

WASHINGTON WAS TRUE GENTLEMAN

The Masterly Address of Judge Wallace McCamant to the Salem Rotary Club

A mistake of the "make-up" following article was partly printed in The Statesman of Sunday; the run-over part to another page being by an oversight omitted.—Ed.)

(Judge Wallace McCamant of Portland, former justice of the supreme court of Oregon, leading Portland attorney, patriotic citizen, student of history, and silver-tongued orator, delivered to the Salem Rotary club at its noon luncheon on Wednesday, birthday of the father of his country, a notable address on "George Washington, Gentleman," and at the close there was a rising vote for the publication of the address in pamphlet form. In order that all our people may have this address for reading and filing, the full text of it is printed below.)

Washington was well born. His ancestry has been traced back for six centuries prior to his birth and the evidence is abundant that he was descended from a long line of high-spirited, self-respecting men and women. One of the formative influences in his life was the warm attachment subsisting between his brother Lawrence and himself. Lawrence Washington was George's senior by fourteen years; the chroniclers speak of his culture, refinement and gentle breeding. Lawrence Washington was the original owner of Mount Vernon, George succeeding to the estate on the death of his favorite brother. Another formative influence was the close association of the families of Washington and Fairfax. Mrs. Lawrence Washington was a Fairfax; her brothers, George, William and Bryan, were near the age of George Washington, and they were his friends and companions. Their father, William Fairfax, and their cousin Thomas, Lord Fairfax, were gentlemen of wealth, standing and wide information.

The world contained no better field for the evolution of a gentleman than tide-water Virginia in the generation preceding the American Revolution. William M. Thackeray was a competent critic of manners in the eighteenth century. In "The Virginians" he gives us a picture of the environment in which Washington grew up. Thackeray's heroes return to Virginia after wide experience in court circles and the best society in Great Britain, and they are constrained to say that nowhere had they seen a finer type of cultured womanhood than their own mother, Madam Esmond Warrington, a typical blueblood Virginia matron.

Washington had the affiliations of a gentleman. He was drawn to men of culture and they became his friends and intimates. When he left the Continental Congress to take command of the army at Cambridge, he rode as far as New York with Philip Schuyler; ever afterwards they were fast friends. Mention should be made in this connection of Washington's friendship for Lafayette, Anthony Wayne, Henry Lee and Alexander Hamilton. When France sent an army to co-operate with the American troops, the high-bred French officers were drawn to Washington and many of them became his friends.

Washington had the delicacy of feeling which is the unfulfilling mark of a gentleman. The Revolutionary War was full of discouragements. The American arms met with many defeats. But Washington never indulged in criticism of the commanders whose efforts were unsuccessful. He accepted with composure the criticism he received, unjust and acrimonious though it was. He just no opportunity to congratulate and to commend, and he was ready with a message of sympathy when valorous effort was unavailing to win victory. On the failure of the joint French and American campaign in Rhode Island, a storm of criticism raged about the head of the French admiral, D'Estaing. Washington wrote him a letter congratulating him on the wisdom of his plan and expressing regret that a plan so well conceived had been ineffectual through causes beyond the admiral's control. After the battle of Guilford Court House, Washington wrote Nathaniel Greene in this wise:

"Although the honors of the field do not fall to your lot, I am convinced you deserve them. The chances of war are various and the best concerted measures may and often do deceive us. The motives which induced you to risk an action with Lord Cornwallis are supported upon the best military principle, and the consequences, if you can prevent the dissipation of your

troops, will no doubt be fortunate." Washington possessed a dignity which never left him. Witness this letter to Gates after the surrender at Saratoga, of which Gates had not advised him:

"By this opportunity I do myself the pleasure to congratulate you on the signal success of the army under your command in compelling General Burgoyne and his whole force to surrender themselves prisoners of war. At the same time I cannot but regret that a matter of such magnitude and so interesting to our general operations, should have reached me by report only; or through the channel of letters not bearing the authenticity which it would have received by a line under your signature stating the simple fact."

Washington foiled the intrigues of the Conway cabal by this letter to Conway:

"Sir: A letter which I received last night contained the following paragraph: 'In a letter from General Conway to General Gates he says: 'Heaven has determined to save your country or a weak general and bad counselors would have ruined it.'"

"I am sir,
Your humble servant,
George Washington."

Washington had the presence of a gentleman. Witness this description of him from the pen of Mrs. John Adams, a most discriminating observer:

"Dignity, ease and complacency, the gentleman and the soldier, look agreeably blended in him. Modesty marks every line and feature of his face."

Modesty was, indeed, one of Washington's most marked characteristics. When he took his seat in the Virginia House of Burgesses at the close of the French and Indian War, Speaker Robinson thanked him publicly for his eminent military services. Washington found himself unable to reply. The Speaker thereupon said: "Sit down, Mr. Washington; your modesty equals your valor and that surpasses the power of any language I possess."

When Washington accepted his commission from the Continental Congress he said:

"I beg it may be remembered by every gentleman in the room that I this day declare with the utmost sincerity I do not think myself equal to the command I am honored with."

A similar expression is found in one of his letters to his wife written at the same time and which he could not have expected the public to see.

He was equally diffident about accepting the presidency. He writes to Hamilton:

"If I should be prevailed upon to accept it, the acceptance would be attended with more diffidence and reluctance than ever I experienced before in my life."

After his election to the presidency his journey from Mount Vernon to New York was a triumphal march. The communities through which he passed, vied with each other to do him honor. This ovation culminated in his inauguration. Seldom has any man received so signal a manifestation of public favor. When it was all over he wrote to a friend:

"I greatly fear that my countrymen will expect too much from me. I fear, if the issue of public measures shall not correspond with their sanguine expectations, they will turn the extravagant praises which they are heaping upon me at this moment into equally extravagant censures."

Miss Curtis, Mrs. Washington's granddaughter, lived at Mount Vernon from the close of the revolution until shortly prior to Washington's death. She states that she never heard him relate an act of his during the war. Elkanah Watson, a visitor to Mount Vernon, tried in vain to induce Washington to talk about the great events in which he played so important a part, and Bishop White assures us that a stranger would never have known from Washington's conversation that he was conscious of having distinguished himself in the eye of the world.

A high sense of honor is the mark of a gentleman. Prior to the Revolution it was proposed that the Colonists should make their protests to Great Britain effective by refusing to pay debts owing to British creditors. The proposition evoked a protest from Washington:

"While we are accusing others of injustice, we should be just ourselves; and how this can be whilst we owe a considerable debt and refuse payment of it to Great Britain is to me inconceivable."

In 1781, while Washington was with the army on the banks of the Hudson, a small British vessel came up the river and devastated the homes of many of the patriot proprietors on its banks. Lund Washington then in charge of Mount Vernon, met the boat from the ship and purchased immunity for Mount Vernon by supplying the vessel with provisions. Washington was stung to the quick by this compromising conduct.

In a letter to Lund Washington he bitterly complained that his agent should carry refreshments to an enemy vessel and "commune with a parcel of plundering scoundrels." Washington added: "It would have been a less painful circumstance to me to have heard that in consequence to your non-compliance with their request, they had burnt my house and laid my plantation in ruins."

The commentators lay emphasis on the tact and courtesy which marked Washington's intercourse with his fellow-men. He was unflinching in his hospitality and his guests have left many memorials of his faculty for putting them at their ease. He was so gracious in his demeanor that men forgot they were in the presence of one of the greatest of mankind. His correspondence is rich in compliments gracefully paid.

Washington was chivalric in his regard for women and in his treatment of them. When Washington discovered the treason of Benedict Arnold he exerted himself to the utmost to capture the traitor. As soon as he was certain that his efforts to this end had failed he set word to Mrs. Arnold assuring her of the safety of her husband on a British man-of-war.

The French Revolution swept away the patrimony of Lafayette. While her husband was imprisoned in an Austrian dungeon at Olmutz Madame Lafayette was in strained circumstances. Washington deposited a considerable sum to her credit in Holland. Mindful of her reluctance to accept pecuniary assistance, he assured her that this money was the payment of an old debt he owed her husband.

Washington was a man of tender sympathies. When he saw the Hessians bayoneting his men on the fall of Fort Washington, he wept like a child. He made war like a Christian gentleman, rigorously punishing any infraction of the laws of war and of humanity.

He had the generosity of a gentleman. His kindness to his negroes was much remarked in the neighborhood of Mount Vernon, as was his care of them when sick, infirm and aged. When he and Mrs. Washington were at Cambridge at the beginning of the Revolution, he writes this letter home to his agent:

"Let the hospitality of the house with respect to the poor be kept up. Let no one go hungry away. If any of this kind of people should be in want of corn, supply their necessities provided it does not encourage them to idleness."

He then directs the distribution of not less than forty pounds sterling in charity.

Washington had the comradeships of a gentleman. He was fond of his friends and remained loyal to them through good report and ill. When the storm of the revolution was brewing, he differed radically from Lord Dunmore, the royal governor of Virginia, and both gentlemen felt strongly on the great public question of their day. Yet these differences did not interrupt their friendship. Throughout the revolution the Fairfaxes remained loyal to the crown. This did not break or strain Washington's affection for them. Bryan Fairfax visited Washington at Valley Forge and secured from Washington a pass entitling him to proceed to the British lines at New York. He was unwilling to take the oaths exacted of him by the British commander and returned to Virginia, via Valley Forge. He was treated with unflinching kindness by Washington and on his return to Virginia he wrote this letter:

"There are times when favors conferred make a greater impression than at others. That at a time when your popularity was at the highest and mine at the lowest, and when it is so common for men's resentments to run high against those who differ from them in opinion, you should act with your wonted kindness towards me, has affected me more than any favor I have received."

Nothing could be more beautiful than Washington's devotion to his companions in arms, the men who had wintered at Valley Forge and who had done yeoman service on the bloody fields where the liberties of our country were won. Washington's separation from the officers of the Continental Army at Fraunce's Tavern was perhaps the most affecting scene of his life. This was his farewell toast:

"With a heart full of love and gratitude I now take leave of you, most devoutly wishing that your latter days may be as prosperous and happy as your former ones have been glorious and honorable."

Too much overcome to say more, he grasped them by the hand one by one, and hurried to the boat in which he left New York. To the end of his life he remained the loyal friend of them all.

It is sometimes said that no man is a hero to his valet. On this subject hear what Tobias Lear, Washington's secretary, has to say of him:

"General Washington is, I believe, the only man of exalted character who does not lose some part of his respectability by an intimate acquaintance. I have never found a single thing that could lessen my respect for him. A complete knowledge of his honesty, uprightness and candor in all of his private transactions, has sometimes led me to think him more than a man."

Washington died like a gentleman. When he felt his end approaching, he asked Mr. Lear whether Lear recollected anything which it was essential for him to do, as he had but a short time to live. Observing that his negro servant had remained standing a long time in his sick chamber, Washington told him to sit down. When Mr. Lear moved him in bed, Washington said: "I am afraid I fatigue you too much." On being assured to the contrary, Washington said: "It is a debt we must pay to each other and I hope when you want aid of this kind you will find it."

Almost his last words were these:

"I feel I am going; I thank you for your attentions, but I pray you will take no more trouble about me; let me go off quietly; I cannot last long."

So lived and so died George Washington. When he passed away the world lost its first gentleman.

PAPER PRODUCTION HERE LARGE SCALE

Industry Described By P. J. Lamoreaux At Chamber of Commerce Meet

Paper enough to cover a road 20 feet wide from Salem to Eugene is turned out daily by each of the four machines at the Oregon Pulp & Power company. It was stated Monday at the Salem Chamber of Commerce luncheon by P. J. Lamoreaux, general superintendent of the mill.

In showing the extent of the paper production at this mill, Salem's biggest industry, Mr. Lamoreaux said that 9950 horsepower is utilized in the 491 motors which vary from one-sixteenth of a horsepower to 350 horsepower. The mill uses 2,800,000 kilowatt hours of electricity each month, or 110,080 daily.

The pumps are equipped to handle 15,000 gallons of water each day.

Mr. Lamoreaux gave a complete outline of the process of paper making from the wood pulp to the finished paper. He told of the process which removes the dirt from the pulp, the washing, chipping, diluting, thickening and the acid process.

Ninety tons of water are used to each ton of pulp, but 93 per cent of this water is used over again, the speaker said. He told of the bleaching and of the sizing for waterproofing the paper.

The making of good paper depends on the use of water, Mr. Lamoreaux explained, adding that when the paper reaches the drying roll it is about 80 per cent dry.

He told of one machine at the mill that made 56 tons of bond paper a day, but said that 50 tons is a fair average. The total capacity of the mill is about 100 tons a day. The sizes of paper turned out vary from 28 x 42 x 60 inches.

In closing Mr. Lamoreaux said that Salem residents would be given all preference in employment. There are now 368 men and 28 women employed in the mill, and 29 office workers making the total payroll 425.

The paper mill has not been advertised enough, Mr. Lamoreaux said, mentioning that he had seen only one or two advertisements mentioning the paper industry here since he had been in Salem.

Although a resident of this city only four months, Mr. Lamoreaux is greatly pleased with the city and declares that he has become an active booster.

Several heads of departments at the paper mill were guests at the luncheon. The speaker was introduced by E. T. Barnes.

LOWER PHONE RATE ASKED FOR OREGON

PORTLAND, Feb. 27.—(AP)—An order reducing telephone rates in Oregon will be requested of the public service commission by the state legislative committee ap-

pointed to investigate the telephone situation in Oregon. The legislative committee met here today. A resolution was adopted urging the Oregon congressional delegation to support the congressional resolutions calling for a national investigation of the operations of telephone companies. The message will be sent to Senators McNary and Steiwer, and to Representatives Hawley, Sinnott and Korrell. A request will be made to the state public service commission asking that a similar message be sent by that body to the congressional delegation.

It was declared at today's meeting that since 1913 telephone rates in Oregon have increased from 30 to 150 per cent. Other utilities, such as power and gas, have shown a decrease during a similar period, it was said.

The telephone companies have given as justification for increased rates the increased cost of wages, labor and material.

The legislative committee consists of Colonel A. E. Clarke, chairman; Speaker John H. Clark and Representative E. O. Potter of Lane county; Theodore P. Cramer, Jr., Josephine county; James H. Haslett, Hood River, and Attorney General I. H. Van Winkle. All were present today and all were in accord with the action taken.

"It was declared at the meeting that the state legislative committee is not in a position to make a comprehensive investigation in Oregon as is necessary, due to the inter-corporate relations of the American Telephone and Telegraph company, "parent company" to 38 operating companies of which the Pacific States Telephone and Telegraph company was said to be one; the Western

Electric company, and the Gray-Bar company.

AMENDMENT PROPOSED

WASHINGTON, Feb. 27.—(AP)—A compact between the states interested in the irrigation project in the Columbia river basin, if the gravity plan of water distribution is adopted was sought in an amendment to the Jones-Dill bill introduced today by Senator Borah, republican, Idaho.

PERSIANS DROWN

BAKU, Transcaucasia, Feb. 27.—(AP)—M. Lipunoff, head of the Persian fisheries department, and 11 subordinates perished today when a storm swept the Caspian sea sinking a boat on which they were making an inspection trip.

PILOT, RANCHER DIES

MARSHFIELD, Ore., Feb. 27.—(AP)—Herbert Rogers, 67, Coos river pilot and rancher, son of S. C. Rogers, Coos pioneer, died Saturday night of a heart attack.

That Baby You've Longed For

Mrs. Burton Advises Women on Motherhood and Companionship

"For several years I was denied the blessing of motherhood," writes Mrs. Margaret Burton of Kansas City. "I was terribly nervous and subject to periods of terrible suffering and melancholy. Now I am the proud mother of a beautiful little daughter and a true companion and inspiration to my husband. I believe hundreds of other women would like to know the secret of my happiness, and I will gladly reveal it to any married woman who will write me." Mrs. Burton offers her advice entirely without charge. She has nothing to sell. Letters should be addressed to Mrs. Margaret Burton, 8029 Massachusetts, Kansas City, Mo. Correspondence will be strictly confidential.

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As long as they last

GLASS
Egg Cups
Stemmed and Base
9c

STAFORD FOUNTAIN
Pen Ink
Regular 15c Bottle
9c

RUFFLED CURTAINS
2 1/4 yds. Long With Tie Backs
2 PAIR
98c

WINDOW SHADES
OIL OPAQUE
(Seconds)
Complete With Brackets
2 FOR
96c

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As Long as Any Last—
THREE GROUPS

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\$4.37

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Stock Limited
3 FOR
10c

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11c

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CREPE TISSUE
3c
Limit ten to a Customer

Hardwood Spring Snap
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Regular \$4.25 and \$5.00
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For All Coughs and All Ages
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Children like it. Mothers endorse it. All users recommend it.

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CLIP AND FILL OUT
I wish to enter in the Fanchon & Marco Talent Opportunity Contest given in cooperation with The Oregon Statesman and the Elsinore Theater. I agree to accept the terms and conditions of the contract for the Fanchon & Marco Idea in which I will appear if chosen winner of this contest in this city. I understand that the contract calls for a minimum of 12 weeks booking over the West Coast circuit at a minimum of \$50 a week salary, plus transportation. I am enclosing my photograph.

Name

Address