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and Songs

George Washington's Election to the Convention *Philadelphia Independent Gazetteer*, 9 April 1787

On the coming of the AMERICAN FABIUS to the Federal Convention in May next.

*Had not great Cromwell aim'd to gain a crown,
Unsuilied tales would hand his mem'ry down.*
The hero comes, each voice resound his praise
No envious shafts can dare to chill his rays;
All hail! great man! who for thy country's cause,
Flew at her call for to protect the laws.
But while dull notes like these my song disarm'd,
His rigid virtues ev'ry patriot warm'd;
Inspir'd each leader at his standard met,
Laurens who fell, with *Greene* and *La Fayette*.
Like the fair structure on the river side,
Which from reflection dazzles on the tide,
Each caught the flame, celestial pow'rs unite,
And stimulate them on to aid the fight.
He fought, he won, and calm'd the raging storm,
Tho' rais'd by pride abstruse, in fury's form;
Thy unambitious steps will paint thy name
To future ages thro' historic fame.
Columbia now with independence crown'd,
Proclaims her consequence on foreign ground.
For, oh! great WASHINGTON! while war did rage,
From *Clinton* retrospectively to *Gage*,
Stood firm—till peace did crown thy native shore,
By superceding war's terrific roar.
A time of rest at length appear'd in view,
With all its happiness in blooming hue;
A calm which oft the hero wish'd to see,
Where rural blessings with his mind agree;

But fly once more the *Senate* house to grace,
And crown the States with everlasting peace.

ALEXIS.

Philadelphia, April 6, 1787.

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