively been "the head of a nation, not of a party." Under the administrations of these distinguished individuals, the United States have increased in wealth and population with a rapidity unexampled in ancient or modern times, and at present occupies a distinguished station among the nations of the earth. Our government is now in the "full tide of successful experiment," our coffers are filled to overflowing, and the nation enjoying an enviable share of public prosperity and private happiness. Notwithstanding all these advantages, a faction has reared its head, and pronounces that policy, which has been productive of such beneficial effects, as being *radically* defective. A new order of things is to be introduced, and we are again to be launched into the ocean of uncertainty; to effect this object, discord and division are introduced among the people, and in the ferment this faction eagerly aspires to "sit in the whirlwind and direct the storm."

Fellow-citizens, does not the strength of a nation consist in the number, riches and union of its inhabitants? Does not the prosperity of a nation depend upon the wisdom, integrity and conduct of those entrusted with the public councils? Let us lay aside those animosities which have been so long an obstacle to our happiness and welfare, and unite in the support of such *Men and Measures*, as will not prevent or interrupt the internal tranquility of this country. But if party spleen, or an obstinate adherence to former prejudices are to prevail over the reasonings of public and private interest, what evils, what confusion, what disgrace must follow! By allaying those rancorous feelings, engendered by party spirit, our domestic divisions will subside, and unanimity and integrity in our councils will produce union and confidence in the people. These happy results can only be effected by a prudent and judicious selection of our public officers. The illustrious Jefferson, the oracle of republicanism, speaking of Gen. JACKSON said "*honor to him who*

*hath filled the measure of his country's honor.*" The people, duly appreciating his merits, and his invaluable services, reiterate the expression; and the elevation to the Chief Magistracy of the patriot of the revolution, the whig of '98, and the *Washington* of our second war of independence, will exhibit to the world another brilliant example of the gratitude of freemen.

HALIFAX.

LA FAYETTE.

*Reception in Philadelphia.*—On Monday morning, 26th ult. Gen. La Fayette entered Pennsylvania by crossing the Delaware at Trenton, and at Morrisville he was received by the Governor of Pennsylvania, staff, and a numerous body of troops from different parts of the state. On Tuesday morning he made his entry into Philadelphia, where his arrival was announced by the acclamations of at least 100,000 people, and by a grand salute of 100 guns. The following account of what afterwards took place, is from the Franklin Gazette:—

The review was, without any exception, the most splendid military exhibition we have ever seen. After the general had walked around the immense line of the square, embracing an area of forty acres, he took his position in the centre of the field, and the whole of the troops wheeled into column, and performed the marching salute.

At about twelve o'clock, they took up the line of march to this city. The military and civic procession was formed between twelve and one o'clock, the advance of the latter resting on Kensington bridge. About one o'clock, the procession commenced its march. Major General Cadwalader and his staff, Major Gamble of the Marine Corps, and the mounted officers of the militia of the first division and the neighbouring counties, among whom were two or three heroes of the revolution, formed the advance of the procession. Brigadier General Patterson and his staff succeeded at the head of the first division of Pennsylvania volunteers, including a squadron of cavalry under command of captain J. R. C. Smith, colonel Watmough's battalion of infantry, and the artillery under colonel Prevost. After these followed three open carriages with some of the members of the committee of arrangement. Then came the WELCOME GUEST OF THE NATION, accompanied by the venerable Judge Peters, a patriot of the revolution, in the splendid barouche and six, succeeded by the Governor, his aids and the adjutant general of Pennsylvania, in a barouche and four, the son and Secretary of General La Fayette in another barouche and General Brown and the Governor of New Jersey in their carriages. In the rear of these were a troop of cavalry and some infantry. Then commenced the civic part of the procession, at the head of which was Chief Marshal Swift, attended by two or three of his aids, the other aids being stationed in different positions in the line. The surviving soldiers of the revolution, seated in three successive large open carriages, with ap-

propriate mottoes and devices, followed the chief marshal. Then came the printers, a part of whom were actually engaged in striking off, with a Franklin press, impressions of on "Ode to General La Fayette," written by James N. Barker, Esq.

The young men of the city and county, the cordwainers, the weavers and other manufacturers, two beneficent societies, the shipwrights and ropemakers, the young lads and other numerous bodies of citizens, the butchers mounted on grey horses, and their appropriate uniform, blue pantaloons and white frocks, the wagoners, carters and draymen, the agriculturists, and the members of various other occupations completed the civic part of the procession. They were followed by the second brigade of volunteers under Gen. Castor, the Montgomery and other volunteers from neighboring counties, some of the calvary, and "mounted citizens," with the "star spangled banner," "the Cadmus," and "the spirit of '76," which closed the entire procession. In every square along which the procession moved, from Kensington inclusive, to the State House, scaffoldings were erected, with benches and seats on them, and they were filled with spectators, chiefly females, to welcome La Fayette to our city. The windows of the houses were thrown open, they were crowded and decorated with elegant dressed ladies, who joined in the huzzas and applauses, as the General passed along. The venerable hero rode with his hat in hand, and was constantly bowing in acknowledgment of those gratifying testimonials of gratitude and esteem.

In the Northern Liberties, the procession passed under several beautiful arches raised in honor of the General. One in particular, erected in Fourth near Green street, under the direction of the corporation of that district, struck us as peculiarly fine. Three or four other arches were almost equally handsome. All had on them mottoes and devices appropriate to the occasion, and in allusion to the memorable event they were designed to celebrate. On the top of the arch at the corner of Fourth and Race streets, sat a *living eagle*, who although in bondage, seemed proud of the exalted station which he occupied.

When General La Fayette crossed Vine street into the city, the John Adams, under Captain Dallas, moored at the wharf at the end of that street, fired a salute of twenty-one guns.

As the General passed the dwelling of Mrs. Robert Morris in Chesnut street, he rose on his feet in the barouche and respectfully bowed to her in the most graceful manner.

At five o'clock he arrived at the State House; his arrival there was announced by another salute from the John Adams, which had dropped down to Chesnut street wharf. Previous to this the military were drawn up in two lines facing inwards. As the veteran passed between these lines, he descended from his barouche, and was conducted under the civic arch into the Hall of the Declaration of Independence, the shouts of the im-

mense multitude collected about this spot, the waving of hats by the crowd that filled the side space in front of the State House, and of handkerchiefs from the thronged balconies, galleries and windows, resplendent with beauty, gave an animation to the scene which cannot easily be described. A fine band of music played the appropriate air, "see the conquering Hero comes," as he alighted and passed along the covered way, and through the main door of entrance into the vestibule. He several times stopped to bow in various directions to the friends who surrounded him on every side. After the General had been conducted by the committee into the room adjoining the Hall of Independence, the procession moved on. The proper arrangements having been made the General was ushered into the Hall of Independence. At the upper end of the Hall, near the statue of Washington, sat the Mayor, with our guest the Governor of the State. On the left of the sofa were the chairs occupied by the Governor's suite. The members of the Select and Common Councils were arranged in the front row of chairs on either side of the Hall, extending in semi-circular lines, and behind them, on corresponding lines, were the Recorder and Aldermen, the members of the Cincinnati, officers of the army and navy, and distinguished citizens and guests. Among the latter were distinguished Gen. Brown, with his suite; Com. Stewart, Com. Barron, Com. Nicholson, Maj. Gamble and Capt. Biddle. After the address of the Mayor, which was followed by a cordial embrace, and the reply of the General, which was delivered with much feeling, and in a most unaffected manner, the company were individually presented; the suite of the Governor, the Cincinnati and the presidents of councils, by the Mayor; the councils by their respective presidents; the aldermen by the Recorder; and the citizens and guests by Joseph S. Lewis, Esq. of the committee of councils. On passing the Bank of the United States, where the surviving officers of the revolution and the Marine corps were assembled; the barouche of the General stopped, while he stood up and made a short but affectionate address to the former.

The General was conducted under a suitable escort from the Hall of Independence to the Mansion House, where he resides while he remains in the city.

The other venerable surviving soldiers of the revolution, in cars, with appropriate emblems and mottoes, were loudly cheered as they passed. This was delightful. They were loudly animated, and frequently uncovered their hoary heads to answer the huzzas of the people.

At night, the whole city, the Northern Liberties and Southwark were brilliantly illuminated. We have never seen any thing of the kind at all comparable to this. Not an accident occurred to mar the universal pleasure derived from the animating and splendid scene which was witnessed by at least one hundred thousand people.