

At a meeting of the American Academy of Language and Belles Lettres, held at the City-Hall, in the city of New-York, October 20, 1820,—Hon. Bröckholst Livingston, First Vice President, in the chair; Rev. John B. Romeyn, D. D. Clerk,—the following preamble and resolution, offered by W. S. Cardell, Esq. seconded by the Rev. Doctor Wainwright, were unanimously adopted :

As the proper education of youth is, in all communities closely connected with national prosperity and honor; and as it is particularly important in the United States, that the rising generation should possess a correct knowledge of their own country, and a patriotic attachment to its welfare :—

RESOLVED, that a premium of not less than four hundred dollars, and a gold medal worth fifty dollars, be given to the author, being an American citizen, who, within two years, shall produce the best written history of the United States, and which, with such history, shall contain a suitable exposition of the situation, character, and interests, absolute and relative, of the American Republic: calculated for a class-book in academies and schools. This work is to be examined and approved by a committee of the institution, in reference to the interest of its matter, the justness of its facts and principles, the purity, perspicuity, and elegance of its style, and its adaptation to its intended purpose.

By order of the Academy,

ALEX. Mc LEOD, Sec'y. Soc'y.

The undersigned, being appointed a committee with full powers to examine the several works submitted, and award the medal and premium in pursuance of the above resolution, having perused four books offered by different authors, according to the conditions required, have selected one as being the best of the four; and after referring it to its author for such minor corrections as might render it more acceptable to the public, do now finally adjudge said medal and premium to be due to the writer of the work recently printed, entitled,

“ A HISTORY of the UNITED STATES, from their first Settlement as Colonies, to the close of the War with Great Britain, in 1815.

“Civitas, incredibile memoratu est, adepta libertate. quantum brevi creverit.”—*Sallust.*

WM. P. VAN NESS,)
ALEX. Mc LEOD,) Committee.
JACOB MORTON. }

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