

MARTHA WASHINGTON WAFFLES

A corner cupboard quaint and old, and on each dusty shelf, Queer relics of the olden times, frail glass and bits of delf.

A baby's toys, a silken purse, a fan all lace and pearls, And shut within a dainty box, two faded yellow curls.

A girl's, dimpled, laughing face, ah! me, this faded hair And pictured semblance, now, are all that's left of one so fair.

Great grandmamma, for fifty years, above her quiet grave, Have blown the drifting winter snows, while summer grasses wave.

Here is the sampler where she learned to make the alphabet, And here the satin shoes, in which she danced the minuet.

Right well, I ween, she liked to go to party and to rout, And yet she was a famous cook, 'tis said—beyond a doubt.

Here is her olden cook'ry book, I look, and still can see All faintly traced in faded inks, each old-time recipe.

They're signed by many stately dames that history knows full well; O, could they speak, what wondrous tales these recipes might tell!

"Write by our hand," the legend saith; let's see, now here is one, Why, bless me, do I read aright? 'Tis Martha Washington!

And did she write it? Ah, who knows? These are the words I see: "Ye Lady Martha Washington, her Waffle Recipe."

"Beat now," is written upon this page, "six eggs till they are light, Then, into these you lightly sift one pound of flour, white.

"Next, milk your cow; just three half pints take from the gentle beast, Put in a teaspoonful of salt, three table-spoons of yeast.

"Now call the maids, and bid them beat the whole with all their might, Then put it by the kitchen fire and let it rise o'er night.

"When morning comes, this mixture stir," says Lady Washington, "And then in well-greased irons, bake until the whole is done."

A simple recipe, you see, 'tis made without much fuss, But what the country's "Father" ate will surely do for us. —Lizzie M. Hadley, in Good Housekeeping.

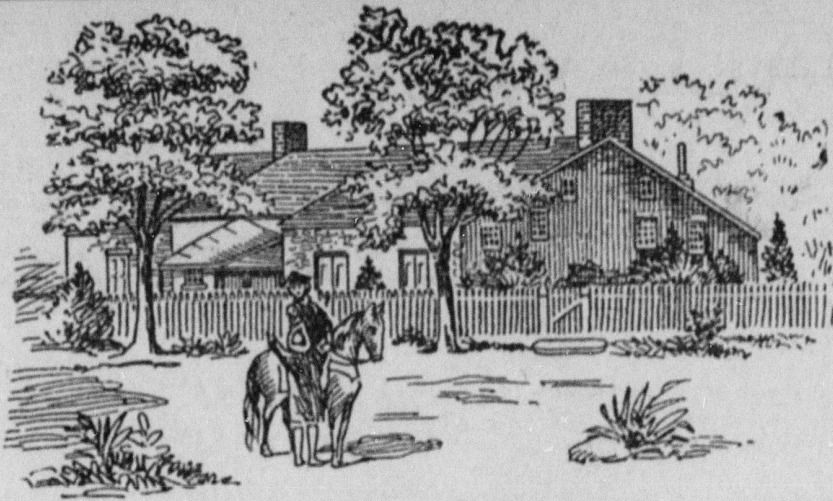
PIOUS WASHINGTON.

His impressive Prayer on the Eve of a Battle.

An interesting episode occurred during the stay of General Washington at the old Valentine homestead shortly before the battle of Chatterton Hill, in White Plains, N. Y.

Elizabeth Valentine, aunt of Nathaniel B. Valentine, who still resides on the famous Valentine's Hill, was living, with her parents, in the old house at the time. Although but a child, she was profoundly impressed by the visit to her home of such a notable personage, and retained a vivid recollection of the incidents of the occasion to the end of her long life.

She was always glad to tell of them, recalling nothing more clearly than the fact that the General made a prayer in the presence of herself and others



OLD VALENTINE HOMESTEAD. (Where General Washington prayed.)

The Valentine family were tenants of Frederick Phillips. They purchased, in 1785, their farm of 238 acres from the Commissioners of Forfeiture under the act of confiscation. The farm commands an extensive view in every direction. During the Revolution the British built Prince Charles Redoubt and Negro Fort on the east side of Valentine's Hill.

Lossing, in his history, says that "on the 10th of September, 1782, British foragers with a covering party 5000 or 6000 strong, accompanied by Sir Guy Carleton and the Young Prince William Henry, made an incursion as far as Valentine's Hill.

First Celebration of Washington's Day.

Probably few people of the millions who celebrate Washington's Day are aware that the first public observances of it used to be on the 11th of February. The Gregorian calendar took effect in Great Britain and her colonies in 1752, but it was customary for a generation and more after that date to continue without change the celebration of birthdays occurring previous to it. Indeed, the stone placed at Washington's birthplace, as late as 1815, contained the words: "Here the 11th of February, 1732, George Washington was born;" nor was there any reference to the difference between old style and new style.

The first recorded celebration of Washington's Birthday, we believe, was the one at Richmond, February 11, 1782, a few months after the great and decisive victory at Yorktown. The next year the day was commemorated in Maryland, and the year after in New York. All these celebrations occurred as a matter of course and without question on the 11th of February. The change to the 22d was made for the first time, it is said, in 1793, in this city. Thereafter the 22d regularly took the place of the former date. Of course the first celebrations were in a measure informal, somewhat resembling, perhaps, those of Lincoln's Birthday now, and largely conducted, indeed, by Washington's military and other associates, or by the communities in which he happened to be. When he became President, the celebrations were rather more marked, and were looked upon unfavorably by some of his opponents as being a relic of monarchical observances. But after his death the custom of honoring the day grew until at length statutes widened the observance, and now we see it the public holiday which attracts the attention of the world.—New York Sun.

Early Christening of Washington.

Has the following entry in the parish register of Chislehurst ever been published, and how does it fit in with the ascertained facts of the Washington pedigree?

"1614. Laurence, sonne of Laurence Washington & Anneh is wife was christened on ye 24th daie of July in the place at Modingham, generos."

Modingham, now Mottingham is a hamlet between Chislehurst and Eit ham, and according to Hasted's "History of Kent," 8vo edition, Vol. I, (1797,) page 480, Mottingham Place belonged to the Stoddard family through the whole of the seventeenth century.—Notes and Queries.

The 22d of February.

The 22d of February has rightfully become immortalized in our calendar of time. The birth of the illustrious Washington is the focal point from which we date our American history. His coming was the auspicious beginning of that grand National life, which is now recognized the world over, as the pride and glory of all intelligent manhood. We do well in honoring the name and memory of the "Father of His Country."

An Old Title.

The sobriquet, "Father of His Country," was first applied to Marius, the Roman officer who, B. C. 102 and 101, won signal victories over the northern barbarians. Marius declined the honor, but the name was afterward given to Cicero, then to several more or less worthy Roman emperors, and finally to Washington.

Washington's Face in a Living Rock.

Carved by nature in the rough stone of Marblehead Neck the calm face of George Washington gazes out over the waste of waters. In that quiet, secluded corner of Massachusetts, says the New York Press, this remarkable monument remained for ages undiscovered until Albert Chapman, of Marblehead, cropped the bushes and weeds which grew about its base in rank luxuriance, disclosing the stone features which bear a most striking resemblance to the Father of His Country.

Some call it the "Old Man of the Sea," but the majority of Marblehead citizens trace in its lines and curves a counterfeit of the loved face of the first President. Mr. Chapman is undoubtedly the discoverer of this strange sculpture of nature, as "the oldest inhabitant" fails to recall ever having heard of it.



THE GEORGE WASHINGTON ROCK.

The face is formed by three rocks, one forming the forehead, one the chin and the other the nose. The face rests upon a slightly elevated knoll, at an angle, as if the great General in effigy were taking his repose and languidly gazing out to sea.

The George Washington stone will henceforth be one of the many objects of patriotic pilgrimage on the coast of the Bay State.

The Man Who "Never Slopped Over."

Not a political seer like Jefferson, nor a great philosopher like Franklin, Washington was pre-eminently the good citizen, always equal to the demands of his duty and always ready to make the sacrifices it required of him.

He represented the highest type of the character resulting from careful home-breeding as distinct from that produced by education in letters or by travel. The education of the home made him the most thoroughly self-mastered man among his contemporaries and a patriot of patriots. It is a well authenticated fact that he was of a sensitive, nervous organization—what was called in an old-fashioned way "high strung"—but he had his naturally hot temper under such thorough control that the impression he produced was one of extreme mildness.

The American humorist who said of him that he "never slopped over" condensed his character in a phrase not the less strikingly true because of the element of the ludicrous in it.—New York World.

A Defect in His Make-Up.

On the 22d of last February little Ike and his brother Morton were taken to a celebration of Washington's Birthday, and were so interested in the event and its cause that their father gave them quite a history of the man and hero, especially emphasizing that portion relating to the perfect veracity of the Father of His Country for the benefit of Ike, who was somewhat given to undue stretches of the imagination, and would probably have laid the entire blame of the destruction of the famous cherry-tree on his brother Morton, had the incident occurred in his own experience.

"Remember, boys, that one of the noblest traits in the character of this great and good man was his perfect truthfulness," said the father, in an impressive conclusion. "He could not tell a lie!"

Ike looked soberly at his father for a few seconds, and then wonderingly asked, "Pa, what was the matter with him?"—Harper's Bazar.

A Nation His Memorial.

By broad Potomac's silent shore Better than Trajan lowly lie, Gilding her green declivities With glory now and evermore; Art to his fame no aid hath lent— His country is his monument.

Artificial Eyes.

The manufacture of glass eyes has begun in this country in 1853, the founder of the first establishment coming from France, where he had learned the art. Since then wonderful advances have characterized the trade, until it has reached its present state of perfection, and New York has become the center to which patients from all quarters come to be fitted with eyes.

The eyes are made from enameled glass by so skillful a process that they are with difficulty distinguished from the real organ. Thousands of eyes are made in New York yearly, and are sent all over the country, three-quarters of the business being in trade outside of New York.

The best artificial eyes made will wear out in a year's time, so that a constant demand is made upon the manufacturers. The measurements of persons using artificial eyes in Chicago, San Francisco and all large cities and towns are kept in New York. All that the wearer of a glass eye needs to do is to send on his or her name, and be supplied at once with the correct size and color.

It is necessary that the utmost care be taken in the manufacture of the color of the iris, and its size; the veins in the white and the size of the pupil. In the case of poor patients the manufacturers do not hesitate to supply the first eyes gratis.—New York Mail and Express.

Dust.

Of all other factors, perhaps dust has its considerable part in the processes of nature; for microscopic dust in the atmosphere does not always consist of the coarse motes which may sometimes be seen in the path of a sunbeam. There is much that is wonderful and mysterious concealed in the existence of dust, for even in the pure air, at an elevation of 4,900 feet, it has been ascertained that there are about 34,000 dust particles per cubic inch, but in a room in a crowded city they would amount to no less than 20,000,000 particles per cubic inch. It will be, therefore, easy to understand how important an influence this invisible dust must exercise over the health conditions of a highly sensitive organism; although their chemical analysis is difficult, the more exact elements of these dust particles can be scientifically determined. These minute atoms are at first microscopic but become visible and are ever increased by contact with the surrounding land and water. Perhaps, however, that which concerns atmospheric hygiene most are the living organisms contained among the dust particles or bacteria as we shall call them.—National Board of Health Magazine.

One of the World's Marvels.

Among the collection of the microscopic objects in the United States Army Medical Museum at Washington is a specimen of microscopic writing on glass which contains the Lord's Prayer, written in characters so small that the entire 227 letters of that petition are engraved within an area measuring 1.204 by 1.441 of an inch.

An inch square, covered with writing of the same size, or counting 227 letters to each of such fractions would contain 29,431,458 letters.

The Bible is a book of which we may safely assume that everyone has an approximate idea as regards its general size or extent. Someone has actually determined the number of letters contained in the entire Old and New Testaments, and finds this to be 3,596,480. Hence the number of letters which a square inch of glass would accommodate, written out like the text of the Lord's Prayer on this strip of glass, is more than eight times this last number, or, in other words, a square inch of glass would accommodate the entire text of the Bible eight times over, written out as is the Lord's Prayer on this strip of glass.—Detroit Free Press.

An Indian Schlatter.

The Puyallup Indians think that they have a second Schlatter among them in the person of Bill James, a tall Puyallup. They tell of the wonderful cures he effected a few weeks ago in bringing Dave Squally, another Puyallup, back to life when he was nearly dead from the effects of pneumonia. Still another cure, and one fully as remarkable has been effected by James and the sect of Shakers, of which he is a priest. Friday night, at Mud Bay, Washington, a hundred Indians, representing half a dozen tribes, gathered around Joseph Chenis, a young Quinalt Indian who was afflicted with fits of a violent type. Their prayers and ceremonies lasted until Sunday night, when Chenis declared himself cured. He was baptized by James, and yesterday started home apparently in perfect health. James is in a fair way to be considered the Messiah by his followers, who almost worship him now.—Deseret Evening News.

A New Test of Sobriety.

Shibboleths to test sobriety, or comparative sobriety, in the case of supposed drunkards have often been heard of, and have generally been looked upon as jokes for the dinner table or the smoking room. From a case reported at the Westminster Police Court it appears that a doctor, examined as a witness, has invented a test phrase which he regards as infallible. This is: "The artillery extinguished the conflagration early." This may be very effective, and it was tried successfully on a cabman, the defendant, but the doctor need not have taxed his inventive powers. There is the "Peter Piper picked a peck of peppercorns," etc, test and one or two more not quite so elaborate, "Biblical criticism" and "British Constitution" have long been favorite tests, but the best is probably "Mrs. Smith's fish sauce shop."—London News.

A Race of Hunters.

The Boers are a race of hunters as well as pastoralists, and the Transvaal Boers especially have been engaged in a war of extermination (lamentable to the lover of animal life) against every species of wild beast. Numbers of them have been occupied ever since boyhood in the hunting of elephants, buffaloes, lions, rhinoceroses, and other heavy game. They have practically exterminated the elephant south of the Zambesi, and the buffalo is becoming very scarce. No man who understands South African hunting can pretend to say that the chase of these animals is not a dangerous one, requiring the highest qualities of nerve and courage. I will not say that the average Boer hunter will, by way of recreation, face the lion single handed in the way that the great English hunters—Selous, Os- well, Vardon, Gordon-Cumming, Baldwin, and others—have accustomed us to. Few hunters, indeed, are so Quixotic. The Boer treats the lion as dangerous vermin, if possible obtains help from his fellows, and as a matter of business slays him by a volley. But hundreds of Boers have slain lions single handed, and hundreds have been maimed and even killed by lions.—New York Press.

Artificial Limbs.

Painstaking skill and constant improvement are necessary factors in the perfection or success of almost any industry, but nowhere are they more fully attended than in the making of artificial limbs. There was a time when the lame and the cripple had to show their defects and misfortunes to the world. Now it is just the other way. People with artificial legs can now walk so perfectly as to avoid detection, and a person with a single amputation can almost defy detection. Improvements make it possible to move the knee and ankle joints, and this innovation also strengthens the whole limb and makes it more durable.

One of the latest improvements is in the knee joint of the leg for thigh amputation, which is so arranged that when in a sitting position the cord and spring are entirely relaxed, thus relieving all strain and pressure. There are in the United States 100,000 persons who have to be supplied with new limbs on an average of once in every five to eight years. The manufacturing of these articles in New York has become quite an enterprise.—New York Mail and Express.

Embarrassing to the Preacher.

It has long been suspected that when a clergyman, in the course of his sermon, asks any one in the congregation who chooses to answer some questions he has propounded, he doesn't really expect anyone to do so. This was proved at a watch-night service at St. Paul's church, Brixton, England. The vicar, the Rev. Carnegie Brown, was preaching a sermon on the Prodigal Son, in the course of which he said: "Last year some people came to watch-night service from a neighboring public-house, and some of them were drunk. Is there any one here like that tonight?" "Yes," said a respectable-looking man seated in the aisle, "I'm here, and I'm drunk." The effect on the congregation was electrical. The preacher was startled for a moment, but, after saying, "Poor fellow, poor fellow," proceeded with his discourse. "I tell you I'm drunk," said the intruder. "Hold your tongue," said the vicar. "I am speaking now, and must not be interrupted."—New York Tribune.

Shunned by Snakes and Rats.

It is a singular fact that no one has ever seen either a rat or a snake on the Gogebic Range, Michigan. It is contended by some that Father Marquette, when he first visited the region, emulated the example of Ireland's patron saint and banished all snakes therefrom. Be this as it may, the peculiar fact remains that the reptiles are never seen there, while one has but to cross to the Wisconsin side of the Montreal river to find them quite plentiful. As to rats, they are generally as numerous in a mining region as they are about wharves, and may be found in great numbers in the mines of the copper country and in the Marquette and Menominee ranges. It is even said that old miners regard with distrust a shaft in which there are no rats much as a sailor does a ship under like conditions. But the miner of the Gogebic gets along without his rodent friends.

A Large Birthday Present.

Mrs. Elizabeth Duane Gillespie was seventy-five years of age Wednesday, and the occasion was recognized by a number of her friends who showed their grateful appreciation of the public-spirited work in which she is still engaged by the presentation to her of a purse of \$18,000. The sum is judiciously invested, and the interest on it is to be paid to her. At her death the whole amount will go to provide "Elizabeth Duane Gillespie" scholarships in the School of Industrial Art, the institution whose welfare has always been near to her heart. Mrs. Gillespie celebrated her birthday anniversary quietly at home and received many callers. She is prominent in social circles, and is a lineal descendant of Benjamin Franklin.—Philadelphia Ledger.

The Horrors of War.

General Mahlen, Governor of Besancon, has received a postal order he had sent to his son, who was serving in Madagascar, indorsed, "Died two months ago." This was the first intimation he had that anything was wrong with his son. There have been many cases of the kind throughout France, and there is a deep feeling of indignation against the criminal carelessness of the War Department.

THE NATION'S LIVESTOCK.

Returns for January Show Horses to be Worth More Than Horses.

The Agricultural Department returns for January, 1896, just issued, show the total number of horses to be 15,124,057; mules, 2,278,946; milch cows, 16,137,886; oxen and other cattle, 32,085,409; sheep, 33,298,783; and swine, 42,842,750.

The average farm prices per head are estimated, for horses, \$33.07; mules, \$45.29; milch cows, \$22.55; oxen and other cattle, \$15.86; sheep, \$1.70; swine, \$4.35. The aggregate values are, for horses, \$500,140,186; mules, \$103,204,467; milch cows, \$363,955,545; oxen and other cattle, \$508,928,416; sheep, \$56,167,735; swine, \$186,522,754; grand total, \$1,727,926,084.

In number, horses have decreased 4.8 per cent.; oxen, 2.3 per cent.; milch cows, 2.2 per cent.; mules and other cattle, 6.6 per cent.; sheep, 3.4 per cent., and swine, 5 per cent., since January, 1895. The Cotton States and a few of the Rocky Mountain States show an increase in horses and mules; otherwise the decrease is general. Milch cows are more numerous in the Northeastern, or city supply States, also in Minnesota, the Dakotas and Westward, but fewer elsewhere. Decrease in other cattle and sheep is generally distributed, except in the mountain region. Swine have increased generally throughout the East, South and West, with a falling off in the Great Central States.

In reported price per head, horses, mules and swine are lower than in January, 1895, while milch cows, other cattle and sheep are higher. In aggregate value, horses have decreased 13.3 per cent.; mules, 7 per cent.; sheep, 2.3 per cent., and swine 15 per cent., during 1895. Milch cows have increased 0.4 per cent., and other cattle, 5.4 per cent. The grand total of all live stock has fallen off \$91,520,222 or 5 per cent. from January, 1895. Percentage of decline since January, 1894, 20.4 per cent.; since January 1893, 30.4 per cent.

The estimated wool product of 1895, sheared, butchered and pulled, is 309,748,000 pounds.

GUAYAQUIL SWEEP BY FIRE.

Property Valued at \$4,000,000 Destroyed.—Cabinet Situation Acute.

The city of Guayaquil, in Ecuador, was visited by a terrible fire. The Peruvian Consulate, the St. Augustin Church and several blocks of buildings were destroyed. The losses will aggregate over \$4,000,000.

A large portion of the houses in Guayaquil are built of wood or bamboo and mud, so that the conflagration made speedy and irresistible headway, in spite of strong efforts of the fire brigade, which is unusually large and efficient, on account of the character of the buildings in the town.

The Cabinet situation remains acute. Lima was excited by a rumor of a wide-spread conspiracy against the Government. In consequence four deputies have been arrested.

MARKETS.

Table with multiple columns listing market prices for various goods like flour, wheat, corn, etc. in Baltimore and Philadelphia.