EASTON GAZETTE.

WHERE THE PRESS IS FREE—"Literature well or ill-conducted, is the Great Engine by which all Popular States must ultimately be supported or overthrown."
RELIGION purifies the Heart and teaches us our Duty—Morality refines the Manners—Agriculture makes us Rich and Politics provides for the enjoyment of all.

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ADVERTISEMENTS

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From the Boston Gazette.

The Masonic Institution.—We would call the attention of every reader to the following article in defence of the masonic institution. It is signed by ten or twelve hundred respectable individuals belonging to this city and the neighboring towns.

Among the Boston signers we notice the names of gentlemen who have long been distinguished for their piety and intelligence, wealth, honesty, public spirit, and all the virtues which adorn the Christain character; lawyers, merchants, traders & mechanics, who have much at stake in the community, and who, it is not too much to say, would never lend their names to sustain an institution, the influence of which was of a mischievous character.

TO THE PUBLIC—DECLARATION.—Whereas, it has been frequently asserted and published to the world, that in the several degrees of Freemasonry, as they are conferred in the U. States, the candidate, on his initiation and subsequent advancement, binds himself by oath to sustain his Masonic brethren in acts which are at variance with the fundamental principles of morality, and incompatible with his duty as a good and faithful citizen; in justice therefore to themselves, and with a view to establish TRUTH and expose IMPOSITION, the undersigned, many of us the recipients of every degree of Freemasonry known and acknowledged in this country, do most solemnly deny the existence of any such obligations in the Masonic Institution, so far as our knowledge respectively extends. And we as solemnly aver that no person is admitted to the Institution, without first being made acquainted with the nature of the obligation which he will be required to incur and assume.

Freemasonry secures its members in the freedom of thought and of speech, and permits each and every one to act according to the dictates of his own conscience in matters of religion, and of his personal preferences in matters of politics. It neither knows, nor does it assume to inflict upon its erring members, however wide may be their aberrations from duty, any penalties or punishments other than those of admonition, suspension, and expulsion.

The obligations of the Institution require of its members a strict obedience to the laws of God and of man. So far from being bound by any engagements inconsistent with the happiness and prosperity of the nation, every citizen who becomes a MASON is doubly bound to be true to his GOD to his COUNTRY, and to his FELLOW-MEN. In the language of the "Ancient Constitutions" of the Order, which are printed & open for public inspection, & which are used as text books in all the Lodges, he is "required to keep and obey the MORAL LAW; to be a quiet and peaceable citizen; true to his government and just to his country."

Masonry disdains the making of proselytes. She opens the portals of her asylum to those only who seek admission, with the recommendation of a character unspotted by immorality and vice. She simply requires of the candidate his assent to one great fundamental religious truth—the existence and providence of God; and a practical acknowledgment of those infallible doctrines for the government of life, which are written by the finger of God on the heart of man.

Entertaining such sentiments as Masons, as Citizens, as Christians, and as Moral Men, and deeply impressed with the conviction that the Masonic Institution has been and may continue to be productive of great good to their fellow men; and having "received the laws of the society, and its accumulated funds, in sacred trust for charitable uses," the undersigned can neither renounce nor abandon it. We most cordially unite with our brethren of Salem and vicinity, in the declaration and hope that, "should the people of this country become so infatuated as to deprive Masons of their civil rights in violation of their written constitutions, and the wholesome spirit of just laws and free governments, a vast majority of the Fraternity will still remain firm, confiding in God and the rectitude of their intentions, for consolation, under the trials to which they may be exposed."

HYDROPHOBIA.—The following particulars of a case of Hydrophobia, are published in the Bedford (Penn) Gazette:—

SCHELLSBURG, (Penn.) Dec. 12.

Sir,—Seeing in the last number of your Gazette, notice taken merely of the death of Mr. David Rock, of Napier township, by *hydrophobia*, I have taken the liberty of giving you a few of the particulars of the case derived from my own observation and personally from facts and statements made known to me by the wife & father of the deceased; sincerely hoping that a knowledge of the incidents attending this case, may in future induce persons to be more cautious in approaching animals exhibiting symptoms anything out of the common way.

Between ten and eleven months since one of Mr. David Rock's Cows appeared to be singularly affected, displaying a number of symptoms that would designate a true case of *rabies*; yet, so little did Mr. Rock think or know of the real state of his cow, that he actually attempted to administer to her some nostrum, by introducing it with his hand as far into her mouth as possible—thereby receiving a slight wound on one of his fingers, from the teeth of the cow. The nostrum or medicine appeared to have no observable effect, and within thirty six hours afterwards the cow died.—Mr. Rock, not yet suspecting the real cause of his cow's death, skinned her; and, in doing so, cut one of his hands.

Nothing more was thought of the occurrence, until recently—when it unfolded itself in all the death like horrors of Hydrophobia, in Mr. Rock himself.

On the Thursday morning preceding his death, Mr. Rock said he felt unwell; had the head-ache, chilliness, languor and lassitude. He attempted to approach a trough of water, for the purpose of washing himself, but found, to his utter astonishment, that he could not get near it. Returning into the house, he related to his wife what had happened, but did not appear to be further alarmed. However, on again attempting to approach the water, to use his own words, "his sensations were such as could not be described. In the morning, (Friday) before daylight, he got up and went to the water to try if he could, then wash, and found that he could, giving his own reason, (and a very plausible one) "that it was then dark—he could not see the water, and could wash."

The symptoms above described appeared steadily and rapidly to increase in violence, with a considerable degree of coldness, numbness and pain in the limb affected. About seven o'clock in the evening, (Saturday) a violent spasmodic agitation of the whole frame took place accompanied by that symptom which so truly gives name to the disease, viz. a horror of liquids. On presenting him some water, at his own request, for he appeared to be always thirsty, he would start back with all the horror and fright imaginable, at the same time screaming in the most violent manner; his imagination depicting to himself objects that I would shudder to name. As time moved on, so in proportion did his spasms and sufferings increase, until he became so outrageous that it took five or six strong men to hold him on his bed. On Sunday morning, at 8 o'clock, I arrived: Found extreme irritability and sensibility of the whole system—excessive anxiety depicted in every feature of the face, with short respiration and gasping; violent pain and oppression about the perecordia—the pulse feeble, irregular and quick; the secretions from the mouth slight. His great horror at the sight of fire, smoke and water, was truly distressing. At times his mind appeared perfectly composed, and when addressed cautiously, would answer correctly.

He could at all times know when his spasms were coming on—he would mention to the by-standers to take care and hold him tight, that he might not injure them or himself. But so soon as a mad fit, as he would call it, would come on, though not a moment before giving the above caution, he would rave, strike, kick, and even attempt to bite. One of the persons that waited on him, told me he had seen him try to bite several times.

Medicine and blood-letting was tried, but without any sensible advantage.—He also took some nourishment; weak coffee and soup.

I have given you the most important incidents of this tragic scene & will merely say, that about two o'clock in the afternoon of Sunday the 4th day of December, instant, a general stupor appeared to steal over the whole system, as though, the poisonous virus had so completely obliterated the vital spark that the heart no more strove to exist, and remained quiet, that the soul might leave its tenement of clay in peace—and soar aloft to that God from whom it first derived existence.

The Philadelphia (Poulson's) Advertiser contains the following authentic abstract from the will of the late Stephen Girard. The editor remarks:—"There is not perhaps, an instance recorded in the history of the world, of one human being devoting such an immense amount of wealth for the benefit of his fellow man, as the venerable deceased has given to the city of his adoption, for the laudable purpose of its improvement, and for the melioration of the condition of its inhabitants."

STEPHEN GIRARD'S WILL,

Gives to *the Pennsylvania Hospital*, subject to the payment of an annuity of $200 to a female slave, whom he sets free	$30,000
To *the Asylum for the Deaf and Dumb*	20,000
To *the Orphan's Asylum*	10,000
To *the Controllers of the Public Schools*	10,000
To *the City Corporation*, to be invested, and the interest to be applied, annually in the purchase of wood for the Poor,	10,000
To *the Society of Ship Masters*	10,000
To *the Free Mason's Lodge*	20,000
For a School to be erected in the township of Passyunk, for poor white children	6,000
Sundry Legacies to individuals amounting to	120,000
Several Annuities amounting to about	4,000
To *the City of New Orleans* 1000 acres of improved land in the Territory of Mississippi, and	
One third of 207 000 acres of unimproved Land in the same territory,	
To *the City of Philadelphia* the remaining *two thirds* of the said unimproved lands. [This land is said to be now worth 500,000 dollars.	
To *the City of Philadelphia*, Stock in the Schuylkill Navigation Company [Worth in the market considerably more than this sum.]	110,000
For a College for poor white male children and its proper endowments, the sum of	2,000,000
To *the City of Philadelphia*, for certain City improvements, to be invested, and the interest to be annually applied	500,000
All his remaining Estate, real and personal (no part of the real estate to be sold) is to be applied as follows:—in further aid of the said College—improvements of the City and in relief of the Taxes—This Estate is very large, but not yet valued	
To the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, to be applied to Internal Improvements by Canals, provided the Legislature shall, within one year from Stephen Girard's decease, pass laws authorising the City of Philadelphia to make the intended improvements—otherwise to the United States for the same object	800,000

The Gentlemen hereafter named are the Executors of his Will.—Timothy Paxson, Thomas P. Cope, Joseph Roberts, William J. Duane, John A. Barclay.

DECREASE OF DUTIES.

We publish the following *rates* which go into operation from the 1st inst. together with a statement of the probable effect that the same will have upon the *revenue* of the past and present year. [N. Y. Courier.

Decrease of duties on Teas Coffee and salt; from and after the 1st January, 1832.

	Late duty.	Pres't duty
Teas—From China, in vessels of the United States—		
Bohea	per lb: 12 cts.	4 cts
Souchong and other Black,	25	10
Campoy or Congo (considered as Souchong	25	10
Gomee, Gunpowder or Imperial	50	25
Hyson and Young Hyson	40	18
Hyson Skin & other Green	28	12
Teas—From any other place than China, or in vessels of or in any other than vessels of the United States—		
Bohea	14	6
Souchong and other Black	34	18
Campoy or Congo, (considered as Souchong)	34	18
Gomee, Gunpowder or Imperial	68	37
Hyson and Young Hyson	56	27
Hyson Skin & other Green	38	20
Coffee per lb	2	1
Salt—per bush weighing 56lb	15	10

Exhibit of the decrease of revenue growing out of the lesser duties on Coffee, Cocoa, Salt & Molasses, for the year 1831, and also on teas Coffee and Salt, for 1832 the calculation predicated upon the net quantity imported in the fiscal year, commencing 1st October, 1829 and ending on the 20th September, 1830, as per the official document of the Secretary of the Treasury.

Coffee—Amount of net duties, deducting exports entitled to debenture in the above year (1830)	$1 920,362 00
On the same quantity for the following year at the reduced duties	768 144 80
Decrease of duty	$1,152,217 20
Cocoa—As above	$19,842 60
At the reduced duty	9 921 30
Decrease of duty	$9 921 30
Salt—As above	$1,057 179 20
At the reduced duty	792 884 40
Decrease of duty	$264 294 80
Molasses As above	$835,262 30
At the reduced duty	417 546 15
Decrease of duty	$417 546 15
Total decrease of duty in 1831	$1,843,979 45
Decrease of revenue arising on the lesser duties on Teas Coffee and Salt, for the year 1832—predicated also upon the imports and exports of the above fiscal year (1830.)	
Teas Am't of net duty the above fiscal year	$2303,533 78
At the reduced duty	1 010 459 63
Decrease of duty	$1,293,073 70
Coffee—Duties as above, at the rate of 2 cts.	$768 144 80
Duties in 1832 at 1 ct	384,072 40
Decrease of duty	$384,072 40
Salt—Duties as above at the rate of 15 cts	$792,884 40
Duties in 1832, at 10 cts.	528,589 60
Decrease of duty	$264 294 80
Total decrease in 1831	$1 843,979 45
Total decrease in 1832	3,785,420 35
Total decrease in 1831 & 1832	$5,629 399 80

The preceding statement is made up from the official documents of the fiscal year commencing 1st Oct. 1829, and ending 30th Sept. 1830 As the reduction of duties on all the articles embraced for 1831, with the exception of molasses, did not commence until 1st Jan. 1831, it may be argued that the duties of the first quarter of the year commencing 1st Oct. 1830 and ending 30th Sept. should have been calculated at the rates of duty then existing. This has not been done; because an ample offset o that amount of additional duty and even equivalent to all the additional revenue that will grow out of a possible, yet doubtful, excess of importations, of the articles embraced in this statement, will be the return duty on tea, coffee and cocoa, put into the custom house stores under the bond of the importer, for the purpose of bringing the same under the lesser rates of duty, and which it is well known particularly of coffee amounts to an enormous quantity.—Indeed, although it does not appear upon the face of the official document for 1830, yet the revenue of that year will suffer a diminution from the above cause which applies more immediately to, and which will seriously affect the revenue of the present year. As connected with this part of the subject, and as having a further tendency to reduce the revenue of the past year, is the fact that the exports of foreign products have increased even in a greater ratio than the increase of imports; this circumstance, coupled with the opinion existing with many experienced and reflecting merchants, that there was a redundancy of imports the past which will call for a more limited operation the present year, and consequently defeat the very sanguine calculations that have been made as to the great increase of revenue.

From the Correspondent of the New York Commercial Advertiser.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 26, 1831.

In my last letter, I referred to some verbal reports of a speech, lately delivered by Mr. Randolph to his former constituents, particularly to the expressions imputed to him in regard to Mr. Webster, which, from the extensive circulation and credit they have gained, require some notice. After giving, as one reason for the re-election of Jackson, his personal hatred of Clay, he continued:—"But Henry Clay is a brave man—I have tested him—though his friend, Daniel Webster, is a poltroon, and I have the evidence of it in my pocket." The transaction to which this corrupt and crazy orator alludes, was so mortifying to his vanity, from its origin to its end, that it has no doubt left in his bosom a deadly sting, but he would never have hazarded such remarks in relation to it, had he not since he sold himself to the Administration, thrown aside all regard to truth or decency. The facts, as you may recollect, were these: Mr Randolph was a member of the committee appointed to investigate the charges against Secretary Crawford, preferred by Ninian Edwards, and had attended one or two of the early sittings of the committee. Before the close of the session, he embarked at New York for Europe, and from on board the packet, he addressed a letter to his constituents wherein he claimed for himself the credit of having prevailed upon the committee, in opposition to their wishes and intentions, to afford to Mr. Crawford an opportunity to reply to the accusations of Mr. Edwards. Upon the publication of the letter in Washington, the several members of the committee rose in their places, and indignantly repelled the calumnious aspersion. Mr. Webster, being one of the committee, was pointed, and explicit, in his denial of the truth of the allegation. Moreover the Journal of the proceedings of the committee was produced, from which the very reverse of Randolph's statements was shown to be the fact. During the following session of Congress, that of 1824—'25, Mr. Randolph having taken his seat, there was some further conversation on the subject which ended, towards the close of the session, in a demand by Mr. Randolph of honorable satisfaction from Mr. Webster. Mr. Benton bore the challenge.—The subsequent day, Mr. Benton waited upon Mr. Webster, and Mr. Webster, supposing that he had called for his reply immediately put it into his hand. Mr. Benton returned it, saying that he had come with instructions from Mr Randolph to withdraw the challenge, and it was accordingly withdrawn. The reply of Mr. Webster was never, to my knowledge, seen by any one. There was a current report, at the time, that it was very harsh—to the effect that he would not fight a *convicted liar*. But this report was not countenanced by Mr. Webster. Mr. Webster's remarks, in the House of Representatives, were never, in any way, explained, modified, or retracted. Before the House of Representatives, he arraigned Randolph for having grossly misrepresented the acts and views of the Crawford Committee—there he convicted him, and there he has never gainsaid what he then said. Thus stands the matter to this day.

From the Juvenile Souvenir.

Spunk and Peril.—There is a story, and which I believe is fact, of two boys going to a jackdaw's nest from a hole under the belfry window in the tower of All Saint's Church, Derby. As it was impossible to reach it standing within the building, & equally impossible to ascend to that height from without, they resolved to put a plank through the window; & while the heavier boy secured its balance by sitting on the end within the lighter boy was to fix himself on the opposite end, and from that perilous situation to reach the object of their desire. So far the scheme answered. The little fellow took the nest, and, finding in it five fledged young birds, announced the news to his companion. "Five, are there? replied he; "then I'll have three.' 'Na,' exclaimed the other indignantly, 'I run all the danger, and I'll have the three.' 'You shall not,' still maintained the boy in the inside; 'you shall not—Promise me three, or I'll drop you!' 'Drop me if you please,' replied the little hero; 'but I'll promise you no more than two, upon which his companion slipped off the plank. Up tilted the end and down went the boy, upwards of a hundred feet to the ground—The little fellow at the moment of his fall, was holding his prize by their legs, three in one hand, and two in the other; and they finding themselves descending fluttered out their pinions instinctively. The boy too, had on a stout carter's frock, secured round the neck, which, filling with air from beneath, buoyed him up like a balloon, and he descended smoothly to the ground; when, looking up, he exclaimed to his companion, 'Now you shall have none! and ran away, sound in every limb, to the astonishment of the inhabitants,' who, with inconceivable horror, had witnessed his descent.

An Author's Card.—There is consolation and philosophy in the following unique card, which we copy from the Literary Subaltern:

S. S. Southworth, author of the National Drama, entitled the "Capture of Prescott, or the Heroism of Barton," returns his sincere thanks to the *two* ladies and *fifty* gentlemen, who honored the Theatre on the evening of Wednesday, with their presence, and thus gave him a bumper and a benefit. It was the intention of the author, to hand the proceeds of the night to the "poor of the church," but being apprehensive, that the avails of the occasion might not meet the hungry expectations of that respectable body, they are withheld, and will be invested in anthracite coal.—This being the first *benefit* the author ever received, excepting always the "*Benefit of the Act*," he considers himself highly fortunate and blessed. The author in reflecting on the events of the evening, is consoled with the happy reflection, that but for a severe gust of wind, accompanied with snow, hundreds would have been in attendance, which belief answers all the purposes of a full house. The thanks of the author, are also due, to a brace of colored ladies and gentlemen in the gallery, who recorded their testimonials of applause in favor of Guy Watson, as enacted by Mr. M'Guire.

Some person asked Charles James Fox, what was the meaning of that passage in the Psalms, "He clothed himself with cursing, like as with a garment."—"The meaning!" said he, "I think is clear enough; the man had a habit of swearing."

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