

HISTORIC MANSION SAVED

Shrine of Revolutionary Memories Controlled by Patriotic Societies.

STORY OF THE JUMEL HOMESTEAD.

Warriors and Statesmen Conscious at the Nation's Birth Crossed its Threshold on Business and Pleasure Bent.

Great interest is manifested by all patriotic societies in the forthcoming surrender by New York City to the Daughters of the American Revolution of the Jumel mansion on Washington Heights.

Desultory attempts have been made for many years to preserve the post-war historic place, and at last the deed is done. The beautiful home of the late General Ferdinand Phinney Earle, which was recently purchased by the city, is soon to pass into the care of the general committee of the Daughters of the American Revolution, to whom belongs the credit of having brought about its acquisition. As soon as these ladies can become incorporated and thus be enabled to hold property the transfer will be made to them. First the mansion will be turned over to the park department of the city.

This house, historically known as the Morris house, was the military headquarters of Washington and his staff on the Heights. Here he first met General, then Captain, Alexander Hamilton, whom he loved as a son. Here Washington received the unannounced visits of Indian chiefs, not knowing whether their intent was friendly or warlike. From the opposite shore he wept like a child when he saw the Hessians slaughter his troops. From this house he was driven by Lord Howe, and he never returned to it until after he was president of the United States.

National Romance. There is much of historical national romance connected with the Morris house, later known as the Jumel mansion.

Colonel Roger Morris, the ancient military companion of Washington in that fatal and awful Braddock campaign, built this mansion, which he intended to be the home of his bride, Miss Mary Phillips, whom Washington had also loved and wished to wed, but was refused.

Colonel Morris remained true to the royalist cause, and after the breaking out of the war he took his family to England. His property was confiscated by the colonial government, but after peace was declared the crown made good all Colonel Morris' losses as a reward for his loyalty. By an anti-nuptial agreement this property had been settled upon Mrs. Morris. After her death the claim of her heirs was bought by John Jacob Astor. The profit of this transaction in real estate is said to have netted the old man the sum of \$500,000. Subsequently the mansion was bought by Stephen Jumel, a wealthy French wine merchant, whose widow, at the age of 90, married Aaron Burr, who was at that time a marked and ruined old man of 78. Ultimately the property reverted to a lineal descendant of Colonel Morris, the late General Ferdinand Phinney Earle, whose widow lived in the Jumel mansion until it was acquired by the city.

The ancients represented Time as a monster devouring his own children. The march of time and the wonderful increase of property values are devouring every landmark of the struggle that made us a nation. Parcel after parcel of this old property that once belonged to Colonel Morris has been sold, cut up into city lots and built upon. But the Jumel mansion, in the midst of nearly thirty lots, and the sycamore trees that M. Jumel brought from France and planted there—the only trees of the kind in the country—have not been disturbed.

Characteristics of Washington. If caution and modest deference to the opinions of others are faults in the character of a military man, Washington possessed these faults to a marked degree, and it is perhaps due to those same faults more than to any other cause that our struggle in the war for independence ended in giving us national birth. A bold dash for freedom would have ended in prison or worse for all the leaders, but the patient policy of worrying the enemy to death won.

There was little of the frivolous in Washington's nature. From his early boyhood he was orderly, methodical. He appreciated the praise of people perhaps as much as any man that ever lived, but the weakness that marks the "poor" was kept in careful rein by his scrupulous honesty and religious fervor. At no time in all the dark days of the struggle was his spirit more overcast than when the Morris house on Harlem Heights, was his military headquarters.

Every schoolboy knows that Washington served his country without compensation, that he kept an account of his actual expenses, which the government was to pay; but few know that the Father of his Country was one of the richest, if not the richest, president we have ever had. Washington was a millionaire in his own time, which is equivalent to being a multimillionaire at the present day.

It is only necessary to think of this and the comforts that would have been given him in England, or even in France, to realize the sacrifice he made. Add to this that all his tastes led him to the life of the aristocrat and you will get a still keener perception. If Washington made no comment upon the fact that one of the captains of his company, acting in the capacity of a barber, shaved the soldiers of the ranks on the lawn in front of the house in which he had his headquarters, it was because his mind was occupied by more weighty and important matters rather than that he approved of such a breach of military caste and discipline.

Attracted to Hamilton. When he walked on the lawn he had in his mind a picture of the half-starved, half-naked soldiers all over the country. For them he thought and worked and prayed—the democratic captain, strapping his razor, was a trifle. Washington rode about the place, giving directions that the approaches to his camp should be fortified by redoubts, abatis and deep intrenchments.

During these rides he saw some work that instantly attracted his attention. Upon inquiry he was told that they were constructed by Captain Alexander Hamilton. The young man's talents in the military line had been previously spoken of to Washington by General Greene. Hamilton was surely in his twenties at that time, but Washington made him a member of his military family, learned to love him as a son, and this love and confidence passed through life.

One of the rooms on the west side of the Jumel mansion is to this day covered with an antique wall paper, which, it is claimed, General Washington and his staff hung. Washington himself mixing the paste. On the wall of this same room, when General Earle's family had the place, hung thirteen large cars of ordinary field canvas, no doubt from some nearby farm. Tradition says that Washington hung up this canvas to typify the thirteen original states. Whether or not Washington placed them there, it is certain that they have been on that same wall for more than a hundred years.

years, and are to this day nearly perfect, only a few of the grains having fallen off. General Earle once gathered up those fallen grains of corn and planted them, but not one grain sprouted into life. The general said that he did not know whether this fact indicated that the life germs of the corn were dead or that his knowledge of farming was defective.

Scene of War Councils. Councils of war were held in this house by Washington and his staff. In his room he gave a welcome to General Lee—upon whom at the time the hopes of the nation were placed on account of his successes in the south.

Washington loved the place and he hoped that if the enemy attacked him there an American victory would result.

A surprise incident of the war was given to Washington one day when his orderly announced that some Indian chiefs waited without, having sent in a request for a talk with the Great Father. The experience of Washington's early life had taught him that the Indian is an exceedingly unreliable commodity. As these braves were self-invited guests there was a more than strong suspicion that they might mean treachery. However, the red men had their talk in peace, took their departure and no harm came of it.

The British soldiers were near them and an attack might be expected at almost any moment. On the morning of September 16, 1776, word was brought to Washington at headquarters that the enemy was advancing in three large columns. There had been so many false reports of an attack before that Adjutant General Reed gained permission from Washington to ride forth and ascertain for a certainty what the trouble was.

The firing continued brisk, and Washington mounted his horse and rode toward the outpost. He was met by Reed returning, who told Washington the advanced post, which had been situated on the hill skirted by the wood, had been attacked by a strong detachment of the enemy. Our own troops, a company of continental rangers—were commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Knowlton, who had distinguished himself at Bunker Hill. General Leslie, the British commander, had under him three companies of Hessian riflemen, one of Royal Highlanders, and two of the 60th.

Reed was earnest in his appeal to Washington that reinforcements be sent to the advanced post, and after the breaking out of the war he took his family to England. His property was confiscated by the colonial government, but after peace was declared the crown made good all Colonel Morris' losses as a reward for his loyalty.

While he was still speaking the British soldiers came in sight and sounded their bugles, after the manner of those calling in to witness the death at a fox chase. Both Washington and Reed were stung to the quick by this taunting, derisive bugle call, and three companies were ordered out from Colonel Weedon's Virginia regiment, commanded by Major Letich. A sharp contest took place, in which the Virginia boys vied with one another in bravery. Major Letich received three bullets in his side and was carried off the field. He died of these wounds about two weeks later, but not without the happiness of knowing that he had assisted at about the first victory of the Americans and with the praises of his beloved Washington to soothe his last moments.

This encounter, though unimportant in itself, was the means of cheering the disheartened troops. But Fort Washington was a veritable Naboth's vineyard to Lord Howe. He closed in on it as much as possible. Washington was of the opinion that the Americans could not hold the fort against such numbers of well fed, well clothed, disciplined soldiers; but as Greene differed from him in opinion, and Greene was in actual command—Washington having gone over to the Jersey shore—he deferred to Greene.

Lord Howe's forces were encamped on Fordham Heights, from which place he sent to General Greene a summons to surrender. The demand was accompanied with a threat of the extreme measures to which the British officer would resort if he were obliged to take the fort by assault.

An American is, and always was, the poorest man on earth to swallow a threat, and General Magaw, who had received the summons, returned the reply: "Assure his excellency that, actuated by the most glorious cause that mankind ever fought in, I am determined to defend this fort to the very last extremity."

Lord Howe had planned for simultaneous attacks. The fort fell into his hands, with a loss to our cause of upward of 2,500 men killed and wounded. From that time until evacuation day Fort Washington was held by the British.

It was fourteen years later that General Washington next passed the portals of the Morris house. He was then president of the United States and he made a note of this visit in his diary, under the date of July 28, 1790. In the party that accompanied Washington were the vice president, John Adams, and his wife; Miss Smith, the secretaries of state, treasury and war, and the wives of the two latter, also all the gentlemen of Washington's family, Mrs. Lee and the two children.

This party visited the places of the surrounding country where Washington had walked and hidden on his horse when he was so weighted down with the responsibilities of war. When they came back to the house Mr. Marryner, at that time his proprietor, had prepared an elaborate dinner for his distinguished guests. He wanted them to sit down in his dining room and eat it, but the party insisted upon turning the affair into a picnic, so the collation was spread upon the grass under the trees, and the whole party, in merry mood, sat around and ate it.

During the lifetime of Mrs. Jumel the Prince de Joinville slept in this house; his hostess not knowing him until the next morning as other than a night-overaken hunter. Then the maid, who had attended the prince with as much courtesy as she could have shown had she known his name, gave the prince's card to her mistress, Louis Napoleon and Jerome Bonaparte were also her guests.

When Mrs. Jumel returned from a visit to Europe she brought with her many of the costly furnishings, paintings and furniture that had been used by the Emperor Napoleon. M. Jumel, who was an ardent royalist, wished to give the fallen emperor a safe conduct to America and an asylum here. Napoleon thanked M. Jumel, but declined the offer.

From the high ground on which the Jumel mansion stands a view of three states presents itself. There is the old revolutionary cannon that was placed with its face toward the enemy when Washington lived among us, and for years afterward pointed toward New York city.—New York Herald.

GOSSIP OF STABLE AND TRACK Year Just Closing Has Been a Notable One in Many Respects.

The year which is just drawing to a close has been an eventful one in the history of the turf. Never in the history of the horse in this country have so many records been smashed, nor so many remarkable performances been noted. Nothing unusual, aside from the breaking of records, has occurred to mar the sport in this

country, although repeated scandals have arisen elsewhere. Of course there have been a few untimely affairs, but these have been settled. The few villains who would not play fair in any sport on earth, who have been able to do some dirty work on different race tracks, have been relegated to the rear. The governing body in the affairs of the turf is coming more and more to look to the purification of its affairs. The fact is recognized that square dealing should characterize all kinds of sports, for if it does not, there is bound to come a time when that particular sport will meet with a general rebuff. This hoodoo will consist of a lack of gate receipts, for as Lincoln said, "You can't fool all the people all the time."

As long as racing continues, just that long will betting continue. From a strictly ethical and moral standpoint, it may be presumed that this is wrong, but the fact is patent that there is something in human nature which demands something on the betting or uncertain order to keep it from dying of ennui when it is out taking an airing or a vacation.

A review of the year reveals one important thing that will never be forgotten—the advent of the two-minute trotter. In addition to the most noteworthy events of the past season are included the following:

World's Trotting Records.

One Mile—Lou Dillon, ch. m., by Sidney Dillon, 1:56 2/3. One Mile and One-half—Dr. Strong, gr. g., by Strong Boy, 3:17 1/2. Fastest Stallion—Crescens, ch., by Robert McGregor, 1:59 1/2. Fastest Mare—Lou Dillon, ch., by Sidney Dillon, 1:58 1/2. Fastest Gelding—Major Delmar, b. by Del Mar, 1:59 1/2. Fastest Two-Year-Old—Lou Dillon, ch., by Sidney Dillon, 1:59 1/2. Fastest New Performer (stallion)—Kinney Lou, br., by McKinney, 2:04 1/2. Fastest New Performer (mare)—Lou Dillon, ch., by Sidney Dillon, 1:58 1/2. Fastest Heat (mare)—Lou Dillon, ch., by Sidney Dillon, 2:04 1/2. Fastest Heat (stallion)—Lou Dillon, ch., by Sidney Dillon, 2:04 1/2. Fastest Second Heat—Lou Dillon, ch., by Sidney Dillon, 2:04 1/2. Fastest Three Heats (stallion)—Monte Carlo, b. g., by Mendocino, 2:07 1/2. Fastest Two-Heat Race (stallion)—Lou Dillon, ch., by Sidney Dillon, 2:04 1/2. Fastest Three Heats (gelding)—Monte Carlo, b. g., by Mendocino, 2:07 1/2. Fastest Four-Heat Race—Dan T. b. g., by Crawford, 2:07 1/2. Fastest Seven-Heat Race—Monte Carlo, b. g., by Mendocino, 2:07 1/2. Fastest Trotting in Races—Lou Dillon, ch., by Sidney Dillon, 2:04 1/2. Trotting to High Wheels—Lou Dillon, ch., by Sidney Dillon, 2:04 1/2. Trotting to Wagon—Lou Dillon, ch., by Sidney Dillon, 2:04 1/2. Trotting to High Wheels—Lou Dillon, ch., by Sidney Dillon, 2:04 1/2. Trotting to Wagon—Lou Dillon, ch., by Sidney Dillon, 2:04 1/2.

World's Pacing Records.

Half Mile—Dan Patch, b. h., by Joe Patchen, 0:56. One Mile—Dan Patch, b. h., by Joe Patchen, 1:50 1/2. One and One-Quarter Miles—Nervole, b. h., by Colbert, 2:38. One and One-Half Miles—Lecanda, by b., by Allerton, 3:25 1/2. Two Miles—Dan Patch, b. h., by Joe Patchen, 4:27. Fastest Stallion—Dan Patch, b. h., by Joe Patchen, 1:50 1/2. Fastest Mare—Dartel, b., by Alexander, 2:00 1/2. Fastest Gelding—Prince Albert, b., by Crown Prince, 1:57. Fastest New Performer (mare)—Foxye, b., by Gamba, 2:07. Fastest New Performer (stallion)—Tom Keene, ch., by West Egbert, 2:04 1/2. Half-Mile Dash (stallion)—Star Hal, b., by Brown Hal, 0:50 1/2. Half-Mile Dash (mare)—Mary Anna, b., by Jack Ducky, 1:03 1/2. Fastest Heat (mare)—Fanny Dillard, b., by Crown Prince, 2:00 1/2. Fastest First Heat—Dan R., ch. g., by Tasso, Jr., 2:03 1/2. Fastest Two Heats (mare)—Dartel, b., by Alexander, 2:04 1/2. Pacing to High Wheels—Lou Dillon, ch., by Sidney Dillon, 2:04 1/2. Pacing to Wagon—Lou Dillon, ch., by Sidney Dillon, 2:04 1/2. One Mile—Dan Patch, b. h., by Joe Patchen, 1:57 1/2. Fastest Heat (gelding)—Dan R., ch. g., by Tasso, Jr., 2:04 1/2. Pacing Second Heat—Dan R., ch. g., by Tasso, Jr., 2:04 1/2. Pacing to High Wheels—Lou Dillon, ch., by Sidney Dillon, 2:04 1/2. One Mile (mare)—Edith W. b., by Ben Lomond, Jr., 2:07. Champion Amateur Wagon Records.

Trotting in Races.

Fastest First Heat—Lou Dillon, Memphis (C. K. G. Billings), 2:04 1/2. Fastest Second Heat—Lou Dillon, Memphis (C. K. G. Billings), 2:04 1/2. Fastest Two-Heat Race—Lou Dillon, Memphis (C. K. G. Billings), 2:04 1/2. Trotting Against Time. Fastest Mile—Lou Dillon, Memphis (C. K. G. Billings), 2:00. Fastest Mile (gelding)—Major Delmar, Lexington (E. E. Smathers), 2:03 1/2. Fastest Team—The Monk and Equity, Memphis (C. K. G. Billings), 3:08. Pacing in Races. Fastest Second Heat—Dan R., Lexington, Ky. (H. H. Devereux), 2:04 1/2. Fastest Two-Heat Race (gelding)—Chippier, Memphis (H. H. Devereux), 2:04 1/2. Fastest Half-Mile Heats—Primrose, Memphis (J. Fred Roberts), 1:03 1/2.

Movements of Ocean Vessels Dec. 26.

At New York Arrived: Philadelphia, from Southampton; La Touraine, from Havre; Minutaba, from London; Prinz Oskar, from Genoa and Naples; Etruria, from Liverpool and Queenstown; Sailed: St. Paul, for Southampton; Minerva, for London; Lucania, for Liverpool; Belgica, for Havre; Zeland, for Liverpool; Westland, for Liverpool; Passat, Westland, from Liverpool, for Philadelphia.

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Year Just Closing Has Been a Notable One in Many Respects.

The year which is just drawing to a close has been an eventful one in the history of the turf. Never in the history of the horse in this country have so many records been smashed, nor so many remarkable performances been noted. Nothing unusual, aside from the breaking of records, has occurred to mar the sport in this

horse owner in a single season. The greater part of it was won by the 2-year-old Quo Vadis with \$60,000, and Calus and Vincicus with \$48,000 each. Blane was also well represented in the 2-year-old class. Government winning three races worth \$14,800 and French Fox worth \$12,000, Cascadeus II. won two races valued at \$4,000 and Ajax one worth \$1,500. Second on the list is Baron de Schickler, now associated with his son-in-law, Count Herbert de Pourtales, and their amount was \$10,000. The top notch horse belonging to this stable is the 2-year-old Ex-Voto, who captured the French Derby and three other races, amounting to \$6,000.

Have the days of extravagant salaries passed? W. C. Whitney has not signed Arthur Redfern again. Tommy Burns is also a free lance; Grover Cleveland Fuller has no regular contract for next year. There are few jockeys now riding who are able to command a special fee as large as was Tom Sloan's in his palmy days. Although Mr. Whitney, a multi-millionaire, led the list of winning owners he seems to have been one of the first to hit high fees a black eye, so to speak. Captain S. E. Brown has not retained Jockey George Odum. The boy was once guaranteed \$2,000 for each big race he won for Alex Shields, his employer. Mr. Whitney guaranteed Sloan \$5,000 if he won the Futurity with Ballyho besides paying Sloan's ocean trip expenses from England. Doubtless similar large gifts will be made to riders by wealthy owners, but the latter are awaiting the usual winter developments of capable riders by the California and New Orleans meetings. Unless some new Fuller or Redfern or Sloan appears to disturb combinations there will be no great salaries paid next year.

CONSCIENCE MAKES PAYMENT

Hundreds of Dollars Distributed by Mysterious Writer to Unconscious Creditors.

Ida M. Tarbell's Great Story of ROCKEFELLER

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 27.—The trouble in the conscience of some unidentified person, or persons, has resulted in \$400 being received by the city treasurer and \$200 by officials of different railroads during the week. During the fore part of the week Treasurer Francis received the following letter, ending five \$20 bills: Herein find \$100 currency on account of any old claim or evasion of taxes by us. There is \$200 more to come to you on this, in full to date. (Signed) SCRUPULOUS CONSCIENCE.

The next letter enclosed a similar amount and there was \$200 yet to come. The third said \$100 was yet to come, and the last letter, received today, said the full amount of \$400 due had been paid.

All four letters bore date of December 23, 1903, and apparently had been written by a woman. Treasurer Francis does not know who sent the money. It was placed in the municipal revenue fund. Apparently the same writer sent letters received by different railroad officials during the week, distributing \$200.

President Joseph Ramsey, Jr., of the Wabash, and several other officials of that road received letters, all of which read as follows: Herein find \$50 currency in full payment of any old debts of years ago. (Signed) SCRUPULOUS CONSCIENCE.

Eight of these letters, enclosing altogether \$400, were received by Wabash officials.

Vice President C. G. Warner of the Missouri Pacific received two letters, one coming today, each of which contained \$50. Officers of the Burlington road received six letters, enclosing altogether \$300.

Vice President C. H. Higgs and Treasurer Hamilton of the St. Louis & San Francisco road each received a \$50 letter today. All the recipients are at a loss to know why the money was sent or who sent it. It was at first thought that some practical joker had sent spurious bills, but the banks declared the money to be legal tender.

"Scrupulous Conscience" also sent a letter containing a \$10 bill to Dr. McCallife, a druggist, living at 303 O'Fallon street, "to pay any old debts" and quoting the golden rule.

Mrs. William Cullinan, wife of an undertaker, living at 170 North Grand avenue, received a letter containing a \$10 bill in settlement of any debts, and concluding, "Pray for your honest friend." It is believed that many other letters from "Scrupulous Conscience" have been received in the city during the week.

OHIO REPUBLICANS MEET LATE

Date of State Convention is Approximately Fixed for Middle of May.

SPRINGFIELD, O., Dec. 27.—John B. Chingman, chairman of the republican state central committee, tonight announced that at a conference with General Charles Dick and other party leaders it had been decided that the Ohio state convention would be held about the middle of May.

This will be about the latest time it will be possible to choose delegates to the national convention.

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Florida Excursion Via "Dixie Flyer" Route. PERSONALLY CONDUCTED. On Thursday, Jan. 14th, an excursion will be run from Nebraska to Florida, with through Standard and Tourist sleeping cars from Omaha and Lincoln via Burlington Route to St. Louis, and the "Dixie Flyer" from there to Jacksonville. This excursion will be a personally conducted one and will be in charge of our excursion manager, who is thoroughly familiar with the points of interest enroute and in the state of Florida. A day will be spent in St. Louis, visiting the World's Fair grounds and other points of interest. The daylight trip from Nashville to Atlanta will be an interesting and instructive one, as the line follows the route of Gen. Sherman's famous march to the sea. An early application for sleeping car space is suggested. Write for full information and copy of illustrated booklet, outlining the trip, to W. H. BRILL, Dist. Pass. Agent, 1402 Farnam St. Omaha, Neb.