

# Columbian Centinel, May 7, 1791

By Thursday Evening's **MAILS.**  
**NEW FEDERAL CITY.**

## VIRGINIA.

ALEXANDRIA, ON Friday the 15th APRIL 21. ON the Hon. DANIEL CARROL, and Dr. DAVID STEWART, arrived in this town, to superintend the fixing of the first Corner-Stone of the Federal District. By neglect or accident, the inhabitants were not apprized of their coming, and therefore had not the opportunity of executing fully that plan of operation, which their interest in the business, and their respect for the Commissioners, had previously suggested.

The Mayor and Commonality, together with the Members of the different Lodges of the town, at 3 o'clock, waited on the Commissioners at Mr. Wisz's, where they had dined, and after crinking a glass of wine to the following sentiment, viz. "May the Stone which we are about to place in the ground remain an immovable monument of the wisdom and unanimity of North-America," the company proceeded to Jones' Point in the following order:

1. The Town-Serjeant—2. The Hon. DANIEL CARROL, and the Mayor—3. Mr. ELLICOTT and the Recorder—4. Such of the Aldermen and Common Council as were not Free-Masons—5. The Strangers—6. The Master of Lodge No. 22, with Dr. DAVID STEWART at his right, and the Rev. JAMES MUIR at his left, followed by the rest of the fraternity, in their usual form of procession—And lastly, the Citizens, two by two—When Mr. ELLICOTT had ascertained the precise point from which the first line of the district was to proceed, the Master of the Lodge and Dr. STEWART, assisted by others of their brethren, placed the stone; after which a deposit of corn, wine and oil was made upon it, and the following observations were delivered by the Rev. Mr. MUIR.

"Of America it may be said, as it was of Judea of old, that it is a good land and large; a land of brooks of waters, of fountains, and depths that spring out of vallies and hills—a land of wheat and barley, and vines, and fig trees, and pomegranates; a land of oil-olive and honey; a land wherein we eat bread without scarceness, and have lack of nothing; a land whose stones are iron, and out of whose hills thou mayest dig brass—A land which the Lord thy God careth for; the eyes of the Lord thy God are always upon it, from the beginning of the year even unto the end of the year!—May Americans be grateful and virtuous, and they shall secure the indulgence of Providence!—May they be unanimous and just, and they shall rise to greatness!—May true patriotism actuate every heart—May it be the devout, and universal wish, "Peace be within thy Walls, O America!—and prosperity within thy palaces!" Amiable it is for brethren to dwell in unity. It is more fragrant than the perfumes of Aaron's garment! It is more refreshing than the dews on Hermon's hill!

"May this Stone long commemorate the goodness of God in those uncommon events which have given America a name among the Nations—Under this Stone may Jealousy and Selfishness be for ever buried! From this Stone may a superstructure arise, whose glory, whose magnificence, whose stability, unequalled hitherto shall astonish the World, and invite even the Savage of the wilderness to take shelter under its roof!"

The company partook of some liquid refreshment, and returned to the place from whence they came, where a number of toasts were drank, and the following, which was delivered by the Master of the Lodge, was received with every token of approbation:

"Brethren and Gentlemen,  
"May "JEALOUSY, that green-eyed Monster," be buried deep under the work which we have this day completed, never to rise again within the Federal District."

It may be safely pronounced, that this, or a similar sentiment, pervaded the breast of every individual present on the occasion.

## PENNSYLVANIA.

PHILADEL. APRIL 27. Tuesday evening last the Hon. Judge Wilson finished a course of 60 lectures on the study and

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This is a reprint of an article that first appeared in the Alexandria Gazette on April 21, 1791. Another notable reprint appeared in the Gazette of the United States, which then operated out of Philadelphia, on April 30, 1791.

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## MISCELLANY.

THE AMERICAN MUSEUM.  
AN AMERICAN OBSERVER.

"Being inserted as they rise."  
The great ANTISSON, has given us a description of the situation, &c. in order to the favour of his country. From this custom it is equally improper to begin a text. To these

lations. Hence will arise an agreeable diversity of style and sentiment—and that sameness, so liable to disgust the reader, be prevented.

I invite every man, who is desirous to advance the best interests of society, to co-operate in this undertaking. Personality and acrimony I despise, and shall avoid. For general sake, however severe, if calculated to answer good purposes, shall be always acceptable. So many times have periodical essays assumed the pen, and so great is the sameness of their subjects of discussion, that most of them are nearly exhausted: And therefore much novelty is hardly to be expected. Terence said two thousand

ed thirty-three and a half pounds the bushel, that of the unprepared only three and a quarter pounds—so that for about five shillings, the expense of a bushel of Plaster of Paris, I gained twenty-six bushels of Oats, and by allowing for the increased weight, one and a quarter pounds per bushel, on one hundred and twenty-two bushels, I may fairly add four and a half bushels more, making in the whole thirty and a half bushels.

I am, Sir, with much respect, your obedient humble servant,  
EDWARD HAND.  
To SAMUEL POWELL, Esq. President of the Agricultural Society.  
Published by Order of the Society.

purchase dropped. was made relieved. A few circumstances House, B breaking ard, whi the great covered t able weigh upon the guard of above ci Kemp's B these ha