

ATHENS, (Ga.) May 21st. 1819.

On Friday at one o'clock, the president, general Gaines, Mr. Gouverneur and lieutenant Monroe, escorted by the honorable Thomas W. Cobb esq. and the committee who waited upon the president at Lexington arrived in this place—and by previous arrangements, the citizens of the village, and a large number from the vicinity, who had assembled at the College Chapel, preceded by the reverend, Dr. Waldell, president elect of the University, and the reverend Dr. Brown, met the president of the United States at his lodgings, when the first named gentleman delivered the following address.

Sir—The inhabitants of the village of Athens and its vicinity, embrace with eagerness the opportunity now afforded them to address the first magistrate of the Union, and to assure him that, in common with their fellow citizens of the state of Georgia, they hail his arrival among them with sincere and heartfelt pleasure. To excite this feeling, the recollections of the event of a few past years would be amply sufficient—how natural then that it should occur when the whole history of our country both in its foreign and domestic relations bears testimony to the disintersted exertions of an entire life spent in her service. Most earnestly sir, do we invoke Heaven this life may be continued!—Most sincerely do we hope that, like the exalted characters who have preceded you also will be long preserved to enjoy the fruits of your patriotic exertions evinced in the unparalleled advances of your beloved country in all that is morality and physically great.

Our best and purest wishes have accompanied you from the period of your leaving the city of Washington to the present moment, and they will accompany you to the end of your tour. It is one of those spontaneous tributes of gratitude to the great and useful characters of our country, that are rendered with equal fidelity

and readiness, at the very extremes of the Union, as in its more central parts, and whilst we now so justly offer it, we will fondly indulge the hope, that our latest posterity may have equal reason in the republican simplicity, purity, and energy of the character of their presiding Magistrate, to do it with the same justice, sincerity and pleasure.

To which the president of the United States replied.

Happy as we are, under what we believe to be the most eligible form of government that the world ever knew, I receive with the greatest satisfaction, the assurance given me, by the citizens of Athens and its vicinity, of their approbation of my public conduct, because I know it is sincere. To witness the prosperity of this great and growing republic, with the many strong proofs afforded, that the principles of our government, to which it is justly imputable, are becoming daily better understood, and gain a deeper hold on the affections of the people, must give to us all inexpressible delight. Let all, then in their several stations, and avocations, perform their duty, by using their utmost efforts to explain and support these principles, as the only sure means of preserving the public happiness. By literary institutions, to which the care of our youth is entrusted the most important services may be rendered, in these respects, and it gives me pleasure to observe, that you have one rising among you, which presents a prospect of great promise, to the state.

The name of your village, brings forcibly, to my recollection the great incidents of the ancient Grecian city, after which was called, whose inhabitants were renowned for their learning, eloquence, and skill in the art, and likewise for the love of liberty, and manly efforts to support it. That small republic left a name, which sheds a lustre on the ancient world, and does more honor to mankind, than the conquests of the Macedonian hero. May you equal that city in renown, in every circumstance, in which it was great. A better fate cannot fail to attend you, because your liberty is secure, under the protection of a great nation, composed of many confederated republics, or one of which you are a part, and all of which are founded, on the equal rights of the people, bound together by a national government, founded on the same principles, and endowed with sufficient strength, to accomplish, all the great objects, for which it was instituted.

The President and suite, were then conducted to the dinner prepared for them, at which col. Thomas P. Carnes presided, aided by col. A. S. Clayton as Vice-President—and in which a numerous company participated with feelings of the utmost gratification and harmony, and in the most lively sentiments of respect for their guests.

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1. *The memory of Washington*—May he on all occasions be honored from gratitude, remembered as an example, and venerated for the splendor of his fame.

2. *The public officers of government*—Faithful to their trusts, independent in principle and honest in motive. May they have no favors to ask and no censures to dread.

3. *The people*—They have a right to the best exertions of public functionaries, for they are neither deficient in gratitude or wanting in the ardent sentiments of veneration.

4. *The University of Georgia*—About to renew its operations under the direction of an able manager, and furnished by the liberality of the legislature, with the most ample resources, it now only wants the confidence of the public and the affections of the people.

5. *The memory of Baldwin, Jackson & Milledge*—The devoted and unwavering friends of the University. May they only be forgotten when their munificence is un- felt.

6. *Education*—Affords the first and firmest pillar of government, and offers the best and finest polish to society.

7. *The Colonization Society*—Planned by the wisest heads and the purest hearts. May it eventuate in the happiness of millions.

8. *The slave trade*—The scourge of Africa; the disgrace of humanity. May it cease forever, and may the voice of peace, of christianity and of civilization, be heard on the savage shores.

9. *The Patriots of South America*—We view their struggles with commiseration. May they soon find an ark of safety in a free constitution.

10. *General La Fayette*—The same in 1819, as in 1778. He deserves the gratitude of Americans, and the esteem of the world.

11. *The Navy*—An infant Hercules. Who will attempt to calculate the achievements of its manhood?

12. *The Governor of Georgia*—Supporting the dignity of the State, he has a just claim to the protection of its citizens.

13. *The Fair*—As they occupy the first place in our hearts, may they animate the last effort of our recollection.

VOLUNTEER TOASTS.

By the President of the United States—Success to the University of Georgia.

By General Gaines—The young men of our country destined for its defence. May they never forget that peace is the time to prepare for war.

The President and suite having retired.

Our distinguished Guest—Possessing the Supreme confidence of his country. May he from every generous motive, never want a proof of its hospitality.

By the president of the Board—The President of the United States—We are happy to have him among us.

By the Vice President—May the citizens of Georgia, zealously unite in cherishing their own seminaries of learning, and may our youths be educated at home.

By Thomas W. Cobb, esq.—Our guest, Edmund P. Gaines—It is his pride to wield the sword which he wears in defence of the liberties of his country.