

**THE LATE GENERAL SAMUEL SMITH.**—This venerable patriot, who closed his long and eventful life on Monday evening, the 22d inst., was of Irish descent. His father emigrated from Ireland to this country, in 1728, and settled at Carlisle, Pennsylvania, then almost on the frontier of the colony. The subject of the present sketch, was born at that settlement on the 27th of July, 1752, and resided there with his father's family until September, 1760, when the family removed to Baltimore town; Samuel being then over 8 years of age. He remained with his father, engaged in mercantile pursuits, until sometime in 1772, when his father sent him to London to complete his mercantile education; but the ardent youth, born amidst the back-woods of America, and nurtured in scenes of wild adventure which imbued him with feelings of independence, could not brook the servility of "Change alley," and he sailed for Italy in the vessel which had brought him out. The vessel was wrecked in the Mediterranean, but Mr. Smith escaped with his life, and improving the opportunity, travelled through a large portion of the continent of Europe for more than a year. In 1774 he returned to the then colonies, and on the passage contracted a strong friendship for an amiable and accomplished officer, Major Andre, who fell a victim to an erroneous idea of duty, which led him to become the accomplice of the traitor Arnold. In the year following, 1775, we find Mr. Samuel Smith enrolled in the "Baltimore Independent Company of Militia," which was the first company raised in Maryland, and he may therefore be said to be one of the first of the Maryland line which afterwards reaped such a harvest of laurels, and shed imperishable renown upon the name of the state.—

At this early age his judgement and daring were appreciated by his fellow citizens, and he was commissioned to head a company who were to proceed to Annapolis and capture the Royal Governor of the province, Eden, but their expedition was fruitless, for his excellency had escaped. On the 3d of January, 1776, at the age of 24 years, he received the commission of a captain in "Smallwood's Regiment of Regulars," and entering into active service, devoted himself with all the ardor of a youthful patriot, to the service of his country and the vindication of the rights of man. At the head of a band collected in the then village of Baltimore, he fought with the continental army at the battles of Brandywine, Monmouth, White Plains, and he was one among the gallant regiment of Marylanders, who covered the retreat of the American army after the battle of Long Island, and whose Spartan bravery was the theme of praise even with their enemies. His promotion was rapid until he attained the rank of a Lieutenant-Colonel, when he was entrusted with the defence of a fortification hastily thrown up on the banks of the Delaware, and which bore the uneuphonious but afterwards celebrated name of Mud Fort. The British were at this time in possession of Philadelphia, and this port was of the utmost importance, as enabling the Americans to cut off the communication between the city and the British fleet. This the British were aware of, and a vigorous attack was made upon the fort, but Col. Smith with a handful of continental troops bravely sustained the defence, and the Augusta and another of mines frigates were blown up. During the storming of the fort Col. Smith was wounded, and retired from the command. Congress in testimony of his bravery and services on this and other occasions, voted him a sword, and the thanks of the nation.

After the close of the war, and when the independence of the United States was established, he sheathed his sword and returned to the peaceful pursuits of commerce. In this sphere he was not less useful, than in the more stirring scenes of war. He by his enterprize and example, roused the merchants to exertion, and the commerce of the city of Baltimore daily increased bringing wealth and comfort to her citizens.—The public had too high an opinion of his well-tryed worth, to suffer him to remain in the obscurity of private life, and he was sent as a delegate to the General Assembly of Maryland, for two successive years. In 1793, he was elected a member of the House of Representatives of the United States, and was returned for ten years, when he was elected as United States Senator, which high station he filled until 1815, when he was returned again to the House, where he continued until 1822, and then was elected to the Senate, and remained in that body until 1833. Both in the House and in the Senate, he served on the most important committees, and when Mr. Jefferson was elected President, the post of Secretary of the Navy was urged upon his acceptance, but he declined it, and would consent to serve only six months, until the office could be filled.

When a war broke out a second time with Great Britain, and the city of Baltimore was invaded, Gen. Smith was called by the citizens to take command of the troops raised for the defence of the city.—He obeyed the call with the readiness he had ever evinced to serve his country. In 1835, his services were again demanded, not against a foreign foe, but against a domestic one, perhaps more dangerous—riot, misrule, and anarchy.—The veteran appeared amid the infuriated mob, with the star spangled banner waving over his grey hairs, and calling upon them to rally around it for the support of the laws, the work of destruction ceased. It seemed a voice from the past, the entreaties of a father to his children, not to destroy the constitution he had won for us with his blood, and none were so callous as to disregard the summons. The public was grateful for this service, and he was called to the mayoralty, which office he filled until a few months since.

The life of General Smith has been that of a true republican patriot. He was one of the gallant spirits who won for the republic its freedom and its existence, and he shrunk not from the task of navigating the ship of state through the storms that threatened its destruction, but proved himself not only a brave soldier, but a faithful legislator and a sound statesman. His disinterestedness was shown by the fact of his refusing any compensation for his services while Secretary of State, and his rejection of every offer for pay for his services in the last war. The interests of Baltimore he had ever at heart, and he used every exertion of his active mind to promote her welfare and draw forth her energies. The town, which when a boy, he found but a straggling village, has grown under his eye to be a flourishing city. Where once was a morass, there is now the busy mart of commerce, and where stood the log hut, there has arisen the splendid mansion. A numerous, industrious and happy population crowd her streets, and his last hours were gratified with the sight of a prosperity it had been his chief aim to establish. The public gratitude had heaped honors upon him, and he closed his long life of usefulness amid the veneration of his fellow citizens, and the admiration of the nation. To-day those whom he had when living, so faithfully served, are called upon to pay the last tribute of respect to his memory, and follow to the grave the remains of a patriot. It will be no desire for idle pomp that will swell his funeral train; it will be a just tribute to departed worth and noble patriotism. The procession will start about 4 o'clock, from his late residence, Exchange place, and proceed to the cemetery in Green street, near Fayette, and we hope the suggestion of the councils, that the stores and places of business be closed during the progress of the procession will be adopted.

**FROM TEXAS.**—The steam packet Columbia, arrived at New Orleans on the 14th, bringing the latest dates from Texas. We gather from the Picayune the annexed items of interest. The country was generally quiet—a few marauding bands of Mexicans and Indians only, giving a little trouble. Cordova, the Mexican, with eighteen hostile Indians, was recently killed in an engagement with the Texans, under Gen. Burleson, near the upper settlements of the Guadalupe. Emigration has commenced from Mexico into Texas, nearly two hundred families having recently moved from Bexar to the Rio Grande. A place had not yet been fixed upon for the seat of Government, and there was a rumor that it was to be removed to Milam.

An amusing incident is giving in the Natchez Free Trader, as accompanying the catastrophe of one steamboat running into another. The impression of the officer of each boat was that his boat would go down, and they called, each to the other, right lustily for relief. The passengers, too, conceiving that there was no safety in remaining upon the boat on which they then were, immediately changed places, and after five minutes confusion those of each found themselves in the undisturbed possession of the deck of the other. By this time the dust had cleared away a little, and it was found that nothing serious had occurred to either boat.

**UPPER CANADA.**—The Kingston (U. C.) Herald of April 16, says:

Five schooners had arrived at Oswego, on the 6th inst., from Ohio, through the Welland Canal. Four of them were laden with wheat, to the amount of 16,000 bushels, for the Oswego millers. Non-intercourse is the order of the day between Canada and the United States. The steamboats of both countries run only to their own ports. Indeed so far is this carried, that we have been informed the sentries at Brockville and Prescott fire on the American boats even in the day time.

**MR. SPIES' EXHIBITION AND FANCY BALL,** will take place on Thursday evening, May 2d, on which occasion he has found it necessary to engage Washington Hall, his own head quarters not being large enough to accommodate his numerous pupils, and others who intend to honor him on that occasion. Mr. S. has reason to be proud of the general satisfaction he has given, and the many friends he has made during the past winter, in teaching the art of dancing.

**FROM ANNAPOLIS.**—We learn from Annapolis, that the trial of Samuel Bender, for an assault and battery on Wm. U. Stuart and Andrew Green, with intent to kill, which case was removed from this city, has resulted in a verdict against Bender in both charges. The trial of Charles Irwin, for the same offence, was going on when the boat left Annapolis yesterday.

**DISGRACEFUL.**—We are informed that the body of a man, apparently about 30 years of age, was floating in the dock near the sugar house, Canton, all day yesterday, and that no person could tell who is coroner for the eastern district. We again ask, is there a coroner for that part of the city?

**SHOP LIFTING.**—An elderly woman was yesterday detected in the act of removing a valuable piece of goods from the door of one of the dry goods stores in Market street. A person was observing her at the time, and when the concealment, &c., was completed, stepped up and despoiled her of her booty.

The body of a man was recently found floating in the Mississippi, and from papers in his pocket, his name was judged to be Lewis Cerzine. He had thirteen hundred dollars in Southern notes on his person, which is now in possession of Captain McKinney of the steamboat Gladiator.

**INDIANS ABOUT!**—The Wampanoag Club made their first spring parade yesterday, and looked so much like the veritable red men, that you could hardly "tell one from both, or either from which."

The deaths in New York last week, amounted to 135—96 from consumption.