Sad indeed is this issue of the Gazette of the American Friends of Lafayette, with its announcement of the death of two valued and beloved members of the Executive Council. How much they will be missed, there are no words to say.

JUDGE WALTER P. GARDNER

(The following notes on the life of Judge Gardner must serve as a prelude only to forthcoming tributes to his memory.)

Judge Gardner was born in Jersey City. He attended Lafayette College and in later years an honorary degree was conferred upon him by that college. For ten years he was a judge of the New Jersey Court of Errors and Appeals, the state’s highest tribunal. He was president for ten years of the New Jersey Title Guaranty Trust Company. He had retired on September 30 as trustee of the Central Railroad of New Jersey, having served from 1939 until it emerged from bankruptcy. He devoted much time and energy to his fellowmen, holding many positions of responsibility and importance. He was chairman of the Liberty Loan drives in Jersey City; vice-president of the Lincoln Association; a commissioner of the Panama Pacific Exposition; former president of the Blizzand Men of 1888. Because of his devotion to the memory of Lafayette and his work for this Society, he was made a Chevalier of the French Legion of Honor. He was an authority on the Marquis and assembled a notable collection of material on Lafayette and his times. The Gardner Collection is now at the library of Indiana University. Judge Gardner was a member of many societies and a director of several firms. Mrs. Gardner died in 1945. Surviving are his son, Arthur Gardner, a brother, a sister, and three grandchildren.

A Tribute and a Retrospect

Chateaubriand says, somewhere, that there are men who leave the world so markedly the worse for their passing that the spontaneous grief is the best testimonial to their worth.

This utterance came to my mind as I sat at the funeral of my much-mourned friend, Walter P. Gardner. A notable gathering, that, a cross-section of the wide flung interests and places of honor of the deceased, an assemblage of which any man’s family might justly be proud.

And as I sat there, my thoughts went back through the teeming years to that May day in 1931 when this genial man of simplicity and worth greeted me on the Lafayette campus and explained his conception of the Association which we should there found. It was to be a Society destined to exploit the qualities of the illustrious Franco-American whom he most admired and of whose career he was a profound student. I thought then, as I have thought many times since, how singularly the characteristics of the Avatar were reflected in those of our great first President of the American Friends of Lafayette.

In a corner of my own college campus, high in the Ithaca hills, stands a bench whereon the versatile Canadian scholar, Goldwin Smith, engraved this legend:

Above all There is Humanity.

What more fitting epitaph for Walter P. Gardner, who loved humanity and brought good to his fellow man?

When, in the later years, he met adversity — and who of us has not? — he confronted misfortune with a fortitude both admirable and enviable. Indeed, some of his letters written at this period breathe the same spirit of dignified resignation as the missives of Lafayette from his prison at Olmutz.

A world of fragrant retrospect shall ever encircle my memory of Walter. I see him dedicating our Lafayette Exposition on that summer evening so long ago on the roof of Radio City. I recall him presiding at the historic gathering at Bethlehem in Pennsylvania, taking, with General Aldabert de Chambrun, the march past of the cadets at Joseph Bonaparte’s estate by the Delaware, introducing the French ambassador under the pylons of the great World’s Fair at Flushing.

And then my truant fancy wanders overseas to the memorable Lafayette Centennial Pilgrimage of 1934 which it was my privilege to make with him. I see him again puffing up the steep steps to the bed chamber where the great Marquis lay in state a century before. I see him at the Hotel de Ville of Paris writing his name in the Livre d’Or, or responding with his usual graceful poise to Miss Anne Morgan when she bade us welcome to Blérancourt, and that same afternoon being decorated with the Legion of Honor at the Interallié. Crowning moment of all, I think, the boyish, exuberant enthusiasm with which he paced the terrace at Chavaignac, protesting that this was the apogee of his lifetime and that the cloudy summits of the Cevennes, mounting bleakly to the eastern horizon, must have looked just like that when Lafayette embraced his young bride for the last time before the American adventure.

So now he is gone, and we are the sadder for his going! I do not know that Walter ever embraced the idea of prayerful intercession. Probably not. But if it be true, as we of the ancient faith are taught to believe, that prayers and blessings ascend and descend, keeping the sacred communion ever virent, then this friend of our youth, this admired, much beloved, companion of our maturer years will never be forgotten here.

J. BENNETT NOLAN
With deep sorrow we announce the death on July 1, 1949, of another member of our Executive Council, Howard Rupert Cruse of South Orange, New Jersey. Lawyer, banker, former member of the Port of New York Authority, former member of the Republican State Committee, South Orange village counsel and village trustee for many years, former Hudson County Park Commissioner, one of three active 33 degree Masons in New Jersey and widely known as a Masonic lecturer and scholar — these are only a few of the activities of Mr. Cruse's busy and useful life. As past president of the Lincoln Association of Jersey City, he was responsible for raising the funds to build the Lincoln Monument which stands at the entrance to Lincoln Park. He was Past Grand Master of the Masonic Order of the state, Commander-in-chief, 33rd-degree; active member of the Supreme Council for New Jersey and Past Commander-in-chief of the Scottish Rite Masons, Valley of Jersey City; he served as first president of the Masonic Club of the city, and Past Master of the Temple. He was also a member of the Elks and the Odd Fellows.

He was born in Dorchester, Cumberland County, attending public schools there and the Oakleaf Academy in Cumberland. He was admitted to the bar in 1900.

During the year celebrating the 100th Anniversary of the birth of Lafayette, Mr. Cruse made many addresses relating to Lafayette and at this time received a decoration from the French Government. We of the American Friends of Lafayette, have these many years been fortunate indeed in having had Mr. Cruse as a member of the Executive Council. Association with him was a privilege and his memory is dear to all who knew him.

Masonic services were held and also another service in the Episcopal Church in South Orange, where Mr. Cruse served as a vestryman. He is survived by his wife, Katherine, a daughter, Mrs. Philip Heller, and a granddaughter, Valerie.

His character is revealed in the following quotations from an editorial in the Jersey Journal of July 12, 1949: "... In a message for the 25th anniversary of the Jersey City Masonic Club, Mr. Cruse wrote:

"The greatest need in the world today is brotherhood. Next to faith in God, the greatest landmark in Freemasonry, in all its rites, is the brotherhood of man."

"We call each other brother, but we sometimes fail to realize that brotherhood is a reciprocal relationship. It means that if I am to be a brother to you, then you must be a brother to me. The sentiment of brotherhood in a man's heart is a futile thing unless he can find avenues for its external expression."

"Cruse defined these avenues as sympathy, 'the measure of a man's heartthrob and soul-vision'; service, 'not indolence but industry is the crowning glory of a man's life'; and sacrifice, 'most radiant word in the history of our race.' To the extent that we are inspired by this ideal of brotherhood and use these avenues of expression, our fraternity will contribute to human good and answer the ends of its institution."

"The light faded and the day closed (to use Mr. Cruse's own words), but the inspiration and the example remain."

On October 23, representing this Society, our President, Mr. Messmore Kendall, spoke of the old Huguenot Church in New York, the French Church Da Esprit, at a service commemorating the anniversary of the Edict of Nantes. Mr. Kendall, fellow Huguenot, Governor of the Society of Colonial Wars of the State of New York and President of the Bill of Rights Commemorative Society, spoke of the indebtedness of the youth of America to Lafayette for his passionate devotion to democracy and the freedoms for which we fought here. Mr. Harrison Deyo, one of our members, is President of the Federation of Huguenot Societies in America. Delegates from this and many other patriotic societies were present at the service which was conducted by the rector, Dr. John A. F. Maynard.

BOOKS

Lafayette Between the American and the French Revolution (1783-1789)
by Louis Gottschalk. Published by the University of Chicago Press.

A penetrating study of a militant though moderate liberal passing from one great revolution to another has significance for our times. Dr. Gottschalk presents the challenging view that the American and French Revolutions were parallel developments. This volume has been awarded the James Hazen Hyde prize of the American Historical Association for the best 1947-48 study on Franco-American relations.

Shadows Lengthen
by Clara Longworth de Chambrun. Published by Charles Scribners Sons.

The Countess de Chambrun was born Clara Longworth in Cincinnati, Ohio, sister of the late Nicholas Longworth, former Republican Speaker of the House of Representatives. Her husband, General Aldebert de Chambrun, a general in World War I, was director of the National City Bank in Paris until the occupancy, when he then became director of the American Hospital at Neuilly. In Shadows Lengthen Madame de Chambrun tells the story of her life in occupied and liberated France from 1935 to the present time; a valuable record of tense and strenuous days vividly set down.

The Last Days of Baron de Vioménil
by John Francis Gough. Published by Charles Scribners Sons.

The Last Days of Baron de Vioménil, by John Francis Gough, will be available presently. One illustration will be the Baron, in detail, from Trumbull's Surrender of Lord Cornwallis.

IN MEMORIAM

On March 6, 1949, Mrs. Maude Batchelder Voisburg of Vassal House, Hawthorne Street, Cambridge, Massachusetts. A valued member; a prominent club woman of Cambridge. The Daughters of the Revolution and the Cambridge Historical Society were among her many interests.
The Annual Meeting
MAY 21, 1949

THE Annual Meeting of the Society this year abundantly rewarded all who attended. It was a triple pleasure, for three buildings of great historical interest were visited. The business meeting was held at Philipse Manor, Yonkers, New York, built in 1682 by Frederick Philipse, who had come to America in the employ of the Dutch West India Company and rose to be Lord of the Manor of Philipsburg. This beautiful house, with its sweeping staircase, exquisite mantels and paneling, is hung with the noted Cochran collection of Presidential Portraits. Here the address of the day was made by Dr. Hugh Grant Rowell, Curator of Philipse Castle at Tarrytown, visited later in the day. Dr. Rowell’s highly interesting study dealt with the possible friendship between Lafayette and Washington Irving.

We are happy indeed to have as our new President Mr. Messmore Kendall. The Vice-President and Secretary-Treasurer were re-elected.

New members of the Executive Council:
Dr. Edwin B. Coddington of Lafayette College.
Captain Milo F. McAlpin of New York.
Mr. Arthur R. Suckley of Rhinebeck, New York.
Mr. John Van Buren Wicoff of Tren- ton, New Jersey.

After the meeting at Philipse Manor the members drove to Dobbs Ferry. There Mr. and Mrs. Kendall entertained at a bountiful buffet luncheon at their wonderful home of some twenty rooms, the headquarters of General Washington in 1781. In his book, Never Let Weather Interfere, Mr. Kendall describes the dwelling. He says, in part: “The house was built around 1686 as the farmhouse was a Loyalist. Dobbs Ferry became the dwelling. He says, in part: “The house was actually a museum. Mr. Kendall’s famous Washington Collection was begun forty years ago, and today numbers over three hundred items; many are in this house and others on permanent exhibition at Federal Hall, New York, the Sub-Treasury at Nassau and Wall Streets.

Too soon, cars took the members to Sunnyside, the home of Washington Irving on the Hudson. Here, one hundred years ago (1835-1859) Washington Irving lived, wrote, and entertained illustrious Americans and Europeans. The house contains 95 per cent of all known Washington Irving possessions. From the elm to which he tied his boat to the uppermost room of the tower, there was interest and delight. The Hudson sparkled and the grounds were beautiful in the afternoon sunshine.

We went on to Tarrytown to Philipse Castle; part of this building was built of stone in 1683. All is beautifully restored and furnished. The old Dutch barn, the water wheel of the Old Mill of Sleepy Hollow and the gardens gave much to enjoy, and wound up an unusually entertaining Annual Meeting.

NEW MEMBERS

BENEFACTOR:
Mrs. Gabrielle B. Keyes, Cambridge, Massachusetts.

NEW ACTIVE MEMBERS:
Mrs. Albert Walter Banton, Jr., Yorktown, Virginia.
Mr. Edward R. M. Carr, Long Branch, New York.
Mr. Henry Harrison de Frise, New York, New York.
Mrs. John Francis Gough, Jersey City, New Jersey.
Indiana University Library, Bloomington, Indiana.
Mrs. Nancy Amory de Neuville, Yorktown, Virginia.
Mrs. H. H. Smith, Secretary of the Kenmore Association, Fredericksburg, Virginia.
Mrs. John Brooke Spotswood, Wicomico, Virginia.
Mr. John Brooke Spotswood, Wicomico, Virginia.

Yorktown Day
OCTOBER 19, 1949

ON this, the 168th anniversary of the French and American victory at Yorktown, it was again the pleasure and honor of the American Friends of Lafayette to participate in its celebration.

One hundred and twenty-five years have passed since the noontime when the Petersburg, bearing Lafayette, reached the mouth of the York River and was met by a naval parade; the harbor was crowded with decorated vessels of all types and cheering throngs lined the shore.

On that 43rd anniversary of the siege a city of tents had sprung up on the battlefield. People from far and near had come to greet Lafayette. He was received in the tent George Washington had used at Yorktown. Profoundly affected, Lafayette had walked over the battlefield and to the redoubt which he himself had captured so long ago. Today, in 1949, visitors from many states viewed the battlefield, guided by Colonial National Historical Park Historians.

Anchored in the York River for the celebration was the U. S. S. Albany, heavy cruiser, flagship of the Atlantic Fleet, Rear Admiral Richard Harold Cruzen, Commander Cruiser Division 2; Captain L. A. Bachman, Commanding Officer. Three hundred persons went aboard. During the morning parties were taken out to the vessel and as Yorktown Day is a school holiday, many young people visited the great ship. The Albany made interesting contrast to the ships-of-the-line of de Grasse which so long ago were anchored in these Virginia waters — her tonnage is 16,500; length overall, 675 feet; beam, 70 feet; speed, 30 plus knots. Keel laid at Quincy, Massachusetts, in 1944; commissioned in 1946.

Mr. and Mrs. George Blow of York Hall entertained at luncheon at their home, the house of General Nelson; a mansion of great historic interest. Here Lafayette slept that night in 1824. The cannon balls sunk in its walls are still, as then, mute reminders of the siege.

The exercises at the Victory Monument began at two o’clock with Mrs. George Dubin Chenoweth, Honorary Regent Comte de Grasse Chapter, Daughters
of the Revolution, as Honorary Presiding Officer. Mrs. Chenoweth has the gratitude of all, for she has been for many years the moving spirit of the annual celebration.

As the exercises started, four B-26 reconnoissance planes dipped three times over the assemblage, some 3,500 persons. Then a military parade passed the reviewing stand. Lt. Col. John P. Leonard, jr., U. S. Marine Corps, of the U. S. Naval Mine Depot at Yorktown, was the Grand Marshal. The parade was led by the band and several platoons of soldiers from Fortress Monroe, followed by two platoons of marines, two more from the cruiser Albany, and two detachments from Langley Air Force Base. Incidental music was furnished by the 50th Army Band, Fortress Monroe, and that of the Pequoson High School. One thinks of another day in Yorktown in 1781 when some music was furnished by an English band's rendition of "The World Turned Upside Down," a condition which persists today.

Mr. A. Herbert Forman, Past President General of the National Society of Sons of the Revolution, presided at the exercises. There were several excellent addresses. Excerpts follow. Rear Admiral R. H. Cruzen, Commander Cruiser Division 2, said:

"It is indeed unfortunate that a ship of the French Navy could not be here today, for every American owes an undying debt of gratitude to the French Navy and more specifically to that illustrious French Admiral, Comte de Grasse.

"Casual students of the campaigns of the Revolutionary War all too often miss the true significance of the part the French Navy played in the conflict which brought us independence. Fortunately, our Commander-in-Chief made no such mistake.

"The genius of General Washington in assessing correctly the role of sea power in the Revolution is strikingly shown in a letter to the Count de Rochambeau in which he stated: 'In any operations and under all circumstances, a decisive naval superiority is to be considered as a fundamental principle, and the basis upon which every hope of success must ultimately depend.'"
the music started, a procession with many banners slowly moved down the center aisle, bearing the great wreath to the monument. The banner of the American Friends of Lafayette was carried by Boy Scout Joe Benthall, Yorktown Troop 101. As the flag bearers assembled on the dias, Mr. Kendall placed the wreath, and the benediction followed. Thus ended an impressive and dignified ceremony, carefully and expertly planned by Mr. Edward A. Hummel, Superintendent of Yorktown Colonial National Historical Park and President of the Yorktown Day Association, comprising Comte de Grasse Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution; Thomas Nelson, Junior Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution; Sons of the Revolution in the State of Virginia; the Society of the Cincinnati in the State of Virginia; the American Friends of Lafayette; the Trustees of the Town of York, and Colonial National Historical Park.

Lafayette memorabilia were displayed in the Swan Tavern. The exhibit, sponsored by the American Friends of Lafayette, included material from the Collection of the Society at Lafayette College, items from that of Stuart Wells Jackson and other private sources. On exhibition was an embroidered waistcoat worn by Lafayette during his last visit here; a gift to the Society by Mr. Messmore Kendall. Also shown was the Carpenter portrait of Lafayette, made in 1783; a lovely and unusual portrait acquired in France by Mr. Jackson in 1950. Another famous portrait of Lafayette to be viewed was that of Le Paon, 1783; also the engraving of De Bucourt, 1790, then described as a very unusual portrait acquired in France by Mr. Jackson in 1950. The main house, a fine example of Georgian architecture, was built in 1716 by Captain John Ferrin. The original house, a small frame wing, was built prior to 1690. The old records indicate that "Little England" was of great military advantage and played an important role during the siege, as it is located at the mouth of Sarah's Creek, commanding a view of Gloucester Point and also of Yorktown, just across the York River, thus being an excellent look-out point for the American forces. We were privileged indeed to see this lovely estate and meet its owners.

Members who journeyed to Yorktown were well-rewarded in every way. The occasion could have been improved only had Lafayette been present himself at all the festivities. Members who did not attend need no further recital to acquaint them with what they missed, and they should be quick to note in their engagement books Yorktown Day, October 19, 1950.

Boston Meeting

On September 10th a gathering was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Alan MacIntire at Waban, giving Boston members of the American Friends of Lafayette an opportunity to meet our President and members of the Executive Council. Mr. and Mrs. Kendall, Mr. and Mrs. Gough and Judge Gardner were present, and M. Albert Chambon, the French Consul in Boston.

The 1950 Annual Meeting

Plans are now being made to hold the 1950 Annual Meeting on Saturday, May 20th, at Fredericksburg, Virginia. One of our members, Mr. Laurence Gouveneur Hoes, has established the James Monroe Memorial, centering around James Monroe's law office. There is much of Lafayette interest in Fredericksburg in addition to Monroe, John Paul Jones and others. Virginia in the spring will not be the least of the attractions. Later on the plans for the meeting will be announced in detail, but tentative plans include a business meeting at the James Monroe Law Office, a luncheon to follow, then the address of the day in front of the James Monroe Law Office, a visit to the Mary Washington House and Kenmore. The headquarters for the Society will be the Princess Anne Hotel, which is in the heart of the city, directly in back of which is the James Monroe Law Office. The Law Office, where Monroe practiced law as a young man, houses Lafayette mementoes and French furniture purchased by the Monroes in France in 1794. The Mary Washington House was the home of Mary, the mother of Washington. It was in this house that Lafayette met Mrs. Washington. Kenmore was the home of Colonel and Mrs. Fielding Lewis. Mrs. Lewis was the sister of General Washington. The mansion and grounds are the most unusual and beautiful in Fredericksburg. Colonel Lewis was the maker of guns for the Revolutionary Army and lost much of his fortune in this enterprise. Undoubtedly, Lafayette visited the Lewis family at Kenmore, since that was a "must" in that day. All in all, it seems that a most interesting program is in preparation for the Annual Meeting of the Society, and it is hoped that many members will be able to attend.

Through error in the last issue of the Gazette, in the article by Mr. Stuart Wells Jackson, the historian Gibbon was set down as Gibbons. For this due apology is made.
LAFAYETTE belongs a bit to this section even though his military genius was displayed elsewhere. He was, in 1780, a member of the Andrée court-martial at Tappan. His compatriot, Rochambeau, had his headquarters, with Washington, at an historic spot this group will visit as the guest of its present owner. . . Wherever you go, Lafayette is one of the few American heroes — and such he is — and great men whose fame and affection has lasted in this country.

To Washington Irving, he was a friend — Wilkes Allen in his History of Chelmsford, 1820, expressed the thought, "There is a sublime pleasure in tracing the footsteps of past existence, in walking over the ground, cultivated by former generations, in reviewing the records of their deeds, and in examining the monuments of their industry, wisdom and piety. In these acts we seem to become familiarly acquainted with those whose voices and countenances are unknown to us, and feel interested in those scenes, which once interested an active spirit and excited their liveliest interest."

In this friendship, a three-way one, of Washington, Lafayette and Washington Irving, certain dates are significant. Washington was born in 1732 and died in 1799. Lafayette, 1757 to 1834. Irving, 1783-1859. Alas, when Lafayette first revisited America, Irving was one year of age. On the second revisit in 1824-5, he was in Europe.

Nevertheless, consider the close affection and admiration between Washington and Lafayette, signified, in part, by Lafayette's naming his son George Washington Lafayette (1779-1849). Consider also the familiar tale of Washington's laying his hands upon the head of the toddler, Washington Irving, slightly younger than Lafayette's son. It is recorded that Irving always felt that he lived under Washington's blessing.

Whether Irving and Lafayette ever met is not recorded. Irving was a great diarist, principally through letters to his family but, unfortunately, his nephew, who edited the letters, often used poor judgment in the selection of material from the letters. The letters themselves are mostly destroyed and the rest are scattered to the four winds among many who are more souvenir hunters than scholars. It is known that valuable Irving letters have fallen victim to enthusiastic attic cleaners.

There is reason to believe Lafayette and Irving met but the evidence is not conclusive. With their mutual affection for Washington and their many interests, surely the meeting would have been attractive to both.

They had many friends in common. It is recorded that on Friday, August 15, 1823, Irving had breakfast at Coldens. Here also was Miss Wright, sister of the authors, Frances Darusmont or Frances Wright (1795-1852), philanthropist and friend of Lafayette. Frances Wright is described elsewhere by Irving as a "Tall, thin talking woman."

Another tie existed. Cooper and Irving were of the same literary circle. Cooper actually fought under Lafayette and induced him to sit for a bust by Horatio Greenough, the friend of S. F. B. Morse, artist and telegrapher. And Morse and Irving were friends!

Nor is this all. Captain Bonneville of Western fame was one of the boys whom Thomas Paine befriended. He met Irving at the Astors. Lafayette was an old friend of Bonneville's father, and Bonneville himself, in 1825, as a West Point graduate, spent a year in France under Lafayette.

But the net draws even closer. In 1823-4 Irving was in France. He was already so famous and beloved as a writer and, at that period, diplomat-without-portfolio, that his name and books were undoubtedly familiar to Lafayette.

Presently, he lived with John Howard Payne (Home Sweet Home) who shared with him Mrs. Shelley's close friendship. But most important of all, Irving, in Paris, was happy at the home of Thomas Wentworth Storrow, who was only four years Irving's senior, an Englishman, who was a prosperous merchant and had lived long in America. Storrow was an intimate friend of Lafayette's. Parenthetically, Irving's niece, Sarah Paris, married Thomas Storrow's son, Thomas.

Irving's masterpiece, the Life of George Washington, was written at Sunnyside and published from 1855 to 1859. Irving felt he was paying first tribute to his friend and patron, George Washington. In the five volumes, containing perhaps the best story of the capture and trial of André, he mentions the Lafayettes 86 times. The son is noted 6 times, the wife once. And the Marquis 79. Lafayette is portrayed as modest, zealous, of illustrious family and connections, of generous conduct and much admired by Washington. He is described as having, in today's phrases, an old head on young shoulders. Consistently, Lafayette is held in the best possible light — and rightly — as a friend and admirer would treat him.

So, in brief, the story of the Lafayette-Washington Irving friendship seems to be this: The two had a number of close mutual friends and acquaintances who most assuredly must have praised one man to the other and expressed the hope that the twain would meet. For such a meeting there was actual opportunity in Paris in 1824 prior to Lafayette's departure for his third and last visit to America.

The situation has remained in mid-air, however, because so much original Irving source material has been lost entirely or badly edited, many important sections of letters being deleted by his biographers in an attempt either to present him as a traveler and simple family man or to discuss him from the tiresome point of view of literary criticism. No one knows where most of the letters have gone. What have been published or what remain are most inadequate for biographical purposes.

It is by no means impossible that, some day, an Irving letter, or a letter of one of his companions, will describe a meeting between Irving and Lafayette around 1823 to 1824. Irving's journals, of course, were merely working notes.
or highlighted, almost telegraphic diaries, often interestingly illustrated, like the Haddon Hall item at Sunnyside. But it is not likely that the journals hold the desired proof of the meeting of Lafayette and Irving. It is the belief at Sunnyside Restoration that, somewhere, place unknown, owner unknown, is a large group of Irving letters, perhaps better than anything yet revealed.

The missing Lafayette information is only one of many similar losses to the Irving saga. Irving was possibly greatest in his masterpiece in dealing with local events like the Capture and Trial of André, of which he wrote the finest record. Lafayette is recorded as having close connection with this crucial point in the battle for liberty, both in attempts to save André from execution by exchange for Arnold and through membership in the trial board itself.

Irving and Lafayette almost died in unmitigated admiration and veneration for George Washington and one bore his name while the other gave Washington's name to his son. 'Of course,' Lafayette died in 1834 and so never had the pleasure of reading Irving's great tribute to their mutual friend and hero, as well as his full recognition of the contribution of Lafayette himself. Irving's treatment of Lafayette, however, is not based on sentiment but on America's first world-recognized author's insistence upon genuine basic research in original source material in his non-fiction writings. What Irving found, naturally, made Lafayette all the greater in his eyes.

And so, Lafayette became, in a sense, a part of the greater Sleepy Hollow historical picture through certain events described — and it was Irving who presented Sleepy Hollow to the world.

May this brief consideration of the local side of the esteemed hero of the American Friends of Lafayette, make every member of the organization feel that the great Sleepy Hollow Region holds a very personal interest and welcome.

On Bastille Day, 1949, Mrs. Jane MacIntire (Mrs. Alan MacIntire), editor of this Gazette, was awarded the Médaille d'Honneur des Affaires Étrangères. The presentation was made by M. Chambon at the French Consulate in Boston.

ST. GEORGE TUCKER'S Journal of the Seige of Yorktown, 1781
Edited by
EDWARD M. RILEY, Park Historian

ST. GEORGE TUCKER'S Journal of the Seige of Yorktown, edited by Dr. Edward M. Riley, published (with an offprint) in The William and Mary Quarterly, July, 1948, carries, in Dr. Riley's judgment, the best account of the campaign to be found among all the diaries and journals kept by participants. It was in the Tucker home, Williamsburg, that the fever-ridden Lafayette found shelter, September 6 to 9, 1781. At first a student may not quite agree with Dr. Riley's carefully formulated prefatory paragraphs, but close examination leads to agreement with him. In any event, amateurs will thank Dr. Riley and praise him and the Quarterly for making the Journal conveniently available. The editor achieves his attempt at minimum comment, and neatly corrects several latent errors of Tucker, a conscientious recorder who frankly corrected some mistakes currente calamo, notably what he himself terms his "very unjust account" of the infighting at dusk Sunday, October 14, when Americans, directed by Lafayette, and French, under Viomenil, with bars of steel energetically assaulted and carried two redoubts which stood in the way of a quick allied victory.

Our readers deserve at least a translated passage or two of Tucker's: "Cornwallis [October 17] being allow'd but two hours sent out another Flag to request further time to digest his [Washington's] proposals ... and Hostilities have ceased since five OClock ... A solemn stillness prevailed — the night was remarkably clear & the sky decorated with ten thousand stars — numberless Meteors gleaming thro' the Atmosphere afforded a pleasing resemblance to the Bombs which had exhibited a noble Firework the night before, but happily disvested of all their Horror. At dawn ... the British gave us a serenade with the Bag pipe ... & were answered by the French with the Band of the Regiment of deus ponts. As [the] Sun rose ... our Lines complectly mann'd and our Works crowded with soldiers were exhibited to view — opposite ... at a distance of two hundred yards ... were ... the British Works ... crowded with officers looking at those ... assembled at the top of our Works." Ruined houses and "ships sunk down to the Waters Edge — further out in the Channel the Masts, Yards & even the top gallant Masts of some might be seen, without any vestige of the hulls afford ... striking Instances of the Destruction occasioned by War." Tucker ends in poetical rhapsody:

Beneath God's Eye, in Admantine Chains,
The imprison'd Furies lie,
And Fair smiles the Face of Heaven.

JOHN GOUGH

Mrs. Maris S. Binney (Mrs. Horace Binney) of Boston has received the award of the French Legion of Honor — "for invaluable services to French relief work and to many French organizations." The presentation of the award was made by M. Albert Chambon, the French Consul, at the Consulate in Boston on March 24, 1949.

The Sad Tale of the "Marquis de Lafayette"

IN 1781 the first "Lafayette" sailed the seas. Her history is not glorious, however. Her captain, de Galatheau, was responsible for the loss of a valuable cargo of supplies destined for the impoverished army of General Washington.

The "Marquis de Lafayette" was an old French India-man of 40 guns, 18 and 6-pounders. She was chartered early in 1781 by Jonathan Williams, Benjamin Franklin's nephew, to be added to a convoy assembling in France to bring munitions and supplies to America, but as she was too long in fitting and loading, that particular convoy sailed without her in early March.

When Captain John Barry with the "Alliance" brought Colonel John Laurens to France and was preparing to lead a convoy back to America, de Galatheau boasted to him that the "Marquis de Lafayette" could fight her way across the ocean single-handed, but Barry said, "I would advise you, Captain, to go to Brest and sail with the convoy." And this he finally agreed to do, but his delays maddened Barry. The "Marquis de Lafayette" loaded 450 tons of public
stores, including 100 tons of saltpetre, 26 iron 18-pounders, 15,000 gun barrels, sole and harness leather, uniforms for 10,000 men, cloth for 6,000 additional uniforms — a cargo valued at over a million livres and all urgently needed in America. Looking the “Marquis” over thoughtfully, Barry decided that she was more heavily laden than her goods would indicate. He was rightly suspicious that some private goods had been loaded also. It all fitted in with his opinion of de Galatheau.

On March 26, 1781, Barry sailed from Brest with his convoy, which included the “Marquis de Lafayette.” It was the start of an adventuresome and arduous voyage. First there was trouble aboard the “Alliance” — there was always trouble aboard the “Alliance”; John Paul Jones, John Barry and, of course, the psycotic Pierre Landais, all had troubles while in command of that ship. Lafayette himself experienced many disquieting moments on the first of his two voyages aboard the “Alliance,” that in 1779 when he encountered both storm and mutiny on his way home to France on furlough.

This time another mutiny. The plot was disclosed by an Indian who desired “to speak to the captain.” Three mutineers were put in irons that night; the next morning they were stripped, hung by their thumbs to the mizen-stay and whipped with a cat-o’-nine tails until they divulged the names of the other mutineers, eleven in all. The process took the entire day; a brutal but usual procedure in those days.

As the convoy made its way over the sea, two prizes were taken. Captain Banks strangely put the “Marquis de Lafayette” in charge of one, the brig “Minerva.” Distrusting his captain, he watched the “Marquis de Lafayette” like a cat. On the 25th of April a gale came up; that was the last Barry saw of the “Marquis.” Seizing his opportunity to disengage himself from the convoy, de Galatheau crowded all canvas and made off; the “Marquis de Lafayette” thus disgraced herself and her name. For three days Barry searched for her, but in vain. In addition to her valuable cargo, she had aboard Captain William Robinson, who strenuously opposed de Galatheau abandoning Barry.

But the runaway did not encounter smooth sailing, and she was chased by the “Endymion.” For three hours she fled, fighting, only to surrender at last much battered and with twenty men killed. She was taken into Edinburgh and later towed to England, a delight to the enemy when she dropped anchor with our supplies. (To cap the climax, de Galatheau, subsequently escaping from England, actually asked Barry for a share in the prize money taken by the “Alliance” after he had deserted her.

Barry said, “You may as well suppose you have a right to a part of all the prizes the “Alliance” may take, as long as she bears that name.” And so Barry packed him off.

During the remainder of his troubled voyage, Barry bagged two Jamaica-men and ran into terrific storms. Next he fought and captured the English vessels “Atlanta” and “Trespassez,” with five of his men killed in the battle, and twenty-two wounded. Barry himself was wounded in the shoulder by grapeshot. The battered “Alliance” at last limped by Boston Light on the first day of June. She had long since been given up for lost. Her sick captain found himself a hero.

It was no unusual misfortune to lose at least one ship of a convoy, but the antics of Captain de Galatheau of the “Marquis de Lafayette” and his ignominious surrender to the enemy caused the worthy Captain John Barry — and posterity — much embarrassment and regret.

THE LAFAYETTE PREVENTORIUM

“I wish you were here today and could see (as I do), from this ancient Chateau’s windows, over 320 happy boys and girls, aged from 5 to 15 years, playing, laughing and singing as though they had never known a care.

“But for your kind and generous support, most of these fortunate children might still be in their gloomy city homes, their health and happiness gravely menaced by the dreaded White Plague — Tuberculosis.

“This wonderful Preventorium, founded in the ancient Chateau where Lafayette was born, in no way resembles a drab charitable institution. The children love their life here, their walks in the scented pine woods, their games on our green, playing in the cool, mountain air. They love their kind doctor with his gentle ways, and sometimes they weep when after many months they have to leave to return home.

“It is a great joy to be here and to see these happy bands of children, singing as they walk, and to know that we have restored health and happiness to thousands of these French boys and girls in the past 30 years.

“The gratitude of the French people is shown by their financial aid, without which we could not long continue in existence. But even with this aid, it is difficult to finance this work, which costs over $180,000 a year. Not only do we have to feed and lodge these children, but we have to educate them and cure them, and provide doctors, nurses, surveillants, school teachers; and heat their rooms in the cold winter, 2,000 feet above sea level. Also, as a result of six years of war, we have many repairs to make, boilers and laundry machinery, etc., to buy, sheets, crockery and kitchen utensils to purchase.

“But perhaps as is the task of raising essential funds, it must be done. The only alternative is to close this splendid charitable institution which does so much to create friendly feelings between America and France.

“Faced with these alternatives, I am forced once more to beg your aid. I also beg you to visit us.”

(Signed) John Moffat,
Executive Chairman

Donations may be sent to Mr. Moffat at 254 Fourth Avenue, New York 10, N. Y.

“At last I am on this hospitable soil, on this land of freedom, this land which, if the inhabitants are wise, should one day astound the rest of the universe by its power and perhaps impose upon the universe the law of being happy like itself.”

(Quoted from Moreau de St. Méry’s American Journey 1793-1798. Translated and edited by Kenneth and Anna M. Roberts. Doubleday, 1947.)