

PARKER (*reads on*).

“Major Madison has clearly proven the claims of Mr. Parker. I rejoice, in accomplishing an act of justice, to do a service to one of the truest and most faithful officers of my army.....”

(Signed) GEORGE WASHINGTON.”

NELLY.

Oh! how can we recognize what you have done for us?

MADISON.

By your love, Miss Nelly.

PARKER (*Beside himself with joy*).

During the past two years I came near losing my reason several times through excess of grief and anxiety. Now I fear I shall become crazy with joy. (*Embraces Nelly and presses Madison's hand*).

MADISON.

I will add that if I did not return to New-York with the army, it was because I wished first to go to the capital and have the decision of the Commander-in-Chief ratified by the war office.

PARKER.

I have one more favor to ask you, Major Madison. It is that, to fulfil the dream which I formerly had, you will consent to become my son-in-law and partner.

MADISON.

I accept on one condition—that I shall be at liberty to take up arms should my country again require my services.

PARKER.

Oh! yes, and this time if I am not too old, I will go with you..... Major Madison and Nelly, my daughter, you are both angels and I, with all my experience, am no better than an old fool. You triumph along the whole line. The love of money made Arnold a traitor, Chambers an assassin, while patriotism, devotion and all the noble sentiments which I lacked produced Washington and independence.