

prise of man ; and, a small part only being required by the government, nearly the whole annual income will be added to the general capital, augmenting it in a compound ratio.

67. That these splendid anticipations are not the suggestions of national vanity, the history of the past sufficiently proves. Yet their fulfilment depends, in a great degree, upon the future conduct of the people themselves ; upon their adherence to the principles of their fathers ; upon the preservation of free political institutions, of industrious, frugal, and moral habits ; and, above all, upon the universal diffusion of knowledge.

68. This truth should sink deep into the hearts of the old and the young. The citizens of this republic should never forget the awful responsibilities resting upon them. They constitute the oldest nation on this western hemisphere, the first on the list of existing republics. They stand forward, the object of hatred to some, of admiration to many, of wonder to all ; and an impressive example to the people of every country. To them is committed an experiment, successful hitherto, the final result of which must have a powerful influence upon the destiny of mankind ; if favorable and happy, the whole civilized world will be free ; if adverse, despotism and darkness will again overshadow it. May they ever be sensible of the vast importance of their example. May they never betray their sacred trust.