

HAMPSHIRE GAZETTE.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 1891.

NORTHAMPTON, (MASSACHUSETTS) Published by WILLIAM BUTLER.

From the COLUMBIAN CENTINEL.
 Mr. RUSSELL,
 AS you have favored the public with specimens of the talents of the present British Poet Laureate, I wish you occasionally to infer, for the amusement of your readers of taste, from the names of an unsuccessful candidate for that place, Capt. MERRY, who carries with the signature of DELLA CRUSCA.

To ANNA MATILDA.
 ON the face-shed with folded arms I stood,
 The Sun just sinking forth a level ray,
 Luxuriant Cinnamon glared upon the Wood,
 And the curl'd Surf was ting'd with golden spray.

Far off faintly track'd the feath'ry fall;
 When thy sweet Numbers caught my riddled ear,
 Drove on the bosom of the Sun's ring gale,
 They thrack my Heart—and rou'd me to a Tear.

Yet flow'd no bitter Anguish from mine eye,
 A while remembrance left my wayward State;
 And the soft Cadence of thy warbled Glee,
 Pours'd healing balm into the wounds of Fate.

What the grim Winter desolating frowns,
 The wild Waves appear when rough Eurus blows,
 The tangled Forest, and the desert dale,
 Be all the foliae Della Crusca known:

Yet from Matilda's pure celestial fire,
 One ruby spark shall to my gloom be given,
 Lur'd by its light, his fancy may aspire,
 And catch a ray of Eliis—a glimpse of Heaven.

Vain in the Morn of life, and through life too,
 He robb'd himself of as strong passion drove,
 But soon each flinty ring prospect fell his view,
 Deceiv'd by Friendship much, but more by Love.

Yes, he has lov'd to Transport's dire excess,
 Has felt the potent eye inflict the wound;
 Has felt the female voice each pulse oppress,
 And grown a breathless flane at the found.

But why recall the moments thare are fled?
 Forever hid, like yonder sleeping bliss;
 With love, each sense principle is dead,
 And all, except his sad regret, is pain.

Ah! had he met, this in his boyish hour,
 Ere yet he languish'd in the grips of Care,
 Thy Muse had then had fondly own'd thy Pow'r,
 Thy Muse had then might have escap'd Dispair.

O Gift rent lol! for who daily grieves,
 With love, with thy beauty blest, and gen'rous mind,
 Had not, like fall-w Autumn's falling leaves,
 Been thrunk, alas! and scatter'd in the Wind.

Happy he had not roam'd for ling'ring years
 On many a rugged Alp, and foreign shore;
 He ne'er had known the cause of all his tears,
 The cherish'd cause, that bids him—hope no more.

He would have led thee with attentive gaze,
 Where the brown hawthorn's soughing ring shades retire,
 Have hang'd around him upon thy living lays,
 And sweep with feller hand a hundred lyre.

While the dear Songstress had melodious stole
 O'er every sense, and charm'd each nerve to rest,
 Thy Bard, in silent ecstasy of soul,
 Had strain'd the dearest Woman to his breast.

Or had she said, that War's the warbling green,
 He would have felt his proud heart hum the while,
 Have dar'd, perhaps, to rush among the brave,
 Have gain'd it, perhaps, the glory of a smile.

And 'tis his most true while time's relentless hand,
 With feckly grasp drags vibrant to the tomb,
 The Soldier's crest to wait the dull command,
 But springs impatient to a nobler doom.

Tho' on the plain he lies, outstretch'd, and pale,
 Without one friend, his steel'd Eye to close,
 Yet on his honor'd corse shall many a gale,
 Waft the proud fragrance of the weeping willow.

Q'er that dire spot, the melancholy Moon
 Shall pause a while, a falder beam to shed,
 And thray Night, amidst her awful Noon,
 Sprinkle light dews upon his bellow'd head.

There too the solitary Bird shall thrall
 With long-drawn melody her plaintive Throat,
 While distant echo from responsive cell,
 Shall oft with fading force return the Note.

Such exprofiter be Valour's due alone!
 To die no proffer'd need must e'er belong,
 To me, who trod the vale of life untried,
 Whose proffer'd boat was but an idle fong.

DELLA CRUSCA.

From a late LONDON PAPER.
 CATACUMB.

On Friday the 6th of July last, as some workmen were cutting away on a bog near Donadea, Ireland, the feat of Sir Fitzgerald Aylmer, Bart, at about 17 feet from the surface, they discovered a vault of a quarrelsome form, which seemed to baffle all the efforts they could make with spades and shovels for an entrance; and after applying to a neighboring smith, he furnished them with an iron pick, which answered the purpose so well, with some ledges, which answered the purpose so well, that in less than a quarter of an hour a breach was made

about four feet in length and three in breadth: one of the persons in the party time entering, beheld to his astonishment, a large stone coffin supported by short pillars, about two feet from the floor of the vault; as brightened at so melancholy and unexpected a discovery, he ran out and immediately fainted away. This circumstance quite disheartened his companions, who instantly went to Sir Fitzgerald Aylmer, informing him of what had happened: He, accompanied by some gentlemen and servants, repaired thither without delay, carrying stone trowels with them to examine the vault the better.

As soon as they came to the place, they lighted the torches, and William Cesto, Esq. entered the vault first, holding a large torch in one hand and a hammer in the other; Sir Fitzgerald and the other gentlemen followed him a little time after, and opening, with much difficulty, the coffin, they found the skeleton and bones of a man of more ordinary size, a spear by his side, and two small urns or vessels of brass (both empty), having the figures of the sun and moon engraved on them in a most curious though antique manner.

The vault measured 6 feet 3 inches in height, 12 in length, 8 in breadth, and the coffin was 3 feet 4 inches in length, although the skeleton and bones (which are great preservation) were but 3 feet 3 inches and an half in length; the spear was 7 feet long, but the handle immediately mouldered into dust when touched.

The coffin and contents were brought out on a cart to Donadea, amidst the exclamations of a numerous crowd, where they remained to be seen by the curious; those who have visited it, cannot conjecture by whom, or at what time this body was placed at so great a distance from the surface of the earth.

That it is the remains of some Irish Chieftain, is probable—and that it has remained there untouched for upwards of 1400 years, is beyond all manner of doubt from the urns and Pagan figures, found engraved on them; it is clear that they were deposited before the introduction of Christianity into that Island.

AN ECDOTE
FLOURISHING combs, the other day, came into a shoemaker's shop to try a pair of boots. "These are too short for the leg," said he, "they should be long enough to cover up the calf completely." "Then," said the shoemaker, "they must be about five feet ten inches."

HURDER THIS BEST SAUCE
 THIS adage was again proved a short time since. A hungry traveller having put up at a tavern, was served for supper with a haub, which he highly relished. Some months after, travelling the same road, he put up at the same tavern, and on being asked, what he would chuse for supper, said, "The haub I had the last time I was here, was excellent; I should like such another." "O, yes," said a little innocent boy, who was standing by, "but we can't afford to have a haub every time you come that way."

Ezekiel Williams, jun.
 Has just received from Europe, a quantity of
GLASS WARE,
 Consisting of—quart, pint, and half pint Decanters—quart, pint, half pint, gill and half gill Tumblers—Mustard Pots—elegant bordered W. Wine Glasses—common, do.—Vinegar Cruets—Salt—Jars—Cream Cups—Proof—Punch—mineral and hot wine pocket Bottles, &c. &c.—Which he will sell at retailers at the same prices at which they are bought in New-York.

Also—An assortment of
DRY GOODS.
 Hartford, Jan. 20, 1891.

CASH, in part pay for
RED CLOVER SEED,
 And the highest price paid by JACOB OGDEN, at his Store in Hartford, and pay made satisfactory for the remaining part on delivery, for any quantity, between this and the 1st of March.
 Hartford, January 3, 1891.

N. BLAKE and Co.
 WANT to purchase a quantity of HOGS FAT, for which they will pay CASH, and a generous price, if delivered at their Store in Northampton.
 January, 1891.

HUDSON and GOODWIN,
 Have for Sale, near the Bridge Hair-Foss, CLOTHES, Dress Papers, the gross or dozen; Carriage Paper, by the Ream or Ounce; Donnet Papers by the gross or dozen; Wrapping Paper, by the Ream; all parts of Webber's Inkline, in large or small quantities; Writing Paper by the Ream; Marble Paper; Account Books of various sizes; Wafers, Sealing Wax, &c. &c.

WANTED.
 A S an Apprentice to the Typing business, a likely Boy, about fourteen years old.
 CEPHAS CLAPP.
 Deerfield, January 15, 1891.

ALL persons that have demands on the estate of **Archibald Aylmer**, late of Cheshb't, deceased, are requested to exhibit them for settlement.—All persons indebted to said estate are requested to make immediate payment to.
STEPHEN AYLMER, Adm'r.
 Cheshb't, Jan. 14, 1891.

DECEASED.
 The late **WILLIAM HAMILTON**, Col. 6th Regt. N. Y. Artillery, died at his residence in Northampton, Mass., on the 18th inst. at the age of 71 years. He was a native of Scotland, and spent his early years in that country. He was a member of the 6th Regt. N. Y. Artillery, and served with distinction in the Mexican and Civil Wars. He was a man of high character and great energy, and was highly respected by his friends and acquaintances. He is survived by a wife and several children. The funeral will be held on the 21st inst. at 10 o'clock A. M. at his residence. Interment will be in the Northampton Burial Ground.

NOTICE is hereby given to the non-resident owners of land in the County of Hampshire, that the several laws in force in the State of Massachusetts, relating to the taxation of land, and the assessment of the same, have been amended, and the amendments thereof are as follows, to-wit:—

Non-resident lands formerly belonging to Shalburn, &c. &c. &c.

Lot No. 40 laid to J. Barnard,	7 1 2
Lot No. 70 owned by Nathan Cahill,	0 8 2
Lot No. 65 owned by Col. E. Hinckley,	0 10 1 3
Lot No. 1 laid to Nathaniel Hawks,	0 0 4 3
Lot No. 3 laid to Thomas Childs,	0 2 6 1
Lot No. 2 laid to Thomas Wells' ad heirs,	0 0 8 3
Lot No. 17 laid to Samuel Belding,	0 8 1 1
Lot No. 18 laid to J. Atherton's heirs,	0 8 1 1
Lot No. 19 laid to Samuel Dwellcy,	0 8 6 1
Lot No. 20 laid to Capt. T. Ernek,	0 11 10 1
Lot No. 21 laid to Samuel Allen's heirs,	0 0 4 3
Lot No. 22 laid to Joseph & Seth Catlin,	0 7 7 1
Lot No. 23 laid to Oliver Root,	0 5 9 0
Lot No. 24 laid to Abner Nims's heirs,	0 0 9 0
Lot No. 25 laid to J. A. Childs's heirs,	0 0 9 0

The following acres were affected in the years 1778 & 1779, State, Town and Minister, consolidated into five as follows, viz:—

Lot No. 33 laid to Samuel Hinckley,	1 3 6 3
Lot No. 34 laid to Samuel Barnard, Esq.,	1 3 6 3
Lot No. 30 laid to Mary Wells,	4 1 3 0
Lot No. 31 laid to Mary Wells,	4 1 3 0
Lot No. 32 laid to J. Catlin, owned by his heirs,	2 6 0

That unless said taxes are paid on before Monday, the 21st of February next, so much of said lands will be then sold at public vendue, at the dwelling house of Mr. AARON BILLINGS, in Conway, at eight o'clock, A. M. as will be sufficient to discharge the same with intervening charges.

JOHN HAMILTON, Collector.
 Conway, Jan. 12, 1891.

NOTICE is hereby given to the Inhabitants of Northampton, and families adjacent, that **ARTHUR** will be received by L. G. Gordon, Clerk, and Mr. J. P. Hunt, at the same price as is allowed at night-bearing, for Ash, maple, and other kinds of wood, for **WRIGHT and STONDAKER**, of Northampton, when Goods will be delivered at cash price.

SALTS of LYE, and ASHES, will also be received by said Wright and Stondaaker at their Store, Northampton, Dec. 20, 1890.

STRAYED from the stable of **ELIAS LYMAN**, about the 15th of December last, a **bay COLT**, three years old, natural trailer, branded on the hip A. N. the letter, supposed to be yearly grown out. Whoever will run or find said Colt, or give information where he may be held, to Mr. Elias Lyman, or the subscriber, shall be handsomely rewarded.

DANIEL BUTLER.
 Northampton, Jan. 18, 1891.

BROKE into the inclosure of the subscribers, the 29th of October last, a **red Heifer**, white face, white horns, no artificial mark, supposed to be the cow last left spring. If the owner will, he may be again by proving property and paying charges.

BENJAMIN HORSLEY.
 Greenfield, Dec. 22, 1890.

STRAYED from the subscriber about the 20th of Sep. last, a **yearling Stear**, and one **yearling Heifer**. The Stear is red, with broad horns, and semi white in his belly and tail—the Heifer is a light brindle, low'd hind, with a white face, belly and tail—the Heifer is white, with a white face, and some white on her belly—both have no artificial mark. Whoever will take said creatures, and give notice of what the owner may know them again, shall be handsomely rewarded.

JOHN HALE.
 Bethersden, Jan. 4, 1891.

STRAYED from the subscriber last spring, a **roan yearling Stear**, and a **black and white cow**, with a white face, and white horns. Whoever will give information of their whereabouts, shall be handsomely rewarded.

ROGER CLAP.
 Southampton, Jan. 10, 1891.

NEW GOODS.
 Has just received a general assortment of English
GOODS,
 consisting of Broadcloths, Coatings, Flannels, Bays, Chintzes, Calicoes, Leghorn Hats, &c. &c. A general assortment of Crockery, Glass, and Second WARE, by the package or less quantity. Web. Ladies Rem., Hyton and Bohem Tea, Coffee, Chokeuts, Pepper, Nutmegs, Cloves and Cinnamon, Almonds, Copper, Red Wood and Log Wood.

The above articles will be sold very low for ready pay.—Part Cash will be paid for Pork, Beef, and Butter.

Wanted—Wheat, Rye, Corn, Tow Cloth, White Beans, Peas, and Hogs Bristles.
 Dec. 29, 1890.

Daniel Butler,
 Has just received a general assortment of English
GOODS,
 consisting of Broadcloths, Coatings, Flannels, Bays, Chintzes, Calicoes, Leghorn Hats, &c. &c. A general assortment of Crockery, Glass, and Second WARE, by the package or less quantity. Web. Ladies Rem., Hyton and Bohem Tea, Coffee, Chokeuts, Pepper, Nutmegs, Cloves and Cinnamon, Almonds, Copper, Red Wood and Log Wood.

The above articles will be sold very low for ready pay.—Part Cash will be paid for Pork, Beef, and Butter.

Wanted—Wheat, Rye, Corn, Tow Cloth, White Beans, Peas, and Hogs Bristles.
 Dec. 29, 1890.

Full published and to be sold by the Printer hereof, Mr. **WILLIAM HAMILTON**, at the Office of the Hampshire Gazette, in Northampton.

From the UNIVERSAL ASYLUM.
 History of the Life and Character of **BENJAMIN FRANKLIN**, L. L. D. &c. &c.

TO instruct and to amuse are the two grand objects intended by authors. Without novelty, or something to amuse and captivate the attention, the most salutary instruction soon tires. Writings, which combine the useful with the pleasing, are, therefore, the most acceptable, and most beneficial. It is, perhaps for this reason, that Biography has been a favourite species of writing in all ages, and in all countries. The life of the most men afford something to amuse; and the history of their virtues and their virtues, and the consequences of them, will excite us to avoid the one, and to imitate the other. But the history of every man's life cannot be equally useful or interesting. It can be so, in proportion as the life has been useful to mankind. If a man has passed through life in an honest path, and nothing can be recorded of him, but that he was born & died, the history of such a life can interest no one. The life of a man who has distinguished himself only by the destruction of his species, and the mischief which he has occasioned, interests no more. Our attention is attracted by the history of a Cato or an Alexander; but the history of a man who has lived in a path of duty, and who has been eminently fervent in the investigation of truth, to have been eminently fervent to his own country, to have been a benevolent regard for the whole family of mankind, these are qualities, any one of which is sufficient to excite the admiration of the virtuous and wife, and to command the approbation of all men, however vicious or unenlightened. When all these qualities are united in the same person, we behold human nature exalted to its height, and feel a degree of awe and respect, bordering on that veneration, which is due only to the Supreme Being.

Such are the sensations, which must arise in our minds, when we contemplate the life and character of the late illustrious philosopher and statesman, Benjamin Franklin. Possessed of an elevated, a penetrating, and a comprehensive mind, he directed into the hidden recesses of nature, and developed some of her most important secrets, which, for six thousand years, had eluded the researches of the most patient and diligent votaries of philosophy. He did not foster himself to be carried away by vain hypotheses, nor to be involved in knotty and important disquisitions. Animated with the true Newtonian spirit of philosophizing, his reasoning was always founded upon facts, the truth of which had been established by his own observations. Nor were his researches merely the result of a spirit of curiosity, without a determined object in view. Utility was constantly his aim. The pointed conductors, which have rendered the lightning rod so useful, will be a lasting monument of his industry and success, in fulfilling means to obviate one of the greatest natural calamities to which man is exposed.

An ardent love of his country was a passion, which he retained through life. He early imbibed an earnest desire to rescue it from tyranny and oppression. Here too his efforts were successful. After a severe struggle, in which he bore a most distinguished part, he won the independence of the United States established on a firm basis.

However warm his attachment to his own country it known to have been, his soul was too liberal, too expanded, to confine its good offices within the limits of any particular district or community. He considered himself a citizen of the world, and looked upon all mankind, of whatever complexion, and in whatever country, as his brethren. His philanthropy knew no bounds. Bear witness to this, the noble Africans who were his benevolence in common with your lordly oppressors, who found their claim to superiority upon the merits of a fairer skin. He continued to the end of his life, prosecuted beyond the usual limits, in the practice of that most noble virtue, doing good to mankind.

The life of such a man cannot but be interesting on many accounts. To point out the means, by which he profited from an obscure and humble station, to the highest pitch of respectability and greatness, must have a favourable influence in encouraging others, by similar exertions, to hope to be equally useful, and equally successful.

His mind was a perfect treasury of knowledge. Scarcely any thing of importance escaped his notice. The advances which he, almost unaided, made in science, and to show the immense capacity of the human mind, and to demonstrate the fallacy of Pope's maxim, "Some are born to great genius for;" "Some are born to narrow human wit."

He stood unrivalled in the important and extensive science of philosophy and politics. The success

which crowned his exertions, may stimulate us to follow his example, and to be indefatigable in the pursuit of knowledge. The latter part of his life must in some measure involve the history of the American Revolution, the most important event which has perhaps ever taken place on this globe, the consequences of which will affect mankind in a very extensive manner.

A full and accurate account of this important life cannot be expected in the compass of a periodical work. Volumes would be required to do justice to the subject, and times have not yet been allowed to collect materials. We shall however attempt an epitome, which may trace the leading features of his character, and record the principal events of his life. If, contrary to usual custom, we do not slightly pass over the early part of his life, let it be remembered, that this is the period at which the mind receives from education those impressions and that character, which have the greatest influence upon after life. Every thing, which assisted in forming such a mind, must be of importance. It is in this period that we are to look for the causes, which raised him to eminence.

Benjamin Franklin was born in Boston, in the province of Massachusetts, on the 17th day of January, 1706, old style. He was descended from a family which lived in Exton, in Northamptonshire, for 300 years. His father, Josiah Franklin, about the latter end of the reign of Charles II. left the church of England, and became a member of a conventicle. As these places of meeting were forbidden by law, and frequently disturbed, many of the principal members determined to quit the land of persecution, and to seek a country, where they might enjoy their religious opinions and modes of worship, without fear of molestation. Josiah Franklin was prevailed upon to accompany them, with his wife and three children. He arrived in New-England about the year 1682. Here finding the people of a dour, to which he had been bred, in little regard; he took up that of tallow-chandler and soap-maker. His first wife dying, after bearing him seven children, he married Abiah Folger of Nantucket, one of the first settlers of New-England. Cotton Mather, in his Church History, makes honourable mention of this man as, "a godly learned Englishman." He wrote several small pieces, one of which addressed to those in government, was published in 1671. It was a poem in favour of liberty of conscience, reproaching the persecution of Baptists, Quakers and other sectaries of the country, and exhorting a repeal of the uncharitable restrictions. By this second wife, Josiah Franklin had ten children, of whom Benjamin was the eighth. He was named after an uncle, who left England from religious motives. He was an ingenious man, and left behind two quarto volumes, in manuscript, of his own poetry. He was a constant attendant of the best preachers, whose sermons he took down in a short hand of his own. He was also a considerable politician.

The father of Dr. Franklin was a pious, prudent, ingenious man. He had a good mechanical genius, and had on occasion used the tools of other trades with great dexterity. He possessed a sound understanding and solid judgment. He was frequently consulted on matters of importance in the town and church: And he was often appointed to settle private disputes as an arbitrator. Great deference was always paid to his opinion and advice. It was customary with him to have very frequently at his table some sensible friend, in whose conversation he took delight. The subject of discourse was always such, as would have a tendency to improve and inform the minds of his children, and to make them virtuous and useful members of society. His mother was a virtuous and discreet woman, who both his parents were blessed with an excellent character. His father died at the age of 87, having had seventeen children, thirteen of whom lived to be men and women, and were all married. His mother lived to the age of 85 years.

Such were the parents, such the instructors, to whom we are indebted for this benefactor of mankind. From these he derived that aversion to arbitrary power, which distinguished him through life. This we shall find was increased & confirmed by some subsequent circumstances.

Franklin was early taught to read. When eight years old he was sent to the grammar school at Boston. His father intended to devote him to the ministry, in which he was encouraged by his friends, who expressed genuine ideas of the advance which young Benjamin would make in knowledge. His uncle approved much of this intention, and offered to give him all the volume of sermons, which he had taken in short hand. He remained at the grammar school only one year, during which time he rose from the middle of his class to the head, and was removed into the class above. It is order to enter with that a third class. But his father, con-

dering that with his large family he could ill afford the expense of a collegiate education, and that persons of the grammar school, to a school for writing and arithmetic. This school was kept by a Mr. George Brownell, who was celebrated as being generally successful in teaching by a mild penitentiary manner. Here he soon learned to write a fair hand, but failed in learning Arithmetick.

(To be continued.)

Legislature of Massachusetts.
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.
THURSDAY, January 27, A. M.
 Several private and local petitions were read—and other business attended to.

At 12 o'clock, the Secretary delivered to the House a message from his Excellency the Governor, requesting their attendance in the Senate Chamber, whether they immediately repaired, when His Excellency delivered the following **SPEECH**—

Genleman of the Senate, and Genleman of the House of Representatives.

WHEN we contemplate the present happy situation of our country, and compare it with the distressing scene through which it has passed, we are struck with the providence which has conducted her, the mind, if not void of patriotism, must expand with delight, and the heart if not insensible to the impulses of religion, will overflow with gratitude.

The people of this Commonwealth, whilst they were involved in accumulated difficulties, established the Constitution of Government, by force of which we are now assembled.—And the citizens of the other States in the Union, no less attentive to the means of establishing their political happiness and security, pursued similar measures. The unanimity, which prevailed in this important occasion throughout all the States, and that extraordinary exertion of learning and wisdom, which has been acknowledged by the world, at this time attributed by many, to the great profusion of our particular and hazardous circumstances; but since we have been favoured with a state of perfect peace and tranquillity, a great display of wisdom and learning has been exhibited, and a degree of unanimity has prevailed in the forming; and establishing the Constitution of the United States of America.

I do not mention these great events for your information;—but to lead your minds to the contemplation of those virtues & qualities from whence they originated.

We are in the history of nations, that an ignorant and unprincipled multitude, may be frequently induced to follow an ambitious leader, to rapine plunder and conquest; but when these objects, which serve only to increase the miseries of mankind are achieved, the most successful sit down more wretched than they were before.

It seems to be referred as the particular character of the American, not to be moved in their operations by a point and a more extensive degree of intelligence, than has fallen to the lot of those nations who cherish we obtain from history. And it is their great glory to have as the reward of their virtues, the ability of conducting their perilsous controvcrsies, so as to lay a noble foundation for their own future glory, and for the promotion of human happiness. The means which have been blessed to these important purposes, are the general dissemination of the principles of religion and morality, and of useful learning amongst our fellow-citizens in general; as well as that equality of character, privileges, hopes and prospects which the Laws and Constitution of our country have established and steadily maintained for them.

Our confidants, Genlemen, feel themselves assured, that under the enjoyment of their inclinable blessings, they will pay the most unremitting attention to the encouragement and support of those principles and measures which have been capable of producing such astonishing and glorious effects.

When a country is favoured by divine providence, with a singular share of felicity, it becomes those whom the people by their suffrages have placed in the lead of their public concerns to acknowledge it with gratitude upon all suitable occasions.

The United States of America by force of their constitution of government have already arisen to honour and credit.—Our observations convince us of the factuality of this fact, to answer all the great purposes of forming connection with other nations, of defending the Union against foreign invasion, of preserving harmony and supporting justice between the citizens of different States. It remains for us, Genlemen, to give our support to this system, by maintaining in full energy, the Constitution of our own State, upon which, with those of the other States in the Union, the

success of his exertions, may stimulate us to follow his example, and to be indefatigable in the pursuit of knowledge. The latter part of his life must in some measure involve the history of the American Revolution, the most important event which has perhaps ever taken place on this globe, the consequences of which will affect mankind in a very extensive manner.

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Benjamin Franklin was born in Boston, in the province of Massachusetts, on the 17th day of January, 1706, old style. He was descended from a family which lived in Exton, in Northamptonshire, for 300 years. His father, Josiah Franklin, about the latter end of the reign of Charles II. left the church of England, and became a member of a conventicle. As these places of meeting were forbidden by law, and frequently disturbed, many of the principal members determined to quit the land of persecution, and to seek a country, where they might enjoy their religious opinions and modes of worship, without fear of molestation. Josiah Franklin was prevailed upon to accompany them, with his wife and three children. He arrived in New-England about the year 1682. Here finding the people of a dour, to which he had been bred, in little regard; he took up that of tallow-chandler and soap-maker. His first wife dying, after bearing him seven children, he married Abiah Folger of Nantucket, one of the first settlers of New-England. Cotton Mather, in his Church History, makes honourable mention of this man as, "a godly learned Englishman." He wrote several small pieces, one of which addressed to those in government, was published in 1671. It was a poem in favour of liberty of conscience, reproaching the persecution of Baptists, Quakers and other sectaries of the country, and exhorting a repeal of the uncharitable restrictions. By this second wife, Josiah Franklin had ten children, of whom Benjamin was the eighth. He was named after an uncle, who left England from religious motives. He was an ingenious man, and left behind two quarto volumes, in manuscript, of his own poetry. He was a constant attendant of the best preachers, whose sermons he took down in a short hand of his own. He was also a considerable politician.

The father of Dr. Franklin was a pious, prudent, ingenious man. He had a good mechanical genius, and had on occasion used the tools of other trades with great dexterity. He possessed a sound understanding and solid judgment. He was frequently consulted on matters of importance in the town and church: And he was often appointed to settle private disputes as an arbitrator. Great deference was always paid to his opinion and advice. It was customary with him to have very frequently at his table some sensible friend, in whose conversation he took delight. The subject of discourse was always such, as would have a tendency to improve and inform the minds of his children, and to make them virtuous and useful members of society. His mother was a virtuous and discreet woman, who both his parents were blessed with an excellent character. His father died at the age of 87, having had seventeen children, thirteen of whom lived to be men and women, and were all married. His mother lived to the age of 85 years.

Such were the parents, such the instructors, to whom we are indebted for this benefactor of mankind. From these he derived that aversion to arbitrary power, which distinguished him through life. This we shall find was increased & confirmed by some subsequent circumstances.

Franklin was early taught to read. When eight years old he was sent to the grammar school at Boston. His father intended to devote him to the ministry, in which he was encouraged by his friends, who expressed genuine ideas of the advance which young Benjamin would make in knowledge. His uncle approved much of this intention, and offered to give him all the volume of sermons, which he had taken in short hand. He remained at the grammar school only one year, during which time he rose from the middle of his class to the head, and was removed into the class above. It is order to enter with that a third class. But his father, con-