5. The Villas. Anesley. London. SE. My play is the printed i (having let albury prachile) america for copyright hurfrenz 12 Jun Dec? 28. 1875. perhaps at Baltimore, - 1/2m sil make me acquainted with To General Brants Mayor. a frishat publisher there: the you shall have the first copy. Baltime. U.S. His i puliminary print her had how ong 4 copies, tit My dear General, It length, there is private & injufect; or you is a rememble down of lope for me It law one. / Kindy then exthat my longmed total american Ecosit - Levile my purpon as you best an write, Ladvin: In we greet each their an ancient priest remembring a quarter of a century. Commend me to any who know century. Josh. Cost be with you may be realized. My health is quite re-established, & all else agrees, I my great with shall, DV, gentury. Com. Costentity on.
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me ing 3788 Martin F. Fuffer. IN be accomplished. So then let me announce a probable coming your way of metry daughter larly in the metry daughter larly in the spring - I think as the End of Spring - I think as the End of the Baltimin, in order to you bouth by South for have weathers' sake first for marm weathers' sake first for marm weathers' sake first for marm weathers' sake (S. Y. Tupper, President of the Charleston Commerce there) invites chamber of Commerce there) invites chamber of Commerce there) invites them of the soring the Menthers will be a business and it be a business me, of the literary tout; Reading

my own writings, I especially sundry Plays devitable & America an alfred, Raleigh, and in fanticular for this Centenary fact me my "Nashington" Let me my "Nashington" bet me have a chave of enaugurating this at Baltimore: Samthiles at the probabling, I have at the britishing, I have as the britishing, I have soon scores of triumphs all over soon scores of the winning many of the princip of the winning many of the princip of the mining many do the princip of the mining many do shed, - as well as gaining of themein shed, - as well as gaining of themein

O.S. As you may have been for you papers, Have read my Play before gen! Schenck your minister here, + a mixed andience, toget effet: + one chief feature i it is "Washington's Heraldry"-my 51 discovery at Mil Vernon made kann by me at your Southmen Driver with dem Kennedy in the chair, which you will recollect. The incident is now historic. I count on your support: + a puhafes may get accomplish

What yout you good brother Jenied hnetofur, - a travel with me event 1th Francisco! Who knows? - However, bet me begni by Cally on you as Bellinare i the End of Febry, Lovide a fermitting. -White still me that you are will, - + ger this. So many friends are some before that I ten no mefruse is name. commend me as afressid.

To General Brantz Mayer &c &c &c Baltimore, U. S.

My dear General,

At length, there is a reasonable dawn of hope for me that my longmeditated American revisit may be realized. My health is quite re-established, & all else agrees, & my great wish shall, D. V., be accomplished. So then, let me announce a probable coming your way of me & my daughter early in the Spring - I think at the end of Febry: sailing from Southampton to Baltimore, in order to go South first for warm weathers' sake & because a cousin at Charleston (S. Y. Tupper, President of the Chamber of dommerce there) invites us; thereafter going to New Orleans &c. My errand will be a business one, of the literary sort; reading my own writings, & especially sundry Plays suitable to America, as Alfred, Raleigh, and in particular for this centenary my "Washington". Let me have a chance of inaugurating this at Baltimore: I am skilled at the sort of thing, & have won scores of triumphs all over Scotland & the West of England & other places to the winning of many new friends & the rivetting many old ones, as well as gaining otherwise golden harvests. My play is to be printed in America for copyright purposes, perhaps at Baltimore, if you will make me acquainted with a first rate publisher there; and so you shall have the first copy. It is in preliminary print here, but I have only 4 copies, and it is private & imperfect; or you should have one. Kindly then expedite my purpose as you best can; write, & advise; for we greet each other as ancient friends remembring a quarter of a century. Commend me to any who know me in my books. God be with you. Always yours

Martin F. Tupper

P. S. As you may have seen from your papers, I have read my Play before Genl Schenck your Minister here, & a mixed audience, to great effect; & one chief feature in it is "Washington's Heraldry" - my '51 discovery at Mt Vernon made known by me at your Baltimore Dinner with dear Kennedy in the chair, which you will recollect. The incident is now historic. I count on your support; & we perhaps may yet accomplish what you & your good brother desired heretofore, a travel with me even to St Francisco! Who knows? However, let me begin by calling on you at Baltimore in the end of Febry, Providence permitting. Write & tell me that you are well, & get this. So many friends are "gone before", that I send no messages by name; commend me as aforesaid.

Washington's Heraldry. Notes & Queries (American) Vol. 180, 3, Jan. 18; 1941. Reply, clxxix, 224. Tupper refers to the supposed use of the Washington coat-of-arms as a basis for the design of the American flag. (The Washingtons bore: Argent, two bars gules, in chief 3 mullets of the second, i. e. "stars and stripes"). His play, 'Washington, a Drama', New York, 1876, pp 31-32, relates the incident of '51, as he states in his preface, and puts it into the mouth of Benjamin Franklin. In May, 1851, Tupper visited Mt Vernon, and there spied the Washington coat-of-arms on a cast iron chimney back. He reported this "find" to the Historical Society at Baltimore, and was awarded a diploma for it. Present-day authorities on the origin of the American flag are inclined to discount this theory of its origin. However, there is a striking similarity between the arms and the flag. The Washington crest was an eagle "issuant", another striking coincidence, if it be that. (G. H. D. University of Wisconsin)