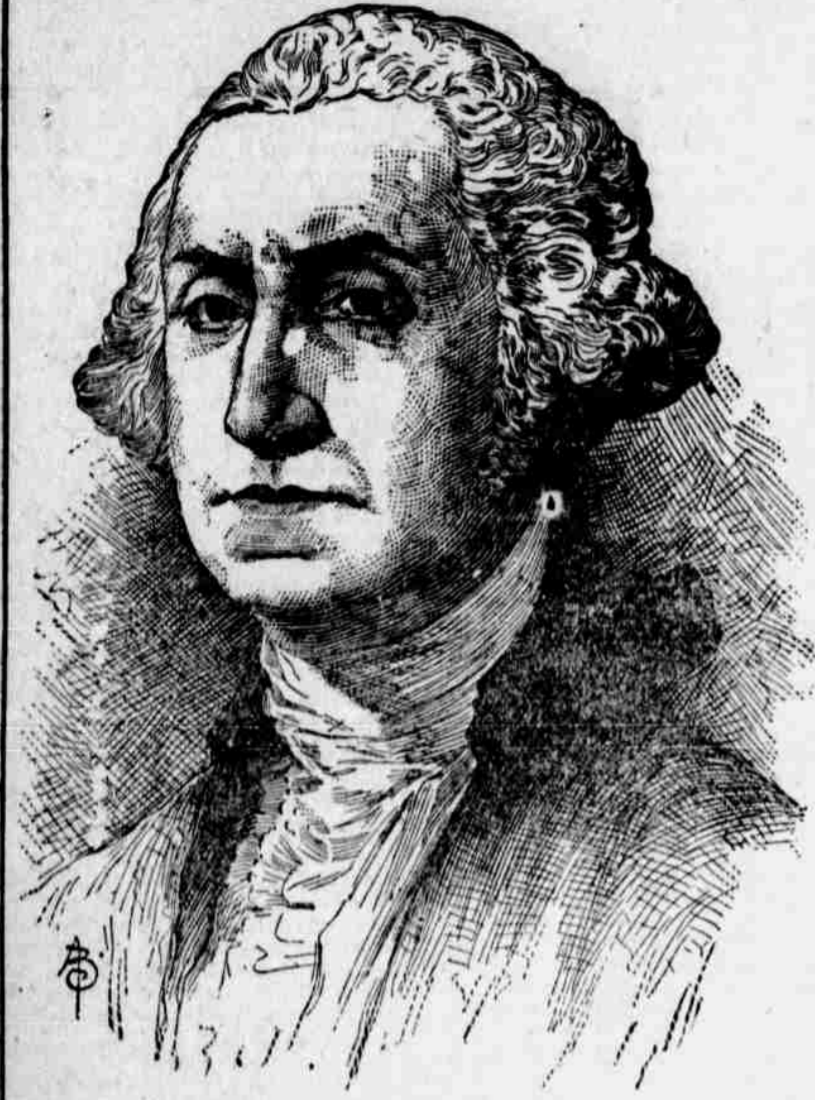


Dec. 14, 1899 CENTENNIAL OF Dec. 14, 1797

WASHINGTON'S DEATH.



Born February 22, 1732. Died December 14, 1799.

military, the time for the procession was postponed until 3 o'clock. The coffined body of the illustrious patriot lay meanwhile beneath the grand piazza of the mansion where he had so often walked and mused. Between 3 and 4 o'clock the procession moved, and at the same time minute guns were fired from the schooner anchored in the Potomac. The pallbearers were Colonel Little, Simms, Payne, Gilpin, Ramsey and Marsteller. Colonel Blackburn preceded the corpse. Colonel Denault marched with the military. The procession moved out through the gate at the left wing of the house and proceeded round in front of the lawn and down to the vault, on the right wing of the house, in the following order:

The troops, with arms reversed. Music. The clergy—namely, the Rev. Messrs. Davis, Muir, Moffat and Addison. The general's horse, with his saddle, holsters and pistols, led by two groomsmen. The body, borne by the Masons and officers. Principal mourners—namely, Mrs. Stuart and Mrs. Law, Misses Nancy and Sally Stuart, Miss Veiller and Miss Dennison, Mr. Law and Mr. Peter, Mr. Lear and Dr. Craik, Lord Fairfax and Fernando Fairfax. Corporation of Alexandria. All other persons, preceded by Mr. Anderson and the overseers.

"When the body arrived near the vault, at the bottom of the lawn, on the high bank of the Potomac, the cavalry halted. The infantry moved forward and formed the in-lining. The Masonic brethren and citizens descended to the vault, and the funeral services of the church were read by the Rev. Mr. Davis. He also pronounced a short discourse. The Masons then performed their peculiar ceremonies, and the body was deposited in the vault. Three general discharges of arms were given by the infantry and the cavalry, and 11 pieces of artillery, which were ranged back of the vault and simultaneously discharged, paid the last tribute to the entombed commander in chief of the armies of the United States."

News of Washington's death reached the assembled congress in Philadelphia the morning of Dec. 18, the day of the funeral, having been brought by a stage passenger, John Marshall of Virginia announced it and moved an adjournment, which was taken until the 19th. When congress reassembled, a message from President Adams arrived announcing that information of Washington's death had been communicated through his secretary. The resolutions, which had been prepared by General Henry Lee, were then read. The army and navy were ordered to wear mourning, and a funeral was arranged in memory of Washington Dec. 26. The people of the country were recommended to wear crape for 30 days. General Lee pronounced the funeral oration, and it was then that he used the famous phrase, "first in war, first in peace and first in the hearts of his countrymen."

Both houses of congress assembled in the German Lutheran church to listen to the oration. At the next session congress resolved "that it be recommended to the people of the United States to assemble on the 23d of February next, in such numbers and manner as may be convenient, publicly to testify their grief for the death of General George Washington by suitable eulogies, orations and discourses and by public prayers." Thus the first national celebration of Washington's birthday was an occasion of profound mourning.

When Washington died, the country was at peace. The last warcloud had disappeared shortly before, the imbroglio with France, and the ceremonies of installing Napoleon as first consul were postponed for a period of mourning for the memory of Wash-

Had Washington been living on the 14th of December, 1899, under the advanced state of medical science he would have escaped the lamentable mistake which cut him down the 14th of December, 1799, before he had reached the allotted threescore and ten. Indeed, with his excellent health, which remained with him up to within four days of his death, Washington, the man of tranquil mind and pure habits, might have passed the fourscore mark at least.

The death of Washington was a surprise to the world, as the circumstances of it are a surprise to those who learn them for the first time in these days of marvelous medical skill. As before stated, he was in the best of health, and while riding over his estate at Mount Vernon on the 12th of December he was exposed to a sudden storm of rain and sleet. In Virginia at that season of the year changes of temperature are often severe. Returning home wet and chilled, Washington soon developed sore throat and ague. His lifelong family physician was summoned at once, and as he got no better two other doctors were called in consultation on the 14th.

Washington's ailment was the disease now called laryngitis, and from the descriptions handed down it need not necessarily have proved fatal. The symptoms were those of croup, but he made himself audible up to the very last. According to the views of the science today, the doctors bled Wash-



ington to death. His system, already depleted by the fever from which he had suffered 48 hours, was subjected to bleedings, the last time on the day he died.

Death came between 10 and 11 o'clock. At 4 o'clock that day Washington seemed to know his danger, for he asked Mrs. Washington to fetch from his study two papers, which proved to be two wills. One he said she might destroy, as the other superseded it. It was burned in his presence, and the other was given to his wife. At 6 o'clock Washington said to the three physicians who were present: "I feel myself going. I thank you for your attentions, but I pray you take no more trouble about me."

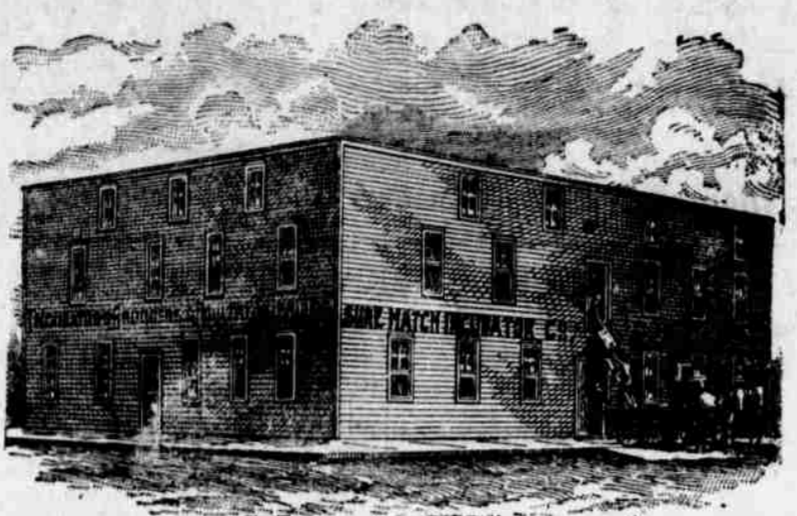
About 10 o'clock he gave to his faithful secretary, Mr. Lear, some directions about his private papers and his funeral. When the secretary told him that he had understood the directions, Washington said, "It is well." These were Washington's last words.

Washington's funeral and final entombment took place on the 18th of December, and the simplicity of the obsequies was marvelous, considering the eminence he had attained and the fame which clung to him to the last and which has grown brighter with time.

The body lay in state in a plain mahogany coffin in the drawing room but for a short time only, as the physicians decided that, owing to the nature of the disease, it would not be proper to defer interment. The immediate ceremonies are described as follows in Lossing's "Mount Vernon and Its Associations":

"The people began to collect at 11 o'clock; but, owing to a delay of the

POLITICS vs. BUSINESS



SURE HATCH INCUBATOR FACTORY AT CLAY CENTER, NEBR.

Heretofore the eastern states have had a monopoly in incubator manufacturing. The Sure Hatch company seems to have caught the old concerns napping. They have taken several steps in advance in the science of artificial hatch, and have secured late patents. The Sure Hatch Incubator Factory is one of the best equipped incubator factories in the United States. Their present capacity is fifty finished machines in ten hours. This company has already placed over 2,000 incubators on the market—over 1,000 in the state of Nebraska. More than two hundred are used in Clay county, Nebraska. Their incubators are used in every state and in Manitoba and Canada. This phenomenal growth is due to putting out good low priced machines, and fulfilling every promise. The business has begun unusually early this season. Their daily mail has raised Clay Center postoffice to a presidential office, and at the present rate of growth Clay Center will appear on the United States maps as a good sized manufacturing town soon. In a personal letter from the manager to the editor of this paper he relates a little episode, or rather a 2x4 way some politicians argue the political question. A party in Minnesota made inquiry about the price of incubators, and wanted to know if they were the machine that hatched out Bryan's votes. He ended his letter by asking why we didn't muzzle Bryan down here in Nebraska and that he was in favor of continuing the big crops and the good times regardless of what the pop party would do about it. Usually (says the Sure Hatch incubator man) we fall in with any kind of politics when it is mixed up with the incubator business, but in this case his ribs in Minnesota was too much for an ordinary grade of patience. The Sure Hatch man wrote him that his machine had not been in the vote hatching business, but said that evidently there had been considerable votes hatched out for Bryan through some mysterious cause, and everything indicated a 95 per cent hatch of the fertile eggs next election, and that everything pointed to a bad set of eggs in the republican goose nest next fall. He advised the Minnesota politician that he would see to it that Bryan did not interfere with the big crops. It is needless to say that the Sure Hatch Company lost a sale, but a little fun with a 2x4 politician is worth the price of an incubator any time. Whether the Sure Hatch will produce votes or not, we are not able to say, but we do know that it will hatch more than 90 per cent of the eggs put into it, and aid materially in building up one of the most profitable industries in Nebraska.

ton. The commander of the British fleet ordered every ship to lower her flag to half mast.

At home many of Washington's chief contemporaries in the struggle for independence had preceded him to the grave. Out of 56 signers of the Declaration but 19 survived. Of the generals all but Gates, Morgan and Stark were gone. John Adams was president, Jefferson bidding his time, Hamilton secretary of war. Patrick Henry was dead, and so also were the other great orators of the Revolution, Otis and Josiah Quincy. American literature was at a standstill. Charles Brockden Brown was its chief light. Jonathan Edwards was perhaps the brainiest man outside of politics.

Abroad Washington's old enemy, Clinton, was dead, but Howe and Cornwallis survived. Burke and Lord North had passed away, but Fox and Pitt lived to glory in the triumph of human independence.

In the world of letters abroad when Washington died Moore and Byron were coming early into fame; Southey and Coleridge were dreaming over that Utopia they had projected in the land of liberty; Samuel Rogers, the banker poet, and Wordsworth were at the height of their fame; Scott in 1799 was known only as a poet, and Charles Lamb had just issued his first volume. In that year Campbell's masterpiece of verse, "The Pleasures of Hope," appeared and reached four editions. In the celebrated lament over the hapless doom of the struggling Poles, Campbell used imagery which might have been applied to Washington at certain crises in his martial career—as, for instance, the words placed in the mouth of Poland's champion, Kosciuszko, and what follows:

"Oh, Heaven," he cried, "my bleeding country save! In there no hand on high to shield the brave? Yet, though destruction sweep these lovely plains, Rise, fellow men! Our country yet remain! By that dread name we swore the sword on high And swear for her to live, with her to die!" He said, and on the rampart bellicose arrayed His trusty warriors, low, but undismayed, Firm paced and slow, a horrid front they form, Still as the ice, but of a fatal as the storm. Low murmuring, sounds along their banners fly, Revenge or death, the watchword and reply.

But of Washington it could never be written, as it was of his Polish imitator:

Hope for a season bade the world far-well, And Freedom shrieked as Kosciuszko fell.

TRIBUTES IN ENGLISH.

Some Noble Eulogies Spoken by Men of Washington's Race.

To lose such a man at such a time is no common calamity to the world. With patriotic pride we review the life of our Washington and compare him with those in other countries who have been pre-eminent in fame.—Samuel Livermore, President of Senate pro tem., Dec. 19, 1799.

Thanks to God, his glory is consummated. Washington yet lives on earth in his spotless example. His spirit is in heaven. Let his countrymen consecrate the memory of the heroic general, the patriotic statesman and the virtuous sage. Let them teach these children never to forget that the fruit of his labors and his example are their inheritance.—Samuel Dexter, Chairman Committee United States Senate, December, 1799.

Washington has shown himself both a Fabius and a Camillus. His march through our lines is acknowledged to have been a prodigy of generalship.—Horace Walpole (England).

All I can say is that I look upon Washington, among great and good men, as one peculiarly good and great and that he has been to me for more than 40 years a light upon the path of life.—William E. Gladstone.

General Washington's conduct is above all praise. He has left a noble example to sovereigns and nations, present and to come. I beg you will mention both me and my sons to him in the most respectful terms possible. If I was not too old, I would go to Virginia to do him homage.—Marquis of Lansdowne (England).

Ever superior to Fortune, he enjoyed her smiles with moderation and endured her frowns with serenity and showed himself alike in victory for-

It was observed to me that there was an expression in Washington's face that no painter had succeeded in taking.—William Hazlitt (England).

Modern history has not so spotless a character to commemorate. It is the highest glory of England to have given birth, even amid transatlantic wilds, to such a man, and if she cannot number him among those who have extended her provinces or augmented her dominions she may at least feel a legitimate pride in the victories which he achieved and the great qualities he exhibited in the contest with herself.—Sir Archibald Alison (England).

ON WASHINGTON'S DEATH.

Noble Words of Admiring Minds Beyond the Great Ocean.

As fast as the news of America's bereavement traveled in those wireless and steamless days, poets and orators and editors took up the theme of Wash-



NEW FAMILY VAULT.

ington's death and greatness. Some of the noblest tributes came from England. France was appreciative, of course. Those quoted here were prompted by the occasion of Washington's decease:

General Washington is not the idol of a day, but the hero of ages. The whole range of history does not present to our view a character upon which we can dwell with such pure and entire admiration.—London Courier.

He was one who seemed to have been expressly formed by Providence for the mighty work of establishing the independence of a people which may one day delight the philanthropist with the view of an great an assemblage of freedom as Europe now contains of slaves. No one ever passed through the ordeal of power and influence more free from the remotest suspicion of selfish and ambitious designs.—British Register.

His fame, lauded by no country, will be confined to no age.—Sir William Hamilton (England).

I recommend the constant remembrance of the moral and political maxims conveyed to its citizens by the father and founder of the United States.—Earl Burchan (Scotland).

A character of virtues so happily tempered by one another and so wholly unalloyed by any vices as that of Washington is hardly to be found on the pages of history. For him it has been reserved to run the race of glory without experiencing the smallest interruption to the brilliancy of his career.—Charles James Fox (England).

Where Washington hath left His awful memory, A light for after times.

—Robert Southey (England).

How shall we rank thee upon glory's page, Thou more than soldier and just less than sage? —Thomas Moore (Ireland).

In modern times Washington, I believe, was the greatest man, and next to him William III.—Sir Henry Gratian (England).

Where were the wearied eye repose When gazing on the great, Where neither guilty glory grows Nor despicable state?

Yes, one—the first, the last, the best, The Cincinnati of the west, Whom envy dared not hate— Beguished the name of Washington, To make men blush there was but one.—Byron (England).

His exterior disclosed, as it were, the history of his life, simplicity, grandeur, dignity, calmness, goodness, firmness. The attributes of his character were also stamped upon his features and in all his person.—Count de Segur (France).

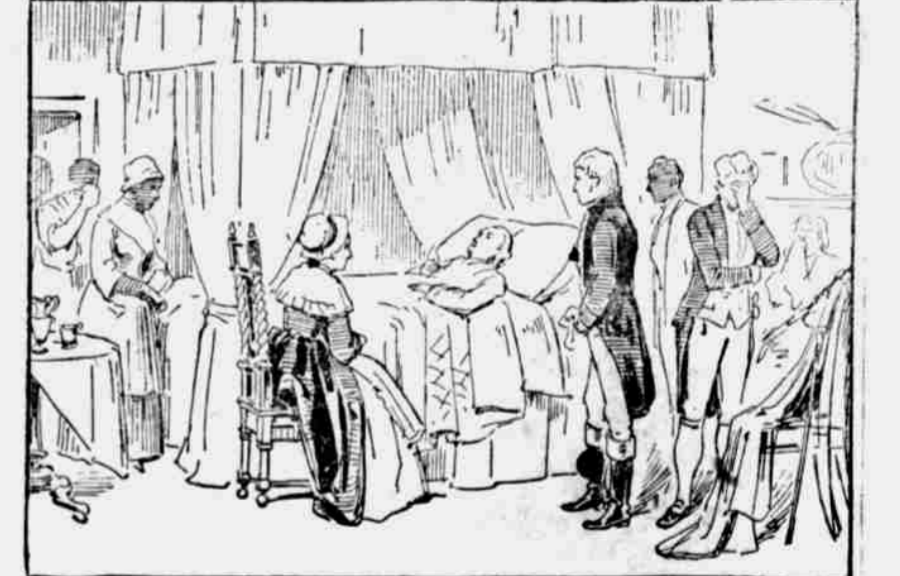
I have formed as high an opinion of the powers of his mind, his moderation, his patriotism and his virtues as I had before conceived from common report of his military talent and of the incalculable services which he has rendered his country.—Gorard, French Minister.

This is not the moment to retrace in this hall all that great man has done for the freedom of America, the number and importance of his warlike exploits, the generous inspiration with which he animated the French who fought under him and the sublime act by which he did eternal honor to his memory, when, after having contributed to give freedom to his country, he laid down all authority, the supreme power, to hide his glory in the obscurity of private life.—Felix Faucher (France).

Washington was completely the representative of the wants, the ideas, the knowledge and the opinions of his time. He seconded instead of thwarting the movement of mind. He aimed at that which it was his duty to aim at; hence the

Free... until Christmas... Dolls to the Girls and Knives to the Boys... Make your Children Happy by giving them a pair of Shoes for Christmas, and we will give them a present they will appreciate. If you want papa, brother, or sweetheart to always be thinking of you, give them a pretty pair of slippers for Christmas. We have a large variety that will just fill the bill. Come in and see them. SANDERSON'S FOOT-FORM-STORE 1213-O STREET.

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DEATH OF WASHINGTON.

bearing and in defeat undaunted. Perhaps there never was another man who trod with more unswerving honor the highest ways of glory or whose personal character and conduct exercised an influence so powerful and so beneficial on the destiny of a nation.—James Grahame, LL. D (Scotland).

Washington was grave in manners, but perfectly easy. There was a commanding air in his presence which compelled respect and forbade too great a freedom toward him, independently of that species of awe which is always felt in the moral influence of a great character. In every movement, too, there was a polite gracefulness equal to any met with in the most polished individuals in Europe, and his smile was extraordinarily attractive.

coherence and perpetuity of his work. My name probably dwelt not a day in his memory. Happy, however, that his looks were cast upon me. I have felt myself warmed for it all the rest of my life. There is a virtue in the looks of a great man.—Clateaurian (France).

The name of Washington is inseparably linked with a memorable epoch. He adorned this epoch by his talents and the nobility of his character and with virtues that even envy dared not assail. History affords few examples of such renown. Great from the onset of his career, patriotic before his country became a nation, despite the passions and political resentment that desired to check his career, his fame remained imperishable. His public actions and unassuming grandeur in private life were living examples of courage, wisdom and usefulness.—Talleyrand (France).

Washington has finished life without the slightest diminution of his glory, tranquility and happiness. He died on the fields cultivated by himself, in the bosom of his country, of his family, of his friends, and the veneration of America accompanied him to his grave.—Jacques Mallet du Pan (Switzerland).