

found necessary. Smallwood's letters of March 3 and 14 give interesting particulars.

What has particularly impressed the editor in his study of these records, is the self-possession and composure of all the leading men in that great struggle. Neither danger, disaster, nor success seems to have shaken their steadfast souls. In all the correspondence we find no appeals to passion, no high-sounding phrases, no particle of the demagogue's stock in trade. They had not been hurried into revolution, but accepted it when it was seen to be inevitable, and with calm determination they saw it to the end.

The eulogy passed by Chancellor Hanson on the Convention and Council of Safety is worth quoting as a just tribute to the memory of these truly great men. He says:—

“Such an administration, the immediate offspring of necessity, might have been reasonably expected to be subversive of that liberty which it was intended to secure. But in the course of more than two years, during which it was cheerfully submitted to by all except the advocates for British usurpation, although many occasions occurred in which an intemperate zeal transported men beyond the just bounds of moderation, not a single person fell a victim to the oppression of this irregular government. The truth is, that during the whole memorable interval between the fall of the old, and the institution of the new form of government, there appeared to exist among us such a fund of public virtue as has scarcely a parallel in the annals of the world.”