

GREAT DAY IN HISTORY



It is possible to hold Fourth of July celebrations in the shadow of the structure which saw the birth and signing of the Declaration of Independence, the most potent doctrine for freedom in the history of the world, and the nation has not ignored the opportunity.

There are many patriotic Americans who make it a duty on July 4 to journey to Philadelphia, a pilgrimage to the shrine of liberty, there to raise their voices in thanks and rejoicing for the great deed that was there accomplished.

Since that day, now distant 131 years, when Charles Thomson, rising in his chair, read for the first time the final draft of that momentous document which Thomas Jefferson wrote, but which underwent many changes before meeting with the final approval of the delegates to the continental congress, not an Independence day has been permitted to pass without a proper celebration in the public square back of Independence hall.

Presidents of the United States, senators, representatives, justices of the highest courts, and even foreign ambassadors have poured forth their eloquence at liberty's cradle. The municipal authorities of the city of Philadelphia are careful to see to it that some distinguished man is always on hand as orator of the day.

The pomp of military circumstance has sometimes been called upon to lend prestige to the occasion, and the best musicians of the land have been proud to play patriotic airs in the shadow of the steeple where hung the bell that so singularly fulfilled the prophetic mission assigned it 24 years before to "proclaim liberty throughout the land."

The location of the hall lends itself to purposes of public celebration. There is ample room, both front and back, for the building stands well back from the pavement, so that a large company can gather in front. In the rear, the beautiful Independence square, there is still more space, and thousands assemble to listen to the orations, and hear the Declaration of Independence read.

This latter is really the distinctive feature of Fourth of July celebrations in Independence square.

It is a notable record of which every American may be proud that not a Fourth of July has passed since we have been a nation, without the inspired words being uttered again to the air that heard them first.

The first reading of the declaration was that by Charles Thomson, the secretary of congress, when he announced the completed paper to the men who had framed it. Thomson did not, however, read the declaration from the balcony of Independence hall to the people crowded outside to hear for the first time in what terms the colonists should tell King George that his control of the 13 colonies was at an end.

That privilege was reserved for John Nixon, a prominent member of the committee of safety. In honor of the occasion, delegates to the congress fled out in the July sunshine to listen to the sacred words.

Nixon has been described as master elocutionist with a voice so clear and distinct that it was heard clear to Fifth street, one square distant. He took his place on the balcony, which was then the favorite rostrum of the day. Crowds had assembled to hear him, gathered by the ringing of the liberty bell. It was a memorable celebration, and the first in the history of the nation.

Chief Justice John Marshall spoke in the statehouse yard at one of the celebrations in the early part of his tenure of office, and later Daniel Webster delivered a notable address there.

Later, long years after, Edwin Forrest, the most noted of American actors, whose love for patriotism and the

institutions of his country was deeper even than his regard for the stage, stood on the same spot, and on a Fourth of July morning read the words of Jefferson, as no man has read them before or since. A great crowd was present, perhaps the largest ever assembled, and the actor during and after the reading was cheered again and again.

Forest esteemed the Declaration of Independence as the best single piece of composition in existence, valuing it even above his beloved Shakespeare.

Two years after the first Fourth of July, there occurred a celebration in Independence square that had a special significance. The advance of the British, and their occupation of Philadelphia during the winter of 1777-1778, had forced congress to leave the Quaker city and go to York.

After the evacuation congress returned July 2 and a grand celebration of the recurrence of the promulgation of the declaration was held, in which nearly the entire population of Philadelphia joined. Chevalier Conrad Alexander Gerard of France, the first minister ever accredited to the United States from any power, was an interested spectator.

During the centennial in Philadelphia there was naturally a notable demonstration, and no less a person than Don Pedro, emperor of Brazil, sat among those who cheered the sentiments that had sounded the downfall of monarchy in this country, and were finally to take his throne from the ruler of Brazil.

In later years, another representative of a foreign country was the central figure at Independence square. Wu Ting Fang, Chinese minister, spoke there with fine eloquence, and made one of the best speeches credited to him in his many felicitous utterances in this country.

The anomaly that he was the envoy of one of the most absolute of monarchies did not prevent the celestial from painting in most graphic phrase what the venerable building stood for.

During his first administration, Grover Cleveland, president of the United States, came to Philadelphia one Fourth of July, and standing on a platform raised on the square, appealed to the young manhood of America that the great lessons of 1776 be not ignored.

Samuel J. Randall, Judge Kelley, Gen. Grant, Lewis Cassidy have also figured prominently in Fourth of July celebrations there.

During the administration of Mayor Warwick, himself an orator of genuine gifts, every year was made the occasion of notable demonstrations to which were invited men of national fame.

Under the direction of the governor of Pennsylvania a work of incalculable interest has been finished at Valley Forge park by the state.

Valley Forge has a close relationship with Independence day, and the old camp site has proved a Mecca on July 4 to thousands of Americans who come from all over the union to pay a tribute to the fathers of the United States who suffered and died on this historic spot. Practically the entire site has been reserved. A chapel has been erected on the spot where Washington was discovered at prayer.

At the moment Valley Forge park comprises about 175 acres. It is properly policed and cared for by workmen, whose duty it is to keep the roads and the entire park in perfect order.

Public interest has kept pace with the work. On Memorial day 1,500 persons registered at the headquarters, and this is probably not one-fourth of those who were in the park.

Anywhere from 8,000 to 10,000 Americans will fittingly celebrate July 4, 1908, by going over the ground, on which their heroic forefathers underwent the sufferings that made independence possible.

DO AWAY WITH DOUBLE CHIN

Exercises and Applications That Will Strengthen the Muscles Will Restore Good Appearance.

Double chins are of various kinds. There is the chin which is simply too fat. Then there is the double chin which is caused by the shortness of the neck and the habit of carrying the chin too low. And again, there is the chin which merely looks double because of a faulty dress, as by wearing collars too tight.

The necklace calls attention to the double chin. Before putting on a necklace the woman with a fat chin should massage it downward. She should take the palm of her hand and stroke the tip of her chin with a vigorous stroke.

Then she should rub right down from the end of the chin to the dip in the throat.

Alcohol strengthens the muscles of the neck. Dash your throat with alcohol and massage it downward. Another excellent massage for removing the double chin is the ice massage. Press the ice securely upon the flesh and massage down. A dozen treatments will cure the worst case imaginable.

The throat of the young girl is slim and her head sits upon her neck as upon a pedestal. Her shoulders are sloping and her whole appearance is a study in curves; her neck is but a stem which supports her head. But as she grows older the throat thickens from neglect, the curved chin becomes square and under the chin there come rolls of flesh, and this stage marks the old woman.

A stringy chin can be hardened by slapping it with cologne water. The slapping should take place at night and the hand should be filled with the perfume and spat on the neck.

A chin that is held high does not look as fat as the chin that is snuggled down in the neck. Lift your chin, twist your head, throw it back until the coiffure rests upon your shoulders, and you will get some idea of neck and chin exercise.

Dancing is the best exercise for a double chin. The head is thrown to one side and the neck is made supple. The Spanish dances and the so-called skirt dances are good for the exercise of the neck muscles.

An exercise practiced by actresses is that of touching the ear to the shoulder. Each day the ear is rubbed upon the shoulder half a dozen times in quick succession until the neck is supple.

You should be able to span your throat with your thumbs and first fingers. Touch your thumbs together under your chin, and if your throat is in proportion to your size your forefingers will just meet at the back.

BEST GARMENTS FOR THE BABY

Overdressing is in the Worst of Bad Taste—Simplicity and Comfort Things Always to Be Considered.

Sewing for the baby demands the very best efforts of the practiced needlewoman. It calls for her tiniest stitches in seam and hem and tuck, her most exclusive taste in the selection of dainty trimmings and her best of good sense in designing clothes with a view to comfort and convenience to the small wearer.

To be overdressed is an acknowledged breach of good taste, and an innocent baby, burdened with long and heavy clothes, which in their turn are laden with elaborate and weighty trimmings, is an object worthy of the pitying consideration of those kind-hearted people whose vocation it is to protect helpless infants from inhuman treatment.

Some babies—and this in the very best families—wear slips, to the exclusion of dresses, the latter being reserved for "ceremonious" occasions, such as a christening.

A good all-round material for babies' slips is English nainsook. It is soft and pliable, launders prettily and wears well. A very good quality can be bought for 25 cents the yard (a trifle cheaper by the piece).

There comes a finer quality, as well as a less expensive one, but the grade quoted above is good for general wear.

The petticoats may be made of English nainsook, and this material is quite suitable, too, for dresses.

Fine longcloth is sometimes used for slips and petticoats.

Ideal material for the christening robe is handkerchief linen. Batiste is charming and so is French nainsook.

The most appropriate trimming for baby clothes is hand embroidery in the daintiest of designs and a little lace fine in quality and pattern.

Hemstitching or feather-stitching is sufficient adornment for the simple clothes. Join the seams with entreeux when practical.

Flannel or outing flannel makes nice little "nighties" for cold nights. Silk and wool flannel is more satisfactory than all wool, as it does not shrink with the many necessary washings.

Cashmere is good for the cloak, and silk may be used. For summer there are lingerie cloaks with a lining of India silk to add warmth. These have the double advantage of being daintily attractive and at the same time washable.

Caps may be of muslin or silk.

Great care should be taken that the wee baby is neither inconvenienced nor hurt by buttons or pins. One young mother kept her sewing basket beside the baby basket. Each morning she sewed Mr. Baby up in his clothes and each night she ripped him out.

FOR THE CHILDREN



Coat for Girl from 4 to 6 Years.

Empire Coat for Girl from 6 to 8 Years.

Tweed Costume for Girl from 14 to 16 Years.

Coat for Girl from 4 to 6 Years.—This is a simple and pretty little coat in white serge, lined with sateen, it is cut to a loose sacque shape, double-breasted in front, fastened and ornamented with large pearl buttons. The collar is edged with a fine plaiting of silk, headed by silk braid sewn on in a tiny loop pattern, silk lace appliques also trim the corners. Hat of fine white straw trimmed with soft silk. Materials required: 1 3/4 yard 48 inches wide, 2 yards sateen, 3 buttons and silk plaitings.

Tweed Costume for Girl from 14 to 16 Years.—Gray tweed, finely striped with green, is employed for this costume, the skirt is arranged in plaits which turn from the center front; they are machine-stitched three parts down. The short sacque coat is lined with silk, the fronts are double-breasted, and fasten with velvet-covered buttons. The collar is faced with green velvet, and the revers and cuffs with plain gray cloth, edged with a tiny green silk passementerie. Light green straw hat, trimmed with green chine ribbon. Materials required: 6 yards 46 inches wide, 3 yards lining silk.

Empire Coat for Girl from 6 to 8 Years.—Cloth, serge, or linen are the best materials for this coat. The skirt has an inverted plait each side the front and back, machine-stitched three parts down; it is joined to the empire bodice without fullness, under a wide stitched strap of the material; straps are also carried over the shoulders. The collar and cuffs are of double material, stitched near the edge. Draped silk hat, the color of the coat, trimmed with flowers and foliage. Materials required: 2 1/2 yards 48 inches wide, 1 1/2 yard lining silk for bodice.

LITERARY NOTES.

To introduce a new book, "Aunt Jane of Kentucky," by a new author, Eliza Calvert Hall, the publishers have printed and bound separately the first chapter of the book called "Sally Ann's Experience" for gratuitous distribution. "Sally Ann's Experience," originally published separately in the *Comopolitan Magazine*, was pronounced a little masterpiece in rural character delineation and homespun philosophy. A copy of this popular story will be sent on request by Messrs. Little, Brown & Co., Boston, if you mention this paper in writing.

Among the most ardent Taftites at the Chicago convention was Mrs. Post Wheeler, more familiarly known by her pen name of Hallie Erminie Rives. Mrs. Wheeler, whose husband is second secretary of the American embassy in Japan, joined the Taft party in Tokio last fall, and was with Mrs. Taft on the voyage home.

Miss Elizabeth Miller, author of "The Yoke," "The City of Delight," etc., was married recently. Her husband is a prominent Indianapolis attorney. It is understood that Miss Miller will continue her literary work.

That Edward Stratemeyer is one of the most widely read of all living American writers for boys is a fact so well proven as not to need repetition, and the success of the *Dave Porter* series is already surpassing Mr. Stratemeyer's previous triumphs. The latest of this series, which is published by the Lathrop, Lee & Shepard Co., is "Dave Porter in the Far North," and it is a healthy, vigorous story, bound to please and benefit any boy who reads it.

The Midwest Life is an old line life insurance company—a Nebraska company with its home office at Lincoln. An ordinary life policy at age 30 costs in this company the first year \$23.74 and thereafter \$18.60. The premiums after the first year may be paid quarterly at the rate of \$4.93 a quarter. Write the home office for sample policies or for agency contract. Agents wanted. Write for particulars.

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