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THE FOURTH OF JULY

The Fourth of July suggests so many paradoxes that they dazzle us. A Declaration of Independence seemed in 1776, from one point of view, sheer madness; then in the next moment the signers represented lands and learning. Some of them had been educated in England, and the dignity of the men overshadowed the apparent folly of the momentous movement.

A so-called republic without credit, without an army, without a fleet, might be ridiculed—

Was ridiculed at home as well as abroad. But whenever that bankrupt course was at the seeming last gasp, somebody in the Old World lent money or furnished us supplies. To that ragged army came La Fayette, the French Marquis, and a band of skilled officers. In those camps of hunger and nakedness was a soldiery due to that master of German tactics, Steuben. At the head of those unpaid and shivering troops was George Washington, surveyor, soldier, planter and in all things man of dignity. Time after time were our soldiers worsted. Indeed they lost nearly all the minor battles of the war. But when they captured Burgoyne they won the French alliance, and when they captured Cornwallis the British lion deemed it well to make peace.

What we called our navy was poorly armed and poorly equipped. Our crews were poorly paid and poorly fed. Most of our stronger craft were taken by the enemy. We could not protect our coasts. But these irregular cruisers—so irregular that we hardly know which were men-of-war and which privateers, took prizes in the English Channel. The coast of Scotland was alarmed. London merchants made a ceaseless outcry because of the damage done to British commerce. It seemed folly for John Paul Jones to set forth in a worn out merchantman, yet in that made-over merchantman he captured a fine British frigate just outside the port of Scarborough. A naval architect might have ridiculed our entire force; yet it wrought deeds worthy of imperishable record.

Few were our schools. Scantly endowed were our colleges. Hostile ships kept us away from Old World art and science. But the best known philosopher of that era was Benjamin Franklin. Crude as were his instruments, David Rittenhouse was a genuine astronomer. Thomas Jefferson was a great thinker; accumulating poise with experience. Alexander Hamilton was learning how to write state papers. John Marshall was maturing for the Chief Justiceship. Only four years after the end of the struggle we were getting ready for that Constitution which Gladstone pronounced the most remarkable document ever struck off at a given time from the brains of men—

And even after our independence was acknowledged the poverty and provincialism of the times seemed destined to wreck us. But Shay's rebellion is almost forgotten and Hamilton's financial policy is not. We can scarcely believe that the British once held the Delaware. We know that the young republic looked eagerly to the Mississippi. In 1783 we could scarcely believe that we had cut loose from Great Britain—

And in 1803 we bought a mighty empire from France. Our seamen were held as slaves in Barbary. Yet into Tripoli harbor went Decatur for what Nelson called "the most daring act of the age." We counted our workshops as crude affairs beside the splendid plants of Gauls and Britons. Yet Robert Fulton, disappointed in France and England, came home to steam up the Hudson.

Our second war with Great Britain brought to us a blazing capital, yet the invaders were worsted; and within seven years of the burning of Washington we were ready to purchase Florida.

It seemed madness to defy Great Britain, yet independence was won. The vast Louisiana area puzzled us—"these wilds immeasurably spread" angered many. However, Lewis and Clarke were soon on their westward trip. Parliament roared at the crazy plan of letting seventeen cruisers venture on the ocean where Great Britain had seven hundred. Nevertheless the London Times said: "Scarcely an American man-of-war that cannot boast a victory over the British flag. Hardly a British ship that can boast a victory over the American."

And nearly everything we did seemed absurd until it was done. Our claims echoed of bedlam until they were borne out by facts. It is marvelous that our seemingly hopeless cause made an undying impression on Lord Chatham. It is strange that the noblest orations in Parliament were those in which Burke spoke for the colonies. What looked like madness proved to be wisdom. What seemed impossible was done under critical eyes. The little one became a thousand, and the small one a strong nation, for the Lord hastened it in His time.

The vast ocean and the wide plains and dense forests and high mountains and swift rivers favored and fought for the forces battling for freedom—

"The stars in their courses fought again Sisera." Benjamin Franklin said when peace reigned: "All of us who were engaged in the struggle must have observed frequent instances of a directing Providence in our affairs."

In short, the United States of America was set apart a nation by Divine direction for world leadership. In this respect she has steered her course—though swerved from her line at times by storm and stress and expediency, caused by fear or ignorance or greed of political power or hope of material gain—

But ever returning to the true course; and destined to still hold aloft the torch of Liberty, for the good of all races everywhere, and for the final permanent peace of the world.

Mt. Etna has quit. Col. Bryan

ought to.

The young generation is shoot-

ing fireworks in honor of the glorious 4th. Youth will not be denied.

Every day in every way foreign

cabinets are becoming more and more afflicted with the falling sickness.

Secretary Hughes is having a

survey made to see if an around-the-world trip by airplane is possible. And while he is making

the survey some intrepid American aviator is likely to make the

historic trip.

President Harding is evangelizing

in his speech-making tour calling upon Christian men and women everywhere to rally to the

standard of law enforcement

and the rehabilitation of peace throughout the world. When a Baptist gets going along that line something must give way.

Hundreds of pickers will remain in the loganberry fields to-day. Who will say they are not performing a patriotic service?

Picking all the loganberries and getting them all sold, in some form or other, will be one way of advertising. To show the consumers that the loganberry is the best bush fruit grown—that is the best form of advertising. Pick 'em all.

Loganberries are good for more things, can be used in more ways, than any other berries. This includes the many ways in which loganberry juice may be employed in kitchens, hospitals and elsewhere. There is no use for the loganberry industry to be ever in the dumps. Its stabilization is merely a matter of organization and advertising—in other words, intelligent marketing. This will make loganberries "as good as wheat." It will keep the industry going and growing.

OUR DUTY TO POSTERITY (By Horace Mann) July 4, 1842

And yet, let me again say, how obvious is it, that we stand in the same relation to posterity that our ancestors do to us. And, as we boldly summon our forefathers to our tribunal for adjudication upon their conduct so will our conduct be brought into judgment by our successors. Each generation has duties of its own to perform; and our duties, though widely different from theirs, are not less important in their character, or less binding in their obligations. It was their duty to found or establish our institutions, and nobly did they perform it. It is our duty to perfect and perpetuate these institutions; and the most solemn question which can be propounded to this age is, are we performing it nobly? Shall posterity look back upon our present rulers as we look back upon Arnold, or as we look back upon Washington? Shall posterity look back upon us as we look back upon the recreants who sought to make Washington dictator, and would have turned those arms against their country, which had been put into their hands to save her? Or shall posterity look back upon us with the heart throbbings and tears and passionate admiration, with which we regard the Saviour-like martyrs who, for our welfare, in lonely dungeons and prisonisms, breathing a noisome atmosphere—their powerful and robust frames protracting their tortures beyond the common endurance of nature, until they slowly but literally perished by starvation—and when the minions of power came round, day after day, and offered them life and freedom and a glad return of the upper air, if they would desert their country's cause—refused and died.

I have said that it is our especial and appropriate duty to perfect and perpetuate the institutions which we have received. I am aware that this has been said, for the last 50 years, thousands of times every year. I do not reiterate the sentiment, therefore, for its originality; nor even for its importance; but for the sake of inquiring—in what manner this work is to be done? It has long seemed to me that it would be more honorable to our ancestors, to praise them, in words, less, but, in deeds, to imitate them more. If from their realms of blessedness they could address us, would they not say: "Prove the sincerity of your words by imitating the examples you profess to admire. The inheritance we left you is worthless, unless you have inherited the spirit also by which it was acquired. The boon we would bequeath to the latest posterity can never reach and bless them, save through your hands. In these spiritual abodes, whence all disturbing passions are excluded, where all illusions are purged from our eyes, we can neither be beguiled nor flattered by lip-service. Deeds are the only language we understand; and one act of self-sacrifice for the welfare of mankind is more acceptable to us than if you should make every mountain and hill-top, a temple to hallow our names, and gather thither the whole generation as worshippers."

Benson J. Lossing, in his Field-Book of the Revolution, gives this account of the adoption of the Declaration of Independence: "It was two o'clock in the afternoon when the final decision was announced by Secretary Thomson to the assembled congress in Independence hall. It was a moment of solemn interest; and when the secretary sat down a deep silence pervaded that august assembly. Thousands of anxious citizens had gathered in the streets of Philadelphia, for it was known that the final decision was to be made on that day. From the hour when congress convened in the morning, the old bellman had been in the steeple. He placed a boy at the door below, to give him notice when the announcement

should be made. As hour succeeded hour, the gray-beard shook his head and said, 'They will never do it! They will never do it!' Suddenly a loud shout came up from below, and there stood the blue-eyed boy clapping his hands and shouting, 'Ring! ring!' Grasping the iron tongue of the old bell and leaning backward and forward he hurled it a hundred times, its loud voice proclaiming, 'Liberty through-out all the land, unto all the inhabitants thereof.' The excited multitudes in the streets responded with loud acclamations and with cannon peals, bonfires and illuminations, the patriots held a glorious carnival that night in the quiet city of Penn."

THE WORLD'S GREATEST BIRTHDAY PARTY

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The Declaration was adopted on July 4th, but on that day was signed only by John Hancock, the president of the congress, and Charles Thomson, the secretary. A few days later congress ordered that the Declaration be engrossed on parchment and "signed by every member of the congress." This engrossed copy was signed on August 2, 1776. There has always been considerable doubt as to how many members actually signed on August 2nd, and as to the date when the others affixed their signatures, but according to the best authorities, 50 of the 56 men whose names appear on the parchment copy of the Declaration, signed on August 2nd, and the others, who were not present on that date, signed shortly thereafter.

It will be observed from the foregoing account of the proceedings of congress that there are three dates which might reasonably be considered as marking the birth of the independence of America. These dates are the 2nd of July, when Lee's resolution of independence was adopted, the 4th of July, when the Declaration was adopted, and August 2nd, when the Declaration was signed. Many people think it a trifle strange that more importance has not been attached to the 2nd of July in connection with the adoption of independence. The resolution introduced by Richard Henry Lee which declared our independence and which was the actual legal act of separation from the British government was passed on that day. That was the big and vital event of the whole procedure, the adoption of the form of declaration being a matter of secondary importance. However, by the common consent of the people of the country, our greatest of anniversaries has been dated from the passage of the Declaration on July 4th, and will remain so until the end of time.

Washington at Celebration

Immediately after the adoption to the Declaration congress ordered copies of it printed and sent to the governing bodies of each of the states, and also to the officers of the army. Considering the lack of transportation facilities of those days it is remarkable how quickly these copies reached their destinations. The Declaration was received everywhere with great joy and approval, and noisy celebrations.

New York celebrated the big event on July 4th. The festivities took place on the "Commons," the present location of the city hall, where Mayor Hylan presides. The Revolutionary troops formed in a hollow square. General Washington was present on horseback. The Declaration was read by one of Washington's aides. Never before had there been such a gathering in the city of New York. Practically every man, woman and child had assembled to hear the momentous words of the never-to-be-forgotten document. Such joyful cheering had never before been heard. That night Washington's brave soldiers celebrated the occasion by marching down to

the lower end of Manhattan Island and pulling over the equestrian statue of George the Third, which stood in the center of Bowling Green. That statue, by the way, was the first equestrian statue erected on the continent of North America. It was made of lead and gilded to represent gold. The thrifty Americans melted it up and converted it into perfectly good bullets which they rammed into their rifles and used against the enemy at the first opportunity.

Boston had just as noisy a celebration as New York. The Declaration was proclaimed amid the ringing of bells, salutes from the forts and volleys of musketry from the troops assembled to hear it read. Under cover of darkness the happy crowds paraded up and down the streets and tore down every sign which bore the coat of arms of the King or any reference to royalty, and also every sign belonging to the Tories, and made a huge bonfire of them.

The King in Effigy

At Baltimore and many other places an effigy of the King of England was carted through the streets, accompanied by a large concourse of people, and finally burnt amid the cheers of the populace.

Savannah, Georgia, in addition to celebrating the event with the usual bell ringing and artillery salutes, held a solemn funeral service. A newspaper of that period gives this account of it: "There was exhibited a very solemn funeral procession, attended by the Grenadiers and Light Infantry companies and other militia with their drums-muffled and fifes and a greater number of people than ever appeared on any occasion before in this province, when George the Third was interred before the Court House with a mock funeral service."

The celebration at Trenton, N. J., is described by an ancient publication as follows: "The members of the provincial congress, the gentlemen of the committee, the officers and privates of the militia under arms and a large concourse of the inhabitants attended on this great and solemn occasion. The Declaration and other proceedings were received with loud acclamations."

The proceedings at Princeton, N. J., are thus described by the Pennsylvania Packet, of July 15, 1776: "Last night Nassau Hall was grandly illuminated, and independence proclaimed under a triple volley of musketry and universal acclamation for the prosperity of the United States. The ceremony was conducted with the greatest decorum."

At Bridgeport, N. J., the Declaration was read in front of the court house. "After which the peace officers' staves, on which were depicted the King's coat of arms, with other ensigns of royalty, were burnt in the street. The whole was conducted with the greatest decency and regularity." An address was made by Dr. Ebenezer Elmer.

At practically all places where the Declaration was proclaimed banquets were given to the officials and prominent people. The 13 patriotic toasts were invariably given at these dinners.

On the evening of the day the Declaration was adopted John Adams whittled out a nice fresh quill pen and wrote a prophetic letter to his wife, Abigail, who, by the way, was destined to become the first mistress of the White

FUTURE DATES

June 30 to July 8—Annual convention of Christian church at Turner.
July 1, Sunday—Elika picnic at Stayton.
July 2, Monday—Playgrounds to open.
July 3, Tuesday—Legal holiday in Oregon on occasion of Old Oregon Trail celebration at Meacham.
July 4, Wednesday—Automobile races fair grounds.
July 14, Saturday—Spanish American war veterans convention at Albany.
August 3 to 29—Annual encampment of Boy Scouts at Cascade.
September 24 to 29—Oregon state fair.

House at Washington upon its completion in 1800. In this letter Adams said: "I am apt to believe that this day will be celebrated by succeeding generations as the great anniversary festival. It ought to be commemorated as the day of deliverance by solemn acts of devotion to Almighty God. It ought to be solemnized with pomp and parade, with shows, games, sports, guns, bells, bonfires, and illuminations, from one end of this continent to the other, from this time forward forevermore."

A Prophecy Fulfilled

There is no denying that this prophecy has been fulfilled to the letter. Not once, in all the intervening years, have the American people failed to properly and joyously celebrate Independence Day. At the first anniversary in 1777, the Revolutionary troops were at Morristown, N. J., and the day was celebrated with bonfires and speech making. Each soldier received extra rations in honor of the great event. In 1778 there were bonfires and salutes of 13 pieces of cannon. This program was repeated the following year, and, in addition, a general pardon was granted all prisoners in the army who were under sentence of death. The last celebration in the Revolutionary Army took place in 1782. The entire army was formed along the banks of the Hudson, on each side of the river, while a salute of 13 cannon was fired at West Point. The continental congress never failed to celebrate the anniversary.

Philadelphia celebrated the first anniversary in rather unique fashion. The many armed ships in the harbor were gallily decorated and fired salutes of 13 guns. In the afternoon a dinner was given to the members of Congress with the leading military and civil officials as guests. The music for this dinner was furnished by a Hessian band which was captured at Trenton the preceding December. History tells us the band "heightened the festivity with some fine performances suited to the joyous occasion."

The 56 men who signed the Declaration of Independence have always been honored with love and reverence. It is hoped that

in the not far distant future a beautiful memorial in their honor will be erected at the nation's capital. In this memorial ought to be placed busts or statues of the signers, so that the present and future generations would know what sort of looking men they were. On the walls of this memorial ought to be hung large paintings by our best artists portraying the leading incidents up to and during the Revolution.

The signing of the Declaration required patriotism, statesmanship, and nerve—lots of nerve. When these signers declared that they would be "absolved from all allegiance to the British crown" they went on record as being in open rebellion, and if the colonies were defeated the signers would be regarded as traitors and treated accordingly. These great men fully realized the situation but not for a single moment did they waver. They merely laughed and joked at the possibility of future personal danger. When John Hancock, the president of the continental congress, wrote his big flourishing signature on the Declaration he smilingly remarked: "There, John Bull may read my name without spectacles and may now double his reward of 500 pounds for my head; we must be unanimous, there must be no pulling different ways, we must all hang together." To this remark good old Benjamin Franklin replied, "We must indeed, all hang together, or most assuredly, we shall hang separately." Benjamin Harrison, of Virginia, who was quite fat, turned to Elbridge Gerry of Massachusetts, who was small and skinny, and said, "When it comes to the hanging I shall have the advantage of you, it will be all over with me long before you have done kicking in the air." "There go a few millions," commented one of the members as Charles Carroll, who was one of the richest men in the colonies, signed the parchment. Carroll again dipped his quill in the ink and added after his signature, "of Carrollton," dryly remarking that he did so in order to make sure that they would not get the wrong Carroll.

Most of the signers of the Declaration of Independence were comparatively young men, the average age being a little over 40 years. Edward Rutledge was the youngest, being but 27, and Benjamin Franklin, the oldest, was 73. Thirty were lawyers, eight merchants, seven farmers, five physicians, and two mechanics. John Witherspoon was a preacher, Abraham Clark, a surveyor, Roger Sherman, a shoemaker and Franklin, a printer.

It is a remarkable coincidence that Thomas Jefferson, the author of the Declaration, and John Adams, its greatest advocate, both signers and both afterward Presidents of the United States, died on July 4, 1826, the 50th anniversary of the Declaration.

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