

By *S. L. Mitchell* an
ADDRESS *h.*

TO

THE FREDES,

[The modern and appropriate name of the people of the United States, is FREDES or FREDONIANS, as the geographical name of their country is FREDON or FREDONIA, and their relations are expressed by the terms FREDONIAN or FREDISH.]

OR

PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES,

ON THE 28th ANNIVERSARY

OF THEIR

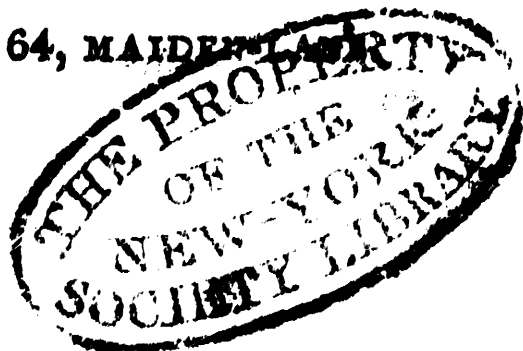
INDEPENDENCE.

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1804.

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ARGUMENT.

VIZAS I. Declaration of Independence by Congress, in 1776.—**II.** Acknowledgement of American Independence by Great Britain, by treaty in 1783.—**III.** Imperfections discovered in the old Articles of Confederation, after the restoration of peace.—**IV.** Formation of the new constitution 1787, and carrying it into operation, in 1789.—**V.** Prosperity and happiness of the Nation under it.—**VI.** Security afforded to navigation by a liberal establishment of Light-houses along the coast.—**VII.** Excellence and utility of the Post-Office establishment.—**VIII.** Peaceful addition of Louisiana to Fredonia.—**IX.** Discovery by the Fredes of uninhabited islands in the South-Sea —**X.** Courage and enterprize in the Mediterranean.—**XI.** Vigorous proceedings against Tripoli.—**XII.** Accomplishments and charms of the Fredish ladies.—**XIII.** The state of Society in Europe, compared with the happiness of Fredonia.—**XIV.** Blessings of self-government ; and durability of our Republican system while the people continue virtuous.

SONG,

FOR JULY 4, 1804.

I.

TWICE fourteen years are now complete,
Since firm in Philadelphia's hall;
Your patriotic Statesmen met,
And ratified the freedom of you all.
They solemnly declared * in that eventful hour,
The thirteen states were freed from cruel Britain's power.

II.

A long eventful war succeeds
To vindicate your injur'd rights,
And many a dauntless warrior bleeds,
As for his country's liberty he fights.
At length the foe appall'd by so much valour there,
Was forc'd in grief to own † they independent were.

* The declaration of Independence is remarkable for its intrepidity, magnanimity and reasonableness. It is in some respects a parody of the Litany of the Anglican Church.

† The acknowledgement was compelled by a seven years' war.

III.

A bright and happy peace ensues,
 When men of wise and skilful minds,
 Might in your government infuse,
 The best of principles of various kinds.
 Too loose they had perceiv'd the cords* of union draw,
 Too lax the Federal band, too feeble was the law.

IV.

The grand assembly next convenes,
 To calculate your general weal,
 And haply finds th' auspicious means,
 A well form'd constitution to reveal.
 This charter† of your rights so ably is design'd,
 The nation and the states a fit connection find.

V.

Lo! agriculture fast improves,
 See commerce hoist her swelling sail,
 The manufacturing engine moves,
 While sciences throughout the land prevail.
 Creative ‡ genius too its native fire imparts,
 T'unfold invention's germ in forwarding the arts.

* The first articles of Confederation, though they answered during the time that the States were compacted by the force of an external enemy, were found to possess too little attractive power to hold them together, when that hostile compression was withdrawn.

† The national Constitution is a political instrument of a very peculiar kind. It is not a consolidated government like the provinces of France, nor a confederation of States like the Cantons of Switzerland. It may be termed a Representative Political Partnership.

‡ The inventive capacity of the Freedes is very great; witness the nail-machines, the card-machinery, the cotton-gin, the screw-auger, the improvements in manufacturing fire-arms, the elevators and other apparatus of grist mills, and many others.

VI.

A blaze of light your coast *' illumes,
 Which shews the mariner his way,
 Midst nights' and tempests' awful glooms,
 And guide him with the mimic glare of day.
 Hence citizens and strangers may navigate with ease,
 And property and lives be sav'd from raging seas.

VII.

Your lengthening roads such regions trace,
 That mails † are hurried on by post,
 Through all the great Republic's space,
 From bounds of Main to distant Georgia's coast.
 So news and letters fly o'er rivers, hills and plains,
 From Canada's frontier to Mexico's domains.

VIII.

By mild negotiation's aid,
 Louisiana's fertile lands,
 Are to Fredonia's sons convey'd,
 By Spain and powerful France's joint commands.
 Thus while your Eastern shore th' Atlantic ocean waves,
 Your Western coast is kiss'd ‡ by the Pacific's waves.

* There is perhaps no coast of equal extent so well lighted as that between Penobscot and St. Simons. The liberal provision made by Congress for lighthouses, is not less honourable to them than useful to the people.

† Fredonia contains already more than thirteen hundred Post-Offices, and in addition to the post roads already established, new ones are forming in all directions through the country. In no part of the world are newspapers, letters and pamphlets transported by the mail so cheap.

‡ The boundaries of Louisiana are not exactly ascertained. The chain of mountains dividing the waters, has by some been supposed its western limit; but it seems fair to conclude that it extends to the pacific ocean for a breadth of ten or twelve degrees of latitude, between the British territories on the North and the Spanish on the south.

IX.

Half o'er this watery waste appear,
 The palmy Isles which Fanning* saw ;
 On which your standard you may rear,
 And willing settlers to improve them draw,
 The enterprizing Fredes will hence more quickly go,
 Where China's fragrant teas, and Banda's spices grow.

X.

Proudly your flag is now unfurl'd,
 Beyond the fam'd Gibraltar's streights,
 To shew the oriental world,
 That victory its waving honours waits.
 Where fought the † Roman erst, and Carthaginian fleets,
 The Tripoline corsairs your Fredish navy beats.

XI.

From Syracuse where once prevail'd
 The great Marcellus' dread blockade ;
 Your gallant Prebble late assail'd
 The African barbarian's ships and trade.
 And in Oëa's ‡ port your brave Decatur's deed,
 The acts of bold Hamilcar doth very far exceed.

* Captain Fanning of New-York, in 1798, discovered a cluster of uninhabited islands in the South Sea, abounding in fruits, in lat. 4, N. and in the long. of the Sandwich islands.

† It is remarkable that the tract of ocean now occupied by our Mediterranean squadron, is that on which the Romans and Carthaginians often tried their strength.

‡ Oëa is the ancient name of Tripoli. This latter appellation which signifies "three cities," was given to it because it centered in itself the chief business of two other cities Leptis and Sabrata, and thus assumed the importance of Three.

XII.

Whene'er Fredonia's * fair appear,
 Begins resplendant beauty's reign ;
 Grace, Virtue, modesty are near,
 And taste and delicacy in their train :
 Whence gallant joy at first, then nuptial bliss arise,
 And all the tender cares which mutual love supplies.

XIII.

While war and misery attend
 The nations of the eastern † climes ;
 Here peace and happiness befriend,
 The Fredes, most favoured people of the times.
Their taxes and exactions oppress them hard and sore,
 While *yours* are small and easy, and likely to be lower.

XIV.

Self-government, ye Fredes ! is yours,
 As is the elective ‡ franchise too.

* Under the mild influence of Christianity and the easy subsistence to be procured in our republican states, the condition of women is undoubtedly preferable to that of their sex in any part of the globe. They ought to know that Fredonia is woman's terrestrial Paradise. Here they are the rational companions of men, not their playthings or slaves.

† In Fredonia government takes so little from the earnings of industry, that all a man works for may be called his own. This makes a strong contrast with the oppressive taxes, excises and other modes of levying money in Europe and other parts of the world. What adds to our comfort is, that while theirs have been increasing, ours have been actually very much lessened.

‡ At this time the people really have the government in their own hands; at present it is administered in an honest, pure and advantageous manner. By

**The one your private right secures,
The other keeps your rulers just and true.
And if to endless ages your principles keep pure,
So long your matchless system shall unimpair'd endure.**

attending to their elections the citizens can always keep it so. And if they ever neglect their duty so far as to surrender the controlling influence they now possess, they will deserve all the sufferings and losses which they will thereby bring upon themselves.

