

AMERICAN FRIGATE

Constitution Launched.

From the (Boston) *Centinel*, Octo. 25.

THE spring tides the latter part of the last week, giving the workmen in the Naval-yard, an opportunity to complete the ways for launching the frigate *Constitution*, Col. Claghorn, anxious to give as early information of the intended operation, as possible, directed a gun to be fired, at day-light on Saturday morning last, as a signal, that at full sea, he should move her into her destined element. Before noon, a very numerous and brilliant collection of citizens assembled at the spectacle;—and at 15 minutes after 12—at the first stroke at the spur-shores, she commenced a movement into the water, with such steadiness, majesty and exactness, as to fill almost every breast with sensations of joy and delight, superior by far, to the mortification they had before experienced. Such was the regular obliquity of the ways, that she came to anchor within two hundred yards of them, without the least strain, or meeting or causing the most trifling accident.—And she now rides at her moorings in the harbour, a pleasing sight, to those who contemplate her as the germ of a naval force, which in no remote period of time, will protect the flag of the United States from the depredations of piratical marauders.

As soon as the enlivening burst of gratulation was heard from the ship, her ordnance on shore replied, to the shout, and, joined with the huzzas of the citizens on the adjacent shores, demonstrated the lively interest the great body of the people took in her safety; and evidenced the popularity of the government by whose direction she was built.

The best judges have pronounced the *Constitution*, like her archetype to be a perfect model of elegance, strength, and durability;—And every individual employed in her construction appears to pride himself in having assisted at the production of *l'chef-d'œuvre* of Naval Architecture.

To Col. Claghorn the meed of general approbation of his skill, prudence, and intelligence, has been freely bestowed.—And the United States are under obligations to Gen. Jackson, Capt. Nicholson, and Major Gibbs, for their indefatigable care and attention, in the superintendency of the various departments necessary to her equipment. If the well-deserved fame of Messrs. Skillings, as Carvers, could receive an addition, we should pronounce their workmanship, which decorates the frigate, a masterpiece of theirs. Indeed no part of the work in the hull or rigging, can for strength and beauty, be exceeded; and the eulogiums of foreign naval gentlemen have been warm and explicit in her favour.

May the "hoary monarch" of the element, on whose bosom she now reclines, protect her with his trident; and whenever her departure into the waste of his realm may be necessary, may propitious breezes waft her to the haven of peace; or aid her to hurl the vindictive thunder of national vengeance, on the disturbers of our country's repose; or the depredators on the lawful commerce of our citizens.

The *Constitution* frigate draws 18 feet aft, and 14 forward. Though rated only as a 44, she can be made conveniently to mount 64 guns.