THE RED CLOUD CHIEF

'Eternal Vigilance is the Price of Liberty," and One Dollar a year is the Price of The Chief.

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GEN. WASHINGTON

EXTENDED HISTORY OF HIS LIFE.

Of the First and Famous President of the United States by an Early Writer--Incidents and Adventures of His Life.

CHAPTER I.

Of George Washington's birth, family and edcuation—Of his mission to the French commandant on the Ohio in 1753—His military operations as an officer of Virginia from 1754 to 1758—Subsequent employments to the ermmencement of the American Revolution.

CHAPTER I 1753 to 1758.

The ancestors of George Washington were among the first settlers of the oldest British colony in America. He was the third in decent from John Washington, an English gentleman, who about the middle of the 17th century emigrated from the north of England, and settled in Westmoreland county, Virginia. In the place where he had fixed himself, his great grandson, the subject of the following history, was born on the 22d of February, 1732. His immediate ancestor was Augustine Washington, who died when his son George was only ten years old. The education of the young orphan, of course, devolved on his mother who added one to the many examples of virtuous matrons, who, devoting themselves to the care of their children, have trained them up to be distinguished citizens. In one instance her fears, combining with her affection, prevented a measure, which, if persevered in, would have given a direction to the talents and views of her son, very different from that which laid the foundation of his fame. George Washington, when only fifteen years old, solicited and obtained the place of a midshipman in the Britsh navy; but his ardent zeal to serve his country, then at war with France and Spain, was, on the interference of his mother, for the present suspended, and forever diverted from the sea service. She lived to see him acquire higher honors than he ever could have obtained as a naval officer; nor did she depart this life till he was elevated to the first offices, both civil and military, in the gift of his country She was nevertheless, from the influence of long established habits, so far from being partial to the American revolution, that she often regretted the side her son had taken in the controversy between her king and her country.

In the minority of George Washington, the means of education in America were scanty; his was therefore very little extended beyond what is common, except in mathematics. Knowledge of this kind contributes more perhaps than any other to strengthen the mind. In his case it was doubly useful; for in the early part of his life, it laid the foundation of his fortune, by qualifying him for the office of a practical surveyor, at a time when good land was of easy attainment; and its intimate connection with the military art, enabled him at a later period to judge more correctly of the proper means of defending his country, when he was called upon to preside over its armies.

Of the first 19 years of George Washingnon's life, little is known. His talents being more solid than showy, were not sufficiently developed for public notice, by the comparatively important events of that early period. His contemporaries have generally reported, that in his youth he was grave, silent and thoughtful; diligent and methodical in business, dignified in his appearance, and strictly honorable in all his deportment; but they have not been able to gratify the public curiosity with any striking anecdotes. His patrimonial estate was small, but that little was managed with prudence and increased by industry. In the gayest period of his life, he was a stranger to dissipation and riot. That he had established a solid reputation, even in his juvenile years, may be fairly presumed from the following circumstances. At the age of 19 he was appointed one of the adjutants general of Virginia, with the rank of major. When he was barely 21 he was employed by the government of his native colony in an enterprise which required the prudence of age as well as the vigor of youth.

The French, as the European discoverers of the Mississippi river, claimed all that immense region whose waters run into that river. In pursuance of this claim, in the year 1753 they took possession of a tract of country supposed to be within the chartered limits of Virginia, and were proceeding to erect a chain of posts from the lakes of Canada to the river Ohio, in subserviency to their grand scheme of connecting Canada with Louisana, and limiting the English colonies to the east of the Alleghany mountains. Mr. Dinwiddie, then governor of Virginia, dispatched Washington with a letter to the French commandant on the Ohio, remonstrating against the prosecution of these designs, as hostile to the rights of his Britannic majesty. The young envoy was also instructed to penetrate the designs of the French; to conciliate the affection of the native tribes; and to procure useful intelligence. In the discharge of this trust he set out on the 15th of November, from Will's Creek, then an extreme frontier settlement, and pursued his course through a vast extent of unexplored wilderness, amidst rains and snows, and over rivers of very difficult passage, and among tribes of Indians, several of whom, from previous attentions of the French, were hostile to the English. When his horses were incompetent, he proceeded on foot with a gun in his hand and a pack on his back. He observed every thing with the eye of a soldier, and particularly designated the forks of the Monongahela and Alleghany rivers, (the spot where Fort Duquesne was afterwards built, and where Pittsburg now stands) as an advantageous position for a fortress. Here he secured the affections of some neighboring Indians and engaged them to accompany him. With them he ascended the Alleghany river and French Creek, to a fort on the river le Bœuf, one of the western branches. He there found Mons. LeGardeur de St. Pierre, the commandant on the Ohio, and delivered to him Dinwiddie's letter; and recieving his answer, returned with it to Williamsburg on the 78th day after he had received his oppointment. The patience and firmness displayed on this occasion by Washimgton, (added to his judicious treatmenta of the Indians) both merited and obtained a large share of applause. A journal of the whole was published, and inspired the public with high ideas of the energies both of his body and mind.

The French were too intent on their favorite project of extending their empire in America, to be diverted from it by the remonstrances of a colonial governor. The answer brought by Washington was such as induced the assembly of Virginia to raise a regiment of 300 men, to defend their frontiers and maintain the right claimed in behalf of Great-Britain over the disputed territory. Of this Mr. Fry was appointed colonel, and George Washington lieutenant-colonel. The latter advanced with two companies of this regiment early in April, as far as the Great Meadows, where he was informed by some friendly Indians, that the French were erecting fortifications in the fork between the Alleghany and Monongahela rivers; and also, that a detachment was on its march from that place towards the Great Meadows. War had not been yet formally declared between France and England, but as neither was disposed to recede from their claims to the land on the Ohio, it was deemed inevitable, and on the point of commencing. Several circumstances were supposed to indicate an hostile intention on the part of the advancing French detachment. Washington, under the guidance of some friendly Indians, in a dark night surprised their encampment, and, after firing once, rushed in and surrounded them, The commanding officer, Mr. Jumonville, was killed, one person escaped, and all the rest immediately surrendered. Soon after this affair Col. Fry died, and the command of the regiment devolved on Washington, who speedily collected the whole at the Great Meadows. Two Independent companies of regulars, one from New York, and one from South Carolina, shortly after arrived at the same place. Col. Washington was now at the head of nearly 400 men. A stockade, afterwards called Fort Necessity was erected at the Great Meadows, in which a small force was left, and the main body advanced with a view of dislodging the French from Fort Duquesne, which they had recently erected, at the confluence of the Alleghaney and Monongahela rivers. They had not proceeded more than thirteen miles, when they were informed by friendly indians, that the French, as numerous as pigeons in the woods, were advancing in an hostile manner towards the English settlements, and also, that Fort Duquesne had been recently and strangly reinforced. In this critical situation, a council of war unanimously recommended a retreat to the Great Meadows, which was affected without delay, and every exertion made to render Fort Netessity tenable. Before the works intended for that purpose were completed, Mons. de Villier, with a considerable force, attacked the fort. The assailants were covered by trees and high grass. The Americans received them with great resolution, and others in the surrounding ditch. Washington continued the whole day on the outside of the fort, and conducted the defence with the greatest coolness and intrepidity. The engagement lasted from ten in the morning till night, when the French commander demanded a parley, and offered terms of capitulation. His first and second proposals were rejected; and Washington would accept of none short of the following honorable ones, which were mutually agreed upon in the course of the night. "The fort to be surrendered on condition that the garrison should march out with the honors of war, and be permitted to retain their arms and baggage, and to march unmolested into the inhabited parts of Virginia." The legislature of Virginia, impressed with a sense of the bravery and good conduct of their troops, though compelled to surrender the fort, voted their thanks to Col. Washington and the officers under his command, and they also gave 300 pistols to be distributed among the soldiers engaged in this action, but made no arrangements for renewing offensive operations in the remainder of the year 1754. When the season for action was over, the regiment was reduced to independent companies, and Washington resigned his command.

[To be continued.]

WEATHER BULLETIN

PROGNOSTICATIONS OF WEATHER.

Prepared and Furnished for Special Publication in the Red Cloud Chief by W. T. Foster.

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ST. JOSEPH, MO, April 27th.—My last bulletin gave forecasts of the storm waves to cross the continent from April 28th to May 2d, and from May 3d to 7th. The next will reach the Pacific coast about May 8th, cross the western mountains by close of 9th the great central valleys from 10th to 12th, and the eastern states about the 13th.

Electric storms will be more numerous, accompanying this disturbance than usual, especially in and west of the great central valleys, and the wa m wave preceeding will go to extreme heat. This storm should be carefully watched, as it will probably develop very considerable force.

The warm wave will cross the western mountains about the eighth, the great central valleys about the 10th aud the eastern states about the 12th. The cool wave will cross the western mountains about the 11th, the great central valleys about the 14th, and the eastern states about the 15th.

STUDYING ELECTRICITY.

It is believed that all substances are attended by electricity, but it cannot always be detected. The presence of electricity is known when a substance has more or less than its natural quality. When more, the electricity manifests its presence by an effort to get away from the substance, and when less it develops force in trying to go from substances containing more or x to the subatance containing less or —.

These are relative terms, however, and that which is negative to one substance may be positive to another, because one may contain less electricity than a second and more electricity than a third.

To illustrate: In these latitudes a greater portion of electricity comes to the earth than comes from it, while near the earth's equator the reverse is true. In these latitudes, therefore, space is accounted positive and the earth negative. The upper stratum of clouds is called positive because electricity comes from it to the next stratum below it. Counting from above downward, the second stratum is positive to the third and negative to the first, because the electric force is all the time coming downward, and the stratum of clouds next the earth contains more electricity than any of those above, and yet it is called negative as to those above and positive as to the earth.

All this entanglement comes from scientists endeavoring to establish a class language. Let us say plus and minus instead of positive and negative and the subject will be greatly simplified.

But plus and minus are relative terms, and do not mean, absolutely, the greater and smaller tensions. Suppose we measured electricity by the bushel and we take two equal quantities, a bushel in each, putting one into a hogshead of earth and the other into a barrel of earth. Each of these measures would contain a bushel of electricity, the same quantity exactly in each. The electricity in the barrell would be positive to the electricity in the hogshead, and would run out of the former into the latter till the space in each would contain the same amount of electricity per cubic foot of earth. If steam in a boiler has a pressure of 100 pounds to the square inch, you will readily understand that the same amount of steam in a boiler twice as large would have a pressure of only fifty pounds to the square inch. In the small boiler the tension of this steam would be double what it would be in the large boiler.

By these illustrations it will be readily understood what is meant by tension, and that plus and minus have reference to tension and not to quantity.

If we rub two like substances together no electricity appears. The electricity is cartainly there, but as the substances are alike, one does not rob the other of its electricity, and consequently no unnatural quantity appears in either. But if we take any two unlike substances and place them together, when they are separated minus electricity appears on one and plus on the other, simply because one has robbed the other. If they are rubbed together the robbery is increased, one becomes more minus and the other more plus, and the greater the friction the greater will be the difference in the electric tensions of the two substances.

The two unlike substances rubbed together will contain equal amounts, one of plus and the other of minus electricity, orthodox electricans would say, while common sense says that the plus electricity on one substance is exactly what one has stolen from the other. Not different kind, but merely a difference in amount or tension.

Take a glass bottle with a round headed glass stopper, and balance a wooden lath four feet long on this stopper. The glass bottle is a nonconductor of electricity, and will not permit the latter to go from the earth to the lath nor from the lath to the earth. Rub sealing wax or a stick of sulphur briskly with flannel, and hold it near the end of the lath. The latter will be drawn toward the wax or sulphur. Fragments of paper, bran, gold leaf, feathers, etc., will be attracted by the wax or sulphur, and any article hung by a slender thread will be attracted.

Electricans say that unlike electricans attract each other. The idea thus stated sets up a mystery, and the student is at once puzzled, confounded lost in his investigations. It is contrary to all the laws of nature for two unlike things to attract each other. Birds of feather flock together. It is the same electsicity everywhere endeavoring to distribute itself among several objects, so that each will have its own natural portion. Water will flow from one pool to another till the level in each is the same, and the electricity will flow from the object containing the plus amount or tension to the object containing the minus tension till they are equalized.

But electricians, in their efforts to prove two kinds of electricity will say that two bodies containing minus electricity repel each other, or if they contain plus electricity they repel, while a minus and a plus will always attract each other. These facts do not prove there to be two kinds of electricity. Take two large boilers each containing 100 pounds of steam to the square inch, connect them by a pipe and there is no flow of steam from one to the other because they each contain the same amount of steam tension. They repel each other at the rate of 100 pounds to the square inch according to the size of the pipe that connects them. Two other boilers with a pressure of fifty pounds to the square inch would contain minus steam as compared with those having a pressure of 100 pounds, and there would be no flow of steam from one of these low pressuer boilers to the other, because their steam tensions are alike.

But connect one of the 100 pounds pressure boilers with one of the 50 pounds pressure, and there will be a great rush of steam from one to the other till each contains 75 pounds of pressure.

By such illustrative reasonings let us get rid of the fallacious idea that certain effects are caused by mutual influences of two entirely different kinds of electricity. One kind is all sufficient, and if we keep in mind that natural laws require every substance to retain its own natural quantity and no more of that electricity, we can find a reason for all effects in the efforts of electricity to equalize itself among all substances, coming to rest only when such equalization has been effected.

Grand Island expects to get a pmup and windmill factory that will employ forty men.

Local papers are all urging the people to plant trees.

Irrigation is the watchwork in western Nebraska.

York is soon to have an all night electric service.

Burglars entered the store of Ed. W. Sayres at Gering and swiped $60 from the cash register.

Burglars secured $110 by blowing open a safe in W. G. Brotherton's store at Merna.

The Oxnard Beet Sugar Company of Grand Island announces that they have alredy conracted for 3,000 acres of sugar beets for the coming season and they will continue to take contracts up to May first, at which time they will close their books. They expressly desire only the best of farmers to contract, who areentierely capable oftaking the very best care of their crop. The fixed price is $5.00 per ton, delivered at Grand Island, for all beets showing twelve per cent of saccharin matter and a purity co-efficient of eighty. Blank contracts can be had, or any further information, by corresponding withthe Oxnard Beet Sugar Company at Grand Island. 5w