

population had, in its tardy advance, only reached 13,503 souls; but its ratio of increase was not long destined to remain at this snail like pace; for although we have been four times visited with that dreadful scourge of humanity, the yellow fever, between that period and the year 1800, and in that year also, our population had increased to 26,614, in 1810 to 35,583, in 1820 to 62,738, and in 1830 to 80,622.

In 1796 the city was chartered, and henceforth was governed by a Mayor and Council.

Thus it is evident that whatever had retarded our growth in population prior to the year 1790, had ceased to operate, and that our march was then onward.

The causes which favorably influenced our future growth may not here be an unprofitable inquiry. The seeds of the revolution, which in 1791 were sown in France had been matured into life by those discontented and restless spirits which are to be found in all countries, and without entertaining any definite ideas of rational freedom, the cry of "liberty" had been raised by men who had no precise object in view, as was amply proved by the subsequent indiscriminate slaughter of the aged and the young of all sexes and conditions—and by the sentencing the virtuous and the good to the same fate with the vicious and the depraved. Such butchery—such deluging of streets with human blood, the dissemination of the odious system of morals, and the utter prostration of religion as marked the mad career of the mad actors in this nefarious crusade against human life, soon alarmed the other powers of Europe, and France, revolutionary France, found them as with one arm rallied against her. The whole continent at war with her, and France herself convulsed with a revolution which uprooted all that was holy in the sight of God or man—deluged her territory with its best blood, and suspended the industry of the artizan and the labors of the husbandman. In this state of affairs at home, the brutal advocates of the Guillotine, the Robespierres, the Marats and the Dantons, and those other sanguinary directors of the whirlwind, which was sweeping every thing righteous and good to destruction and ruin, at home, instigated the slaves of St. Domingo to turn their knives against the lives of their masters. "*Liberty and equality*"—words which are thrice hallowed in the sight of rational freedom, were rendered odious by those demons in human shape, who perverted them to purposes from which truth, honor, justice and humanity, shrink away in horror and disgust. But in the midst of all this deadly strife—out of the very elements of evil, good ensued to us. The whole continent of Europe in arms; America became its carriers,—and Baltimore in the rivalry which ensued for the rich boon, which was thus presented, became a successful and most fortunate competitor. Our clippers—those winged messengers of commerce, whose speed have given to our shipwrights an enviable name in every clime—were seen whitening the entire coast of France—and the insurrectionary West India colonies were alike the objects of their enterprise.

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