

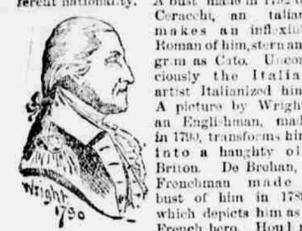
George Washington Was Born—A Few
of the Many Representations of
Whose Birthday We Honor.

George Washington was born on the 22d of February, 1732, in the city of Westmoreland, Pennsylvania. He was the first American to be elected President of the United States. His life was a long and eventful one, marked by his leadership during the American Revolutionary War and his role in the founding of the nation.

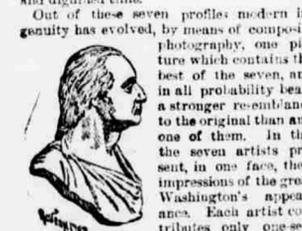


It was long since discovered that every one put some of his personality into a picture. When the artist is painting a portrait, he is not only capturing the subject's physical features but also his inner character and the spirit of the times.

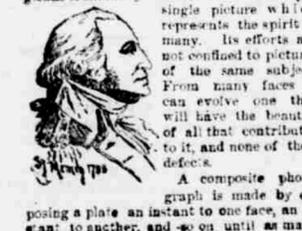
Washington has suffered this kind of transformation with greater frequency and in greater numbers than any other man in our history. His image has been immortalized in countless portraits, statues, and coins, reflecting the reverence with which he is regarded.



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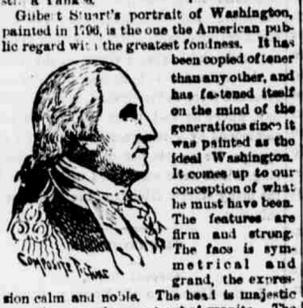


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A composite photograph is made by exposing a plate an instant to one face, an instant to another, and so on until as many

Impressions have been taken as the artist's. The composite photograph is a unique artistic achievement that captures the essence of George Washington's face through multiple exposures.



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WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY, FEB. 22, 1886.

Send a thunderous sound, O cannon! from your throat to the life that led chained Freedom from the shadow of eclipse. Mock with brazen throated laughter, oh glorious sound, your war and battle-travail, midst which Freedom's dome was born!

THE MOTHER OF WASHINGTON.

The Woman Who Gave a Great Son to the World. Mary Washington lived in an age when the mothers of great men and women were not such objects of interest to the world as they are now. But little was thought in the then new country of the mother's share in producing and developing an immortal figure.

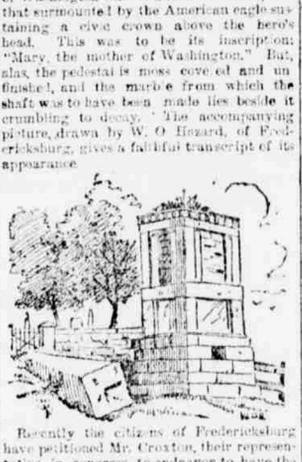
The Washingtons owned many slaves, and the spinning wheel and loom and sewing room required constant care from Mrs. Washington. It was a religious household, both Mr. and Mrs. Washington were members of the Episcopal church, and family prayers, at which all the servants were present, were the rule of the house.

The mother was a serious, earnest person, whose reproaches her children were often made in scriptural language. 'Honor thy father and mother' was a command so thoroughly instilled into their young minds that they were an obedient and reverent in their later years.

Before starting north to assume command Washington visited his mother, and during his absence wrote her repeatedly. When she heard him extravagantly praise her she answered that Providence ordered all things; or said simply that he had been a good son and she'd be glad to have him do his duty as a man should.

When Washington was elected president he paid her a farewell visit. This was the year of her death. Both felt that the parting was the last in this world. She was then fast journeying to the life beyond, having for years been afflicted by a cancer, keeping her almost a secret as long as it was possible to do so.

Recently the citizens of Frederickburg have petitioned Mr. Croston, their representative in congress, to endeavor to have the bill for an appropriation to finish this monument, introduced last winter, referred to an appropriate committee, and acted on without loss of time.



THE OLD CONTINENTALS.

In their rugged parchment's blood the Old Continentals. Yielding not, When the great leaders were longed, And like him felt the pumping Cannon shot.

MARTHA WASHINGTON.

The Wife of Our First President, and Her Characteristics. The manners of Martha Washington are said to have been so engaging. She never assumed to be anything extraordinary; intellectually, wasn't much of a reader, but her elegance of manner has been mentioned again and again in descriptions of that historic time when she was the first lady of the land.

She is described as having been rather below medium height, but daintily formed, with a pleasing face and dark hazel eyes. The picture given here is from an engraving taken from Gilbert Stuart's painting in her later years. Perhaps the best sketch of her now in print is the one in Laura C. Holway's popular book, 'The Ladies of the White House,' which also contains a fine engraving of her in her youth, as well as one when she had become a white-haired grandmother, engraved from Stuart's picture.

Martha Danbridge was the daughter of a Virginia planter, and was born in 1732. Her education was such as the limited facilities of the times afforded, her social pleasures compassed by the society of Williamsburg. When very young she was married to Col. Custis, a refined, well-to-do and generous man.

Her country home, where Washington became engaged to her, was called the White House. From that the executive mansion at Washington took its name. The Washingtons began life at Mt. Vernon. They were wealthy and refined, and the best society of the country was glad to do



them honor. For fifteen successive years Washington was a member of the legislature of his state. His wife always accompanied him to Williamsburg, then the capital of Virginia. And so, treading on flowers, time slipped away noiselessly for these happy people.

Every year in October Mrs. Washington, loaded with supplies, visited her husband in camp and spent the winter with him. Each year she hoped would end the war and conclude his long absence. At last, when peace was declared and the country for which the fathers fought became really their own, Washington was once more called from his home to take the presidential chair, and then he used a third nomination.

The seat of government was then in New York. The president's house was elegantly furnished, and almost as formally conducted as the home of a king. Mrs. Washington was an aristocrat by nature, and, in accordance with the custom of the times, she presided over the entertainments after the manner of English and French drawing rooms. The Republican court, then located at No. 2 Franklin square, New York, called together the most elegant and estimable of the country. Very different from the present method of receiving the public were those entertainments. The most rigid rules governed them, and access was not easy. Dress, too, was a consideration. Certain requirements in that particular must be observed.

The second year of Washington's administration the seat of government was removed to Philadelphia, where the same ceremony was observed in the management of the president's household as at New York. The house chosen was on Market street, between Fifth and Sixth, on the south side and it was handsomely furnished. No house was provided for the president by the government, but he was to furnish his own. The first president received and furnished his own.

Mrs. Washington held her receptions, or drawing rooms, as they were called, on Friday evening of each week. The guests assembled early, and left before 10:30. These occasions are said to have been exceedingly stiff, solemn and awkward. The atmosphere of awful dignity that radiated from the great Washington rather overpowered the guests. It was an honor to be admitted, but it was also a fearful trial to any addled to naturalness of manner or buoyancy of spirits.

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