



How Washington kept his Birthdays

By Fred Myron Colby.

WASHINGTON'S earliest birthdays were spent in Westmoreland County, in the old-fashioned farmhouse on the Potomac, where he was born. You have all seen pictures of this house, with its low, slanting roof and its two huge chimneys, one at each end, outside the house. It was burned down when Washington was about four years old; and the family then removed to a farm on the Rappahannock, opposite Fredericksburg, in Stafford County.

At this latter place young Washington received the rudiments of education at an "old field school-house," humble enough in its pretensions, and kept by one of his father's tenants, named Hobby, who was also the sexton of the parish. The instruction doled out to him was of the simplest kind—reading, writing and ciphering, and, later on, surveying; but this was supplemented by excellent training at home.

On the broad meadows of the Rappahannock, near his home, Washington gave the first exhibition of his martial inclinations. The boys at Master Hobby's school were divided into two military companies; and the rivalry between them was sustained by many a parade, sham fight and snow-ball battles and snow-fort sieges. One of these spirited contests took place on a 22d of February, and the account has come down pretty straight, and presents an exciting picture of that old time.

It was the February of 1743, and Washington was eleven years old. The day was damp and stormy, with plenty of snow; and the two sides had it out on the meadows. Of course, Washington was the leader on one side, and a boy named William Bustle commanded the rival troop. The mimic battle terminated in Washington's favor, the other side being so completely pummeled that we do not hear anything more of the claims of William Bustle.

When Washington was sixteen, he gave up going to school, and became a surveyor. This took him out into the woods, and he had to encounter all sorts of dangers and risks. His sixteenth birthday he passed in the wilds of Western Virginia, where he was surveying a vast tract of land for its owner, Lord Fairfax. He had now fairly entered upon the stern business of life. We can imagine the rude camp, the brilliant firelight under the trees, and the cool winds blowing down from the hills, as young Washington ate his late supper on the 22d of February, 1748, in the wilderness of the great Kanawha Valley.

His next birthday he spent at Mount Vernon, where he had gone to live with his brother Lawrence. He was then a tall, fine looking fellow, with many ways, and had had his first love affair—a sort of boy and girl attachment with Anne Carey, his "lowland beauty." On February 22, 1752, George and his brother Lawrence were on their way home from a trip to Barbadoes, whither they had gone in the hope of finding health for the master of Mount Vernon, who the same year died at his beautiful home, which was afterward to be inseparably associated with the younger brother.

About this time Governor Dinwiddie, of Virginia, commissioned Washington as an officer in the army; and he was sent the next year as a commissioner to a French fort, claimed to have been built as a hostile demonstration on English lands. He was absent about three months on his mission, which he accomplished with tact and judgment. But the war cloud spread in a broader and darker shadow, and February 22, 1754, saw George Washington at Alexandria collecting military supplies for use in the impending conflict. In that war Washington received his first baptism of fire, and is said to have fired the first shot that ushered in the old French War.

Washington's birthday in 1756 was spent in the Northern States, he being on a mission to Governor Shirley, of Massachusetts, at Boston. He was absent from February 4 to March 28, and the whole journey was made on horseback. At his next anniversary we find him laying papers before the Earl of Loudon, with the object of having the Virginian troops,

society of his wife, to whom he had been married about six weeks. It was during his honeymoon, and there is no doubt but that his natal day was properly celebrated. Many of his succeeding birthdays were spent at the same charming seat, but with no special circumstances to make them memorable.

In February, 1776, the Revolutionary War was on, and Washington was at Cambridge as commander-in-chief of the American army. Mrs. Washington was with him, and they were quartered at the Craigie House, since famous as the home of Longfellow. He was then forty-four years old, and the first gray hair was showing at his temple, his hair was thinning, and he had already been in 1777 at his headquarters at Morristown, N. J., and that in 1779 at his

headquarters at New Windsor. Several of these anniversaries must have been rather sad and depressing to him; for the war was progressing slowly, and the outlook was gloomy for American independence. But Washington never despaired, and ever looked forward to the dawning of a brighter day. In the end he was not disappointed.

On February 20, 1783, the preliminary treaty of peace with Great Britain was signed, and General Washington ate his birthday cake that year with the satisfaction of a man who had accomplished a great work. He had passed the half-century mark, and was the greatest man of his century, "first in war, first in peace, and first in the hearts of his countrymen."—From the Christian Register.

Washington's life. In seventeen hundred thirty-two George Washington was born; Truth, goodness, skill and glory high His whole life did adorn.

1775. In seventeen hundred thirty-five The chief command he took Of all the army in the State, Who ne'er his flag forsook.

1783. In seventeen hundred eighty-three Retired to private life, He saw his much-loved country free From battle and from strife.

1789. In seventeen hundred eighty-nine, The country, with one voice, Proclaimed him President, to shine, Blessed by the people's choice.

1799. In seventeen hundred ninety-nine The nation's tears were shed, To see the patriot life resign And sleep among the dead.

As "first in war, and first in peace," As patriot, father, friend, He blessed till time should cease, And earthly life shall end.

other means. Horace Greeley writes in his "Visit to Mount Vernon" in 1841, of the "garden rich in rare and valuable plants; among them are many planted by the hand of the Father of His Country. Peaches, pears, lemons, oranges are thickly surrounded by the aloe, myrtle, rose, geranium, etc., as well as by plants whose unfamiliar names escape me." So what more appropriate than to "blend (its) fragrance with the memory of Washington" by selecting a house-plant in bloom (if a vase of flowers cannot be had) for the centre of the table? for most flower lovers can command these in late winter from their own windows. Conceal the pot with green crepe paper tied in place by narrow green ribbon. A suitable decoration for place cards is a spray of cherry blossoms painted across the top corner, or the blossom made in tissue paper and gummed to the card would be dainty in effect. Or the cards may simply contain the quotation, "First in war, first in peace and first in the hearts of his countrymen."

Fried Sweet Potatoes—Wash four sweet potatoes and boil half an hour; then peel and cut in slices a quarter of an inch thick; drop them in boiling fat and fry a light brown on both sides. Take out with a fork and sift very lightly with fine salt, then thickly with powdered sugar. Pile pyramid-wise on a hot dish and serve immediately. If they are preferred dry and mealy bake one hour; fifteen minutes longer will make them moist and sweet.

Cherry Ice Cream—Make a quart of plain vanilla ice cream; reserve half a pint; line a mold with the remainder; fill the centre with a cupful of canned cherries drained dry from their syrup, stoned and sweetened more if needed; cover with the reserved ice cream; pack in the usual way for half an hour; or just long enough to chill but not to freeze the fruit. Frost the pound cake and decorate the top with candied cherries, imitating a bunch of the fruit, in the centre, with green frosting for leaves.

Oysters Roasted in the Shell—Wash the shells clean and wipe dry. Place in a baking pan and put into a hot oven for about twenty minutes. Serve on hot dishes the moment they are taken from the oven. Though this is not an elegant dish, many people enjoy it, as the best flavor of the

oyster is retained in this manner of cooking. The oysters can, instead, be opened into a hot dish and seasoned with butter, salt, pepper and lemon juice. Serve immediately.

In Virginia it is a favorite way of cooking the oysters, where there is an open fireplace, to place them in their shells on the coals, where they roast quickly, and are then eaten immediately from the shell.

Virginia Fruit Cake—One cupful each of sugar, molasses and butter, one-half cupful of cream, three cupfuls flour, three eggs, yolks and whites beaten separately, one teaspoonful of cinnamon, one-half teaspoonful each of allspice and cloves, one-half small nutmeg grated, eight ounces of raisins seeded and cut, five ounces of currants and three ounces of citron, one-half teaspoonful of soda. Mix in order named; dissolve soda in two teaspoonful of water and add it last. Bake in slow oven. An excellent recipe.

Virginia Fried Chicken—After broiling the chicken it should be allowed to cook gently an hour on the cooler part of the range, turning it frequently to brown all parts alike. This is a favorite holiday dish at the South, and Virginians contend that their own brand is superior to all others, it containing a sweetness of flavor and juiciness not found elsewhere. An old Virginia cook will tell you this is owing, first, to the age of the fowl (it must be young); second,

When asked how he was going to subsidize he replied: "I am starting penniless and I shall sell photographs and pamphlets while on the journey. I am allowed to expend any sum not exceeding \$1 (\$5 for photographs and pamphlets for sale at the start. That is how I shall subsidize."

A very difficult task is before the walker. In order to win the wager he has to touch every county in England, to visit Scotland, Ireland and Wales and to call at twenty countries. He is to buy a postage stamp at every town passed through on his journey. Among the other conditions of this most remarkable wager are that he is to find a wife on the road, to forward an account of the miles walked and the towns visited, and to obtain a signed document from the Mayor or some other responsible person in every town. He is to be allowed to "go as you please."

"Good-by," the wayfarer called out merrily as he disappeared; "see you in ten years."—London Correspondence of the New York Herald.

An Inglorious Wound.

On one of the Volunteer ranges in the North is a well-known old Irish sergeant, who has charge. It may be mentioned that he went through three wars—the Crimean, the Indian Mutiny and the Chinese—and during the whole of that time never received a single wound.

Old W., as he is called, occasionally acts as marker at the targets, and his utter recklessness has become a proverb.

He has been known to walk forth from behind the mantel without the slightest warning, and touch up a bull's-eye which did not quite entirely satisfy him, or to note the exact position of a shot.

At all remonstrances he would sniff contemptuously.

"Me be shot?" he would ask.

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It was seen that something was wrong, and they hurried to meet him. As he did so he tottered and had to be carried.

"Shot!" he groaned, with a look of shame. "Shot and by a Saturday afternoon soldier!"—Tit-Bits.

What a Knot Is.

In referring to the speed of vessels we speak of the number of knots traveled. A knot is a measure of speed, not of distance, and the term comes from the old method of finding the speed of a vessel by means of a three-cornered piece of wood with a weight attached to one side to hold it upright in the water. To each corner was fastened a cord and to the junction of these cords was attached the log line. This log and line with a small sand glass completed the apparatus for reckoning a vessel's speed. The log when dropped into the water remained where it fell. The log was divided off by knots, the distance between the knots being the same fractional part of a nautical mile as the time measured by the sand glass was of an hour. Therefore the number of knots which ran out in the time measured by the sand glass represented the number of nautical miles an hour that the vessel was running. For example, if six knots ran out during the time, the vessel's speed was said to be six knots.—Scientific American.

The Children of Misery.

The ant and the moth have cells for each of their young, but our little ones lie in festered heaps in homes that consume them like graves; and night by night, from the corners of our streets, rises up the cry of the homeless, 'I was a stranger and ye took me not in.'—Ruskin.

which he commanded, put upon the regular establishment.

February 22, 1759, was passed by Washington at Mount Vernon, in the

The Birthplace of Washington.

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A DAY IN HONOR OF WASHINGTON

"The defender of his country, the founder of liberty,"
The friend of man
He lived—the ornament of the eighteenth century.
He died regretted by a mourning world."

BREAKFAST.

Baked apples
Crisp bacon
Pommy griddle cakes, maple molasses,
Washington rolls, Coffee

LUNCHEON.

Oysters roasted in the shells,
Coddinets, Pickled cucumbers,
Deafen biscuits (chaf.) Preserved bears,
Virginia fruit cake Lemonade

DINNER.

Virginia fried chicken, tartare sauce
Southern mashed potatoes,
Sweet potatoes fried,
Southern cabbage,
Deafen biscuit toasted with grated cheese,
Cherry ice-cream Pound cake,
Black coffee

Note—A menu consisting of old-time Southern dishes has been planned for Washington's birthday as nearly as practicable with observing the rule governing the outlay for these meals. If an old-time setting can be given them it will add much to the zest of the occasion. Although not every household can boast of old china and silver plate, it may enter into the spirit of the celebration by



Dear is the name we love to speak,
And sweet to linger on,
While all the great and strong and weak
"Thy God for Washington!"
All lips enshrine the lofty name;
Time holds it sacred unto fame;
The peerless hero's deeds are known,
To humble and to bold,
And erst and slave, and all that see
Of feel the worth of Liberty,
Glad to thy life, Oycers the part
Of Truth and Virtue in the chart
That guided all his days,
Nor failed through storm and treachery,
And trial's darkest day,
To lead him on to Victory!

No skill of fading, crumpling Art
Can make his fame secure,
But to the galaxy's loyal heart
It lives forever true.
They in each faithful, filial breast
Let our devotion thy altars
That we by Virtue's emulate,
Thy love for truth of wrong, thy hate,
For scepter by withering scorn,
For duty, and to country's glory,
Thy laughing of unceasing strife;
Thy sweet and calm domestic life,
And bear with him that slaying rod,
Thy love and confidence in God!
Do may we worthy be
To wear the title, "Freedom's son,"
And guard for Time thy legacy
We hold from Washington!

—Youth's Companion.

WASHINGTON'S LIFE.

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MASKED MAN'S WORLD'S WALK.

For a Wager, He Says, of \$100,000 Made by a Well-Known American Millionaire.

In the face of a northeast wind a man started from Trafalgar Square, London, recently, on a tour around the world. The adventurer undertook the task for a wager of \$100,000, the details of which he gave in the course of an interview.

"This wager," he said, "was laid by a friend of mine, a well-known American millionaire, as the outcome of an argument that took place at a club in Pall Mall. He declared that no Englishman could walk around the world masked and pushing a perambulator. After hearing the conditions I at once made up my mind to accept the wager myself. Upon telling him of the decision I had come to, he at once made arrangements with another well-known American gentleman to accompany me. He is only doing it for sport."

The man was the object of much curiosity and was followed through the London streets by a large crowd. One of the conditions of the wager is that he is not to reveal his identity throughout the whole journey; therefore he has concealed his visage in a black mask.

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POLICE JUDGE WILLS

Will Gladly Answer the Questions of Any Inquirer.

It is a generous offer that Police Judge J. H. Wills, of Cloverport, Ky., makes to sufferers from backache, kidney and bladder ills. Judge Wills knows the value of Doan's Kidney Pills and will answer the questions of any sufferer who writes to him. The Judge says: "I take pleasure in recommending Doan's Kidney Pills to persons suffering from kidney disorders, backache, etc. It is the best remedy I have ever known and I will gladly answer any questions about it."

Sold by all dealers. 50 cents a box. Foster-Milburn Co., Buffalo, N. Y.

When Frost Bitten.

Should you be unlucky enough to have your fingers, nose or feet frost-bitten do not as you value your future comfort, go near the fire for several hours.

Rub the places with cold water or snow as quickly as possible, and after that numb sensation is over bathe with witchhazel, or apply cloths wet in it. This should relieve the itching and burning that is so annoying.

Onions, Onions, Onions.

600 bu. of Salzer's Red Globe Onion per acre at 80c a bu. brings \$480.00. That pays.

\$89.00 from 3 acres Salzer's Morning Star Cucumber is well worth taking along. 640 bu. Salzer's 22 Podder Earliest and Best Pea sold in the green state at \$1.50 a bu. makes \$960.00 per acre. Such figures Salzer's pedigree vegetables stand for.

FOR 12c and this notice the John A. Salzer Seed Co., La Crosse, Wis., in order to gain 250,000 new customers during 1908, will mail you free their great plant and seed catalog together with

1 pkg. "Quick Quick" Carrot..... \$1.00
1 pkg. Earliest Ripe Cabbage..... .10
1 pkg. Earliest Emerald Cucumber.... .15
1 pkg. La Crosse Market Lettuce..... .15
1 pkg. Early Dinner Onion..... .10
1 pkg. Strawberry Muskmelon..... .15
1 pkg. Thirteen Day Radish..... .10
1,000 kernels gloriously beautiful flower seed..... .15

Total \$1.00

Above is sufficient seed to grow 35 bu. of rarest vegetables and thousands of brilliant flowers and all is mailed to you.

POSTAL FOR 12c, or if you send 10c, we will add a package of Berliner Earliest Cauliflower. John A. Salzer Seed Co., La Crosse, Wis. A. C. L.

Consumption from Cigarettes.

The yellow stain on the cigarette smokers' fingers is not nicotine, as usually supposed, but creosote, a deadly poison, produced from burning the rice paper used in cigarettes. This paper, burning without flame, always produces creosote, which is inhaled by the smoker, and gradually poisons the system, and finally sets up consumption.

Only One "Bromo Quinine"

That is Laxative Bromo Quinine. Look for the signature of L. W. Groves. I had the World over to Cure a Cold in One Day, 50c.

No Evidence to the Contrary.

A young Catholic priest, shortly after beginning his labors in his first parish, received a visit from one of the older fathers. Anxious to show the progress he had made, he called up a class in catechism for questioning.

"Little time to finish contribution."

Work I suppose to eat. I shall ask first requir labor war and feed the first. The se ment a whether it shall work mu less it mu how or b the boy young m is a hard There is fortunate that is in a silke lege in nothing, and the automob cannot ran and it re to amount goes thru instead of that we reason v amount t never de is no te bring in bring his the Hoe" the Benjami —he wa Burns K Bowman soft rain of leges car work, an leges car hian't h last the ing and are all life."

But here the old priest interposed, with a quizzical smile. "Not too fast, me young brother," he said, restrainingly—"not too fast." "I might you and I know to the contrary." The guru may be perfectly right."—From the Editor's Drawer, in Harper's Magazine.

Speechmaking.

"Your speech sounded fine," said the attentive listener; "but do you know, I can't remember half a dozen words of it!" "That's good," answered Senator Sorghum, in pleasing the ear without furnishing any data for subsequent contradiction.—Washington Star.

COFFEE DRINKING

A Doctor Says It Weakens the Heart.

"In my opinion," says a well-known German physician, "no one can truthfully say that coffee agrees with him, as it has long since been proven that caffeine, contained in coffee, is an injurious, poisonous substance which weakens and degenerates the heart muscles.

"For this reason the regular use of coffee, soon or late, causes a condition of undernourishment, which leads to various kinds of organic disease.

"Convinced of this fact, I have often sought for some healthful beverage to use instead of coffee. At last I found the thing desired in Postum. Having had occasion to forbid people using coffee, whose hearts were affected, I have recommended Postum as a beverage, since it is free from all injurious or exciting substances. I know this from results in my own family, and among patients.

"Hundreds of persons who now use Postum in place of coffee are greatly benefited thereby." "There's a Reason."

Name given by Postum Co., Battle Creek, Mich. Read "The Road to Wellville," in pkgs.

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"For this reason the regular use of coffee, soon or late, causes a condition of undernourishment, which leads to various kinds of organic disease.

"Convinced of this fact, I have often sought for some healthful beverage to use instead of coffee. At last I found the thing desired in Postum. Having had occasion to forbid people using coffee, whose hearts were affected, I have recommended Postum as a beverage, since it is free from all injurious or exciting substances. I know this from results in my own family, and among patients.

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