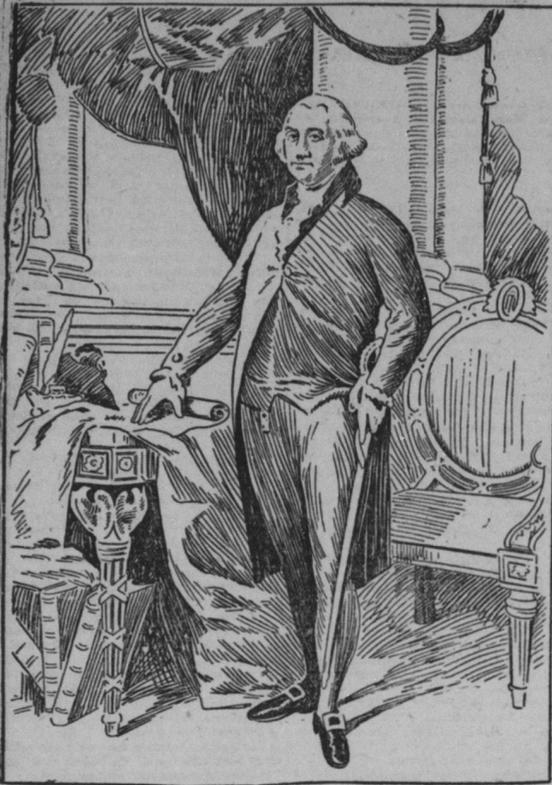


THE BEST PORTRAIT OF GEORGE WASHINGTON.



Wright's Undealized "Last Picture."

THE REAL GEORGE WASHINGTON

Hitherto Unpublished Traditions Gathered by Frank G. Carpenter.



ALEXANDRIA, Va., is full of unpublished traditions of George Washington. Mount Vernon is only nine miles from Alexandria, and Washington got the most of his supplies at the latter town. He came there to vote, and until a few years ago the little office in which he did business there still stood. It was at Alexandria that Washington met General Braddock, and with him started out on that disastrous campaign. His last review of troops were made from the steps of an Alexandria hotel about a year before his death.

From the traditions of Alexandria, and from many other sources, Frank G. Carpenter has tried to make up in his mind's eye a picture of George Washington as he really was. He was exceedingly tall, and when young quite slender. He had enormous hands and feet. His boots were No. 13, and his ordinary walking shoes No. 12. No one can look at the silk stockings which hang up in Mount Vernon and not realize that it took a big leg to fill them. He was a man of muscle.

During his service in the army he weighed 200 pounds, and was so strong that he could lift his tent with one hand, although it usually required the strength of two men to place it on the camp wagon, writes Mr. Carpenter. I mean, of course, when it was folded up and wrapped around the poles. Washington could hold a musket with one hand and fire it. He was a good shot and a good swordsman. The pictures of the father of our country

as to his appearance and fastidious in dress. He wore plain clothes and always kept himself well shaven, acting as his own barber.

During the latter part of his life he wore false teeth. His teeth did not fit well and pushed out his lower lip. Washington was an eminently fair man. He had a quick temper, but as a rule he kept it under control. Sometimes, however, it got the best of him. This was the case once in Alexandria. One of the county officers told Mr. Carpenter the story as they stood on the second floor of the market-house in Alexandria and looked down at the open court within it, which is now filled with hundreds of booths where the farmers bring their products for sale on market days.

"It was on that spot," said the officer, "Washington was knocked down by Lieutenant Payne. Payne was a candidate for the Legislature against Fairfax of Alexandria. Washington supported Fairfax, and when he met Payne here he made a remark that Payne considered an insult, and Payne knocked him down. The story went like lightning through the town that Colonel Washington was killed, and some of the troops who were stationed at Alexandria rushed in and would have made short work of Payne had Washington not prevented them. He pointed to his black eye and told them that this was a personal matter, and that he knew how to handle it. Everyone thought that this meant a duel.

"The next day Payne got a note from Washington asking him to come to the hotel. He expected a duel, but went. Washington, however, was in an amicable mood. He felt that he had been in the wrong, and said: 'Mr. Payne, I was wrong yesterday, but if you have had sufficient satisfaction, let us be friends.' There was a decanter of wine and two glasses on the table, which Washington had ordered to smooth over the quarrel. The two drank together and became such strong friends after that that Payne was one of the pallbearers at Washington's funeral."

Everyone drank in the days of Washington, and the father of his country always had wines upon his table. I have nowhere seen it stated that he ever drank to excess.

George Washington was simple in his tastes, and during his youth he was an enormous eater, but was not particular as to what he had. He wanted plain food and plenty of it. During his later years he ate very little. His breakfast at Mount Vernon was of corn cakes, honey and tea, with possibly an egg, and after that he ate no more until dinner. He kept, however, a good table, and usually had friends with him.

As the years went on Washington's lands increased in value, and when he died he was one of the richest men of his time. He owned lands and stock and slaves, and his estates amounted to thousands of acres. He had houses in Alexandria and property in Washington. He had valuable lands near the present site of Pittsburgh. He was throughout his life a money-maker, and I was told at Alexandria that when he was a boy he got \$5 a day and upward for his surveying. He put his surplus money into lands, and an advertisement in a Baltimore paper of 1773 states that he had 20,000 acres of land for sale on the Ohio River. His will, which is now kept about twenty miles from Washington,



MARY WASHINGTON. (A rare picture of the mother of Washington as a young girl.)

make you think that Washington was a brunette. His face is dark and sombre. The truth is, he had a skin like an Irish baby, and his hair was almost red. He had a broad chest, but not a full one.

His voice was not strong, and during his last days he had a hacking cough. His eyes were cold gray, and it is said that he seldom smiled, although there is reason to believe that he had considerable humor about him. His nose was prominent. He was par-

in the safe of the old courthouse at Fairfax, Va., gives a detailed statement of every article he possessed down to the calves and sheep. His personal estate was then put down at \$532,000, and this included a vast amount of tobacco, large numbers of cattle, sheep and horses, nearly all of which he willed to his wife.

The account books which are kept at Washington in the State Department show that Washington was very careful about keeping a record of his expenditures. He put down everything, and among other items you see his losses at cards and at the horse races are frequent. The curious thing about his accounts is that there was almost always a deficiency at the end of the year which he could not account for. This made no difference, however, with his starting the new year with a fresh account, for one item at this time is as follows: "By cash, either lost, stolen or neglected to charge, 144 pounds, 8 shillings and 11 pence." In other words, he was short that year over \$700.

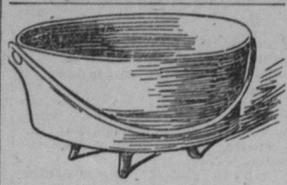
Through his letters now owned by the Government you see here and there correspondence which shows that he was very hard up at times. In 1785 he wrote that he could get no wheat on credit, and that he had no cash to pay for it. Three years later he urges a man to pay the \$1000 which he owes him, and says he has put off the sheriff three times already, and that he needs this money to pay his taxes. He was not afraid to dun his debtors, and he is said to have been one of the shrewdest dealers among the planters of his time.

From the above it will be seen that Washington had by no means an easy life. He had many troubles outside of those connected with his estate. He had as many enemies as our leading politicians have to-day and he was accused of all kinds of crimes and misdemeanors. The Philadelphia Aurora charged him with having committed murder during his campaign with Braddock. Griswold, in his Republican court, states that an attempt was made to poison Washington when he was President.

When his birthday was first cele-

MARTHA WASHINGTON'S OVEN. It Probably Has Baked Many a Biscuit For G. W.

C. L. Brainard, an Oak Park druggist, says the Chicago Inter-Ocean, while searching among some family heirlooms recently, found an oven which had once belonged to Martha Washington. In the same trunk was a letter which gave a history of the relic. The oven has the appearance of a kettle. It is a round iron pot, about six inches deep and thirteen



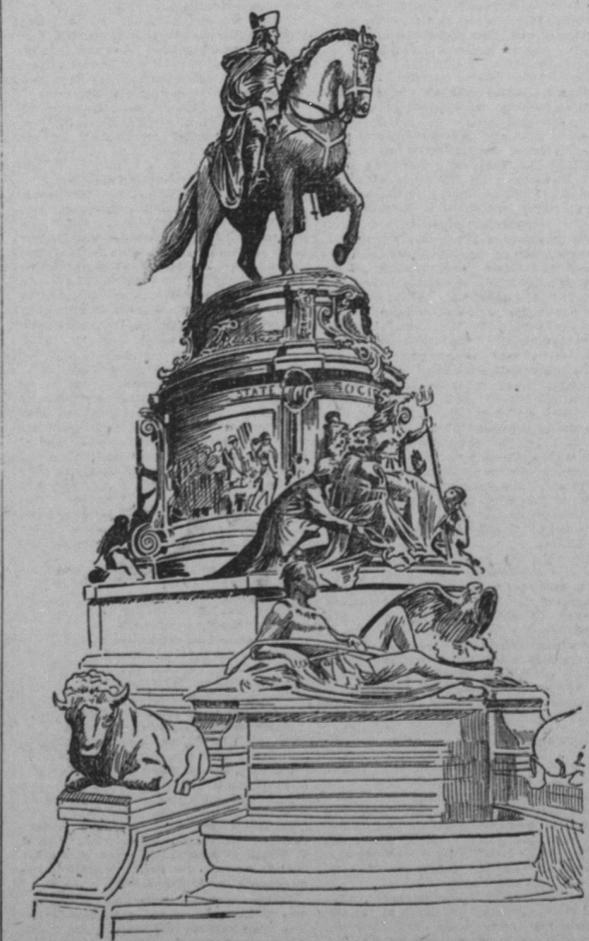
OVEN WHICH ONCE BELONGED TO MARTHA WASHINGTON.

inches in diameter. The sides of the kettle are black. Martha Washington gave the oven to a Mrs. Mary Denning, in 1778, in exchange for some knitting.

Mrs. Denning kept it until her death, in 1827, when it came into the possession of her daughter, Mrs. Elizabeth Renshaw. During the war of 1812 Mrs. Denning, who was living in Brandywine Manor, Penn., buried the oven in her yard, with \$300 in it. In 1840 Mrs. Renshaw exchanged the oven for some coal oil and tobacco to E. W. Wright, a storekeeper of Coatesville, Penn. Mrs. Wright kept it until her death, in 1878, when it was stored away with some other furniture and forgotten. C. L. Brainard, a grandson of the storekeeper, visited the old homestead and found the oven.

A George Washington Fish Story.

When the Revolutionary War closed Washington had plenty of land, but little money. He had exhausted his private fortune during the war, and he had to borrow enough to take him to New York to be inaugurated as Presi-



MONUMENT OF WASHINGTON AT PHILADELPHIA.

brated, in 1783, there was a great deal of criticism on the part of his enemies, and the Aurora, one of the opposition newspapers of Philadelphia, published long poems describing him as the worst of men. The House of Representatives was asked to adjourn for half an hour on February 22, 1796, to pay its respects to President Washington on the occasion of his birthday. This practice had been in vogue since Washington was first inaugurated. The House, however, refused to adjourn, on the ground that it was the duty of Congress to attend to legislative business and not to pay foolish compliments.

When Washington delivered his farewell address he was reviled by the opposite party.

Notwithstanding all this, the character of Washington shines brighter today than ever before. With his little weaknesses, which historians have done their best to hide, he is, taken him altogether, perhaps the greatest American our country has ever produced, and the false charges against him were but drops of moisture on the mirror of his fame, which time has long since washed away.

The result was he was quite careful of his expenses, and would not tolerate extravagance. An instance of this kind occurred one day when he found the first shad of the season on his table. The President was very fond of fish, and when the shad was brought into the dining room his nostrils dilated as the savory odor struck them, and he asked:

"What fish is that?"

"A shad," replied the steward, excitedly; "a very fine shad. I knew your excellency was so fortunate as to procure this one in the market. It was the only one, sir, and the first of the season."

"But the price, man? The price? The price?" demanded Washington, sternly.

"Three—three—three dollars," stammered the steward.

"Take it away! Take it away!" said Washington. "It shall never be said that my table sets such an example of luxury and extravagance!"

And so the \$3 fish was taken from the room, to be devoured by the servants.

All the Details.

Teacher—"What do you know about George Washington?"

Scholar—"His last words were, 'Let me die in peace.'"

Teacher—"Quite right—and what else do you know about him?"

Scholar—"He married a widow."

A MULE FORT.

Desperate Fight with Indians Behind the Bodies of Dead Oxen.

Before the railroad connected San Francisco with Chicago, all freight was carried across the plains in large wagons, each capable of holding six or seven thousand pounds, and drawn by several yokes of oxen. The wagon box, as large as the sitting room of an ordinary house, was covered with two heavy canvas sheets to protect the freight from the rain. A train consisted of twenty-five wagons, each in charge of a driver, and all commanded by the wagon master, known in the language of the plains as the "bull-wagon boss." The teamster was called a "bull-whacker," and the whole train was a "bull-outfit." The wagon master was an autocrat, gifted not only with courage, but with that faculty for prompt, judicious action known as presence of mind. A story told by Buffalo Bill in "The Great Salt Lake Trail," shows how suddenly the call sometimes came for prompt action.

Lew Simpson was wagon master of two large trains which left Fort Laramie for Fort Leavenworth, and travelled fifteen miles apart. One morning Simpson, accompanied by Woods, the assistant wagon master, and young Cody, started from the rear train to overtake the lead one. While riding on a big plateau they suddenly discovered a band of Indians charging down upon them.

Simpson, equal to the occasion, jumped from his mule, shot it dead, shot those of the two companions, and then jerked the bodies into a triangle. Behind this breastwork of mule flesh the three men, armed with rifles and revolvers, received the Indians. They swooped down, shooting arrows and yelling. Three fell dead at the white men's volley, and the Indians galloped out of range, as they had only two guns in their band.

Circling round and round the barricade, they shot their arrows. One struck Woods in the left shoulder and several lodged in the chest. Then they retired and held a council. The besieged reloaded their rifles and revolvers; Simpson pulled out the arrow from Woods's shoulder and put a large quid of tobacco on the wound. Then the Indians again charged. But a hot reception checked them and they rode off, leaving a dead brave and a horse.

Night came on and the Indians tried to burn the white men out of their breastworks by setting fire to the prairie. The grass was so short that the fire did not trouble them; but under cover of the smoke the Indians tried to approach close to the barricade. They failed to surprise the watchful men and abandoned the plan. In the morning they again charged, and the white men again "stood them off."

The Indians rode away half a mile, formed a circle around the breastwork, and each man, dismounting, sat down, as if to starve the besieged out. They had seen the advance train pass and thought the three men were trying to overtake it, being ignorant that another train was approaching.

At ten o'clock the anxious men heard the sharp reports of the big bull-whips, and in a few minutes the head wagon came slowly over the ridge and soon the whole outfit made its appearance.

Seeing the train, the Indians made a last charge; a volley sent them flying across the prairie. The teamsters rushed forward to assist, but when they reached the mule fort the redskins had disappeared. The teamsters admired the fort, praised the three men's pluck, and for days talked about Simpson's presence of mind in planning the defence.

The Size of Salmon.

How long salmon live is difficult to ascertain, as the rivers of Great Britain are so closely fished that very few are likely to attain any great age or size over twenty pounds. In Norway, where there is not such close fishing, salmon are caught weighing over fifty pounds, proving they must have made many annual trips to the sea. It has been proved by long-continued, careful markings that the grise and salmon never mistake their own river, or that branch of it in which they are hatched; this shows remarkable instinct in this fish, as many rivers are long and have so many feeders. Though the salmon deposits so many thousands of ova, millions of ova and fry are destroyed; it is estimated that not one in a thousand reaches maturity. Their natural and gormandizing enemies the trout, the little bird called the water ouzel, and the merganser, or fish duck, all of which consume daily millions of ova and fry. It is, therefore, necessary to destroy these murderers in order to keep the rivers well stocked with salmon for sport and for fishery interests. Unless these voracious pests are religiously destroyed a very large percentage of the annual cost of artificial propagation of salmon is entirely wasted.

The Crocodile's Eggs.

The crocodile lays a large number of eggs, which are remarkably small for so large a reptile, being just a shade larger than those of the domestic duck. Its nest is a huge mound of long grass, leaves, reeds, flags and a kind of broad-leaved grass, built to the height of four or five feet, with a circumference of from thirty to forty feet, and always near water. The northern crocodile lays its eggs in January or February. Neither parent does any sitting. The eggs are deposited to the number of forty or fifty near the top of the mound, which looks just like an ordinary haystack. The rain and the hot sun create a great heat in the mound, which hatches the eggs.

BIG BLIZZARD.

Greatest Storm Baltimore Has Ever Had.

BUSINESS PARALYZED.

Traffic on All the Steam Railroads Suspended—Futile Efforts to Keep the Tracks Clear of the Drifting Snow—Business Almost Suspended—Navigation Completely Ceased.

Baltimore has experienced the worst blizzard in its history—at least within the memory of living man.

The snowstorm that began Saturday night and continued with increasing intensity through Sunday reached the height of its ferocity Monday and raged all day, completely overwhelming city and State.

The snowfall for the twenty-four hours ending at 8 P. M. was 15.5 inches, making the total fall since February 5, 52.1 inches. Business in Baltimore was practically at a standstill. Many stores were closed, and few persons were on the street who were not compelled to be out. Those suffered greatly from the cold and the driving snow and a number were overcome. No fatalities were reported. The theatres were almost entirely closed. Few pupils were able to get to school and the schools will be closed for several days.

Street-car companies were unable to operate their lines. On a few lines cars struggled with snow drifts for a greater or less part of the day, but all were finally obliged to stop. Many business men were unable to get down town in the morning, and a number who did so were obliged to remain at hotels at night. The suburban sections were entirely cut off.

The railroads running out of Baltimore had similar experiences. Travel was practically suspended.

The mail service in Baltimore was at a standstill. One mail was received in the morning from the North. With this exception no mails were received or sent out. Postmaster Warfield tried to make two deliveries by carriers in the resident sections of the city. Four deliveries a day are generally made in these sections. In the business sections the deliveries by carriers were made as often as possible. The carriers had a hard time in making their rounds.

In Maryland the storm is reported as the worst ever experienced. A lack of supplies is probable at the Maryland Agricultural College. The heavy snowfall throughout the counties was badly drifted by heavy winds, and traffic on roads and railroads was almost entirely impracticable. Public and private schools were closed at Annapolis, which was isolated from the outside world except by telegraph and telephone.

Business was practically suspended in Washington and the street cars were unable to run. The commissioners sent an urgent appeal to Congress for an appropriation of \$20,000 to remove ice and snow from the streets and \$5,000 to clear a channel in the Potomac. Two thousand men will be given employment.

Delaware was blockaded, railroad trains being stalled in snowdrifts and farmers were unable to make use of the country roads.

A store roof fell from the weight of the snow in Petersburg, Va., and three men were injured, one of them probably seriously.

The whole South shivers, zero temperatures being reported in Georgia, Alabama, Louisiana and Kentucky, while Florida suffered with a freezing temperature. Damage to the fruit crops is expected.

Philadelphia is locked in the worst blizzard in its weather history. Throughout Pennsylvania railroad traffic was almost entirely suspended.

Thousands of persons in New York are starving and a bread famine is threatened. The water supply of Newark, N. J., was frozen up and a famine was caused.

GRANT DELAYED AT SUEZ.

Compelled to Wait for Fifty Members of Expedition Who Got Drunk.

Suez, (By Cable.)—The United States transport Grant has arrived here. Gen. Lawton had telegraphed the United States Consular Agent, A. W. Haydn, that fifty members of the expedition had deserted at Port Said, and would be brought to Suez by train.

A guard of Egyptian soldiers was marshaled in the depot to prevent their escape. But only two men appeared. These said that neither they nor any of the others wished to desert the expedition. They had gone ashore and got drunk, but were willing to return. The transport will wait for them here.

MORE TROOPS FOR OTIS.

Hospital-ship Relief to Carry 1,300 or More Men to Manila.

Newport News, Va., (Special.)—A number of soldiers who have been at the Josiah Simpson Hospital for some time left for New York, from which place they will go to Manila on the hospital ship Relief. Acting Hospital Steward Bingham is in charge of the detachment. The men from the hospital will be joined in New York by other soldiers, and it is expected that the Relief will carry from 1,300 to 1,500 men to join Gen. Otis' army.

Fireman Killed; Another Injured.

Montreal, (Special.)—Fire destroyed Hersch's grocery store, a branch of the Banque Ville Marie and two dwelling houses in Chaboullie Square. During the progress of the fire a wall fell out upon a ladder on which were firemen Edward Smith and Joseph Mooney. Smith was instantly killed and Mooney probably fatally injured. The latter is a well-known professional runner. The property loss will not exceed \$10,000.

Mother and Child Perished.

Big Rapids, Mich., (Special.)—The home of Anton Bader, located four miles north-west of Paris, burned, and his wife and two-year-old son perished in the flames. It is supposed the woman went back after once leaving the house to save some valuables and was overcome by smoke.

CABLE SPARKS.

The French parliamentary committee rejected the government's bill providing that all cases of trial revision be brought before the whole Court of Cassation instead of before the criminal section of the court, which is understood to be favorable to the Dreyfus case.

Queen Victoria's Speech at the opening of Parliament will forebode a change in Great Britain's law regarding anarchists.

Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman has been elected liberal leader in the British Parliament, to succeed Sir William Vernon Harcourt.