

GEORGE-TOWN, *September 21.*

On Wednesday last one of the grandest MASONIC processions took place, for the purpose of laying the corner stone of the Capitol of the United States, which, perhaps, ever was exhibited on the like important occasion: It was in all probability much facilitated by an advertisement which appeared many days before in several news-papers of this state.

About 10 o'clock Lodge, No. 9, was visited by that Congregation, so graceful to the Craft, Lodge, No. 22, of Virginia, with all their Officers and Regalia; and directly afterwards appeared on the southern banks of the Grand River Patowmack, one of the finest companies of Volunteer Artillery that hath been lately seen; parading to receive the President of the United States, who shortly came in sight with his suite—to whom the Artillery paid their military honours, and his Excellency and suite crossed the Patowmack; and was received in Maryland by the Officers and Brethren of No. 22, Virginia, and No. 9, Maryland, whom

the President headed, and preceded by a band of music; the rear brought up by the Alexandria Volunteer Artillery, with grand solemnity of march, proceeded to the President's square in the City of Washington, where they were met and saluted, by No. 15, of the City of Washington, in all their elegant Badges and Cloathing, headed by Brother JOSEPH CLARK, R. W. G. M.—P. T. and conducted to a large Lodge, prepared for the purpose of their reception. After a short space of time, by the vigilance of Brother C. WORTHY STEPHENSON, Grand Marshal, P. T. the Brotherhood and other bodies were disposed in a second order of procession, which took place amidst a brilliant crowd of spectators of both sexes, according to the following arrangement, viz.

The Surveying Department of the City of Washington.

Mayor and Corporation of George-town.

Virginia Artillery.

Commissioners of the City of Washington, and their Attendants.

Stone Cutters.

Mechanics.

Two Sword Bearers.

Masons of the first degree.

Bibles, &c. on Grand Cushions.

Deacons with Staffs of Office.

Masons of the 2d degree.

Stewards with wands.

Masons of the 3d degree.

Wardens with Truncheons.

Secretaries with Tools of Office.

Past Master with their Regalia.

Treasurers with their Jewels.

Band of Music.

Lodge No. 22, of Virginia, disposed in their own Order.

Corn, Wine and Oil.

Grand Master P. T. George Washington, Worshipful

Master; No. 22, Virginia.

Grand Sword Bearer.

The Procession marched two abreast, in the greatest solemn dignity, with music playing, drums beating, colours flying, and spectators rejoicing, from the President's Square to the Capitol, in the City of Washington, where the Grand Marshal ordered a halt, and directed each file in the procession, to incline two steps, one to the right, and one to the left, and face each other, which formed an hollow oblong square, through which the Grand Sword Bearer led the van, followed by the Grand Master P. T. on the left—the President of the United States in the center, and the Worshipful Master of No. 22, Virginia, on the right—all the other orders, that composed the procession, advanced, in the reverse of their order of march from the President's Square to the south-east corner of the Capitol; and the Artillery filed off to a destined ground to display their manœuvres and discharge their cannon: The President of the United States, the Grand Master, P. T. and Worshipful M. of No. 22, taking their stand to the east of an huge stone; and all the Craft, forming a circle westward, stood a short time in silent awful order;

*The Artillery discharged a Volley.*

The Grand Marshal delivered the Commissioners a large Silver Plate, with an inscription thereon, which the Commissioners ordered to be read, and was as follows:

*This South-East Corner Stone, of the Capitol of the United States of America in the City of Washington, was laid on the 18th day of September, 1793, in the Thirteenth Year of American Independence, in the first year of the second term of the Presidency of George Washington, whose virtues in the civil administration of his country have been as conspicuous and beneficial, as his Military valour and prudence have been useful in establishing her liberties, and in the year of Masonry 5793, by the President of the United States, in concert with the Grand Lodge of Maryland, several Lodges under its jurisdiction, and Lodge No. 22, from Alexandria, Virginia.*

THOMAS JOHNSON, }

DAVID STUART, }

DANIEL CARROLL, }

JOSEPH CLARK, R. W. G. M.—P. T.

JAMES HOBAN, }

STEPHEN HALLATE, }

COLLEN WILLIAMSON, M. Mason.

*The Artillery discharged a Volley.*

The Plate was then delivered to the President, who, attended by the Grand Master, P. T. and three most Worshipful Masters, descended to the Cavazion trench—and deposed the Plate, and laid on it the Corner Stone of the Capitol of the United States of America, on which was deposed Corn, Wine and Oil; when the whole congregation joined in reverential prayer, which was succeeded by Masonic Chanting Honours, and a volley from the Artillery.

The President of the United States, and his attendant brethren, ascended from the Cavazion to the east

of the corner stone; and there the Grand Master, P. T. elevated on a triple rostrum, delivered an Oration fitting the occasion, which was received with Brotherly Love and Commendation; at intervals during the delivery of the Oration, several volleys were discharged by the Artillery. The ceremony ended in prayer, Masonic Chaunting, Honour, and a 15 Volley from the Artillery.

The whole company retired to an extensive booth, where an ox of 500lbs. weight was barbecued, of which the company generally partook, with every abundance of other recreation. The festival concluded with fifteen successive volleys from the artillery, whose military discipline and manœuvres merit every commendation.

Before dark the whole company departed, with joyful hopes of the production of their labour.

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