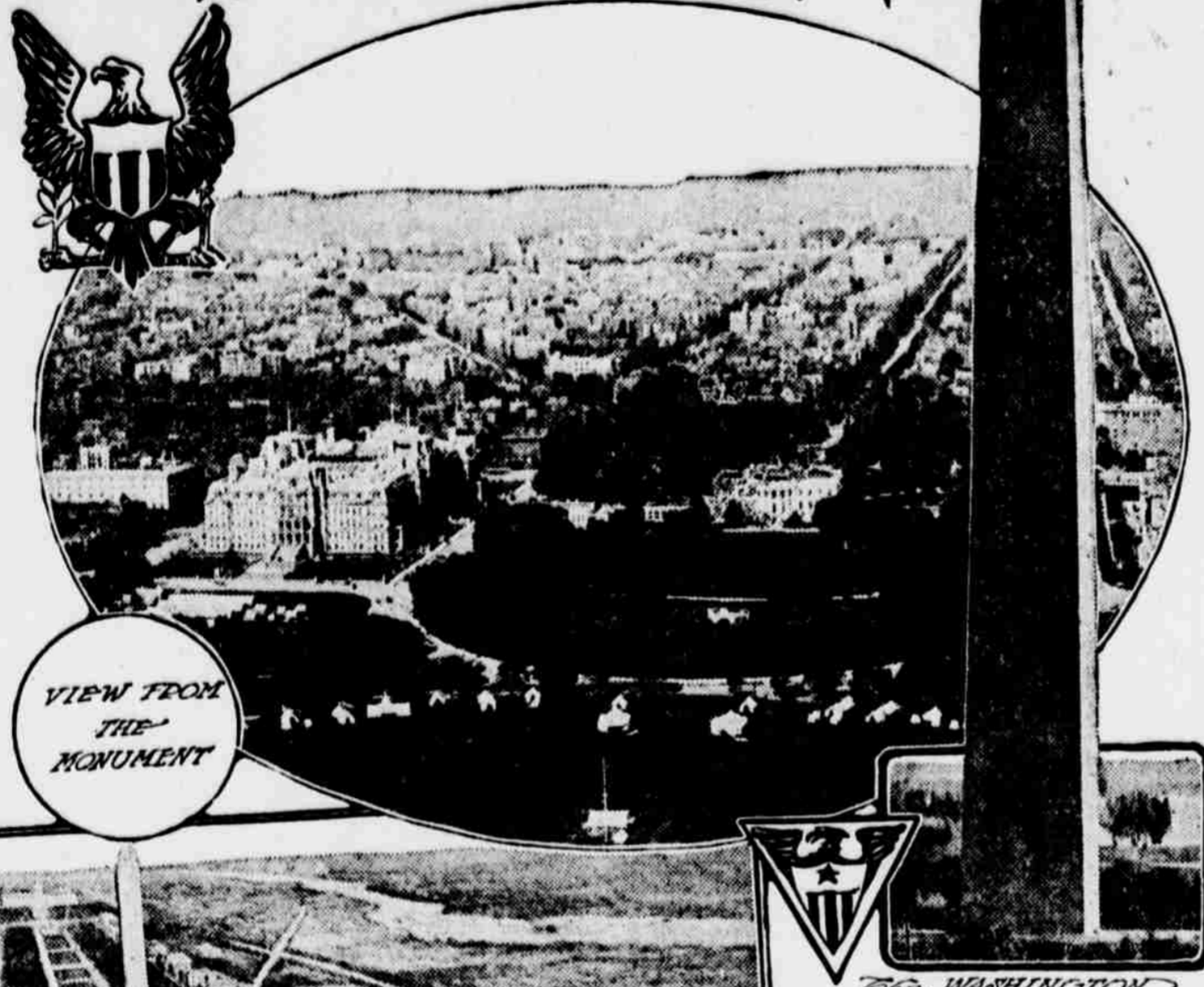


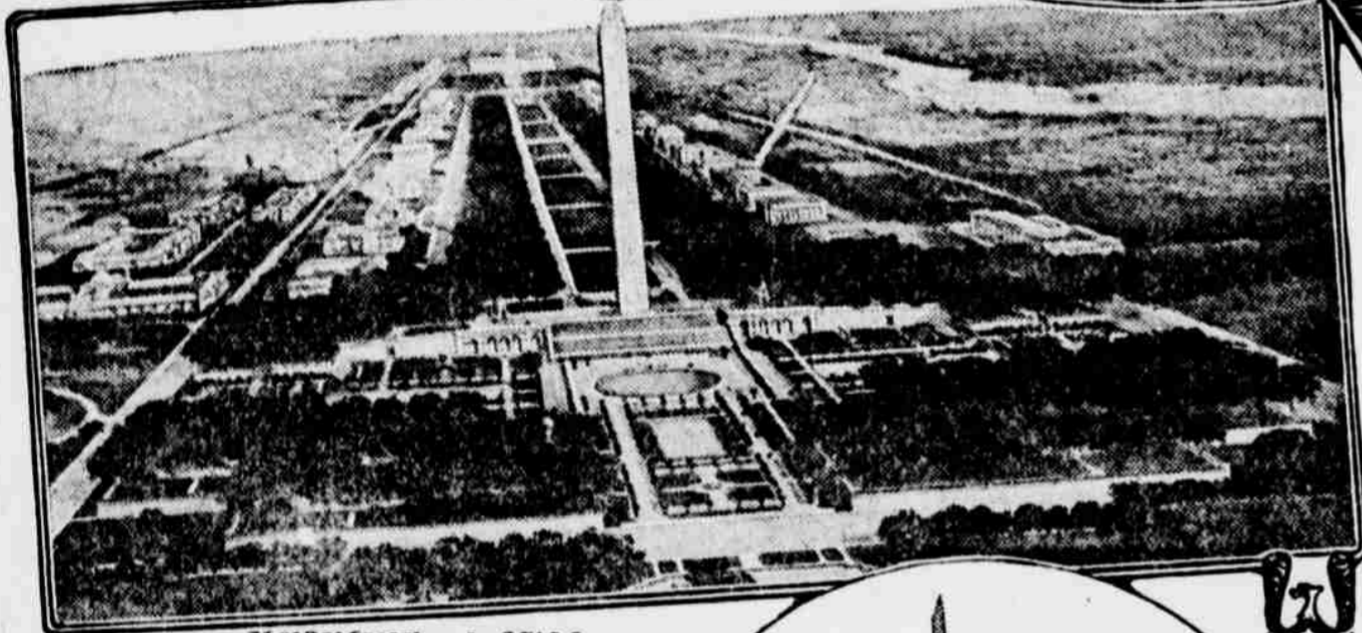
The WASHINGTON NATIONAL MONUMENT

TO no one of the world's heroes, probably, have more monuments, statues and other enduring tributes been erected than to him who was so aptly designated "First in war, first in peace and first in the hearts of his countrymen." Easily the most important and most imposing of all the memorials existing or projected is the Washington national monument, that simple and stately white shaft that rises on the banks of the Potomac river at Washington and affords from its top the most magnificent view of the beautiful capital city which Washington founded and which bears his name. Yet few of the persons who gaze in this twentieth century upon what has been denominated a "poem in marble" pause to consider how long this monument was in building and by how narrow a margin of chance a national tribute missed being a national disgrace.

The towering shaft that so ably typifies Washington's simplicity and strength of character was in the making for nigh a quarter of a century. Not that work was continuous over that protracted interval, but that such a span of years intervened between the inception and completion of the



VIEW FROM THE MONUMENT



MONUMENT and MALL AS IT WILL APPEAR WHEN FRACK IS COMPLETED

work due to a long suspension of activities owing to lack of funds. The whole project of providing what is accounted the nation's monument to Washington was a long-drawn-out undertaking, but this seeming tardiness of action has been atoned for by the beauty of the structure, which has few rivals in height, save some of the newer skyscrapers in New York, and which is so jealously guarded by a proud people that congress not so very long ago felt compelled to refuse the request of the navy department that permission be granted to establish a wireless telegraph station at the top of the monument, as has been done on the Eiffel Tower in Paris.

The project to provide a tribute to George Washington at the seat of government dates from the year 1783, when the Continental congress voted to erect an equestrian statue and, oddly enough, selected for its site the very location that is now occupied by the national monument. However, the project progressed no further and there was no further action until Washington died at the end of the century, when congress passed another resolution for a monument—this bill providing for a testimonial in marble or granite beneath which should repose the remains of the nation's greatest hero. Here, however, the widow of General Washington interposed with her very natural preference that the body should rest at Mount Vernon, and accordingly the whole project again lapsed until 1823, when a number of patriotic citizens of Washington formed an organization known as the Washington Monument association and undertook to revive interest in the undertaking.

The scheme was to provide funds by popular subscription for erecting a monument and this canvass was pursued more or less energetically, but it was not until 1848, when a total of \$87,000 had been collected, that the officials of the organization considered that the funds in hand justified the commencement of actual work. The corner-stone was laid with due ceremony and the work went forward for some years, but additional subscriptions did not come in at a very lively rate and finally work had to be suspended for lack of funds. Thus the partially completed obelisk—a "stump" of a monument it was termed—stood during all the years intervening between 1858 and 1880 until congress finally took up the matter and appropriated funds to finish the gigantic shaft.

However, it was not merely a case of providing money to carry out the work already started. The United States army engineers who were put in charge when the national legislature took a hand in the matter speedily discovered that the original foundation provided for the monument was hopelessly inadequate, considering the height and weight of the mass which it was proposed to place on it. Thereupon they set about a mighty ticklish engineering project—nothing less than the provision of a new or rather an enlarged foundation for the monument. Of course, the perplexing part of it was that the new foundation had to be slipped under the great mass of stone as it stood, for, naturally, there were many objections to consuming time and money in tearing down the monument and re-erecting it.

The engineers dug out at the corners and sides of the monument as much as they dared of the old foundation, meanwhile supporting the partially undermined structure by means of beams and braces of various kinds. All the stone thus removed was replaced with concrete and the concrete foundation was also extended in every direction beyond the base lines of the

monument and beyond the limitations of the original inadequate foundation. To what an extent the resting place of the shaft was expanded may be surmised from the fact that the original foundation had an area of only 6,400 square feet, whereas the enlarged foundation covered 16,000 square feet, in addition to being of better material. Indeed, the new footing of monolithic concrete is in effect a single block of solid stone.

With the new foundation in place the erection of the shaft went on apace and the task was finally completed in December, 1884, the dedica-

HOW TO TELL FORTUNES

One Formula Can Be Made to Fit Almost Everybody.

The way to tell people's fortunes is to have one list of characteristics and to use it for every one without the slightest variation. It is bound to succeed. For instance, supposing Falstaff and Hamlet had their fortunes told by the same soothsayer. I imagine he would have told Hamlet's character as follows, Maurice Baring writes in the Metropolitan:

"You are not so fortunate as you seem. You have a great deal of sense, but more sense than knowledge. You can give admirable advice to other people. Your judgment is excellent as regards others, but bad as regards yourself. You never value your own good advice. You are fond of your friends. You prefer talk to action. You suffer from indecision. You are fond of the stage. You are susceptible to female beauty. You are witty, amiable and well educated, but you like coarse jokes. You are superstitious and believe in ghosts. You can make people laugh. You often pretend to be more foolish than you are. At other times you will surprise people by your power of apt repartee. Your name will be your inclination to fat, which will hamper you in fighting. You are unsuccessful as a soldier, but unrivaled as a companion and philosopher. You will mix in high society, have friends at court. You will come off badly in personal encounter, and your final enemy will be a king."

Now imagine h's saying exactly the same thing to Falstaff. Doesn't it fit him just as well? Can't you imagine Falstaff saying: "He has hit me off to T." and Hamlet murmuring, "My prophetic soul!" In fact, I believe fortune telling, after that of medicine, to be the finest profession in the world and the easiest.

A Serious One.

"I understand our Micawber friend had an operation performed. Was it serious?"
"Very serious. He had a prospective job cut out of his mind's eye."

tion of the completed monument taking place in the following February—the month that holds the anniversary of Washington's birthday. The Washington national monument is, in horizontal section, a square within a square, whereas the structure might be described as an iron tower within a marble tower, the former being securely fastened to the latter by means of iron, which takes the form of a staircase that may be used by visitors who do not prefer to patronize the elevator.

The walls of the monument, which are fifteen feet in thickness at the base and decrease to a thickness of only eighteen inches at the top, comprise a grand total of twenty-three thousand stones, many of these stones having been contributed by states of the Union, by foreign powers and by municipal, civic and other organizations. There are, all told, about one hundred and seventy-six carved memorials of stone and marble embedded in the walls, but such testimonials could not, from the very character of the structure, be effectually guarded after the monument was completed and more than one-fourth of the total number have been more or less marred and damaged by vandals and relic hunters. An especial target for such souvenir hunting was found in the projecting pieces of carved stone such as originally appeared in the representations of state seals or coats-of-arms, and almost every one of these details is missing.

The nation's monument, which is so vast in size that an army of twelve thousand men might be comfortably housed in its interior, weighs more than eighty-one thousand tons. Engineers declare that it is one of the very few actually and absolutely fireproof structures in the United States, and although cracks have from time to time appeared in the walls, it is the popular belief that nothing short of a severe earthquake could destroy the shaft. It has been repeatedly struck by lightning and such visitations have no terrors for the obelisk, thanks to the forethought of the builders in providing an ingenious system of electric conductors. The keynote of the scheme is found in a small pyramid of aluminum, weighing about one hundred ounces, which crowns the capstone of the monument. This metal headpiece is connected with rods that descend six hundred feet to a well sunk to a considerable depth below the level of the earth. The monument has been visited by as many as five electric bolts within an interval of twenty minutes, but the worst damage ever done was the cracking of one of the stones near the top.

The shaft that rises from the gentle slope between the White House and the Potomac cost the nation about \$1,300,000, nearly \$100,000 having been expended upon the new foundation alone. The present upkeep of the monument involves no great expense. The elevator which carries to the top of the monument those visitors who do not care to climb the 900 steps makes a trip every half hour (although but seven minutes is required for the ascent of 500 feet), and will accommodate thirty persons. Looking out from the windows at the top of the monument, 517 feet above ground, the visitors behold a wonderful panorama extending fifteen to twenty miles in every direction. On clear days it is sometimes possible to discern the Blue Ridge mountains, sixty miles away.

Likely to Know.

Youth—Can you tell me which is Mr. Ponsobny?
Lady—The man with the gray hair, talking to those ladies over there. I am Mr. Ponsobny's wife.

Youth—I know you are, that's why I asked you, as I thought you'd be sure to know.—Punch.

Solitude.

"I feel very uneasy; it's pouring with rain and my wife went out without an umbrella."
"No doubt she'll take refuge in a shop somewhere."

"Yes; that's just what's worrying me so."—Felo Mele.

INTERNATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

(By E. O. SELLERS, Director of Evening Department The Moody Bible Institute of Chicago.)

LESSON FOR FEBRUARY 23

ABRAM AND LOT.

LESSON TEXT—Gen. 12:1-12.
GOLDEN TEXT—"The blessing of Jehovah, it maketh rich; and He addeth no sorrows therewith."—Prov. 10:22.

During the time that intervened between this and last week's lesson we read of Abram's journey "down into Egypt," a story that is rich with suggestive typical lessons. Abram's deceit is discovered by Pharaoh and he is driven from Egypt. Fear is the root of unbelief, and when we fall we are sure to carry some one with us. But a man's sin is sure to be discovered, so it was that "Pharaoh commanded his men, and they sent him away, and his wife, and all that he had." Egypt, a type of the world, turned Abram out (12:20) when he tried the "good Lord good devil" mode of life. Compromise and separation are not compatible.

Lesson's Picture.

I. "Up Out of Egypt," vv. 1-5. Again we have presented the lesson of separation. This portion is a great picture of repentance. Abram carried with him not only his own possessions but also those of his nephew Lot. Notice, Abram's wealth did not make him acceptable in Egypt. The world desires not alone the wealth of a man, but also the man back of the wealth.

Again Abram turns from conflict unto Bethel, the house of God, that place of confession, of consecration, and of encouragement.

These returning pilgrims were not ordinary men, no more is the man who is in Christ, and God was already given evidence of the blessing promised to Abram (12:2) and of that material blessing so definitely promised to the descendants of Jacob. We read (v. 6) "their substance was great." But there is far greater danger however in material prosperity than in adversity. This was a greater danger to these pilgrims than that of the Cannanites who dwell in the land.

II. "And There Was Strife," vv. 5-9. The evidence of this danger manifested itself when it was found that the land could not support both Abram and Lot (v. 6). Paul calls Timothy's attention to this same danger (1 Tim. 6:9), and we are constantly seeing it illustrated all about us.

Lot's History.

Lot was journeying with Abram rather than with Jehovah (12:3), doubtless in a great measure he was governed by cupidity and selfishness when he beheld Abram's prosperity. Millions in America profit by the security and the prosperity of this which so nearly approaches a Christian nation and yet in scorn or in neglect refuse to believe in or to serve the God who sends the blessing. The whole history of Lot is one of selfishness, which later resulted in sorrow and sadness and in his being shorn of all of his selfishly acquired prosperity. Lot had no particular claim upon Abram nor have we in our own right, or because of our own merit, upon or be cause of our own merit, upon God. There is so little that divides most of us and so much that we hold in common that it is but little short of criminal to waste our energy upon that which is ephemeral or of slight importance. What a difference in the choice of Lot and that of Abram. One entered into the path of the wicked, Prov. 4:14, 15, while the other into the path that "shineth more and more unto the perfect day," Prov. 4:18.

III. "And Lot . . . Beheld All the Plain of Jordan," vv. 10-13. Lacking the counsel and guidance of Jehovah Lot followed the choice that which was pleasing to the eyes and made a sorry mess of it, for in the end he was a great loser. Already the land was doomed (v. 10) and so today the man who chooses the world in preference to Christ makes a bad bargain (1 John 2:17) and the greater condemnation is his for he makes his choice in the blazing light of nearly twenty centuries of the Gospel. Lot made a willing compromise, a superficial choice and came near losing his own soul, Matt. 16:26, 27. He deliberately entered into danger when he "pitched his tent toward Sodom." The believers peril is worldliness. Lot's journey (v. 11) led at last to Sodom v. 12.

Abram aspired to know God, Lot had an ambition to possess the things of time and sense. Abram coveted righteousness (Matt. 5). Lot coveted success in this life only. Well has Goethe exclaimed, "Choose well; your choice is brief and yet it is endless." Eternity alone will reveal the results of our choice of surroundings, upon ourselves, upon our families and upon our friends.

IV. "Lift Up Thine Eyes," vv. 14-18. After separation comes fellowship and fruitfulness. God invited Abram to arise and to inspect his promised possessions. So may we contemplate the vast possessions God has promised us in Christ Jesus, Rom. 8:17, 2 Cor. 4:18. After our separation and our fellowship comes true fruitfulness and prosperity, 1 Tim. 4:18. Abram went to Hebron (which means fellowship), and there in the midst of Mamre (which means fatness) he built an altar unto God. Worship and sacrifice go hand in hand today as they did in ages past.

IT'S HARD TO WORK

It's torture to work with a lame, aching back. Get rid of it. Attack the cause. Probably it's weak kidneys. Heavy or confining work is hard on the kidneys, anyway, and once the kidneys become inflamed and congested, the trouble keeps getting worse. The danger of running into gravel, dropsy or Bright's disease is serious. Use Doan's Kidney Pills, a fine remedy for backache or bad kidneys.

An Illinois Case

James E. Poyner, Rossville, Ill., says: "I was laid up with kidney trouble. My back pained so I couldn't move. The kidney secretions were in terrible condition. Doan's Kidney Pills cured me in short order and for four years the trouble has never returned."

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FOSTER-MILBURN CO., Buffalo, New York

Pettit's Eye Salve FOR WEAK SORE EYES

MOTTO FOR CHRISTIAN HOME

Ideals Which Consistently Lived Up to, Cannot Fail to Make for Happiness in Life.

This home is dedicated to good will. It grew out of love. The two heads of the household were called together by a power higher than they. To its decree they are obedient. Every tone of the voice, every thought of their being, is subdued to that service. They desire to be worthy of their high calling, as ministers of that grace. They know their peace will go unbroken only for a little time. And often they suspect that the time will be more short even than their anxious hope. They cannot permit so much as one hour of that brief unity to be touched by scorn or malice. The world's judgments have lost their sting inside this door. Those who come seeking to continue the harmony which these two have won are ever welcome. The rich are welcome, so they come simply. The poor are welcome, for they have already learned friendliness through buffeting. Youth is welcome, for it brings the joy which these two would learn. Age is welcome, for it will teach them tenderness.—Collier's Weekly.

Poetry and Music.

If I had to live my life again I would have made a rule to read some poetry and listen to some music at least once every week; for perhaps the parts of my brain now atrophied would thus have been kept active through use. The loss of these tastes is a loss of happiness, and may possibly be injurious to the intellect, and most probably to the moral character, by enfeebling the emotional part of our nature.—Charles Darwin.

Will Dawn Upon Him Some Day.
"Oh, yes; Jack adores me; I've known it for weeks."
"Then what's bothering you?"
"What's bothering me! Why I've got to wait for him to find it out."—Boston Evening Transcript.

Insufficient.
Knicker—Do you treat your cook as one of the family?
Bocker—Goodness, no; we treat her like three of the family.

AS TO FLAVOUR. Found Her Favorite Again.

A bright young lady tells how she came to be acutely sensitive as to the taste of coffee:

"My health had been very poor for several years," she says. "I loved coffee and drank it for breakfast, but only learned by accident, as it were, that it was the cause of the constant, dreadful headaches from which I suffered every day, and of the nervousness that drove sleep from my pillow and so deranged my stomach that everything I ate gave me acute pain. (Tea is just as injurious, because it contains caffeine, the same drug found in coffee.)"

"My condition finally got so serious that I was advised by my doctor to go to a hospital. There they gave me what I supposed was coffee, and I thought it was the best I ever drank, but I have since learned it was Postum. I gained rapidly and came home in four weeks."

"Somehow the coffee we used at home didn't taste right when I got back. I tried various kinds, but none tasted as good as that I drank in the hospital, and all brought back the dreadful headaches and the 'sick-all-over' feeling."

"One day I got a package of Postum, and the first taste of it I took. I said 'that's the good coffee we had in the hospital.' I have drunk it ever since, and eat Grape-Nuts for my breakfast. I have no more headaches, and feel better than I have for years." Name given upon request. Read the famous little book, "The Road to Wellville," in pkgs. "There's a reason."

Postum now comes in concentrated, powder form, called Instant Postum. It is prepared by stirring a level teaspoonful in a cup of hot water, adding sugar to taste, and enough cream to bring the color to golden brown.

Instant Postum is convenient; there's no waste; and the flavour is always uniform. Sold by grocers—45 to 50-cent tin 30 cts., 90 to 100-cup tin 50 cts.

A 5-cup trial tin mailed for grocer's name and 2-cent stamp for postage. Postum Cereal Co., Ltd., Battle Creek, Mich.—Adv.