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Washington

NO mists of years can hide him,
No shadow of the night.
He stands, a glowing vision,
Upon a sainted height.
A mighty man, a righteous man,
His name is writ in light.

WHEN ice had locked the valley
And winds swept to and fro
And men grew faint with hunger
He knelt in drifted snow,
This tender man, this loving man,
And prayed in bitter woe.

HIS name is shrined by Freedom.
No name is held more dear.
His glory shines the clearer
With every passing year—
A sainted fame, a deathless name,
A soul we all revere.

—W. R. Rose in Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Washington's Life In Brief

GEORGE WASHINGTON, Father of His Country, was born on Feb. 22, 1732, in Westmoreland county, Va. He received a common English education, and upon that foundation, with the cardinal virtues of truth, integrity and justice, was built the structure of his greatness. When seventeen years of age he had become one of the most accurate land surveyors of his time, and a year later he was appointed public surveyor. At the age of nineteen he was appointed adjutant general of militia, with the rank of major, but soon afterward resigned to accompany his invalid half brother, Lawrence, to the Barbados, where George was prostrated by smallpox. Lawrence died, and George thus became the owner of the fine estate of Mount Vernon, which he owned and occupied until his death.

When General Braddock came to this country in 1755 to make war on the French, Washington was chosen his principal aid-de-camp and accompanied him on the march against Fort Duquesne, at the site of the present city of Pittsburgh. After Braddock's defeat and death Washington skillfully directed the retreat of the vanquished troops. At the age of twenty-seven he married Mrs. Martha Custis, a young widow, and they took up their abode at Mount Vernon. Washington was chosen as a delegate to the first Continental congress and in June, 1775, was appointed commander in chief of the Continental armies. For eight years he directed the heroic forces of the colonies in their struggle for independence, and at the close of 1783, having triumphed in the war, he retired to private life at Mount Vernon. There he lived the life of a gentleman farmer, paying close attention to all the details of estate management.

When, under the constitution of the new republic, a president was to be chosen, all eyes were turned toward Washington, as "the first American," and he was elected by the unanimous vote of the people, his inauguration taking place on April 30, 1789, at Federal hall, New York city. For eight years he presided over the affairs of the nation with great wisdom and fidelity, laying the permanent foundations of the republic. Retiring again to private life, he enjoyed domestic happiness for nearly three years, and then suddenly, on Dec. 14, 1799, the country was called upon to mourn his death, after an illness of about twenty-four hours. His last words were, "It is well!"

Argued With Washington

When the land for the present capital was being secured the commissioners appointed by President Washington found it hard to persuade some of the local landholders to part with their fields. In "Walks About Washington" an old story good enough to be true is told about one David Burns, a canny Scot, who held out so long that President Washington personally undertook his conversion.

"But for this opportunity, Mr. Burns, you might have died a poor tobacco planter," said the president.

"Aye, mon," snapped Burns, "and had ye no married the Widder Custis, w' all her nagurs, ye'd ha' been a land surveyor the noo and a mighty poor one at that."

However, when he learned that unless he accepted the liberal terms offered him his land would be condemned and seized at an appraisal probably much lower Burns met the president in quite another mood and to the final question, "Well, sir, what have you concluded to do?" astonished every one by his prompt response:

"Whate'er your excellency had hae me."

On one of his fields now stands the White House, and an adjacent lot became Lafayette square.

First Washington Statue by Houdon

IN Washington's diary for Oct. 3, 1783, he writes that about 11 o'clock, after they were in bed, Mr. Houdon and his three young men assistants arrived, coming by boat from Alexandria.

"During the sculptor's two weeks' stay Washington sat for a bust that was modeled in clay, writing in his diary a full account of the method of mixing the plaster of paris and the making of the molds, a process in which he was greatly interested. He also submitted to the unpleasant operation of having a life mask made of his features in order to insure a perfect likeness. In the presence of Mr. Madison exact measurements of his figure were made and full details of his uniform were noted to enable the sculptor to complete his work."

"The clay bust was then left by the sculptor at Mount Vernon, where it is one of the most highly valued of all of Mount Vernon's relics of the Father of His Country. But the life mask and molds of the bust Houdon himself took to Paris, not trusting them to the hands of his assistant, 'for,' said he, 'if they are lost in the ocean I am determined to perish with them.'"

"One day during his stay at Mount Vernon Washington was looking at some fine horses with a view to their purchase, but the high price asked by the groom in charge so incensed him that the man was promptly sent away. Houdon, who witnessed the transaction, saw with an artist's eye in Washington's pose and expression the very thing needed for his statue and made memorandum of it. On Oct. 19 Washington writes: 'Mr. Houdon, having finished the business which brought him hither, went up Monday with his people, work and implements in my barge to Alexandria to take passage in the stage for Philadelphia next morning.'"

"The statue, according to agreement, was to be finished in three years, but was not completed until 1790. Jefferson saw the work as it progressed and was enthusiastic over the likeness and characteristic attitude that the sculptor had caught."—H. A. Ogden in St. Nicholas.

Washington's Tomb



TOMB OF WASHINGTON AT MOUNT VERNON.

TOMB of the mighty dead,
How sacred every tree
Waving above thy head
Or shedding bloom on thee!
As long as fair Potomac flows,
Sparkling 'neath Mount Vernon's sun,
Revered by friends and foes,
Dwell here, in blest repose,
Washington.

SONS of the pilgrim sires,
Sons of yon boundless west,
Ye whom the tropic fires
Or hoarse lakes lull to rest,
If wandering wide you e'er forget
Ties that bind us all in one,
Here, at your father's feet,
The brothers' vow repeat,
While the breeze respondeth sweet,
Washington!

HE of Helena's rock
Hath an enduring name
Echoed in battle shock,
Sculptured with blood and flame.
But, when the mother at her knee
Whispers to her cradled son
The alphabet of liberty,
Will he not lip of thee,
Washington?

SHOULD baleful discord steal
Our patriot strength away,
Or fierce invasion's zeal
Recall old Bunker's day,
Or mad disunion smite the tree
Nursed so long in glory's sun,
Mount Vernon's tomb shall be
The watchword of the free,
Guiding their hearts to thee,
Washington!

—Mrs. L. H. Sigourney.

Washington's Birthday.
The date of Washington's birthday was, according to the calendar at the time of his birth, Feb. 11. This became Feb. 22 when the Gregorian calendar was adopted in 1752. "The first place to use the new date in celebrating the event is said to have been Newport, R. I. As late as 1778 Washington himself apparently used the old style in referring to his birthday."

PACIFIC COLLEGE

Lyra Miles returned Sunday night after a week spent at home resting.

Mildred Benson and Belle White are in the dormitory this semester.

The Men's Glee Club are putting in two nights a week of hard practice now. The annual concert will be given soon before any trips are made.

Vin Vincent spoke to the men at Y. M. last week, telling of the value of the Christian Association and the need of a city Y. M. C. A. for the young men not in college.

There is a real girls' gymnasium class included in Pacific's curriculum at last. Beginning with the new semester a two-hour class was started with Miss McCracken as instructor. One credit toward college graduation is given for this work.

The annual freshman-sophomore party occurred on February 17 at Canyon Hall. The guests enjoyed one another immensely in the wholesome games that were planned and in the music provided by members of the freshman class. The little accessories that completed the refreshments proclaimed the familiar fact that February is a month for National heroes' birthdays.

Pacific College revenged itself on its old enemies from Forest Grove last Friday night in the basketball game played in the college gym. Pacific University played a peppy game but in spite of this the game was fast and interesting. The first half was rather slow and close as P. C. didn't get started right. But in the second half the locals played a whirlwind game and completely outclassed the Forest Grovers. The final score read P. C. 37, P. U. 19.

Friday night is the big night. A special train of college people and business men will journey to "Mac" to see the final game of the season. Pacific College is now at the head of the non-conference league by virtue of the defeat handed to P. U. last week and by defeating "Mac" will be non-conference champions of Oregon. Everybody's going. Let's beat "Mac." Plan to go. Special leaves depot at 7:15. Round trip including game 80 cents. Next Friday night, February 23.

A general information test, the second in the last three years was given to the student body on Friday of last week. No one showed startling intelligence in answering the fifty questions, although the resulting ratios were very comforting to the men, for in each college class and in the academy department the men averaged higher than did the girls. In the commercial department alone did the girls excel their masculine competitors in knowledge. Score one for the boys!

NORTH MAIN CLUB

Under the auspices of the North Main Club a Southern Dinner was given at Bon-Accord House, the home of B. F. Bixby, on St. Valentine's eve. The members had the rooms beautifully decorated with Oregon grape, pussy willows, hearts and cupids, and dinner partners were drawn for—heart-shaped favors designating the wearers. After the tables were cleared plantation melodies were sung by all, followed by a varied program of vocal and instrumental music. With song and story a most delightful evening was spent and one of the objects of the club—viz., neighboring in its best and highest sense—was greatly forwarded.

The next meeting of the club will be held at Cherry Grove, the home of Mrs. W. Badley, on February 28th.

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