

# AUGUSTA.

Monday Evening, May 17, 1819.

## ARRIVAL OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES IN AUGUSTA.

The President of the United States accompanied by his private Secretary, Mr. Gouverneur, the Hon. Mr. Calhoun, Secretary at War, and Maj. Gen. Gaines and family, arrived in this place on Saturday evening last. The President was met about ten miles from town by the officers of the 10th Regiment, and escorted to the corporate limits of the city. He was then received by the municipal authority, who congratulated him on his arrival, and accompanied by a concourse of citizens, conducted him to the house of Mr. Benjamin Sims, which had been prepared for his reception.

The arrangements for a public dinner, in honor of the occasion, have been superseded by the unexpected shortness of the President's visit. A Ball, however, will be given this evening at the Planter's Hotel. The President was received in true republican simplicity. We had no other show to make, than the tender of a sincere respect and an unostentatious hospitality.

At ten o'clock this morning, the Mayor and Aldermen, with a number of citizens, waited upon the President at his residence, where an appropriate Address was delivered, and a suitable answer returned, of which the subjoined are copies. After which the President visited the U. States Arsenal, accompanied by the Mayor, the Committee of Arrangement, and Major Gen. Walker, and Gen. Glascock, and their staffs, with a large number of citizens. The President then made an excursion to the Sand Hills, where he partook of an elegant collation at the house of Edward Campbell, Esq.

The President, we understand, leaves Augusta to-morrow for Nashville, (T.) taking Washington, Lexington, and Athens in his way. His route from Nashville will be regulated by circumstances.

To JAMES MONROE, President of the United States.

Permit me sir, in behalf of the City Council and of the inhabitants of the City of Augusta, to welcome your arrival among us.

To have an opportunity of thus testifying our respect for the Chief Magistrate of our country, affords a gratification, the more prized, because in the person of that Chief Magistrate we behold a man distinguished for his private virtues, as he is exalted by his political station. In you sir, is exemplified the truth of the aphorism, so dear in a republic, that virtue, integrity and talents, are the passports to honor, and it is with pride and satisfaction we acknowledge your claim to public confidence. At an early period of the revolutionary contest, you are found wielding the sword of just vengeance against the oppressors of your country. Yes—you breasted the storm of war, and by your heroic gallantry greatly assisted your compatriots in the establishment of our independence—an event ever memorable in the history of nations. Thus achieved, 'twas neither consistent with your own patriotic feelings, nor compatible with the wishes of a grateful people, that you should retire to the peaceful shades of private life—& from that period to the present, you have been constantly employed in the service of our beloved country. You have been indeed one of the fathers of our republic—you have nursed it from infancy to manhood, and have protected its interests with a firmness and consistency which no difficulties could appal.

It is not deemed necessary in the present address to advert to the many important occurrences which have distinguished your administration. But for the sake of Georgia not to mention the acquisition of the Floridas, as an event calculated to throw a lustre around it, would betray a destitution of judgment and a deficiency of grateful sensibility. Under the good influence of your mind and impartial administration, party spirit, that base and obnoxious trait, has been allayed. Agriculture, commerce and the arts have been encouraged, and our country has been in a state of progressive advancement in prosperity and happiness. We should do justice therefore, to our own feelings, if we were not to embrace this opportunity of offering to your acceptance the just, though silent tribute, of our unfeigned approbation.

The late memorable contest with Great Britain, when terminated in the violation of a nation's rights, has illustrated the efficiency and stability of our government, and placed it high on the rolls of fame. In this conflict too, was afforded the strongest possible evidence of the exacting skill and good conduct of the American navy of the United States, and of the industry and patriotism of her citizens. It has it nevertheless, proven how inefficient we then were in the means of defence, and how necessary it was that prompt and efficient measures should be taken to remedy so great an evil.

To place our sea-coast in an attitude of defence, and to be prepared against a future attempt at invasion, has demanded much of your personal attention—and this may be ascribed the journey which has given Georgia the honor of your presence. Remote as we are from the seat of the General Government, we are nevertheless not beyond the reach of its protective arm.

"In peace prepare for war" is a maxim dictated by prudence and founded in the best principles of humanity. That it should form a leading feature in your administration might well have been anticipated. Anxious for the welfare of the country, your parental care is co-extensive with the boundless limits of our commonwealth, and we are not beyond the reach of its protective arm.

language—whose inhabitants are  
in the sunshine of a constitution,  
as the great orb of day, and distin-  
guished as the most effulgent luminary in  
the celestial firmament—& who under the  
protection of wholesome laws, well admin-  
istered—cheered—animated, and blessed  
with the smiles of Providence, may indeed  
be happy.

Accept sir, our sincere wishes that your  
life may be prolonged, and that you may  
continue to enjoy that felicity to which your many vir-  
tues entitle you. And that your adminis-  
tration, which commenced so auspiciously,  
may be prosperous in its progression—and  
that you may close your Presidential career  
with the increased public confidence—and  
the gratitude of your fellow-citizens  
toward your well tried and faithful  
services to our common country.

F. WALKER,

Mayor.

THE PRESIDENT'S ANSWER.

Mayor, City Council and Inhabitants  
of the City of Augusta.

The kind reception, and favorable opinion entertained of my public conduct by the corporation and citizens of Augusta, affords me the highest satisfaction. From the nature of our government, which is founded, on the sovereignty of the people, and purely representative, I well knew that my fellow citizens would desire to express any sentiment, which was approved, by their judgment, and did flow from the heart. Their approbation, therefore, of my humble services, from my life, affords me the greatest consolation, which a mind, conscious of having exerted its utmost faculties, in high trusts, and often in perilous public emergencies, can receive.

The events of the late war, having, as I justly observe, admonished us of the necessity of being better prepared for the future, and Congress having made the necessary provision, I have thought it my duty by personal supervision, and inspection, so far as I might be able, to give all possible effect, to that wise and salutary policy. It is under this sense of my duty, that I have endeavored to visit our maritime and inland frontiers, looking at the same time, to other objects, intimately connected with the high trust committed to me. In thus performing this part of my duty I have seen with inexpressible delight, the most convincing proofs of the rapid growth, and general prosperity of the country, with the good effect, of our happy system of government, in every other circumstance, in which government can be felt; a people enjoying every right; obedient to law; becoming daily more rational and affectionate towards each other; universally prosperous, contented and happy. A people capable of organizing a government, which has secured to them so many blessings, will never want either the intelligence, the courage, or the virtue, necessary to sustain it.

In the adjustment of our differences with Spain, comprising the acquisition of Florida, I see all the advantages which you justly anticipate. Experience has shown, that while that province was held by another power, we could never be secure against Indian hostilities in their worst form, and that our interior was exposed, more particularly the northern States to every other species of annoyance which could proceed from savage neighbors, liable to be practised on, and increased, by indigent and grasping adventurers, from every country. Among the important consequences attending this adjustment, it is proper to notice the security in which it places our peaceful relations with Spain, which were otherwise exposed to imminent danger. A general view of its advantages, need not be given. They will be fully understood and duly appreciated by the public.

On the continuance of my best exertions to administer the government on its true principles, and thereby to strengthen and support them; and to advance the prosperity of my country, and the happiness of my fellow-citizens, you may confidently rely: seeking in return, only, such support in the discharge of my duty, as the public interest may require, and seek favorable opinion, of my conduct and motives, on my retreat, so I may merit. I will add, that on such support, and favorable opinion, I confidently rely.

JAMES MONROE.