



### THE ENGLISH WASHINGTONS

Where Family of Foremost American Was First Known.

Washington's Birthday at the beginning of the last century was scarcely noticed outside the United States; today it is celebrated everywhere, not only in America—"his country"—but in all parts of the civilized world. Of the stock from which sprang the founder of American liberty comparatively little is known among the general public.

George Washington was descended from a Yorkshire family of importance, as were also Penn and Whitthrop, the first Governor of Massachusetts. These three were merely private English gentlemen, men of education and leisure, who might have lived and died unknown had their lot been cast in happier times. Fervent loyalty was always the characteristic of the Washingtons, and even George Washington himself fought for the Georges against the French. In Cromwell's reign an attempt was made to restore Charles II, and John Washington and his brother were implicated. But they were more fortunate

Brington comprises Great and Little Brington, with the hamlet of Nottle. In the chancel of the church is a floor stone, with arms, to Laurence Washington, 1616 (who removed here from Sulgrave, and Margaret (Butler) his wife, and there is also inscribed brass with the same arms, differed by a crescent, to Robert Washington, younger brother of the above, ob. 1622, and Elizabeth, his wife. This Laurence Washington was the father of the Rev. Laurence Washington, M. A., of Sulgrave, and rector of Marleigh, Essex, 1633-34, whose two sons John and Laurence, emigrated in 1657 to Virginia. Sulgrave is in a pleasant rural part of England, not far from Banbury and from Whittlebury Forest. The mansion of the Washingtons was probably at one time the priors' dwelling, and was altered for their use. Part of it still remains, and is converted into a farmhouse, and in a butterfly hatch is a piece of stained glass with the Washington crest upon it.

John Washington, of South Cave Castle, was the great-grandson of the lord of the manor of Sulgrave. South Cave Castle has, of course, undergone some modernizing since the Wash-

great value is set.

Sulgrave is not in any sense a "stately home." It is a gabled, ivy-covered, sixteenth century farmhouse, with about the same number of rooms as the typical suburban villa. To Americans the most attractive detail of the house is the presence, both within and without the entrance porch, of the Washington arms, carved in stone—two red bars and three stars upon a silver ground, or in the heraldic tongue, "urgent, two bars, gules; in chief, three mullets of the second." Here many think we have the origin of the Stars and Stripes of the United States flag. Washington is known to have worn these arms upon his signet ring.

The shields were probably placed in the Sulgrave porch by Laurence Washington, lord of the manor, who was twice Mayor of Northamptonshire in the time of Henry VIII, from whom he had received a grant of lands which had belonged to the priory of Canons Ashby. His son Robert was the last, as he had been the first, Washington of Sulgrave, for some twenty years after his death the little estate (which now amounts to 200 acres) had to be sold, the family migrating to Brington, not far away, perhaps to be near their powerful relations, the Spencers, of Althorp. Laurence Washington, the grandson of the Lord Sulgrave, is buried in Great Brington Church, with others of the name, and their tombs have long been objects of pilgrimage from over the water. The family was very prolific—Laurence, of Sulgrave, had eleven children, and his grandson, Laurence, of Brington, seventeen.

#### MARTHA WASHINGTON'S LETTER.

Thanks Gov. Trumbull for His Sympathy on the Death of Her Husband.

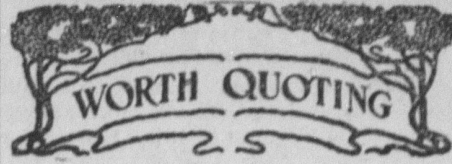
The following text of a letter written by Mrs. George Washington to Governor Trumbull, of Connecticut, in reply to his letter of condolence upon the death of her husband, is of interest in connection with the recent observance of the one hundredth anniversary of the historical event. The original letter is in the collection of J. S. Bradley, of this city:

Mount Vernon, January 15, 1800.  
Dear Sir—When the mind is deeply affected by those irreparable losses which are incident to humanity, the good Christian will submit without repining to the dispensations of Divine Providence, and look for consolation to that Being who alone can pour balm into the bleeding heart, and who has promised to be the widow's God. But in the severest trials we find some alleviation to our grief in the sympathy of sincere friends, and I should not do justice to my sensibilities were I not to acknowledge that your kind letter of condolence of the 30th of December was grateful to my feelings.

I well know the affectionate regard which my dear deceased husband always entertained for you, and therefore conceive how afflicting his death must have been to you; the quotation which you have given of what was written to you on a former melancholy occasion is truly applicable to this—the loss is ours, the gain is his. For myself, I have only to bow with humble submission to the will of that God who giveth and taketh away, looking with faith and hope to the moment when I shall again be united with the partner of my life. But while I continue on earth my prayers will be offered up for the welfare and happiness of my friends, among whom you will always be numbered. Being, dear sir, your sincere and afflicted friend,

MARTHA WASHINGTON.

Washington.  
Thou gallant chief whose glorious name  
Doth still adorn the Book of Fame;  
Whose deeds shall live while freemen prize  
The cause for which the Patriot dies.  
Long to Columbia may'st thou be  
The beacon-light of Liberty.  
—Rev. D. O. Crowley.



Baseball players who are wondering what they can turn to after their usefulness on the diamond is gone, remarks the Boston Transcript, ought to be encouraged by the announcement that Mr. Sunday (appropriate name), the baseball evangelist, cleared \$3,657 during a six weeks' revival at Aledo, Ill., recently.

Wonderful little Argentina reports a foreign commerce which, if the rate of the first nine months of 1905 was maintained, amounted to \$500,000,000 for the full year. This is \$100 for every man, woman and child—three times as great in proportion as our own immense commerce, comments the New York World.

Two captains in the Commissary Department, relates Harper's Weekly, have been ordered to the cavalry and artillery school at Fort Riley, Kansas, for a course in cooking, in order that they may be sent among the troops to teach them to make bread, presumably "like captain used to make."

There are many varieties of good women in the world, some passive and others active, some subjective and others aggressive, asserts Blackwood's Magazine. The good American woman is the most active and aggressive of her sex. She exercises the strictest discipline over her own family. She has the most decided convictions on social questions. In nine cases out of ten she is an anti-drinker, anti-smoker and anti-gambler.

The automobile was perfected at just about the time that Americans were experiencing the greatest boom in business they ever saw—the greatest ever seen in any country. The expensive toy became a practicable vehicle when the American "had the price on him," and the manufacture of the machine has developed with almost incredible rapidity, observes the Philadelphia Record.

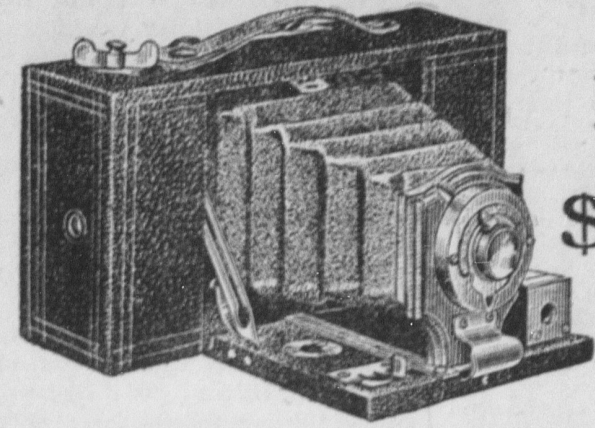
An unexpected blow to English pride comes from a Japanese critic, who contends that England is in a state of decadence, says the Springfield Republican. And he touches us in a sore place by ascribing that decadence to the Americanization of England which is going on. Yet about all America has done is to give the British nobility a boost with the bearesses. Even that, however, is described as hurtful to "the old English spirit of simple faith in noble ideals." This could be believed if it were not true that the British aristocracy always had a simple faith also in a good round income.

In its latest issue Engineering News describes what is probably the most elaborate provision ever made by a railroad company for the care of injured passengers. A special car has been completed for the Southern Pacific in which there are twelve berths, quarters for a surgeon, an operating room and a kitchen. The same corporation has ordered several other cars, which are not so commodious or expensive, but which are to serve the same general purpose. In taking this action the Southern Pacific is not setting a new example, but the hospital car is at present a good deal of a novelty. It has been adopted on only a very few lines, and its central idea has, in the particular specimen here referred to, been worked out with a completeness that appears to have no precedent.

There is a grim side to the tremendous industrial activity that characterized the year just closed, observes the Hartford Courant. In the mills and on the railroads of Allegheny county, Pennsylvania, which includes Pittsburgh, 17,700 persons were killed and injured in 1905. These cases, the New York world says, became matters of record. Many cases of those who were taken to neither hospital nor morgue were not recorded. The World notes that this number is only less than the total of dead and wounded, Union and Confederate, at Fredericksburg, that it is almost four times the total at the first Bull Run and 2,000 greater than the Union loss at the second Bull Run. It has been said that while American inventors are most industrious and successful in devising safety appliances, European countries are ahead of us in the matter of their adoption and general use. Evidently it is high time for radical reform in Pittsburgh's big mills.

Some difficulty is now being experienced in the East Indies owing to the renewed disposition of the Brahmmins to boycott European sugars on the score that they have been refined by ox blood under the old process, states the Louisiana Planter and Sugar Manufacturer. The Brahmmins have of late years been assured that white beet sugars, coming to them from Russia and Germany, were made white without the use of any ox blood or bone-black filtration, against which they revolted. They seem now to have become skeptical and about to renew their boycott against these sugars. They have near at hand in the Mauritius and also in Australia quite a large number of available sugars with which they can supply themselves, but the loss of the Indian market would be keenly felt in Europe.

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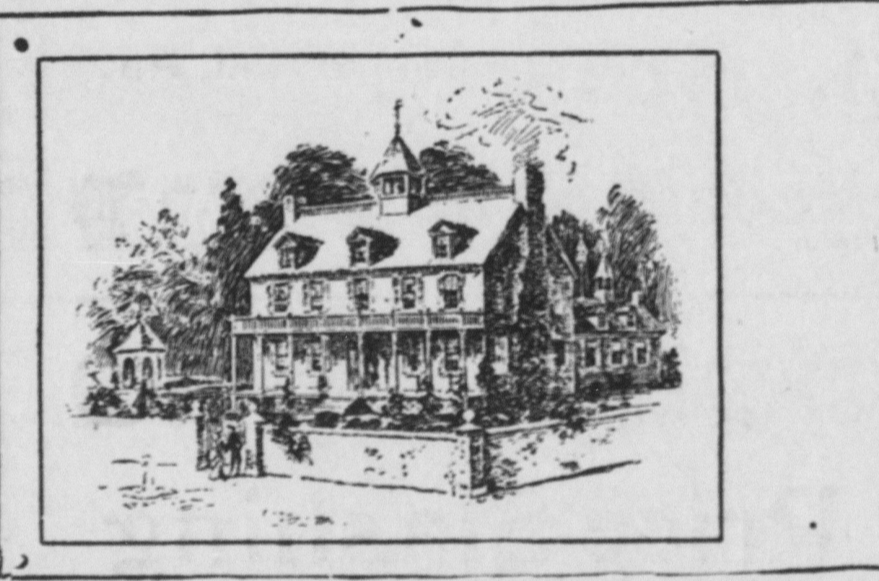
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than their companion-in-arms, the Earl of Derby. They managed to get away to America; but Lord Derby, less fortunate, was captured and executed at Bolton; and the quaint old house in Chester where he spent his last night is an object of great interest to all visitors to the city.

The nephew of John Washington was Sir Henry Washington, who defended the city of Worcester in the cause of Charles I., and indeed held out to the last, with only scanty means. He was repeatedly called upon to surrender, as his affairs were hopeless, and was promised that his life should be spared; but he refused to do so until he had the permission of Charles.

The family of Washington can be traced, however, much further back than this period. Formerly they held estates in Durham, and the name is spelled variously, De Wessington and Wessington. In the venerable library of Chester Cathedral Bondo de Wessington's name occurs in copies of charters 600 years old. John Washington, as appears from Dugdale's "Monasticon," was the prior of Durham in the reigns of Henry V. and Henry VI.

But the more immediate ancestry of George Washington must be sought in Sulgrave, Northamptonshire. At Sulgrave was a monastery, and it was dissolved by Henry VIII. at the same time as the other religious houses. A large part of its estates were granted to the Washington family, and in the old church at Sulgrave, at the east end of the aisle, is a plate of brass inscribed to Laurence Washington, ob. 1584, with effigies of himself, Anne, his wife, daughter of Robert Fargiter, of Greatworth and eleven children. They were ancestors (in the sixth remove) of George Washington.

At the dissolution of the monasteries, in 1539, Laurence Washington, of Gray's Inn, Mayor of Northampton in 1532 and 1545, who resided in the Manor House and is buried in the church, received from the King a grant of certain lands which belonged to the Priory of Canons Ashby. This land was sold at his death to his son Robert and his grandson Laurence, and the latter retired into Brington, and died there in 1616, and is commemorated by a monument in Brington church.



Church of St. Mary and Village Cross at Great Brington



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