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A
F U N E R A L
E U L O G Y,

OCCASIONED BY THE DEATH OF
GENERAL WASHINGTON.

DELIVERED FEBRUARY 22d, 1800,

BEFORE THE
NEW-YORK STATE SOCIETY
OF THE
C I N C I N N A T I.

BY WILLIAM LINN, D. D.

NEW-YORK:
PRINTED BY ISAAC COLLINS,
NO. 189, PEARL-STREET.
1800.

*At a meeting of the SOCIETY of the
CINCINNATI of the State of New-York,
held at the City of New-York the 22d
day of February, 1800.*

RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY,

THAT the thanks of this SOCIETY be presented to the Rev. WILLIAM LINN, D. D. for the eulogium this day delivered by him at their request on the late GENERAL WASHINGTON, President General of the Society of the CINCINNATI, and that a copy thereof be requested for publication. This Society, in testimony of their entire approbation of the said eulogium, and as a tribute to the patriotism and abilities of the said WILLIAM LINN, do further unanimously resolve, that he the said WILLIAM LINN be, and he hereby is admitted an honorary Member of this Society.

Extract from the Minutes,

JOS. HARDY, *Sec. pro tem.*

*To the OFFICERS and MEMBERS of
the New-York State Society of the
CINCINNATI.*

Gentlemen,

TO whom can I more properly dedicate the following Eulogy than to you? Besides that it was delivered, and is now published at your request, you stood in several endearing relations to the illustrious man deceased. He was your Leader in war, and the President of your General Society. The only objection to your claim of chief mourners is, that none can be chief where all our citizens so deeply lament, and where the wise and the good in every part of the world so largely partake in the grief.

When you honored me with your request, I trembled. Centuries may elapse before such another theme occurs. I had, certainly, shrunk for ever from the mighty task, had

not your partiality imposed an obligation which I could not refuse. Few have been able to succeed in this species of eloquence. The more exalted the subject, the greater the danger of failure; because the public expectation always outruns what human abilities can perform. In the present case the difficulty was increased by the Orations and Discourses which were daily issuing from the press.

Assured of your indulgence, I am, GENTLEMEN, with sentiments of gratitude and high respect,

Your most obedient

And most humble Servant,

WILLIAM LINN.

New-York, Feb. 22d, 1800.

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F U N E R A L

E U L O G Y.

THIS solemn assembly and these sable ensigns proclaim no common grief. Already has every American wept; already have the sad funereal processions moved; and already have the virtues and the services of WASHINGTON been celebrated from the pulpit, and from the rostrum.

WHY are we again assembled? And why is the tomb uncovered? It is that we may all take another look. This is the

birth-day of the beloved man. Was there no other which could have been chosen than that on which we have so frequently rejoiced? It is kindly intended to give indulgence to our sorrow, to teach us that no character is exempt from the stroke of death, and especially to induce our submission to the will, and our adoration of that Almighty BEING who “gave and “who hath taken away.”

WE find from the earliest records of time, that the practice has been usual in all ages and in all nations, of honoring those who were distinguished by their excellence, and were esteemed public blessings. Trophies have been decreed to them while living, and at their decease, their bodies have been sometimes embalmed; monuments, elegies, and funeral orations have perpetuated the memory of their honorable deeds.

THIS has a happy tendency to ensure a noble and virtuous conduct, and to excite

the imitation of others. The love of fame, when subordinate to the general good of mankind, is inseparable from him who is truly great; and he carries his views beyond the grave to the reward which posterity shall bestow. Were there then no other reason for praising the illustrious dead, this would be sufficient.

BUT there is an obligation of still higher moment. Eminent men are qualified for their work by God. They are his servants. In honoring them, we honor HIM. It is true that the Heathen glorified not God, but substituted creatures in his room; and there is danger that even we, with the clearest revelation, may be guilty of idolatry in not lifting up our hearts to HIM from whom “cometh
“down every good gift, and every perfect gift.” Let us ascribe the glory to God, and we may safely extol the man whose loss this day we deplore.

AMERICA claims as her own, one who

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was justly the admiration of the world. And shall she be silent in his praise? Perhaps silence would have best expressed the merits of him who is beyond all eulogy. The language of mortals can with difficulty, if ever, reach so noble a theme. The name is above what Grecian or Roman story presents, and it would require more than Grecian or Roman eloquence to do it justice. One advantage indeed it possesses, that hardly any thing can be said which will be thought extravagant; and what would, in other cases be deemed flattery, will sink far below the conceptions of the public mind. Flattery was ever confounded in the presence of WASHINGTON, nor will it dare to approach his ashes. That humility, however, which was the constant ornament of his virtues, should not now obstruct the offerings of a feeling and grateful people at his shrine. Nay, they rush with greater eagerness to testify their sense of his transcendent and inestimable worth.

To the historian it belongs to relate in full, the birth, the education, the early, and the later achievements of GEORGE WASHINGTON. From the historic page, we expect a minute description of his civil and military, of his public and private life. Though a simple recital of these might be the highest encomium, and it might be said,

“ Rais’d of themselves, their genuine charms they boast,

“ And those who paint them truest, praise them most,”*

yet they would lead the speaker into too large a field; he would not know what to select, and what to refuse, where all powerfully solicited his regard. Let history or biography, at present, serve only to develope and illustrate the character.

WHEN GOD in his adorable providence intends to accomplish some glorious work upon earth, he provides and prepares his instruments among the children of men. Who does not see that Moses, by the

* Addison’s Campaign.

manner in which he was preserved, the instruction which he received, and the habits of life to which he was inured, was fitted to lead the people of Israel? Who, that Cyrus, had we not been expressly informed, was "girded by the "Lord?" The intention is frequently hidden from the persons themselves, and may not be obvious to others; though they will sometimes discern prefages of future greatness. WASHINGTON was endued from his youth with a military spirit. When a stripling, like David, he encountered the enemies of his country. His first destination was to enter as a midshipman in a British vessel of war. This was happily prevented, that so, instead of the Admiral, he might become the General. He gave such early and uncommon indications of heroism as occasioned public mention of him by an eminent divine, in a discourse delivered soon after Braddock's defeat.* The subject

* The Rev. Samuel Davies then settled in Virginia, and afterwards President of the College of New-Jersey.

was *religion and patriotism*. “As a remarkable instance,” said he, “I may point out to the public that heroic youth Col. WASHINGTON, whom I cannot but hope Providence has hitherto preserved in so signal a manner, for some important service to his country.” We will not call these words prophetic, but they have been repeatedly quoted as a testimony of the budding honors of the American hero.

GOD prepared his servant, and in due time opened to him a vast scene, on which all his talents had their utmost exertion, and expanded in full display. It having become necessary for America to oppose by force the unjust pretensions of Britain, he was elected a member of the great council, and soon after unanimously appointed Commander in chief of the armies. This honor his modesty forbade him to seek, and his love of country would not allow him to refuse. The choice was directed by Heaven. “I feel

“great distress,” said he on his acceptance of the command, “from a consciousness that my abilities and military experience may not be equal to the extensive and important trust: however, as the Congress desire it, I will enter upon the momentous duty, and exert every power I possess in their service, and for support of the glorious cause.” Modesty ever accompanies great merit; and diffidence of abilities, when it casts not into despondency, excites vigilance, and rouses energies of soul concealed from the possessor himself.

GENERAL WASHINGTON had not seen much military service, and what he had seen was on a small scale. His army for a long time was undisciplined, and continually changing by temporary enlistments, or impatient militia; and sometimes he had scarcely the shadow of an army. He was destitute of the necessities for their support, and of the instruments of war. He was called to create

before he could command. In this situation he had to oppose the numerous and formidable legions of Britain, amply supplied with all the apparatus of death, and led on by the most renowned generals. The hero of Monongahela, and the planter of Potowmac, nobly enters the list; snatches the laurels which had been gathered in Europe to adorn his own brow.

To estimate properly the merits of a general, we must attentively consider the circumstances in which he is placed, and the means in his power. The AMERICAN LEADER was never at the head of such armies as cover the fields of Europe. No; with a naked and distressed handful, he kept the enemy in terror; imposed on them by a parade of numbers and strength; now sought security in retreat; and now dared the fight; "swifter than an eagle and stronger than a lion." He who thus baffled the acknowledged skill and bravery of Britons, would, furnished

with the means of war, march to the remotest ends of the earth.

WE are willing to listen to the highest strains in favor of British valour, because these redound to the honor of our CHIEF. Every wreath which is woven, is transferred to him. Either our invaders would not, or they could not subdue us. If they would not, then they were unfaithful to their trust; if they could not, then the barrier was the American arms. Will any rather choose to compromise the matter, by resolving the independence of America into the decree of Heaven? Great GOD, we adore thy just decree! To thee was the appeal made! Thou didst fight for us! In transport we cry, "The sword of the LORD, and of GIDEON."

PERMIT me to say that he whose obsequies we perform, had advantages which few enjoy. The cause in which he engaged was of the most exalted kind, and he was deeply penetrated with its justice

and importance. He undertook not from motives of ambition or gain, but from the pure love of country, to which he continually sacrificed his ease, his safety, and his life.

HIS attention to the duties of his station was incessant. In the field no opportunity escaped him to harass or attack the enemy; and he was never found unapprehensive of their designs, or unprepared to meet them. In winter quarters he revolved and digested the operations of the next campaign. He was not seen indulging in the amusements of a theatre, dissipating his time at a gaming table, or reclining on the lap of a Delilah. His bed at camp was often hard. He often lay down in his daily dress.* His horse stood equipped near him. Or, he sat in council. Or, he examined the vigilance of his posts. Or, he penned the dispatch.

* The night after the battle of Monmouth, he "reposed himself in his cloak, under a tree, in hopes of renewing the action the next day." Ramfay's History.

The concerns of America wholly occupied his mind. Americans, you may well love him, for he saved you much blood and treasure. He watched for your safety while you slept.

His patience and perseverance were unexampled. To be obliged to retreat is at all times humiliating to a general, and dangerous to his fame. To him solely is calamity imputed. Though in conducting a retreat, the greatest skill is often displayed, yet this, and the necessity are not generally known; and a people animated with the love of liberty, are apt to be suspicious. Here was the great trial of WASHINGTON, and here a principal trait in his military character. He retreated from Long Island in the face of a far superior foe. He retreated from New-York island in the face of total ruin. And he carried the small and dejected remains of his army; one while presenting a feeble front to the enemy, and another while retreating; until he crossed

the Delaware. No hope was left but in the presence of WASHINGTON. It pleased God that he still lived; and he was, perhaps, the only man who did not despair. If he had tumultuous passions, if fame was dearer to him than his life, what a conflict was here! What a victory over himself! Whisperings and murmurings; imputations of unskilfulness, of cowardice, and, it may be, of unfaithfulness, were infinitely harder to bear, than to fight. These required a fortitude superior to what was necessary to meet death in any shape. To endure these showed real greatness. Saul the first king of Israel, after his defeat at Mount Gilboa, slew himself with his own sword; but Saul fell below WASHINGTON in every thing, except the towering size of his person.*

* Saul "was higher than any of the people, from his shoulders "and upward." WASHINGTON was full six feet and half an inch in stature. The historians and orators have generally mentioned his personal appearance. "His personal appearance is noble and engaging." Gordon's History. "His person was considerably above the middle "size, but of a dignified and graceful form." Strong's Discourse.

THE AMERICAN CHIEF, having collected a little strength, braving the wintry waves and skies, recrosses the Delaware, and like an angry lion, chafed by the huntsmen, springs upon the foe, and those who flee not perish by his stroke. A far-famed hero marches at the head of numerous and veteran troops, but arriving near night, waits only the next dawn to revenge the havoc. Let us be thankful that the American army was at this time so weak; for had there been any thing like an equality to the enemy, or the most distant prospect of success, the morning sun had shone upon fields of carnage and blood. WASHINGTON directing fires to be kindled in the night, and to be kept constantly burning, led his army by a circuitous road; and his cannon at Princeton first awaked the drowsy Britons whom he had left. The

“His form was noble—His port majestic.” Morris’s Oration. “Mountain air, abundant exercise in the open country—the wholesome toils of the chase, and the delightful scenes of rural life, expanded his limbs to an unusual but graceful and well proportioned size.” Ramsay’s History.

frozen clod was stained on the march with blood from the naked feet of his men.* There was obtained another, though a dear bought victory. There *Hazelet* and *Mercer* fell, two thunderbolts of war. *MERCER!* Let me lift the mantle from thy mangled body!—Covered with wounds like *Cæsar* in the Senate-house!—Alas, not *Cæsar* now, but *Brutus* fell!

WE find in *GENERAL WASHINGTON* a mind capable of planning and executing great enterprizes. “The world,” says an historian, “has been mistaken in
“one opinion respecting his Excellency,
“whose natural temper possesses more of
“the *Marcellus* and less of the *Fabius* than
“has been generally imagined.” † We are assured that he meditated designs which the resources of the country would

* Dr. Ramsay in his history mentions the same circumstance as happening on another occasion. “The American Army,” says he, “might have been tracked, by the blood of their feet, in marching without shoes or stockings over the hard frozen ground, between *Whitemarsh* and *Valley-Forge*.”

† Gordon,

not admit of being carried into effect; and whenever his force promised the least impression, we see him either boldly receiving the enemy, or advancing to attack them. Witness the battles of Brandywine, of Germantown and of Monmouth. In these places, as well as at Haerlem and Princeton, he exposed himself to the thickest dangers, and courted a glorious death. A swell of passions had nearly burst his manly breast. He saw victory, but had not the means to obtain it; he had victory, and it was suddenly snatched from his grasp. *

At length God interposed for his re-

* When the enemy landed upon New-York island, the Americans fled before an inferior force. General Washington rode up and attempted, in vain, to rally them. This "raised a tempest in his usually tranquil mind. He hazarded his person for some considerable time in "rear of his own men, and in front of the enemy. His aids and the "confidential friends around his person, by indirect violence, compelled "him to retire. At Princeton, when the centre of the Americans, being briskly charged, gave way, he placed himself between his own "men and the British, with his horse's head fronting the latter. The "Americans, encouraged by his example and exhortations, made a stand "and returned the British fire. The General, though between both "parties, was providentially uninjured by either." Ramsay's History.

lief, and enabled him to contend upon equal terms. Assisted by a fleet and some brave legions from France, he plans the capture of York Town in Virginia, marches thither the allied army, and by one bold and decisive effort accomplishes the deliverance of his country. The British hero, who had marked him as an easy prey at Trenton, finds now his numbers, his skill and his bravery unavailing; he capitulates at the cannon's mouth, and lays all his trophies at the feet of WASHINGTON. How applicable to our hero, are these lines!

“ So when an angel by divine command
“ With rising tempests shakes a guilty land,
“ Such as of late o'er pale Britannia past,
“ Calm and serene he drives the furious blast;
“ And pleas'd the Almighty's orders to perform,
“ Rides in the whirlwind and directs the storm.” *

AS GENERAL WASHINGTON, like CINCINNATUS, left his retirement and the pursuits of agriculture merely for the service of his country, so when his work

* Addison's Campaign.

was finished, he returned with the most heart-felt satisfaction. He reckoned himself overpaid for all his labours and hardships. How sweet this abode of rest and peace after the toil and din of arms! How far superior his fame to that of Alexander or Cæsar! They fought for the sake of conquest, and to enslave mankind; he, in defence of their just rights, and to make them happy. They, for personal aggrandizement; he, for the best good of others. Cæsar usurped the supreme dominion of the State; WASHINGTON returned to the station of a private citizen. Hear his words at the resignation of his commission to Congress! “ I
“ consider it as an indispensable duty to
“ close this last solemn act of my official
“ life, by commending the interests of
“ our dearest country to the protection of
“ Almighty God, and those who have
“ the superintendence of them to his holy
“ keeping.

“ HAVING now finished the work

“ assigned me, I retire from the great
“ theatre of action; and bidding an af-
“ fectionate farewell to this august body,
“ under whose orders I have long acted,
“ I here offer my commission, and take
“ my leave of all the employments of
“ public life.” So he wished and natu-
rally thought, but he had not yet finish-
ed all the work which GOD had assigned
him. In entering again upon public life
he is influenced by the same modesty and
disinterested motives. He does not thrust
himself forward to view, but submits to
the claim, and obeys the loud call of his
fellow-citizens. He declines, as former-
ly, any compensation for his services.
In this way he evinces true patriotism,
disarms envy, and enhances universal
esteem.

WHEN he retired from the command
of the army, every one supposed that he
had attained to the pinnacle of greatness,
and would recline in safety the remainder
of his days beneath a shade of laurels at

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Mount Vernon; but we behold him renouncing his retirement, and putting all his fame at risk. This was, perhaps, the most magnanimous action of his life, and eclipsed even his military lustre. By first assisting in framing a government, the blessings of which we now enjoy, and then giving stability and energy to that government, by accepting the office of Chief Magistrate at two different times, he secured to his country all the consequences expected from the revolution. No man can conceive the magnanimity of this conduct, but he who approaches in some measure to the greatness of WASHINGTON.

DURING the time which elapsed between his first military exploits and the revolutionary war, he had been attentive to the science of government and employed in affairs of State. The business therefore was not altogether new to him. He had besides the most excellent judgment, the most consummate prudence,

and knew better than any man how to make the information and experience of others his own. He comprehended, he separated, he combined, he weighed, he decided, and his decision was ever wise and unshaken.

THE question will be agitated by posterity, Whether he was the greater general or statesman? Those who read his official letters, his addresses when he retired from the Army, and from the Presidency; and who are intimately acquainted with his administration, will be inclined to pronounce in favor of the latter. Those who have not duly considered these, and more narrowly survey his difficulties and success in war, will be inclined to pronounce in favor of the former. The controversy can be settled only by admitting that he was "first in war, and first in peace."

UNDER his administration the offices of government were filled by the first

talents which could be found; or the best which the economy of the government could command; and, let it not be deemed too bold, by some of the greatest talents in the world. Under his administration, America was prosperous and happy. It was impossible that the expectations of all could be gratified, and the opinions of all followed. The season was peculiarly tempestuous, and the rocks many and dangerous. The pilot was wise and firm, having always in view, as his pole-star, the public good. When we consider the information which is necessary to judge of public measures, the clashing of the interests of men, and the fatal influence of prejudice and passion on their minds, we are astonished at his unspotted fame.

How modest and beautiful are his words in that precious legacy which he left us at his resignation! "Though in reviewing the incidents of my administration, I am unconscious of intention-

“ al error ; I am nevertheless too sensible
“ of my defects, not to think it probable
“ that I may have committed many er-
“ rors. Whatever they may be, I fer-
“ vently beseech the Almighty to avert
“ or mitigate the evils to which they may
“ tend. I shall also carry with me the
“ hope that my country will never cease
“ to view them with indulgence ; and
“ that after forty-five years of my life
“ dedicated to its service, with an upright
“ zeal, the faults of incompetent abilities
“ will be consigned to oblivion, as my-
“ self must soon be to the mansions of
“ rest.”—Who, on hearing these words, is
not tempted to exclaim, WASHINGTON,
live for ever !—His fame, indeed, is im-
mortal. Posterity will see with rapture,
sculptured on his tomb, wisdom, liberty,
and justice.

ANOTHER time he retires with the be-
nediction of millions. Eight years he
wielded the sword, eight years he held
the reins of government. The stormy

sea was passed, and he resigns the helm to other hands. If desire always prompted, increasing age seemed to render it necessary that he should seek repose. Or, was it that he might enforce, by his example, the virtues and duties of a private life? That he might teach us industry, temperance, charity, and economy? To be affectionate husbands and tender masters? That on the faithful performance each one of his several relations, depends personal and public happiness?—Whom do we see in yonder fields near the waters of the Potowmac, surrounded by a group of labourers? It is the late illustrious Commander of the armies, and the late Chief Magistrate of the United States. How august the spectacle! Citizens of America, venerate the sickle and the plough, for they have been dignified not only by the heroes and patriarchs of old, but by the FATHER of your country!

THOUGH naturally reserved, yet he

was not haughty. Though those who approached him felt his superiority, yet he did not assume. He blended dignity and condescension. The greatest and the smallest objects received from him a due attention. He never betrayed any symptoms of vain glory. When he was once asked, whether he had ever said, as was reported, "that he knew no music so pleasing as the whistling of bullets," he answered, "If I said so, it was when I was young." * Learning to estimate justly all human glory, and matured by experience; accustomed to lofty conceptions, and moving always in the important spheres of life; impressed with a sense that he derived all from God, and that all should be devoted to his service; his deportment was noble, equally removed from the supercilious and the vain. Some men have been great at one time, and despicable at another; some men have performed a single great ac-

* Gordon's History.

tion, and never rose to the like again; but to him great actions seemed common. Some men have appeared great at the head of armies, or when surrounded by the trappings of power, and little when stripped of these, and alone; some men have withstood the storms of adversity, and been melted by the sunshine of prosperity; some men have possessed splendid public talents, and disgraced these by sordid private vices; but it is difficult to determine when and where WASHINGTON shone the brightest. It can only be said, that he was *uniformly* great.

ONE part of his character remains to be mentioned, and which crowns the whole; that is his reverence for the sabbath, his acknowledgment of a Providence, and his attendance upon the institutions of religion. In all his public documents GOD is honored; after deliverances or victories, thanksgivings were by his order offered;] and it is well

known that he invariably attended divine worship. The foolish and wicked cant of exalting human reason, and ascribing all to fortune, received from him no countenance. Neither in the parade of military life, nor in the cares of civil administration; neither in a state of depression, nor amidst the intoxicating sweets of power and adulation; did he forget to pay homage to “the Most
“HIGH who doeth according to his will
“in the army of heaven, and among the
“inhabitants of the earth.” It is not wholly improbable that the fate of the unhappy Braddock who, it is said, expressed himself in a boasting and profane manner, left on the mind of young WASHINGTON an indelible impression.
“Thus saith the Lord, Let not the wise
“man glory in his wisdom, neither let
“the mighty man glory in his might, let
“not the rich man glory in his riches:
“But let him that glorieth, glory in this,
“that he understandeth and knoweth
“me, that I am the Lord which exercise

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“ loving-kindness, judgment and right-
 “ eousness, in the earth.” *

HEAR the testimony which WASHINGTON bore for religion on his resignation of the Chief Magistracy! “ Of all the
 “ dispositions and habits which lead to
 “ political prosperity, religion and moral-
 “ ity are indispensable supports. In vain
 “ would that man claim the tribute of
 “ patriotism, who should labour to sub-
 “ vert these great pillars of human hap-
 “ piness, these firmest props of the duties
 “ of men and citizens. The mere politi-
 “ cian equally with the pious man ought
 “ to respect and to cherish them. A vo-
 “ lume could not trace all their connexions
 “ with private and public felicity.” In-
 comparable man! He devoted his time,
 his talents, and his labours to our service;
 and he hath left his advice, and his ex-
 ample to us, and to all generations!

THERE was in him that assemblage of

* Jer. ix, 23, 24.

qualities which constitutes real greatness; and these qualities were remarkably adapted to the conspicuous part which he was called to perform. He was not tinsel, but gold; not a pebble, but a diamond; not a meteor, but a sun. Were he compared with the sages and the heroes of antiquity, he would gain by the comparison; or rather, he would be found to be free from the blemishes, and to unite the excellencies of them all. Like *Fabius* he was prudent; like *Hannibal* he was unappalled by difficulties; like *Cyrus* he conciliated affection; like *Cimon* he was frugal; like *Scipio* he was chaste; like *Philopemen* he was humble; and like *Pompey* he was successful. If we compare him with characters in the sacred records, he combined the exploits of *Moses* and *Joshua*, not only by conducting us safely across the Red Sea and through the wilderness, but by bringing us into the promised land; like *David* he conquered an insulting Goliath, and rose to the highest honors from a humble

station ; like *Hezekiah* he ruled ; and like *Josiah* at his death, there is a mourning “ as the mourning of Hadadrimmon in “ the valley of Megiddon.” Nor is the mourning confined to us, but extends to all the wise and the good who ever heard of his name. The Generals whom he opposed will wrap their hilts in black, and stern CORNWALLIS drop a tear.

HE was honored even in death. After all his fatigues, and though he had arrived near to the limit fixed for human life,* yet his understanding was not impaired, nor his frame wasted by any lingering disease. We did not hear of his sickness, until we heard that he was no more. His acceptance of the office of Lieutenant-General of the armies is a proof that “ Save my “ country, Heaven,” was his last. What would have been to most men the meridian of glory, was the setting sun of

* He was born Feb. 22d, 1732 ; accepted the command of the American army, June 16th, 1775, in the 44th year of his age ; and died Dec. 14th, 1799, in the 68th year of his age.

WASHINGTON. With an increased orb, its parting rays paint the clouds with brightest colours, and illumine all the mountain tops.—In the full possession of his reason, and without fear of death, which he had often faced in the field, he breathed his mighty soul into the hands of his almighty and merciful CREATOR.

HARK!—A message from the tomb!—

“ Citizens of America,”

“ You are assembled to express your
“ gratitude for services which you be-
“ lieve to have been rendered by me, and
“ to testify your sorrow for my death.
“ Next to the testimony of a good con-
“ science, it was ever the summit of my
“ wishes to deserve well of my country.
“ But, let your gratitude ascend to HIM
“ who fashioned me as I was, who kept
“ me under his holy protection, and who
“ hath, in his sovereign will, recalled me
“ from the earth. My career was much
“ longer than might have been expected.

“ It was anxious ; it was laborious ; it was
“ wearifome—I now rest.

“ LET the love you bore me, the con-
“ fidence you were pleased always to re-
“ pose in me, and the regard you now
“ profess for my memory, be shown in
“ following those admonitions which I
“ have given you, and which I endea-
“ voured to enforce by my own example.
“ Banish party interest and party spirit.
“ Suffer no foreign influence to affect
“ your councils. Give support and stabi-
“ lity to your government. Honor and
“ reward your public officers. Pay the
“ strictest attention to the injunctions of
“ religion and morality. Then, under
“ the propitious smiles of Heaven, you
“ will long be a flourishing and happy
“ people.”

THUS, methinks, our deceased Father
addresses us this day.

IN the eighteenth century have flour-

rished a number of the most eminent philosophers, historians, orators, poets, patriots, and statesmen; the close of it has been eventful and astonishing beyond all precedent. In the end of the fifteenth century, COLUMBUS discovered this new world; in the end of the eighteenth, WASHINGTON arose to give COLUMBIA independence and rank among the nations. To the lustre of so many names, and to a period of such wonderful events, he joins his blaze. Memorable æra! The age of great men, the age of extraordinary revolutions, the age of WASHINGTON!

HE outlived many of his compatriots. *Warren* fell an early martyr. *Hardy Putnam*, brave *Stirling*, active *Sullivan*, patriotic *M'Dougall*, incorruptible *Reed*,* *Wayne*, chief of *Stony-Point*, *Thomas*, *Nash*, *Wooster*, *Spencer*, *Thompson*, *Cadwal-*

* This gentleman, when a large bribe was indirectly offered him, answered, "I am not worth purchasing, but such as I am the king of Great-Britain is not rich enough to do it." *Ramsay's and Gordon's Histories.*

lader, Mifflin, have all bowed to death. Undaunted *Smallwood* and *Morgan, Butler* surpris'd by a savage foe and brave in death; STEUBEN bred in European camps, skilled in military discipline, an adopted and favorite son, born alike to form the battle's dread array, and grace the festive board; *De Kalb, Pulaski, Scammel, Armstrong, Parsons, Gift, Poor, Maxwell, Williams, Glover, Herkimer, Stark, Varnum, Woodford*——“ How are the mighty
“ fallen, and the weapons of war perish-
“ ed !”*——MONTGOMERY's career was

* This enumeration is not pretended to be complete; and it was impossible to give every one his due praise. Only General Officers are mentioned, of whom nine were slain in the field. Those who contributed to the revolution by their councils are omitted; of whom there is a long and venerable list. Praise to living characters is purposely avoided. Death will stamp their value, and posterity duly estimate their merits.

In this list, it would be needless to say to those who knew him, that ARMSTRONG combined in a high degree, the great and amiable qualities. His age, and other circumstances prevented his taking a large and conspicuous part in the American war; but he had the confidence of WASHINGTON; and like him, gave proofs of a military spirit at an early period. He conducted the expedition against the *Kittaning* an Indian town, and was highly honored by the Proprietaries of Pennsylvania for his gallant behaviour. On this occasion he and *Mercer* were both wounded. He had a principal share either in advising or directing all the subsequent expeditions. He commanded the Pennsylvania militia

short, but glorious. On Abram's plains
 he found with WOLFE a deathless fame.
 GREENE the great compeer and friend
 of WASHINGTON survived the war, but
 lived not to enjoy its fruits under a well-
 balanced government. He too fought
 the shade, and cultivated the arts of
 peace, after obtaining a fame everlasting
 as the high hills of *Santee*, and pure as
 the *Eutaw* springs.

“ In hours of peace content to be unknown,

“ And only in the field of battle shown :

“ To souls like these in mutual friendship join'd,

“ Heav'n dares entrust the cause of human kind.” *

Why should I mention others? Or why
 have I mentioned these? Our griefs are
 all absorbed in thee, O WASHINGTON!—
 There is not such another to die—Few

at the battle of Germantown; and it is a fact not generally known
 that the fort on Sullivan's island, S. C. would have been evacuated as
 indefensible had it not been for him and the brave Col. Moultrie. His
 chief glory, however, was that he “ fought the good fight of faith,”
 and is gone with the famous Col. Gardiner, whom he greatly resembled,
 to receive an immortal crown.

* Addison's Campaign.

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such have ever existed in any age—The world lessened when he died—

“Death, ere thou hast kill’d another

“Wife, and great, and good as he,

“Time shall throw a dart at thee.” *

YE CINCINNATI, his companions in arms, and sharers in his glory, what scenes does this day bring to your remembrance! In imagination you suffer all the toils, and fight the battles over again. Before you moves the majestic and graceful man; graceful when he steps, more graceful when he mounts the prancing steed. Serene at all times, most serene in misfortunes and danger. The cares of America appear on his brow, and he wears her defence by his side. Ah! had he been captured by the enemy, your gleamy swords would have been drawn for his rescue. Or, had he been exposed in the front of battle, you would have shielded him with your own bodies; and had he fallen, a thousand victims had avenged his death. Against *natural*

* An Epitaph of Ben Johnson’s altered.

death you could interpose no shield—
Seek not to restrain your tears—'Tis
foldierlike now to weep—True courage
and sensibility are intimately connected—
Your general, your father, and your
friend is—no more—The last time he
and his band of brothers were all toge-
ther, you followed him with pensive
countenances to the banks of the Hud-
son, and on his entering the barge he
turned towards you, and by waving his
hat, bade you a silent adieu. He now
bids you an adieu—for ever.—Imitate
him in his love of country, in all his pri-
vate and public virtues; and then like him,
you will live beloved, and die lamented.

COME, ye fair daughters of America,
weep for WASHINGTON. He saved your
parents, friends, and lovers. Come, min-
gle your tears with the adored partner of
his cares and joys at Mount Vernon—

COME all, and take a last look. Many
of you remember his triumphant entry

into this city after the evacuation, and what pleasure then swelled your bosoms. You remember his second entry when he accepted the Presidency of the United States. You pressed to see him. To the Officer of the guard appointed to attend him on his landing he said, "My guard" "is the affection of my fellow-citizens." There, indeed, he reigned without control. There, indeed, he had a security, and a testimony of his worth, more valuable and durable than the pomp and power of kings can afford. There he will live while there remains one of the present generation; and the faithful historian will hand down his fame to the latest ages. The name of WASHINGTON will be revered while the American empire endures; yea, until this globe itself be wrapt in the last fires, and the angel shall "swear" "by him that liveth for ever and ever," "that time shall be no longer."

F I N I S.

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