

Gazette of the American Friends of Lafayette

No. 72
May 2010

Easton, Pennsylvania

DR. PAUL SPALDING WILL BE MEETING SPEAKER

EASTON, PA - Dr. Paul S. Spalding, Professor of Religion, Illinois College, Jacksonville, IL. will be addressing the membership at its annual meeting in Wilmington.

Spalding has thoroughly researched the prisons where Lafayette was held captive from 1792-97 at the hands of monarchs who feared him as "the Apostle of Liberty."



His topic, Prisoner of State No. 2, deals with Lafayette's imprisonments.

Spalding grew up in Iowa City and studied in the Midwest, New England, and Germany. He is married to Dr. Almut Grützner. They have three sons.

An exhibit based on his research features photos of the prison sites as they appear today, from Rochefort in southern Belgium to Luxembourg in the Duchy of Luxembourg, Wesel and Magdeburg in Germany, Nysa in Poland, and Olomouc in the Czech Republic.

ON THE LAFAYETTE TRAIL



It's a good thing there were enough steps at the historic 1810 built De Wolfe-Colt Mansion in Bristol, Rhode Island, so that everyone could be photo-recorded during a visit to this elegant connection with Lafayette.

Photo courtesy of Anne McCauley

WILMINGTON, DELAWARE AREA WILL HOST 2010 MEETING

Our member and Brandywine Valley Coordinator, Veronica Eid, and lifetime member and live-in Curator of the Hale-Byrnes House, Kim Burdick, worked on the tour with AFL's Vice President Alan Hoffman. We look forward to a tour which will highlight Lafayette-related activities at our 78th annual meeting June 3 - 6. Headquarters hotel is the Hilton Wilmington / Christiana, 7 miles south of Wilmington.

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WASHINGTON-ROCHAMBEAU ROUTE AND LAFAYETTE'S BIRTHDAY OBSERVED IN CRANSTON, RI

Lydia L. Rapoza, President of the Cranston Historical Society, and a member of The American Friends of Lafayette, celebrated Lafayette's birthday on September 6 last year.

The event was noted at one of the Society's properties, the historic Joy Homestead, which is in the vicinity of one of the routes taken by Rochambeau's army as it moved west to rendezvous with Washington's forces in New York and the march to victory at Yorktown.



Color guard of Le Regiment Bourbonnais, pictured above, was joined by the Pawtuxet Rangers, named for the Warwick-Cranston militia company, and the Varnum Continentals of East Greenwich for the colorful event which the Society intends to celebrate on the birthday of the "Hero of Two Worlds" annually.

AFL MEMBERS RESPOND TO BRANDYWINE BATTLEFIELD REQUEST FOR FUNDS

Members of The American Friends of Lafayette responded to the call for contributions to assist the Brandywine Battlefield Volunteers Association in keeping the site open for visitors despite cutbacks by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. A total of \$1,475 was donated from the following: William Barber, Robert Crout, Jacques de Guenin, Alan Hoffman, Jeffery & Linda LaGueux, Caroline Lareuse, Pat & Arline Panaggio, Rob Rafferty, Gayle and Randy Randol, Bruce & Elizabeth Reidel, Phil & Barb Schroeder, Charles Schwam, Dan & Patti Simon, Will & Jan Smiles, and Paul & Almut Spalding.

WILLIAM KIRCHNER'S CONDITION A-PLUS

Linda Kirchner, wife of past president William Kirchner, wrote that his mental and physical health has improved since October 2008. He has gained about 30 pounds, walks better and is stronger. He was removed from the restricted living area at the Carestone Assisted Living facility to the assisted living area in June 2008. At a recent meeting with Carestone's administrator and head nurse, the administrator said that she would give Bill an A+ for his physical and mental health improvement in the past year.

He enjoys getting away from the facility to attend church, eating out and coming home for short periods of time.

CHILD'S MUG DEPICTING WASHINGTON & LAFAYETTE VALUED AT \$850

The syndicated Antiques column by Terry Kovel answered a query in her April 4 column about a reader who owned a cream-colored child's mug 2.5" wide by 2.5" high, with black and white pictures of Washington and Lafayette. Each head is shown in an oval.

Ms. Kovel stated that the mug was made by Enoch Wood & Sons, a Staffordshire, England pottery. Such mugs, decorated with historical subjects were popular from about 1819 to 1825. She said the mug was worth about \$850.

Is there a member of our organization in possession of such a mug who may consider making it a gift to the collection of The American Friends of Lafayette?

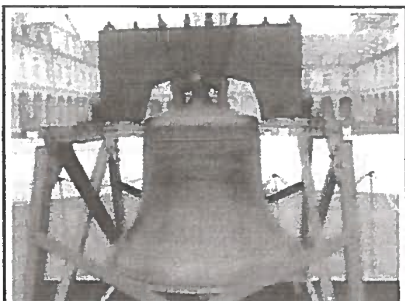


Donald Holloway of Wallingford, Connecticut, was one of three re-enactors who walked the entire Washington Rochambeau (W3R) route from Newport to Yorktown, proposes a toast.

Jean Hultgren photo

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THE MEMORY OF NORMANDY ALIVE IN NEW ORLEANS



The Normandy Liberty Bell is a symbol of the French-American alliance during World War II.

Admiral Brac de la Perrière, Commander of the French Legion of Honor and President of *Normandie Mémorial* (Memory of Normandy), visited New Orleans on Armistice Day, November 11, to commemorate the Franco-American alliance during World War II. *Normandie Mémorial* is an association dedicated to preserving the memory

of the sacrifice made by American soldiers to liberate France in World War II. At the ceremony in Louisiana, Admiral Brac de la Perrière unveiled the Normandy Liberty Bell, a replica of the Liberty Bell of Philadelphia, as a gift from *Normandie Mémorial* to the National WWII Museum in New Orleans. Cast in France, the bell rings as token of gratitude to the United States for its courageous efforts on behalf of the French people 65 years ago.

On this momentous occasion, Admiral Brac de la Perrière also bestowed the French Legion of Honor Medals, a coveted distinction honoring outstanding service to France, upon several American

veterans. All from Louisiana, Mr. Daniel Farley, Mr. Raymond Gilbert, and Mr. James Cronan Egan were thanked for their military service aiding France in World War II, as were Mr. Jean Broussard and Mr. Ralph Bourgeois, posthumously.

The admiral was accompanied by several French diplomats, including: General Maire, head of the French Military Mission to the U.S.; Mrs. Anne de la Blache, political advisor to the French Embassy in Washington D.C., along with Mr. Damien Regnard, elected member of the Assembly of French Living Abroad and representatives of the *France Will Never Forget* association and *Normandie Mémorial*.

FRENCH PILOTS TAKE TO THE SKIES TO HONOR FRENCH-US FRIENDSHIP

The famous French Air Force acrobatic team *Patrouille de France* (French Acrobatic Patrol, or PAF) visited the United States on October 7 - 8 in honor of the historic French-American alliance during the American Revolution. After a successful South American tour performing in Brazil, Chile and Argentina, the PAF landed at Andrews Air Force Base outside Washington D.C., on October 7. The next afternoon, the *Patrouille de France* headed for Yorktown as part of the 228th commemoration of the Battle of Yorktown at which the American colonies achieved victory over England with the sup-

port of thousands of French troops. The French pilots flew in formation over the Monument for Alliance and Victory, leaving trails of red, white, and blue smoke hanging in the deep blue sky. The first of its kind in the history of Yorktown, the PAF's flawless flyover left the crowds mesmerized. The *Patrouille de France* then headed back to Washington, D.C., where they were greeted by enthusiastic fans.

The precision flight team is composed of nine highly seasoned fighter pilots united by a common passion for flying, chosen for their positive personal characteristics

and their talent.



France's Acrobatic Patrol participated in the 228th commemoration of the Battle of Yorktown.

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MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

We welcome two Institutional Life memberships: The Page-Nelson Society of Virginia, Yorktown, VA, and the Grey Towers National Historic Site (Gifford Pinchot Home), Milford, PA. We look forward to greeting representatives at our annual meeting and invite them to tell us about their missions.

New AFL Members Since June 2009

Sarah Bergen
Washington, D.C.
Carl Wood Brown
Jacksonville, Florida
Margaret Chase
Newport Beach, California
Mary Claycomb
Chevy Chase, Maryland
Daniel Fitzpatrick
Washington, D.C.
Michael Franco
Newport, Rhode Island
Allen Johnson
Easton, Pennsylvania
Bev & Ira Krams
Yorktown, Virginia
Barbara Luck
Yorktown, Virginia
Normand Ouellette
Westport, Massachusetts
Lydia Rapoza
Coventry, Rhode Island
Kate Sheaffer
Jackson Heights, New York
Michael Tourniaire
New Orleans, Louisiana



Gazette of the American Friends of Lafayette

Leonard J. Panaggio, *Editor*
44 Old Beach Road
Newport, RI 02840

A publication of the above Patriotic/
Educational Society for its members.

BOOKS FOR YOUR LIBRARY

LAFAYETTE: PRISONER OF STATE

Paul Spalding
University of South Carolina Press
392 pages - \$59.95

In the grand tradition of Louis Gottschalk — Lafayette's greatest 20th century biographer — Dr. Paul Spalding has produced an extra extensively sourced, virtually day-by-day account of Lafayette's imprisonment in Germany and Austria from 1792 to 1797. In this *tour de force*, we get to follow Lafayette as he flees Jacobin France only to be imprisoned by royalist Europe lest he infect it with his radical ideas. Spalding touches all the bases—the flight, the imprisonment, the botched escape, the arrival of Madame Lafayette, the propaganda campaign waged by Lafayette, who had lived an almost frenetically activist life, as he heroically copes with mind-numbing and body-weakening confinement from which he emerges principles intact and completely unbowed.

As Lafayette himself said in Philadelphia during his Farewell Tour of America nearly thirty years after his release: he was imprisoned for wanting to revolutionize the people against despotism and aristocracy. He spent his imprisonment dreaming of this, and he emerged unimproved in this regard. The book is due out July 2010.

ENLIGHTENING THE WORLD:

*The Creation of
the Statue of Liberty*
Yasmin Sabina Khan
Cornell University Press - \$24.95

Yasmin Sabina Khan's book tells the fascinating story of the design of the statue and the lives of the people who created her. Among the figures central to the story include: the Marquis de Lafayette, sculptor Auguste Bartholdi, pedestal architect Richard Morris Hunt, Gustave Eiffel and poet Emma Lazarus. The book became available in bookstores on March 10.

New DVD

Caroline Lareuse of Princeton, NJ wrote that she had communicated with Dennis Gordon, author of the Lafayette Escadrille--Pilot Biographies, who said that he had just produced a DVD entitled "The Lafayette Escadrille--Flying and Fighting for France April 1916 - December 1917." The DVD has a complete history of its 38 members. She bought a few copies and donated one to the AFL in memory of her two uncles, Norman Prince and Frederick H. Prince.

As a side note she mentioned that while visiting her granddaughter in Durham, NC, she had the pleasure of meeting Dr. Kenneth Rockwell, son of Paul Rockwell and nephew of Kiffin Rockwell of the Lafayette Escadrille.

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SPREADING THE WORD

Alan Hoffman and Janice Wolk have been promoting The American Friends of Lafayette at various places during the year. Hoffman presented his illustrated program at Redwood Library in Newport attended by President Emeritus Leonard J. Panaggio. He repeated his program at the Darien Historical Society in Darien, Connecticut. Driving from his Hudson River area home, member Carmino Ravosa surprised the speaker with his attendance.

Janice Wolk, local historian of Highland Lakes, New Jersey, also gave an illustrated program at the Bergen County Schoolhouse Museum. Her presentation was billed not as a revisionist history, but an appreciation of Lafayette's true mission: liberty. Wolk informed the crowd that Lafayette had connections with the Schoolhouse and other Bergen County landmarks, which included the Van Saun House in Wayne. We understand she got a good press coverage.



Dr. Robert Crout shows a promotional brochure of Chavaniac, Lafayette's birthplace, which Benoit Guizard showed the members now that the French government has taken over its care.

Jean Hultgren photo



*Caroline Lareuse &
Margaret Berthold*

ROCHAMBEAU PLAQUES

Richard and Anne McCauley of Chatham, NJ, said their visit to Newport was the first time they returned to their honeymoon city. They spent their free time taking pictures of several of the city's historic buildings including the Colony House, dating to 1739, which is said to be the second oldest capitol building in the U.S.

They photographed the plaques that adorn the house which served as Rochambeau's headquarters. The large plaque was dedicated by Julia Ward Howe, another indicates it was designated a Registered National Landmark, and the verticle plaque was presented in 1964 by The American Friends of Lafayette.



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Caroline Lareuse & Betty McMaster



Anne McCauley &
Michele Vlahos

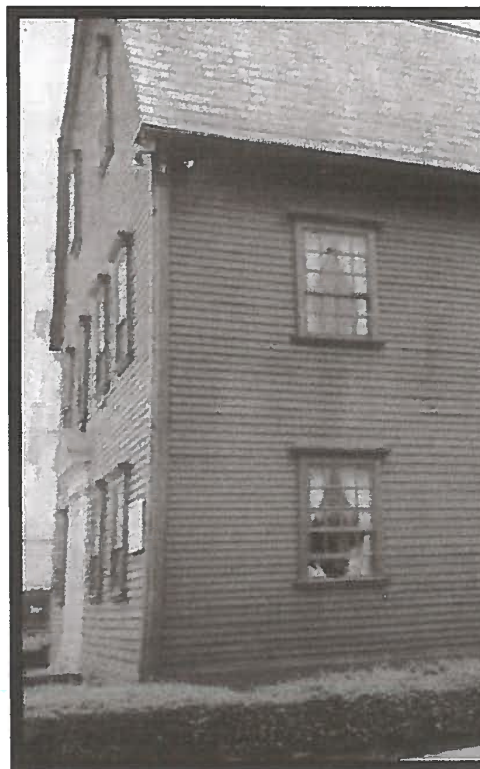


Gerald M. Carbone & Jean Hultgren

A Maryland ancestor of hers was with Gen. Greene's Continentals



Honored Guest Helen



White Horse

First Inn



Charles Schwam & Robert Rafferty

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w & Dr. Robert R. Crout



John Wynn & Jean Hultgren

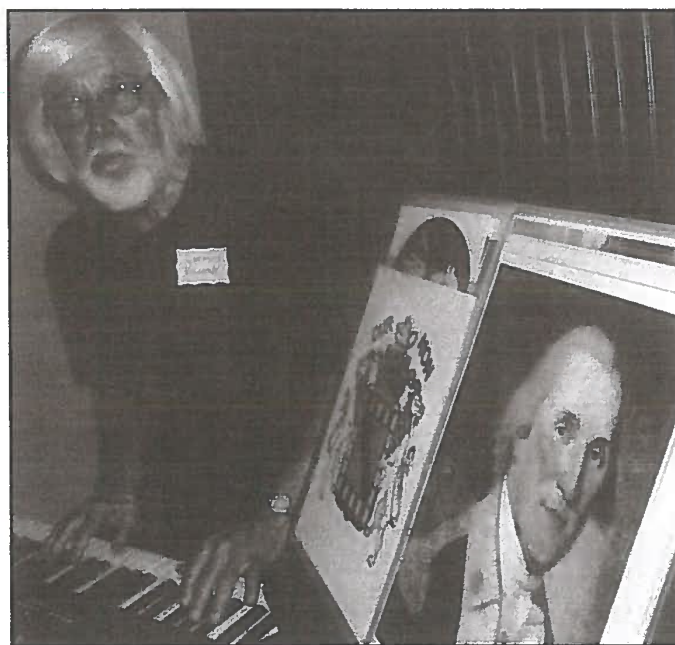


Barton & Diana Shaw



vern, Newport
1 in 1687

*Pictures courtesy of
Anne McCauley, Jean Hultgren
and Pat Panaggio*



Carmen Ravosa "Keyboard King"

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EXPLORING LAFAYETTE'S PRISON ROAD

We especially appreciate the memory of a young Marquis de La Fayette helping Americans to victory in the War of Independence, and perhaps also of a somewhat older General Lafayette who took a leading public role in bringing constitutional government to France. Some of us prize his later years of service on behalf of the abolition of slavery and national independence for Poles, Italians, and South Americans. What we may often forget is seven years of his life when he was himself a captive and an exile, for a time the world's most famous political prisoner.

I stumbled on this story via research of the chief agent in an international scheme to rescue Lafayette from prison. My attention soon turned from the agent to the captive. I realized that there had never been a thorough study of Lafayette's five years as a political prisoner in the hands of the Prussian king and Austrian emperor. One reason was that Lafayette's family published only a narrow selection of documents on the subject, with many manuscripts locked up in their private collections until recent decades. Another reason was the relevant police records remained inaccessible in Brno, then Czechoslovakia, until the fall of the Iron Curtain. Perhaps a major hindrance has also been that Lafayette's captors kept their records in Gothic German handwriting that is illegible even to most Germans and Austrians today.

A few years ago, my wife Almut and I traced Lafayette's prison sites. We began in the small town of Rochefort, Belgium, where the world-famous general came under sudden arrest. He had been fleeing a radical Jacobin coup that had overthrown constitutional government in France, and he had hoped to make his way to the Free Netherlands, Britain, and finally America. We visited Luxembourg, where a military tribunal had subsequently sentenced Lafayette to an open-ended incarceration for fomenting toxic ideas of freedom and democracy. We crossed the moat of fortress remnants at Wesel, near the Dutch border, where the Prussian king had locked up Lafayette three months before transferring him far to the east, to the Citadel in the midst of the Elbe River at Magdeburg. In a drizzle, we climbed over overgrown battlements of a star-shaped brick fortress in today's Nysa, Poland, where, long ago, the Prussian king made ready to walled building at Olomouc (olmütz), where Lafayette spent over three years peering through windows covered by a double grille across outerworks of the town, wheatfields, and the mountains beyond.

Both long hours of work in archives and the on-site reconnoitering have led to a book that will be coming out in July 2010. *Lafayette: Prisoner of the State* (University of South Carolina Press) is the first book-length treatment of Lafayette's years as a captive. For more information, please see the spring and summer catalogue of the Press, on pg. 14 (pg. 16 by electronic search) at the following on-line address: <http://www.sc.edu/uscpress/catalogs/SS10.pdf>.

-- Paul Spalding

MEDAL COMMEMORATING EXECUTION OF LOUIS XVI WAS EXHIBITED IN NEWPORT IN 1944

NEWPORT, RI - The Art Association of Newport (now the Newport Art Museum) held a special loan exhibition during November and December of 1944.

Many of the objects were of historic interest to Newporters, but none aroused the interest as much as a medallion. The Newport Daily News reported it commemorated the execution of Louis XVI and once was in the possession of Marie Antoinette. The medallion was brought to Newport by Lafayette and was found in a trunk containing some of his personal belongings which was discovered while tearing down an old house on Mary Street to make room for the new YMCA.

We do not know a thing about this medallion, and we question that Lafayette, who may or may not have owned it, brought it to Newport. It is too bad that the person who loaned it to the exhibition has long gone.



In Memoriam

Sandra Hardee

Henriette Fayet-Perius

Irene Styffe

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YORKTOWN DAY ATTRACTIONS

Yorktown, VA - On October 19 each year this historic town observes the end of the Revolutionary War hostilities with a parade and patriotic event at the National Victory Monument. William Cole, proprietor of The York River Inn in Yorktown, was Honorary Flag Bearer for The American Friends of Lafayette. The host and hostess for the members were Linda and George Bennett at their beautiful Smith Street residence. They welcomed thirty or so members and friends for the social event. They own the Yorktown Shoppe on Main Street which features gifts and colonial era recreations and replicas.

Betty McPherson was unable to host the annual party as work was being done at her home.



THANK YOU

Len and Monique Panaggio thank The American Friends of Lafayette for the beautiful flower arrangement which brightened their unexpected home confinement during the annual meeting in Newport last year. They also appreciated the cards signed by all the members.



*Lafayette, Marquis de, 1825
By Charles Bird King
Original from life*

Redwood Library and Athenaeum

PORTRAIT OF LAFAYETTE WAS VIEWED DURING NEWPORT VISIT

Charles Bird King (1785 - 1862) born in Newport attained fame as a portrait painter. He worked in Philadelphia and Washington, D.C., and in 1847 was back in Newport where he had a studio on Clarke Street.

In 1859 he donated many paintings to the Redwood Library. He was also noted for painting chiefs of Indian tribes when they visited the nation's capitol city. In 1821 when President Madison was

in the White House, King painted five portraits of American Indian delegates. At one time, the library contained many Indian portrait paintings.

Library Director Cheryl Helms arranged to have a copy made of Lafayette's portrait which will be given to the collection of memorabilia owned by the American Friends of Lafayette at Lafayette College.

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ADRIENNE

(The following address was given at the Annual Banquet of the American Friends of Lafayette held May 24, 1958 in Philadelphia by M. Edouard Morot-Sir, Cultural Counselor of the French Embassy and Representative of the French Universities in the United States.)

At the outset, I would like to express my deep thanks to the Society of the American Friends of Lafayette, for your kind invitation and to tell you how glad and honored I am to be with you at this luncheon.

Today it is very difficult to speak of Lafayette, who is already a legend, who is the symbol of the friendship between our two countries that has become traditional, and about whom so many speeches have already been made in the United States and in France. Moreover, I am not an historian, but a philosopher, I do not pretend to bring new facts to light, I have not discovered new documents, I do not intend to play the role of an erudite before you, for I know that some of you here today have contributed to the advancement of research on Lafayette and his relations with the United States.

It was on the occasion of my receiving an honorary degree, that I became interested in the wife of the Marquis de Lafayette; and without going as far as to say that I have fallen in love with Adrienne de Noailles, I must admit that she has captured my imagination. I have discovered in her a great lady, a strong personality, a devoted and loving wife and also, a great friend of your country. Adrienne, while respecting the revolutionary ideas of her husband, did not share them. She always remained true to her faith and to the tradition

of her family, but she certainly did share (and I will give you proof of this) the enthusiasm of the Marquis for the cause for which the American colonies were fighting at that time in their struggle for independence.

There is a very interesting study to be made on the role played by certain prominent French women in defending the American cause at the end of the eighteenth century. They had great influence and worked actively and sincerely for America. They managed to avoid the kind of dissipated life that was led in some circles at the time. Among these women, one could mention La Duchesse de la Rochefoucauld, Madame de Tesse, and cousin of Lafayette, both of them friends of Franklin and Jefferson, Madame de Corney, Madame Brillon and others.

In order to understand fully the role of Adrienne de Lafayette, it would be necessary to study her surroundings, and her friends who were often accused by the courtiers of Louis XVI of being liberal, and of having republican sympathies; but this would be a very vast undertaking. I shall limit myself to a few facts of the life of Madame de Lafayette, -remarkable aspects which make her very appealing and worthy of our admiration.

Adrienne de Noailles was born in 1759, and married the Marquis de Lafayette on April 11, 1774. At the time of her marriage, she was fourteen and her husband seventeen. She was lovely to look at. When one sees her portraits, the most striking thing is her glance, a toughing passionate expression which reveals a profound inner life. It is from this time that one can date the wonderful, deep attachment of Adrienne for the Marquis de Lafayette. Here is the

account of one of her daughters.

"I do not think it possible to give an idea of my mother's way of loving. It was peculiar to herself . . . It might be said she felt for him the most passionate attachment, if that expression was in harmony with the exquisite delicacy which kept her from any of the evil impulse generally attendant upon that feeling. Neither had she even a moment of exigence.

Another quotation reiterates this idea, "No one can possibly have an idea of my mother's devotion. It was unique. Her feeling for the father was deeper than all other affections, without doing harm to any of them". And the admirable confession that Adrienne made to her husband more than a quarter of a century after his first departure for America. "After that, I was filled with fear that I would put too much constraint upon you. So I tried to moderate my feelings. You ought not be dissatisfied with what remained." In a letter to a friend after Adrienne's death, Lafayette wrote, "I never experienced for a single instant the shadow of a constraint. All her actions were, without affection, subordinated to my convenience. An admirable love, made of devoted, unselfish giving of one's self, and self sacrifice.

One must realize too that Lafayette returned this love. He always had a very high sense of his duties as a soldier and a statesman. But, at the same time, he remained deeply attached to his duties towards his wife. We have the letters he wrote to her, during his first trip to the United States. You will allow me to quote a few passages from one of them, that I find particularly moving. The following was written in July 1777. "I am each day more miserable from

continued on next page



Boston Massacre

From an original painting by Alonzo Chappel
in possession of the Publishers Johnson, Fry & Co., New York (1857)

Address Change Requested



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of Lafayette**
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