

**GEORGE WASHINGTON
A NATIONAL TREASURE**

Patriot Papers

PATRIOT *n.* [Fr *patriote* < LL. *patriota*, fellow countryman < Gr *patriotes* < *patris*, fatherland < *pater*, FATHER]

George Celebrates Birthday in the Hollywood Hills Smithsonian Exhibition Opens in Seattle in March

National Portrait Gallery Tours "George Washington: A National Treasure"

Driving through the sunlit streets of Los Angeles, I saw him, suspended from a lamppost on Fairfax Avenue, just off Wilshire Boulevard. As I caught a glimpse of the Hollywood Hills, there he was again, shrouded by the morning mist. George Washington had come to LA to celebrate his birthday, and hundreds were flocking to see him. The event: "George Washington: A National Treasure," an exhibition from the Smithsonian's National Portrait Gallery. The place: LACMA—The Los Angeles County Museum of Art.

On Presidents' Day 2002, "George Washington: A National Treasure" began a nationwide tour at the Museum of Fine Arts in Houston, Texas. One year later, George Washington celebrated Presidents' Day in Los Angeles, reigniting the spirit of Washington for thousands of Americans. And on March 21, 2003, the exhibition opened at the Seattle Art Museum. With this tour, made possible through the generosity of the Donald W. Reynolds Foundation, the National Portrait Gallery in Washington, DC, is sharing the spirit of George Washington with students across America.

Painted in 1796 by artist Gilbert Stuart, the portrait is considered one of the most important visual documents of the founding of our nation. Its historical and cultural significance has been compared to that of the Liberty Bell and the Declaration of Independence. At the tour's end, the portrait

Coming Soon to a Museum Near You

The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston:
February 15 - June 16, 2002

Las Vegas Art Museum:
June 28 - October 27, 2002

Los Angeles County Museum of Art:
November 7, 2002 - March 9, 2003

Seattle Art Museum: March 21 - July 20, 2003

The Minneapolis Institute of Arts:
August 1 - November 30, 2003

Oklahoma City Museum of Art:
December 12, 2003 - April 11, 2004

Arkansas Arts Center: April 23 - August 22, 2004

The Metropolitan Museum of Art: Fall 2004

will return to its permanent home in the Portrait Gallery.

"I thought it was going to be small," said Patricia Vargas, visiting with her mom, Lupe. "But it was huge!" The 8-foot life-size painting does dwarf many of its younger visitors. Museum docents lead daily school tours as hundreds of children stare wide-eyed at all 6'3" of Stuart's *George Washington*. "Do you think he was a good man?" "Of course," answered ten-year-old Gabe Wingert. "He started a country."

The iconography—the rainbow, the flag, the inkwell, the blue sky, the sword—was another favorite topic of discus-



Photograph by Tia Powell Harris

sion. "And what do you think that scroll is, rolled up on the desk?" "I think it's the Declaration of Independence," volunteered Gabe. But his sister Linda had a more inventive idea. "Maybe those are George Washington's bills." Good answer. You might be right, Linda. After all, it costs a lot to start a country, right Gabe?

Tennessee Catches the Spirit and Declares GW Education Day

Tennessee caught the spirit and declared December 17, 2002, George Washington Education Day throughout the state. West Elementary School in Mount Juliet hosted the event where educators from the Smithsonian presented the state of Tennessee with a framed reproduction of the original "Lansdowne" portrait of George Washington. The day was celebrated with tricorn hats, knee-high stockings, and a red, white, and blue-flocked Christmas tree. Costumed students presented a living timeline that debunked common myths about the founding father, including the myth that Washington wore wooden teeth. (Actually his teeth were made from human teeth, cow's teeth, and ivory.) Other students read their winning essays on Washington and even reenacted Washington's famous crossing of the Delaware. Nevada and South Carolina held similar celebrations.

Although the 205-year-old portrait will visit only eight cities, the National Portrait Gallery hopes to affect all 50 states. "Our goal is to create excitement about George Washington as an American hero," said NPG education



Young GW reenactor Cody Hartley comes "face to face" with George.

director Carol Wyrick. "The greatest legacy he left us was his selfless service to his fellow man. We're asking all Americans to follow his example and give time to both country and community."

Get on the Bus, Gus ... Make a New Plan, Stan

LA Schools Support Local Communities. What's Your Plan?

The kids from Malibu jumped on board. Lorraine Staab and her kindergartners from Webster Elementary School in Malibu led the way on a school initiative that supports the **School on Wheels**. The kids collect backpacks, lunch pails, pencils, crayons, and other assorted school supplies to equip this traveling school bus that tutors homeless kids in Santa Monica. Read on to see how kids around LA are studying history through service, benefiting both school and community.

★ Virginia Goodrich from **Monterey Hills Elementary School** in South Pasadena and her 5th-grade class chose to support the Rare Breeds program at Colonial Williamsburg. Using the culinary arts to raise money, they chose a recipe from the historic Raleigh Tavern, baked gingerbread cookies in the shape of rare breeds, and sold their wares at a mock market square. Watch for the recipe in the next issue. *continued on page 8*

Washington Wins Election to House from Fort Cumberland!

FREDERICKSBURG, 1758—George Washington, son of Augustine and Mary Ball Washington, has been elected to the Virginia House of Burgesses while serving with the British regulars at Fort Cumberland. His friends urged him to return to Virginia and “show his face,” fearing that he would lose the election. But he chose to stay with his men, and was still successful in winning a seat in the House.

General Washington Rallies Troops at Valley Forge

VALLEY FORGE, 1777–1778—General Washington struggles to keep his troops alive and well in Valley Forge, Pennsylvania, this winter. Inadequate shipments of food, clothing, and supplies have left the regiments in shambles. Poor hygiene and serious disease threaten the lives of all the soldiers camped there. General Washington has appealed for more supplies, but has not been successful. In the meantime, General Washington struggles alongside his men, while his political enemies threaten to remove his power. Some critics feel that others are better suited to lead the Continental army.



Battle of Bunker's Hill, near Boston (detail) by Johann Gotthard Von Müller, after John Trumbull, engraving, 1788–1797. National Portrait Gallery, Smithsonian Institution

Martha Washington Buries Fourth Child, John P. Custis

YORKTOWN, 1781—After losing two children in infancy and her daughter Patsy to epilepsy, Martha Washington lost her last child to camp fever. John Parke Custis, known as Jacky to family and friends, passed away on November 5 at Yorktown. This happened just seventeen days after the surrender of Britain's General Cornwallis. Jacky leaves behind a wife and four children. General and Mrs. Washington will raise the younger two children, Eleanor “Nelly” Custis and George Washington Parke Custis, at Mount Vernon, their home in Virginia.

Washington Unanimous Pick for President at Convention!

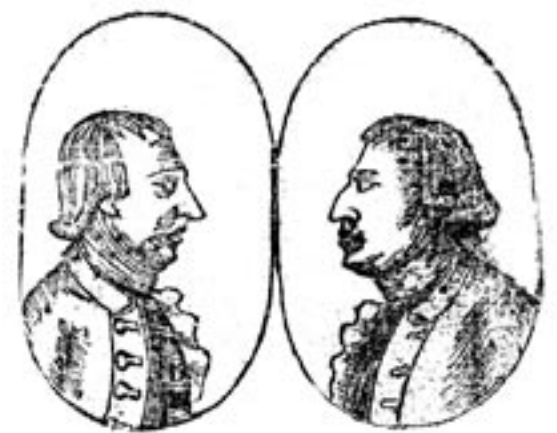
NEW YORK, 1789 (AP)—After months of debate to establish our new American government, the first official election was held on February 4, 1789. George Washington received all 69 electoral votes! Washington, who will be inaugurated on April 30 of this year, accepted the presidency, even though he wished to return to his estate at Mount Vernon and retire. “I was summoned by my country,” said Washington. He and his wife Martha will soon move to the country's capital, New York City.

Washington Graciously Delays Retirement for a Second Term

PHILADELPHIA, 1793 (AP)—President George Washington has won his second election to the presidency of the United States! The inauguration will take place on March 4 in Philadelphia, the new capital of the United States. However, Washington is doubtful about being the President again. He wrote to his friend Henry Lee “that it was after a long and painful conflict in my own breast, that I was withheld from requesting, in time, that no votes might be thrown away upon me; it being my fixed determination to return to the walks of private life.” The next four years could be difficult; there are debates over the interpretation of the Constitution. Secretary of the Treasury Alexander Hamilton, who helped create the National Bank and the National Mint, will continue to work with the President. Edmund Randolph will replace Thomas Jefferson as secretary of state.

Whiskey Rebellion Shakes Pennsylvania

PHILADELPHIA, 1794—Western Pennsylvanians have started a violent opposition to government taxes. They are launching the first major civil disturbance of President Washington's term in office. Last week, U.S. Marshal David Lenox was trying to collect taxes on locally distilled liquor in Westmoreland County. Military action will be taken, much to the regret of the President: “I have accordingly determined to do so, feeling the deepest regret for the occasion, but withal, the most solemn conviction, that the essential interests of the Union demand it.” The army is being organized from other northern states and they will advance into Pennsylvania shortly.



The Glorious Washington and Gates, detail from *Bickerstaff's Boston Almanack*, 1778

On Tuesday next,
being the 14th Instant,
A new COMEDY,
called

FALSE
DELICACY

By the author of
A WORD TO
THE WISE

*(It may not be improper to give
Notice that the Theatre in
Williamsburg will be closed
at the End of the April Court,
the American Company's
Engagements calling them to
the Northward, from whence,
it is probable, they will not
return for several years.)*

Was found
November 9, 1787,
on the Egypt Road

A Lady's
TIPPET.

Whoever has
lost the same, by
applying to the
Printers, and paying
the expense of the
advertisement, may
have it again.

The Patriot Papers

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Teaching materials to accompany the exhibition “George Washington: A National Treasure” are available to educators at no cost by visiting www.georgewashington.si.edu or by calling 1-866-NPG-KITS.

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 Smithsonian
National Portrait Gallery

KING & QUEEN, MARCH 31, 1772

 WHEREAS MY APPRENTICE,
Christopher Lewis, has absented himself from
my Service, I therefore forewarn all Persons
from employing or entertaining him under
any Pretence whatever.

THOMAS HILL

November 1796

RUNAWAY SLAVE. Mrs. Washington is greatly distressed by the loss of Olney Judge, her Mount Vernon servant so skilled in needlework. The girl, we hear, was lured away by a Frenchman who tired of her and left her stranded in Portsmouth, New Hampshire. President Washington has sent word that all will be forgiven if she returns to her mistress, but she has refused to come back unless promised her freedom. This puts the President in an awkward situation. Privately he has said that although he is sympathetic to her demand, setting her free would only reward her for running away and would spread discontent among the rest of his servants (as he calls them), who by being faithful are more deserving of their freedom than the runaway. Above all, the President cautioned that no violent means should be used to bring her back, lest a mob or riot be excited. Rather than risk this happening, he would tell Mrs. Washington she must get along without the services of Olney Judge.

December 1790

FREEDOM TOO GREAT A TEMPTATION. President Washington has brought a handful of servants from Mount Vernon, but he will be faced with the difficulty of complying with the Pennsylvania law freeing adult slaves who have lived in Pennsylvania for six months in a row. It is believed that the President, therefore, will have to shuttle these servants back and forth and suffer the inconvenience of sometimes being without his cook, Hercules. Asked if he feared his slaves might take advantage of being in the North to run away, the President has privately conceded that “the idea of freedom might be too great a temptation for them to resist.”

- George Washington was only 11 years old when he inherited 10 slaves from his father in 1743.
- By the time he was 22 years old, George owned approximately 36 slaves.
- At his death in 1799, Washington had 316 slaves at Mount Vernon, 123 of whom belonged directly to him. The remaining 193 were “dower” slaves—those he acquired through his marriage to Martha.
- Approximately 75 percent of the slaves at Mount Vernon worked in the fields. Of these, nearly 65 percent were women.
- Washington did not buy or sell his slaves after the Revolutionary War.
- Washington allowed his slaves to marry, although such arrangements were not legally binding at that time.
- In his will, Washington freed all of the slaves he owned. His personal valet, William Lee, was released with a payment of \$30 per year for the rest of his life, a considerable sum in those days.

December 1790

PRESIDENTIAL RESIDENCE, 190 HIGH STREET, PHILADELPHIA. Senator Robert Morris’s dwelling, at 190 High Street, has turned out to be the best house available for the President’s use, and Mr. Morris has graciously agreed to move around the corner. Additions will be made to accommodate Mrs. Washington and her two grandchildren, Nelly, who is about twelve, and George Washington, who is about ten, as well as the President’s secretary and numerous servants. The bathing room has been turned into a study to provide for a room in which the President can do business, but unfortunately it will be necessary for visitors to walk up two flights of stairs and pass by the public rooms and private chambers to get to it. The President has insisted that the house is to be finished in a plain and neat manner and has ruled out tapestry or very rich and costly wallpaper. He has also ruled that the back yard be kept as clean as the parlor, since it is in full view from the best rooms in the house.



George Washington and His Family by David Edwin, after Edward Savage, stipple engraving, 1798. National Portrait Gallery, Smithsonian Institution

WANTED

A MILLER, who is a white Man, for a common Gristmill within a Mile of *Williamsburg*, to whom good Wages will be given.

SAMUEL COOKE.
Petersburg, February 12, 1772

Throughout the coming months *The Patriot Papers* will address the issue of slavery during Washington’s time. In view of Washington’s many attributes and accomplishments, it is difficult to acknowledge his role as slave owner. Guest historians will share their perspectives; we invite you to share yours. Hopefully, through dialogue, we will increase our understanding.

—F. A. Pulles, editor
PatriotPapers@npg.si.edu

RUN AWAY FROM MY PLANTATION, called *Newport News*, on the 17th of *January*, a very likely Negro Fellow named *Strawbury*, about thirty Years of Age, has lost one of his fore Teeth, and had on a Cotton Waistcoat and Breeches, Plaid Stockings, and Negro Shoes. The Negroes upon the Plantation saw him go away with two Sailors; he can read, and I imagine he will attempt to go out of the Country on Board a Vessel. I do hereby forewarn all Masters of Vessels from carrying him away, as they shall answer it at their Peril. Whoever brings the said Negro to me, in *York County*, shall have TEN POUNDS Reward if he is taken in this Colony, and TWENTY POUNDS if out thereof.

—WILLIAM DIGGES, Junior

Did You Know...?

- Washington came from a blended family, having two older stepbrothers and one stepsister; he was the eldest of the children by his father’s second wife.
- He was actually born February 11, not February 22? England changed its calendar when he was a boy, causing his birthdate to become February 22.
- His father died when he was 11 years old?
- He often had a bad temper but slowly learned to control it?
- He loved horseback riding, dancing, and farming?
- He was not always a good student?
- He did not always get along very well with his mother, who was bossy and controlling?
- His older half-brother Lawrence was one of the most important people in young George’s life?
- He had two stepchildren, but no children of his own.

Possessions

Today, most of us own many more things than we really need to live on. When Washington was 11 years old, his family made an inventory (or list) of their possessions. Here is what they owned, besides their land:

- 16 pairs of sheets
- 17 pillowcases
- 13 beds
- A couch
- Desks
- Chairs
- A fireplace set
- Tablecloths
- Napkins
- A looking glass (mirror)
- One silver-plated soup spoon
- 18 small spoons
- 7 teaspoons
- A watch
- A sword
- 11 china plates
- 20 slaves

How many of these same items are owned by your family today? Are you surprised to see “slaves” listed as part of the inventory of possessions? If you were to make an inventory of every item in your home, how long do you think the list would be? How many items would be unfamiliar to George Washington?

We interrupt this edition of *The Patriot Papers* news to bring you the nearly news—a collection of intimate historical glimpses into the past, captured in not-so-living color in *The Pudding Papers*. The complete episodic adventures can be viewed at your leisure at www.georgewashington.si.edu. Our on-the-scene trusted correspondents include: Silas Silvertongue, our presidential reporter; Titus Blunt, our congressional correspondent; and our own Prudence Pudding, who provides social notes from all over. (We leave it for you to decide, dear reader, whether she is an upstart hussy or a man in disguise.) In the spirit of the freedom of the press guaranteed by our new Bill of Rights, we intend to act as a watchful eye and a listening ear, sometimes bringing a plate of gossip, but never a dish of scandal.

**Editor's note—We apologize in advance for any improprieties, insults, or slanderous remarks on the part of our correspondents. They are, at times ill-mannered, sometimes indiscreet, and, at all times, want of wit.*

April 23, 1789

HE COMES! HE COMES! George Washington, President-elect of the United States, has just set foot on the New York shore after an eight-day triumphal journey from Mount Vernon. The excitement here is unbelievable. Thousands line the streets—all you can see are heads standing as thick as ears of corn before the harvest. Ladies are crowded in every window, anxious for a glimpse of the illustrious man. “I have seen him!” we heard one young lady call out, “and though I had been entirely ignorant that he was arrived in the city, I should have known at a glance that it was General Washington: I never saw a human being that looked so great and noble as he does. I could fall down on my knees before him.” Washington, it can well be believed, is more popular than the new government he is to head.

May 14, 1789

WHAT IS THE PRESIDENT TO BE CALLED? Debate, we are told, rages behind the closed doors of the Senate over a proper title for the President. Vice President John Adams and a number of the senators have insisted that a grand and high-sounding name, such as “Elective Excellency” or “Elective Highness,” is necessary to give respect to the office. Sources tell us that the committee appointed to draw up a list of titles “of all the Princes of the Earth” has recommended “His Highness the President of the United States of



John Adams by John Trumbull (detail), oil on canvas, circa 1793. National Portrait Gallery, Smithsonian Institution

America, and Protector of their Liberties.” But the House of Representatives refuses to agree, and Mr. Washington will be simply called President of the United States. As one member of Congress told us, no other title was necessary to add to the respect the whole country had for General Washington.

“Elective Highness”

—a suggested title for the President of the United States, 1789



Martha Washington (above left) by an unidentified artist, after Gilbert Stuart and Charles Willson Peale, oil on canvas, 1800-1825. Abigail Adams (above right) by Raphaelle Peale, hollow-cut silhouette, 1804. National Portrait Gallery, Smithsonian Institution



May 30, 1789

THE PRESIDENT'S LADY. Mrs. Washington, who needed some time to prepare for her journey, has now arrived in New York. The President's lady will give no interviews to the press, but this correspondent has talked to many of her friends and acquaintances. Mrs. Adams, the Vice President's lady, who first met Mrs. Washington when she came to be with the general in Cambridge at the beginning of the war, told *The Patriot Papers* that Mrs. Washington is a lady of patience and prudence. “Her manners are modest and unassuming, dignified and feminine, not the Tincture of ha'ture about her.”

July 9, 1790

WHERE IS THE CAPITAL TO BE? Ever since the old Congress left Philadelphia in 1783, arguments have raged over where the permanent seat of government should be built. At last, the residence is decided. The government is to leave New York and spend the next ten years in Philadelphia. The permanent capital will be a new city created on the banks of the Potomac River, the exact location to be chosen by President Washington. Some folks speculate that it will not be far from Mount Vernon. New Yorkers, after they have gone to so much trouble and expense to accommodate the government, feel betrayed, and one angry letter to the editor speaks of the President as the country's “former favorite guardian and deliverer.”



Thomas Jefferson (above left) by Mather Brown (detail), oil on canvas, 1786. Gift of Charles Francis Adams. Alexander Hamilton (above right) by James Sharples, pastel on paper, circa 1796. National Portrait Gallery, Smithsonian Institution

February 1792

POLITICAL PARTIES. Not a word about political parties in the Constitution, but they are here and with a passion. Federalists, who are friends of the government, and the Republicans, who find much to criticize, are at it tooth and nail. Most folks say the parties started over the differences between Secretary of the Treasury Alexander Hamilton and Secretary of State Thomas Jefferson. Hamilton, the friend of business and manufacturers, has pushed for a strong federal government; Jefferson, who wants to see America stay a land of farmers, is deeply suspicious of money men and banks. But what has really stirred things up is the war between France and England, with the Republicans being passionately on the side of France, which has beheaded its king and become a republic, and the Federalists seeing the old mother country as an important trading partner. The President, who wants to keep both Hamilton and Jefferson in his cabinet and to steer a neutral course between France and England, is beset by difficulties.

August 2, 1793

THE PRESIDENT ENRAGED. Sources tell us that the President lost his usually well-controlled temper at a recent meeting of his cabinet. Shown a satiric piece describing his head being chopped off by the guillotine, printed in Republican editor Philip Freneau's newspaper, the President went suddenly into a towering rage, spoke bitterly of the newspaper abuse to which he had been subjected in past months, and defied any critic to indicate one selfish act committed by him in office. He said he would rather be a farmer than emperor of the world, and yet that “rascal Freneau” insinuated that he would like to be a king. To add insult to injury, Freneau sent three copies of every issue to the President's dwelling.

Philadelphia, April 1791

OUT AND ABOUT. The President of the United States, it is well known, is very fond of the theater and has gone outside the city to Southwark, where plays are performed. During an affecting moment leading to a happy ending, Washington was observed to shed a tear. As the humorous scenes unfolded, those playing the parts of Priscilla Tomboy and Young Cockney received the approving smiles of the old hero. General Washington goes often to concerts but has been heard to say, “I can neither play Musick nor sing Songs.”

George Washington Dies at 67

After riding outside during very bad weather last Thursday and Friday, George Washington became ill on Saturday, December 14. An infection known as epiglottitis gave him a sore throat, fever, and difficulty breathing.

Doctors tried a practice called bloodletting: they made small cuts on his arm to take out blood. They hoped to relieve the pressure in his throat so he would be able to breathe better. Unfortunately, bloodletting did not help. Doctors also gave him many different fluids to gargle or swallow, including a mixture of vinegar, molasses, and butter. None of these cures helped the former President breathe easier.

His friend Tobias Lear wrote that Washington grew calm late in the evening, checked his own pulse, and then died peacefully in his bed. His wife Martha was with him, as well as several servants, doctors, and friends.

An elaborate funeral is planned for Wednesday, December 18, including gun salutes and a procession.

WOULD YOU SIGN A LOYALTY OATH?

During the Revolutionary War, the British would have required you to sign an oath similar to this:

“I voluntarily take this OATH to bear Faith and true Allegiance to His MAJESTY KING George the Third; — and defend to the utmost of my Power, His sacred Person, Crown, and Government, against all Persons whatsoever.”

Would you have signed? How many colonists do you think were loyal to the British crown?

I INTEND
to leave the
COLONY
soon.

THOMAS
HOGG

*Philadelphia Porter,
Beer, and Cyder,*



The President with No Teeth!

When George Washington became the first President of the United States in 1783, he had only one of his teeth left in his mouth. As a boy, he had cracked walnut shells with his teeth and, as a result, many of them fell out before he was thirty! Over the years, Washington wore several sets of false teeth. Even though many people today believe that these teeth were made out of wood, there is no proof that he ever had wooden teeth. His dentures were made of many things. They were often a combination of human teeth, animal teeth, and ivory. They were put together with wire and a spring, which allowed the dentures to open and close. Throughout his life, Washington had trouble speaking, chewing food, and smiling. The false teeth could be painful and they sometimes made his cheeks and lips puff out. Fortunately, modern dentistry now allows painless smiles for even the greatest of walnut lovers.



George Washington in His Last Illness, an engraving done in 1800 by an unidentified artist, is an example of the public's fascination with the death of its first American hero. National Portrait Gallery, Smithsonian Institution

Did George Washington Stand a Chance?

Colonial Practice of Bloodletting Helped Cause Washington's Death

—by Vicki Fama, assistant editor

Today, it is easy to think that medicine during the colonial era was crude and painful. Many doctors at the time were self-trained. If he had lived today, George Washington could have been cured with antibiotics. But in 1799, could Washington have gotten better after the treatments he received?

Colonial medicine was based on European medical methods and theories. No one understood how diseases or infection spread. One of the main theories focused on the need for a total balance of tension and fluids in the body. This delicate balance was essential to both physical and mental health. To achieve this balance, Washington's doctors bled him several times. They may have thought that removing extra blood would lessen the swelling in his throat. Unfortunately they took so much blood that it was hard for Washington's body to fight the illness.

Doctors also made Washington gargle with mixtures of vinegar, molasses, and butter. These were used to open up his throat. But his throat was too swollen, and he had a lot of trouble swallowing. He almost choked a couple of times too.

Finally, doctors tried to make him vomit to take out any bad fluids. This can cause the body to lose too much water, and that can make someone sicker.

Even though Washington's doctors did a lot of things that modern doctors would not do, they tried very hard to help him. They used medical practices that were believed to be the most helpful. Washington knew that he was very ill, and he died peacefully.

A modern analysis by White McKenzie Wallenborn, M.D., concludes that Washington died from acute epiglottitis, which is a bacterial inflammation of the epiglottis, a flap at the root of the tongue that prevents food from entering the windpipe. However, some doctors today believe that the excessive loss of blood alone would have weakened Washington enough to kill him.



MISS FAITH PROCTOR

The Perils of Pampering

Faith's Day at the Spa

—BY J. K. PULLES

Never again! I have never in my life been subjected to such torture. Faith Proctor here again to tell you about my day at the spa.

You may remember that after leaving my rural Massachusetts home to meet my distant relatives in Washington, D.C., I encountered a great many wonderful things in your modern cities. I've already told you about my fascinating trip to the mall. Well, after visiting the mall, my cousin Melody told me that our next visit should be to the spa. She said, "What use are our great new clothes without a makeover?" Eager to try all of the exciting things the city had to offer, I quickly agreed to a "makeover."

We entered Vittorio's the next morning. They sent us to a beautiful lounge, where a woman handed us robes and sandals. Immediately Melody began removing her blouse! I gasped and said, "Melody! Have you brought me to a house of ill repute? I will not be a part of this!" Melody laughed and explained that we were supposed to undress and put on the robes and sandals. Imagine! Walking around in front of strangers in your bathrobe! I nearly ran right out of Vittorio's for fear that my virtue was in danger. Melody finally convinced me to stay, so I reluctantly put on the robe and sandals. Clutching the robe tightly around me, we left the lounge and entered a small white room with two tables. After a moment, two men came in the room

and handed us each a white bedsheet. They then asked us to remove our robes and lie on the tables. "I knew it!" I shouted. "This is a brothel! And to think, you even expect us to make the beds! I have never in my life been treated with such disrespect!" Melody grabbed me and calmly explained that these men were professionals. They expected us to lie on the tables and cover ourselves with sheets. They would then lay their hands on us and make our sore muscles feel better. "Oh!" I said. "I understand. This is that new religion—hands-on healing. My Mama told me about these people. Well, I'm not going to change my religious beliefs, but I suppose if these men are men of the cloth it would be okay for me to remove my robe." An hour later I was completely relaxed and willing to consider this new religion!

It was only then, after they had lured me in, taken my clothes, and relaxed all of my muscles, that the torture began. Melody and I were ushered into another small room with several reclining chairs. Two women entered the room and asked us to sit in the large, comfortable chairs. One of the women approached me and began to put a hot, sticky glue on my face. "What is that?" I asked. The woman told me it was wax! "Wax!" I gasped. "You're making me into a human candle. This is a human sacrifice! Run, Melody, run!" I couldn't understand why Melody just sat there. Laughing, the woman told me to please sit back down. She said she was simply removing hair from my face. I sat back in the chair, still not completely understanding what was about to happen. After applying more hot wax to my face the woman grabbed strips of paper and put them on top of the wax. After a moment, the woman told me to relax and, grabbing the edge of the paper, she ripped it from my face. "AAAAAH!" I shrieked. "Why are you doing this to me? I will not succumb to your torture—I will not join your religion!" I struggled to get out of the chair, but the woman kept applying the horrible hot wax. I passed out as she began applying the hot wax above my eyes.

I woke up some time later in a dim room with my feet in a toilet. Reclining in a large, leather chair, I was surrounded by hundreds of tiny bottles of colored liquid. A woman came into the room and told me she was going to give me a "pedicure." "A pedicure? A cure? Oh thank you! Finally, something to soothe me after that excruciating hot wax torture!" She sat down on a small stool in front of my feet. She pushed a button and the toilet started to gurgle and swirl. I jerked my legs up and away from the flushing toilet. The woman asked me to please put my feet back in the water. "No thanks," I said. "I've already been covered in glue and I don't want my feet sucked into a toilet." The woman looked at me strangely but agreed to turn it off. Once the swirling stopped, I slowly lowered my feet back into the water. Just then the woman pulled open a drawer and began to remove shiny silver scalpels and scissors from the drawer. It was then I realized her diabolical plan. I jumped from the chair, pushed the woman down, and ran screaming through the hall. The woman began to chase me with her torture instruments. Slipping and sliding on wet feet, I searched frantically for the exit. Turning left and right, down hallway after hallway, I finally saw a sign that said, "Tranquillity Pond, this way." I was sure that was the answer. The sign would lead me back to the nice men of the cloth from the white room and they would help me. I heard the woman behind me, calling my name. Faster and faster I ran, bursting through the door to the Tranquillity Pond and flying headlong into a pool of mud. Mud splashed all around me, covering the woman and one of the religious men standing over the pond. I was mired in a pond of mud, but for the first time in weeks, I felt at home.

Well, I'm willing to try almost anything once, but once was enough for me. No more hands-on healing, hot wax torture, or gurgling foot toilets for me. I'll stick to beauty the old-fashioned way—with a pinch to the cheek and a touch of powder to the nose.

In Other Words...

Mistress Goody's Column of Advice on subjects other than politics and war.

RESPECTFULLY BASED ON *THE RULES OF CIVILITY*

—BY T. POWELL HARRIS

In 1745, in the colonial frontier town of Fredericksburg, Virginia, thirteen-year-old George Washington recorded *The Rules of Civility* in his workbook, probably as a dictation exercise. These "guidelines for the respectable gentleman" would influence him throughout his life, guiding him in both social and professional situations. Translations and variations abound, but all stress etiquette, chivalry, and courtesy, often rather elusive concepts in the 21st century.

Fortunately, there is one who understands the rules well; in fact, she still recommends their use today. Let us recall a character from the past to offer advice on life, love, and learning. We give you the "Toast of George Town"—our own Mistress Goody, always informed, always respectable, and very, very good.

Mistress Goody,

There's this really cool group of kids that I want to hang out with. Sometimes they do mean things to people. Like once I know they broke into a teacher's car. They didn't take anything. It was just a practical joke, sort of. My mom says I shouldn't want to be associated with anyone who might lead me into trouble one day, but I think it's all about a little fun. What do you say?

Rule 56: Associate yourself with men of good quality if you esteem your own reputation. For 'tis better to be alone than in bad company.

I think you get Mistress Goody's point!

Mistress Goody,

At the lunch table most everyone eats and talks at the same time. I think that's pretty gross. What do you think?

The rules of dining etiquette are quite clear; let them guide your acquaintances in all their culinary endeavors:

Rule 90: Being set at meat, scratch not neither spit, cough nor blow your nose, except when there is a necessity for it.

Rule 100: Cleanse not your teeth with the tablecloth, napkin, fork, knife; but if others do it, let it be done with a pick tooth [i.e., a toothpick].

Mistress Goody,

My very best friend just broke up with her boyfriend. But now he asked me out, and she'll just die when she finds out. Should I go? What should I do? He's awfully cute.

My, my, this is a distressing dilemma. Mistress Goody recalls a situation of her own. It was 1796 at the George Town Ball. I cut quite a stunning figure that evening in my green taffeta gown and brocaded mules. Miss Prudence Petticoat of Philadelphia was pursued by a most evocative gentleman, but when her dance card was full, he pursued me! I'm afraid that a most unladylike tiff ensued shortly thereafter... but I digress. My advice to you, my dear, is found in

Rule 22: Show not yourself glad at the misfortune of another.

To join the gentleman in frivolity so soon after her heartbreak is unconscionable, not to mention terribly tacky. It certainly shows little regard for your intimate friend and calls into question your upbringing. Heed also

Rule 110: Labour to keep alive in your breast that little spark of celestial fire called conscience.

Have you misplaced yours, my dear?



MISTRESS GOODY

Annual City Ball

The Ladies and Gentlemen are respectfully invited to the annual Ball, to be held at the City Public House Ball Room, on Friday Evening at 5 o'Clock.

Gentlemen must provide themselves with tickets of admission, which may be had of Mr. Wadson.

- * No Lady to be admitted in a nightgown and no gentlemen in boots.
- * Couples to dance their minuets in the order they stand in their individual sets.
- * No dance to begin after 11 at night.
- * No tea, coffee, negus or other liquor to be carried into the dancing room.



Social Notes from All Over...

Patience Wright by an unidentified artist, etching, 1775. National Portrait Gallery, Smithsonian Institution

Philadelphia, January 1791

MRS. WASHINGTON'S DRAWING ROOM. On Friday evening at eight, your humble correspondent was among the ladies and gentlemen in attendance at Mrs. Washington's weekly reception. Mrs. Washington, plainly dressed, but in a gown of rich silk, sat on a sofa by the fireplace and arose to greet her guests with a curtsy which each lady returned. Each gentleman bowed low. Coffee, tea, and cake were served, and had I come in the summer, I would have been offered lemonade and ice cream. The ladies swish about, and as candlelight is a great improver of beauty, they appear to great advantage. President Washington circulated among the crowd, chatting agreeably with all the ladies. It is said that he keeps count of the numbers who come to pay their respects to Mrs. Washington and was pleased to find the room so crowded.



"Death March and Monody," sheet music, circa 1799-1800. National Portrait Gallery, Smithsonian Institution

Philadelphia, February 1797

NEW THEATER ON CHESTNUT STREET. We are informed that the President of the United States intends visiting the theater this evening and has sent his carriage to bring the Vice President and his family to join him. The play to be performed is *Columbus, or, A World Discovered*, and it will display scenery, machinery, and decorations, the likes of which have never been seen before. A representation of a storm, an earthquake, a volcano eruption, as well as a procession of Indians, await all who enter. *Columbus* will be followed by a farce called *A Wife at Her Wit's End*.

Philadelphia, July 13, 1793

RICKETTS'S AMPHITHEATRE. Word that the President and his family were to attend a performance of Mr. John Bill Ricketts's dangerous feats on horseback brought a large crowd this evening to what is called the Circus. The acrobatic performance was held to raise money to buy firewood for the poor during the coming winter. Mr. Ricketts, demonstrating his agility by drinking a glass of wine while on horseback, raised his glass to the health of "The Man of the People." This produced an immediate clap of applause and a loud hurrah from every part of the Circus. Mr. Ricketts has expressed his agreement with those who call General Washington the finest horseman of the age, saying "I delight to see the general ride, and make it a point to fall in with him when I hear that he is abroad on horseback; his seat is so firm, his management so easy and graceful, that I who am a professor of horsemanship, would go to him and learn to ride."

Philadelphia, September 1796



Charles Willson Peale, self-portrait, oil on canvas, circa 1791. National Portrait Gallery, Smithsonian Institution

PEALE'S MUSEUM. A visit to Mr. Peale's museum, Prudence Pudding tells us, is well worth the admission fee of one fourth of a dollar, if only to see the huge American buffalo. Peale's rooms are filled with monsters of the earth and sea, a rich array of birds, and a great collection of the bones, jaws, and teeth of tigers, sharks, and many other fearful animals. In one room are rattle, black, and spotted snakes, confined in cases enclosed with wire and glass. She was astonished to see Mr. Peale take out a black snake about four or five feet long, which he permitted to touch his cheek and twine itself around his neck. In the yard and stable were eagles, owls, baboons, monkeys, and a six-footed cow. Mr. Peale is also a painter, and there can be seen in his museum more than a hundred portraits of the more noteworthy personages of our country, including our illustrious Washington.

June 1791

THE PRESIDENT ON TOUR. When he entered upon the duties of his office, George Washington decided he would visit all parts of the United States to please the citizens and to see how they felt about the new government. Silas Silvertongue, who is with the President's party, reports that they are nearing the end of their two-month journey of 1,887 miles. Everywhere there has been a remarkable outpouring of affection for the President, Silvertongue informs. Towns have been in a bustle of preparation, and at every stop the citizens have come out to meet him with addresses of welcome. Ladies, some rouged up to the ears, have bedecked themselves with sashes and headbands painted with images of the President and patriotic slogans. The festivities include the ringing of bells, bands of music, cannon salutes, and some VERY BAD POETRY. (See poetry box, upper right.)

POET'S CORNER... SOME VERY BAD POETRY

GEORGE

*There was a young General
named George
Who led troops in the Valley at Forge
His horse was a dolly
Who took bullets so jolly
And now he has a horse no more.*

REVOLUTIONARY TEA

*There was an old lady lived over the sea
And she was an island queen.
Her daughter lived off in a new country
With an ocean of water between.
The old lady's pockets were full of gold
But never contented was she,
So she called on her daughter to pay her a tax
Of three pence a pound on her tea,
Of three pence a pound on her tea.*

☞ We take no responsibility for the quality of the work herein. GOOD POETRY SOUGHT.
Submit to PatriotPapers@npg.si.edu

Will the Real George W. Please Stand Up?

Actor William Sommerfield brings George Washington to your community for a 3-day trip back in time.



Hailed by historians and politicians as the definitive dramatic portrayal of George Washington, William Arthur Sommerfield fascinates audiences with the insights, warmth, and humor of our first President. Sommerfield strips away the marble image of the ideal man and replaces it with a portrayal of George Washington, the intensely human being—a man of humor, anger, sorrow, failure, sacrifice, and love.

Check local venues for details.

EDITOR'S CHOICE:

The Power of the Penny Challenges the GW Dollar On Wisconsin! Hudson Middle School Raises \$4,000 in One Week

I'm afraid that the stern George Washington who embraces the dollar bill would have blinked recently when seeing the power of the dollar challenged by the penny. Capturing the spirit of the holiday season, students from Hudson, Wisconsin, set out to raise funds to buy Christmas presents for needy children in the area. But in the spirit of George Washington and the American Revolution, they "declared war" on fellow students.

The Kids Who Care Club, advised by teacher Michelle Miller, pitted House against House (each grade has 3 Houses) in a weeklong battle that saw the penny triumph. (Sorry, George!) Each House placed its penny jar in plain view and began collecting pennies, in hopes of winning the coveted ice cream party at battle's end. But the spies from fellow Houses set out to sabotage the best-laid plans with silver and GW dollars. Pennies garnered positive points, but a quarter from the opposition eliminated 25 pennies;



The Kids Who Care (back row, left to right): Maddie Giordana, Amal Habib, Kristin Pelzel, Celilie Svensgaard, Trista Baskin, Katie Benoy; (front row): Usman Mohammad, Jessica Fink



I've never seen anything like it," said teacher Carol Gilbert. "The kids accepted the challenge and really got into the game." *The Patriot Papers* salutes you, Hudson. Thanks for **Pledging It Forward**.

Thanks to teacher Carol Gilbert for submitting this story. Our thoughts and prayers go with you as you face a new challenge of your own.

—The Patriot Papers editor and everyone at Hudson Middle School

a dollar wiped out 100. "It's always more fun to sabotage the enemy," said Miller. "The kids are just waiting for someone to put in a \$5 bill."

After the jousting was over and casualties counted, the Houses of Excalibur, the Knights, and the Nobles proved victorious. And so did Toys for Tots. The Kids Who Care Club raised \$4,000 in one week and went shopping for gifts. Student representatives presented the gifts on a live broadcast airing on KARE 11 News on December 12.

"In all my years in Hudson,

Students Play Santa: Adopt Kids from Star Tree

Students from West Elementary School in Mount Juliet, Tennessee, decided to play Santa over the holidays and spread some Christmas cheer to needy children in the Nashville area. They set up a Star Tree covered with the names of kids who wouldn't find much under their Christmas tree. Then students, parents, and classes selected stars from the tree labeled with a child's name and age. Each child then shared his list of the toys, clothes, or shoes that he or she hoped Santa would bring. "I think it's a good idea," said Tyler Cothron, "because I feel a lot better when I give something to somebody."

Tina King's 4th-grade class chose 4 stars this year. Students contributed what they could, and then **Special Santas** went on a shopping spree, selecting just the right gifts for their adoptees. Dolls, trucks, an Xbox, even bicycles soon waited beneath the tree for that special someone, promising to make Christmas shine a little brighter for all.

"It cheers your heart," said Kiarra Clemons, "when you give to others the things they can't buy that you get." Andy Coggins was a little more practical. "I think it's very nice to help people," he said, "because I would feel very bad if I woke up on Christmas morning with no presents under the tree."

So would we, Andy. *The Patriot Papers* salutes you and all of the stars at West Elementary for **Pledging It Forward**.

Get on the Bus, Gus...

continued from page 1

★ U.S. history students from **Lancaster High School**, **Highland High School**, and **Quartz High School** interviewed World War II veterans to better understand war in Europe and the Pacific. The veterans' stories inspired the kids to create their own USO show, complete with historical artifacts, vintage war movies, and popcorn. This led several students to Washington, DC, where they attended the groundbreaking ceremony dedicating the World War II monument.

★ Teacher Kristin Miller pairs with the **Audubon Society** to instill a love of nature, an appreciation of wildlife, and a respect for environmental conservation in her students. This year, their six-year partnership led to the creation of a rain forest.

★ Sharon Rose's students at **Woodlake Avenue Elementary School** in Woodland Hills each donated a favorite book to a local shelter for abused mothers and children. "It helps kids realize that many children don't have the same advantages as they do," said Rose. "It's also a great way to support reading and literacy."



NPG salutes educators Ruth Greene, Lorraine Staab, and Kelly Cook for their creativity in the classroom

★ In **Pomona**, 3rd graders and their parents volunteer at the local animal shelter, where they clean, wash, socialize with, and "talk to the animals."

★ Another class at **Webster Elementary** is knitting 10-inch squares that they will sew together to make quilts for kids in Africa.

★ Ruth Greene, teacher of advanced composition and expository composition at **Venice High School**, used "George Washington: A National Treasure" to create a four-week unit that explored art, symbolism, and speech writing. "The Lansdowne portrait was the perfect springboard. The kids will never look at a speech or a portrait in quite the same way." (Teachers: Ms. Greene's innovative lesson plan, complete with rubrics, will soon be posted on our website. Check it out.)

★ Kibbles and bits: Those same adventurous kindergartners from **Webster Elementary** set out to be kind to animals at the **Agora Animal Shelter**. They sold dog biscuits and cat treats 10 for a dollar and collected enough money for the shelter to buy a new surgical table. That's a lot of puppy treats and meow chow. Congratulations!

Pledge It Forward—Self to Service

A Challenge from The Patriot Papers

—F. A. Pulles, Editor-in-chief

The Portrait Gallery's Office of Education would like to recognize those who continue to care about community. We challenge you to *Pledge It Forward*—pledge time to your schools, youth organizations, senior centers. We'll feature your stories and photos on our website at www.georgewashington.si.edu. Projects of particular merit will be published in *The Patriot Papers*. Get creative; get busy. And together, we can build a community of caring. Write to us at PatriotPapers@npg.si.edu.