

on every face, and the affections of the heart were disclosed in all the external expressions of ardent passions. The powers of beauty could only complete this joyful festival. And these were not wanting, for, at the evening assembly, the animating presence of the ladies gave a fresh spur to the feelings of the day. *Vive le President* shone in the countenance, was inscribed in the dress, and engraved on the heart of every fair attendant. In a word such an occasion alone could excite feelings so general, and so sincere." After dinner a gentleman favored the company with an original song, depicting the birth of Washington at the command of Jove.

[1790.] Henry Ridgely, of Annapolis, on November 9, was elected one of the Governor's Council.

In the *Maryland Gazette's* issue of November 11, appeared a communication, signed "A Freeman," which strongly denounced negro slavery.

On the 16th of November, Daniel of St. Thomas Jenefer, a prominent citizen of Annapolis, died aged 67 years.

Charles Carroll, of Carrollton, was re-elected Senator of the United States.

On December 9, a communication signed "Citizen" appeared in the Gazette in which the writer wanted the firing of guns in the streets on Christmas Day broken up. The practice, however, obtains to this day.

[1792.] On Friday, the 10th of February, Governor George Plater died in Annapolis. In his public character which began with his earliest manhood, and terminated with his death, he was the firm advocate of the rights of man, and was distinguished by warm and zealous adherence to the principles of the American Revolution. In private life, he lived an honest man and was above suspicion in the transactions of business. "He was warm in his affections and unbounded in his philanthropy." His remains were attended the next day by the honorable members of the council, the officers of State, and a numerous company of citizens to South River, on the way to Sotterly, his seat in St. Mary's county. James Brice, being the first name of the Governor's Council, became Governor.

In January, 1793 the Lodge of Antient York Masons, installed at their Lodge-room in the city of Annapolis in due form, by authority of Peregrine Letherbury, esq., grand-master of Maryland, and who have entitled themselves the Amanda Lodge, assembled to celebrate St. John's the Evangelist, A. L. 5792, at the house of Mr. Vachel Stevens, where, "with Masonic and convivial happiness, whilst decorum and philanthropy presided at their meeting, they drank the following toasts:"

1. Our Sublime brother, the president of the United States.
2. The Day.
3. Our grand-master of Maryland, Peregrine Letherbury, Esq.,
4. The Amanda Lodge.
5. The P. grand-master of Maryland, John Coates, Esq.,
6. Our Masonic brethern.
7. The United States.
8. The Secretary of State.
9. The Governor of Maryland.
10. The Chancellor of Maryland.

11. The Chief Judge of Maryland.
12. Col. Francis Mercer.
13. The National Assembly of France.

On February 22nd, one of the Annapolis packets on its way to Baltimore, upset off Magothy river, and the following persons from Annapolis were drowned: Mr. Thomas Pryfe, saddler; Mr. John Ross, Mr. John Hammond, Mr. Benjamin Buckland, cabinet-makers; Mr. Thomas Carstin, and Mr. Wm. Lockerman, owners of the vessel; and Mr. James Denning, Mr. Thomas Coats of Greensbury's Point, and a colored boy were also drowned. There were ten persons on the vessel and nine were drowned.

On February 24th, Thomas Dance, a plasterer of Annapolis, whilst at work on the inside of the dome of the "Stadt-house," made a false step, and fell to the floor. He died in a few hours.

July 31st. The Muse's flame was lit by adorers to burn incense to their idols in ancient Annapolis as well as in the modern days. In the *Gazette* of July 31st, appears the following acrostic:

"Skilled in science, formed without art to please,  
As bright as glory, yet as mild as ease,  
Refined in politeness, as in carriage nice,  
Altho's she's fair, she's diffident tho's wise,  
Her brilliant eyes a hermit would entice,  
Merry, tho' not light: against flattery a test,  
Unknown to intrigue, of female fair the best.  
Range from the Northern to the Southern pole  
Retrace your footsteps, e'en pervade the whole.  
And view the beauties of each various clime  
You'll see none so fair, as my nymph divine!"

[1795.] There lived at Annapolis at this period, one William Caton, a hair-dresser and barber, whose chief claim to renown is that he shaved General Washington. Caton was an unctious tradesman, and when he opened a grocery and dry-goods store, he closed his advertisement with:

"The said Caton, actuated by a due regard to the sacred principles of gratitude, tenders his grateful thanks for that liberal patronage which a generous and indulgent public has offered him, and he flatters himself, that, while his mind is animated by a lively sense of preceding favors, his future conduct will entitle him to the claims of universal approbation."

[1800.] On Sunday, January 28th, the Almshouse, a large and commodious building, near Annapolis, burned down. None of the inmates were injured.

Saturday, the 23d of February, by proclamation of the Governor, observed at Annapolis, "as a day of mourning, humiliation and prayer," in respect to the memory of Gen. Washington. The officials of State, City and College, the military and citizens, attended church in a body. Rev. Mr. Higinbotham preached in the morning and Rev. Mr. Roberts in the afternoon.

The text in the morning was "It is appointed for all men once to die." In the afternoon, "Know ye not that there is a Prince and a Great Man fallen this day in Israel."

Act 75, of the session of 1830, was a supplemental Act to an Act to lay out and establish a road from the city of Annapolis to the city of Washington, and to repeal the Act therein mentioned.