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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 II.

Retrospect of the origin of the American revolutionary war—Of Geo. Washington as a member of Congress, in 1774 and 1775—As Commander in Chief of the arms of the United Colonies in 1775 and 1776, and his operations near Boston in these years.

CHAPTER II—1774 to 1776.

To the president of Congress announcing this appointment, General Washington replied in the following words:

"Mr. President—Though I am truly sensible of the high honor done me in this appointment, yet I feel great distress from a consciousness that my abilities and military experience may not be equal to the extensive and important trust. However, as the Congress desire it, I will enter upon the momentous duty, and exert every power I possess in their service, and for support of the glorious cause. I beg they will accept my most cordial thanks for this distinguished testimony of their approbation.

"But lest some unlucky event should happen unfavorable to my reputation, I beg it may be remembered by every gentleman in the room, that I this day declare, with the utmost sincerity, I do not think myself equal to the command I am honored with.

"As to pay, sir, I beg leave to assure the Congress that as no pecuniary consideration could have tempted me to accept this arduous employment, at the expense of my domestic ease and happiness, I do not wish to make any profit from it. I will keep an exact account of my expenses; those I doubt not they will discharge, and that is all I desire."

A special commission was made out for him, and at the same time a unanimous resolution was adopted by Congress, "that they would maintain and assist him, and adhere to him with their lives and fortunes, for the maintenance and preservation of American Liberty."

He immediately entered upon the duties of his high station. After passing a few days in New York, and making some arrangements with Gen. Schuyler, who commanded there, he proceeded to Cambridge, which was

the headquarters of the American army. On his way thither, he received from private persons and public bodies, the most flattering attention, and the strongest expressions of determination to support him. He received an address from the Provincial Congress of New York, in which, after expressing their approbation of his elevation to command, they say: "We have the fullest assurances, that whenever this important contest shall be decided by that fondest wish of each American soul, an accommodation with our mother country, you will cheerfully resign the important deposit committed into your hands, and re-assume the character of our worthiest citizen." The General, after declaring his gratitude for the respect shown him, added: "Be assured that every exertion of my worthy colleagues and myself will be extended to the re-establishment of peace and harmony between the mother country and these colonies. As to the fatal but necessary operations of war, when we assumed the soldier we did not lay aside the citizen, and we shall most sincerely rejoice with you in that happy hour when the re-establishment of American liberty, on the most firm and solid foundations shall enable us to return to our private stations in the bosom of a free, peaceful and happy country."

A committee from the Massachusetts Congress received him at Springfield, about one hundred miles from Boston, and conducted him to the army. He was soon after addressed by the Congress of that colony in the most affectionate manner. In this answer he said: "Gentlemen, your kind congratulations on my appointment and arrival, demand my warmest acknowledgments, and will ever be retained in grateful remembrance. In exchanging the enjoyments of domestic life for the present duties of my present honorable, but arduous station. I only emulate the virtue and public spirit of the whole province of Massachusetts, which, with a firmness and patriotism without example, has sacrificed all the comforts of social and political life in support of the rights of mankind, and the welfare of our common country. My highest ambition is to be the happy instrument of vindicating these rights, and to see this devoted province again restored to peace, liberty and safety." When Gen. Washington arrived at Cambridge, he was received with the joyful acclamations of the American army. At the head of his troops, he published a declaration previously

drawn up by Congress, in the nature of a manifesto, setting forth the reasons for taking up arms. In this, after enumerating various grievances of the colonies, and vindicating them for a premeditated design of establishing independent states, it was added: "In our own native land, in defense of the freedom which is our birthright, and which we ever enjoyed till the late violation of it; for the protection of our property, acquired solely by the industry of our forefathers and ourselves, against violence actually offered; we have taken up arms. We shall lay them down when hostilities shall cease on the part of the aggressors, and all danger of their being renewed shall be removed, and not before."

When Gen. Washington joined the American army, he found the British entrenched on Bunker's Hill, having also three floating batteries in Mystic River, and a twenty gun ship below the ferry between Boston and Charleston. They had also a battery on Copse's Hill, and were strongly fortified on the Neck. The Americans were entrenched at Winter Hill, Prospect Hill and Roxbury, communicating with one another by small posts over a distance of ten miles, nor could they be contracted without exposing the country to the incursions of the enemy.

The army put under the command of Washington amounted to 14,500 men. Several circumstances concurred to render this force very inadequate to active operations. Military stores were deficient in camp, and the whole in the country was inconsiderable. On the 4th of August, all the stock of powder in the American camp, and in the public magazines of the four New England provinces, would have made very little more than nine rounds a man. In this destitute condition the army remained for a fortnight. To the want of powder was added a very general want of bayonets, of clothes, of working tools, and a total want of engineers. Under all these embarrassments, the General observed, that "he had the materials of a good army; that the men were able-bodied, active, zealous in the cause, and of unquestionable courage." He immediately instituted such arrangements as were calculated to increase their capacity for service. The army was distributed into brigades and divisions, and on his recommendation, general staff officers were appointed. Economy, union and system were introduced into every department. As the troops came into service under the authority of distinct

colonial governments, no uniformity existed among the regiments. In Massachusetts the men had chosen their officers, and (rank excepted) were in other respects, frequently their equals. To form one uniform mass of these discordant materials, and to subject freemen animated with the spirit of liberty, and collected for its defense, to the control of military discipline, required patience, forbearance, and a spirit of accommodation. This delicate and arduous duty was undertaken by Gen. Washington, and discharged with great address. When he had made considerable progress in disciplining his army, the term for which enlistments had taken place was on the point of expiring. The troops from Connecticut and Rhode Island were only engaged to the first of December, 1775; and no part of the army longer than to the first of January, 1776. The commander in chief made early and forcible representations to Congress on this subject, and urged them to adopt efficient measures for the formation of a new army. They deputed three of their members, Mr. Lynch, Dr. Franklin and Er. Harrison, to repair to camp, and in conjunction with him and the chief Magistrates of the New England colonies, to confer on the most effectual mode of continuing, supporting and regulating a continental army. By them it was resolved to list 23,722 men, as far as practicable, from the troops before Boston, to serve till the last day of December, 1776, unless sooner discharged by Congress. In the execution of this resolve, Washington called up all officers and soldiers to make their election for retiring or continuing. Several of the inferior officers retired. Many of the men would not continue on any terms. Several refused unless they were indulged with furloughs. Others, unless they were allowed to choose their officers. So many impediments obstructed the recruiting service, that it required great address to obviate them. Washington made forcible appeals in general orders, to the pride and patriotism of both officers and men. He promised very indulgence compatible with safety, and every comfort that the state of the country authorized. In general orders of the 20th of October, he observed; "The times, and the importance of the great cause we are engaged in, allow no room for hesitation and delay.

[To be continued.]

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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, May 25th.—My last bulletin gave forecasts of the storm waves to cross the continent from May 27th to 31st, and the next will reach the Pacific coast about the 31st, cross the western mountains by close June 1st, the great central valleys from 2d to 4th, and the eastern states about the 5th.

Very warm weather will precede this disturbance, and the storm center will increase in force in and east of the great central valleys from June 2d to 5th.

The second disturbance of June will reach the Pacific coast about the 6th, cross the western mountains by close of 7th, the great central valleys from 8th to 10th, and the eastern states about the 11th. It will attain its greatest force east of the Mississippi about the 10th.

Warm waves will cross the western mountains about May 31st and June 6th, the great central valleys about June 2d and 8th, and the eastern states about 4th and 10th. Cool waves will cross the western mountains about June 3d and 9th, the great central valleys about 5th and 11th, and the eastern states about 7th and 13th.

The temperature of June will be near the general average, the first half of the month warmest. Rainfall will be above the average, except immediately east of the Rocky Mountains.

About the 3d or 4th is a danger period. Earthquakes are caused by the same forces that cause tornadoes. These pent up forces sometimes find vent through an earthquake, and sometimes through the tornado. Tornadoes and earthquakes usually occur at the same time, but when the earthquake is great the tornado is small and weak, and when the latter is great the force of the earthquake is lessened. Electricity is the force, the earth becomes overcharged or is charged, and the only relief is by electricity passing off into space. This must occur through low barometers, which are of all grades, from a gentle disturbance to the terrible tornado.

This means of escape from the earth is called convection, because the electrical forces are conveyed away on the particles of matter, not continuous, that compose the storm

center. Where electricity is conducted through continuous matter, as a copper wire, it is called conduction.

Relief by earthquake is neither convection nor conduction, but is similar to lightning between clouds, where the electricity tears its way through matter, destroying the medium rather than being conveyed on or conducted by it.

The disturbance of June 3d or 4th is expected to find relief through a great earthquake in some earthquake country, rather than by tornado in some tornado country.

THE FLOATING PLANETS.

Our scientists teach that by some unexplained miracle, the earth, the moon and other planets and satellites were thrown into motion, which prevents the moons from falling to their primaries and the planets from falling into the sun. I deny the correctness of this original impulse theory and denounce it as an enemy to progress.

The velocities of these bodies probably carries them out farther from their primaries, but reason teaches that they float in bodies of electricity which are of the same material as the ether of space.

We varnish the outside of a glass bowl and hold it over the conductor of a machine, which draws the electricity from the bowl leaving it negative. The electrician would say the bowl is thus saturated with electricity but really it is left without electricity. It would be just as intelligible to say that a bowl is saturated with minus water after the water is all poured out of it.

Continuing the experiment, we connect a metallic plate with the earth and invert the bowl on the plate over a number of pith balls. Electricity comes from the earth to supply the deficiency in the inverted bowl and the metal plate develops an electro-sphere, which causes the pith balls to float and bob up and down in the bowl till the latter has regained its (Continued on Page 8.)

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