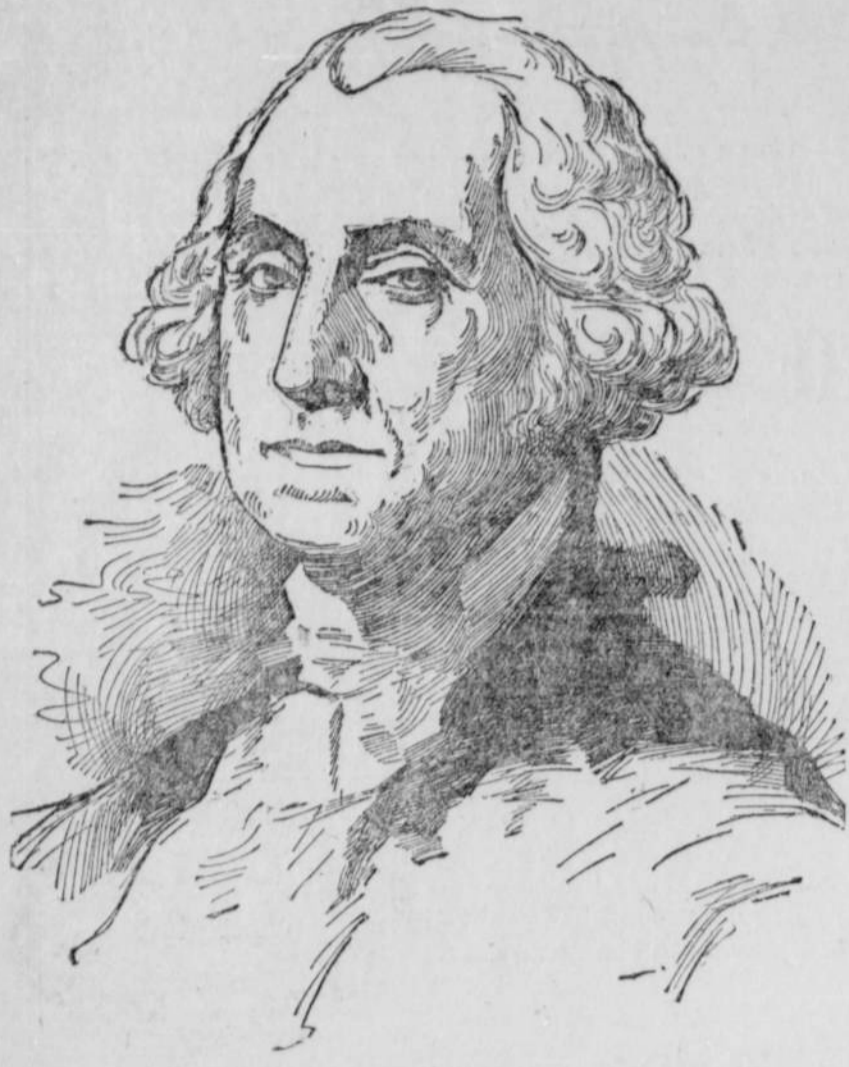


GEORGE WASHINGTON.

A Study of His Personality as Soldier, Statesman and Citizen.



AMONG great historical characters there is none exerting a wider or more potent influence upon succeeding generations than that of George Washington. It is conceded that all history furnishes not another character so symmetrical in all its parts as that of the first President of the United States. As a patriot, a citizen, a soldier and a statesman, Washington stands out in bold relief on the pages of history, the greatest American that ever lived. It is this magnificent equipoise of character attributes that most strikingly impresses the student of his personality and achievements. It may be said of Washington as was said of Louis Philippe: "He had no youth; he was born a man." Washington received only a common school education. He was ever sensitive of his educational limitations, and even after he had served as commander-in-chief of the army, acted as President for two terms and indelibly set the impress of his character upon the foundation principles of the greatest of free governments, he appealed to half a dozen of his colleagues and friends for help in writing and revising his farewell address. Though in his youth he was content to earn his living as a hired surveyor, when he died, Washington was one of the wealthiest Americans of his time, his property, exclusive of the Mount Vernon estate, being worth over \$500,000. He was a successful business man, as well as a great soldier and statesman.

In his youth, and even during the revolution, Washington was a good deal of a candy. In his personal appearance he was exceptionally clean and neat. He is described as tall and well proportioned and of commanding presence. His feet were unusually large. Though he wore false teeth and his large-featured face was colorless and pitted from smallpox, he was considered handsome. Washington was fond of a good time with congenial companions. He was passionately fond of dancing, and he frequently went to picnics, one of his particular diversions. He was fond of cards and billiards, usually with small stakes. His diary shows that he lost fully as often as he won at both games. Washington was also fond of fishing and hunting, the theater and the circus. Music, too, charmed him. In reading Washington favored works on agriculture and military science, though there were historical books, besides poems and novels by standard authors in his library. After more than a dozen love affairs, Washington, in 1759, when he was 27 years old, married the wealthy widow of Daniel Parke Custis, Martha Washington is reported to have been comely, obstinate and a poor speller, yet well bred and generally kind to relations and friends. Washington, though, always seemed satisfied with her.

Washington's conduct as President showed the natural results of his characteristics and training as a citizen and a soldier. Guided by no other impulse but that of duty, bound by no other ties save those of honor and the best interests of the whole people, his principles and work as the first President of the new republic ought ever to serve as the motto and model of every public official, as they have always been and must ever be the true basis of good government and lasting political reform. Firmness, conciliation and firmness proved to be the characteristics of his conduct during the two administrations, whether in dealing with domestic troubles, or the United States' relations with England and France, or the jealousies and divergent opinions of the members of his own cabinet. Other features of his statesmanship were his progressive views and efforts in behalf of the abolition of slavery, and the founding of a national university. Washington's whole career is animate with the heart throbs of American history; his every public act resplendent with the coloring of American sentiment. Beneath the apparent austerity of his manner there moved a current of patriotism as broad as his country, and as deep as humanity.

WASHINGTON'S BURIAL.

Masonic Ceremony to Commemorate the Hundredth Anniversary.

A grand Masonic memorial service is projected to commemorate the death and burial of George Washington on the occasion of the centennial, December, 1899. The celebration will be under the immediate auspices of the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia, but will be participated in by all the Grand Lodges of the United States, directly by those within a radius of miles to permit of personal attendance and by representation from afar. This celebration will take place at Mount Vernon and will revive as closely as possible the burial ceremony.

The movement for a proper commemoration of the one hundredth anniversary of the burial of Washington had its inception about two years ago in the Grand Lodge of Colorado. Since then one after another of the Grand Lodges of the United States have appointed committees to take measures for a representation of their Masonic jurisdictions. This national movement, initiated by Masons, has extended to all patriotic and civic societies, so that in every city, town, village and hamlet a memorial service will be held, on Dec. 18, 1899. There are cogent rea-



WASHINGTON IN MASONIC REGALIA.

sons why this movement should appeal with peculiar force to Masons everywhere, for a review of the records of Washington's death and burial is beautifully suggestive of the high ideal of fraternal love and charity ever cherished by the Father of His Country.

During his last illness "the General," as his friends and neighbors called him, was attended by three physicians. The first was his old friend and companion-in-arms, Dr. James Craik, surgeon general of the Continental Army, and in private life a member of the Masonic fraternity. The other physician from that neighborhood was Dr. Elisha Cullen Dick, then Master of Alexandria Lodge. Dr. Brown of Fort Tobacco was also called into consultation. At the moment of Washington's death, Dr. Craik stopped the pendulum and hands of the clock that stood on the mantel of the room and which remains to-day in the same condition as it was ninety-nine years ago. The clock has become the possession of Alexandria-Washington Lodge, No. 22, of Alexandria, Va., of which lodge Washington was first Master. In his dying hours the General communicated to his private secretary, Mr. Lear, his desire not to be buried until after three days had elapsed. His wishes were respected.

At Washington's death the Deacons of the lodge were directed to have the orders cleaned and prepared and to furnish spermaceti candles for them. To Alexandria-Washington Lodge was given the post of honor in the Masonic detachment of the funeral procession. Masons of the District of Columbia were also in line. Of the three lesser lights that were borne into Washington's tomb two were held by members of Alexandria-Washington Lodge of Alexandria and one by Brother Alexander McCormick of Georgetown and Washington city. Two of these candles are preserved under lock and key by Alexandria-Washington Lodge, and the third is in charge of Secretary Singleton of the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia. This third light was carried, burning, at the laying of the corner stone of the Washington monument in Washington city, at the dedication of the same, and it will be lighted for the fourth and last time at the centennial celebration of Washington's burial.

As a Mason Washington had presided

February Twenty-second.

As comes thy birthday, conquering shade! No humorist omits The historic little hatchet's aid To sharpen up his wits.—Puck.

Washington's First Birthday.

It's ah twelve-pound boy, Massa Washington!—Truth.

at the laying of the corner stone of the capitol in Washington, officiating, on Sept. 18, 1793, as President of the United States and Masonic Past Master. On that occasion he wore his Master's sash and the apron presented to him by Lafayette and which had been wrought with gold and silver tissue and beautifully adorned with Masonic emblems by the Marquise de Lafayette.

Mt. Vernon.

Upon the broad Potomac's shore,
Below the city of his name,
His ashes rest, who evermore
Will live the favorite of fame.
He stood the greatest of the great,
When giants battled. It was he
Who with his sword carved out a State
And gave a people liberty.
He seems to us almost divine,
The hero of the brave, the good, the just.
This spot becomes a nation's shrine,
Because it holds his sacred dust.
There is no bound unto his fame,
But every land beneath the sun
Lends to the general acclaim,
Which greets the name of Washington.
J. A. EDGEKOTON.

A RELIC OF WASHINGTON.

The Cabin Which Sheltered Him While on a Surveying Tour.

While hundreds of pilgrims daily crowd the shrine of Mount Vernon and other hundreds break pieces of marble from the monument over his mother's grave, one of the most interesting relics of Washington remains unknown and is rapidly falling into decay. This is a small cabin used by Washington when as a young man he was engaged in surveying the lands of upper Virginia.

Near Berryville, Clarke County, Va., Gen. Daniel Morgan, a revolutionary soldier, built a handsome home, which he called Soldier's Rest. About 200 yards from this manor is located the cabin, which is regarded with almost religious veneration by the people of the neighborhood, and which is slowly being eaten away by the tooth of time. The house is 12 feet square and there are but two rooms, one on the ground floor and one used as a garret. Beneath the building a small stream flows, or rather it did at the beginning of the present century. Entrance to the loft was obtained by a ladder, up which Washington was accustomed to climb, as he kept all of his surveying instruments in the upper room. This apartment is lathed and plastered, one window lights it up, and a rough door gives access to the visitor.

Lord Fairfax, who was a wealthy English nobleman, obtained from his Government large concessions of lands in the upper part of Virginia in the early days of the last century. Desiring to have his



WASHINGTON'S SURVEYING CAMP.

lands accurately surveyed he called into his service George Washington, then scarcely more than a boy. He did the work so well that he won the friendship of Lord Fairfax for life. It was in 1748 that the old cabin sheltered him.

THE WASHINGTON ELM.

Old Tree Where Washington Took Command of the Army.

One of the historic landmarks of Cambridge, Mass., is the Washington Elm, an illustration of which is here given. On May 10, 1775, the Second Continental Congress met at Philadelphia and elected George Washington commander-



THE WASHINGTON ELM.

in-chief of the American forces. Three weeks later Washington arrived at Cambridge, Mass., and assumed the command of the army under the elm tree. The latter is still standing and is surrounded by an iron fence, outside of which is a large stone tablet upon which is inscribed the fact that Washington took command of the army under the tree.

By throwing up entrenchments at Dorchester Heights and thus commanding the harbor and the city of Boston, Washington compelled Gen. Howe to evacuate the city on March 17, 1776. Fifteen hundred families of loyalists sailed with the British general for Halifax.

It Is Different Now.

Father—Remember, my son, George Washington became the greatest and most beloved man our country ever produced; and yet he never told a lie.
Son—Yes, father; but he didn't have so much competition as us boys have.—Puck.

February Twenty-second.

As comes thy birthday, conquering shade! No humorist omits The historic little hatchet's aid To sharpen up his wits.—Puck.

Washington's First Birthday.

It's ah twelve-pound boy, Massa Washington!—Truth.

THE THREE OLDEST QUEENS OF EUROPE.



QUEEN LOUISE OF DENMARK.



QUEEN VICTORIA OF GREAT BRITAIN.



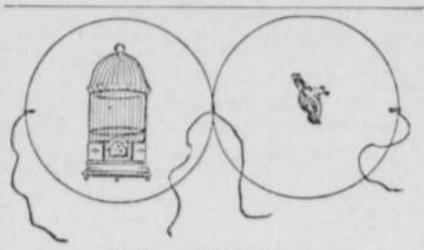
QUEEN OF HANOVER.

TRICKS FOR PARLOR SPORTS.

Clever Delusions Once Practiced by Alexander Herrmann.

There are four little tricks which are said to have originated with the late Alexander Herrmann, and which for awhile baffled those who saw them performed by him. Indeed, they continue to be baffling, for their secret is sleight of hand as well as knowledge.

The easiest of them is the putting of a bird in its cage by an optical delu-



THE EMPTY CAGE.

son. Take a round piece of pasteboard and on one side of it draw a canary bird. If you cannot draw you can cut a small bird out of a picture and paste it on the card. On the other side of the pasteboard draw a cage.

When you show this card to the audience show them the side of the card only upon which the cage is drawn, yet do it in such a way that they imagine they have seen both sides of the pasteboard.

Take a piece of thread through opposite sides of the card and twirl rapidly before the eyes of your audience. The



THE BIRD IN ITS CAGE.

bird and the cage will move so rapidly that the audience will see a bird in its cage where before they saw an empty cage.

The simple trick of putting a needle through a nickel can be done without private rehearsal. Take a cork and run a needle through it, leaving the point flush with the cork. Now place a nickel between two blocks of wood, put the cork upon it and give the top a sharp blow with a hammer. When you have pulled the cork off the needle the point of the needle will be found to have penetrated the nickel. This is



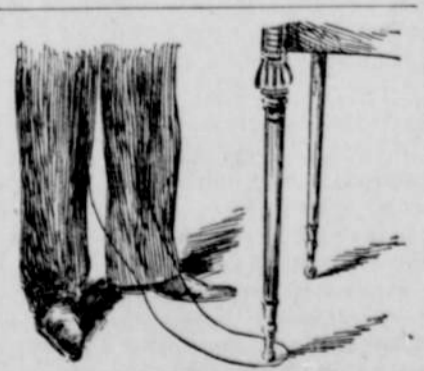
THREADING A NICKEL.

most successfully accomplished by taking a marked nickel from anyone in the company.

Disappear and return a minute later with the needle driven through the nickel.

The very attractive feat of causing a table to move can be done by means of a thread attached to the trousers leg of the skillful operator. Let the thread be caught also around the leg of the table.

During the evening, as the conversation turns upon peculiar phenomena, the subject of table tipping can be introduced. The wily operator, sitting by a table, suggests that he can make the table move. All are anxious to see



MAKING THE TABLE MOVE.

him do it. He begins by rubbing the top smartly with a silk handkerchief to generate the electricity. Then he makes peculiar passes over it, and finally, stepping backward, he commands it to follow him. Needless to say, it obeys him, walking faster or slower, according to his demand. If this is practiced upon a dark floor with a slender black silk thread the deception is perfect.

The bird cage delusion suggests another often practiced. A young man in the audience tells a story about going to a photographer to get his picture taken. He shows the card, a circular piece of board with his picture upon it.

It is mounted a little to one side, but that makes no difference. He now twirls the card by pieces of string, and the delighted audience sees two photographs side by side, one of the young man and the other of a pretty young woman. Of course; the young woman's picture was mounted on the reverse side of the card, but when twirled rapidly they seemed to be side by side.

These little tricks are enough to amuse a parlor full of people, and when you have done your share of the entertainment you can step aside for the next one to take your place.

PARIS.

An Extraordinary Example of Outward Beauty and Inward Fifth.

"For a month," says Miss Lillian Bell, writing of Paris—one of her bright letters of travel—in the Ladies' Home Journal, "I have been in this city of limited republicanism; this extraordinary example of outward beauty and inward uncleanness; this bewildering cosmopolis of cheap luxuries and expensive necessities; this curious city of contradictions, where you might eat your breakfast from the streets—they are so clean—but where you must close your eyes to the spectacles of the curbstones; this beautiful, whitened sepulchre, where exists the unwritten law, 'Commit any offense you will, provided you submerge it in poetry and flowers'; this exponent of outward observances, where a gentleman will deliberately push you into the street if he wishes to pass you in a crowd, but where his action is condoned by his inexpressible manner of raising his hat to you, and the heartfelt sincerity of his apology; where one man will run a mile to restore a lost franc, but if you ask him to change a gold piece he will steal five; where your eyes are ravished with the beauty, and the greenness, and the smoothness and apparent ease of living of all its inhabitants; where your mind is filled with the pictures, the music, the art, the general atmosphere of culture and wit; where the cooking is so good but so elusive, and where the shops are so bewitching that you have spent your last dollar without thinking, and you are obliged to cable for a new letter of credit from home before you know it—this is Paris."

Absolute Truth.

The eldest son of a certain family is devoted to a worthy young woman who has a tendency to be exceedingly stout. The suitor's younger brothers, with a deplorable lack of delicacy, chaff him upon his affection and the absurdity of his appearing in public with a lady of twice his size. But their mother, a woman of wit and humor, not only takes his part, but does it with weapons so sharp that sometimes it is hard to tell which way they cut. One day the young man announced his intention of going to a lecture that evening.

"Who's going with you?" called the most unbearable of the boys.

"There, my dear," said the mother, "don't ask questions. It's very ill-bred."

"But I want to know! I want to know awfully. Say, Harold, who is it? One, or more than one?"

"Don't notice him, Harold," said the mother, with dignity in her voice, but with merriment in her eye. "I'll answer for you, Harold is going with a large party."

A Heavy Animal.

According to Nilsson, the zoologist, the weight of the Greenland whale is 100 tons, or 224,000 pounds—equal to that of eighty-eight elephants or 440 bears.

The man with a shady character ought to be able to keep cool.

A UNIQUE DISTINCTION.

Daughter of a Revolutionary Hero and Widow of a Veteran of 1812.

Mary Forbes Cobb, of New London, Ind., enjoys the distinction of being the daughter of a revolutionary soldier and the widow of a veteran of the war of 1812. She was born in Frankfort, Ky., Jan. 11, 1803. Her father was an officer in the revolutionary war, serving five years with distinction and being several times wounded in battle.

Mrs. Cobb's father was Capt. Daniel Gano, whose father and four brothers also served their country faithfully and well at that critical period. The senior member of this fighting family, John Gano, was chaplain of Washington's favorite company of archers.

Mrs. Cobb's first husband, Louis H. Bryan, the great-grandfather of William Jennings Bryan, whom she married in 1820 in Clark County, Ky., was a widower, a veteran of the war of 1812. The elder Bryan was a private soldier in a company of Kentucky militia mustered by Capt. Isaac Cunningham. Louis H. Bryan died in 1834, and a few years later the widow was married to Elisha Cobb, who died in 1844. Mrs. Cobb's last widowhood has extended over a period of fifty-four years.

Mrs. Cobb has lived in the times of all the Presidents since Washington.



MARY FORBES COBB.

Her Kentucky home was near the Henry Clay homestead, and she was well acquainted with the great commoner. She distinctly remembers the visits of De Kalb and Lafayette to America. She is the mother of eleven children, five by her first marriage and six by her second.

Nature's Balloons.

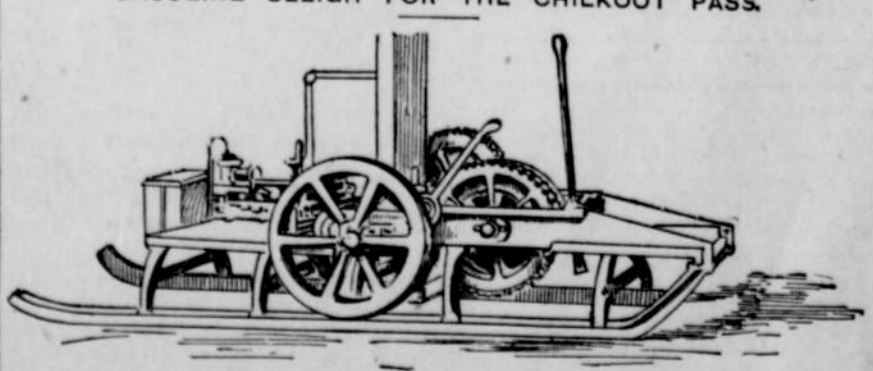
The island of fire, known by the natives as "The Home of the Hot Devils," is a recent discovery in Java. In the center of a huge lake of boiling mud and slime exists a phenomenon absolutely unique, and so wonderful that tourists brave the difficulties of the long journey inland simply to see it. Scores of enormous bubbles are formed in the sticky slime by the gases which arise from the lower depths, and these grow and increase to an enormous size, looking like nothing so much as the large model balloons sent up sometimes to ascertain the direction of the wind. These bubbles, some of them, attain a diameter of five or six feet before they burst, which they do with a loud explosion. The sounds are described as resembling a constant series of heavy platoon firing.

Uses Only English.

The king of Greece, when conversing with the members of his family, never employs any but the English language. He seldom speaks French, and only uses Greek when compelled to do so.

Probably the first thought that comes to a woman in a railroad accident is how silly it was of her to put on her old petticoat that morning.

GASOLINE SLEIGH FOR THE CHILKOOT PASS.



A resident of Salem, Ore., has invented a traction sleigh which is intended for use on the Chilkoot pass, between Dyea and the lakes. It carries a gasoline engine, mounted on a framework of wrought steel runners curved at both ends. The engine works a drum, around which is coiled 300 feet of 3/8-inch steel cable. The cable, which weighs 200 pounds, is carried ahead as it unwinds, and is made fast to a rock, tree or any other natural projection. The winding of the cable around the drum by the gasoline engine draws the sled, with a train of freight-laden sleds attached to it, to the point ahead. The sled is expected to average four miles a day. It consumes six gallons of gasoline a day and ten gallons of water. The sled is to be shipped from San Francisco, where it was made, to Seattle by steamer.