

GEORGE WASHINGTON



(CONTINUED.)

"Hands Off," the British Policy. Statesmen of an elder generation had had a sure instinct what must be the feeling of Englishmen in America, and had, with "a wise and salutary neglect," suffered them to take their own way in every matter of self-government.

Though ministry after ministry had asserted a rigorous and exacting supremacy for the mother country in every affair of commerce, and had determined as they pleased what the colonies should be suffered to manufacture, and how they should be allowed to trade—with what merchants, in what commodities, in what bottoms, within what limits—they had nevertheless withheld their hands hitherto from all direct exercise of authority in the handling of the internal affairs of the several settlements, had given



G. W.

them leave always to originate their own legislation and their own measures of finance until self-government had become with them a thing as if of immemorial privilege.

A Shrewd Statesman.

Sir William Keith, sometime governor of Pennsylvania, had suggested to Sir Robert Walpole that he should raise revenue from the colonies. "What!" exclaimed that shrewd master of men. "I have Old England set against me, and do you think I will have New England likewise?"

But men had come into authority in England now who lacked this stout sagacity, and every element of sound discretion. English arms and English money, they could say, had swept the French power from America in order that the colonies might no longer suffer menace or rivalry. A great debt had been piled up in the process. Should not the colonies, who had reaped the chief benefit, bear part of the cost?

They had themselves incurred burdensome debts, no doubt, in the struggle, and their assemblies would likely profess themselves willing to vote what they could should his majesty call upon them and press them. But an adequate and orderly system of taxation could not be wrought out by the separate measures of a dozen petty legislatures; 'twere best the taxation should be direct and by parliament, whose authority, surely, no man outside turbulent Boston would be mad enough seriously to question or resist.

To Assert a Mother's Power.

It would, in any event, be wholesome, now the colonies were likely to grow lusty as kingdoms in their roomy continent, to assert a mother's power to use and restrain—a power by no means lost because too long unexercised and neglected.

It was with such wisdom the first step was taken. In March, 1764, parliament voted it "just and necessary that revenue be raised in America," passed an act meant to secure duties on wines and sugars, and took measures to increase the efficiency of the revenue service in America.

George Grenville was prime minister. He lacked neither official capacity nor acquaintance with affairs. He thought it just the colonists should pay their quota into the national treasury, seeing they were so served by the national power; and he declared that in the next session of parliament he should propose certain direct taxes in addition to the indirect already in force.

He saw no sufficient reason, to doubt that the colonies would acquiesce, if not without protest, at least without tumult or dangerous resistance.

A Serious Blunder.

It was a sad blunder. Virginia resented threat and execution alike in such a matter as deeply as did litigious Massachusetts.

A long generation ago, in the quiet year 1733, when bluff Sir Robert was prime minister, there had been an incident which Governor Keith, maybe, had forgotten. The ministry had demanded of Massachusetts that she should establish a fixed salary for her governors by a standing grant; but she had refused, and the ministers had receded.

The affair had not been lost upon the other colonies. That sturdy one-time royal governor, Alexander Spots-

wood, in Virginia, had noted it very particularly, and spoken of it very bluntly, diligent servant of the crown as he was, to Col. William Byrd, when he came his way on his "progress to the mines." He declared "that if the assembly in New England would stand bluff, he did not see how they could be forced to raise money against their will, for if they should direct it to be done by act of parliament, which they have threatened to do (though it be against the right of Englishmen to be taxed but by their representatives), yet they would find it no easy matter to put such an act in execution."

No observing man could so much as travel in Virginia without finding very promptly what it was that gave point and poignancy to such an opinion.

A Level-Headed Parson.

That quiet gentleman, Rev. Andrew Burnaby, vicar of Greenwich, was in Virginia in 1769, and saw plainly enough how matters stood. "The public or political character of the Virginians," he said, "corresponds with their private one; they are haughty and jealous of the liberties, impatient of restraint, and can scarcely bear the thought of being controlled by any superior power. Many of them consider the colonies as independent states, not connected with Great Britain otherwise than by having the same common king and being bound to her with natural affection." Not only so, but "they think it a hardship not to have an unlimited trade to every part of the world."

All this, and more, Grenville might have learned by the simple pains of inquiry. One had but to open his eyes and look to see how imperious a race had been bred in the almost feudal south; and, for all they had never heard revolutionary talk thence, ministers ought to have dreaded the leisure men had there to think, the provocation to be proud, the necessity to be masterful and individual, quite as much as they had ever dreaded the stubborn temper and the quick capacity for united action they had once and again seen excited in New England.

Law a Dead Letter.

It was not necessary to try new laws to see what the colonies would do if provoked. The difficulty already encountered in enforcing the laws of trade was object-lesson enough; and the trouble in that matter had grown acute but yesterday. For long, indeed, no one in the colonies questioned the right of parliament to regulate their trade; but it was notorious that the laws actually enacted in that matter had gone smoothly off in America only because they were not seriously enforced.

"The trade hither is engrossed by the Saints of New England," laughed Colonel Byrd, "who carry off a great deal of tobacco without troubling themselves with paying that impertinent duty of a penny a pound."

The acts of trade practically forbade direct commerce with foreign countries for their dependencies, especially in foreign bottoms; but ships from France, Spain, and the Canary isles came and went very freely, notwithstanding, in colonial ports; for royal officials liked to enjoy a comfortable peace and the esteem of their neighbors, and very generally winked at such transgressions.

Cargoes without number were sent to the Dutch and Spanish West Indies every year, and as many brought thence, which were undoubtedly forfeit under the navigation laws parliament had been at such pains to elaborate and enforce; and privateering as well as smuggling had for long afforded the doughty seamen of Boston, Salem, Charleston, and New York a genteel career of profit.

Indulge in Illegal Trade.

Things had come to such a pass that where business went briskly the people of the colonial ports demanded as of right "a full freedom of illegal trade," and broke sometimes into riot when it was denied them. The Boston News Letter had been known very courteously to mourn the death of a worthy collector of his majesty's customs because, "with much humanity," he had been used to take "pleasure in directing masters of vessels how they ought to avoid the breach of the acts of trade."

Sea captains grew accustomed to very confidential relations with owners and consignees, and knew very well, without official counsel, how to take the advice "not to declare at the customhouse;" and things went very easily and cordially with all parties to the understanding.

In 1761 that understanding was of a sudden rudely broken and the trouble began, which Grenville had the folly to add to. The board of trade determined to collect the duties on sugar, molasses and rum, so long and so systematically evaded in the trade between New England and the West Indies, at whatever cost of suit and scrutiny, and directed their agents in Boston to demand "writs of assistance" from the courts, giving them leave to enter what premises they would in search of smuggled goods.

Colonists Resist Search Warrants.

There were instant exasperation and resistance. General search warrants, opening every man's door to the officers of the law, with or without

just and explicit ground of suspicion against him, no English subject anywhere would submit to; and yet these writs authorized nothing less.

Issued under a questionable extension to America of an exceptional power of the court of exchequer, they violated every precedent of the common law, no less than every principle of prudent administration; and the excitement which they provoked was at once deep and ominous. Sharp resistance was made in the courts, and no officer ever ventured to serve one of the obnoxious writs. Such challenge of the process was uttered by colonial counsel upon trial of the right, moreover, that ministers would be without excuse should they ignore the warning, so explicit and so eloquent of revolutionary purpose.

It was James Otis who uttered it. He had but the other day carried the royal commission in his pocket as advocate general in his majesty's court of admiralty; but he would not have scrupled, even as his majesty's servant, he said, to oppose the exercise of a power which had already cost one king his head and another his throne. To oppose in such a case was to defend the very constitution under which the king wore his crown. That constitution secured to Englishmen everywhere the rights of freemen; the colonists had, besides, the plan guarantees of their own charters; if constitution and charters failed, or were gainsaid, the principles of natural reason sufficed for defense against measures so arrogant and so futile. No lawyer could justify these extraordinary writs; no king with an army at his back could ever force them to execution.

Protest not only, but defiance, rang very clear in these fearless words; and ministers must avow themselves very ignorant, should they pretend they did not know how Mr. Otis had kindled fire from one end of the colonies to the other. But Grenville was resolute to take all risks and push this policy.

The Obnoxious Stamp Act.

He did not flinch from the enforcement of the measures of 1764, and in the session of 1765 calmly fulfilled his promise of further taxation. He proposed that the colonists should be required to use revenue stamps upon all their commercial paper, legal documents, pamphlets, and newspapers, and that, at once as a general measure of convenience and a salutary exhibition of authority, his majesty's troops stationed in the plantations should be billeted on the people.

Parliament readily acquiesced. It was thus Grenville purposed "defraying the expenses of defending, protecting, and securing" the colonies; but he came near losing them instead.

The act was passed in March; it was not to go into effect until November; but the colonists did not keep him waiting until November for their protests. It was the voice of a veritable tempest that presently came over sea to the ear of the startled minister. And it was not the general court of turbulent Massachusetts, but the house of burgesses of loyal Virginia that first spoke the general indignation.

A Polite Protest.

Already in the autumn of 1764, upon the mere threat of what was to come, that house had spoken very urgently against the measures proposed, in a memorial to king and parliament, which, amidst every proper phrase of loyalty and affection, had plainly declared it the opinion of his majesty's subjects in Virginia that such acts would be in flat violation of their undoubted rights and liberties; and the committee by which that memorial was drawn up had contained almost every man of chief consequence in the counsels of the colony, the king's attorney general himself not excepted.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

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We Give The Market Reports

Closing Exercises

An ice cream supper was held last week at Kirksville for the benefit of the graded school at that place and forty dollars was realized.

On Tuesday night "The Village Post Office" was given by grades lower than the eighth. About forty of the school children engaged in the play and it was well presented.

On Wednesday night about thirty children from the eighth grade presented "Bess Goes to Europe." The young people acquitted themselves with much honor and the play was well staged.

On Thursday night Rev. E. C. McDougle, of this city, delivered the address to the graduating class. This address was an oratorical gem.

There was only one graduate from the school this year, Miss Etta Belle Long.

The good people of Kirksville and surrounding territory are greatly interested in school work and always rally to the support of their schools. This is one of the best portions of the county from an agricultural standpoint and its people are among the best of the State.

Services at the Grave of Dr. Roark

On Decoration Day when the graves of our soldiers were covered with flowers, faithful hearts and loving hands remembered another grave—the grave of Dr. Roark, the first President of the Eastern State Normal, and assembling under the leadership of Miss Patridge and Rev. E. C. McDougle, simple ceremonies were held by a number of the young men and women and flowers were laid on his grave. A very beautiful wreath was sent by Dr. Crabbe.

Beautiful Wedding

Miss Rebecca Edwards, of College Hill, was married to Mr. Joseph French, of Freedlandville, Ind., at her home last week. Miss Edwards is an accomplished and winsome young lady and very popular. Her husband is a prominent banker of his home city and a worthy young man. Congratulations are offered Mr. French for winning so handsome and accomplished wife.

For Rent

One of the most convenient cottages in Richmond, located on Broadway. Possession of same can be arranged with Prof. M. L. Canear who will shortly move with his family to Lancaster, Ky. Z. T. RICE, 22-2f at Rice & Arnold's.

Successful Operation

Last Tuesday John Mitchell Murphy was operated on for appendicitis at the Gibson Hospital. The operation was very successful. Mr. Murphy will soon be able to return to his home.

Found

On Lancaster Avenue, a fountain pen. Call at this office and describe same, and you can have it.

When you are going to have company and want something good, try our Fennell Peaches, Pears, Apricots, Pine Apples, Corn, Beans, Tomatoes and everything else in this line that your taste calls for. Covington, Thorpe & Co. 11-1f

CHAUTAUQUA

To hear Kryl's Band, is worth the price of the season ticket.

A Boy

At the home of Mr. and Mrs. A. T. Cosby a son was born last week who has been named Henry E. Cosby.

Rough and Dressed Lumber. Blanton Lumber Co. Phone 425. 16-1f

Decoration Day.

This memorable day was observed at College Hill and Red Hill with appropriate ceremonies. Flowers were in profusion and were scattered on the graves with loving hands. At College Hill many impromptu addresses were made. About three hundred were in attendance.

The graves were decorated at Red Hill in the afternoon. The orator of the day was Judge A. J. Sharp, of Winston, Estill county, past commander of the G. A. R. for Kentucky.

A good crowd was present. Some local orators addressed the people.

Hook-Worm Report

Dr. Shirley has filed an interesting report on the hook-worm situation in this county. He finds that there is a small per cent of infection. Out about fourteen hundred cases examined, only about 142 were infected. But many others had other intestinal troubles. This visit of the genial Doctor will be of incalculable value to the county.

Dr. Shirley for himself and the young ladies, assistants, thanks the good people for their uniform courtesies to him and to them.

We make a special selling ftoy nothing but the best grades of Clover, Timothy, Clean Blue Grass, Orchard Grass, Red Feed and Seed Oats. Give us a call. Phone 72 and 144. Covington, Thorpe & Co. 11-1f

This paper stops when your time is out. Look at the address. Will appreciate your renewal. 11-1f

Rayburn Farm Sold

The farm of Tevis Rayburn which has been advertised for sale at public outcry, was sold last Wednesday at public sale to Mrs. Frank Gibson for the sum of \$9967.34 or about \$92.30 per acre. A fairly good crowd was present and the land sold for its full value.

Hustling

The candidates were out in full force court day and were as thick as June bugs on the bonny brier bush. They will all win. There was not a loser in the whole bunch.

"Loo-ok!"

You are invited to come to the election August 2, 1913, and Vote for J. B. Walker for County Clerk 21-1f

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Rushed the Order

A TRAVELING Salesman, while in Nashville, Tenn., took a large order, promising delivery in ten days. It would take two days for the order to reach the Home Office by mail. It took him only a few minutes to telephone the order from a pay station of the Bell Telephone system.

Time saved by telephoning orders often means fulfillment of contract.

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