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DUCIT AMOR PATRIE PRODESSE CIVIBUS—"THE LOVE OF MY COUNTRY LEADS ME TO BE OF ADVANTAGE TO MY FELLOW-CITIZENS."

BY ROBERT W. MIDDLETON.
At \$2 per annum, half-yearly in advance.

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THE GARLAND.
"With sweetest flowers enrich'd
From various gardens cull'd with care."

For the Star.
TO MISS RACHEL.
When the morning sun forgets to run
His staid courses through
May I stand still and with good will
Forget to think of you;
But whilst our days with heated rays
Are lighted from above,
So long may I on you rely,
And own that I do love.
With all your charms, then to my arms
Delighted may you come;
Devoid of fear your life I'll cheer,
And live and love at home!
No sweeter thought was ever brought
From India's happy clime;
Nor could Greece boast on her rich coast
So sweet a prize as mine!
ROBERT.

MISCELLANEOUS.

John Adams—Geo. Washington.
A correspondent of the Daily Advertiser and Patriot, relates the following Anecdotes connected with the appointment of Gen. Washington to the command of the army, June 16, 1775.

In a manuscript Journal, under date of Nov. 4, 1825, I find a record of a conversation had with the venerable John Adams, at that time, relative to the appointment of Gen. Washington. It was in substance as follows:

The army was assembled at Cambridge, Mass. under Gen. Ward, and Congress was sitting at Philadelphia. Every day arrived new applications in behalf of the army.—The country were urgent that Congress should adopt the army; for until they had, it must be considered, and was in law considered only as a mob, a band of armed rebels. The country was placed in circumstances of peculiar delicacy and danger. The struggle had begun, and yet every thing was at loose ends. The great trial now seemed to be in this question,—who shall be commander in chief? It was exceedingly important, and was felt to be the hinge on which the whole might turn for or against us.—The southern and middle States, warm and rapid in their zeal, for the most part, were jealous of New England, because they felt that the real physical force was here.—What then, was to be done? All New England adored Gen. Ward; he had been in the French war, and had come out laden with laurels. He was a scholar and a gentleman. All the qualifications seemed to cluster in him; and it was confidently believed the army could not receive any commander over him. What then, would be done? Difficulties thickened at every step. The struggle was to be long and bloody. Without union all was lost. Union was strength. The country and the whole country must come in. One pulsation must break thro' all hearts. The cause was one and the arm must be one. The members had talked, debated, considered and guessed, and yet the decisive step had not been taken.—At length Mr. Adams came to his conclusion, and the manner of developing it was nearly as follows: He was walking one morning before Congress Hall, apparently in deep thought, when his cousin Samuel Adams came up to him and said, "What is the topic with you this morning, cousin?" "Oh the army, the army," he replied. "I am determined what to do about the army at Cambridge," he continued—"I am determined to go into the hall this morning, and enter on a full detail of the state of the colonies in order to show the absolute need of taking some decisive steps. My whole aim will be to induce Congress to appoint a day for adopting the army as the legal army of these United Colonies of North America; and then to hint at my election of a commander-in-chief." "Well," said Samuel Adams, "I like that, cousin John; but on whom have you fixed as this commander?" "I'll tell you, George Washington, of Virginia, a member of this House." "Oh," replied S. A. quickly, "that will never do, never, never." "It must do, it shall," said John, "and for these reasons; the Southern and Middle States are loth to enter heartily into the cause, and their arguments are potent;—power in her hands, and they fear the result. A New-England army, a New-England commander, with New-England perseverance, all united appeal them. For this cause they hang back. Now, the only way is, to ally their fears, and give them nothing to complain of; and this can be done in no other way but by appointing a Southern chief over this force. Then all will feel secure, then all will rush to the standard. This policy will blend us in one mass, and that mass will be resistless." "At this Samuel A. seemed greatly moved. They talked over the preliminary circumstances, and John asked his cousin to second his motion. Mr. Adams went in, took the floor and put forth all his strength in the delineations he had prepared, all aiming at the adoption of the army. He was ready to own the army, appoint a commander, vote supplies and proceed to business.—After his speech some doubted, some objected, and some feared. His warmth mounted with the occasion, and to all these doubts and hesitations he replied, "Gentlemen, if this Congress will not adopt this

army, before ten moons have set, New-England will have a Congress of her own which will adopt it, and she, she will undertake, the struggle alone, yes, with a strong arm and a clear conscience will front the foe alone."

This had the desired effect. They saw N. E. was not playing, and was not to be played with; they agreed to appoint a day. The day was fixed. It came. Mr. Adams went in, took the floor, urged the measure, and after debate it passed. The next thing was to get a lawful commander for this lawful army, with supplies, &c. All looked to Mr. Adams on this occasion; and he was ready. He took the floor, and went into a minute delineation of the character of Gen. Ward, bestowing on him the epithets which, then, belonged to no one else. At the end of this eulogy he said, "but this is not the man I have chosen." He then went into a delineation of the character of a commander-in-chief such as was required by the peculiar situation of the colonies at that junction; and after he had presented the qualifications in his strongest language, and given the reason for the nomination he was about to make, he said—"Gentlemen, I know these qualifications are high, but we all know they are needful at this crisis, in this chief. Does any one say they are not to be obtained in the country? I reply, they are, they reside in one of our own body, and he is the person whom I now nominate, GEORGE WASHINGTON, of Virginia."

Washington, who sat on Mr. Adams' right hand, was looking him intently in the face to watch the name he was about to nominate; and not expecting it would be his own, he sprung from his seat the moment he heard it, and rushed into an adjoining room as quickly as though moved by a shock of electricity.

Mr. Adams had asked his cousin Sam to move for an adjournment as soon as the nomination was made in order to give the members time to deliberate in private.—They did deliberate and the result is before the world.

I asked Mr. Adams, among other questions, the following, "Did you never doubt of the success of the conflict?" "No, no," said he, "not for a moment. I expected to be hung and quartered, if I was caught; but no matter for that, my country would be free; I knew George III. could not forge chains long enough and strong to reach round these States."

VENTRILOQUISM.

A very amusing and interesting occurrence took place a few evenings since, at a select evening party in — street. Some time after the company, which was very large and respectable, were introduced, and had become deeply absorbed in the amusements of the evening, around a blazing fire upon the hearth—on a sudden a hollow plaintive cry, as of one in distress, was heard apparently to proceed from the chimney. The company all arose on the instant, and gazed upon each other in breathless silence; again the voice was heard saying "Oh! help me! or I'll smother in this place." "Put out the fire!" exclaimed half a dozen voices in the room, and a pitcher of water was quickly on the spot. While some fled in haste to the dressing room, with consternation depicted on every countenance, a young gentleman stepping close to the fire-place called out "who's there?" "O—o—poor Tom, the sweep," groaned the voice upon the chimney! "poor fellow!" sighed the ladies, "Oh! help him out." "How long have you been up there, my dear?" asked the gent. "Nearly a week!" "Sir," "Oh my gracious," again sighed the ladies, "he must be almost starved." "Poor Tom's hot," again groaned the man in the chimney, and the very hearts of his auditors died within them. The excitement having now risen to an almost painful pitch, it was time for "poor Tom" to get himself out of that smoky place, as quickly as possible. Accordingly, he slid gently down from his station into a side cupboard, built against the chimney way, which fortunately was locked, and, still more fortunately, the key not to be found! "Oh murder! murder! m-u-r-d-e-r!" Shouted "poor Tom," in the cupboard—"give me something to eat, or I'll starve outright!" The strings of every reticule in the room gazed way at the world, and half their rich contents were quickly at his service; and had "poor Tom" then actually appeared, he would doubtless have been greeted with a more "pitiless storm" of almonds, mint-drops, and pound-cake, than his sooty sweepship ever before experienced. Of course none knew of the construction of the place, save the hostess and her family, who had fed the field in search of the key, upon the first intimation of the change the enemy had made in his position, before a second thought told them of the utter impossibility of any mortal transferring himself from the chimney to the closet.

"Burst open the door," said the young spokesman, and upon a kind of rumbling noise being heard in the closet, as of "note of preparations," two or three appeared determined to faint, at all events—and the young man induced to exclaim, "ladies and gents have you never heard of ventriloquism?" A roar of laughter from a majority of the company followed the question, as the convic-

tion of the truth flashed upon their senses, that one of the company was highly gifted with the rare and astonishing power of ventriloquism! Yet so deeply were some impressed with the belief in the reality of "poor Tom," and his distressing situation, that it was almost impossible to induce the more superstitious to forego it. And the fatal closet was regarded with an eye of jealous suspicion, till at length the key was found, which proved a key indeed to the complete elucidation of the mystery, to the entire satisfaction of all; and the entertainment closed at a late hour in the most universal harmony. [Philadelphia Chronicle.]

THE COMET.

After the India Spasmodic Cholera, we do not know but the comet which makes its transit of the Earth's orbit next summer, is the most interesting subject. Simmers had better begin to settle their accounts as soon as possible.—*Cour. & Eng.*

THE COMET, AND ITS PROBABLE EFFECTS ON OUR EARTH.

Mr. Editor:—Having had my attention called to the subject of the above caption, I respectfully solicit a small space of your paper to give publicity to the views and impressions of astronomers in relation to it.

You are aware, I presume, that the comet which will complete its revolution round the sun next June, is to pass as it returns, very near our planet; that is, our Earth will be in that part of her orbit, which is near the orbit of the Comet, just at that precise time when the Comet will pass—a circumstance which astronomers say has not occurred before or since the flood. It is upon this fact that German Astronomers calculate that the world will then undergo some great and tremendous revulsion. They calculate that the mutual attraction of those two bodies may possibly bring them into contact, in which case an immediate explosion must ensue.

Who can tell but that this may be the great agent employed by the Deity to brush away the Heavens and destroy the Earth, or in the sublime language of inspiration—to "cause the heavens to pass away with a great noise, the elements to melt with fervent heat, and the earth and things thereon to be burned up." This event we all know is to come "as a snare upon all them that dwell upon the face of the whole earth, and as a thief in the night." But whether these terribly sublime movements, and this awfully grand display of Heaven's superior power, will take place on the 20th June ensuing, (the day of the nearest approach of this comet to our earth) is not for the writer of this letter to determine.

A Lecturer in the North, with his orbits and diagrams, is endeavoring to demonstrate that this Comet and our Earth will be less than 20,000 miles apart on that day—quite near enough one would think to create a pressure upon our atmosphere (unless a higher agency shall interfere), sufficient to cause "the sea and the waves thereof to roar."

The French and American astronomers believe the Comet will pass our earth without any material or injurious effect to us. But it is not long before that time, and those then living will have a fair opportunity to test the truth of all the Astronomical calculations that have been made, and are now being made upon the subject. Should the German Astronomers have made the surest calculations, then on the 30th June ensuing, old time will bathe his wearied feet in the ocean of eternity, and this "world and the fashions thereof will pass away." But whether right or wrong in their calculation, it is nevertheless true that this event will come. Yes! it is written! It is written with the finger of unerring Truth, and standing forever! This world, and the fashion of it is now passing away. It rapidly approximates its end, and will soon cease to be.

My object in making this communication will have been answered, should those who are in the habit of making calculations, favor the public with their views on the subject. And more particularly shall I be gratified if those who may read this brief communication will lay to heart the affecting truth, that this world is destined to give place to another; that it will soon be superseded by the "new Heavens and the new Earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness." M.

PITTSBURG, March 7.

Distressing Occurrence.—On Sunday afternoon last, a small skiff, containing nine persons (five men, three women, and one child,) while crossing the Monongahela river, opposite the mouth of Grant Street, was capsized, and five of the unfortunate individuals sunk into a watery grave, (viz. one of the men, the three women and child.) The accident occurred by the person who was engaged in rowing the boat, having dropped one of the oars into the river, and in endeavoring to regain it the boat was overturned. Times.

A fire broke out in Cincinnati on the night of the 23d ult. which occasioned much destruction of property, before it was got under. It originated in the wooden buildings, corner of Main and Fourth streets,—the centre of the business part of the city. Several houses and shops, with the greater part of their contents, were destroyed. The buildings

were not of much value, but the loss of property, &c. is considerable. There was another alarm of fire next day—it originated in a Coopers' shop, in rear of Main street, between Eighth and Court streets. The building with most of its contents was consumed, but the exertions of the firemen prevented the flames from spreading farther.

Among other sufferers by the flood in the West, is Stephen Stone, Esq., of Beaver, Pa., whose dwelling and stable were swept away, with a new brick house which cost \$4,000; loss \$10,000. In Gen. Lacock's house, the water rose to the ceiling; his stable, out houses, fences, and hay, were all swept off; and his valuable library destroyed.

NAVY.—We have reason to believe that the Frigate Constellation, Capt. Reed, now fitting for sea at Norfolk, will sail about the 1st of April; that she will take out Mr. Buchanan, our new Minister to Russia, and also a new Minister to England, if one should be appointed and confirmed in sufficient season; that after discharging her diplomatic cargo she will proceed to the Mediterranean, and take her station as a part of our Squadron in that sea. She is expected to be absent 3 years.—*Jour. Com.*

In the Congress burying ground, at Washington, lie two Vice Presidents of the United States, Clinton and Gerry, and twenty-one members of Congress, viz: a Senator from Connecticut, a Senator from New Jersey, 2 Senators from Rhode Island, a Senator from Ohio, a Senator from Maryland, a Senator from Indiana, a Senator from South Carolina, a Representative from Rhode Island, four Representatives from North Carolina, a Representative from Pennsylvania, four Representatives from Virginia, a Representative from Massachusetts, a Representative from Kentucky, and a Representative from Mississippi.

The Masonic party have nominated our present fallen Governor, and no doubt orders have been issued from the Lodge to every editor under their influence to give him a puff. We shall soon expect to see the "officials" filled with "public opinions," written at Harrisburg and despatched throughout the state, for publication in the Masonic papers. This is the system the administration have adopted, of puffing itself.

Manufacture of Shoes at Lynn.—The number of pairs of shoes manufactured at Lynn during the year 1831 was 1,675,781—value \$942,191. Number of males employed 1,741—females 1,775. Value of materials \$414,000. Net profit of labor \$528,000—average earnings of operative (male and female) \$150.17 per year or forty-one cents per day.

There are no boots made at Lynn except for ladies, misses and children, and the only kind of shoes manufactured for men are pumps. This will account for the number of females employed in the manufacture.

CINCINNATI, (Ohio) Feb. 27.

Canal Commerce.—The Canal is filling with water, and we may expect a regular business to commence in a day or two.—This is better than was anticipated. Yesterday a wood boat came down, and one of the packets departed for Dayton, with a reasonable certainty of at least reaching Middletown. If the navigation opens to that place, it will greatly aid the business of the city, in its present circumstances.

SURGICAL OPERATION.—We understand that a tumor or wen of two feet in circumference, and weighing after its removal 4lb. 4oz, was successfully dissected yesterday from the right shoulder blade of one of the inmates of the House of Industry, by Dr. Jno. C. Howard, physician and surgeon of that institution. The patient ate a hearty meal after the operation.—*Bos. Cen.*

50,000 Spindles are now in operation in and near the city of Baltimore, in the manufacture of Cotton, giving constant employment to upwards of 5000 persons, and sustaining to a much greater number, and increasing by their labor the value of the material ten-fold. So much for the American System.—[*Baltimore Patriot.*]

Religious Notice.—The following singular notice we copy from a southern paper.

E. Thompson, minister and missionary from N. York, being on a disinterested tour of lecturing against all avaricious ministers and missionaries, very seriously invites the gentlemen of Wilmington to give him 37½ cents each, for a series of lectures to be delivered, with the approbation of the Borough Council, in the town hall, against "Early Christianity," against "believing the Gospel," against all religious worship, and in favor of the "Rights of Women" to have as many husbands as they please.

A coxcomb talking of the transmigration of souls, said, "In the time of Moses, I have no doubt I was the golden calf." "Very likely," replied a lady, "time has robbed you of nothing but the gilding!"

The Western Flood.

The Columbus, Ohio, Journal says the following is a summary of the disasters occasioned by the late rise in the Ohio river and its tributary streams, as full and accurate as the accounts which have reached us, from the different places heard from, have enabled us to make it:—

At Pittsburg, the water rose higher than it had ever been known by any living inhabitant of the city or neighborhood. The greater portion of that part of the town lying north of Liberty-street was completely inundated; and nearly all the houses, between Penn-street and the Allegheny river, were deserted by their owners, who were compelled to use boats in order to escape from their dwellings. Although but few buildings have been carried off, the loss sustained in this place and its neighborhood, in lumber, liquors, &c. is very great; being estimated at between \$200,000 and \$400,000. The Allegheny bridge and aqueduct, although in the greatest danger, have been saved.

Alleghenytown, opposite Pittsburg, was completely overflowed; and a number of buildings have been carried off. The damage sustained here has been considerable. We have seen no estimate of its amount.

The Salt-works on the Conemaugh and the Kiskeminitas, some distance above Pittsburg, have likewise suffered severely—the loss in salt alone, exclusive of buildings and other property injured or destroyed, being estimated at upwards of \$40,000. It is reported that a poor man, who was employed in digging coals, having gone to work in the afternoon, leaving his wife and four children in a small cabin near the Monongahela river, found on his return in the evening that his dwelling had been carried off by the flood; and as nothing has since been heard of his unfortunate family, it is supposed that they have all perished. Two men are likewise stated to have been drowned at Brownsville, and two grown persons and an infant at Alleghenytown.

At Bridgewater, Fallston, and Sharon, on Beaver river, Pa., the damage has been very considerable. These flourishing villages are said to have been completely inundated; and a great number of their buildings carried away. Beaver river, is reported to have risen fifty feet above low water mark; and the poor people residing on the banks have been stripped of every thing.

In addition to these disasters, we learn from the Pennsylvania papers, that one third of the great bridge across the Susquehanna river, at Columbia, which was erected in 1812, at an expense of about \$232,000, has been carried away by the breaking up of the ice, and the remainder more or less injured in different places. It is to be repaired as promptly as circumstances will permit.

At Steubenville, the river was several feet higher than it had been within the memory of the oldest inhabitants; and much injury was done by the overflowing of the river bottoms, and the backing of water up the creeks. The lower street of the town was overflowed to the depth of perhaps eight or ten feet; but no buildings were carried off.

Warrentown, 14 miles below Steubenville, is said to have been deprived of nearly one half of its buildings, about sixty in number. Among those carried away, was a ware-house, containing 300 barrels of flour, which was safely lodged on Wheeling Island. Another account states that two thirds of the buildings in this place, including three ware-houses, have been swept off; but we trust this will be found to be an exaggeration.

At Wheeling, the damage has been very great. The water here rose about fifty feet above low water mark; and the lower part of the town was completely inundated. All the lower bottoms on the river were overflowed; and houses, barns, fences, cattle, stacks of hay and grain, &c. swept off. Forty-two buildings, mostly small frames, lying in South Wheeling, and the bridge over Wheeling creek, are said to have been carried away; and property to a great amount has been injured or totally destroyed. No estimate is given of the loss sustained in this town or its vicinity; but it is said to be incalculable.

Gallipolis, owing to its high situation has sustained but little injury; but the fine farms on the opposite side of the river, have been entirely overflowed.

Maysville, owing to its elevated situation, has sustained but little injury. The lower part of the line of Front or Water street was, however, overflowed; and some of the citizens, who occupied low situations, were obliged to move out of their houses.

The pleasant villages of New Richmond, Point Pleasant, Neville and Palestine, above Cincinnati, have been literally depopulated; and the editor of the Ohio Sun gives it as his opinion that the loss sustained by the citizens of Brown county, exceeds \$20,000.

At Cincinnati, the damage sustained has been immense. Here the water continued to rise until the morning of the 18th; at which time it was said to be about 68 feet above high water mark, and considerably higher than in the great floods of 1783 and 1815. The whole of what is called the bottom of the city, lying on the first bank, and extending two or three squares back from