

**ON FAIR POTOMAC'S SLOPING SHORE.**

BY MAUD WILKINSON.  
Mount Vernon who can tell the charm  
Of life on that Virginian farm  
Before our country's birth?  
For there was simple godly cheer,  
And woman's grace, and royal cheer,  
High thoughts, and tempered mirth,  
At twilight, when the chimney glowed,  
What wit and wisdom freely flowed,  
Laughter and quick retorts!  
And then the old time games—what fun  
When George and Lady Washington  
Joined in the youthful sports!



WASHINGTON AT MOUNT VERNON.

And when the night grew dark without,  
What mighty themes they talked about  
In those historic days!  
Or how their souls with rapture soared  
When Nelly at her harpsichord  
Sang gay and gallant lays!  
Oh, brave and bold were women then,  
And pure as women were the men—  
For that was long ago;  
The old then felt the rest of youth,  
The young were sorer, and in truth  
It ever should be so.

On fair Potomac's sloping shore  
Mount Vernon, as in days of yore,  
Is still a lovely place;  
But they are gone that gave that scene  
Its air domestic and serene,  
Its joyous life and grace.

**THE DAY WHEN WASHINGTON DIED**

This Year is the One Hundredth Anniversary of the Event.

On that December day, nearly a century ago, when the body of General George Washington was laid away in the vault at Mount Vernon, "mock funerals" were held in many towns and cities east of the Alleghenies. Our great-grand-parents were in their infancy in those faraway days, and many of them saw these "mock funerals," which were conducted, of course, with all solemnity.

From these sights of childhood springs the conviction in the minds of centenarians here and there that they were witnesses of the real funeral. Such is the trustfulness of old age in memories of times long ago!

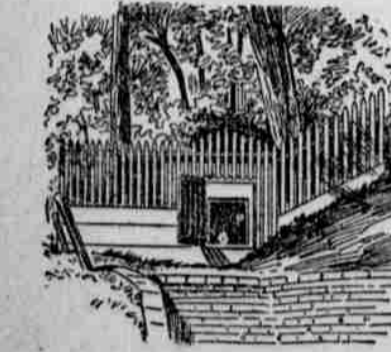
Ninety-nine years of national life have passed since then, and America has given far more attention to anniversary celebrations of that happier event—the birth of its first President—than to the yearly recurrence of the day of the funeral.

This year, however, the centennial of that day will take place, and the observance at Mount Vernon will be on December 14, the anniversary of the day of the death, instead of on the 18th, which was the date of the funeral.

It is intended, nevertheless, that the observance shall take the form of a duplication of the funeral services, going over the same ground as in 1799. So elaborate are the contemplated ceremonies that already plans are being put into shape for the great event of 1899.

As General Washington was a Mason, the services over his body were conducted, in part, at least, by the Masons, and so the anniversary services will be under the direction of the Grand Lodge of Virginia, Free and Accepted Masons. The Grand Lodge will meet in Alexandria, and, escorted by Lodge No. 4, of Fredericksburg, in which Washington received his first degree; Washington Lodge, No. 22, of Alexandria, of which he was the first master, and Federal Lodge, of Washington, and representatives of every grand lodge in America, will go to Mount Vernon and there repeat the services of December 18, 1799.

It is expected that President McKinley, himself a Mason, will make an address, and after the ceremonies



OLD TOMB IN WHICH WASHINGTON WAS BURIED AT FIRST. (Its appearance before the recent restoration.)

a banquet will be given in Washington. The march to the tomb will pass, of course, the old tomb in which Washington's body was buried, and in which it rested for more than thirty years, though the objective point of the procession will be the new tomb, where the coffin now is.

In his will Washington stated that "the family vault at Mount Vernon requiring repairs, and being improperly situated, I desire that a new one, of brick, and upon a larger scale, may be built at the foot of what is called the Vineyard Inclosure, on the ground which is marked out, in which my remains and those of my deceased relatives (now in the old vault), and such others of my family as may choose to be interred there, may be deposited."

Notwithstanding his request, it was not until 1831 that the new tomb was built and Washington's body placed therein. And then the old vault was allowed to fall into a state of decay. In recent years it has been rebuilt from a drawing in the Congressional Library, and it is now surrounded by an iron fence, and is kept up with the same care as the new tomb.

In 1837, when the marble sarcophagi in which the coffins of Washington and his wife rest were placed in the new tomb, the key of that tomb was thrown into the Potomac River.

At the request of Martha Washington a door was made to the old tomb at the time of the General's burial, instead of closing it with brick, as had been the custom at previous burials. The widow was sure that she would soon follow her husband. She lived only eighteen months after the death of Washington, keeping entirely, it is said, to her room on the third floor of the mansion, and upon her death, in 1801, her body was laid beside that of her husband in the old tomb.

Washington was buried in a mahogany coffin, lined with lead, which was put in a case covered with black cloth. The most faithful, as, indeed, the most touching, account of the illness, death and funeral of General Washington, is contained in the account of his private secretary, Colonel Tobias Lear, as written in his diary, which is in the possession of his granddaughter, Mrs. Wilson Eyre, of New York.

the judgment of his wife, that he be bled. Within twenty-four hours he was bled four times, losing the first time only "about half a pint of blood."



COMFORTABLE UNDER WHICH WASHINGTON DIED.

according to the statement of Colonel Lear.

In the room in which Washington died in the second-story of the mansion at Mount Vernon is the bed on which he lay and nearly all the articles which were there at the last scene. The bedstead is six feet square, with four big mahogany posts. It was made in New York ten years before.



WASHINGTON AT VALLEY FORGE.

It is worth while to give Colonel Lear's entire entry for that 18th day of December.

Wednesday, Dec. 18, 1799.  
"About 11 o'clock numbers of people began to assemble to attend the funeral, which was intended to have been at 12, but as a great part of the troops expected could not get down in time, it did not take place till 3.

"Eleven pieces of artillery were brought from Alexandria, and a schooner belonging to Mr. R. Hamilton came down and lay off Mount Vernon to fire minute guns.

"About 3 o'clock the procession began to move. The arrangements of the procession were made by Colonels Little, Simms, Deneale and Dr. Dick. The pall-bearers were Colonels Little, Simms, Payne, Gilpin, Ramsay and Manteler. Colonel Blackburn preceded the corpse. Colonel Deneale marched with the military. The procession moved out of the gate at the left wing of the house and proceeded to sound in front of the lawn and down to the vault on the right wing of the house. The procession was as follows:

The Troops, Horse and Foot.  
Music Playing a Solemn Dirge.  
The Clergy, viz.: The Rev.  
Mr. Davis,  
Mr. Muir,  
Mr. Moffat,  
and Mr. Addison.

The General's horse, with his saddle, holster, pistols, etc., led by his two grooms, Cyrus and Wilson, in black.  
The body borne by the Free Masons and officers.

Principal mourners, viz.: Mrs. Stuart and Mrs. Lear, Misses Nancy and Sallie Stuart, Miss Fairfax and Miss Denison, Mr. Law and Mr. Peter, Mr. Lear and Dr. Craik, Lord Fairfax and Ferdo Fairfax, Lodge No. 23, Corporation of Alexandria. All other persons preceded by Mr. Anderson and the overseers.

"When the body arrived at the vault the Rev. Mr. Davis read the service and pronounced a short extempore speech.

"The Masons performed their ceremonies, and the body was deposited in the vault."

Interesting as is this account of the funeral, Colonel Lear's story of the last illness of his chief and the medical treatment he received is still more absorbing to us of the present day, as it shows, by contrast with modern methods, that had the General lived 100 years later, his life might have been saved, scarcely beyond doubt.

The cause of his death was stated to be "oedematous affection of the windpipe," or, in layman's phrase, watery swelling of the windpipe. The trouble at first was ordinary quincy sore throat, which by the second day had developed into membranous croup, which, however, is rarely fatal, except to children.

These were the days of cupping and bleeding, and Washington not only placed himself in the hands of his doctors, but insisted, rather against

the judgment of his wife, that he be bled. Within twenty-four hours he was bled four times, losing the first time only "about half a pint of blood."

Washington chose Valley Forge, a deep cleft in a loft hill, with a stream at the bottom of it emptying into the Schuylkill. There was nothing in this valley for human use except the primal forest that densely covered it and the streams of water that flowed by and through it. But Washington, himself well skilled in woodcraft, commanded soldiers most of whom had built or inhabited log cabins. When he told them that log huts could be quickly made warm and dry, he said what they all knew to be true. He also knew precisely what was necessary for the construction of the huts, what tools were needed and what materials. His order of December 18, 1777, transformed the whole army into a cabin building host. Every man had his place and duty, from the major-generals to the drummers. All the tools were fairly divided; each regiment had its ground assigned it; the streets and intervals were marked out; and when the work was begun, the valley was alive with busy builders.

Each colonel divided his regiment into parties of twelve, gave them their share of axes and shovels, and let them know that they were building a home for themselves. A cabin was to be occupied by twelve men. General Washington added the stimulant of a reward to the party that should build the best hut.

Two weeks of hard work, and huts were built and arranged in streets. The work was done on a diet of flour mixed with water and baked in cakes, with scarcely any meat or bread. At night the men huddled around the fires to keep from freezing. Few blankets, few coverings, many soldiers without shoes, "wading naked in December's snows"—such were the attributes of Valley Forge. By the new year the huts were done, the streets laid out, and the army housed, with some three thousand men unfit for duty, frost-bitten, sick and hungry. They had shelter, but that was about all. The country had been swept so bare by the passage of contending armies that even straw to lie upon was hard to get, and the cold, unweeded ground often had to serve for a sleeping-place. Provisions were scarce, and hunger was added to the pain of cold. Sometimes the soldiers went for days without meat—sometimes without any food, Lafayette tells us, marvelling at the endurance and courage of the men.

Washington's Influence.  
As a tree is known by its fruits, so may a political policy be known from the character of its supporters.

Shortly after the Federal Constitution had been adopted at Philadelphia, Francis Lightfoot Lee, a signer of the Declaration of Independence, was at the courthouse of Westmoreland County, Virginia, and someone asked his opinion of it.

"I do not," replied Mr. Lee, "pretend to be a judge of an oratorical or such importance, but one inclination me to support it. General Washington is in favor of it, and John Warden is against it."

Warden was a Scotch lawyer of the county, who had been speaking in public against the ratification of the new constitution.

Mr. Lee's willing submission to Washington's judgment was imitated all through the country. Trust in Washington brought about the adoption of the new Constitution by Virginia; and without the ratification by that State, then the largest in the Union, the Constitution would never have gone into effect.

"Be assured Washington's influence carried this Government," wrote Monroe to Jefferson, after the Virginia convention had voted for the Constitution. "The country was an instrument with thirteen strings, and the only master who could bring out all their harmonious thought was Washington."

Washington Was the Ideal Commander.  
Washington, a great commander, had the genius for getting all that was best out of the men under him, but the work of organizing and disciplining the army at Cambridge was the least of the troubles which confronted him when he faced the situation at Boston. Moreover, he knew all the difficulties, for he not only saw them, but he was never under delusions as to either pleasant or disagreeable facts. One of his greatest qualities was his absolute veracity of mind; he always looked a fact of any sort squarely in the face, and this is what he saw when he turned to the task before him.—From "The Story of the Revolution," by Senator H. C. Lodge.

Precious Washington Urn.  
One of the valuable relics entrusted to the care of the Grand Master of Massachusetts Masons is "the Washington urn," a small golden urn containing a lock of General Washington's hair. Mrs. Washington presented the lock to the Grand Lodge in 1800, and Grand Master Paul Revere made the urn.

Washington.  
What figure more immovably august  
Than that gave strength so patient and so pure,  
Calm in rood fortune, when it wavered,  
And in sad reverse, when it impetuously  
Maddened on classic lines, so simple they endure?

Soldier and statesman, rarest union;  
High-poised example of great duties done,  
Noblest, yet firm as Nature's self; unbowed,  
Save by the men his nobler temper shamed;  
Broad-minded, high-souled, there is but one  
Who was all this, and ours, and all men's—  
Washington.

—James Russell Lowell.

**WASHINGTON AT VALLEY FORGE.**

An Epic of Slow Suffering and Patient Heroism.

Valley Forge is a name which inspires unspeakable emotions in every reader of the Revolutionary story, appealing to the depth of the pathetic in us by their sufferings, and to our sublimest sense by their heroic fortitude. That winter at Valley Forge surpasses the retreat from Moscow; for the American heroes and their great commander endured through the long winter instead of fleeing.

Valley Forge is a rough piece of ground on the banks of the Schuylkill, twenty-one miles from Philadelphia and six from the nearest large town. As mere land, it is not worth much. But if the Pass of Thermopylae is classic ground, Valley Forge is classic. It is there one spot on this continent more fit than any other for a final and sufficient monument to the man and to the men of the American Revolution, it is Valley Forge.

Washington chose Valley Forge, a deep cleft in a loft hill, with a stream at the bottom of it emptying into the Schuylkill. There was nothing in this valley for human use except the primal forest that densely covered it and the streams of water that flowed by and through it. But Washington, himself well skilled in woodcraft, commanded soldiers most of whom had built or inhabited log cabins. When he told them that log huts could be quickly made warm and dry, he said what they all knew to be true. He also knew precisely what was necessary for the construction of the huts, what tools were needed and what materials. His order of December 18, 1777, transformed the whole army into a cabin building host. Every man had his place and duty, from the major-generals to the drummers. All the tools were fairly divided; each regiment had its ground assigned it; the streets and intervals were marked out; and when the work was begun, the valley was alive with busy builders.

Each colonel divided his regiment into parties of twelve, gave them their share of axes and shovels, and let them know that they were building a home for themselves. A cabin was to be occupied by twelve men. General Washington added the stimulant of a reward to the party that should build the best hut.

Two weeks of hard work, and huts were built and arranged in streets. The work was done on a diet of flour mixed with water and baked in cakes, with scarcely any meat or bread. At night the men huddled around the fires to keep from freezing. Few blankets, few coverings, many soldiers without shoes, "wading naked in December's snows"—such were the attributes of Valley Forge. By the new year the huts were done, the streets laid out, and the army housed, with some three thousand men unfit for duty, frost-bitten, sick and hungry. They had shelter, but that was about all. The country had been swept so bare by the passage of contending armies that even straw to lie upon was hard to get, and the cold, unweeded ground often had to serve for a sleeping-place. Provisions were scarce, and hunger was added to the pain of cold. Sometimes the soldiers went for days without meat—sometimes without any food, Lafayette tells us, marvelling at the endurance and courage of the men.

Washington's Influence.  
As a tree is known by its fruits, so may a political policy be known from the character of its supporters.

Shortly after the Federal Constitution had been adopted at Philadelphia, Francis Lightfoot Lee, a signer of the Declaration of Independence, was at the courthouse of Westmoreland County, Virginia, and someone asked his opinion of it.

"I do not," replied Mr. Lee, "pretend to be a judge of an oratorical or such importance, but one inclination me to support it. General Washington is in favor of it, and John Warden is against it."

Warden was a Scotch lawyer of the county, who had been speaking in public against the ratification of the new constitution.

Mr. Lee's willing submission to Washington's judgment was imitated all through the country. Trust in Washington brought about the adoption of the new Constitution by Virginia; and without the ratification by that State, then the largest in the Union, the Constitution would never have gone into effect.

"Be assured Washington's influence carried this Government," wrote Monroe to Jefferson, after the Virginia convention had voted for the Constitution. "The country was an instrument with thirteen strings, and the only master who could bring out all their harmonious thought was Washington."

Washington Was the Ideal Commander.  
Washington, a great commander, had the genius for getting all that was best out of the men under him, but the work of organizing and disciplining the army at Cambridge was the least of the troubles which confronted him when he faced the situation at Boston. Moreover, he knew all the difficulties, for he not only saw them, but he was never under delusions as to either pleasant or disagreeable facts. One of his greatest qualities was his absolute veracity of mind; he always looked a fact of any sort squarely in the face, and this is what he saw when he turned to the task before him.—From "The Story of the Revolution," by Senator H. C. Lodge.

Precious Washington Urn.  
One of the valuable relics entrusted to the care of the Grand Master of Massachusetts Masons is "the Washington urn," a small golden urn containing a lock of General Washington's hair. Mrs. Washington presented the lock to the Grand Lodge in 1800, and Grand Master Paul Revere made the urn.

**FOR FARM AND GARDEN.**

Harlequin Cabbage Bugs.

This is one of the worst garden pests. The fall grown insect is about half an inch long, with a hard shell, brilliantly spotted. It is a sap sucker, puncturing the stalks and leaves, then sucking out the sap. The insect is particularly fond of cabbage and turnips, working upon them both in the spring and autumn and is especially destructive to these plants when they are shooting for seed. About the only effectual method of getting rid of the pests is to pick them off by hand. They are not affected by poisons, and turkeys and chickens refuse to eat them. It pays to destroy the first brood at any cost, even to the loss of the early crop of vegetables.

Fertilizer for grapes.

Perhaps grape vines are the only plants which do not need stable manure, owing to the fact that manure contains albuminoids in excess, which makes grapes rot and vines decay. A poor, gravelly soil suits vines better than a rich one. Therefore vineyards are planted on the hill sides. More than nitrogen and acid phosphate, vines need a fertilizer containing 15 per cent of potash. Often we hear farmers boasting of having put tons of commercial fertilizers in the soil of their farms, which may be very good, but we never hear any boast about a well-preserved stable manure, which in this sandy soil particularly is an impellent necessity, for it furnishes vegetable matter (humus) of which the soil is deficient, improving its condition so as to enable it to hold its humidity, and that addition of commercial fertilizers, if the soil is too loose—as is the case with ours—makes it compact, and if it is stiff it loosens it. It is a fact that the effects of stable manure in the soil have been traced twenty years after.—Alex M. Valerio in New England Homestead.

White Clover Seed.

It is so difficult to cut and cure the white clover after it has ripened its seed that this seed must always be high priced. It is therefore worth while for farmers who complain that everything they grow is too cheap to give them any profit to seed plentifully with white clover on some land that is reasonably free from weeds, and grow this crop as a specialty. What is now marketed is secured from hand-picked heads of clover, out of which the seed is pounded and the chaff blown away. White clover heads are pretty sure to be filled with seed, as the honey bees pass from flower to flower and fertilize it. The farmer who grows white clover should always keep bees, as the clover makes the very best honey known. The modern habit of seeding with red clover thickly suppresses the white clover, as the larger growth smothers the smaller. Yet wherever white clover has been plentiful it will come in when the red clover dies out, as it does after the second year, thus showing the persistency of the white clover seed in the soil. Were it not so valuable a plant it would prove a troublesome weed, and indeed does, where strawberry beds are neglected.—American Cultivator.

How to Underdrain the Orchard.

Locate drains midway between the rows of trees. The depth of the drains should be from four to five feet, not less than four and as much deeper as the outlet and convenience will allow. The tile should be two or three sizes larger than would be necessary to use in ordinary land draining, to give aeration to the soil, and not be liable to obstructions from small roots. If the drains are midway between the rows and as much as four feet deep and laid with five or six inch tile, the roots of the trees will not likely reach the drains in sufficient numbers to seriously affect the drainage. The deeper the drains the deeper the roots will penetrate the subsoil. If the drains were eight feet deep the earth midway between the drains and directly under the rows of trees would be affected as deep as seven feet, in a few years' time, and the roots of the trees will penetrate as deep as the subsoil is drained within a reasonable limit, say ten feet, possibly more. Trees so deeply rooted are the better secured against injury from the extremes of the weather. With the sufficient underdrainage of a fertile, retentive clay soil, the intelligent orchardist with persistent energy is master of the business.

Poultry on the Farm.

Professor Gilbert of Ottawa, Canada, in answer to the question: Why is poultry valuable to the farmer? gives the following reasons:

1. Because he ought by their means to convert a great deal of the waste of his farm into money in the shape of eggs and chickens for market.

2. Because with intelligent management they ought to be all-year revenue producers with the exception of perhaps two months during the moult period.

3. Because poultry will yield him a quicker return for his capital invested than any of the other departments of agriculture.

4. Because the manure from the poultry house will make a valuable compost for use in either a vegetable garden or orchard. The birds themselves, if allowed to run in plum or apple orchards, will destroy all injurious insect life.

5. Because while cereals and fruits can only be successfully grown in certain sections, poultry can be raised for table use or layers of eggs in all parts of the country.

6. Because poultry raising is an employment in which the farmers wife and daughters can engage and leave him free to attend to other departments.

7. Because it will bring the best returns in the shape of new laid eggs—during the winter season—when the farmer has most time on his hands.

8. Because to start poultry raising on the farm requires little or no capital. Under any circumstances, with proper management, poultry can be made with little cost a valuable adjunct to the farm.

Honey Bees as Pollen Distributors.

The honey bee as a pollen distributor is perhaps of greater value to this country than the crop of honey produced. It has of late years occurred to scientists that the honey bee is of more benefit to distributing pollen than all other sources combined. That we are largely indebted to the honey bee for both quantity and quality of our fine fruits there is but little doubt. Not only fruits but vegetables, and cereals can only grow on the farm.

Bees are not the only insects that are valuable in pollinating flowers, but if we note very closely we will find that only on a very small scale compared with the honey bee do other insects accomplish much of this work. The honey bee is a general pollen gatherer wherever pollen is to be found, and thus works an extensive territory. Bees thoroughly canvass several miles in diameter in search of both pollen and honey, and are always pollen distributors whether they are engaged in gathering honey or pollen.

Who has not seen the corn fields with their heavy laden tassels of pollen swarming with honey bees? Also the clover fields, the buckwheat fields, the orchards, the vegetable fields, the strawberry fields, and almost every wild flower that produces either fruit or seed is daily visited by the busy bee, perhaps every hour in the day, thus distributing pollen from flower to flower, industriously performing the work that nature intended them to do.

Fruit growers of the present have awakened up to the fact that the honey bee is their best friend, and that bees and fruit growing must be closely combined, and the strawberry man has found that his berry patch is almost a blank without honey bees principally for successful returns. Who would not be a friend to the honey bee, one of nature's good gifts to man? That there are not enough of bees to thoroughly supply this want there is little doubt; many neighborhoods have but few colonies of bees. In support of this I would refer you to the state of California, which is the most extensive beekeeping state in the Union, and also the same in the production of fruit.—H. H. Duff in Farm, Field and Fireside.

Planting Black Raspberries.

My method of planting the black raspberry is somewhat peculiar. Owing to my ability to get stakes very cheaply, I prefer to stake. The arrangements for planting all kinds of berry plants are made at least one year in advance, the ground being devoted to some hood crop which is kept thoroughly free of weeds. The ground is plowed in the fall, then disked in spring. The field is marked out both ways, the rows being four and one-half feet apart. They are opened up one way by means of a single shoveled plow and the plants are set in this furrow where the cross mark intersects.

In setting, care must be taken not to get the crowns too deep. One inch or less below the surface is sufficient. The roots, however, should be set as deep as possible and the ground packed firmly about them. I usually plant a nurse crop with the raspberries, preferring potatoes, cabbages or tomatoes to corn, as the latter crop shades the plants and is detrimental to the raspberries in consuming large quantities of water. Cultivate the young raspberries both ways, keeping the ground thoroughly clean until about Aug. 1, then sow the field to turnips, using a garden drill for the purpose and putting in two or three rows of turnips between each two rows of raspberries. It sometimes happens that the raspberries make such rapid growth during the first season that it is difficult to sow the turnips. If a full stand of plants is not secured it is best to set the entire field anew the next spring. I have seldom had any success in re-planting missed places. One-fourth of the plants fail to grow, replant the entire field.

During the first summer the canes are allowed to grow as they please. The following spring they are trimmed back to about 18 or 20 inches and staked and tied up. The second summer and each season thereafter the vines are pinched off at about three feet in height, and in the spring the side branches are cut to within one foot of the main stem. All the old wood is then cut out and raked off with a horse rake and burned. By my method of tying I am enabled to work close up to the hills and thus save a great deal of hoeing. By cross working I get rid of the ridges which are the result of working one way. I now have berry fields six and seven years old and they are nearly level. The past season they made a splendid growth.—W. S. Fultz in American Agriculturist.

Round to Keep Warm.

In a schoolhouse in Lucerne, Switzerland, that Mecca of summer tourists, a new hot-air furnace has recently been installed. Now on the blackboards of the various recitation rooms one may read the admonition: Since a hot-air heater has been installed in this building the opening of any window is expressly forbidden, since the hot air would go out.—Chicago Record.