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

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ANTI-MASONIC.

RUSH VS. MASONRY.

YORK, APRIL 26TH, 1831.

HON. R. RUSH,
DEAR SIR,—The undersigned, acting as the
Anti-Masonic Committee of Correspondence for
York County, beg leave to address you. They,
in general with the party to which they belong,
view the present, as a period of great importance
in the history of this Country. A large body of
the Freemen of these United States deem the In-
stitution of Freemasonry dangerous to our politi-
cal and moral welfare, and have united themselves
in a determination to put it down. In this attempt
they have been vigorously and systematically op-
posed by another portion, who are attached to it,
and it has thus become a matter of vast importance
for those who entertain the opinions which we
profess, to know, who are for, and who against us.
Therefore, as it has on the one hand, been stated
in a public newspaper that you are a member of
the Institution, which has again by others been
denied; we, together with many other of our fellow
citizens, will feel thankful to you, for such infor-
mation upon the subject as you may think proper
to communicate; and likewise, your views with
respect to the question between Masonry and its
opponents. Addressing you as we do, in the char-
acter of a public body, it is of course our desire
that the reply should be public also.

With sentiments of high respect
and esteem, we remain, Sir,
your obedient serv'ts.

WILLIAM MILVAIN,
JOHN KAUFFELT,
HUGH McDONALD,
THO. C. HAMBLY,
Anti-Masonic Committee of Correspon-
dence for York County.

YORK, PA., MAY 4, 1831.

GENTLEMEN:

I have received the communication of
the 26th April, which, as a Committee of
Correspondence of Antimasons for this county,
you have done me the honor to address
to me, on the general subject of MASONRY
and ANTI-MASONRY, and making some in-
quiries of me in relation to it. I do not
know, that the views which I entertain upon
either topic, can be of more importance,
than those of any other private individual,
who may have taken the trouble to inform
himself on the passing events of the day,
and to reflect upon them. But as you are
pleased to invite an expression of those views,
I will not withhold them. When a citizen
may have adopted, on sufficient deliberation,
opinions upon any public question, they
seem of right, to belong to whomsoever may
think them worth asking for. My opinions
having been made up neither hastily nor
very recently on those which your letter
embraces, I willingly proceed, without oc-
cupying time by any further introduction,
to present them to you, with the grounds on
which they are founded.

I see objections to secret societies, be-
cause, pursuing objects not known to the
public, through means not known to the public,
they act under diminished responsibilities
to the public. If the objects be good,
why not state them; if bad, they ought to be
known. Our legislative halls are all open,
and our courts; so are all the acts of our
people, that may come to effect the interests
of the body political or social. Not a bridge
company, not a turnpike company, no bank;
scarcely an association of any kind, for what-
ever purpose existing, whether for the ad-
vancement of charity, or learning, or reli-
gion, or any of the common business of life,
and whether incorporated by the laws or
not, but renders its statements to the public,
either voluntarily, or by command of the
laws. If the latter do not positively enjoin
publicity, a competent share of information
regarding the objects of any such associa-
tions, is rarely or ever withheld, on proper
inquiry being made. Societies, then, pro-
foundly secret, by the first element of their
constitution, whatever their ostensible ends,
cannot be too closely watched, in a country
whose primary principles of political and so-
cial action, are all in the face of day. The
mystery should appear to have good cause,
and be free from all suspicion of abuse. If
such societies guard their secrets by strong
penalties; if they have numbers and antiquity
on their side; if their visible out posts are
but links of a chain stretching from nation
to nation; if the sense of affiliated attach-
ment and union among them is perceived to
be exceedingly energetic and zealous; if
their whole scheme of discipline, improved
throughout ages, has become in a high de-
gree imposing, even terrifying, their opera-
tions will naturally have the more scope,
and should be watched with the more care.
Free Masonry is such a society. Great
and good men have belonged to it, I know;
and do belong to it, at this moment; yet, re-
cent disclosures in the United States, have,
I think, shown the dangers of which the
society may become the parent, through
the agency of bad men. Of all governments
existing ours is the one, which would be
most justified in watching, with constant
and scrupulous care, the conduct of societies
profoundly secret. Most, or all, other
governments, admit the principle of secrecy,
and themselves practice it, at least to some

extent. Ours, never. All its operations
are, sooner or later, laid before the grand,
original, constituent body—the people; the
only fountain, with us, of all influence and
sovereignty and power. These are obvious
principles of our system. Free Masonry
puts forth an exception to them. It is hence,
the right and duty of the people, to exercise
strict censorship over a body, which moves
in an element so contrary to their own.—
They are the higher power, and entitled to
the undisputed control. It is as much a
general truth in morals as in government,
that it is vice, not virtue, which needs a veil.

In saying that recent disclosures have
shown the dangers of masonry in the United
States, let us see if I am not right. I
desire to be guided by facts, and to look at
them rigorously. Your inquiries are broad,
and should be met broadly. But facts shall
be my basis, and I wish to deal with them
practically, as I have really beheld them.
You apply to me as citizens, taking an ac-
tual part in the affairs around you. I am
to answer you in that capacity, and as a
member of the same community.

The public all know, that certain trials
have been held from time to time in the
state of New York, for the discovery of the
authors of the abduction and murder of
William Morgan. Against this man's lib-
erty and life, an extensive and formidable
conspiracy had been laid, which ended in
the destruction of both. He was a native
of Virginia, and had removed into New
York. It was there, it seems, that he com-
mitted a certain offence, not against the
laws of his country, but the Code of Masonry;
namely, that of revealing its secrets; and
this is the offence for which he was made
to suffer death. The conspirators neither
laid against him, nor pretended any other
The case is therefore purely masonic in its
origin and termination. There is nothing
extraneous to embarrass the judgment, or
lead away the thoughts.

When I remark, that the public all know
of the trials, I mean that they have heard
of them, generally; for I do not believe, that
one person in fifty knows any thing more
about them. I have followed up the account
of them, as far as I have had the means;
and especially those that have taken place
at Lockport, within the last few months.
I have done so in no prejudiced spirit, but
with an earnest desire to understand the
whole case rightly. They appear to me,
to unfold one of the most extraordinary in-
cidents that has ever transpired. All the
circumstances considered, I know not where
we shall seek for its counterpart. It is seen
from these trials, that the laws of the land
cannot be executed upon the authors of an
audacious and bloody conspiracy, although
its entire theatre was in one of the most
populous parts of the union, although at-
tempts have been made to enforce them in
all practicable ways for a period now ex-
ceeding four years, although the govern-
ment of the state of New York, has aided,
by its immediate countenance and direction,
the public prosecutions, besides having is-
sued commissions of special investigation;
and, what is more astonishing than all, al-
though the conspirators, with their aiders
and abettors, are, in all probability, known
to more than one hundred persons belonging
to the masonic body, if not to a larger num-
ber. That they are certainly known to a
great many masons, if to fewer than one
hundred, is plain, from lights that must
bring conviction home to every dispassionate
and sound mind.

Such is the case as it meets us on the
threshold. It is startling. Under a govern-
ment of laws, and in a season of tranquility,
it must be pronounced an anomaly.—
It seems a scandal upon the trial by jury,
upon the public examination of witnesses,
upon our forms of presentment and indict-
ment, upon the power of commitment for not
answering legal questions, upon all the
modes heretofore the boast of our judicature,
for getting at the truth; all of which have
been, so earnestly, solemnly yet fruitlessly
resorted to. Amidst the din of arms we are
told, indeed, that the laws become silent;
but that they should so totally lose their au-
thority, at a period of profound peace and
general good order, as they have done on
this occasion, must arise, from some extra-
ordinary and portentous cause. The victo-
ry of crime is the opprobrium of the law,
and should call forth a spirit of determined
inquiry into the cause.

It has been said that the human bosom
is not strong enough to hold the secret of a
foul murder. So heavily does it press, that
the stoutest heart gives way, seeking relief
in the gush of its sin. Hitherto, also, in
proportion as the knowledge of the fact of
murder has been shared by large numbers
of people, has been the case, the prompti-
tude, we may add, the certainty of detec-
tion. But in Morgan's case, we behold the
frightful reverse. It stands, in this respect,
alone, in the records of criminal jurispru-
dence. The law-books of ancient and mod-
ern times, might safely be invoked for a
precedent. The difficulty of keeping the
secret of a murder, operated as some safe-
guard over innocent life. It served in some
degree to deter the murderer himself, by
making him shrink from the fear of his own
thoughts afterwards, and to obstruct his fall
plans, from the mere fear keeping away ac-

complices. As by stripes, the flesh is made
to quiver, so the whips and stings of re-
morse lacerate the heart. They are inter-
nal executors, from whose torture the
guilty cannot escape. But here, we behold
this safeguard of life put to scorn; one seated
in the very conscience of man, and which
nothing but the most baleful potions, admin-
istered as if by infernals, could ever extir-
pate. Every sober minded citizen, will be
anxious to arrive at the solution of this phe-
nomenon. If a train of evidence altogether
irresistible in its direct or circumstantial
application, force upon his mind the belief,
that its entire and complicated horror, is
clearly traceable to the confederated and
unholy contrivances of bad men who are
masons, all his right feelings as a citizen
must be shocked. He must stand confound-
ed, at seeing human life and liberty so
sporting with, by a power, the more tremen-
dous in its victory over the laws, as it rides
in darkness. Good men who are masons,
will turn from such conduct with abhor-
rence. Candid men of the society, on hear-
ing the relation of it, may be disposed to
ask themselves, whether all the benefits of
masonry, alleged or real, can be a counter-
poise for the perils which may thus spring
from it, through deluded or depraved zeal-
ots, who gain admittance to its sanctuary;
and who effectually silence compunction un-
der inquiry, by flying to the misunderstood
or perverted ties and obligations of the craft.
If a power shrouded from the day, has been
found of efficacy sufficient, to interpose a
fatal obstruction to the great course of public
justice where guilt has been so aggravated,
are we to suppose that the mischief
ends here? That it is a single, an insula-
ted, instance? It is impossible. He is
weak and credulous who believes it. In
the vast and active character and business
of masonry, in its close and diversified con-
nections with society at large, whose paths
it besets every where, whose movements
from behind its own screen it can watch and
follow up at pleasure, it must happen, that
the streams of justice will often be tainted,
on occasions less conspicuous, by the same
power. A danger then exists, under the
highest moral and even judicial demonstra-
tion, which ought to rivet deep attention,
and awaken general alarm. Not only has
the government of the state of New York
lent its efforts in aid of the ordinary process
of law, for detecting the culprits in this
audacious conspiracy. The government of
Upper Canada has stepped forward in co-
operation; for it is a characteristic of the
conspiracy, that there were strong suspi-
cions of its embracing depraved members
of the fraternity in that foreign jurisdiction;
so extensive were believed, and on rational
grounds, to have been the hideous workings
of its malignant sympathies. But all has
been in vain. Executive messages, execu-
tive acts and proclamations, with the offer
of executive rewards, like indictments and
jury trials under special courts and judges,
(for these too were added,) have all fallen to
the ground. THE LAW is still paralyzed
by a hidden agent, that continues to prove
stronger than the combined force of its ma-
chinery and its ministers: the Lodge of this
agent, has become its sepulchre. There it
lies, a spectacle for freemen to look at.

In the whole compass of affairs to which
government is subservient, there is nothing
of such transcendent importance, as the faith-
ful and effective administration of justice be-
tween man and man, and by the body politic
against public delinquents. It is of daily,
unceasing, emergence. It blends itself with
all the wants, duties and necessities; with all
the hopes and all the dangers, that belong
to the political and social condition of the world.
It comes perpetually home to the immedi-
ate business and bosom of mankind, the re-
mark so often repeated from Bacon, but which
on this subject has its application in exact
truth. "Hume describes it, as the sole end
and aim of all government; and, certainly, if
such an administration of justice be wanting
it is not going too far to assert, that the func-
tions of government have stopped in a point
that is vital. If we have laws without the
power to give them effect, we are in the con-
dition of a people having none; which brings
society to a pause. The levy of ship money
was among the causes that produced the
decapitation of Charles I. and a change in
the English Dynasty. The tax of three
pence a pound on tea, helped to bring on our
own revolution. How small such acts in
themselves; yet, in union with a quick and
well understood spirit of liberty, how vast
their consequences throughout nations, and
the posterity of nations. I fear not to say
that neither of them, were calculated to
press so destructively upon the great fabric
of society, as the fact before us, of a secret
combination in the heart of the republic, be-
ing able to keep the laws at bay in this case
of the murderers of Morgan; so long to tram-
ple upon, so long to triumph over them. The
apathy prevailing under the baffled efforts
to probe and fully to punish so great an
 enormity, is, to my mind, inexplicable, among
a people watchful of their rights, and who
would ever be ready, it might have been
supposed, to embody the whole power of
society, wherever any one of its members,
however humble, was seen to be ruthlessly
struck down. Interposition should have
been, the more immediate and decided, as

the blow was so bold and terrible; as it was
given amidst concomitants so unusual, and
indicative of so supreme, so insolent, a con-
tempt for the laws. If ever an event arose
in the annals of any people, that should have
made the whole body of the public, identical
with the authority of the magistrate, by a
burst of indignation and a concert of efforts,
it was this. No other feeling ever yet kept
permanently alive the spirit of public liberty
or upheld the supremacy and grandeur of
the laws. They both die as certainly under
torpor, as if crushed by open despotism. It
is one of the ways, in which free States be-
gin to lose their liberties. It is a deadly op-
iate, diffusing itself through the political sys-
tem, against the instillations of which, the
patriot heart should be roused by every con-
sideration that can animate it to its highest
duties. When the magistrates are seen
with the ensigns of authority powerless in
their hands, an appeal is made to the inex-
tinguishable allegiance and generous devo-
tion which should bind every citizen to the
common weal. The love of public freedom
must be shown in the inviolable maintenance
of individual rights. We are degenerate
Republicans, we are no Republicans, other-
wise. Morgan's case is no common one. It
is of great and inspiring magnitude. Looked
at by itself, it may be called detached or lit-
tle, by those who little know how to think,
or are determined not to think. But prop-
erly weighed by its principles as well as facts,
it is momentous and appalling. It is no
case for County Courts. It is for the Nation.
That is its proper tribunal. Those who
will lift up their minds to an enlarged and
just conception of it, instead of keeping down
to a superficial and imperfect one, will see
it under a connexion indissoluble, with a train
of public principles with which are interw-
ven the interests, the safety and the durable
glory of the nation. Let the law, that sheet
anchor of society, come to miss its grapple
upon public felicity, banded in league togeth-
er by a principle that exalts their crimes
into achievements of merit, and every thing
is exposed to wreck and dissolution. The
daring and profligate nature of the conspir-
acy against the liberty and life of this citi-
zen; the inflexible and malignant vigor of
purpose with which, step by step, it was pur-
sued to consummation; the cool, the systematic
the inveterate depravity of all the actors in
it, have no parallel in the previous history
of our country, scarcely in that of any coun-
try. I challenge the Spanish Inquisition to
exceed it. I boldly invite a search into the
archives of that engine of a ferocious despo-
tism, which for four centuries in Europe
crushed its unhappy victims with a vengeance
so diabolical, under color of vindicating holy
church, to produce a case that goes beyond
it. Morgan's immolation was in spirit, al-
most in form, an *Aut de Fe*. Holy Masonry,
found its vindicators too. The similitude is
close and shocking. It should burn the
check of every American, who contemplates
it. The iron clamps that were probably
prepared for the feet and hands of Morgan,
aptly compare, with the chains in which the
victim of the inquisition was habited, when
trembling on the verge of eternity; whilst
the pictures of devouring dogs and serpents
that were hung round his neck, completely
prefigure the horrid gang of murdering con-
spirators who plunged their hands in the
blood of Morgan.

This case, thus far, is entirely out of the
track of all events in a free or well govern-
ed community. It benefits the grim despo-
tism of dark and superstitious ages and coun-
tries. But I am now to present an aspect
of it, still more extraordinary, still more al-
arming. How to present it, how to realize
it, I am at a loss. It seems a delusion. It
doubles all my amazement. I would throw
it off as a phantom if I could; but I cannot,
and I sink in my feelings as an American citi-
zen, under the mortified abashed conscious-
ness of its truth. Perhaps, I ought to pause
ere I advance further. That which I am ab-
out to touch, is on all sides encompassed
with hazards. A saving energy it has, in-
deed, for its friends, and knows how and when
to exert it; but it can make its blasts howl
about the ears of all, who, with unsanctified
steps, approach its precincts; blasts as from
"Boreas and Eurus, and Caurus, and Arges-
tes, loud." If I followed the counsels of
prudence, I should bend the knee in rever-
ence and retreat before it. But, I will pro-
ceed. At your call, I have taken what I
believe to be the cause of public order, and
of truth, in hand, and that cause must be my
shield. A saying that we had when I was
at school, comes into my mind. I scarcely
know how to quote it, and must hope for
your pardon if I do. It was not, *fiat justitia,
ruat cælum*; but, *TELL THE TRUTH, THOUGH
THE DEVIL BE BEFORE YOU*. Let it be
heard.

Hitherto, when a murder, especially one
attended by any startling or unusual circum-
stances, has been committed by unseen
hands, in a country where existed a free
press, that great instrument has never fail-
ed to raise, and to keep up, the alarm. It
has done more, far more, than writs and
depositions, and search warrants; more than
the whole roll of sheriffs and constables and
deputies, with the posse committatus in their
wake, to drag the perpetrators from their
cover. By its universal and spontaneous
activity, operating like a moral hue and

cry, it helps to point aright, public vigilance
and suspicion. It ministers usefully to pub-
lic indignation, making it strong and stir-
ring. It puts every thing in motion, itself
heading the pursuit. It sharpens scrutiny,
re-invigorates flagging exertion, smites like
inward fire upon the fears and pantings of
the skulking felon, and throws out signals of
all kinds a thousand times more valuable,
when its mighty trumpet is sounded in a
good cause, than any that masonry ever
planted upon its mysterious Lodges. Need
I instance the case of White, at Salem?—
Need I mention that of Thurtell, in England,
a few years ago, when the unceasing clang-
or of their press, reverberated even to our
shores. Paris never had such a police; so-
ciety never such a conservative principle.
It is omnipresent. Like flashes from the
heavens, it lights up the entire horizon.
Its sweep is from the "orient to the drop-
ping west;" the whole nation its stage; the
whole people its audience. What a power
in society, when directed to proper ends;
how resistless, how awful! But, in the case
we are considering, with the exception of
the comparatively few newspapers, anti-ma-
sonic in special name and object, the press,
as far as I have had opportunities of observ-
ing, has been shamefully silent. This best
guard of a free state, better than legions of
bayonets, this Lion at its portals, whose no-
ble nature, for the most part it is, to spring
forward, enraged and uncompromising, up-
on crime, has been lulled to sleep; has been
chained and muzzled; has been faithless, has
been criminal. I say criminal. Silence in
such a cause, is participation. It shows,
in effect, companionship with the murderers
had there been nothing more than silence.
It is keeping bands with blood; when a
voice, loud, simultaneous and incensed,
should have rung through the land.

May I not justly say that the whole trans-
action, in every feature in which the public
have a right to feel an interest, an anomaly.
Generally, it has been the course of the press
as through a salutary instinct of its nature,
to be too quick rather than too slow; to fly
at wrong in the remote intention and ten-
dency; to err by inflaming too much, rather
than too little. But here, in Morgan's case
with the stain of blood before its eyes, with
crime actually perpetrated, and crying for
punishment, it shuts its eyes. It becomes
suddenly and stupidly blind, or it turns traitor.
There is no alternative. The press on
this occasion, has fallen into stupefaction
or turpitude; for it cannot so utterly have
lost its senses as not to know, that the crime
would never have been committed and left
unavenged, but for the full and continued
existence, in our country, of the Masonic
obligation. No sophistry can gain say this
position. The evidence of it is flagrant; its
foundation is upon a rock. Had a case like
Morgan's arisen in 1776; had blood been so
atrociously shed, and gone so long unavenged
through any acts of the government then ru-
ling us, or the black doings and subtle hid-
ings of masonry within its borders, I believe
that it would have acted upon public opinion
like one electric shock, and that our fathers
would have sought no stronger cause for
prostrating in the dust, an open authority or
a secret influence, that could so iniquitously
prostrate justice. Am I wrong? do I affirm
too much? Am I giving way to feelings
in place reasoning? No! I speak under the
highest of all sanctions, before the Ameri-
can public. Turn to the Declaration of In-
dependence, that glorious charter of our lib-
erties, and see if it be not there recorded as
one of the causes for dismembering an Em-
pire, that the British King, by his odious
acts, had obstructed the administration of
justice in our country. No single case,
comparable in atrocity to this of Morgan's,
whether as regards the original conspiracy
and murder, or the total obstruction of the
laws since, ever disgraced the tyranny of that
era over us. If one like it had occurred, a
town meeting in Boston would have rallied
New England to her duty; the fire of Pat-
rick Henry's eloquence would have sum-
moned Virginia to her; the decree would
have gone forth; and Monarchy, or Mase-
nry, would have fallen. That the contest
with the latter would have been the most
difficult, I have no manner of doubt;—
but down it would have come. Had
the universal Press of the country done
its duty, in a spirit resolute and lofty as of
that day, instead of sluggishly remaining
quiet, or ignominiously conniving, this con-
spiracy against Morgan would long since
have been laid bare, and public justice been
vindicated. Its voice would have carried
consternation into the recesses of every
Lodge. Its thunders would have shaken
their very walls and rafters; their founda-
tions underneath would have rocked, their
turrets above would have trembled, and ma-
sonry in turn, like the suffering victim of the
conspiracy, would have put up its prayer for
mercy. Appalled, menaced for its exist-
ence, it would have been seen every where
in motion. Then, then, its activity, its dis-
cipline, its terrors would have been at work
to ferret out the deep guilt. Its conclaves
would have assembled for no other object,
until that object had been attained. The
Institution would have been placed under
accusation; it would have been arraigned
before the dread bar of the Nation; where,
under the majestic inquest of the press, it

cry, it helps to point aright, public vigilance
and suspicion. It ministers usefully to pub-
lic indignation, making it strong and stir-
ring. It puts every thing in motion, itself
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chained and muzzled; has been faithless, has
been criminal. I say criminal. Silence in
such a cause, is participation. It shows,
in effect, companionship with the murderers
had there been nothing more than silence.
It is keeping bands with blood; when a
voice, loud, simultaneous and incensed,
should have rung through the land.

May I not justly say that the whole trans-
action, in every feature in which the public
have a right to feel an interest, an anomaly.
Generally, it has been the course of the press
as through a salutary instinct of its nature,
to be too quick rather than too slow; to fly
at wrong in the remote intention and ten-
dency; to err by inflaming too much, rather
than too little. But here, in Morgan's case
with the stain of blood before its eyes, with
crime actually perpetrated, and crying for
punishment, it shuts its eyes. It becomes
suddenly and stupidly blind, or it turns traitor.
There is no alternative. The press on
this occasion, has fallen into stupefaction
or turpitude; for it cannot so utterly have
lost its senses as not to know, that the crime
would never have been committed and left
unavenged, but for the full and continued
existence, in our country, of the Masonic
obligation. No sophistry can gain say this
position. The evidence of it is flagrant; its
foundation is upon a rock. Had a case like
Morgan's arisen in 1776; had blood been so
atrociously shed, and gone so long unavenged
through any acts of the government then ru-
ling us, or the black doings and subtle hid-
ings of masonry within its borders, I believe
that it would have acted upon public opinion
like one electric shock, and that our fathers
would have sought no stronger cause for
prostrating in the dust, an open authority or
a secret influence, that could so iniquitously
prostrate justice. Am I wrong? do I affirm
too much? Am I giving way to feelings
in place reasoning? No! I speak under the
highest of all sanctions, before the Ameri-
can public. Turn to the Declaration of In-
dependence, that glorious charter of our lib-
erties, and see if it be not there recorded as
one of the causes for dismembering an Em-
pire, that the British King, by his odious
acts, had obstructed the administration of
justice in our country. No single case,
comparable in atrocity to this of Morgan's,
whether as regards the original conspiracy
and murder, or the total obstruction of the
laws since, ever disgraced the tyranny of that
era over us. If one like it had occurred, a
town meeting in Boston would have rallied
New England to her duty; the fire of Pat-
rick Henry's eloquence would have sum-
moned Virginia to her; the decree would
have gone forth; and Monarchy, or Mase-
nry, would have fallen. That the contest
with the latter would have been the most
difficult, I have no manner of doubt;—
but down it would have come. Had
the universal Press of the country done
its duty, in a spirit resolute and lofty as of
that day, instead of sluggishly remaining
quiet, or ignominiously conniving, this con-
spiracy against Morgan would long since
have been laid bare, and public justice been
vindicated. Its voice would have carried
consternation into the recesses of every
Lodge. Its thunders would have shaken
their very walls and rafters; their founda-
tions underneath would have rocked, their
turrets above would have trembled, and ma-
sonry in turn, like the suffering victim of the
conspiracy, would have put up its prayer for
mercy. Appalled, menaced for its exist-
ence, it would have been seen every where
in motion. Then, then, its activity, its dis-
cipline, its terrors would have been at work
to ferret out the deep guilt. Its conclaves
would have assembled for no other object,
until that object had been attained. The
Institution would have been placed under
accusation; it would have been arraigned
before the dread bar of the Nation; where,
under the majestic inquest of the press, it