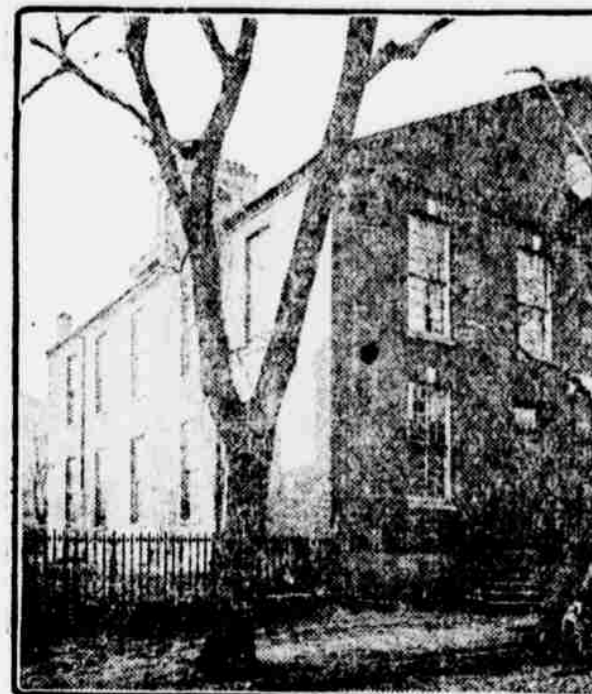


# George Washington's Home Town



Each year finds tens of thousands of American citizens making patriotic pilgrimages to the home and tomb of George Washington at Mount Vernon on the Potomac river. Almost without exception these tourists "stop over" going or coming at the quaint old town of Alexandria, Va., located about half way between the city of Washington and Mount Vernon. Many of the visitors declare Alexandria almost if not quite as interesting as the far-famed country seat of the Father of His Country. Old Alexandria would be well worthy a visit merely as a fine example of an old colonial town, rich in the architecture of the period, but added to this is the historical significance that it was George Washington's "home town."

Hither he came to attend the balls and other social festivities that brought out all the landed gentry of the old dominion; here he attended church every Sunday when residing at Mount Vernon; and to this place he repaired when business matters connected with his large estate required legal or other adjustment that could not readily be negotiated on the plantation. Alexandria was the meeting place of the Masonic lodge of which George Washington was so prominent a member and here was located a volunteer fire company that boasted our first president as one of its members. In short, from every standpoint, Alexandria meant more to George Washington than the nearest town or cross-roads community is apt to do to the present-day American farmer in this era of rural free delivery and railroads and trolleys and automobiles.



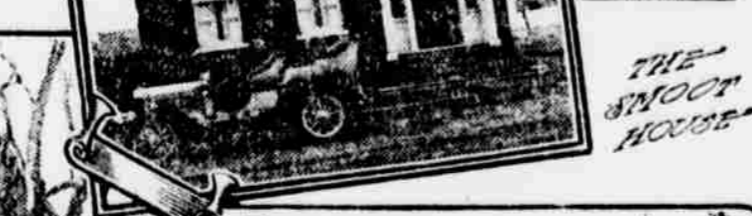
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

In George Washington's time Alexandria—or Bellhaven as it was at first known along about the middle of the eighteenth century—was one of the most prominent ports in the United States and seemed to hold out every promise of extensive development in the future. George Washington himself took a hand in booming the port, which developed an extensive foreign trade. The docks were crowded with warehouses filled with corn, tobacco and other products, while in the harbor were always to be found many of the largest class of cargo ships of that period loading and discharging a variety of commodities. As the American terminus of a heavy overseas trade Alexandria became well known in shipping circles in England, and it was thought for a time that the port on the Potomac would overshadow Baltimore. Then came the various influences that combined to bring about the commercial eclipse of the little city so dear to the heart of the nation's liberator. One of the first of these was the establishment only a few miles away of the capital of the nation, which speedily overshadowed Alexandria in various ways. Then came the building of railroads, which diverted much traffic to other channels, and finally the Civil War helped to put a blight upon the community which had long been one of the strongholds of the Lees of Virginia.

But even in this twentieth century neglected Alexandria gets "on the map" at least one day each year—namely, on the 22d of February, when with each recurring anniversary of Washington's birthday there is a big celebration in the little city that is filled with landmarks and objects identified with the private life and public career of the leader of the Revolution. Often the president of the United States goes to Alexandria by boat or trolley to participate in the exercises, and the governors of Virginia and Maryland are invariably invited. On such occasions the town which is located in closer proximity to historic Mount Vernon than is any other community, appears almost too small to accommodate the crowds that invade her public places. For, be it known, for all that there are handsome, well-paved business streets that afford a route of parade for the procession that is an invariable feature of this holiday, there are other highways and by ways in the staid, dignified, conservative old town that readily convince the visitor that they have undergone little if any alteration since the days of George Washington.

Old Alexandria is "going on" three hundred years of age, for it was founded as long ago as 1730, although, as previously explained, it was known for some score of years by another name. In 1848 the general assembly of the colony of Virginia formally designated it as Alexandria. The town retains to this day the names of its streets, chosen in the days of long ago from the titles of royalty and nobility. Thus we find as the most conspicuous thoroughfares King, Prince, Duke and Royal streets.

Alexandria was the starting place of General Braddock's famous expedition against the French and Indians which, ill-fated though it was, served to bring George Washington, for the first time,



THE RESIDENCE OF LORD FAIRFAX

conspicuously before his countrymen. Here, in the old Carlisle house, which remains to this day one of the chief "show places" of the historic old town, George Washington and other leading men of the colony had a lengthy conference with the British commander on the night before the expedition set out upon the campaign which was destined to go down in history as "Braddock's defeat."

The old Carlisle house, which is assuredly one of the most interesting structures in the United States, fell sadly into decay some years ago, although a move looking to its complete restoration has lately been made by a patriotic society. George Washington was a frequent guest at Carlisle house—the mansion of Major Carlisle, and when, after a social function in Alexandria he returned to Mount Vernon by boat it was almost invariably from the Carlisle house that he set out, the terraced grounds of the mansion sloping down to the river, rendering it convenient for General Washington and his house guests to step into the barge to be rowed to his manor house farther down on the Virginia shore of the Potomac. It was also General Washington's custom to sup at Carlisle house each 22d of February when he came to Alexandria to attend the "Birth Night Balls," which were instituted in his honor in Alexandria after he rose to fame as the hero of the War for Independence. These balls were held at Cragget's tavern and constituted the supreme height of Alexandria's social glory.

General Washington was most intimately identified with the history of Alexandria from the year 1763, when he purchased considerable property in the town. He showed himself a good citizen by becoming a member of the Friendship Fire Engine company. This was a volunteer organization

### NAMING THE BOY.

Old Jum, gardener and general factotum, was accompanied one day by a bright-looking lad eight or ten years old.

"Is this your boy?" I asked.  
"Yessuh, he mine, he las' one I got, suh—Junior, you wuffles nigger, rek your manners ter de white folks!"  
"Junior," I commented. "So he is named after you."

"Nawsuh," the old man replied rather indignantly; "he ain't named for me! My name Jumbo, whar my mammy git out'n de Bible. Dis hyar chile name Junior cuz he wuz bawn in June."—Lippincott's.

### WHAT WAS, "ETC.?"

Writing about a recent "function," the society editor of the Ellis, Kan., Review-Headlight says: "Light refreshments were served, consisting of popcorn, cider, etc., served in courses."

for any such thing as a fire-fighting department with paid employees was, of course, totally unknown in those days. Tradition recounts that not only was the Father of His Country a supporter of this old-time fire-fighting organization, but that on the occasion of more than one fire he "ran with the machine" in the good old-fashioned way. Another organization which rivals the veteran fire company in interest is the Masonic lodge of which Washington was a member, and the lodge rooms of which in the city hall at Alexandria are filled with Washington relics of priceless value.

### Mount Vernon Token Returned

When Mount Vernon, the home of Washington, was restored some 30 years ago the various states were asked to send some token to be placed in the rooms. The women of Kansas sent a solid walnut, hand carved seal of Kansas to represent this state. For 30 years the beautiful seal has been standing in the former home of the Father of His Country and it has just been returned to the Kansas Historical society to be placed in the exhibit of Kansas curios.

The piece is carved from one solid piece of native Kansas walnut, one of the few perfect pieces of walnut wood found in the state. A search of several months was required to find a tree suitable for the work. One was found in Coffey county and was cut down expressly for this carving. It is four feet long and two feet high and is intended to go over the door of some hall.

The seal was carved by the late Henry Worrall of Topeka, the first artist in Kansas. He worked all one summer on it. In the center is the great seal of the state, painted in colors in oil by Professor Worrall. Around the seal are the words "Great Seal of the State of Kansas, January 29, 1861," carved by hand, each letter in relief. Around the seal are grouped the products of Kansas.

When the servant quarters were restored at Mount Vernon, Kansas school children raised the money to pay for the restoration. It was then decided that Kansas had sufficient representation among the relics in the home and the great seal was returned to the Historical society.

### WISDOM FROM THE WED.

Singleton—It's wonderful what love will enable a fellow to see in a girl that he never saw before.  
Wedmore—Yes, and it's equally wonderful what love won't let him see that he'll see later on.—Boston Evening Transcript.

### A MAN'S WAY.

"I hear the bride and groom are having trouble already."  
"Married only a month already, and quarreling!"  
"So they say."  
"What is the trouble?"  
"Seems her husband wants to quit going to afternoon receptions and get back to business."

## PECULIAR ACCIDENT

DODGE COUNTY FARMER CLAIMS THREE-FOOT COAL VEIN.

### NEWS FROM OVER THE STATE

What is Going on Here and There That is of Interest to the Readers Throughout Nebraska and Vicinity.

Diller.—Paul Stange, a farmer living one mile south of this place met with a peculiar accident when he went into the barn to feed and blow into the face of one of his young horses, whereupon the horse nipped at Mr. Stange, biting off his lower lip.

#### Thinks He is Entitled to It.

Fremont.—Eph Joanson, who discovered coal on his farm in the northern part of the county, says further investigation has convinced him that he is in a position to lay claim to the state's offer of \$4,000 for a coal vein over twenty-six inches thick, as the vein on his farm is thirty and as much as thirty-five inches thick in places. Below is a clay like substance. Above is a shale, resembling the shale from which cement is made.

#### Twenty Horses Cremated.

Clay Center.—A large farm barn belonging to George Schlyck, three miles southeast of here, was burned with all its contents. There were twenty horses in the barn and all perished but one. A large quantity of grain and other property was consumed. The cause of the fire is not known.

#### Fortune Came Too Late.

Aurora.—Ida Eaton was a poor girl who worked for her living as a telephone operator. Between times she was working on an invalid's chair and obtained a patent. The day after her death an offer came from a manufacturing company of \$10,000 for her rights.

#### Mrs. Fletcher Sisson Dead.

Fremont.—Mrs. Sisson, wife of Rev. Fletcher M. Sisson, pastor of the First Methodist church, is dead here after a protracted illness covering six years. Mrs. Sisson was sixty-one years of age. She was well known through Nebraska and on account of her looks, throughout the middle west.

#### Lost Arm in Corn Shredder.

Beatrice.—Loren Reimund, aged thirty-three, suffered the loss of his left arm from a corn shredder accident. Reimund was feeding the machine when the fingers of the left hand became entangled in the feeding mechanism and pulled in to the shoulder.

### NEWS FROM THE STATE HOUSE

By a vote of 1,653 to 1,179 the members of the state teachers' association have decided to hold their 1912 gathering at Omaha. The dates will be November 6, 7 and 8, the vote for these three days being 2,197 as against a few scattering for dates in that month.

State Hotel Commissioner McFadden, in a talk at the banquet of the United Commercial Travelers at Hastings, stated that he and deputies had inspected 310 hotels located in forty-nine counties of the state, outside of Lincoln and Omaha. He reports the work in his department as progressing very satisfactorily.

Governor Aldrich suggests that schools take steps to celebrate the forty-fifth anniversary of the state March 1, by having one or more papers read commenting on the growth of the state, and that citizens of the state write a letter on that date to some one or more friends in other states telling them of Nebraska's development.

The money in the state treasury increased from \$539,776 to \$686,630 during the month of January, according to the report of the state treasurer. The trust funds and the money in the general fund reached sufficient proportions that the state official was warranted in calling in the \$250,000 worth of outstanding state warrants.

Claims for the destruction of glandered horses amounting to \$6,631.65 have been paid by the state from a total appropriation of \$25,000 made by the last legislature. The claims have been coming in at the rate of nearly \$1,600 a month.

Three machines for making shoes will be purchased by the state for installation in shops at the Kearney industrial school. The institution in the past has been turning out between 500 and 700 pairs of shoes each year, the product of the hand labor of the boys.

W. H. Smith of Seward, secretary of the senate at the last session of the state legislature, has filed as a candidate for the democratic nomination for state senator.

Prof. L. L. Zook, a corn specialist in the department of agriculture at Washington, will visit Nebraska and accompany the seed corn trains, which will tour the state the last week in February. Professor Zook is deemed one of the greatest corn specialists in the country. His visit to Nebraska at this time indicates that the urgency of the seed corn situation is recognized at Washington.

## TESTIMONY OF FIVE WOMEN

Proves That Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound is Reliable.

Reedville, Ore.—"I can truly recommend Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound to all women who are passing through the Change of Life, as it made me a well woman after suffering three years."—Mrs. MARY BOGART, Reedville, Oregon.

New Orleans, La.—"When passing through the Change of Life I was troubled with hot flashes, weak and dizzy spells and backache. I was not fit for anything until I took Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound which proved worth its weight in gold to me."—Mrs. GASTON BLONDEAU, 1541 Polymnia St., New Orleans.

Mishawaka, Ind.—"Women passing through the Change of Life can take nothing better than Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound. I am recommending it to all my friends because of what it has done for me."—Mrs. CHAS. BAUER, 523 E. Marion St., Mishawaka, Ind.

Alton Station, Ky.—"For months I suffered from troubles in consequence of my age and thought I could not live. Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound made me well and I want other suffering women to know about it."—Mrs. EMMA BAILEY, Alton Station, Ky.

Deism, No. Dak.—"I was passing through Change of Life and felt very bad. I could not sleep and was very nervous. Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound restored me to perfect health and I would not be without it."—Mrs. F. M. THORN, Deism, No. Dak.

### AGED.



Helen—No; I shall never marry. I have borne too long with the sorrows and trials of life alone to add to my burden by—

Ethel—Beg pardon; you mean you've been born too long, don't you?

One Was Lacking.  
Head Clerk (to applicant for government post)—Are these your identification papers?  
Applicant—Yes, sir.  
Head Clerk—H'm, your death certificate is missing.

Referred to the Lexicographer.  
To Renegé—Not to follow suit.  
To Reno—To begin suit.—Life.

The evils and sorrows that afflict mankind are of mankind's own making.—Marie Corelli.

A TROUBLE MAKER  
Coffee Poison Breeds Variety of Ills.

A California woman who didn't know for twenty years what kept her ill, writes to tell how she won back her health by quitting coffee:

"I am 54 years old," she says, "have used coffee all my life, and for 20 years suffered from indigestion and insomnia. Life was a burden and a drag to me all the time, and about once a year my ailments got such hold upon me that I was regularly 'sick in bed' for several weeks each time.

"I was reluctant to conclude that coffee was the cause of my trouble, but I am thankful that I found out the truth.

"Then I determined to use Postum exclusively—for a week at first—for I doubted my ability to do without coffee for any length of time. I made the Postum carefully, as directed, and before the week expired had my reward in a perceptible increase in strength and spirits.

"Seeing the good that my short experiment had accomplished, I resolved to continue the use of Postum, cutting out the coffee entirely. This I did for nine months, finding, daily, increased cause for gratification at my steadily improving health. My indigestion gradually left me, my sleep returned, I gained 26 pounds in weight, my color changed from sallow to a fresh, rosy hue and life became a blessing.

"Then I thought I would try coffee again, and did so for a few weeks. The punishment for deserting my good friend, Postum, was a return of my old troubles.

"That taught me wisdom, and I am now and shall be all my life hereafter using Postum exclusively and enjoying the benefits it brings me." Name given by Postum Co., Battle Creek, Mich.

"There's a reason," and it is explained in the little book, "The Road to Wellville," in pgs.

Ever read the above letter? A new one appears from time to time. They are genuine, true, and full of human interest.