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 overthrow 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.

VOL. XVII. EASTON, MD. SATURDAY MORNING, MARCH 1, 1834. NO. 9.

PRINTED AND PUBLISHED EVERY
SATURDAY MORNING
BY ALEXANDER GRAHAM.

TERMS
TWO DOLLARS AND FIFTY CENTS
Per annum, payable half yearly in advance.

ADVERTISEMENTS
Not exceeding a square inserted three time for ONE DOLLAR; and TWENTY FIVE CENTS for every subsequent insertion.

New York, 30th July 1821.

Sir,—I have received a communication from you relative to the conveyance of the remains of Major Andre from this state to Great Britain and I have the honor to state in reply that our laws interpose no obstacle to this measure.

"I am, Sir, with great consideration.
'Your obedient servant,
'DE WITT CLINTON."
"To J. Buchanan Esq.
"His Britannic Majesty's Consul, New York."

In consequence of the publicity given to the intended exhumation numbers of British subjects expressed a wish to attend on the occasion in order to manifest their feelings of respect for the unfortunate, but highly esteemed victim of war. Among the many communications, I should not be doing justice to the memory of the late Capt. Phillips, did I not on this occasion give an extract from his letter as to his attending the exhumation.

"Highlands Grange, 28th July, 1821.
"I shall feel myself highly flattered and gratified in any co-operation you may deem expedient in proving my respect for the memory of Major Andre, whose loss was most universally deplored by all, but more especially by those who had the honor of his acquaintance."

My next step was to proceed to Tappan, distant from this city twenty-four miles. Thither I went accompanied by Mr. Moore his Majesty's agent for packets. Upon reaching the village which does not contain above fifty or sixty houses, the first we inquired at proved to be the very house in which the Major had been confined while a prisoner there kept by one Depuy, who was also postmaster; who took us to view the room which had been used as his prison. Excited as we were, it would be difficult to describe our feelings on entering this little chamber; it was then used as a milk & a store room; otherwise unaltered from the period of his confinement, about twelve feet by eight, with one window looking into a garden, the view extending to the hill, and directly to the spot on which he suffered, as the landlord pointed out from the window, while in the room, the trees growing at the place where he was buried.

Having inquired for the owner of the field, *I* waited on the Rev. Mr. Demarat, a Baptist minister residing in Tappan, to whom I explained the object of my visit, who generously expressed his satisfaction at the honor, "which at length," to use his words, "was intended to the memory of Major Andre," and assured me, that every facility should be afforded by him. Whereupon we all proceeded to examine the grave, attended by many of the inhabitants, who by this time had become acquainted with the cause of our visit; and was truly gratifying to us, as it was honorable to them, that all were loud in the expressions of their gratification on this occasion.

We proceeded up a narrow lane on a broken road, with trees at each side, which obscured the place where he suffered, until we came to the opening of the field, which at once led to an elevated spot on the hill. On reaching the mount, we found it commanded a view of the surrounding country for miles. Gen. Washington's head quarters, and the house in which he resided, was distant about a mile and a half or two miles, but fully in view. The army encamped, chiefly also in view of the place, and must necessarily have witnessed the catastrophe. The field as well as I could judge, contained from eight to ten acres and was cultivated; but around the grave the plough had not approached nearer than three or four yards, that space being covered with loose stones thrown upon and around the grave, which was only indicated by two cedar trees about ten feet high. A small peach tree had also been planted at the head of the grave, by the kindly feeling of a lady in the neighborhood.

Doubts were expressed by many who attended, that the body had been secretly carried to England, and not a few believed we should not find the remains; but their surmises were set aside by the more general testimony of the community. Having then found the grave, and obtained leave of the proprietors of the field to remove the remains, I made arrangements to do so on the Tuesday following. Having consulted Mr. Eggleso, a cabinet maker and upholsterer, who had formerly done the work of Dublin Castle, as to the most suitable mode of removal, in a manner becoming the illustrious Prince under whose orders I was acting, he recommended a sarcophagus, which *I* accordingly ordered to be made, and to be covered with crimson velvet, &c., aware that thereby I was acting in accordance with the intention of his Royal Highness, in honoring the remains of a soldier who had been buried, divested of all honorable appendages. Thus furnished, I proceeded on the 10th of August, 1821, accompined by Senor Stoughton, the Spanish Consul, and attended by Mr. Eggleso, with the sarcophagus, in order to raise the body, previous to its removal from Tappan to his Majesty's packet. This mode of proceeding I was led to adopt, as I had been informed that some persons had gone from New York, with the view to purchase or rent the field from the worthy clergyman, under the impression that I would pay a large sum in order to fulfil his Royal Highness' intention, but to the honor of this worthy, yet poor pastor, he rejected their offers, and stated he would not, on any account recede from the promise he had made. Arriving at Tappan by 10 o'clock, A. M. though I was not expected until the following Tuesday, as *I* had fixed, yet a number of persons soon assembled, some of whom betrayed symptoms of displeasure at the proceeding, arising from the observations of some of the public journals, which asserted "that any honor paid to Major Andre's remains was casting an imputation on General Washington, and the officers who tried him."

As these characters were of the lowest cast, and their observations were condemned by every respectable person in the village, I yet deemed it prudent, while the worthy pastor was preparing his men to open the grave, to resort to a mode of argument, as the only one *I* had time or inclination to bestow upon them, in which, I was sure to find the landlord a powerful auxiliary. I therefore stated to these noisy patriots, that *I* wished to follow a custom not unfrequent in *I*reland, from whence I came, namely, of taking some spirits before proceeding to a grave. The landlord approved the Irish practice, and accordingly supplied abundance of liquor, so that in a short time General Washington, Major Andre, and the object of my visit, were forgotten by them, and I was left at perfect liberty, with the respectable inhabitants of the place, to proceed in the exhumation, leaving the landlord to supply the guests, a duty which he faithfully performed, to my entire satisfaction.

At twelve o'clock quite an unexpected crowd assembled at the grave,—as our proceeding up the hill was seen by the inhabitants all around. The day was unusually fine; a number of ladies, and many aged matrons who witnessed the fall,—who had seen his person,—who had mingled tears with his sufferings,—attended, and were loud in the praises of the Prince, for thus at length honouring one who still lived in their recollection with unsubdued sympathy. The labourers proceeded with diligence, yet caution. Surmises about the body having been removed were revived, and it would be difficult to imagine any event which could convey a degree of more intense excitement.

As soon as the stones were cleared away, and the grave was found, not a tongue moved among the multitude,—breathless anxiety was depicted in every countenance. When, at length, one of the men cried out he had touched the coffin, so great was the enthusiasm at this moment, that I found it necessary to call in the aid of several of the ladies to form an enlarged circle, so that all could see the operation; which being effected, the men proceeded with the greatest caution, and the clay was removed with the hands as we soon discovered the lid of the coffin was broken in the centre. With great care the broken lid was removed, and there to our view lay the bones of the brave Andre, in perfect order. I, among others, for the first time discovered that he had been a small man; this observation I made from the skeleton, which was confirmed by some then present. The roots of the small peachtree had completely surrounded the skull like a net.—After allowing all the people to pass round in regular order and view the remains as they lay, which very many did with unfeigned tears and lamentations, the bones were carefully removed, and placed in the sarcophagus, (the circle having been again formed.) After I descended into the coffin, which was not more than three feet below the surface, and with my own hands raked the dust together to ascertain whether he had been buried in his regimentals or not, as it was rumoured among the assemblage that he was stripped; for, if buried in his regimentals, I expected to find the buttons of his clothes, which would have disproved the rumour; but I did not find a single button, nor any article, save a string of leather that had tied his hair, in perfect preservation, coiled and tied as it had been on his hair at the time. This string I forwarded to his sister in England. I examined the dust of the coffin so minutely (as the quantity would not fill a quart) that no mistake could have arisen in the examination. Let no unworthy motive be attributed to me for recording this fact; I state it as one which *I* was anxious to ascertain for the reasons given. I do not pretend to know whether buttons would moulder into dust, while bones and strings would remain perfect and entire; but sure I am there was not a particle of metal in the coffin. How far these facts accord with the rumours adverted to, others may jndge: but it is useful, that all these facts should be brought to light, as it may reasonably be inferred, that, if stripped, those who permitted the outrage, or who knew of it, had no idea that the unfeeling act they then performed would be blazoned to the world near half a century after the event; or that the future historian should hold up such a procedure to all honorable men. Having placed the remains in the sarcophagus, it was borne amidst the silent and unbought regret of the numerous assemblage, & deposited in the worthy pastor's house, with the intention of removing it to his Majesty's packet on the Tuesday following.

I should be ungrateful did I omit doing justice to the feelings of an aged widow, who kept the turnpike-gate on the way to New York, who, upon hearing the object of my visit, declared that she felt so much gratified that the remains were to be removed from the field where they had so long lain neglected, that all carriages should pass free of toll on the occasion. Whether she had this power I know not, but it marks strongly the sentiments of the American people at large, as to a transaction which a great part of the British public have forgotten, at least those in the humbler walks of life, as this gate keeper was.

[The excited feelings created by the late war not being entirely extinguished, many persons feared that some opposition might be offered if a public procession took place. The Consul, therefore wisely resolved to remove the coffin privately, which was effected, after having shown the remains to a number of the friends of the clergymen who had assembled at his house. The Consul concludes]

Having the key of the sarcophagus, I had to open it, so that the relatives who had come might see it; and finding that I had paid above 100 guineas for it, they were astonished at the munificent disposition of his Royal Highness. Having requested the old lady to enclose it in a quilt, we got it placed on the gig and having taken some refreshment, of which we stood much in need, we departed, and returned to the place where *I* had ordered the carriage to come, into which we got, and proceeded on to New York, where we arrived about 5 o'clock on the morning of Sunday. Having arranged to have a boat in waiting from his Majesty's packet, with feelings that shall never be effaced from my memory, I placed the remains under the Britsh flag.

As soon as the removal of the sarcophagus to the packet was known in this city, it was not only honorable to the feelings of the citizens, but cheering to my mind, depressed as it had been, to find the sentiments which prevailed.—Ladies sent me flowers; others, various emblematic devices, garlands, &c. to decorate the remains of the "lamented and beloved Andre." A beautiful and ornamented myrtle among these sent, *I* forwarded with the sarcophagus to Halifax, where Lieutenant General Sir James Kempt, Governor of Novia Scotia, caused every proper mark of respect to be paid to the remains.—From thence they reached London, and were deposited near the monument which had been erected to his memory in the Abbey, and a marble slab placed at the foot of the monument, in which it set forth their removal by the order of His Royal Highness, the Duke of York.

Having represented to his Royal Highness the generous conduct of the Rev. Mr. Demarat, I recommended that his Royal Highness should convey to him a snuff box, made out of one of the trees which grew at the grave, which I sent home. But my suggestion was far outdone by the princely munificence of his Royal Highness, who ordered a box to be made out of the tree, and lined with gold, with an inscription, "From His Royal Highness the Duke of York, to the Rev. Mr. Demarat." While speaking of this act of liberality, I was unexpectedly honored with a silver inkstand with the following inscription:—"The surviving sisters of Major Andre to James Buchanan, Esq, his Majesty's Consul, New York." They also sent a silver cup, with a suitable inscription, to Mr. Demarat. I need not add, that I cherish this inkstand, (which *I* am now using) and shall bequeath it to my children as a memorial which I prize with no ordinary feeling.

I omitted to mention, that I had the peach tree which had been planted on the grave, (the roots of which had surrounded the skull, as set forth) taken up with great care, with as much of the clay as it was possible to preserve around the roots, and brought it to my garden in New York, where my daughter attended it with almost pious solicitude, shaded it during the heat of the day, watering it in the cool of the evening, in the hope of preserving it to send to England. Had it reached his sisters, they would no doubt have regarded it as another Minerva; for, though it did not spring out of, yet it was nourished by, their beloved brother's head.

I have only to add, that, through the kind interference of my brother consul at Philadelpia, I obtained Major Andre's watch, which he had to part with when a prisoner, during the early part of the war. This watch I sent to England lately; so that I believe every vestige connected with the subject of this narrative has been sent to the land of his birth, in the service of which his life was sacrificed.

J. BUCHANAN.

To the Editor of the National Gaz.

Sir,—The official paper of the President of the United States, doubtless upon his authority and under his direction, has noticed two passages in my letter to Gov. Tazewell; if *I* did not consider the Executive alone responsible, *I* would disdain to notice any thing proceeding from the polluted receptacle of his vindictive denunciations.

*I*t was my intention, to notice at the same time, both of the articles in the official paper of the 7th inst. I will however refer only to one of them now; *I* may consider the other hereafter.

The President *has not* denied *what I did say* in my letter to Gov. Tazewell, that he gave me an assurance I should have the mission to Russia.

But he has denied *what I did not say*, that he proposed to give the mission as the price of my resignation as Secretary of the Treasury.

The President *has not* denied that whilst I was Secretary of the Treasury he assured me I should have the mission to Russia.

But *has* denied that at any one of the two periods, fixed by himself, he proposed to give me the mission as the price of resignation.

I desire to have no doubt upon this subject, and therefore repeat what *I* said in my letter to Gov. Tazewell, in such terms as shall not warrant prevarication:

1. I aver that the President did assure me that I should have the mission to Russia.

2. I aver that unless the President violated his word, I should have had the mission if I had resigned.

The question, therefore, which *I* ask the President to cause to be answered, is whether he did or did not assure me that I should have the mission to *R*ussia! As to his motives, he may explain them if he pleases; and if he can persuade others that they were not sinister, *I* shall be content. If he shall deny that I had his spontaneous assurance of the mission, I will submit such evidence of the fact as will satisfy the minds of all dispassionate men. The silence of his authorized organ I shall consider his admission that *I* had his assurance of the appointment to Russia.

Respectfully, your obedient serv't.
W. J. DUANE.

February 11, 1834.

To the People of the United States.
LETTER I.

FELLOW CITIZENS—

When I was rudely thrust from office, on the 23d of September last I resolved for the reasons stated in my late letter to Governor Tazewell, to rest upon my acts as an officer and my reputation as a man, unless the one should be misrepresented or the other assailed. And, in order that the responsibility, of any disclosure of past occurrences, should rest upon the President, I notified him, ere *I* left Washington, on the 27th of September last, that I should hold him accountable for the malconduct of the publisher of his official paper, and that, as the public reputation usually suffered in conflicts between the chief magistrate and exministers, I would avoid a controversy, and only repel assaults, which he should sanction.

So little effect had this suggestion, and so necessary did it appear to the President to prevent sympathy for me which would be censure upon himself, that the official paper continued, after my retirement to private life, to circulate the most flagitious imputations upon my character: & yet, when the President saw, in a public print, an extract from one of my private letters, published without my consent and containing nothing but the truth, he affected to be very much offended, &, instead of directing a refutation of what I had said, he broke the seals, that closed the cabinet & our correspondence, in order to sustain a false & malignant attack upon me, on the 19th of November last.

It was necessary to notice this; but, even on that occasion, *I* did not repel this aggression; nor did I invite the people to look upon the stage, much less behind the scenes, where their dearest rights and interests are sported with by incognito performers; on the contrary, I merely published a brief defensive address, so little indicative of resentment, that it was pronounced, even by dispassionate men reprehensibly mild.

Several grave questions, connected with my case, have long been discussed, not only in Congress, but throughout the country; the instructions given to the President's agent, for making inquiries as to state banks, are before the Senate of the United States, and in my own defence, *I* ought to give some explanation respecting them; doubts have been expressed on the floor of that body, whether there had been due foresight and warning, as to the evils that now exist, and it is due to myself at least, that *I* should show, that in this respect, as well as others, I did my duty. In September last, the President appealed to the people, by publishing his reasons for directing a removal of the public deposits; and as soon as Congress assembled, my successor in the treasury department presented a statement in relation to his agency in removing them. It seems, therefore, to be a duty to myself if not to the public, to present, in detail, my reasons for resisting the President; and, at least his friends cannot complain of my appealing to the people, since I barely imitate his own example.

If I had heretofore felt any doubts of the *propriety of addressing you*, they would be now removed: my correspondence and conversations with the President were again misrepresented, in his official paper of the 7th instant, and at the same time, vile aspersions, palpably sanctioned by him, were again cast upon my reputation. *So* that, even if no obligation of a public nature required some explanation now, it is demanded and justified by this new display of vindictiveness.

Under ordinary circumstances some of my fellow citizens might, perhaps with propriety, censure any exhibition of documents, or exposition of facts, on my part; but, I trust, that they will now reflect, that it is in self defence I resort to the course pursued by the President himself; that I have preserved silence for nearly five months, amidst invitations and even taunts on one side, as well as under a slanderous persecution on the other.

Without saying, therefore, at the outset, how far I may go, I consider myself released from all impediments, but those, which a sense of duty to the public and respect for myself may impose.

. . . . . .

Although personally unacquainted with General Jackson, until 1829, *I* ardently supported him as a candidate for the Presidency, as early as 1828. I thought that his country owed him a large debt of gratitude; that it would be useful to our institutions, to have in the executive chair a person unaccustomed to intrigues; but too prevalent at the seat of government; and that he, who had given such sound advice to Mr. Monroe, whilst President, would never contradict in practice himself, what he had then declared to be the only patriotic and honorable course of the chief magistrate of a free and enlightened people.

In 1828, *I* renewed my exertions in his favour, at no little sacrifice of personal friendship and pecuniary interest; and, when he was successful, I heartily rejoiced: but, I confess, that as soon as *I* saw some former professions contradicted by subsequent practice, *I* felt sincere regret. I respected the *P*resident's intentions, and flattered myself that he would return to the path, from which he might have incautiously wandered. I was not, however, a partisan; General Jackson, now in power, did not need aid from me. Men, who had stood in the ranks of his opponents, when I advocated him, passed over to his side, when he won the "spoils of victory," and they got no inconsiderable portion. As to myself personally, I desired to partake of the fruits of the triumph only as a member of the great family of the people.

It was not to be expected, that I should cease to support the general course of the President, because he erred, as I believed, in various instances; much less, that *I* should cease to be a member of a party, to which I had always belonged, because its favourite had not redeemed all his pledges: I sustained such of his measures as were consistent with the fundamental principles of the old republican party; and, without considering who advocated, *I* censured such as were at variance with them. And, as on the subject of the Bank of the United States, more than any other, I have been grossly slandered, with the sanction of the President, I will add, that I have invariably opposed it, as I still do. Whether wisely or not, I adhere to the doctrine of the Virginia school as to a national bank; and it is quite as arbitrary to condemn my independent exercise of judgment on this point, as it was in the President to expect me to change at will my convictions in relation to the public deposits, or to accept his reasons for doing an act, which my own judgment condemned.

Whilst alluding to this subject, I will take occasion to repel the vile imputations of the official paper, in relation to my motives for resisting a removal of the deposits. Under the President's sanction, it has been insinuated, that my course was dictated by a corrupt understanding with the Bank of the United States; and, in the official paper of the 15th instant, I am even called "the emissary of the bank."

Without any desire for office on my part, I had been called to a high station. The selection was generally approved of; and yet in less than four months, I was contumeliously removed. To excuse this act of outrage, became a matter of much consequence. Sympathy for me would be condemnation of my oppresser; and, therefore, the official paper sought to infuse into the public mind suspicions, as to my purity—suspicions which found a ready reception on the part of men, who, being base themselves, naturally supposed, that I could not have made a sacrifice of office under the public, without an equivalent elsewhere.

In the community of which *I* am a member, there are many devoted friends of the President, who disagree with me; but I think, there is not one, who believes the insinuations of the official paper to have any foundation. *So* far, therefore, as my immediate fellow citizens are concerned, I might with propriety treat these derogatory imputations with silent comtempt. But, beyond this community I am not generally known, and hence it may be expected by my fellow citizens at large, that I should notice them; and I feel the less disinclination in doing so, since distinguished senators have condescended in their places to repel similar imputations. Accordingly, I pronounced each and every assertion or insinuation of the official paper, imputing corrupt or improper motives to me for resisting a removal of the deposits, to be false, foul, and malignant. Further, I aver, that there is not even a colourable pretext or, apology for any of the imputations cast upon me. I have never, directly or indirectly, received, nor have *I* ever had the promise or expectation of receiving any loan, fee, gift benefit, favour, consideration, or other advantage whatsoever from the Bank of the United States, nor from any of its officers. I have never been presently nor contingently responsible to it, nor to any of its officers. I have had no direct or indirect correspondence or communication with the bank, nor with any officer thereof, with the exception of letters on file in the Treasury department, and with the exception of a single letter, received from the President of the bank, enclosing me, as the friend of the late Mr. Girard, his oration on the occasion of laying the corner stone of the Girard College, on the 4th of July last, to which letter I merely gave such a reply as courtesy calls for on like occasions. Far from desiring to favour the bank, *I* have at all proper times avowed and maintained my opposition to it.—And, if any words can express more fully and emphatically my absolute freedom from all design to favour the bank, I desire they may be considered as used. *I* believed that the bank was entitled to the deposits, according to solemn contract; I believed that it had a right to them, unless the Secretary of the Treasury could give satisfactory reasons to Congress for removing them; as Secretary of the Treasury I could not give reasons satisfactory to myself; I believed that the act of removing the deposits would be unnecessary, unwise, vindictive, arbitrary and unjust; and although opposed to the bank, I would not be an instrument to effect any such scheme, as that which was proposed. Therefore, laying aside, as I was bound to do, my personal prepossessions as a man, *I* acted solely from considerations, which *I* dared not to disregard, as an officer.

It must be manifest, from the conduct of the President, that it would give him

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