Bite of Washington's Winter Camp Preserved.

Improvements Carried Out by a Pennsylvania Commission at a Cost of \$261,000-Landmarks Being Protected.

VALLEY FORGE, Pa., Jan. 4.-The old school-book pictures of George Washington praying in the snow at Valley Forge and wide dissemination of the stories of suffering endured by Washington's army during the winter of 1777-78 were no doubt responsible for the long prevailing belief that the site of that winter camp is remote, bleak and inaccessible. That attitude of mind was responsible, no doubt, for the word "there" instead of "here" in the tribute inscribed upon the Maine monument erected at Valley Porge this year Massachusetts which now forms the state storage of tools.

The great increase in the number of vis-Forge park by the Pennsylvania legisla-American history and the discovery that figures upon an upper stone. an hour's journey by rail or automobile

the position of its troops, in building ma-\$219,000, was appropriated during Governor Pennypacker's four-year term of office, only \$42,000 having been provided by the park commissioners. state in the ten years between 1893 and

Pennypacker Reviews Project.

During most of that decade the project was in a moribund state and the park commission without funds. The supporters of the movement were discouraged by the indifference of officials and public and many persons advocated an appeal to congress. Governor Pennypacker thought the nation should not be called upon to do what the state ought and was perfectly able to do and he took practical steps to advance the kins. The engineer is J. O. Clarke. undertaking to such a stage that the state might have no excuse for delaying the completion of the park and the public no warrant for turning its control over to the

During the last four years, therefore, with the large increase of means furnished by the legislatures of 1903 and 1905, the park has been greatly enlarged, from 250 to 500 acres, so as to include both the inner and outer line of entrenchments, the adjacent redoubts and the house, with its surrounding grounds, occupied by General Washington. The park commissioners have constructed about six miles of macadam road, making all the points of special interest easily accessible

have been enclosed for their protection, and platforms have been constructed of sufficient height togenable the visitor to see the interiors. On the top of Mount Joy an observatory seventy-five feet in height and 500 feet above sea level has been placed, and on it are fixed tablets shewing the directions and distances of all the battle fields, camps and military localities connected with the campaign of 1777-78. ,

The positions of the regiments of the Pennsylvania brigades under Wayne's command have been marked with simple stones bearing bronze tablets which give the organization of brigade and regiments, with the commanders' names. The positions of the cannon have been marked by guns which are an exact duplication of the cannon used in the revolutionary war.

Fee No Longer Charged. The state forester has had charge of the

reforestry of parts of the camp ground denuded by the farmer and wood chopper. A superintendent and guards have been provided. The unseemly fee formerly charged for entrance to the Washington headquarters house was abolished as soon as the state came into possession. An equestrian statue of Anthony Wayne,

for which the state appropriated \$30,000, has been modelled by H. K. Bush-Brown, whose statues of Meade and Reynolds at Gettysburg had proved satisfactory. The Wayne statue shows the able soldier of so many battlefields in a pose of extreme naturainess. The horse is standing.

One hand of the rider rests on the horse's rump and the rider's body is turned across the line of direction of the animal, a posttion which by its novelty in sculpture arouses interest and by its naturalness appeals to the horseman. Made within sight of Wayne's victory at Stony Point, it will be unveiled with due ceremony next June on the 130th anniversary of the evacuation of Valley Forge, and will stand within sight of the scene of Wayne's fight at Posli and of his home there, in which his room is still kept by his descendants just as he left it to fight, in 1794, his last battle, the most decisive and important victory won in all our Indian wars, the battle which opened the west to emigrants and gave birth to a new era in American civ-

A half century after the continental army had marched away from Valley Forge, when Jared Sparks was preparing his "Life of Washington," he was unable to find a map showing the location of the troops during the winter camp. With the assistance of an old resident of the vicinity, named Davis, he prepared a map which is now in the possession of Cornell university. In the same library is also a contemporary

French Ways of the Camp.

A few years ago Governor Pennypacker of Pennsylvania came into possession of another contemporary map, made by a French engineer, which gave the location of the treops and certain positions not indicated upon other maps. At the sale of this part of the Pennypacker library this map passed into the ownership of the Pennsylvania Historical society.

In the main tradition and contemporary evidence coincided, and thus it has been possible for the Valley Forge Park commission to move with certainty and exactness. Nature also did much to assist the work of the historian.

The winner line of earthworks, which are well preserved for a distance of about two miles were constructed about Mount Joy upon ground so high and rugged as to have little value for farming purposes, and these embankments and trenches, with the outlying redoubts, have long been covered with a thicketlike growth which has protected the works from the destructive

influences of rain and frost. These inner works, as well us the longer exterior line of entrenchments a mile to the eastward, faced to the south and east and commanded the roads leading to Phil-

half a mile in rear of the inner line. shaired man of 70 years as he was coming not care to be a lawmaker now.

THE PARK AT VALLEY FORGE slowly down the steps of the observatory. His eyes were filled with tears and as he passed he said: "Did God ever make a more beautiful

How to Prepare for Visit. The best preparation for a visit to Valley Forge is to read the oration delivered there MUCH WORK DONE ON ITS SITE in 1877 by Henry Armill Brown, which will probably furnish the most complete, informing and stirring treatment of the theme. Picturesque as are the views of bills, woods and valleys, the winding Schuylkill and deeply shaded Valley creek in the summer time, it is in the winter. when the trees are bare and the air is keen that the visitor may find himself most in harmony with the spirit of Valley Forge. The necessary opening of the dens thicket has brought to light a number of hitherto unknown evidences of the occu-

pation of the camp ground, including additional earthworks, several graves of soldiers, cellars of soldiers' huts and bake ovens. Not the least interesting of these discoveries illustrates the history not of war, but of peace. Within the limits of the camp stood a dilapidated school house, whose shingle

roof, rafters and floor were much rotted, but whose stone walls remained plumb and to commemorate the services and the suf- firm. It was supposed to have been built ferings of the troops from that part of about the year 1830 and was used for the

A casual examination by the governor of the state at once convinced him that the itors to Valley Forge of recent years- structure was of a much earlier date. He soon found the date 1783 cut by a school-1996-is due to the creation of the Valley boy, with his initials. Since then the outer coating of lime has been removed and the ture in 1893, to the increased interest in date 1714 was revealed cut in old-style

The school house is now believed to from Philadelphia will carry one to the have been erected by Letitia Aubrey, daughter of William Penn, to whom he In acquiring possession of the ground, in gave the manor of Mount Joy, said to be the protection of the extensive evidences the oldest school house now standing in of its occupation by the army, in marking Pennsylvania. As such it possesses a peculiar interest for Dr. Martin G. Brumcadam roads and other necessary work baugh, who as commissioner of education Pennsylvania had expended up to 1907 the for Porto Rico built up the public school sum of \$261,000. The bulk of this sum, or system of the bland. He is now superintendent of the public schools of Philadelphia, as well as one of the Valley Forge

The other commissioners are W. H. Sayen, president; A. H. Bowen of Philadelphia, secretary; Colonel John P. Nicholson, chairman of the national commission In charge of the Gettysburg battlefield, edltor of the American edition of the Comte de Paris' "History of the Civil War" and the mainstay in all executive work of the Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States; William A. Pation of the Pennsylvania rallroad, Richard L. Jones, Samuel S. Hartranft and J. P. Hale Jen

Chief Danger to Park.

The chief danger to Valley Forge in the future is likely to lie not in the indifference, but in the overzealousness of the American public. Henceforward the case of the park will call in an especial manner for self-restraint both in the public and the management.

As at present organized the commission is made up of men of unusual intelligence and experience, who were chosen not be cause of acquaintance or friendship with the appointing authority, but because of their fitness for the work in hand. It is to be hoped that that standard will be the measure of all future appointments to the body as vacancies occur. The great battle-The redoubts, which are well preserved, fields of the civil war have been marred by many pieces of crude sculpture whose presence make the judicious grieve.

That a similar danger may exist for Valley Forge is shown by the proposition of the authorities of Rhode Island to erect a \$10,000 boulder, not where the Rhode Island troops were located, but inside one of the existing redoubts. A simple, unobstrusive stone similar to the markers already erected by the states of Maine and Pennsylvania and conforming to the military plan would be most in keeping with Valley Forge.

As others of the states unite in the work of commemorating the patriotism of their revolutionary soldiers it is to be hoped that they will be guided by simplicity and sincerity. The John Waterman monument, erected before the park was created, stands some rods distant from the grave of the Rhode Island lieutenant. Unnecessary driveways and walks, "improvements," crude projects perpetuated in stone, marble or bronze, tasteless and uncalled for ornamentation, the uneasy doing of what had better be left undone, if permitted, would soon spoil another field of war beyonc all hope of restoration. The refusal of the commission to permit the erection of the \$10,000 boulder in one of the redoubts augurs well for the future of Valley Forge.

Philadelphia a Menace. Among other influences to be resisted in the democratic tendency of nearby Philadelphia toward the commonplace. Fairmount, a park of great national beauty, has been marred and sacrificed by the introduction of unsightly buildings for the usement of the public, and some of its best views have been utterly destroyed.

In independence square, with the consent of Mayor Weaver, has been lately erected close to the state house where the declaration of independence was signed, a statue which suggests a sleight-of-hand performer, clad in a bolster case, in the act of snatching invisible dollars from the air. Another Philadelphian left a sum of money to place a statue of Lafayette in front of Independence hall (the state house), but the present mayor, warned perhaps by the bronze figures that are springing up about the city hall, fortunately and with decision

There has been an agitation to turn the four open squares provided by William Penn over to the tender mercies of the youth who need a place to play hockey. In New York there was a similar pres-

sure from horsemen for a speedway in Central park, a movement resisted with success during his life by the late William A. Stiles, editor of that much regretted periodical, Garden and Forest. He had a clear conception of the uses and educational service of parks, and very sound and definite ideas as to their development and the legitimate uses of sculpture. The principles which he outlined through a number of years will always be useful in determining what to do and what not to do at a place like Valley Forge.

M'CLAY SUCCEEDS HARRISON

Former Member of Legislature Becomes Deputy Clerk of United States District Court.

Colonel John H. McClay of Lincoln Satarday morning was appointed deputy United States district clerk for the Lincoln division of the federal courts to succeed Frank A. Harrison, resigned. Colonel McClay arrived in Omaha Saturday and was formally sworn in to his new office and will take hold at once.

Colonel McClay is a former member of he Nebraska legislature and prominent n Nebraska Grand Army circles.

This appointment rather complicates the once filed as senator from Lancaster county to succeed Joe Burns, who was said to have transferred his residence to were often the headquarters of many of endorsed him and he was elected to the the higher officers, and beyond these the office after Burns had served the session. outposts. Washington's headquarters were McCiay and his friends thought his suc-

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MONTREAL ORATOR TO BAR

Robert C. Smith Will Address Nebraska Lawyers in Convention.

MODERN TENDENCIES

Nebraska State Association Will Meet Two Days This Week in the Edward Creighton Institute.

With Robert C. Smith of Montreal, a eader of the Canadian bar and declared to be one of the most brilliant banquet speak ers in America as guest of honor, local attorneys are planning to make the meeting of the Nebraska State Bar association to be held in Omaha Wednesday and Thursday one of the most notable sessions in the history of the association, Mr. Smith's presence will be a drawing card and a special effort is being made to interest the members of the bar in the smaller towns of the state. One of the subjects for spe cial consideration will be the proposed amendment to the state constitution increasing the number of judges of the supreme court.

Mr. Smith is on the program for two addresses. Thursday afternoon he will deliver the annual on the subject "Some Modern Tendencies," His remarks will be of a nature to appeal to the general public and the committee in charge is especially anxious that the business and professional men, the clergy and club women interested in social problems attend the session that afternoon and hear the address. Ralph W Breckenridge and John L. Webster have both heard Mr. Smith, who has been the guest of the American Bar association twice, and it was upon their recommenda tion that he was secured for the address Thursday. They declare he is one of the most interesting speakers in the Dominion and his reputation as a publicist extends to England and the continent. His second address will be at the banquet in the even

Mahoney on Popular Judiciary. The day session will be held in the Knights of Columbus hall in Creighton ploded it. institute on Eighteenth street between Farnam and Douglas and will begin Wednesday afternoon. T. J. Mahoney, president of the association, will deliver the president's address on the subject "A Popular Judiciary."

Thursday morning the speakers will be Charles G. Ryan of Grand Island, whose subject will be "The Ethical Side of the Case"; and Arthur C. Wakeley of Omaha will speak on "The Influence of Roman Law on the Common Law."

Mr. Smith will deliver his address or 'Some Modern Tendencies" in the afternoon, and in the evening at 7 o'clock the annual banquet will be held at the Rome hotel. The committee announces there will be some "surprises" in store for the banqueters. T. J. Mahoney will act as toast master, but the toast list has not been anunced yet. The committee requests that those expecting to attend send their accentance to Alfred G. Ellick, treasurer, as soon as possible in order that it may know now many to prepare for. One of the features of the banquet will be the address by Mr. Smith.

The discussion of the amendment to inrease the number of supreme judges will be along non-partisian lines. The association is already on record as favoring it and the discussion will be on the merits of the proposed change.

OMAHA GETS THE MILLSITE Bradford-Kennedy Lumber Company Succeeds in Litigation Out

in Washington. After some litigation the Bradford-Kennedy Lumber company of Omaha has secured title to a milisite north of Spokane Wash. Some time ago the Omaha firm bought a large tract of timber land on the Canadian side, but wished to secure a milisite in the United States which would be near the Canadian land. It bought from a Spokane firm 150 acres of land for the site, agreeing to pay therefor \$1,500. Hefore getting the deed to the land the Bradford-Kennedy company took possession and spent a large sum of money in imofficial status of Colonel McClay. He has proving the millsite and then wanted the Spokane firm to give deed to the property, but the real estate firm had deeded the tend to William F. Rippen of the firm of adelphia, twenty miles away, where the Colorado. He never served in that capac- Ely-Blume-Kippen and refused to make a British army lay. Beyond the outer line ity, however, as the Lancaster committee deed unless the Bradford-Kennedy comwould take considerable adjacent pany land, which the Omaha firm says it did not want and did not contract for. The cession to the place might give him a Omaha firm brought suit in the Spokune Not long ago the writer met a white- boost "next" time. But he probably will county superior court and secured deed to



JANUARY ISSUE ON SALE - 25 CENTS All Newsdealers or Travelers Guide Co. 208 Bee Bldg., Omaha.

QUEER ACCIDENTS OF THE YEAR ome of the Strange Mishaps that Occurred in a Few Sections of

the World. The hackneyed expression about truth being stranger than fiction is constantly brought to mind by incidents of everyday nings happen would dare invent, and lives are lost in the most wildly improbable fashion.

Take the following as an example: A Great Western train was running be tween Bristol and London when an extraordinary tragedy took place in a thir class carriage. A woman trying to open a bottle of whisky broke the cork. Having no corkscrew she tried to force the cork into the bottle with her thumb. The bottle exploded and a jagged splinter of gashed her thigh, cuttting an artery. She bled to death in a few minutes.

Another woman, wife of a miner at a place called Cheboygan, Mich., lost her life in even stranger fashion. Her 7-yearold boy had played truent from school, and when he came home, she remembering the old proverb about sparing the rod chastized him with a strap. At the very first blow there was a fearful explosion. The boy was killed instantly and his mother received injuries from which she did not recover. Investigation proved that the little fellow had stolen a dynamite cap and stowed it in one of his trousers' pockets. The blow from the strap had ex-

One does not expect to lose one's life through a visit to the dentist. Yet such a case happened in August last. A working man went to the dentist to have an aching grinder extracted. The tooth was an obstinate one, and in trying to get a good grip of it with his forceps the dentist forced his patient's head back farther than usual. There was a sudden crack and the man collapsed. Horror-stricken, the dentist realized that in forcing the head he had broken his patient's neck.

Strange things happen in the streets. One day in September last a horse harnessed to a van, pulled up suddenly in the main thoroughfare on the south side of Trafalgar square and stood there as if rooted to the spot. Everything possible was done to induce the animal to proceed, but it flatly refused to budge. A huge crowd collected and traffic became absolutely blocked. For two hours and a half by the clock that horse remained where he stood. Even when the harness was taken off and a dozen men tried to lift him away he refused to surrender. At last the verdict went forth that he must die, and a gun being brought he was shot. The po-Hee say that the incident is unique in the history of London streets. A much more terrible accident was wit-

nessed in Sloane square one Saturday night in the same month. The cock of the petrol tank of a London motor omnibus broke off. The bus was stopped and the driver got down and plugged the hole with his thumb, while the conductor went back with a lamp to look for the plug. When he got back the driver was still holding on to the leak, but by this time was soaked with petrol. The conductor paused to ask a lady passenger to get off. Suddenly there was flash and a report, and the omnibus burst into flames. Next instant the horrible sight was seen of the driver all ablaze running up the street, a living torch. Men ran to the rescue and threw coats over him. But it was too late. He died of his injuries. The escaping petrol had run away in a stream down the gutter. A passer-by had dropped a match cigareite end, and the inflammable liquid had burst into flame, and the fire had run back up the gutter to the bus, and thus set fire to the unfortunate driver.

And it will suffice if we barely mention the terrible calsson accident at Biackfriars. London, the details of which will be fresh in the minds of most, as one of the mos odd, as well as terrible, which have oc cured in 1907.-London Answers.

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Mary Mary State of the State of **Important** Change in **Schedules**

Effective Sunday, January 5th, 1908, the following changes will be made: Iowa Local departs 7 A. M. instead of 6:30 A. M. Chicago Express departs 4:40 P. M. instead of 4:50 P. M. Chicago Flyer departs 6:10 P. M. instead of 6 P. M. Colorado Express departs 1:20 P. M. instead of 1:35 Oklahoma Express arrives

1:15 P. M. instead of 2:45

Fairbury Locate leaving 8:45 A. M. and arriving 10:25 A. M. will be discontinued. For further particulars in-

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