

LAFAYETTE'S WATCH.

WHEN General LAFAYETTE was traveling in this country in 1825, a valuable watch, which had been presented to him by WASHINGTON as a souvenir of the capitulation of Lord CORNWALLIS, was lost or stolen from him at Nashville, Tennessee. Some years afterward it was purchased at a pawnbroker's shop in Louisville, Kentucky, by a Mr. WARD, now of Texas, for the sum of seventy-five dollars. Mr. WARD does not seem to have considered it to be his duty to take any steps toward restoring the watch, or even making it known that so valuable a relic was in his possession. Last summer the fact was brought to the notice of Congress by a newspaper paragraph containing a description of the watch and a history of the manner in which it came into Mr. WARD's hands, and a joint resolution was passed appropriating three hundred dollars for the purchase of the relic and its restoration to the family of LAFAYETTE.

The watch is an old-fashioned one, double case, of massive gold, the outer case being skillfully engraved. The inner case bears the following inscription :

G. WASHINGTON
to
GILBERT MOTIERS DE LAFAYETTE.
Lord CORNWALLIS'S Capitulation
(Yorktown),
Oct. 19th, 1781.

The inscription, which is in old English letters, is somewhat worn and indistinct; and an error in reading the date as Feb. 17th, instead of the true date of the capitulation, led to some doubts as to its genuineness. A closer inspection showed this reading to be a mistake.

In conformity with the Congressional resolution, Mr. WASHBURNE, our minister to France, on the 8th of December last presented the watch to M. OSCAR DE LAFAYETTE, a grandson of the marquis, and now Deputy in the National Assembly from the Seine-et-Marne. The ceremony took place at the hôtel of the American embassy.

Mr. WASHBURNE, in addressing M. DE LAFAYETTE, spoke in the French language. He narrated the circumstances of the theft of the watch and the passage by Congress of the resolution for its restoration to the descendants of the Marquis de Lafayette, and said: "I am fulfilling a pleasant duty. The inscription on the watch recalls to mind a great deed which can never be effaced from the history of the United States—the deed which terminated the American Revolution and assured the independence of the United States. I am here as the interpreter of the sentiments of the government and people of the United States toward you and the other descendants of the Marquis de Lafayette. Let us form earnest wishes for the happiness and prosperity of all bearing your venerated name, and with those wishes let us associate France, who was allied with the United States,



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who is our traditional friend, and whose glory is so dear to us."

M. DE LAFAYETTE, in reply to Mr. WASHBURNE, solemnly acknowledged his thanks for the relic presented to him by the United States Congress. He also thanked Mr. WASHBURNE for the kind words he had uttered, and added that the LAFAYETTE family were filled with

profound gratitude for the sympathetic remembrances which have been preserved for their ally by the Americans. He requested Mr. WASHBURNE to express to the American people and to their Congress and government the thanks of the LAFAYETTE family, and their admiration for their second country.

Our engravings of the watch and the scene of

presentation are from sketches made by Mr. H. SCOTT expressly for *Harper's Weekly*. Behind Minister WASHBURNE stand Mr. OTTO WASHBURNE and Colonel HOFFMAN, secretaries of the legation. The group of ladies are Mrs. and Miss WASHBURNE and Miss DRUMMOND. Just behind M. OSCAR DE LAFAYETTE stands M. PAUL DE REMUSAT, his brother-in-law, who was two years ago the French Minister for Foreign Affairs.

WISHING AND HAVING.

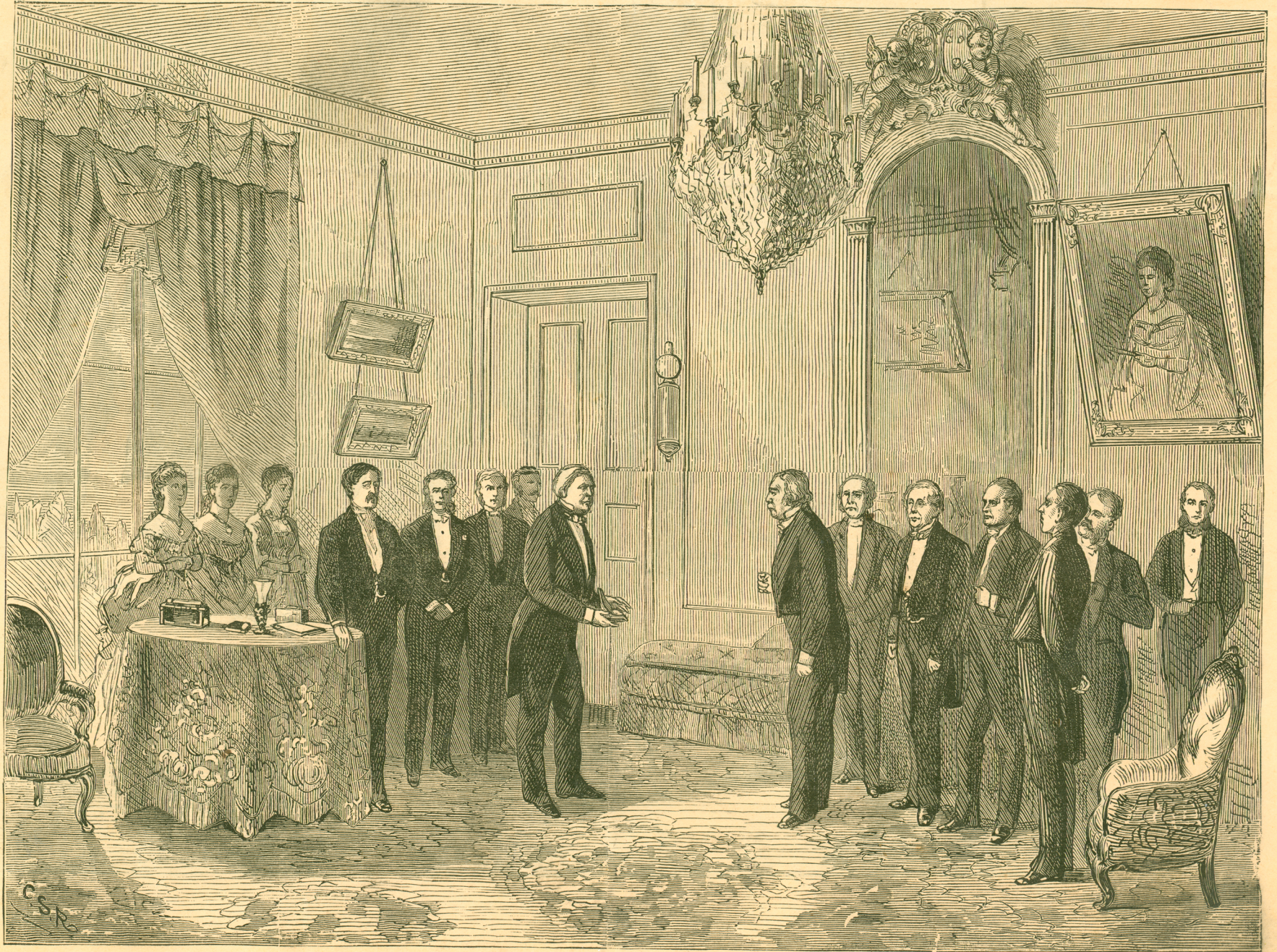
If to wish and to have were one, my dear,
You would be sitting now
With not a care in your tender heart,
Not a wrinkle upon your brow;
The clock of time would go back with you
All the years you have been my wife,
Till its golden hands had pointed out
The happiest hour of your life:
I would stop them at that immortal hour;
The clock should no longer run:
You could not be sad and sick and old—
If to wish and to have were one.

You are not here in the winter, my love,
The snow is not whirling down;
You are in the heart of the summer woods,
In your dear old sea-side town;
A patter of little feet in the leaves,
A beautiful boy at your side;
He is gathering flowers in the shady nook—
It was but a dream that he died!
Keep hold of his hands, and sing to him:
No mother under the sun
Has such a seraphic child as yours—
If to wish and to have are one.

Methinks I am with you there, dear wife,
In that old house by the sea;
I have flown to you as the bluebird flies
To his mate in the poplar-tree.
A sailor's hammock hangs at the door,
You swing in it, book in hand;
A boat is standing in for the beach,
Its keel now grates on the sand:
Your brothers are coming—two manly men,
Whose lives have only begun:
Their days will be long in the land, dear heart—
If to wish and to have are one.

If to wish and to have were one, ah me!
I would not be old and poor,
But a young and prosperous gentleman,
With never a dun at the door;
There would be no past to bewail, my love,
There would be no future to dread;
Your brothers would be live men again,
And my boy would not be dead.
Perhaps it will all come right at last;
It may be, when all is done,
We shall be together in some good world,
Where to wish and to have are one.

R. H. STODDARD.



LAFAYETTE'S WATCH—THE PRESENTATION BY MINISTER WASHBURNE.—[FROM A SKETCH BY H. SCOTT, PARIS.]

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