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TOWANDA:

Wednesday Morning, July 7, 1847.

We Parted in Silence.

We parted in silence, we parted by night... On the banks of that lonely river...

We parted in silence—our cheeks were wet... With the tears that were past controlling...

And now on the moonlight sky I look... And my heart grows full to weeping...

History of the Seat of Government.

It is becoming so common for every person who travels at all to visit the city of Washington...

Before the establishment of the District of Columbia, Congress occasionally met, according to the exigencies of the case...

On the 21st October, 1783, Congress, assembled at Philadelphia, Baltimore, Lancaster, Yorktown, Princeton, Annapolis, Trenton and New York...

On the 21st October, 1783, Congress, assembled at Philadelphia by a band of mutineers whom the state authorities were unable to quell...

The friends of the new site numbered the names of Washington, Madison, Lee and Carroll, and their choice was governed by these considerations:

1st. It was not desirable that the political capital should be in a commercial metropolis...

2d. As this would be the only city under the exclusive control of the nation, one should be laid out expressly with a view to all possible future wants...

3d. With respect to the position, while a central point was certainly desirable, it ought to be remembered that there is no common centre...

4th. The centre of a sea-coast line with easy communication with the western country, was considered the most worthy of regard...

counters, by which their abundant produce will find an export. The growth of the western country was anticipated at that day...

Such were some of the considerations which led to the passage in 1790, by a vote of thirty-two to twenty-nine, of the act to establish the permanent seat of government of the United States...

Attention was called by Mr. Varnum to the fact that by a mathematical computation of Dr. Patterson of the United States mint, the predictions of Mr. Madison on this occasion, relative to the progress of the centre of population have been singularly verified...

The first corner stone in the District of Columbia was laid at Jones' Point, near Alexandria, 15th of April, 1791, with the imposing Masonic ceremonies of the time...

A more beautiful site for a city could hardly be obtained. From a point where the Potomac, at a distance of 295 miles from the ocean, and flowing from north-west to south-east, expands to the width of a mile, extending back an almost level plain, hemmed in by a series of gradually sloping hills...

By the same survey it appears that the land comprising the Capitol Hill was called Rome or Room, two names which seem to have foreshadowed the destiny of the place...

It is said that Washington's attention had been called to the advantages which this place presented for a city, as long previous as when he had been a youthful surveyor of the country around...

On the 18th September, 1792, the south-east corner stone of the north wing of the Capitol was laid by Gen. Washington.

Much discussion took place relative to the plan, which was drawn by Major L'Enfant, and which, while it presents some fine features, has many defects, and in its execution, has greatly detracted from the beauty of the site...

It was remarked of L'Enfant, that he was not only a child in sense, but in education; as from the names he gave the streets, he appeared to know little else than A, B, C, one, two, three...

The distances at which the public buildings are separated from each other have been frequently remarked. But letters from Washington and the commissioners show the reasons of this.

1st. As a measure of security, so that only one could burn at a time. If enemies should enter the place, they would, in the first onset, destroy everything; but as they progressed, their fury would cool down...

2d. It had been remarked at Philadelphia, that the vicinity of the executive to the legislative departments, exposed the former to constant interruptions from the latter...

Some of the magnificent intentions with regard to the embellishment of the city were enumerated. Most of them might have been carried out at a trifling expense to the nation; and in all, it is to be observed how admirably Gen. Washington's ideas combined utility with beauty...

The State of Virginia made a donation of one hundred and twenty thousand dollars towards the public buildings, and Maryland seventy-two thousand dollars. This was soon exhausted.

It is a fact not generally known, and evidence of the intense anxiety Washington felt in the matter, that when all other resources failed, he made a personal application to the legislature of Maryland for a loan; and the letter written on this occasion is remarkable for its tenderness and propriety...

With regard to the progress of the city since that time, it must be confessed, that the city has not progressed in the rapid ratio which its founders so sanguinely predicted. Although they may not have anticipated anything to compare with the magnificence and luxury which in many of the European courts have almost sufficed to build up a city; yet they probably overrated the attractions of the government and Congress.

order to carry out the plan of its founders for connecting the Potomac and Ohio rivers. The main burden has, however, been removed, and with the completion of the canal as far as the coal regions, it is hoped that a new element of prosperity will be introduced.

With regard to the Smithsonian Institution just organized, it was remarked that if half the plans are fulfilled, the effect must be, sooner or later, to concentrate at Washington one of the largest and best collections in the country, of books, apparatus and other facilities for the prosecution of investigations in science and art...

It can never become a great city in the ordinary sense of the term, that is to say, it can never be the seat of a very heavy commerce, and consequently of long rows of ware-houses and striking contrasts between the extremes of wealth and poverty; but it may become a place for the cultivation of that political union, and that social intercourse which more than any thing else unbinds the sterner feelings of our nature...

A Homunculus.

I trust there is no act of the Legislature against young men, students or professional, rising early, and cutting wood, or taking some other vigorous exercise before breakfast...

Even in respect to comfort, your late-to-bed and late-to-rise is a great loser. See him languidly enter the breakfast room, with his eyes half open, and with half shut. Is he the man you envy?

As to profit, in any lower, or in any higher sense of the term, it is not much thought of by those here rebuked; and usefulness is a word not to be found in their vocabulary. I repeat then, *en bono!*

I trust, Mr. Editor, that none of those, who in various degrees deserve these rebukes, and need these exhortations, and for whose good, (not for the writer's) they are chiefly intended, will be displeased with my freedom...

NEW AND VALUABLE DISCOVERY.—Catch a rat in a wire trap and keep him till night. Then procure preparation of phosphorus in oil. Apply it all over the rat, except his head, and turn him loose into his hole. Such scampering and getting out of the house as occurs, as his phosphorescent majesty pursues his alarmed friends whom he is anxious to overtake, afford certainly a security against the return of the predators for a long season.

THE NEW PLANET.—The present distance of the new planet, expressed in common measures, is about 3,200,000,000 English miles from the sun, and about 3,100,000,000 miles from the earth.

GOOD MAXIMS.—Never be cast down or irritated by trifles. If a spider breaks his thread, twenty times, he will mend it twenty times, without the least irritability or impatience.

Not to Myself Alone.

The little opening flower transported cries— "Not to myself alone I bud and bloom; With fragrant breath the breezes perfume, And gladden all things with my rainbow dyes; The bee comes sipping, every evening, His dainty fill; The butterfly with my cap doth hide From threatening ill."

The circling star with honest pride doth boast— "Not to myself alone I rise and set; I write upon night's coronal of jet! His power and skill who formed our myriad host: A friendly beacon at heaven's open gate, I gem the sky."

The heavy-laden bee doth murmuring hum— "Not to myself alone from flower to flower I rove the wood, the garden and the bower And to the hive at evening weary come: For man, for man, the luscious food I pile With busy care, Content if this repay my ceaseless toil— A scanty share."

The soaring bird with lusty pinions sings— "Not to myself alone I raise the song; I cheer the drooping with my warbling tongue, And bear the mourner on my viewless wings: I bid the hymnless churl my anthem learn, And God adore; I call the worldling from his dross to turn, And sing and soar."

The streamlet whispers on its pebbly way— "Not to myself I sparkling glide; I scatter life and health on every side, And strew the fields with herb and flow'ret gay: I sing unto the common bleat and baw, My gladsome tune; I sweeten and refresh the languid air In drouthy June."

Oh man, forget thou not, earth's honored priest! Its tongue, its soul, its life, its pulse, its heart— In earth's great chorus to sustain thy part. Chiefest of guests at love's ungrudging feast, Play not the niggard, spare thy native clod, And self disown; Live to thy neighbor, live unto thy God, Not to thyself alone.

Arnold at Bemis' Heights.

Gates took Arnold's division away from him, and gave it to Gen. Lincoln, so that when the second battle of the 7th of October occurred, he, the bravest, and most successful General in the army was without a command.

His brave followers were rushing on to death with emotion, and sudden resolves and overwhelming emotions kept up such a tumult in his bosom, that his excitement at length amounted almost to madness.

Unable longer to restrain his impulses, he called like the helpless Aengraun for his horse. Vaulting to the saddle, he rode for a while around the camp in a temper of passion.

It was told to Gates that Arnold had gone to the field, and he immediately sent Colonel Armstrong after him. But Arnold, expecting this, and determining not to be called back as he had been done before, spurred furiously amid the ranks, and as the former approached him, galloped into the valley, and thus the chase kept up for half an hour, until at length Armstrong gave it up, and the fierce chieftain had it all his own way.

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Once, wishing to go from one extremity of the line to the other, instead of passing behind his troops, he wheeled in front and galloped the whole distance through the cross-fire of the combatants, while a long hurra followed him. Holding the highest rank in the field, his orders were obeyed, except when too desperate for the bravest to fulfill—and receiving no orders himself he conducted the whole

with— His frenzied manner, exciting appeals, and fearful daring, infused new spirit into the troops, and they changed after him, shouting like madmen. So perfectly beside himself was he with excitement, that he dashed to an officer who did not lead on his men as he wished, and opened his head with his sword. He was every where present, and pushed the first line of the enemy so vigorously, that it at length gave away.

Not satisfied with this, he prepared to storm the camp also. But once behind their entrenchments, the British rallied and fought with the fury of men struggling for life. The grape shot and balls swept every inch of the ground, and it rained an iron tempest on the American ranks, but nothing could resist their fiery ardor.

Thus ended the fight, and the wounded hero was borne pale and bleeding from the field of his fame, only to awaken to chagrin and disappointment. There is but little doubt, that when he visited his orders and galloped to the field, he had made up his mind to bury his sorrows and disappointment in a bloody grave.

EARLY RISING.—It cannot be denied that early rising is conducive both to the health of the body and the improvement of the mind. It was an observation of Swift: "That he never knew any man come to greatness and eminence, who lay in bed a morning."

The great and good Dr. Donnan informs us that the production of Family Expositor, and most of his writings, was owing to his rising at five, instead of seven o'clock in the morning, and proceeding to compute, and correctly so, that such a difference in the time of rising maintained during forty years, would reckon eight hours a day, add ten years of time for study to a man's life. Great and precious amount! Can the reverend sacrifice all to his self-indulgence? Is it possible that he will hasten to redeem so many years. Let him think of eight hours a day for ten long years spent with books and devotion.

WESLEY, in one of his sermons, tells us that sixty years before he began to rise at four, instead of seven, or after, and that he had continued to do so ever since. Thus, on the principle of reckoning above alluded to, he redeemed twenty two years and ten months, which, during those sixty years, and with his former habits, would have been lost, and worse than lost to him.

VALUE OF A CHILD'S TIME.—It is sometimes said that a child's time is not worth much; some even say they send their children to school to get them out of the way. But parents often find that they learn some things very young. Children learn to go astray as soon as they are born, speaking lies; that is they learn to deceive, and after falsehood; and to a very early period in their childhood. And to their joy too they sometimes find that when very young children have the opportunity afforded them they lay a broad foundation for such a superstructure as makes men hold up their heads and wonder.

FISH-EATING FOWL.—Rooks will occasionally prey on fish. A ficial of mine once saw a rook take a fish out of the piece of water in Kensington Gardens, and devour it on the bank. He told me he had seen jackdaws do the same thing on the Thames. Mr. Blackwall has observed that the curlew also feeds on fish. It particularly feeds, in pursuit of which it wades into the shallow water of rivers and brooks that flows over beds of stone and gravel; seizing the object of its search with the bill, and conveying it to the land, where it is eaten at leisure.

TEA SOCIETY.—The Tartar colonists in Russia are said to make great use of tea, which is made into cakes composed of the coarser parts of the fragrant herb. Of this they make a kind of soup, adding to it salt, pepper and milk. Forty thousand chests of this brick tea, as it is called, are imported yearly into Russia from China, besides immense quantities of the superior kinds of tea.