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WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY.

The anniversary of the birth of George Washington was observed in Alexandria again today according to an annual custom in which all classes participated. While there has been no parade and comparatively few visitors in the city the spirit of the occasion has been in evidence throughout the day. The banks and public offices have been closed as have also the schools while most of the stores have been closed; others ceased to transact business after noon.

Wreaths were placed upon the tomb at Mount Vernon as usual, the George Washington Memorial Association held its second day's session, and tonight the Elks' Auditorium will be aglow with festive scenes, when the annual banquet to be given by Alexandria-Washington Lodge of Masons will take place.

During the past one hundred years Alexandria has observed in one way or another the anniversary of the birth of George Washington, the father of his country being regarded as virtually an Alexandrian and one whom we delight to honor. It is said that Seven Grecian cities mourned for Homer dead. Through which the living Homer begged his bread.

But there is no doubt that Washington made Alexandria his city, and ever manifested as much interest in our affairs as though native and to the manner born. Some people still alive in our historic city were acquainted with men and women who saw Washington in the flesh.

Our market court was as familiar to him as to any Alexandrian. He maintained a residence in this city, and was one of the familiar figures on our streets. Weem's Life of Washington gives a number of interesting local incidents in connection with Washington, facts which do not appear in the larger histories of the great Virginian. These memories have ever been cherished by Alexandrians.

Representative men, Masons, will attend the banquet tonight and deliver eulogies on the illustrious dead. Like Robert Edward Lee, another great son of the Old Dominion, so much has been said by speakers and writers that it will be difficult to conceive or unearth anything new. Memories, however, will be revived, and all who may attend will feel that it was well for them to have been there.

Washington has for over a century glittered in the galaxy of the great of this world. While the present

generation will tonight be assembled around the festive board under the auspices of the lodge over which Washington presided, the man and the Mason whose memory is being revered will be looking on from afar

WASHINGTON, THE MAN AND THE MASON.

As will be seen by the proceedings of the Masonic Memorial Association, Shooter's Hill, overlooking Alexandria, has been selected as the site for the Washington Memorial Temple which is to be a massive structure composed of white marble.

As is well known, after the United States had obtained its independence the fathers of the country were anxious to erect the capitol upon Shooter's Hill, and to make that eminence the Acropolis of North America. But the Father of the Country demurred, good man as he was, feeling every appearance of self interest. He said that that it might be suspected that he wanted this site selected in order to enhance the value of his Mount Vernon estate which at that time extended much farther north than at present. Hence the site upon which our capitol stands was selected.

A century and a third has elapsed since that time, and the capital city, which bears the name of the great Virginian and American, is gradually becoming the prettiest city in the world, fashioned as it is after Versailles in France. Washington fell asleep nearly one hundred and seventeen years ago, and the present generation are delighting to honor his memory by a substantial testimonial in sight of his sarcophagus, overlooking the city of his heart, old Alexandria, and in view of the Capitol of the country.

GERMANY'S LOSS OF SYMPATHY.

The Baltimore American of today makes the following observations concerning German air raids on England:

Continuing the idiotic practice of casting bombs upon English villages, and, in the latest instance, of chaos in the Sabbath as the time for their favorite exercise, and evidently seeking to make a mark, in one case, of a little Methodist chapel, the Germans are piling up more counts against the type of culture they profess. Whatever may be said for the German people—and there is no occasion upon every criticism of the insane acts of some of their added warriors to make exceptions in favor of the bulk of the civil population—it can only be said for the astute ranks who do this aerial bomb casting, that whom the gods would destroy they first make mad.

This is the silly and murderous response of the fellows who are obedient to inflated military leaders, such as Von Tirpitz and Zeppelin who send them upon their baby-killing campaigns. In a recent magazine article the writer, a returned English officer from the Dardanelles, paid a tribute to the Turk for his mercifulness in caring for the injured, and lack of evidence of any cruelty toward such. The Armenian massacres do not prove an exception, as it has long been held that they were perpetrated under the orders of German officers. Hence the diat of civilization seems to be pointing away from the country whose principal claim to the good will of the world in the past has been its culture and intelligence. These qualities remain, but have not been incorporated in the text book of the military.

At a banquet of R. E. Lee Camp, Confederate Veterans in this city a few years ago a prominent Southern democratic Congressman in speaking of the failure of the Southern Confederacy to gain its independence said, that, unfortunately, the sympathy of the world was against us by reason of the slavery issue, misunderstood as it was outside of Dixie. A writings of Harriet Beecher Stowe, the utterances of Hinton Rowan Helper, Wendell Phillips, Henry Ward Beecher and a host of others who drew extravagant and improbable pictures having alienated most of the nations of the earth who believed the time had come to abolish servitude.

In our day but few persons, even those of our southern country, are ready to make apologies for slavery. The system passed away during the war between the States.

In the days of the Pharaohs, when Egypt was a great mart, where representatives of the countries of the earth at that time gathered, an entire nation had been reduced to the condition of Serfs. Israelites were playing the parts of hewers of wood and drawers of water and brickmakers while smarting under the lash of cruel taskmasters. The sympathy of the floating population was naturally with the oppressed sons of Israel. Egypt eventually sunk from a national standpoint and today the land is dominated by a nation the capital of which is thousands of miles away.

It is an evil omen when a nation loses the sympathy of the world. Spain at one time governed a large portion of the globe. But her cruel procedures both in the old and new world finally caused the Castilians to

lose cast, and their deterioration has been slow but sure.

Germany's sun filled some time ago. That great people, however, have no more claim for perpetuity than had Egypt, Babylon, Greece, Rome, or Spain. The eclipse of these nations was gradual, but the obscuration was sure. We live in a day of rapid transitions, and as our cotemporari says, whom the gods wish to destroy they first make mad—that is inflict them with acute cases of swelledhead.

NEWS OF THE DAY

Three Bulgarian officers and 40 soldiers have been killed or wounded by the blowing up of an ammunition magazine at Nish former "war capital" of Serbia.

The Adirondack region is experiencing the coldest weather of the winter. It is forty degrees below zero. In the vicinity of Malone, N. Y. it is twenty-six below.

An entente allies submarine passed through the Dardanelles on Tuesday last, reached the Bosphorus and torpedoed one tug and six transports laden with munitions. The presence of the hostile submarine caused a panic at Constantinople.

Austrian aeroplanes which attempted to bombard Milan yesterday morning were compelled by Italian aviators to abandon the raid. The Austrians then bombarded the Garda district, where several victims were claimed. The military damage was insignificant.

With the crucial conference a week distant, indications are that the United Mine Workers and operators representing practically all the tonnage in the anthracite fields, are nearer a settlement of their differences than they have been since prior to the big strike in 1902.

The parish church at Beauport, near Quebec, was destroyed yesterday by a fire which started in the sacristy. The loss is estimated at about \$500,000. It is feared that a boy who entered the church to save a statue was buried in the ruins. The fire is believed to have been of incendiary origin.

It is considered probable that all the persons who were hurled into an abyss in the Salsburg Alps in the Hoohkoening region, when an avalanche carried away an Alpine shelter, have perished. Up to the present time 43 bodies had been found. Later reports from Salsburg stated that already there are 55 known dead as the result of the snow slide, with 45 injured and about 30 still missing.

William Orpet, University of Wisconsin junior, was held for the grand jury yesterday in Chicago, in connection with the death of his former sweetheart, Marion Frances Lambert. Orpet is 20 years old, and Miss Lambert, a high school pupil, was 17. The young man is charged with poisoning his sweetheart. A liaison, according to Orpet, existed between the two. It appeared from letters introduced that the girl feared approaching motherhood.

Fire, originating from a spark flashed by a grounded electric motor about 3 o'clock yesterday afternoon, gutted the laundry, drying room and boiler room of the Bureau of Printing and Engraving in Washington. A score of the seventy laborers employed in the plant were trapped by the flames in the boiler room and only escaped death by a dash through a wall of fire. Other than slight burns about the hands and face suffered by these workmen and the firemen in fighting the blaze, there were no casualties.

A British war office proclamation was posted yesterday calling to the colors group No. 1 of the Derby recruits and the reservists of class No. 1. The Derby volunteers of group No. 1 are between 18 and 19 years of age, have not been called up heretofore because of their extreme youth. Copies of the military service act, providing for compulsion, were posted throughout London yesterday, and all men falling beneath its provisions were notified to report to recruiting offices before the end of March.

The war on the French front was transferred in the main from the trenches to the air yesterday. French and German aircraft clashed in a half dozen or more desperate battles high among the clouds. In almost every instance the French airmen were victorious, and five German machines were shot down and two others were forced to land. A squadron of 17 French machines dropped 26 heavy shells on the aviation field at Habsheim and on a railway freight depot. The French war office reports all the French machines returned safely from the battles.

Attorney General Gregory, has made public a letter to Charles C. McCrory, of Ellaville, Ga., giving the position of the Department of Justice in regard to prosecution of Thomas E. Watson of that State for alleged sending through the mails of obscene and indecent matter. Mr. Gregory makes it plain that he will not hesitate to institute criminal proceedings against Mr. Watson in some other jurisdiction than Georgia if he is convinced that Federal statutes have been violated outside of Georgia, or that a fair trial cannot be obtained there.

VIRGINIA NEWS

George P. Shaver, one of 16 Harrisonburg people bitten recently by a mad dog, died yesterday in Winchester in great pain. Other victims are being treated by Pasteur experts from Richmond. Dogs running at large are being shot.

Reports from the Norfolk navy yard are to the effect that naval barges Nos. 203 and 53 were lost Saturday in a gale off the entrance of the Potomac river. Three tugs, the Juanita, Hercules and Triton, have been sent in search of them in the vicinity of Tangier Sound. The barges were being towed from the Washington navy yard to Norfolk.

A dispatch from Wilmington, Del. says an announcement has been made that the du Pont Company has purchased 2,000 acres of land in Suffolk and will shortly begin the erection of the largest powder plant in the world on this site. Powder plant to be erected will employ thousands of men and will be second in size only to the Carney Point plant. It will be a straight powder plant and not a combination powder and acid plant like the one at Hopewell. The work on the plant will begin shortly.

Taking steps to establish a right of possession to the steamship Appam which recently arrived in Hampton Roads under command of a German naval prize crew, following capture at sea, the British and African Steam Navigation Company, Limited of Liverpool, owners of the steamship Appam, have filed a libel in the United States District court, Norfolk, claiming possession of the vessel. The State Department holds that under the Prussian-American treaty the liner belongs to the Germans as a prize, at least until a prize court passes on the legality of her capture.

Mrs. Bertha McCabe, aged twenty-five years, a widow, was brutally assaulted and stabbed on a street in Newport News by an unidentified negro early Saturday night, and is in a serious condition. Her assailant escaped. In addition to a severe concussion back of the left side of her head caused by a blow from the negro's fist Mrs. McCabe has a stab wound in the neck just under her left ear. That the wound did not reach the jugular vein and cause death is due to the fact that the woman's coat collar was turned down. Her hat also was down on this side, having been knocked away in the scuffle. The blade of the knife penetrated both collar and hat.

Angered because Mrs. Jennie Sawyer, 26 years old and divorced, went to the Pentecostal Holiness Church in Norfolk Sunday night with John Lassiter, Charles McPherson shot and killed him and seriously wounded the woman. The shooting occurred just as the services were over and the congregation were leaving the church. McPherson shot Lassiter through the head outside the church and when Mrs. Sawyer fled back into the building he followed and shot her in the back. Lassiter died before medical attention could be rendered and Mrs. Sawyer was sent to a hospital in a serious condition. McPherson then held the entire congregation at bay while he made his way out of the building an escaped. He was arrested yesterday in Moyock, N. C. McPherson is 22 years old. Mrs. Sawyer has two small children.

OFFICE OF CLERK OF GAS

City Hall, Feb. 22, 1916. SEALED PROPOSALS will be received at this office addressed to J. B. Fitzgerald, Chairman Committee on Light until 8 p. m. Monday, March 31, 1916, for furnishing the Gas Works with five thousand tons, more or less of gas coal (2,240 pounds to the ton) to be delivered on trestle at Gas Works, Alexandria, Virginia, during the fiscal year commencing June 1st, 1916, and ending May 31st, 1917, orders to be accepted by the successful bidders any date after awarding contract, so that coal will arrive at works on or before June 1, 1916.

The coal must be Monogah, Tycannel, Younghoehney, Montana, Westmoreland, Fairmount, Lincoln, or other gas coal of equal or superior yield and candle power and must be 3-4 screened Bidders can give their figures on all of the mines and are required to give candle power yield and analysis per ton.

In routing coal bidder must ship by Southern Railway provided, however, that rates are not in excess of competing lines rendering similar service. The committee reserves the right to reject any and all bids. Terms:—Cash on 15 day of each month following the delivery of coal. By order of committee on light. J. B. WALLER, Clerk of Gas.

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CLASSIFIED ADS

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LOST—Starting crank for Overland car. Return to Mt. Vernon Garage.

WANTED—By a white lady position as domestic nursing and assist with house work. Address L. E. care of Gazette. 22-3t.

FOR RENT—Brick dwelling, 607 Princess St. Hot and cold water, bath, sewerage connection. Fifteen dollars (\$15.00) per month. Inquire at 411 N. Washington St., or to E. E. Downham, Cor. King and Payne Streets. 25 1t.

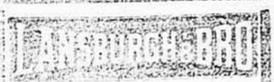
FOR RENT—Several nice rooms and second floor front, with all conveniences. Good table board. Terms reasonable. Apply 220 North Columbus street. 21-3t.

WANTED—Boys to sell Saturday Evening Post and Ladies Home Journal. Inquire Friday or Saturday S. F. Dyson and Bro. agents. 420 King street.

WANTED—Five house Carpenters; two pipe fitters. Apply Dravo Contracting Co., Agnew Ship Yard, Alexandria, Va.

MRS. BROWNELL — Spiritualist—Medium—Chairvoyant—gives names advice on business, home etc. all affairs of life. Hours, 10 a. m. to 9 p. m. 408 King street. Up 2 flights. 18-1-W

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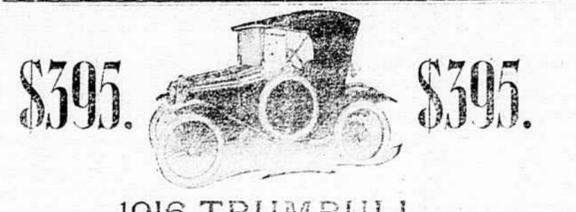
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If you do not thoroughly understand this offer, call No. 7 on either phone and our representative will call at your home and explain it to you.

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