

WILL YOU SMILE

Juvenile Joker
Uncle (looking at drawing)—Is that your idea of a zebra? It isn't mine. Johnny—It's a zebra all right, but he rubbed against a rubber tree and had lost his stripes.

Girls
"My daughter wants to swim the English channel."
"You're lucky to have a steady, old-fashioned girl like that."
"Huh?"
"Mine is practicing for a parachute jump."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

Holding His Own
Rector's Daughter—"Prayers were offered up for your husband last Sunday, Mrs. Mudge. I hope he is better."
Mrs. Mudge—"Well, I'll say 'e dont seem none the worse for 'em."—Passing Show.

Water Bound, Anyway
Spectator—I shall be mighty surprised if that referee doesn't get into hot water after the match.
Country fellow—Then you'll be surprised. 'E's goin' in the 'orse trough.—Humorist.

Worse Than a Plot
Author: I've got a good tale here about a man and two women on a desert island.
Editor: "Good heavens, man, that plot's as old as the hills!"
Author: "Not this one—these women are his wife and his wife's mother."

Lost Soul
Bassler—"I'm worried—it's raining and my wife is downtown."
Rhodes—"Oh, she'll probably step inside some store."
Bassler—"That's just it."—Pathfinder.

GIVING THANKS IN DARK DAYS OF REVOLUTION



most special acknowledgment of the divine goodness." We of today, looking back with a full knowledge of the great trials and sufferings placed upon the Continental army in that winter of misery at Valley Forge, may perhaps wonder at the faith thus unfolded. There is, however, one fact which we, accustomed to observe the last Thursday of November as Thanksgiving day, should not overlook. It is Thanksgiving day as we know it, with a definite place upon our calendar, did not come into existence until 1863. Thanksgiving day originated with the Pilgrims, who set aside a day for thanksgiving at Plymouth immediately after their first harvest, in 1621. The Massachusetts Bay colony first observed such a day in 1630 and frequently thereafter until 1680, when it



DECEMBER 13, 1621

became an annual festival in that colony. Connecticut also had a similar festival annually from 1647 onward. Usually these days for thanksgiving followed the harvest, and were set aside primarily to give thanks to the Lord for the blessings he had bestowed upon the Colonists. During the Revolution, the Continental Congress appointed one or more days for thanksgiving each year, except in 1777, when not even a congressman could find any blessings to point out to his constituents as reason for rejoicing. These Revolutionary Thanksgiving days usually were founded upon some military success and fortune smiled wanly, indeed, upon the Continental army in 1777—the winter of despair at Valley Forge.

Valley Forge Observation.
Washington's Thanksgiving day commemoration at Valley Forge came after the snows and the hunger and the sufferings of that terrible winter of 1777-78 had departed and spring smiled again upon the fertile valleys of Pennsylvania. The occasion was the entrance of France into the war as an ally of the Colonies. "The Valley Forge Thanksgiving May, 1778, was a military celebration, with the chaplain of brigade directed 'to offer up thanks and deliver a discourse suitable to the occasion.' Then there was cannon fire and huzzas, and cries of 'Long Live the King of France!' 'Long Live the Friendly European Powers!' and finally a general running fire and the huzzas, 'The American States!'"

Celebrations of Peace.
Another special Thanksgiving day was ordered by General Washington at Newburgh on the Hudson, April 19, 1783, eight years to the day from the shot fired at Lexington. Ultimate peace had been assured ever since the surrender of Cornwallis, but the question had become alarmingly acute ever since: How was it possible to keep even a remnant of the army alive to

receive the treaty of peace? Six months more of this starvation, this utter discouragement as to the use of it all—the harassed general dared not think of what his poor boys might be driven to do to end it all.

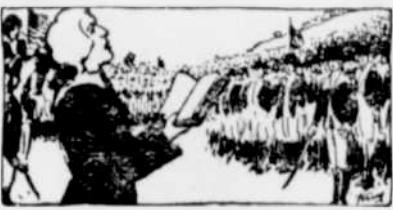
The joy with which the information was at last received from Sir Guy Carleton that a cessation of hostilities was announced can scarcely be imagined. Immediately, the commander in chief issued his proclamation and directed that a public religious service and thanksgiving should take place on



MAY 7, 1778

the same evening, April 19. This was probably the happiest Thanksgiving America has ever experienced, writes Estelle Harris in the Bicentennial News, published by the Alexandria, Va., Gazette in co-operation with the United States commission for the celebration of Washington's birth. A country gained glory and honor, and home around the bend of the road. December 11, 1783, the gloriously solemn day appointed by congress, Dr. John Rogers preached his famous sermon, announcing . . . "We have taken our place among the nations and empires of the earth."

Presidential Proclamation.
The first Presidential Thanksgiving proclamation named November 26, 1789. As far as the people were concerned, they could join in with any and all services, for they felt the nation was saved again now that the great Washington was at the helm. As for Father George himself, he was entirely too busy to write much in



APRIL 19, 1783

that diary of his, that is such a precious legacy to his people. Here is all he says: "November 26. Being the day appointed for a Thanksgiving, I went to St. Paul's chapel, though it was most inclement and stormy—but few people at church." The signing of the confederation articles was the especial occasion.

Quelling the insurrection in Pennsylvania was again a deliverance from danger, and cause for great rejoicing on the part of all the people, and a proclamation was made, appointing a day of thanksgiving, for the general welfare and stable condition of the Union. This was issued from Independence hall, and February 19, 1795, was thus set apart, on which day the nation was "with devout reverence and affectionate gratitude, to return thanks for its national blessings and implore their continuance." As with all of George Washington's papers, this proclamation abounds in patriotism and counsel of the highest order, both as worthy of emulation today as yesterday.

Much Reason for Thanks.
In looking back to these special Thanksgiving days of early American history, no patriotic heart can help feeling the beauty and appropriateness of these gatherings. Also, the part they played in keeping the little nation as one ideal family, until it could walk alone, the American fathers holding before it the truths on



NOVEMBER 26, 1789

which the foundation rests, liberty, equality, integrity. For whatever else has or has not happened, the foundation of this nation still rests securely and there is much to be thankful for on Thanksgiving day. The stars have not faltered in their course and freedom still reigns. The good earth has blossomed and fruited for her overlord, man, as in 1607 and 1776, and now that autumn has marked the finish of her harvest for this year, old earth is drawing back her sap, her chlorophyll and her chemicals into her storeroom, to be covered with snowy blankets instead of green grass—conserving and renewing all her power, making ready for next summer's spread of glory.



Spiritual Significance

The Thanksgiving dinner may be, as it often has been, hallowed, and take on a sacramental character. If it is not more than a mere feast it is wholly out of keeping with the true spirit of the day, which is one of profound spiritual significance, emphasizing as it does the relation between God and man. It is possible to spiritualize the most commonplace, and even material things, as one meal in "the upper room" was spiritualized twenty centuries ago, and has survived both as a sacrifice and a thanksgiving.—Philadelphia Ledger.



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Election Is Over So Let Us Get To Work

November 8th, another page in the political history of this great nation was written.

Next March, the reins of government will be handed by another political party.

The election here was watched with keen interest. Possibly never before have the residents of this community been more interested in the outcome of a national election than they were on that occasion. None who live here have ever seen anything exactly like it before.

As the returns were flashed in through the many agencies set up for the gathering and tabulating of the returns, those who listened to the results probably raised numerous questions in their minds.

Whatever these questions might have been, or still are, and without regard to the party affiliations of any one, every citizen who passed through this election, whether or not he cast a ballot should realize but one thing.

The future lies ahead. The welfare of the nation is at stake. The success of the administration means the success of the people who make up the millions of its residents. Whoever the choice of any individual might have been in last Tuesday's balloting, that has now passed into history, and good citizens are those who stand ready and willing to uphold the hands of the government whether it be administered by men identified with the Republican or Democratic parties.

Mr. Hoover went down in defeat, but not without a gallant fight on his part. Waging an almost single-handed campaign, he upheld the doctrines of his party to the voters of this nation in a positive and direct campaign. He failed to convince the majority of the correctness of his party's viewpoints, and the voters refused to retain him in office.

The Democratic presidential candidate, in a clear cut campaign throughout the nation, presented the platform of his party. In that platform the people feel that they have found the means of gringing about relief from depression and certain changes in the laws of the land which will return the nation to normal conditions.

The voice of the people has spoken, and although there may be those who would criticize the form of government under which the people of the United

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