

KANSAS COMMENT

Soldier Charged With Forgery. — John Costello, a soldier at the Fort Riley garrison, was arrested at Junction City on a charge of forgery.

School Girl Elopes. — A 15-year-old high school student who was attending the high school at Gas City eloped with a man 28 years of age, and was married without the knowledge of her parents.

Topeka New State Bank. — Topeka will have another new bank. It will be known as the Topeka State bank, and will have a capital of \$25,000. C. W. Snyder, a Topeka capitalist, will be president and his son, Chester Snyder, cashier.

Wife of Postmaster Dead. — Mrs. Christina Price, wife of J. F. Price, postmaster of Cherokee and for twenty years editor of the Cherokee Sentinel, died suddenly at her home of apoplexy. Mr. and Mrs. Price came here thirty-five years ago and were among the earliest settlers of this county.

Charges Son With Theft. — The unusual spectacle of a father having his son arrested for theft was witnessed at Topeka. Jas. B. Hatcher claims his son, James A. Hatcher, stole \$15 out of his trousers' pocket. He said that a boy who would steal from his father deserved to go to prison, and swore out a warrant for his arrest.

Some Fort Riley Changes. — Notice has just been received at Fort Riley that the Second squadron of the Second cavalry, which sailed from Manila for San Francisco January 25, will come back to take the place of the First squadron of the Eleventh cavalry, which goes from here in March to Fort Des Moines.

To Run Trade Excursions. — The Merchants' Association decided that during the current year arrangements would be made for the running of excursions each month during the summer and autumn, for the purpose of bringing the people from neighboring towns and country into Leavenworth in such a manner that they may combine business with pleasure.

Wellington Gets a Park. — Wellington has received as a gift the nucleus of a park and public exposition ground. The three-acre tract upon which the amusements of the carnival last October were held is the one presented to the city. The gift was made several days ago by Frank Knowles, one of the public spirited citizens of Wellington.

Katy Officials Busy. — President Finney, General Manager Allen, Chief Engineer Fisher and other Katy officials left for Texas on a special train. It was announced by them that the work on the big shops at Parsons will be begun within two weeks and that 250 men will be put to ballasting and laying 66-pound rails from Parsons to Piqua March 1.

After Iola's Mayor. — Assistant Attorney General Evans, who has been appointed by Gov. Hoch to enforce the prohibitory law at Iola, has served notice on H. V. Dresbach, mayor of Iola, that he intended to institute ouster proceedings against him for the position he has taken on the liquor question. The difference between the two officials is of some months' standing.

To Have Street Railway. — Chanute is to have a street railway system. R. C. Rawlings has accepted the city's terms. According to the ordinance, he must have \$1,000 worth of material purchased, paid for and delivered along the line of the route within 120 days from the time of acceptance; he must have \$5,000 worth of material bought and on the ground and commence actual work within six months from the time of acceptance; and the railroad must be completed and in active and continuous operation within 18 months from the time of acceptance.

Fire at Halstead. — The burning of Jones' livery stable started quite a lively fire. The flames were first discovered coming from the roof, and as there was no wind the fire did not gain much headway until the entire equipment, consisting of twelve buggies and carriages, a horse and two wagonettes, together with all the horses, had been gotten out. Two horses, however, were so badly burned that they had to be shot. The fire spread to two adjoining buildings occupied as a carpenter shop and a wagon shop, which were entirely consumed. The Schowalter Lumber Company's yards located across the alley from the Jones barn was on fire several times, but was saved without loss.

Was Elected Secretary. — At the meeting of the State Miners' Society Frank Gilday, of Osage, was elected secretary. This carries with it the job of state mine inspector. The job pays \$1,500 a year and expenses.

Gets Half of Estate. — In the district court at Abilene Mrs. Adelaide Foron was granted a divorce from her husband, Frank Foron, by Judge O. J. Moore. She was also awarded one-half of an estate valued at \$35,000, together with \$500 attorney's fees. The defendant has to pay all the costs in the case.

Two Badly Hurt in Wreck. — C. V. Perry and Nicholas Baxter, eastern home-seekers, were dangerously hurt and several other persons were slightly injured in a wreck on the Panhandle division of the road near Kiowa, Kan.

Former Kansan Dead. — C. H. Lebold, for many years mayor of Abilene and president of the Lebold-Fisher bank, which failed in 1889, died of heart disease at Seattle. He was one of central Kansas' leading capitalists for many years.

To Revive Ireland Case. — The State Society of Labor, the central organization of all the labor unions of Kansas, will make an effort to induce Gov. Hoch to pardon Arthur E. Ireland, the labor agitator, who is serving a six months' jail sentence at Winfield for assaulting a non-union machinist.

Reward For Horse Thieves. — Neosho county is going to be very unhealthy for horse and mule thieves. In response to a request of the Neosho County Anti-Horse Thief Association, the county commissioners voted to offer a reward of \$50 for the arrest and conviction of any horse or mule thief.

Becomes an American. — Joseph W. del Alamo, a native of Spain, has taken out final naturalization papers in the district court at Leavenworth renouncing allegiance to King Alfonso XIII, in order to apply for a commission in the regular army. Del Alamo is 22 years old. He is a corporal in the engineer battalion of the army.

Abilene Votes School Bonds. — Abilene declared for better schools when a special election was held to decide whether the city should issue bonds for \$35,000 for the erection of a new high school and an additional ward school building. Much interest was taken in the election and the proposition carried by a vote of 893 to 195.

View With Complacency. — The natural gas using towns of Kansas, which by April 1 will include most of the towns in the eastern fourth of the state, are not worrying much over the threatened coal miners' strike. If the strike does come, by the time it is over gas will be so generally installed that there will be no future market in those towns for coal.

Americus Man a Suicide. — After drinking two ounces of carbolic acid John C. McCabe staggered out of his blacksmith shop and fell dead a few seconds later on the main street of the village. McCabe's wife died two years ago, and constant mourning for her is thought to have unbalanced his mind. He was 40 years old, and in comfortable circumstances.

Game Warden Busy. — John R. White, proprietor of a fish market at Coffeyville, pleaded guilty to the charge of buying wild ducks and was fined \$5 and costs, amounting to \$21. One of the deputy wardens stated that there is sufficient evidence to land several who have been indulging in quail hunting, and as soon as Mr. White's case was settled a general crusade would be started.

Pay Taxes to Secure Rebate. — Prosperity is not always a losing proposition, but Neosho county has found it so in the matter of taxation. The farmers of this county are so prosperous that most of them have been paying all their taxes to get the rebate. The county has lost in this way over \$4,000 on 1905 taxes, the rebates amounting to \$4,103.57, the largest amount in the history of the county.

Murdered for Money. — A Greek section laborer known as George Monos was murdered in his bunk car at Wallace. Robbery was supposedly the motive, as "Big George" was known to carry about \$500 in bills. This money was carried in a belt around his waist. The belt was cut in two and the money gone. Two Greeks employed at Sharon Springs are under suspicion. They have disappeared.

Head Offices at Humboldt. — The Prairie Oil and Gas Company will establish head offices at Humboldt and the company is planning the erection of a building several stories high to take the place of the temporary offices that have been secured in different parts of the city. The head office will be moved from Neodesha and the branch office in the territory will be consolidated with the Humboldt office.

Shooting Over a Debt. — At Lindsay, Kan., J. W. Nelson and August Finney quarreled over a sum of money said to be due Nelson. Nelson had gone to Finney's home to collect the money and in a dispute which followed Finney claims Nelson assaulted him. When Finney drew his revolver and shot, the ball taking effect in the thigh. The wound is a serious one. Finney was at once arrested on the charge of assault with intent to kill and was held in \$1,000 bond and his preliminary trial was set for February 21.

Letta Pleads Guilty. — M. M. Letts, who, while agent and operator for the Santa Fe railway at Princeton, Kan., stole several thousand dollars worth of tickets and then set fire to the depot to hide the robbery, pleaded guilty in the criminal court at Kansas City, and was sentenced to five years in the penitentiary. Two years ago Letts made a sensational escape. He was arrested a month ago at Panama and brought back to the United States.

Iola's Paved Streets. — Iola has nearly four miles of paved streets.

Independence Building Schools. — The school board of Independence has voted to build two new school buildings at once.

Small Fire at Pittsburg. — A loss of \$3,500 was entailed by a fire that broke out in the basement of the building occupied by the Beasley & Miller, hardware store in that city.

Kansas Gas for Missouri. — Three of the twelve pumping engines at the Kansas Natural Gas pumping station at Petrolia were completed recently and the company is now ready to use artificial force in pumping Kansas gas to Missouri cities.

Get Plenty of Cars Now. — Oil men who are shipping their product for fuel are satisfied with the treatment which they are receiving from the Santa Fe Railroad Company. They say that they have no trouble now in securing cars.

Norton's Improvements. — Norton continues to grow and the prospects for the coming season are brighter for a larger growth than last season. The electric light plant has started up and now the city is putting on metropolitan airs. Street lights will be put up as soon as possible.

Arkansas City to Advertise. — Arkansas City's Commercial Club next week will inaugurate a series of trade excursions and will run special trains into the city to carry shoppers. Each railroad will be used and all towns within a radius of sixty miles south, east and west will be served.

Ideas on How to Build Jail. — The board of county commissioners of Franklin county, together with County Attorney Pleasant, Sheriff Cody and Architect Washburn have returned from central Kansas, after visiting jails at Salina, Marysville and Topeka. Franklin county is beginning the erection of a new \$20,000 jail.

Test Street Sprinkling Law. — At Abilene the Union Pacific Railway Company has brought an injunction suit to test the street sprinkling law proposed by the legislature in 1905. The law provides for assessment of property to sprinkle streets on a basis of front footage. The Union Pacific's tax was \$149, and it refuses to pay the amount, saying that the law is unconstitutional.

Greeley Trying for Oil. — Alford Bros. & Lamb of Rantoul, moved a rig to Greeley preparatory to drilling for oil. Only one rig will be used now, but should oil be struck, four other rigs will be brought here later. Tom Alford of the above firm was here last week and got leases. By the terms of the lease Alford is required to begin drilling on all the above named places within six months.

Mistaken for Shoplifter. — Agnes Lonergan brought suit in the Leavenworth county district court against the dry goods firm of William Small & Co. for \$10,000. She claimed she entered the store and was mistaken by W. F. Cobb, a member of the firm, for a shoplifter. She declares Cobb attacked her and examined a parcel she carried, leaving the impression with persons in the store that she had stolen the goods.

A Real Jewel. — Jewell is a good county to farm in. According to Coburn's report, Jewell led last year in the production of corn, the amount of old corn on hand, the number of animals fattened for slaughter, the number of hogs marketed, the amount of eggs and poultry sold, acreage of alfalfa and acreage of tame hay. That takes in about the whole list of farm products except wheat, and Jewell is not slow even on wheat production.

Home From Cuba. — Ernest M. Clark, the young Franklin county stock man who mysteriously wandered off to Cuba while on his way to the Kansas City stock markets two months ago, arrived in Ottawa. He was met at the depot by the parents and his wife. Mr. Clark says he wandered away from Kansas City with no knowledge of what he was doing, and found himself eventually in St. Louis. He encountered a party of promoters headed for Cuba, and went along. He was raising tomatoes on rented ground when his father's letter reached him. He will resume management of his ranch in this county.

Franklin County Land High. — What is said to be the highest price ever paid for a large tract of land in Franklin county is that given by Dr. O. O. Wolf for the Hatfield farm. The price he pays is about \$125 an acre, and the consideration for the 108 acres is around \$13,000. A 9-room house, several large barns and other improvements make it highly improved. It is understood that the big Wolf farm four miles southwest of Ottawa, known as the Glendale Stock farm, has been sold to an Ohio purchaser for a price exceeding \$40,000. There are nearly 500 acres in the tract, which is finely improved. The sale of the Glendale Stock farm is the biggest in the history of Franklin county.

Marshall Files an Appeal. — A. Marshall, who rented a big ranch in Ellis county from a land company, is trying to get out of paying the price for the land on the ground that the company has not made any reports to the secretary of state as required by law and is disabled from doing any business in the state.

Prison Boiler House Damaged. — The roof of the boiler house at the Kansas penitentiary was discovered to be on fire and the prison fire brigade was called out to extinguish the blaze.

Historic Memories Cluster Thick Around Old Town of Fredericksburg

There are many intimate ties between the national capital and the quaint city of Fredericksburg; between the majestic city of the Potomac and the ancient and distinguished city of the Rappahannock. In the haste of the period and the carelessness of most persons toward things historic the ties between Washington and Fredericksburg are often overlooked. It was the master spirit of the revolution who gave his name to the capital of the republic he helped to create. The debt of the city of Washington to George Washington is manifold, says the Washington Star.

Close by Washington are a score of places also identified with the father of his country. There is Mount Vernon, the home and tomb of Washington and a place rich of memories of

shaded by heavy oak trees. It was a shady place in the days of Mrs. Washington, and the trees that shielded her from the sun survived till 1862, when they were torn to death by the storm of shot that rolled over the grave of the mother of the country's father.

Susan Riviere Hetzel, in her "History of the Mary Washington Association," following very closely Marlon Harland's "Story of Mary Washington," writes of the funeral as follows: "Business was suspended in the city of Fredericksburg; crepe hung from the houses. The church was thronged with her friends and neighbors. Her body was followed by her loving daughter and grandchildren to the place chosen by herself for her last resting place, near the granite bowl-

the style and execution to please the family of Washington and the citizens of the United States. Let her sleep upon the bosom of her mother's grave where she selected her pillow, let the willow of Mount Vernon droop the tomb of her son be transplanted to wave through time over the mother's grave."

The design adopted for this monument was a square pedestal inscribed "Mary, the Mother of Washington." There were two Grecian columns, each side, each surmounted by an eagle, and between the columns an obelisk, topped with a bust of Washington, and perched on top the bust was an eagle with stretched wings.

The corner stone of this monument was set May 1, 1833, by President Andrew Jackson, who delivered one of the most elaborate and impressive discourses of his career.

Soon after this ceremony Mr. Burroughs sustained financial misfortunes and the work was suspended. The pedestal was in place and the obelisk had been hauled to the grave, but was not erected. Some desultory efforts were made appropriately to mark the grave, but without success, and the approach of the Civil War turned people's thoughts away from such tender memories as those of Mary Washington.

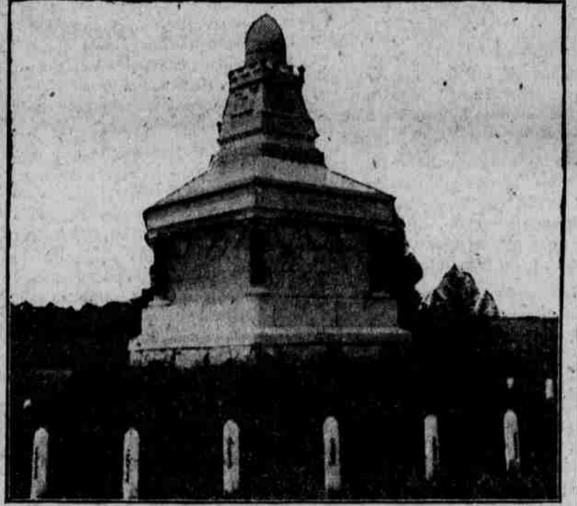
A writer who visited the grave of Mary Washington in the 80s wrote the following, which appeared in the New York Times:

"The monument was commenced long before the great war, but never finished. For four years it lay between two armies and battle surged around it. The marbles are pockmarked with bullets fired in that sad time. It was within sight of this monument that occurred the terrible slaughter of our troops on that awful December day, 1862. But ten miles away in the following May the rout of Chancellorsville took place, and in May, 1864, within fifteen miles, was the bloody wilderness, in whose tangles so many men went down in battle or were burned in the forest fires kindled. Within ten miles was the slaughter of Spotsylvania courthouse. So it may be said that within sound of that spot died over 50,000 brave men."

It was in 1889 that a strong impulse was given to the monument movement. The city of Washington and the whole country were wrought up over the approaching inauguration of President Harrison, when there appeared in one of the Washington papers, under the name of a public auctioneer, this sensational advertisement:

"The grave of Mary, the mother of Gen. George Washington, to be sold at public auction, to the ladies attending the inauguration of President Harrison, on Tuesday, March 5, 1889. At 12 o'clock m. we will offer at public outcry, at the capital of the United States of America, twelve acres of land, embracing the grave and material of the unfinished monument of Mary, the mother of Gen. George Washington."

This advertisement created the excitement it was designed to produce. Mrs. Frances R. Goolrick, of Fredericksburg, a descendant of George Mason, of Gunston Hall, issued an appeal through the press in October, 1883, reviewing the history of the grave of Mrs. Washington and propo-



Confederate Monument at Fredericksburg.

many other members of the Washington family. There is Wakefield, on the lower Potomac, where Washington was born, where many of his ancestors are buried, and not far from it is Epping Forest, the girlhood home of Mary Ball, his mother. There is Winchester, where he passed much time during the French and Indian war, from where he was elected, to the house of bourgeois, and near where lived his great and influential friend, Lord Fairfax. There is Alexandria, where he long voted and worshipped. Then there is Fredericksburg, which was the real home of his boyhood, where he attended school, where he performed some of those apocryphal feats attributed to him, such as throwing a silver dollar across the Rappahannock, etc., where he was initiated into Masonry, where he took final leave of his mother before assuming the office of president at New York, and where Mrs. Washington, successively, known in that city and the country round about as "the Rose of Epping Forest," "Belle of Lancaster," "the Roman Matron" and "Old Madame," died August 25, 1789.

In the minds of the people of this and the preceding generations the civil war memories of Fredericksburg overshadow the colonial, revolutionary and early republican associations of the old town. It was at Fredericksburg that Gen. Burnside, in command of the Army of the Potomac, crossed the Rappahannock river in the face of a destructive fire and sought to take the heights behind the city, which had been skillfully fortified and defended by the army of northern Virginia.

The world knows the price paid in blood by the Union Army for this disastrous attempt. A few miles in the rear of Fredericksburg are Chancellorsville, where Stonewall Jackson fell, the Wilderness and Spotsylvania Court House, fields exceeded in glory and gore only by Gettysburg.

It was four months before the death of Mary Washington that George Washington bade her farewell. The little frame house in which this parting took place still stands at the corner of Charles and Lewis streets. The house is now owned by the Society for the Preservation of Virginia Antiquities, and it is furnished much as it was when Mrs. Washington lived there. The room in which she died and her bed are preserved intact. Washington, after his final meeting with his mother, proceeded to New York for his inauguration. He never saw her again.

Three days after her death Mrs. Washington was buried. The grave was dug in the grounds of her daughter, Betty Washington-Lewis, who lived on the southwest edge of Fredericksburg and about the distance of five or six squares from Mrs. Washington's house. The site of the grave was near a group of rocks jutting out of a hillside and overlooking a tranquil little valley that lies between Fredericksburg and Mary's Heights, one of the bloodiest ridges of the Civil War. This little spot of gray rocks was a favorite spot with Mrs. Washington. She retired there in fair weather to knit, read her bible and pray. At those rocks some of the most fervent prayers for the safety and success of Washington in war were sent to heaven. Because of the association these rocks are now, and for more than a century have been, called Oratory rocks. They are

der now called Oratory rock, where she loved to retire and pray for her beloved son during the troublous days of the revolution.

"The mourning was general all over the country, press and pulpit made note of the event. Members of Congress were crepe for thirty days as for a distinguished official. Congress passed a resolution to erect a monument to the mother of Washington, and to that resolution Gen. Washington responded in a note of thanks, adding:

"I attribute all my success in life to the moral, intellectual and physical education which I received from my mother."

"How the government fulfilled this resolution may be seen when one recalls that a hundred years intervened between the passage of the resolution and the building of the monument by private subscription. In truth, the work of forming a new republic was no small task. Washington's administrations were hampered by the Indian wars, the whisky insurrection and Shay's rebellion; Adams' term was taken up with the French troubles and the threatened war with the directory; Jefferson's administration was filled with the wars with the pirates of Tripoli, Lewis and Clark's marvelous march to the Pacific, the Louisiana purchase and Aaron Burr's conspiracy. During Madison's administrations Congress could, of course, think of nothing but the second war



Old Lacy Mansion.

with England. It took a long time for the country to recover from that war, and so it happened that nothing but a little headstone marked the grave of Mary Washington when Lafayette visited this country in 1825."

Agitation in behalf of a monument to Mary Washington crystallized in 1830, when the people of Fredericksburg raised \$2,000 by subscription, and were proceeding with the collection of the necessary sum, when Silas E. Burroughs, a New York banker, wrote to Thomas Goodwin, mayor of Fredericksburg, and asked the honor of being allowed to build the monument, saying in part:

"I feel a great interest that the ashes of this good American mother should remain where they are, and I wish to be allowed the honor of individually erecting the monument which, I assure you, sir, shall be in

ing that an organization be formed having for its object the erection of a monument over the grave of George Washington's mother and concluding with these lines: "Will the women of this republic respond to this appeal? Are they not willing to undertake the patriotic work?"

Of course, they were, and the National Mary Washington Memorial Association was started in each state and the money flowed in. The monument that towers over the grave today was dedicated May 19, 1894. President Cleveland delivered an address. Senator Daniel spoke, and among others taking part in the ceremonies were Vice-President and Mrs. Stevenson, Gov. and Mrs. O'Ferrall, Secretary Gresham, Secretary Carlisle, Secretary Lamont, Secretary Morton, Chief Justice Fuller and Mr. Justice Harlan.