

LETTER FROM LAFAYETTE

Quaint Document Now in the Possession of General John S. Berry, of Baltimore.

WRITTEN TO GOVERNOR LEE

The Frenchman Was Just About to Start in Pursuit of Benedict Arnold and Wrote From Headquarters Along the Elk River.

Framed in a glass in the house of Gen. John S. Perry, of Baltimore, who is well-known to Wilmingtonians, is a letter from Marquis de Lafayette, which is still in a good state of preservation.

The writing is small and very difficult to decipher, and the ink is faded, too, which makes it all the more difficult now to tell just what Lafayette wrote from Elk River, Cecil county, on March 5, 1781.

He was then rendezvousing his army at the head of Elk River. He had gone to France and gotten money and had come back again and equipped soldiers. When this letter, which is addressed to Governor Thomas Sim Lee, was written Lafayette was about to start in pursuit of Benedict Arnold.

"ELK, March 5, 1781.

"SIR: Your Excellency's letter of the 3d inst., enclosing one from Lt. Jonvion, has been safely transmitted, and I beg leave most respectfully to present my thanks for the success which you are pleased to promise in this important expedition.

"On my arrival at this place, I had the honor of addressing a letter to your Excellency, wherein I reported the circumstances under which I found myself, and took the liberty of urging the necessity of immediately to send every vessel that might be found in the bay.

"Your Excellency will have also found in my letter some remarks, which from the nature of the expedition became important—armed vessels to protect us, to hunt and dispatch boats to get our carry intelligenances, sews to land the artillery, and a sufficiency of boats to land at once the whole detachment.

"Such are the articles in which we are most deficient, and will absolutely want an efficient success.

"Some of the vessels that are sent to this place have, I am afraid, found a way of hiding themselves in the creeks, which, unless precautions are taken to chase them up, may prostrate our expectations.

"From a conviction that the number of vessels ordered here will not exceed our wants for this first detachment, I should, on this account, most earnestly request your Excellency that every vessel found hereafter in the bay be speedily sent to the head of the Elk.

"But another motive adds to the importance of the measure, and I have the honor to inform your Excellency that General Wayne, with a detachment from the Pennsylvania line, is soon expected at the head of the Elk, from whence he is to join me as soon as a sufficiency of vessels may be got in readiness. The 600 barrels of bread will be of great service to us—300 more would finish to make up about one month's provisions for the detachment, to which, if 300 barrels of meat and a portion of rum were added, it would insure a sufficient stock for the troops that are at present with me. The getting of live cattle would be extremely agreeable. But I cannot (being unacquainted with the lower part of Maryland and Virginia) pretend to judge of a proper manner to forward them. Provisions are articles of such importance that any aid obtained from this State must be of great weight in the state of our operations.

"On my arrival at this place I directed that a return be made of articles deficient in the artillery and engineer departments. Enclosed I have the honor to send a copy of this return. Want of money is a great obstacle to every preparation made by our army and we seldom can complete such necessities which Europeans consider as essential even to the thoughts of undertaking an expedition.

"A copy of this paper has been enclosed to Gen. Gist, hoping that something could be found at Baltimore, but my chief dependence is in the aid I solicit from your Excellency and this State.

"I have no artificers, and it would be necessary that a number of them be ordered for the expedition. Whatever articles among those above mentioned could be got in readiness might either come up to this place, or wait for the time of our passage to Annapolis.

"But I intend to embark and sail, so soon as vessels can be got; should some other articles be unable to join us on the way, they might be ordered to come after us with all possible dispatch. Our detachment has been in readiness since the time of our arrival. The troops under General Wayne may be soon expected. But the number is entirely unknown to me, and depends upon what they may be able to collect.

"Arnold has 1,500 regular troops, exclusive of officers and sergeants. The 44 g in ship, and the two frigates, will furnish him with 600 sailors who are excellent for batteries. He must have some line with him, and from time he had to fortify the position I think his works must be respectable.

"The present detachment is excellent, but small. The number of Pennsylvania and the time of their arrival is entirely uncertain. A large quantity of militia will be necessary to achieve a purpose to which we are at present so inadequate, and I do not know what number may be got from Virginia.

"A body of militia and every competent soldier have marched under Baron de Stubens. What your Excellency and Council would think on this matter, I would be happy to know, and would be desirous that armed vessels and transports with provisions could be in the Potomac. I have the honor to send your Excellency a letter from the President of Congress, and with the highest respect have the honor to be

"Your Excellency's most obedient and humble servant, LAFAYETTE"

"His Excellency, Governor Lee, &c."

A Well-Filled Game Bag.

Joseph P. Cross shot six ducks and fifty rail birds in a day's gunning trip. He is arranging to go on a trip to Laurel for quail, and reports that a fair amount of game can be secured.

Kent County Inspectors.

Special Dispatch to THE SUN.

Doves, Oct. 22.—The following election inspectors have been appointed: First Representative District—First election district, Alexander G. Smith; Second election district, William L. McFarlane.

Second Representative District—First election district, William H. Reed; Second election district, James F. Taylor. Third Representative District—John Bell.

Fourth Representative District—Eddy C. Daly. Fifth Representative District—First election district, Samuel H. Barker; Second election district, Mark W. Cole.

Sixth Representative District—First election district, William T. Gooden; Second election district, Albert Welch. Seventh Representative District—John Caleb Voshell.

Eighth Representative District—First election district, Charles H. Shockey; Second election district, Thomas B. Draper.

Ninth Representative District—First election district, Frederick W. Harrington; Second election district, Jesse B. K. Miller.

Tenth Representative District—First election district, Lavinus Austin.

Keith's Theatre.

Keith's entertainers this week will include two players who have appeared in the foremost theatres of America, and whose work has been approved by the most critical of playing stars. J. H. Stoddard has been on the stage over a half century, and he is the oldest player now on the boards in America. Coudock, who is idle at present, was born in 1815; Joseph Jefferson, in 1829, and Charles Barton Hill, in 1828. Mr. Stoddard was born on October 13, 1827. "Dear Old Stoddard" probably never appeared to better advantage than as Lawyer Money-penny, in "The Long Strike," one of the most popular plays produced during the nineteenth century.

The two best scenes of this play will be revived at Keith's this week by Mr. Stoddard's little company, and judging by the enthusiasm with which they were received at the Keith's theatres in New York and Boston, "The Long Strike" scenes will probably score one of the greatest hits of Jubilee week. Another piece that has been received with unusual favor is "A Bit of Instruction," described as a little play of stage and social life. Harry Woodruff, who was for years a matinee idol at Frohman's Lyceum Theatre, and who is to re-join the Frohman forces next month, will impersonate the actor in the play who gives another man a bit of instruction.

The actor, a matinee idol, gives his caller an unexpected envelope as a player has received from the caller's sweetheart. Then the actor assures the visitor that the "mash" notes received from impressionable girls are not heeded, and shows him the photograph of the girl he is to marry. Mr. Woodruff was engaged to Anna Gould, daughter of the multi-millionaire, and women will probably be anxious to see this handsome young player. Mr. Woodruff will be assisted by Marcus Ford, who is also a Harvard man, class of '95. In addition to these extraordinary attractions, the entertainment will include fourteen other diverting acts.

The laughmakers of the company include O'Brien and Havel, Dixon, Bowers and Dixon, George Graham, Joe and Nellie Donner and Edward and Josie Evans, and it is safe to say that no comedy produced here this season has elicited more laughter than will be provoked by the antics of these players. Vocal and instrumental music will be supplied by Kitty Bingham, Consolidated Three, Edward L. Boyle, The Gypsy Quintette and Farrell and Taylor. The Behrwell Trio, ring performers. The Gleason's dancers and the Biograph are also on this week's bill.

Theatrical Notes.

The Biograph will reproduce Jubilee week scenes at Keith's shortly. This week's repertoire of living pictures, exhibited at 3, 6 and 9 p. m., daily, will include all that were left of the Seventy-first Regiment, and all that was left of their flags, the naval parade, and several other military views.

J. H. Stoddard, who has been on the stage a half century, and Henry Woodruff, who will be seen shortly in one of the Frohman productions, will make their local vaudeville debut at Keith's to-morrow.

The entertainment at Keith's lasts from noon to 10:30 p. m., daily. This week's sixteen act program is one of the most enjoyable ever offered at this house.

"The Keith programs," says the Boston Post, "are remarkable in quality and amazing in cost. They go from grave to gay, from lively to severe, from high art to no art, and combine, agreeably and profitably, the novel, the ingenious, the interesting and the amusing."

Stock Sale.

At a sale of stocks in Philadelphia on Thursday, 120 shares of Delaware Railroad stock were purchased by a Philadelphia firm at 34. Dick Bros., of Philadelphia, purchased all the city of Wilmington bonds offered. A \$1,000 city of Wilmington 6 per cent. bond, due September 1, 1907, brought \$1,117.50. Three \$1,000 Wilmington 6 per cent. bonds, due September 1, 1908, were purchased at \$1,570, and three \$1,000 bonds, 6 per cent., due September 1, 1909, sold for \$3,637.50, a premium of 12 1/2 on each bond. A \$1,000 bond, 6 per cent., due September 1, 1910, brought \$1,217.50.

Secured Other Positions.

Charles Cushman, who has occupied the position of chief draughtsman on the torpedo boat Stringham, now in course of construction at the shipyards of the Harlan & Hollingsworth Company, for the Government, has secured the position of chief draughtsman at the works of the Sparrow's Point Shipbuilding Company, and has left to assume his duties.

Edward Smith, assistant timekeeper in the shipyard of the Harlan & Hollingsworth Company, has left for New York, where he will enter one of the principal shipyards.

Monument Selected.

E. W. Gallagher, chairman, W. Waterbury and A. A. Dougherty, of the Memorial Committee appointed at a meeting of the machinists of the Harlan & Hollingsworth Company to procure a suitable monument to the memory of the late foreman, James Carmichael, have visited all the principal monumental yards in the city and have selected a special design. The monument will measure 10 feet 6 inches in height, and will cost in the neighborhood of \$300.

Y. M. C. A. Notes.

The Bible Class of the Y. M. C. A. will hold a meeting at their building at Tenth and Market streets. W. L. Pottingill will speak. Men and women cordially invited. C. H. Cagwell and family, and J. W. Smith and daughters, are attending the Convention of the Y. M. C. A. at Fort Wayne, Ind.

NEWS NOTES.

John P. Stewart, Jr., has returned to Milford. Lieutenant W. T. Watson, Jr., has returned to Milford.

An original pension has been granted Charles N. Stigers. C. B. Holt, of Boston, has been visiting in Wilmington.

Austin Harrington is spending some time at Atlantic City. The Rev. I. B. Taylor, of Gold's, Md., was in Wilmington yesterday.

William E. Heart, of New York, was a Wilmington visitor on Friday. Miss Dorothy A. Berens has been the guest of friends at Overbrook, Pa.

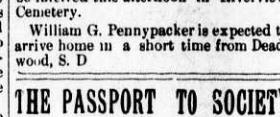
The elevator in the Equitable Building was repaired yesterday afternoon. The work of paving Morrow street with firebrick has been completed.

The Rev. Ralph T. Coursey has been visiting friends in Centreville, Md. John Conly spoke last night at the Sunday Breakfast Mission Association.

L. L. Penningham, of Marietta, Ohio, registered at the Clayton House yesterday. The body of Mrs. Alice A. Clayton will be interred this afternoon in Riverview Cemetery.

William G. Pennypacker is expected to arrive home in a short time from Deadwood, S. D.

THE PASSPORT TO SOCIETY

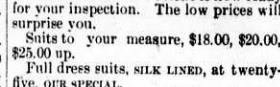


Is correct attire. The cost of a fine wardrobe, however, has been a bar to many a brilliant man's social progress. That bar is now removed. There is no philanthropy in our action. It is purely business. We take this way of introducing ourselves to those with whom we have never had dealings. Our new stock of Woolens is now ready for your inspection. The low prices will surprise you. Suits to your measure, \$18.00, \$20.00, \$25.00 up. Full dress suits, SILK LINED, at twenty-five, OUR SPECIAL. Overcoats, \$18.00, \$20.00, \$25.00, \$30.00 up. Trousers, in all the latest foreign and domestic novelties, at \$5.00, \$6.00, \$8.00, \$9.00, \$10.00.

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