

tive States, that union and national honor, so essentially necessary to their happiness, and the future dignity of the American Empire.

“To render permanent the cordial affection subsisting among the Officers—this spirit will dictate brotherly kindness in all things, and particularly extend to the most substantial acts of beneficence, according to the ability of the society, towards those officers and their families, who unfortunately may be under the necessity of receiving it.

“The General Society will, for the sake of frequent communications, be divided into State Societies, and those again into such districts, as shall be directed by the State Societies.”

In three of the concluding paragraphs are the following declarations :

“The Society shall have an order, by which its members shall be known and distinguish'd, which shall be a medal of gold, of a proper size to receive the emblems, and suspended by a deep blue ribbon, two inches wide, edged with white, descriptive of the Union of America and France.

“The principal figure, Cincinnatus—three Senators presenting him with a sword and other military ensigns—on a field in the back ground, his wife standing at the door of their cottage—near it a plough and instruments of husbandry—round the whole, *Omnia reliquit servare Rempublicam*. On the reverse, Sun rising—a city with open gates—and vessels entering the port—Fame crowning Cincinnatus with wreath inscribed *Virtutis Præmium*,—below,

“Hands joined supporting a heart with the motto, *Esto Perpetua*—round the whole

Societas Cincinnatorum instituta A.D. 1783. * * * *

“We, the Subscribers, officers of the American Army do hereby become voluntarily parties to the foregoing Institution, and do bind ourselves to observe and be govern'd by the principles therein contain'd—for the performance whereof we do solemnly pledge to each other our sacred honor.

“Done in the cantonment on Hudson's River, 1783.”

The fifteenth signature subscribed to the “Institution” is that of “B. Swartwout, Ens. 2nd N. Y. Reg^t.”

The seventy-sixth is that of “Corn^s Swartwout, Cap. Lt. 2^d or New York Artillery.”

The first general meeting was held at Philadelphia from May 4 to May 18, 1784.

“The first meeting of the members of the New York society was ‘of the officers of the two New York regiments of infantry, who’ were ‘members of the Society of the Cincinnati,’ and was held at the cantonment, near New Windsor, in June, 1783, when it was resolved, that ‘as the officers of the New-York line are on the point of separating, and will not have an opportunity of