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RECORDS

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GOVERNOR AND COUNCIL

OF THE

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VIII. APPENDIX D.—VISIT OF LAFAYETTE TO VERMONT in 1825	488-502
Note on Lafayette, 488. Letter of Gov. Van Ness to Lafayette, and reply of the latter, 489. Addresses at Windsor, June 28, 1825, 490-492—Address of Gov. Van Ness, 490, and Lafayette's reply, 491. Addresses at Woodstock, June 28, 1825, 492-3—Address of Hon. Titus Hutchinson, 492, and abstract of Lafayette's reply, 493. Address of Hon. Jacob Collamer at Royalton, June 28, 1825, 493. Address of Rev. Wilbur Fisk at East Randolph, June 28, 1825, referred to, 493. Addresses at Montpelier, June 28 and 29, 1825—Address of Hon. Elijah Paine, and Lafay- ette's reply, 494—Address of Mrs. Erastus Watrous, and Lafayette's reply, 495. Addresses at Burlington, June 29, 1825, 496-499—Address of Hon. William A. Gris- wold, 496, and Lafayette's reply, 497—Address of David Russell, Esq., and Lafayette's reply, 498—Address of Rev. Willard Preston, on the laying of the corner stone of the south college of the University of Vermont by Gen. La- fayette, and abstract of the General's reply, 499. Persons taking part in the ovation as officers, escort, &c. 500. Toasts by General Lafayette, 501. Lafayette's last act in America, the release of Gen. WILLIAM BARTON from im- prisonment, 501. Gen. Barton's return to his family, 502.	
IX. ADDITIONS AND CORRECTIONS.....	503-4
X. ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.....	504
XI. GENERAL INDEX.....	505-527

APPENDIX D.

VISIT OF GEN. LAFAYETTE TO VERMONT—1825.

Marquis MARIE JEAN PAUL ROCHE YVES GILBERT MOTIER LA FAYETTE was born at Chavagnac, Auvergne, France, Sept. 9, 1757. In his seventeenth year he married a grand-daughter of the Duke de Noailles; and in his nineteenth, though heir to an immense estate, he left his young wife without apprizing her of his purpose, and with Baron de Kalb and ten other officers sailed to join the American patriot army, arriving in April 1776, when he immediately tendered his services to the Continental Congress on the condition that he should receive no compensation. Congress commissioned him Major-General July 31, 1777, and he became a member of Gen. Washington's family. His military services were highly honorable to him, but even more important was the pecuniary aid which he gave from his own property, and assisted in winning from France, for which purpose he made two voyages to that country during the revolutionary war. A fact, interesting to Vermonters, is, that in 1778 an invasion of Canada was resolved upon, by an army under the command of Lafayette, and Vermont was requested to furnish three hundred men exclusive of officers—a request that was promptly responded to by the Governor and Council; but the scheme was abandoned "for the want of means," it has been said.¹ In August, 1784, Lafayette reached the United States for the third time, to visit Gen. Washington; Dec. 3 of that year he took an affectionate leave of the Continental Congress, and on the 20th sailed for France, and was honored with a national salute of thirteen guns. Most of the states passed acts naturalizing him and his male descendants. His career in Europe covered the extremes of high offices faithfully filled, and years of imprisonment; but through it all, he was always for liberty, law and order. A toast, volunteered by him at Boston, June 17th, 1825, is a key to his whole life. It was as follows:

BUNKER HILL, and the holy resistance to oppression which has already enfranchised the American Hemisphere—the next half Century Jubilee's toast shall be, to the whole of Enfranchised Europe.

¹ See Vol. I, pp. 31, 157, 217, 219–221, 223, 225, 258.

He was the acknowledged leader in the French revolution of July 1830, and doubtless could have placed himself at the head of the nation ; but resisting that great temptation, and indeed sacrificing his own republican preferences for the sake of peace and order, he secured the throne for Louis Philippe, and himself served as a representative of the people. He died in Paris, May 19, 1834, in his seventy-seventh year. His son **GEORGE WASHINGTON LA FAYETTE**, who accompanied his father in the American tour of 1824-5, died at La Grange, the paternal estate, Dec. 1, 1849.

Having been invited by Congress to visit the United States, Lafayette and his son landed at New York city on the 15th of August 1824, and from that time until his departure in September 1825, there was a continued ovation, extending to the guests of the nation the highest honors in every state in the Union, and Congress crowned it by a gift of \$200,000, and also a township of land which was said to be of very much greater value.

In response to a recommendation of Gov. Van Ness, the Legislature of Vermont in 1824 requested the Governor to invite Lafayette to extend his tour to Vermont, and directed the necessary military and other preparations.¹ The following correspondence ensued:

Gov. Van Ness to Gen. Lafayette.

VERMONT EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT, }
Burlington, Dec. 27, 1824. }

GEN. LAFAYETTE,

Sir,—It has become my pleasing duty, at the request of the Legislature, and in behalf of the people of Vermont, to invite you to visit this state previous to your return to France. It can scarcely be necessary, *Sir*, to assure you, that we should feel both gratified and honoured by such an event; and it is hoped, that it will be convenient and agreeable to you, to comply with our wishes. I have the honour to be, with the highest respect and consideration, your obedient servant,

C. P. VAN NESS.

**Gen. Lafayette to Gov. Van Ness.*

WASHINGTON, January 15, 1825.

Sir,—I am most highly honoured and gratefully happy in the kind invitation which the Legislature of Vermont, in behalf of the people of the state, have deigned to confer on me, and which your Excellency is pleased to express in terms entitled to my cordial acknowledgments. It has ever been my intention not to leave this side of the Atlantic before I have visited the state of Vermont, in the feelings of which, the first times of our revolution, I have heartily sympathized,² while its services to the common cause were by none better felt than by me, who may boast to have been early distinguished by the kindness of the citizens of

¹ See *ante*, pp. 154, 447.

² Referring to the controversy of Vermont with adjoining states. See Lafayette's reply to Gov. Van Ness at Windsor, to Judge Paine at Montpelier, and Hon. Wm. A. Griswold at Burlington.

Vermont. The long journey I now contemplate to the southern and western states, leaves it uncertain for me whether my visit to your part of the Union will be before or after a sacred appointment to be on the height of Bunker Hill by the anniversary day of June 17th. But I shall certainly in the course of the summer present in person to the citizens of your state, and to their worthy Chief Magistrate, a tribute of gratitude, which I beg your Excellency now to offer to the Legislature whose flattering message is deeply impressed on my heart. I have the honor to be, with the highest respect, your Excellency's obedient servant,

LAFAYETTE.

*His Ex. Gov. Van Ness, Vt.*¹

ADDRESSES AT WINDSOR, JUNE 28, 1825.

Gen. Lafayette and party entered Vermont in the morning of the 28th—the party consisting of the General, his son, George Washington Lafayette, and his Secretary, M. Le Vasseur; the representatives of Gov. Van Ness, to wit, Daniel Kellogg, Secretary of the Governor and Council, and the Governor's Aids, Cols. I. N. Cushman and Austin; Maj. Gen. Lyman Mower and staff; a delegation from the Windsor committee of arrangements, and a committee of the Legislature of New Hampshire. After crossing Cornish bridge, the General was received by the committee of arrangements, when “he was welcomed in behalf of the citizens of Windsor, by H. [Hon. Horace] Everett, Esq. in a short address, to which the General made an appropriate reply.”² Shortly after, the General was introduced to Gov. Van Ness by Mr. Everett, when the following addresses were delivered:

Gov. Van Ness to Lafayette.

General Lafayette—Permit me to tender you the congratulations and the hospitalities of the people of this state, on your arrival within its borders. In the performance of this welcome duty, Sir, the first and most pleasing points which present themselves, are the character and occurrences which have distinguished and adorned your life: your publick and your private virtues—your exalted and inflexible patriotism—your ardent and uniform devotion to the great cause of liberty—and above all, as it regards us, your noble zeal, your disinterested sacrifices, and your eminent services, in that memorable struggle, which resulted in the establishment of the independence of these United States. But to dwell minutely on these, could only be a repetition of what has been a thousand times said and published; and the recital of which, in new and glowing terms,³ has but recently greeted your ear, and, I trust, cheered your heart, at every step, throughout this happy and rejoicing country—a

¹ From the *North Star* of March 29, 1825, copied from the *Burlington Sentinel*; and fortunately so, since the only file of the *Sentinel* of 1825, known to the editor of this volume, does not contain the number in which the foregoing letters were printed.

² These addresses were never printed.

³ By Daniel Webster, on the anniversary of the battle of Bunker Hill.

country, which at the same time acknowledges you as a father, and proudly claims you as a son.

But though our tongues have been forestalled, our hearts are not the less full. They have, indeed, been constantly and tenderly alive to all your movements, and whatever concerned you, while traversing the Union; but it has been reserved to an hour in which our soil is hallowed by your tread, for them to pour out, without measure, the libations of their gratitude, and their affection. That these are now rushing forth from their overflowing fountains, in torrents behind whose rapidity any language of mine cannot but lag, is sufficiently seen in the intense and adoring gaze of the crowd by which you are surrounded.

General, I have the honour to represent, on this interesting occasion, a people plain and hardy, but intelligent and virtuous; industrious cultivators of the earth, but enjoying, on their lofty hills, and in their lowly vallies, comfort and independence. Sincerely attached to the constitution and government of their country, they will never shrink from any sacrifices necessary to support and defend them. And if it may become me, I would add, that their bravery and patriotism have been severely tested, in the darkest hours of peril and dismay, and found firm and immovable, as the mountains which majestically stretch themselves through the midst of them.

It is, too, a source of no small gratification to me, that they can number among them, many of the worthy veterans who served in the same cause, in which you so gloriously distinguished yourself. But if I am so inadequate to express the feelings of others, how far beyond me is it to describe the emotions which must agitate the bosoms of those venerable fathers, on saluting, at this lapse of time, one of their old and beloved Generals, and whom in all probability their eyes are to behold for the last time, on this side of the grave. With their bodies enfeebled by the ravages of many a year, and their locks bleached by the sun of many a summer, their hearts, yet warm as the warmest, and tender as the tenderest, will be lighted up and animated with a blaze, kindled by a spark from the altar of '76, but whose blissful warmth none but they and you can be permitted fully to realize.

General, in the name and behalf of the state, I once more cordially greet you. And on my own part, be assured, my dear sir, that every faculty of my soul responds to the sentiments I have delivered for my constituents.

Reply of Lafayette.

The testimonies of esteem and affection bestowed upon me by the people of Vermont and their representative and chief magistrate, are the more gratifying as I had eagerly anticipated the pleasure, in my happy visit through the United States, once more to behold those celebrated mountains, the very thought of which recalls to my mind glorious, patriotic, and endearing associations.¹ From this state, Sir, by a gallant band of patriots, and their worthy leader and prototype, was, for the first time, proclaimed on the ramparts of a British fortress, the name of the Continental Congress. Nor ever did the vicinity of the enemy on the northern frontier, and family difficulties on every other side, one instant

¹ This indicates that Lafayette had been in Vermont before, or at least in sight of its mountains—probably in 1778, when he was to command an expedition to Canada, in which the Green Mountain Boys were to be employed.

cool the ardour of the sons of Vermont to defend the cause of American independence and freedom. Now I have the happiness to see the hardy and the virtuous inhabitants of this state peaceably cultivating their lofty hills and their handsome valleys, with the intelligence and spirit which characterise them; I see them, in common with their sister states, enjoying the blessings of the new American social order, so far superior even to the least exceptionable institutions of Europe. What hitherto was, at best, religious toleration, has been here exchanged for religious liberty and equality—privilege for right—royal charter mock representatives, inefficient compromises between nations and a few loyal and aristocratical families, for the sovereignty of the people, for truly representative and self-government.

Sir, I most cordially thank you, for the friendly and flattering manner in which you are pleased to express the feelings of the people of this state; a most gratifying specimen of this goodness I now have the gratification to witness. I thank you for your sympathy for the delight I feel to see the happy citizens of Vermont enjoying all the blessings of republican liberty, and among them to recognize many of my beloved companions in arms. Be pleased to accept in your own name, and in behalf of the people and representatives of Vermont, the tribute of my respectful devotion and gratitude.

ADDRESSES AT WOODSTOCK, June 28, 1825.

Hon. Titus Hutchinson to Lafayette.

General Lafayette.—We have assembled in expectation of your arrival and now bid you the most cordial welcome to this town and village. We have formed no pretensions to rival the brilliant specimens of taste and wealth you have witnessed in many populous towns; but we proffer you the homage of our hearts, grateful that you have lived; that you have possessed a spirit of enterprise; that you have labored in the cause of liberty, and that in its own native clime; that you still live to see and enjoy the fruits of your labors; that you live to perform your present tour, and be here this day; that we, who before have only heard and read of Lafayette, do now behold him in the midst of us. As you have passed through other states, you have found cities and towns; by you once defended from their enemies, now become populous and wealthy: here are presented to your view a village and a temple reared upon an area which was then clothed with the verdure of the forest: and you every where in the United States discover science and the arts, agriculture, commerce and manufactures making rapid strides to eminence under the fostering care and patronage of the free government which we have received as the result of that glorious revolution in which you performed such a conspicuous part.

Although one generation and almost a second have passed away, a few patriots of the revolution still survive. Some of these present have marched in defence of their country in obedience to your commands. These all yet live to tell us and their posterity what our liberties cost and how they were attained: nay more, they are the living heralds of your disinterested and efficacious exertions to redeem us from colonial bondage and guarantee to us those free institutions which are at once the glory and happiness of our country, and are extending their benign influence through the world.

We should rejoice in your longer continuance here, if other and higher claims would permit; but we know you must speedily progress on your tour, and we express the sincere desire of our hearts that your path

may be strewed with flowers, fragrant flowers, till you arrive at the blissful shores of immortality.

*Reply of Lafayette—Abstract.*¹

The General immediately made a pertinent and interesting reply to the address. He seemed to retain the whole in his memory, and glanced at the several points nearly in the order exhibited. He expressed, among other things, the satisfaction he derived from so cordial a welcome here, as announced in the address. He also attributed the great prosperity which he observed here and in all his travels in America, to that liberty and free government which we enjoy. In allusion to the revolutionary characters, he said he did not think it strange that so many yet survived, considering the interest this State took in the scenes of the revolution, and how many were occupied with those scenes, though the state was then young and thinly settled. He lamented that he could not tarry longer with us; but said it was impossible, as his appointments urged. Hoped we should be pleased to excuse his haste; and wished us prosperity and happiness.

ADDRESS AT ROYALTON, June 28, 1825.

Hon. Jacob Collamer to Lafayette.

General Lafayette.—In behalf of the citizens of Royalton and its vicinity, I am requested to express their extreme joy at beholding you among us. We bid you welcome to the green hills and happy villages of Vermont.

We know no way of rendering this welcome more acceptable to our nation's guest than by assuring you that every little town and village, however remote and obscure in the mountains which environ it, is happy in the care and protection of our government.

In the full enjoyment, in common with our splendid cities, of all those privileges and blessings which flow from the liberality of our republican institutions, and surrounded with the light and intelligence which attend those institutions, we cannot be insensible whence these blessings flow, or the debt of gratitude which they imply. These are the happy results of your early labors and those of your compatriots. Hence the thrill of pleasure which, at your condescending visit, vibrates with electric rapidity and sympathetic orison to the most obscure and remote recesses and extremities of our nation.

Humbly, then, Sir, but with sincere hearts would we wish to add, to the gratulations of our cities, our rustic salutations of welcome, and thus to express a nation's gratitude to its early benefactor.

We bless the day on which we are permitted to behold you, for your name and services we have long been accustomed to associate and identify with those of the Father of our country.

"To this the General made an appropriate reply."—*Woodstock Observer* of July 5, 1825.

EAST RANDOLPH—June 28, 1825.

It is understood that Lafayette was addressed at East Randolph by the Rev. WILBUR FISK, but no account of the proceedings can be found.

¹ From the *Woodstock Observer* of July 5, 1825.

Possibly the address may be found in the volume of the *Life and Writings* of the Rev. Dr. Fisk, by Rev. Dr. Holdich, published in New York city in 1842.

ADDRESSES AT MONTPELIER, June 28 and 29, 1825.

Hon. Elijah Paine, Judge of the U. S. Courts for the District of Vermont, to Lafayette.

Gen. Lafayette,—The citizens of Montpelier and the vicinity have assembled to bid you welcome to this recently erected village, and it gives me great pleasure that I am made their organ on this joyful occasion.

We can say but little that you have not heard from millions of others. We acknowledge with deep gratitude your toils and your sacrifices in the time of our greatest need. Your cotemporaries admired the gallantry of your earlier days in the cause of freedom and of a people contending for the right of self government—and all the friends of liberty have revered your character in more advanced life for your uniform adherence to the principles of rational liberty.

We congratulate you on having nearly completed the tour of the United States in health, and hope you have received great pleasure and satisfaction in witnessing the fruits of your early toils and sacrifices, in the improvement and prosperity of a widely extended Republic. We believe you have seen a great Nation enjoying the blessings of liberty without licentiousness.

When you left this country after the war of the revolution, the State of Vermont had but just begun to have a name. At that time almost the whole State was a wilderness—yet we are proud of some of the feats performed in that war by the arms of Vermont. We count upon ourselves as principals in the capture of a whole British army under Burgoyne, the consequences of which are too well known to you to need a rehearsal.

The State of Vermont cannot show to you large towns and cities ; but it can show to you what is perhaps of as much consequence : it can show to you a sober, substantial, intelligent and well informed yeomanry.

We most fervently join in the prayer of a whole Nation, that you may return in health and safety across the ocean to the bosom of your family, and that the blessing of God may attend you through the remainder of your life.

Reply of Lafayette.

The welcome I receive from the citizens of Montpelier, the great number of friends who at this late hour¹ have been pleased to wait my arrival, and the particular gratification to hear their affectionate feelings expressed by you, my dear sir, fill my heart with the most lively sentiments of pleasure and gratitude.

Well may I, Sir, acknowledge the patriotic titles of this State, not only as having been the theatre of a most important event, the victory of Bennington, and having largely contributed to the happy turns in the north — but also, as having by her devotion to the general cause, and by the gallantry of her hardy sons, constantly taken a great proportionate share in our revolutionary struggle ; nor shall I omit this opportunity to express my early interest in the local feelings and wishes of the State of Vermont.

Sir, I have now accomplished one of the greatest objects in my life ; I have visited the twenty-four states of the Union ; I have been the

¹About ten o'clock in the evening.

happy witness of the immense, rapid, and ever increasing results of Independence, Republican institutions, and self government ; and you, Sir, and all of you whom I have the pleasure to address, I most cordially congratulate on the public and domestic happiness which is enjoyed by the citizens of Vermont, and I beg you to accept my affectionate and respectful thanks.

On the morning of the 29th, the ladies of Montpelier assembled in the Congregational Church, now superseded by Bethany Church, when the following addresses were delivered :

Mrs. Watrous, wife of Erastus Watrous Esq., to Lafayette.

General Lafayette.—Permit me, Sir, in behalf of the ladies present, to express to you how highly we are gratified with this visit to our metropolis. To us, born free as the mountain air we breathe, the man whose bosom warmed with the sacred glow of patriotism when beholding an infant nation struggling for liberty, who sacrificed the sweet endearments of domestic society, the splendour of rank, and staked for time and life, to secure to us and ours the blessings we now enjoy ; *to us*, he is welcome. We greet you with a cordial welcome, to our country, our homes, and our hearts.

Great must be your satisfaction, in your progress through the states, to behold in many places the wilderness to have "budded and blossomed as the rose," the arts of civilized life to have advanced in the scale of perfection to a competition with Europe, while far and wide are diffused the blessings of peace and plenty, and on every side the children of those who were companions in arms, vying with each other in expressions of gratitude to our country's benefactor.

Accept, dear General, our united aspirations for your health and long life. With you, may the evening of life be peculiarly pleasant—like the setting sun after a glorious day, sinking gradually, and throwing back increasing beauty and splendour with every expiring beam. May kind hands and affectionate hearts soothe and administer to every want, and smooth the pillow of declining age; and when at length the "vital spark" shall quit its earthly tenement, may the angel of Death open to you the portals of eternal bliss in Heaven.

With us, and with every freeborn child of America, the name, the bravery, the virtues, the disinterested generosity of Lafayette will ever be perpetuated with our beloved Washington.

Reply of Lafayette.

The General replied in substance as follows:¹

Madam.—I regret very much that the late hour of my arrival last evening prevented my having a more particular interview with the ladies. I am happy to see them this morning. I beg you to express to them my thanks for the cordial reception they have given me in this metropolis, which I am very happy to visit.

I am very sensible of the respect and attention which have been shown me in every part of the country I have visited. I thank the people for the gratitude they have manifested. Mrs. Watrous, I am not able to express my feelings on this occasion. I beg you to accept, and assure the ladies, of my good wishes; I wish them happy.

¹ From the *Vermont Watchman* of July 5, 1825, copied in the *North Star* of July 12, and also in the *Northern Sentinel*.

To you, Madam, particularly, I express my thanks for the very kind and affectionate manner in which you have addressed me. The recollection of it will ever be pleasant to me. I have not time to say more.

ADDRESSES AT BURLINGTON, JUNE 29, 1825.

Hon. William A. Griswold to Lafayette.

General.—Amongst the numerous manifestations of heartfelt gratitude and joyous acclamations, which greeted you on your arrival, and followed you, during a prosperous and extensive tour through our beloved country, allow me, as the deputed organ of the citizens of Burlington, to tender you their hospitalities and bid you a cordial and affectionate welcome.

We come not to offer the incense of adulation, but to render homage justly due; not to recount the many distinguished acts of your life, so full of glory to yourself and of such lasting benefit to the cause of rational liberty throughout the world, nor merely to reiterate the sentiments, which have been so feelingly and eloquently expressed by all classes of our citizens in every section of the country, but to assure you that our hearts beat in unison with theirs, and that we rejoice in the opportunity now afforded, to evince our admiration of your character and veneration for your virtues.

The circumstances attending your visit to this land of liberty, present a spectacle unparalleled in the history of the world. While the sons of those, who were formerly your companions in arms, are testifying their joy and gratitude, their wives and daughters are not less grateful for the delightful privilege they enjoy, of telling their children of your illustrious deeds, and of instructing them to imitate your brilliant examples. It has also rekindled a spirit of increased devotion to the principles of free government, and one which, we trust, will not be extinguished until "history is dumb, and memory becomes extinct."

Few, very few of the revolutionary heroes, then the hardy sons of our Green Mountains, were eye witnesses to your valor and constancy displayed throughout our revolutionary contest; and fewer still have survived the lapse of half a century, to unite with us in rendering honor to an early patriot and our distinguished friend. Yet a small and highly favored remnant have been kindly preserved, and tottering with age and infirmity, are now embodied before you with hearts bounding with joy and exultation at your presence. And it is a proud consolation to them and us to know, that they still hold a transcendent place in your affections.

During the gloomy period of 1781, the citizens of this State were violently assailed by two powerful neighboring States, claiming jurisdiction over her territory, and while contributing liberally to the common cause, her bold and inflexible patriots were nobly struggling for self existence and state independence. The waters of yonder beautiful Lake were covered with an hostile fleet and powerful army, and all her strong holds in the undisturbed possession of the enemy. This was a time for coward hearts to despond. But the statesmen of that day were strangers to fear, and Washington, the sainted Washington, your illustrious compeer, was our mediator and our friend. An intrepid self created board of war, consisting of eight persons only, wielded the destinies of a scattered population of about thirty thousand souls. Although the ambiguity of their conduct for a short time created some distrust abroad, yet their stern integrity inspired confidence at home, while their masterly and resolute policy rendered the enemy inactive, retarded their opera-

tions, and protected an extensive and defenceless frontier from pillage and devastation. At this critical moment, when the destinies of this State, (then an almost outlawed territory,) were approaching a crisis; when despondency came creeping even upon the stoutest hearts, the cheering news of the surrender of Cornwallis was proclaimed. The independence of our country was sealed, and with it, the people of Vermont delivered from peculiar and trying embarrassments. Then the name of LAFAYETTE resounded through the air, hung with rapture upon every tongue, and still remains enshrined in every American heart.

Now, under the auspices of an enlightened and well regulated government, purchased and cemented by the best blood of our fathers, we are reaping the full rewards of all their toils and suffering. Our hearts then shall ascend with grateful supplication to the Most High, that He would graciously vouchsafe to perpetuate the privileges and blessings we enjoy to the latest posterity, and unitedly resolve to cherish with fond recollections the pleasing interview of this day, and on its annual return, renew our oaths of fidelity to our wise constitution, and devote a sacred hour to implore the blessings of heaven upon the benefactor of our country, and the benefactor of mankind.

Reply of Gen. Lafayette.

While the warm greetings of the citizens of Burlington, and the multitude of friends, who came to join them on this happy spot, excite the most grateful feelings of my heart, I particularly thank you, sir, for your kind remarks, on the enjoyment of my passage through every part of the great confederacy, and namely through the state of Vermont. Among the revolutionary soldiers, whom it is my delight to meet, I have the gratification, in the sons of the Green Mountains, to find many who have been my intimate companions, and while in the throngs of friends of both sexes, and of every age, who so kindly welcome me, I often recognize the features, I can ever recognize the feelings of my American contemporaries. There shall never be need, my dear sir, to rekindle in American hearts the sacred flame of republican patriotism; to keep it up forever, it suffices to see and feel the blessings of liberty, equality, and self-government; the more so, when those dignified and prosperous blessings are compared with the situation of another hemisphere; yet nothing can be more gratifying than the observation that my visit through the United States, so delightful to me, has been attended with some public utility, and I am happy to acknowledge it has afforded an opportunity once more to assert the devotion of the American people to the principles for which we have fought, for the institutions which they enjoy, at the same time it once more recalls to the attention of others the practical results of those principles, of those institutions.¹

I am happy to think, that while the successful termination of our Virginia campaign has helped to settle difficulties of a general concern,

¹ It cannot be doubted that the tour of Lafayette was of immense value to the nation, in rekindling the patriotic spirit in the old, and inspiring it in the young. Probably no eminent leader of the Union army of 1861-'65 will make a similar tour forty years hence, but it is to be confidently hoped that the patriotism evinced by the immense services and sufferings of that army, will perpetuate the sentiment of "Liberty and Union, now and forever, one and inseparable."

it has peculiarly contributed to satisfy the anxious feelings of this State, in which from an early period I have myself felt deeply interested.

To your kind references to very remote times, permit me, sir, to add a mention of the later period of the late war, in which the citizens of Vermont also took a spirited part. One of the theatres of the honourable achievements of that war, both on water and on land, we may almost greet from this place, on the opposite shore.

To you, sir, to the citizens of Burlington, to all the friends who now surround you, I offer my most affectionate, respectful acknowledgments.

A marked feature in the ovations to Lafayette in Vermont, at every place at which he tarried, though it was but for a brief time, was the presence of all the revolutionary soldiers who were able to attend and take, for the last time, the hand of their old associate in arms. At Burlington they assembled in Gould's long room, and the proceedings were unusually formal and interesting. Sergeant Day, of Lafayette's early revolutionary regiment, was present, bearing the sword presented to him by Lafayette, and the interview between them was very affecting. The following addresses were delivered:

David Russell Esq. to Lafayette.

General Lafayette, Sir, — A few of the surviving officers and soldiers of the American Revolution here present themselves to bid you a cordial reception, among those who have so long anxiously waited your coming; some of whom were with you on the tented field, and on the ramparts, that witnessed your undaunted bravery in defence of a country then almost in despair. But we had a WASHINGTON, "whose head was a Senate, and whose arm was a Host," to direct and lead us; who, with his Cabinet Council of brave officers, (foreign and American, most of whom now sleep with their fathers,) inspired their humble followers in arms with that courage, with that zeal in the cause of liberty, and that love of country, which could not fail of leading to the important result, Freedom and Independence.

We rejoice to meet you here, sir, although it be but for a moment, to pass in review, and then be separated forever. Here we reciprocate the feelings which can never be obliterated, in the breasts of those who have been associated in arms, in a just cause, although half a century has nearly elapsed since those associations were first formed.

You here behold, sir, a frontier, then a savage wilderness, now witnessing by its improvements the blessed effects, the glorious result of those patriotic exertions, in which you performed so distinguished a part.

We reluctantly bid you adieu, sir, and pray our Almighty Father that you may return in health and safety to your country and family; that the remainder of your days may be peaceful and happy; and that thereafter you may join your great Prototype in Heaven, and, with him and other departed Saints and Heroes, forever rejoice together in the Paradise of God.

Reply of Lafayette.

To the Revolutionary Soldiers: — I am delighted, my dear comrades, whenever I find myself among my revolutionary brothers in arms; for we were all brothers, fighting in the same cause of independence and freedom; we all enjoy together the happy results of our toils; yet it is to me a particular gratification to recognize among you many of the

intimate companions who served with me in the army, and several of my beloved Light Infantry soldiers. If I have obtained, in our military events, some fortunate days, it is to your gallantry in action, your perseverance under every hardship, to your personal affection, that I am indebted for them. That name, so dear to my heart, of *the soldier's friend*, which you gave me in my youth, I am happy again to find on your lips in our old age. Receive, dear comrades, my most affectionate thanks, love and good wishes.

After dinner, the General laid the corner stone of the south college of the University of Vermont, on which occasion the following addresses were delivered :

Rev. Willard Preston, President elect of the University, to Lafayette.

General Lafayette.—In behalf of the University of Vermont, the pleasing duty devolves on me of bidding you welcome to this spot, consecrated to Science and Literature; and I bid you a most cordial welcome. We are not insensible of our obligations to you and to your compatriots in arms for the distinguished privileges we enjoy, no less of a literary than a civil and religious character. While freedom is the nursery of science, knowledge and virtue are the grand supporting pillars of a free government. Mutilate those and the fair fabric falls. Support them, and they stand against the combined attacks of a frowning world. These are supported in all our institutions of learning. And it must have afforded you the highest satisfaction, to see everywhere planted, throughout this extensive country, seminaries of learning, from the University to the lowest elementary schools.

The University of Vermont is comparatively in her infancy. She has sustained a series of disasters. One year since, and her noble edifice was reduced to ruins. But from those ruins, other edifices are rising and her prospects are brightening. One edifice is already erected, and we ask you to confer on us the honor of laying the corner stone of a second.

With renewed assurances of the pleasure we feel on this proud and interesting occasion, permit me to present you my hand, and introduce you to the Faculty and Students of this University.

Reply of Lafayette.—Abstract.¹

In his reply the General expressed the high sense he had of the honor conferred upon him in permitting him to lay the corner stone of so interesting a building; and (said he) I am sure that the young sons of Vermont will ever evince, in their studies, the same ardor and perseverance which at all times and on every occasion have characterized the spirited inhabitants of the Green Mountains.

The proceedings at Burlington, and in Vermont, were closed by a reception and splendid entertainment at the residence of Gov. Van Ness, when Gen. Lafayette and his suite embarked on the steamer Phœnix with all the honors suitable to the occasion, and left Vermont for Whitehall, N. Y.

¹ From the *Northern Sentinel*, Burlington, of July 8, 1825.

It is quite probable that other civil or military demonstrations, or both, were made, at Brookfield, Williamstown, Barre, Middlesex, Waterbury, Richmond, and Williston, and perhaps in other towns, though the tarry, if any, at these places must have been very brief. A search of all the newspapers of that day, which are accessible, has discovered no mention of such demonstrations, if such there were. Salutes at least may have been given, and certainly the most hearty cheers to the General all along his route. No revolutionary officer then living, and none but Washington in his lifetime, could have aroused the enthusiasm with which Lafayette was greeted in Vermont.

It has not been deemed advisable to swell this volume by details of processions, marches, public dinners, and toasts; but the names of persons prominently engaged in honoring Lafayette will be so acceptable to the very few yet living, and to the descendants of those who are not, and toasts of the General so interesting to all, that it is thought best to subjoin them, to wit:

At Windsor.—Marshal, Gen. Asaph Fletcher, assisted by Col. Daniel Bowen, I. Gregory, T. Boynton, J. P. Skinner, and V. B. Horton. Military—Jefferson Artillery, Windsor, Capt. L. Lull; Hartland Rifle Company, Capt. J. Kelley; Weathersfield Light Infantry, Capt. Clement; and first Infantry, Windsor, Capt. J. Lull, Jr.—the whole under the command of Lieut. Col. Alba Stimson of Norwich, assisted by Geo. Wetherby of Hartland as Adjutant. The General and suite were entertained at Pettes's Coffee House.

At Woodstock.—Marshal, Lieut. Col. R. M. Ransom, assisted by Capt. G. W. Rice. Military—Woodstock Light Infantry, Capt. B. F. Mower, and two companies of Infantry, Captains Richmond and Parker; Pomfret Rifle Company, Capt. Snow; and Barnard Artillery, Capt. Warner.

At Royalton.—Marshal, Oel Billings. Military—Tunbridge Cavalry, Capt. Eaton, the escort under the direction of Major Warren; and an artillery company volunteered for the occasion, consisting of revolutionary patriots. Gen. Lafayette and party stopped at Col. Smith's hotel. Committee of arrangements, Moses Cutter, Daniel Rix, Joseph A. Denison, John Francis, Franklin Hunter, and Jacob Collamer.

At Montpelier.—Chief Marshal, Col. Joseph Wiggins, assisted by Adjutant Calvin Winslow, Capt. W. W. Cadwell, and Samuel Goss, Esq. Military—Washington Artillery, Capt. Joseph Somerby, a company independent of other military organizations, and serving as the governor's guard; Montpelier Light Infantry, Capt. Daniel Baldwin; Berlin Infantry, Capt. Taplin; and a company of Montpelier lads about fourteen years of age, Capt. Eliakim P. Walton. To the boys was assigned the post of honor, as body guards to the General and his suite, and they received his thanks and compliments. The entertainment was at the Pavilion, then kept by Solomon Mann.

At Burlington.—Marshal, Heman Lowry, with fourteen deputies. Military—Detachment of Cavalry under Maj. Erastus Meach; Independent Grays of Burlington, Capt. H. Thomas; and Artillery, Capt. Corning. Rooms were assigned to the General and party at Gould's hotel, where the public dinner was given. Horace Loomis Esq. presided, supported by Timothy Follett, Samuel Hickock, Guy Catlin, A. W. Hyde, and John C. Thompson. At the wharf, on leaving, the party was saluted by the steamers Phenix, Capt. G. Burnham, and Congress, Capt. I. H. Harrington.

TOASTS BY GEN. LAFAYETTE.

At Montpelier.—Vermont, Montpelier, and the Green Mountains, from which was early echoed and valiently supported the Republican cry for Independence and Freedom—May its happy results be more and more enjoyed by the sons of the Green Mountains.

At Burlington.—The town of Burlington—May the Holy Alliance of Agriculture, Manufacturing industry, and Commerce, under the influence of her republican institutions and her fortunate situation, more and more ensure her prosperity and happiness.

This toast has been remarkably fulfilled. On being asked to give another toast, the General gave

The memory of Ethan Allen, and his early companions, the old Green Mountain Boys.

 GEN. LAFAYETTE'S LAST ACT IN AMERICA.

[From the *North Star*, Danville, of Dec. 6, 1825.]

After a lapse of nearly fifty years, when, with most, the companions of their youth are forgotten, this distinguished friend of our country left his native land, and "came and saw and" again "conquered"—not our enemies, for they were not, but ourselves; and that, not by the achievements of his arms, but by the goodness of his heart. He sought out, and recognized, and welcomed to his embrace, many of the surviving patriots of the revolution, and those, whom his rapid passage through our extensive country would not permit him to see, he inquired for, and found means to do them good.

Tears of joyful recognition, and of unwilling separation, have flowed in every state of our Union. Our great and good friend has left our shores; but, as if not satisfied with the joy and the happiness he had diffused around him, he yet lingered, after he had embarked on board the *Brandywine*, to add another to the many acts of munificence, which had not only distinguished his visit to his adopted country, but his whole life.

He had learned that an officer of the revolution, one of his companions in arms, had been, for a long period, imprisoned for debt; and although he could not visit him in his confinement, yet he generously furnished the means for his release. That officer was Gen. WILLIAM BARTON.

In a letter, written on board the *Brandywine*, addressed to Gen. Fletcher,¹ with whom he had, while in Vermont, conferred upon the subject, Lafayette enclosed a draft, with a request that the sums, for which Gen. Barton was confined, should be paid. That request was complied with, and Gen. Barton was informed that HE WAS NO LONGER A PRISONER! With what emotions of surprise and gratitude this intelli-

¹Gen. ISAAC FLETCHER of Lyndon, member of Congress from Vermont 1837 to 1841. It is not to be supposed for a moment that Gen. Barton requested aid from Lafayette. It is certain, that, being unable in person to go to Montpelier, Gen. Barton requested Gen. Fletcher to present his salutations and express his great affection and sympathy, and that thereupon Lafayette himself elicited the information which led to his princely and Christian munificence.

gence was received by the valiant capturer of *Prescott*, can be better imagined than described.

The scene was rendered more interesting by the peculiarly delicate manner in which the business was conducted and the fact announced by Gen. Fletcher.

Many excellent sentiments were given by those assembled to witness the scene, and all participated in the satisfaction which was expressed, that Gen. Barton was at liberty to return to his family, after a separation of more than thirteen years.

GEN. BARTON'S RETURN TO HIS FAMILY IN RHODE ISLAND.

From a letter to the *Boston Gazette*, copied in the *North Star* of Jan. 3, 1826.

The day I left Boston, Dec. 16th, [1825,] I had the pleasure of finding Gen. William Barton in the stage-coach, bound to Providence to see his family and home, after an absence of [about] fourteen years, during which time he had been confined for debt at Danville, Vermont. A few days since he was liberated by a remittance from his old companion in arms, the good Lafayette. It seemed to astonish the old General to see the great alterations on the road as we approached Providence; and when he spoke of the Marquis, (as he always calls Lafayette,) his eyes filled with tears of gratitude. He has been a very powerful man, and retains now, in the seventy-seventh year of his age, much of the vigor of his younger days. He would often sing a few lines of an old revolutionary song, with a clear and strong voice: when he had arrived near Providence, he sang,

“ *And since we're here,*
“ *With friends so dear,*
“ *We'll drive dull care away.*”

But when the old General entered his ancient home, and embraced the wife of his youth, his children, and his children's children, and met his old black servant, it was a scene which I cannot attempt to describe—they were all overjoyed and melted into tears. It was a long time before he could believe it to be a reality.