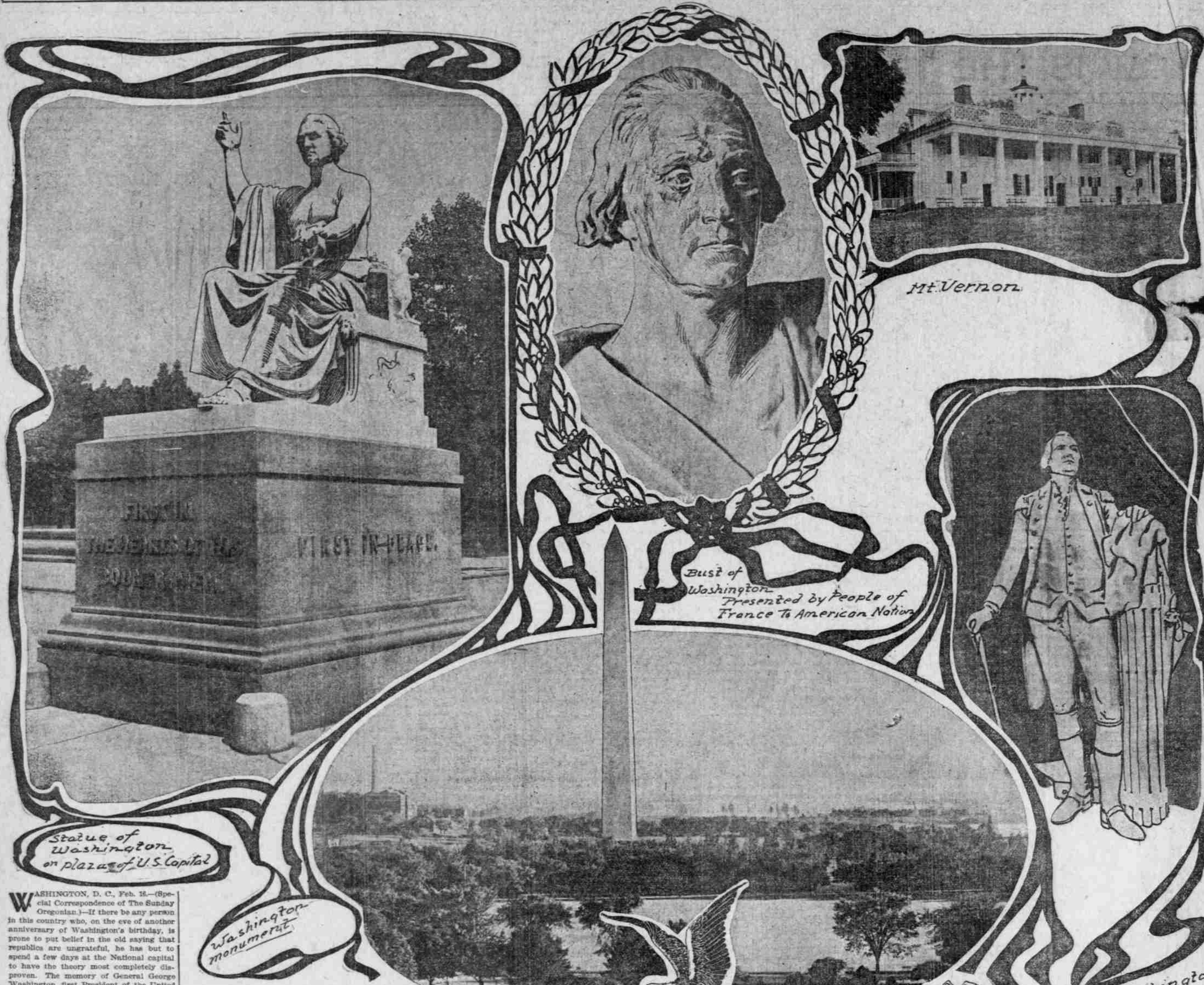


# GEORGE WASHINGTON IN MARBLE, GRANITE AND BRONZE

HOW THE FATHER OF HIS COUNTRY HAS BEEN HONORED AT THE CAPITAL OF THE NATION



Mt. Vernon.

Bust of Washington Presented by People of France to American Nation

Statue of Washington on plaza of U.S. Capital

Statue of Washington in U.S. Capital

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 18.—(Special Correspondence of The Sunday Oregonian.)—If there be any person in this country who, on the eve of another anniversary of Washington's birthday, is prone to put belief in the old saying that republics are ungrateful, he has but to spend a few days at the National capital to have the theory most completely disproven. The memory of General George Washington, first President of the United States, has been honored at the seat of the Government which he founded with tributes which far surpass in number and magnificence the testimonials in bronze and marble accorded to any other hero of any age or nation.

Throughout the length and breadth of Uncle Sam's domain the name of Washington has been given to hundreds of streets, towns, counties, townships, mountains, rivers and lakes, to say nothing of innumerable streets and buildings, but it is especially appropriate that it should find its most conspicuous perpetuation in varied permanent memorials in the beautiful city which he dreamed of and planned and which likewise bears his name. No matter which way the visitor to Washington may turn he will find on every hand tributes to the greatest warrior-statesman of all time. His fame is fittingly commemorated at the United States Capitol, and at the White House, while scattered amidst parks and boulevards are other reminders of that dominant personality to whom the First Republic owes its greatest debt of gratitude.

**Highest Monument in the World.**  
First in importance among memorials, not only on this continent, but throughout the world, is the great Washington National Monument—that imposing shaft rising on the banks of the Potomac to bespeak the gratitude of the whole American people to the illustrious Father of His Country. The monument, which is the highest masonry structure in the world, is an obelisk, and has a height of 55 feet. The foundation is 36 feet deep, and the walls of the colossal structure are 15 feet in thickness at the bottom, gradually tapering to a thickness of but 18 inches at the top. In the huge pile are stones contributed by 49 different states of the Union, 15 American cities, as well as beautifully carved blocks of marble from Italy, Greece, Switzerland, Japan, China, Siam, Brazil and other nations which took this opportunity to pay tribute to the world's greatest liberator.

The plan for erecting this great testimonial to the military and political services of General Washington originated during his lifetime. As early as 1793 Congress resolved to erect a marble monument to the Nation's idol, and it is said that Washington himself selected as a site the spot where the monument now stands. The project was revived from time to time after the death of Washington, but it was not until 1832 that practical steps were taken to fulfill the dream. Funds were raised by popular subscription, and in 1833 the cornerstone of the towering structure was laid with due ceremony. When in 1835 the shaft attained a height of 102 feet, the funds were exhausted and the work was at

a standstill until 1855, when Congress appropriated money to complete the masonry masterpiece. The completed monument, which represents an expenditure of more than \$1,300,000, was dedicated just 15 years ago—February 21, 1885.

Washington monument

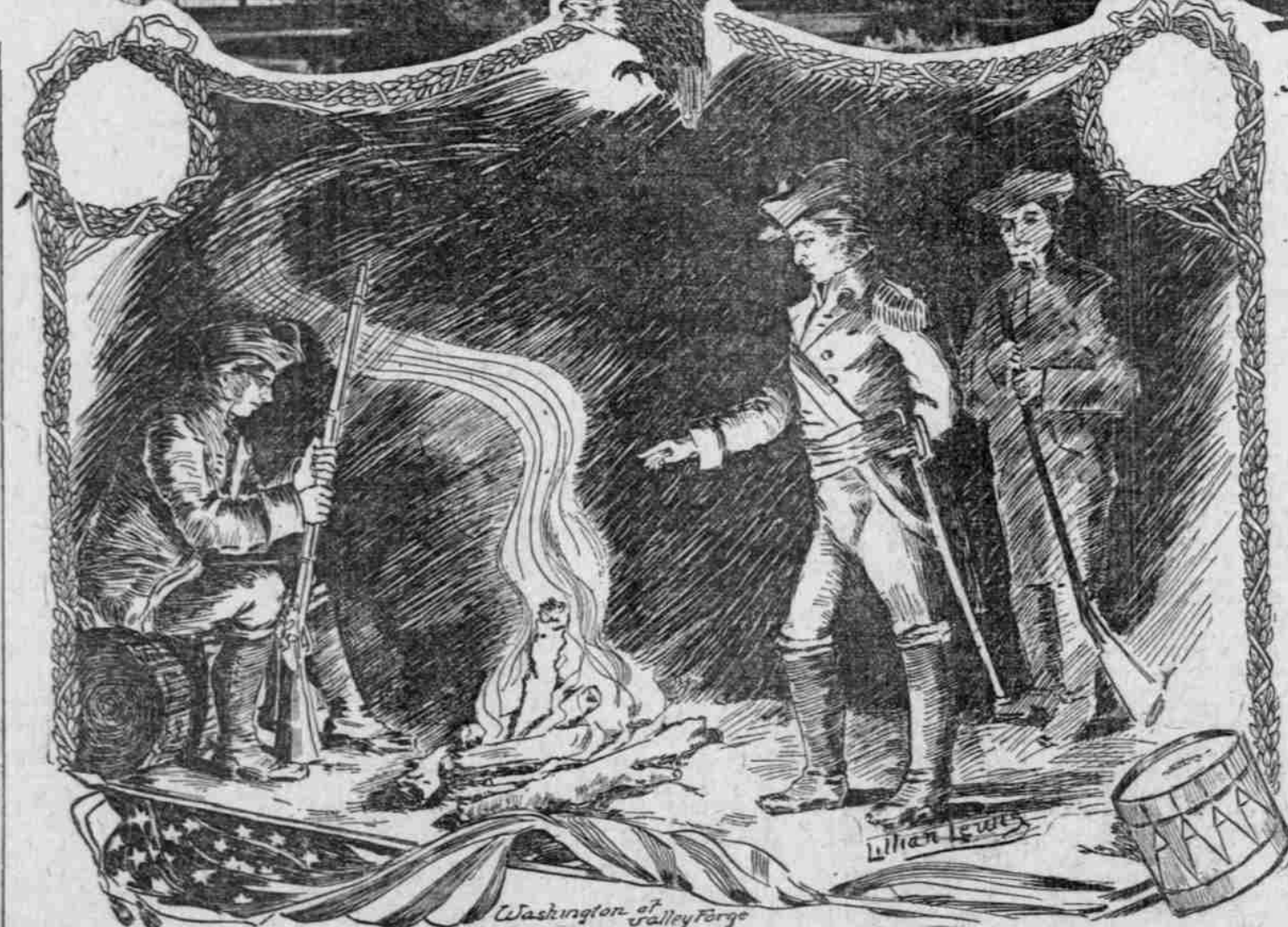
### Greenough's Heroic Statue.

One of the most famous of all the memorials to Washington, and one which has had a most remarkable history occupies the place of honor on the plaza at the United States Capitol—a site about 60 feet directly in front of the great, white-domed building. This is Horatio Greenough's heroic statue in marble of George Washington. The figure, scantily arrayed in the toga of a Roman Senator, is represented in a sitting posture. The left hand clasps a short sword, and the right hand points toward heaven. On the low granite pedestal are inscribed the famous tributes of General Henry Lee: "First in War, First in Peace, and First in the Hearts of His Countrymen."

The history of this statue dates from 1822, when Congress authorized the President to employ Horatio Greenough, of Massachusetts, to execute in marble a full-length statue of Washington, to be placed in the center of the rotunda of the Capitol. The statue, which weighs fully 21 tons, was chiseled in Florence, Italy, and upon its completion the problem of bringing it safely to America proved a perplexing one. Commodore Hull was sent with a United States man-of-war to bring the statue to this country, but when he found that it would be necessary to rip up the ship's decks in order to place the cumbersome burden in the hold, he objected, and an American merchant ship had to be chartered and partially reconstructed to answer the purpose. Then when the statue finally reached Washington it was found that it was too large to pass through any of the doorways at the Capitol, and masonry had to be cut away in order to enable it to reach its resting place in the rotunda. This statue, which cost the Government more than \$42,000, has been severely criticized, principally because of its lack of drapery, and as a result of these criticisms it was removed from the Capitol building to its present location.

### The Houdon Statue.

In Statuary Hall at the United States Capitol is a statue of Washington which came into the possession of the Government through the good offices of Thomas Jefferson and is in the estimation of many persons the most interesting of all the sculptured tributes to the leader of the Continental Army. This statue, which was modeled by the French sculptor, Jean Antoine Houdon, made for the marble statue of Washington now in the rotunda of the State House at Richmond, Va., and which it has more



Washington at Valley Forge

than once been suggested should be given a conspicuous place in the Presidential mansion at Washington. Every opportunity was afforded the sculptor to study his subject, and he was permitted not only to take accurate measurements of Washington but to make a mold of the face, head and chest. Washington himself suggested the costume, which is the Continental uniform which he was accustomed to wear as Commander-in-Chief, and in which he was attired when he resigned his commission at Annapolis. How well this

statue satisfied the men who knew Washington personally may be judged from the comment of John Marshall, who said: "It represents the original as perfectly as a living man could be represented in marble."

### Equestrian Statue.

The American capital has a greater number of equestrian statues than any other city of the New World, and prominently among these horseback monu-

ments is one to George Washington. General Washington was not, however, the first hero to be honored with such a memorial, priority having been given to Andrew Jackson, whose statue stands before the White House. The statue of Washington was produced by Clark Mills, the sculptor, who executed the Jackson statue, and like the latter was cast from cannon captured from the British in the War of 1812. General Washington, dressed in Colonial uniform, is represented as

witnessing the Battle of Princeton. His horse is sinking before the shot, but the General is unmoved by the danger. The horse, represented in this statue, was modeled from one captured from a wild herd on the prairie near Fort Leavenworth, Kan.

The memorials of Washington at the White House are in the form of paintings. The best known of these is the full-length likeness which was long supposed to be from the brush of the famous artist, Gilbert Stuart, but is now known to be a copy by an English painter. This is sometimes known as the "Lansdowne Stuart," from the fact that the painting on which it is a facsimile was made for the Marquis of Lansdowne. This portrait which long occupied the place of honor in the East room at the White House, but now hangs on the wall of the Red parlor, is the one which was rescued by Dolly Madison and carried across the Potomac when the British burned the White House in 1814.

### In the White House.

Near at hand is a full-length portrait of Martha Washington, which was painted by Andrews in 1873. The gown represented is one which was made in Paris as a faithful reproduction of the costume of Revolutionary days and was worn at the Martha Washington Centennial tea party in Philadelphia, 1876. Upstairs in President Roosevelt's study, or "den," is another full-length portrait in oil of General Washington. This likeness is the work of Senor cadena, of Quito, Ecuador.

Of course, one of the most fitting memorials to George Washington is found in Mount Vernon, the home and tomb of the Father of His Country, located on the Virginia shore of the Potomac, 14 miles south of the City of Washington, and which ranks next to the National Capitol and Niagara Falls as the greatest tourist Mecca in America. The mansion-house at Mount Vernon is now in charge of the Mount Vernon Ladies' Association, it having been purchased by the Nation in 1860, when the sum of \$200,000 was raised by popular subscription for the purpose. To this shrine of patriotism have been bestowed an invaluable collection of memorabilia sacred from association with Washington's private life and public career, the whole constituting probably the most impressive of all tributes to the First Gentleman of America.

WALDON FAWCETT. (Copyright, 1904.)