

## COPYRIGHT / USAGE

Material on this site may be quoted or reproduced for **personal and educational purposes** without prior permission, provided appropriate credit is given. Any commercial use of this material is prohibited without prior permission from The Special Collections Department - Langsdale Library, University of Baltimore. Commercial requests for use of the transcript or related documentation must be submitted in writing to the address below.

When crediting the use of portions from this site or materials within that are copyrighted by us please use the citation: *Used with permission of the University of Baltimore.*

If you have any requests or questions regarding the use of the transcript or supporting documents, please contact us:

Langsdale Library  
Special Collections Department  
1420 Maryland Avenue  
Baltimore, MD 21201-5779  
<http://archives.ubalt.edu>

Reception of General La Fayette in Baltimore.

Entrance into the Patapsco.

Between seven and eight o'clock on the morning of Thursday, the wished for signal from the steam-boat United States communicated the pleasing intelligence that the Nation's Guest was approaching the city. It was immediately announced by a discharge of three guns from Fort M'Henry, and succeeded by a salute of thirteen guns, fired by a detachment of the First Brigade of Artillery which was stationed on Federal Hill. The discharge of artillery was a signal for the display of the national flag, which was now to be seen on all the public buildings and vessels in the harbour; and first of all was seen rising to its elevated station on the flag-staff of Fort M'Henry, the same "Star Spangled Banner" which waved in triumph on that spot during the awful bombardment of 1814. The stars and stripes which then bid defiance to a powerful and vengeful foe, and upon which the eyes of friends and foes were alike directed, were now unfurled to the breeze as the token of honor and welcome to the great and good man who was approaching under their shadow. Four of the principal steam-boats in the harbour were immediately on their way down the river to meet and escort the United States. They were gaily decorated with flags and filled with citizens of both sexes, anxious to enjoy the honor of being among the first to greet the arrival of the General among us---and as they successively passed the United States, they saluted her with hearty and continued cheers. The United States now took the lead; at some distance in the rear, on one side was the Maryland, and on the other the Virginia, and at the same distance, in

American and Commercial Daily Advertiser.

Sat. Morning, Oct. 9, 1824, Page 2, Col. 3.

Reception of General La Fayette in Baltimore.

-----

Entrance into the Patapsco. ( Continued.)

-----

like order, followed the Philadelphia and Eagle. In this manner the whole moved forward upon the bosom of the Patapsco, whose tranquil waters presented the most beautiful and imposing scene which had ever been witnessed upon them.

ionate hospitality. They were escorted to their quarters by two companies of Baltimore artillery and two guns detailed by Colonel Leakin.

A fine body of troops from Frederick, consisting of cavalry commanded by Captain M'Pherson, and a rifle corps commanded by Captain Schley have just marched in escorted by the Baltimore Marion rifle corps commanded by Captain Branson and a full band.---There appearance has excited general admiration---the cavalry veru finely mounted and the appointments of all, cavalry and infantry, strictly military and extremely handsome. Their welcome is cordial and sincere.

A superb corps of cavalry from Prince George's County, all mounted on grey horses, has just passed through Market street.

A detachment of United States troops from Fort Severn, arrived at Fort McHenry yesterday from Annapolis, to be stationed in that garrison during the visit of Gen. La Fayette.

This day at three o'clock His Excellency the Governor of the State of Maryland will visit Fort M'Henry, and immediately after the ceremony of his reception, the gates of the Fort will be opened till 6 o'clock, to all persons wishing to see the **TENT** of GEN. WASHINGTON. The strictest order and decorum will be enforced.

The officers of the United States Army and Navy, now in Baltimore: the citizen Volunteers of Fort McHenry during the bombardment, the Committee of Vigilance and Safety of 1814, and the officers of the late 36th and 38th United States Regiments of Infantry, are invited to unite with the garrison of Fort M'Henry in the reception of Gen. La Fayette on Thursday morning.

Reception of General La Fayette in Baltimore.

.....

At a few minutes after nine o'clock the boats came too, about two hundred yards distant from the Fort, the escort boats arranging themselves in a line behind the United States. The squadron of barges, eight in number and each decorated with a flag, now approached for the purpose of conveying the General and suite to the landing of the Fort. The barge intended for the General was handsomely cushioned, carpeted and otherwise ornamented-- and at the head was an eagle bearing in its beak this appropriate motto--  
" Welcome LA Fayette- to the land of the free and the home of the  
**brave.** "

The duties of commander of the barge were discharged by captain T. Gardner, one of the oldest and w<sup>r</sup>thiest ship-masters of the port.- He was aided by captain B. Mezick, and at the oar<sup>s</sup> were seated six others of the most respectable ship-masters of the port, viz:- captains W. Spear, J. Mezick, J. Frazier, H. N. Stansbury, J. Johnson and D. Griffith. They were uniformly dressed, in neat and appropriate costume. When the barge came alongside, the commander and crew were invited upon deck and introduced to the General. He then entered the barge, accompanied by Gen. Smith and Col. Bentalou, amidst the united cheers of the citizens in the surrounding boats. As soon as the family of the General and the different deputations were seated in the other barges, the whole moved off in seaman-like style, preserving a regular distance from each other.

Reception of General La Fayette in Baltimore.

( Continued. )

The Landing.

Upon the platform of the landing were stationed the Marshals of the day, Messrs. Sterett, Tenant, Winchester and Thompson; and upon the stairs were Colonel Hindman, commanding officer of the Fort, and E. G. Woodyear, Esq. of the Corporation committee of Arrangement.

The moment of the General's stepping from the barge was announced by the thunder of a national salute from the guns of the garrison, and by shouts of thousands of the citizens who had assembled in full view of the landing, ( the band playing La Fayette's march) he was saluted by a line of respectable citizens, the defenders of Fort McHenry during the bombardment, each of whom he took by the hand. After the General had passed the line he halted for a few minutes, during which a procession was formed in the following order:-

Marshals.

General La Fayette, supported by Col. Hindman and General Smith.

George Washington La Fayette, Mons. Le Vasseur, the General's friend, and the Hon. John Quincy Adams.

The deputation on the part of the Corporation.

The Aids of the Governor of Maryland.

The members of the Military deputation.

The citizen soldiers who served in the Fort in 1814.

The officers of the barges.

Saturday Morning, Oct. 9, 1824. Page 2, Col. 3.

Reception of General La Fayette in Baltimore.

( Continued. )

The Band of Music.

As the procession moved along the winding route to the Star Fort, its effect upon the mind was solemn and imposing in the highest degree. When it arrived opposite the great arched entrance of the Star Fort, the procession halted. Looking through the archway, the eye beheld the garrison of the fort drawn up in the handsomest order, with its front towards the entrance. The officers of the garrison were posted along line, and as Col. Hindman conducted the General within the entrance, the band of the Fort played La Fayette's march, and the highest military honors were paid. The appearance of the garrison, and the precision with which all the movements were performed, excited the admiration of all present. At the word of command the lines opened in the center, by marching to the right and left, and discovered the Governor of Maryland immediately in front of the tent of Washington. When General La Fayette was presented to the Governor, the latter addressed him as follows:-

General- In bidding you a hearty welcome to the state of Maryland, whilst I gratify the honest feelings of my own heart, I express, but feebly, those of the people whom it is my pride and pleasure, on this occasion to represent.

Beneath this venerable canopy, many a time and oft have you grasped the friendly hand of our illustrious Washington, aided his council with your animating voice, or shared with him the hardy soldier's meal. The incidents which the association so forcibly recalls, however inspiring, it were needless to dwell upon.

Saturday Morning, Oct. 9, 1824.

Page 2, Col. 3.

Reception of General La Fayette in Baltimore.

(Continued. )

The recollection of them fills the mind with gratitude, a full measure of which is justly due to you as the generous companion of our fathers, the gallant and disinterested soldier of liberty. May the sentiment of gratitude towards the author of the blessings we enjoy, never be weakened in the bosoms of my countrymen!

On this very ground, scarce ten years have passed since our brave fellow-citizens have proved that they know how to defend the liberty which you nobly assisted them to achieve. Ten times an hundred years shall elapse and the glorious example shall not be lost upon them.

You are about, General, to enter the city of Baltimore which you have known in other days. In her growth and embellishment you will behold a symbol of our national prosperity, under popular institutions and a purely representative government. Her monuments aptly illustrate the feelings of my fellow-citizens. In the column which has been reared to the blessed memory of Washington, you have an evidence of the veneration and permanency with which they cherish the memory of your compatriots, the heroes of the revolution. In the column of later date, you will discern the gratitude of freemen for the services of those who devote themselves to the cause of liberty.

Welcome, thrice welcome, General, to the soil of

Reception of General La Fayette in Baltimore.

Maryland! Nothing that we can do, can too strongly express to you the affection and respect which we entertain for your person and your principles, or the joy with which we receive you among us, as a long absent father upon ~~him~~ a visit to his children.

To this address, General La Fayette replied in an appropriate manner---a copy of which we hope to publish in our next.

The Tent of Washington.

After the General's son and friend had been presented Governor Stevens advanced with the General into the "War-house of Washington," and presented him to the President of the Cincinnatti of Maryland, the venerable Colonel Howard, who addressed him with great emotion in the following terms:-

General- The few of your brother soldiers of Maryland, who remain after a lapse of forty years, and the sons of some of those who are now no more, are assembled in the Tent of Washington to greet you on your visit to the United States, and to assure you of their affectionate and sincere regard. This tent will call to your recollection many interesting incidents which occurred when you were associated in arms with Washington, the patriot and soldier, the savior of his country, the friend of your youth.

This Fort, not distinguished in your day; garrisoned principally by citizen-soldiers, many of whom are now present, has recently and successfully sustained a formidable bombardment.

Reception of General La Fayette in Baltimore.

( Continued. )

If its commander had been permitted to sojourn longer with us he would have been fully rewarded for every toil and danger by an interview with you on this joyous occasion. The name of this Fort cannot fail to excite your sympathy for the loss of a brother officer, Major Henry, who was sincerely attached to you, and deservedly high in your confidence.

Accept, General, our cordial sentiments of esteem for you, and of gratitude for service rendered by you to our country;- services which will never be forgotten by the free and happy people of the United States.

To which General La Fayette made the following reply:-

The pleasure to recognize my beloved companions in arms; the sound of names whose memory is dear to me; this meeting under the consecrated tent where we so often have pressed around our paternal commander in chief; excite emotions which your sympathizing hearts will better feel than I can express. This Fort, also most nobly defended in the last war, while it brings the affecting recollection of a confidential friend in my military family, associates with the remembrance of the illustrious defence of another fort, in the revolutionary war, by the friend now near me. ( Gen. Smith.) It has been the lot of the Maryland line to acquire glory, in instances of bad as well as good fortune, and to whom can I better speak of the

Reception of General La Fayette in Baltimore.

glory of that line than in addressing Col. Howard? My dear brother soldiers, my feelings are too strong for utterance. I thank you most affectionately.

In uttering this affectionate and feeling reply, the General testified by his manner how deeply his heart was engaged in the solemn and interesting occasion.

Thus far we have endeavoured to record as correctly as lay in our power the various details attending the reception of the General---but we now arrive at that point when description fails, and language is ~~manum~~ weak to pourtray the powerful and varied emotions of the human heart, when excited to the highest pitch by a combination of the most interesting associations and elevated sentiments of which man is susceptible, - belongs not to our pen. The minds of a grateful people may conceive but the tongue cannot describe the feelings of La Fayette and his venerable companions upon their meeting in the tent of Washington. In the center of the tent stood the president of the Cincinnati, Col. Howard, of the Maryland line, and at his side was one of the conscript fathers of the Revolution Charles Carroll of Carrollton.- On either side of them were arranged Generals Steuart, Stricker, Reed, Benson, and other heroes of the Revolution---their brows all whitened with the snows of age. During the delivery of the adress, in which Col. Howard evinced much emotion, every eye was suffused with

Reception of General La Fayette in Baltimore.

( Continued. )

8

tears---but when the voice of La Fayette was heard ~~man~~ once more addressing his old and loved fellow-soldiers, the surcharged hearts of all present could no longer withstand the rush of the feelings which came over them. Tears flowed and sobs were heard in every direction, and this was the language which interpreted the convulsive double grasp with which they welcomed him. Each member of the Cincinnati was presented to him by name---some he ~~at~~ once recognized, and others by their resemblance to their fathers who had fought and bled with him. At a glance he recognized a venerable brother in arms, sergeant Everhardt of Frederick, who had been instrumental in saving his life in one of the battles of the Revolution.

Among the officers whose names we recollect that were presented to him were General M'Comb, Colonel Jones, Colonel Hook, and Major Vandeventer of the United States' army---the officers attached to Fort M'Henry---Captain Nicholson of the U. States navy---and George Washington Custis, Esq. to whom the tent of Washington belongs.

After the presentations and introductions were made, the General and family were invited to the second tent, where an elegant collation in the French style was set out, and in which the hand of female gratitude and taste was plainly apparent. The plate used upon this occasion was the superb service which the gratitude of the city of Baltimore had presented to Col. Armistead

Saturday Morning, Oct. 9, 1824, Page 2, Col. 4.

Reception of General La Fayette in Baltimore.

( Continued. )

for his able defence of Fort M'Henry during the bombardment. An interesting relic was here presented ~~him~~ to the General, which he regarded with much interest. It was the camp chest of Washington, containing the knives, plates, &c. used by the father of his country. The company sat down to the table for a short time, and previous to leaving the Tent, several ladies were presented to the General. He evinced much feeling when the President introduced to him the daughter of an old acquaintance, the late Judge Chase. On one side of the tent was mounted a French cannon, and on the other side an American cannon, both of which were employed at the siege of York Town.

Upon leaving the Star Fort the General was handed into a splendid Barouche, drawn by four elegant black horses, attended by grooms in full livery. Seated with him were Charles Carroll of Carrollton, General S. Smith, and Col. Howard. The General's son, Mons Le Vasseur, and Governor Stevens, occupied the next barouche--- a third contained General Stricker, Col. Bentalou and Mr. De Bois Martin---and the Committee of Arrangement, and the Society of Cincinnati followed in carriages. Upon passing the outer gate of the Fort, the General was received by the whole body of Cavalry, which were there stationed. The first city troop preceded him, the second city troop fell in after the carriages, and the escort was closed by the remaining troops, comprising a corps of seven or eight hundred horse, well mounted and handsomely equipped.

Friday, June 7, 1833.

Page 2, Col. 1.

The celebrated Indian chief Black Hawk and the other Indians belonging to his party, came passengers yesterday in the steamboat Columbus from Norfolk. There was a very large assemblage of spectators upon the wharf, in expectation of their arrival. The motions of the Columbus, on approaching the wharf, created some surprise, as she stood off and on without landing, and there were evident symptoms that some uncommon occurrence had taken place on board. On inquiry it was found that a robbery had been committed, and the passengers had requested that they might not be landed until a thorough search had been made for the thief and the property. A gentleman of Alexandria, whose name we understand is White, had lost a pocketbook containing \$360. in notes. The agent of the steamboat, and several police officers went on board, and arrested several persons upon whom suspicion had fallen. They were taken before a justice for examination. While they were under examination, the pocketbook and contents were found in the chain cable box where the thief had thrown them to escape detection. It was fully identified by Mr. White and paid over to him. The persons under arrest were discharged.

We learn that the Indians, on being informed of the affair, insisted on being searched with the rest of the passengers. They are under the charge of Major Garland, and lodge at the Fountain Inn, Light street.

Baltimore American, April 22, 1861,

Page 1, Col. 1.

Under the news.

The presence of Federal troops at Fort McHenry creates in the minds of many persons, especially females, apprehensions that there is danger, in the event of a continuance of hostilities, that the city will be bombarded from the Fort, and the safety of its inhabitants indiscriminately periled---Such apprehensions are entirely needless.

Baltimore American and Commercial Advertiser,

Friday, April 26, 1861,

Page 1. Col. 3.

T H E            N E W S

There is little that is new to note in connection with the condition of affairs in this city. The military preparations are still progressing, but the public mind each day regains composure and the city resumes more of its ordinary aspect. Some little excitement was occasioned yesterday by the report that Fort McHenry was communicating by signal with a Government steamer lying at the mouth of the river. The intelligence from below makes no mention of any steamer there. A revenue cutter communicated with the fort during the day and afterwards proceeded down the river.

Monday, April 29, 1861

Page 1, Col. 3.

FORT McHENRY

Since the commencement of actual hostilities between the North and the South Fort McHenry has become an object of special attraction on the part of citizens of Baltimore, and hundreds proceed there for the purpose of seeing what is going on. The post is under the command of Captain Robinson, of the Fifth Infantry, who is universally esteemed as an accomplished and experienced officer, and the intercourse, both official and private, between himself and the authorities here has been of the most friendly character. The Fort has not been reinforced, the rumors to the contrary notwithstanding, and the number of effective men is about two hundred, who are kept in a high state of military discipline. Many are exercised at the guns, none of which have recently been remounted. The strictest military regulations are necessarily enforced, and citizens are not admitted within the works. The old receiving ship Allegany is now laying at the south angle of the Fort, with her usual complement of men.

1861

Reinforcement of Fort M'Henry.

-----

The reinforcements thrown into Fort McHenry are said to be  
as large as can<sup>be</sup>/conveniently accommodated. The barracks are not  
large enough, and a number of tents have been erected for the men.  
It has been closed against visitors, and on Saturday several per-  
sons from this city were denied admission. Fort Carroll is also  
said to have been garrisoned and armament left on it. It is not,  
however, completed and will be but a poor defence until the  
walls are built up.

Thursday, May 2, 1861

Page 1, Col. 3.

FORT McHENRY REINFORCED

Yesterday morning one of the propellers of Shriver's New York line arrived at Fort McHenry and landed a number of troops with provisions in barrels, &c. The number of troops was not ascertained, though supposed to be less than one hundred.

Friday, May 3, 1861

Page 5, Col. 2.

IMPORTANT FROM FORT McHENRY

Curious Revelations of the Recent Defenceless Condition  
at Fort McHenry.

Fort McHenry, Sunday, April 28, 1861.

"The Star Spangled Banner" still waves over the parade ground of Fort McHenry. The safety of this fortification is due to good fortune and nothing else, for the murderous assault of the Baltimoreans on the Massachusetts Volunteers, last Friday week, took the officers here completely by surprise, and had the rabble extended their operations to embrace this fort, they could have taken it without the slightest trouble.

On the 19th instant we had not a single mortar in position for firing, nor was there a single round of grape or cannister for the heavy guns, although three months had elapsed since the preparations for defending the fort had begun. In fact, while civil war was raging in Baltimore, not even our sentinels on post had their muskets loaded, nor was there a field piece to protect our flanks or curtains, not a grenade to throw over our walls against the assailants. The telegraphic reports of our shelling the city of Baltimore were totally without foundation, such a step being physically impossible---The only pieces of ordnance here which can throw a shell into the city are two 10-inch sea coast mortars, and for them there are neither carriages, platforms nor fuzes. We have neither carriages nor ammunition for our 42-pounders, but we have six thousand eighteen pound balls and not a gun of that calibre at the post. For want of carriages two-thirds of our heavy guns are dismantled, and after our first discharge most of the other third are likely to be in the same condition.

On Saturday, the 20th, we were informed, both by official letters from the Baltimore Board of Police and by private messengers from Union men in the city, an assault would be attempted on the fort that night. Hasty preparations were made to repel an attack of that kind, but fortunately the night passed off without any hostile demonstration. A thousand determined men, with firemen's ladders, could have captured us.

On Monday, the 22d, a messenger was despatched to Washington city to inform the authorities of our condition, and to endeavor to procure gun carriages, tar beds and ammunition, which ought to have been sent three months ago. The messenger found everybody at Washington completely absorbed in their own local affairs; nobody knew anything about us. Some supposed we were worsted by Maryland troops, others that we had been reinforced by Rhode Island volunteers. After a long search, the requisition, which had been made in January for ordnance, and not filed, was found. Then the Chief of Staff inquired very innocently of the messenger where the articles could be got, and finally wound up by informing the messenger that it was very doubtful whether the articles could be furnished to us, and that we must get along the best way we could. Sure enough, we haven't got those articles, nor are we likely to, while the Confederate Army, by robbing our Southern forts and arsenals, has supplied itself abundantly.

On Friday (the 26th inst.) a propeller from Annapolis brought up here Colonel Keyes, of General Scott's staff, accompanied by Lieutenant Snyder of the Engineers, and guarded by Captain Brigg's company of Massachusetts volunteers. Colonel Keyes has a kind of roving commission from the Lieutenant General, and came up to see how we were getting along. During his stay here his guard was cooped up on the boiler-deck of the propeller, with every aperture closed, for fear the Baltimore chivalry might discover ~~there~~ there were Massachusetts soldiers in the harbor. This company would

have been a very useful acquisition to our slender forces, but the Colonel declined leaving them, on the ground that Massachusetts men would be peculiarly obnoxious to the patriotic citizens of Baltimore.

Despairing of getting any mortar beds from the arsenals, our carpenters were on Wednesday set to work making wooden ones, and some iron bolts being necessary, the Quartermaster in Baltimore was requested to supply them, but on being informed of the purpose for which they were intended, he declined, stating that the Ordnance Department thought to furnish them; and it was only by the messenger disclaiming any positive knowledge of the object that they could be obtained. The nearest ordnance officer is in Washington, and communication with that point is cut off. This is "red tape" with a vengeance.

Both the surgeon and engineer officer on duty at this fort reside in the city of Baltimore, and in case of an attack we should be deprived of the services of both of them. I believe they both think it would be a violation of all the rules of civilized warfare for us to fire on a city containing women and children; but we have women and children here who are as dear to their husbands and fathers as the ladies of Baltimore can be to their families.