



SECEDING MASONS' DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE. ADOPTED AT LE ROY, JULY 4, 1828.

When men attempt to dissolve a system which has influenced and governed a part of community, and by its pretensions to antiquity, usefulness, and virtue, would demand the respect of all, it is proper to submit to the consideration of a candid and impartial world, the causes which impel them to such a course. We, seceders from the Masonic institution, availing ourselves of our natural and unalienable rights, and the privileges guaranteed to us by our constitution freely to discuss the principles of our government and laws, and to expose whatever may endanger the one or impede the due administration of the other, do offer the following reasons endeavoring to abolish the order of Freemasonry, and destroy its influence in our government.

It blasphemously attempts a personification of the Great Jehovah. It prostitutes the Sacred Scriptures to unholy purposes, to subvert its own secular and trifling concerns. It weakens the sanctions of morality and religion, by the multiplication of profane oaths, and an immoral familiarity with religious forms and ceremonies. It discovers in its ceremonies an unholy commingling of divine truth with impious human inventions. It destroys a veneration for religion and religion's ordinances, by the profane use of religious forms. It substitutes the self-righteousness, and ceremonies of Masonry for the vital religion and ordinances of the Gospel.

DR. WATERHOUSE'S LETTER.

CAMBRIDGE, 18th May, 1832. To the Anti-Masonic Committee convened this day at Merchant's Hall, preparatory to the State Convention. GENTLEMEN.—When I received last month a letter signed N. ADAMS, and ARTEMAS WARD, notifying me that I was elected Delegate to your State Convention, I told the bearer of it that I should decline a seat in it, from a consciousness that my presence would do the cause no good, for that I never could rise up in a large assembly and speak with the unembarrassed freedom of conversation.

I venerate the Press as one of the strongest bulwarks of liberty, but if the conductors of them continue to exclude the free discussion of the conduct of the masons in the abduction and murder of Morgan, I dread the consequences to the American family. I consider our proud independence but an idle dream so long as we have a numerous body of citizens trained and taught to conceal truth, and protect crime; as clearly evinced in the fruitless attempts to bring dark villainy to conviction. While declining to make one among you, for reasons already suggested, I never will withhold my sentiments upon a subject of vital importance to the liberty and happiness of our country, and remain with respect and good wishes, your steady friend, BENJAMIN WATERHOUSE.

means of an ARISTOCRACY composed of an enlightened and educated few." Such is the true purpose of their institution. Disguise it as they may—power is the object, and conspiracy the means; and there is no appellation by which the cable-towed combination has yet been designated, that suits it so well, and is in all respects so perfectly appropriate, as that of the "ARISTOCRATIC MASONIC PARTY."—Lancaster Examiner. ANTI-MASONIC MEETING At Hagerstown, Maryland. At a large and respectable meeting of the Antimasons of Washington county, Maryland, held at the Court House, in Hagerstown, on Saturday the 4th of June last, JOHN MCKEE, Esq. was chosen President, MICHAEL TOBY, Esq. Vice-President, and FREDERICK BEYERS and Ezra Slifer, Secretaries.

From the Baltimore Gazette. COMMENCEMENT AT MOUNT ST. MARY'S COLLEGE. At no period since the establishment of the Institution at Mount St. Mary's, have the public had more reason, than at present, to confide in the abilities, devotedness and resources of its Professors. The writer of this notice having assisted at many previous "exhibitions," when the Institution was not invested by the Legislature with the power of conferring degrees in the Arts and Sciences, could not suppress the admiration which he felt, in common with many perhaps equally interested visitors, at the new impulse which this justly accorded privilege has lately given to the exertions of its young and ardent Faculty. It is well known that the Professors seek no monument but the improvement of their students; and that their only ambition is to win by honorable and successful competition with the best Colleges of our country, a distinguished name for their own, by affording to youth the means of literary acquirement and inspiring it with solid and lasting principles of morality and virtue. The pledge which these professors give, has been efficiently redeemed. A new and splendid apparatus of Natural Philosophy, lately procured from Paris, and the luminous, precise and scientific lectures of the gentleman who presides at this department of popular science have greatly extended the advantages enjoyed by the College in former years. The faculty and address with which the interesting candidate for the first honor of the College went through the various experiments in Hydrostatics, Caloric, Pneumatics, and especially in Chemistry, were a source of much interest to a very select and delighted audience—and the elegant oration afterwards delivered by the same young gentleman "on the revival of Letters," gave lucid proof that it was not time but qualification, not success in one branch of learning only, nor the "Studium sine divite vena," that entitled him to the distinction conferred, after an admiring address in Latin by the Principal. Few among his hearers could refrain from tears when his affecting valedictory to his Teachers and friends was spoken, and every School Boy's heart responded to the prayer, the "semper vivas, floreas," with which he was presented with his Diploma.