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W. Va. SONS OF THE REVOLUTION
IN THE

STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA

GENERAL SOCIETY

ORGANIZED AT WASHINGTON, D. C., APRIL 19, 1890.

OFFICERS.

General President,
JAMES MORTIMER MONTGOMERY, 108 Water St., New York, N. Y.

General Vice President,
RICHARD McCALL CALDWALADER, 133 S. 12th St., Philadelphia, Pa.

General Second Vice President,
CHARLES IRVING THAYER, Boston, Mass.

General Secretary
PROF. WILLIAM LIBBEY, Princeton, N. J.

Assistant General Secretary,
W. HALL HARRIS, JR., 216 St. Paul St., Baltimore, Md.

General Treasurer,
RALPH ISHAM, 1411 Ritchie Place, Chicago, Ill.

Assistant General Treasurer,
GEN. GEORGE RICHARDS, 1734 New York Ave., Washington, D. C.

General Registrar,
HON. GEORGE E. POMEROY, 519 Madison Ave., Toledo, O.

General Historian,
ORRA EUGENE MONNETTE, 619 Citizens Bank Bldg., Los Angeles, Cal.

General Chaplain,
RT. REV. DANIEL SYLVESTER TUTTLE, St. Louis, Mo.

WEST VIRGINIA SOCIETY

ORGANIZED AT WHEELING, APRIL 19, 1894.

Officers Elected February 22, 1919.

President,

JAMES ROGERS MORELAND,
Morgantown.

Vice President,

DR. REED McCULLOCH BAIRD,
Wheeling.

Secretary,

THOMAS RAY DILLE,
Morgantown.

Treasurer,

FRANCIS EDMUND NICHOLS,
Fairmont.

Registrar,

THOMAS RAY DILLE,
Morgantown.

Historian,

COL. HENRY HAYMOND,
Clarksburg.

Board of Managers,

OWEN S. MCKINNEY,
Fairmont.

FREDERICK THORNTON MARTIN,
Grafton.

HARVEY FARIS SMITH,
Clarksburg.

CHARLES LEWIS HICKMAN,
Clarksburg.

ROBERT LINN BLAND,
Weston.

JAMES ROGERS MORELAND (Ex-officio),
Morgantown.

THOMAS RAY DILLE (Ex-officio),
Morgantown.

ANNUAL MEETING, FEBRUARY 22ND, 1919.

The annual meeting of the Society was held at the Fort Henry Club, in Wheeling, and while it was not largely attended outside of Wheeling, was a very nice meeting. Several changes in the By-Laws were proposed and were laid over under the provisions of the Constitution until the Called meeting in June, 1919, for final action.

The report of the Historian, Col. Henry Haymond, congratulated the Society upon the fact that we had lost none of our members by death during the year.

The Secretary made an offer to donate to the Society the monthly publications of the Daughters of the American Revolution for the years 1911-18, with the understanding that the Society would have the same bound for the use of its library. The matter of acceptance and binding of the same was left to a future meeting of the Society. A Committee consisting of Dr. Reed M. Baird, Alfred Paull and William Paxton Burke all of Wheeling to co-operate with the Committee of the Daughters of the American Revolution in regard to the proposition of removing the remains of Ebenezer Zane from Martins Ferry, Ohio, to a cemetery in Wheeling, W. Va., it being pointed out that he was the founder of the City of Wheeling.

The election of officers resulted as follows: President, James R. Moreland, of Morgantown; Vice President, Dr. Reed McCulloch Baird, of Wheeling; Secretary, Thomas Ray Dille, of Morgantown; Treasurer, Francis E. Nichols, of Fairmont; Registrar, Thomas Ray Dille; Historian, Col. Henry Haymond, of Clarksburg; Board of Managers, Owen S. McKinney, of Fairmont, Frederick T. Martin, of Grafton, Harvey F. Smith, of Clarksburg, Charles L. Hickman, of Clarksburg, and Robert L. Bland of Weston.

It was voted that an adjourned meeting of the Society should be held at Fairmont sometime in the month of June, 1919, and that the date of the said meeting should be designated by the President of the Society.

At the banquet James R. Moreland delivered a very entertaining address of a historical nature upon "The Day We Celebrate," and Dr. Frank LeMoyne Hupp, of Wheeling, delivered a short, but very well received, toast upon "Patriotism, 1776-1919."

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ADJOURNED MEETING, JUNE 26TH, 1919, PRICKETTS FORT.

For many years Hon. Owen S. McKinney, Chairman of the Committee in charge of the arrangements of the dedication of the monument erected at the site of Pricketts Fort, on Pricketts Creek in Marion County, has been promising the State Society to have a meeting at the site and dedicate the monument erected by the State Society through the efforts of the Committee.

Mr. McKinney had arranged all the details of the dedication and they were all carried out with nicety and exactness. The ritual service and unveiling of the monument carried out by William Haymond Chapter Daughters of Amer-

ican Revolution, of Fairmont, was certainly a most impressive and inspiring ceremony. Addresses were made by James R. Moreland, of Morgantown, President of the Society; Mrs. George DeBolt, of Fairmont, State Regent of the West Virginia Daughters of the American Revolution; Judge William S. Haymond, of Fairmont, and Frederick T. Martin, of Grafton. The musical numbers were rendered by the Elks Quartet, of Fairmont, composed of W. D. Barrington, LeMar Satterfield, Charles Bornfeld and Ernest Yost. Great credit should be given to the able Committee on arrangements for the Sons of the Revolution, who assisted Mr. McKinney, composed of A. G. Martin, C. L. Musgrave, W. S. Haymond, Harry F. Smith, R. T. Cunningham, Samuel Leeper and Brooks Fleming, Jr., and to the Committee on arrangement of grounds, M. W. Harris, Levi M. Harris, L. J. Pricket and Leonard Curry.

ADDRESS OF COL. FREDERICK THORNTON MARTIN, DELIVERED
BEFORE THE STATE SOCIETY SONS OF THE REVOLUTION
AT FAIRMONT ON FEBRUARY 22ND, 1918.

In this company I see many familiar faces, which reminds me that it has always been somewhat embarrassing to me to speak to an audience where I was too well known. But when, just a few days ago, I was ordered by some of my old friends to report here today for duty, I felt that I had no right to deny them in what they seemed to think would be a pleasure for me. And in all respects, except the one I mention, it is a pleasure to be here, and a genuine one.

For many years, with only a few exceptions, I have made it a point to attend the annual dinners of this Society, and now that by reason of new State laws and new National regulations, much of the zest is taken away, I still feel that I must always try to be present at these meetings. The old friends are here to meet and greet me, the old sentiments are here to move and cheer me, and we have the additional charm of the presence of the Daughters of the Revolution to lend eclat to the affair. But there are places that are vacant. We miss them and feel that we shall not see them here again. They have fought the good fight, they have finished the course, they have kept the faith. We loved them in life; we do not forget them in death, and we feel that they have at last received their reward.

Long, long be my heart with such memories filled,
Like the vase in which roses have once been distilled;
You may break, you may shatter the vase if you will,
But the scent of the roses will cling to it still.

The Society of Sons of the Revolution is consistently a teacher of pure, undefiled and staunch patriotism. It believes in America and the principles of liberty, equality and justice upon which this great nation was founded, and the espousal of and adherence to these principles, it has been a factor in our social and political life.

It has taken for its first article of faith the declaration that all men are created free and equal, and it has always insisted that every man shall be accorded the full, free and untrammelled right to life, liberty and pursuit of happiness. And today, while in the midst of the most violent assault that has ever been made upon these ideals, we pause again, upon the birthday of George Washington, the Father of his Country, to renew our allegiance to all the great things for which he stood and to revivify in our own hearts the fires of patriotism and loyalty.

When the sage of Monticello penned the immortal words of the great declaration, little did he dream that ere a century and a half should pass, the emanation of his mind would so expand and grow as to embrace in its influence the majority of civilized mankind. No more did Washington see the vast reaches to which his example, his fruitful and persistent efforts for the free-

dom of his country, would extend, for today that example is the hope of patriots and the despair of tyrants over all the world.

None of the patriots who have done their task and gone before have ever had, so far as we know, any vision of the full purport of their work on earth, although their sacrifices, their works, have so diffused the light of liberty that all men might strive for it, even as they did. They planted the seed of liberty in this fertile and congenial soil and their descendants have nurtured and cared for it until the tender sprout which they planted has grown into a strong and sturdy oak and the shade of its spreading branches now covers the whole earth.

It has been our habit, in considering the history of our own great struggle for liberty and personal freedom to confine our views of our own country and to regard the matter of American Independence as local rather than general; and until recently this view seems to have been so natural that we are perhaps to be excused for seeming to be provincial and rather selfish.

But the great idea of human liberty has refused to be longer confined by geographical lines, and like the free air of heaven, it goeth no man knows wither, laden with the blessings for which all peoples have dreamed and for which they now live and long and strive. This idea is as limitless as the ocean, as firm as the foundations of the earth, as resistless as the tides, as constant as the planets in their orbits, as alluring as the song of the sirens, as just as the Eternal Justice of God himself.

In its present day application, it resolves itself back quite naturally into the original declaration that all men are created free and equal, and endowed by their creator with certain inalienable rights, among which are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness; and that all are equally entitled to a voice in the effort to establish justice, insure domestic tranquility, promote the general welfare and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity.

These sentiments, the first from the Declaration of Independence, the other from the Constitution of the United States, seem to be so eminently just and so comprehensive as to partake of the nature of the divine justice.

From the very beginning, even until now, the destiny of our country seems to have been in the hand of the Almighty, for always we have been blessed very abundantly and in every crisis there appears to have been some sort of a miraculous intervention to bring forth a man who was ready for and equal to the emergency. The scourgings that we may have received have been given us in kindness and have been for our ultimate good, as all now clearly recognize, and we would laugh at the man who would dare tell us now that God had not kept his vigil over us during all the past years of our history. And so we feel that there is a divinity that has shaped our ends, and we may say, as David said: "I am a wonder unto many, but thou art my strong refuge. Let my mouth be filled with thy praise with thy honor all the day."

It would be difficult to convince any intelligent student of our National history that Washington had not been raised up from among the people to command our armies for us and to guide our frail bark through the stress and storms of a rough voyage into a safe and secure harbor.

It would be equally difficult to make any of us believe for one moment

that in the dark days of fraternal strife it was not a kind and beneficent providence that brough forth a Lincoln, upon whose calm, unruffled judgment we might safely rely for guidance, and to whose strong and kindly hand we might cling in confidence.

And the present exigency only adds to the feeling of safe reliance upon him who holdeth the fate of nations in his hands. One could hardly conceive the possibility of a truer, safer pilot than he who now holds the helm of the ship of state. He is holding the old craft to her true course and will bring her into the haven of universal liberty. Yet there are those who seem to be uncertain and dissatisfied. Criticism is always easy, but where it is ill-timed or unwarranted, it is invariably the mark of a small and narrow mind. We may differ as to measures and means, but if we be true Americans, it is our duty to help and not seek to hinder. The justice of our cause should appeal to every man, but, after all, some people refuse to be moved, except by their own personal desires. They fail to recognize the full import of the situation and do not realize that it is their duty to close their ears to treasonable clamor, to close their mouths to disloyal utterances, to close their hearts to unpatriotic thoughts, to stand by at all times and to watch, pray and Hooverize. It is not so much what we are able to do as to faithfully do our part, which is to do all that we can do, in the best manner we may, and to do it promptly, cheerfully, unreservedly, ungrudgingly and like true Americans. And we should also remember that "they also serve who only stand and wait."

In the dark days of the revolution, while men, half-starved, half-clad, ragged and hungry, marched upon the frozen ground of Valley Forge and fought unequal battles with poor weapons and empty stomach, smug Tories lolled in comfort before their hearthstone and traduced and ridiculed Washington and his little army of patriots; yet he never lost for a moment his faith in the Almighty nor for a moment doubted that by and by there would come a Yorktown. He knew that God would raise up men to fight our battles for us, and after awhile they came, and Lafayette and Rochambeau, sleeping their everlasting sleep in their beloved France, must now know, it seems to me, that we are repaying them for their valor and unselfishness many fold.

The great and good Lincoln, he of the modest mien and the kind heart, was perhaps more traduced and maligned by foes without and within than any President who had, up to that time, filled the position of chief magistrate. Yet in the darkest days of the awful conflict in which he was our chief reliance he never faltered or gave way to doubts and fears, but firmly relied upon the aid of the God of nations, in whose hands rests their destiny, and always felt that some day, sooner or later, somehow, there would come an Appomattox to end the fearful scourge that rested upon our land, and that then would be demonstrated his declaration that a government of the people, for the people, by the people, should not perish from the earth.

And today, in our distress and sorroy, our President, burdened as he is by the heaviest load of grave responsibility that ever rested upon human shoulders, amid the clamor of ambitious and self-seeking men, surrounded and annoyed by the yelping and snarling of mongrels whose eyes are ever

looking and whose hearts are ever yearning for personal advantage and profit, harped at by those who are moved with that "base envy which withers at another's joy and hates that excellence which it cannot reach;" never for an instant does he doubt that by the help of God, in his own good time, will dawn a world-Appomattox which shall not end the present strife only but open the doors of hope through which shall come Peace which will endure forever."

And oh, what glory will there then be for all of us, by countrymen! The bright rays of the sun of human freedom will shine upon all men and will cover the whole earth with the light of liberty. Its fervent heat will warm every single drop of blood in every single human heart; it will strike the shackles from the bondman, and thenceforth all men shall be free; it will dispel the dark clouds of ignorance and superstition and fear and restore to mankind a full heritage of light and wisdom. Out of this world-wide cataclysm of horror and misery—out of this maelstrom of sorrow for the stricken sons and daughters of earth—will come a redeemed world of Justice and universal brotherhood, purged from the brutal idea that might makes right or the sword conquers evil. Grim-visaged War shall smooth his wrinkled front and his bloody tools of slaughter will give place to the sword of righteousness, and unspeakable Huns, insolently assuming that they rule by divine right, shall be banished forever from the face of the earth, and the places that knew them once shall know them no more forever.

After the last great battle for freedom and democracy shall have been fought and won, and Angel of Justice will bivouac over the Valley of Peace, and the awful carnival of hate and woe will give place to paeans of joy that will sound through the ages.

And the question comes: How will we bear our part in the days which are to come and how will we respond to the calls of duty to surely be made upon us? Everyone of us, man and woman, should be ready and anxious to perform the high and serious and solemn tasks which we will be called upon to render for our country. Searching out the lines upon which we may most successfully serve, we should perform the things for which we are called with a full realization of their import, in good faith and with firm resolution. And by all means let us remember that no half-hearted acquiescence, no passive obedience, will serve in the awful responsibilities that are immediately before us. The tasks will be hard, the burdens will not be light, but we must willingly and cheerfully assume our share of both and must show our faith by the constant practice of good works. If our associations here do not lead us to do these things, then they are all in vain. There is no escape from this great responsibility and no true man will seek for any escape. The duty of every one of us is to do the very best that is in him, in whatever position he may find himself; and this duty is paramount, no matter what our abilities, our condition, our circumstances or our opportunities may be. Some of us will be able to do less than others, but no man will shirk his part and no excuse will justify any failure or neglect of duty. In the last analysis of things, it may be that he who felt himself able to do the least shall find that he has really done most.

The little spring that flows from the ground in the mountains of Randolph county is so small that a thirsty ox, on a summer's day, can drink it dry. Yet it soon, in its silent meanderings, finds itself broadening out into the beautiful Monongahela, and by and by becomes the lovely Ohio, and going on and on, meeting ever with increasing strength, it flows proudly into the mighty Mississippi, watering on its way an empire and reaching breadth and depth of channel where the navies of the world might ride at anchor. And then, still not having finished its influence, it merges itself into the gulf and then into the mighty ocean, the emblem of eternity. And so it may be with us. From a small beginning, the limits to which we may reach in our proper endeavors are beyond our knowledge, and as often as otherwise, surpass our finest hopes.

"For ye know your calling, brethren, how that not many wise men after the flesh, not many mighty and not many noble are called; but God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise, and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty."

All our prejudices, all our pre-conceived notions of what we would like to do or have done, all our partisan feelings, even our convictions, must all be laid aside for the present so that we may have always before our eyes the light of civic virtue, and so that we may, in charity and brotherly love, keep our faces ever toward the sun and constantly and earnestly strive toward the ultimate goal of pure and undefiled patriotism and the absolute freedom of every man, woman and child.

In so far as they may affect our duty and devotion to our country, as well as to the cause for which we are called upon to make our sacrifices today, section and creed must be put behind us, and to the right alone must we look as the guiding star by which we lay our course of action. Obedience to lawful authority, when that lawful authority is duly established by the people, is the true test of good citizenship.

And we should not permit ourselves to be diverted from this course or to be slow to respond to the call of duty. We must follow in the straight and narrow paths which our fathers trod, in the trail of national rightness which they blazed for us toward the sun of liberty which they set before our yearning gaze; and we must preserve all of the ancient landmarks which they set for our guidance.

With a fixed and steady purpose of mind to keep inviolate and to perform to the full extent our duty as citizens of the land which they bequeathed to us, the dear land which gave us birth and nurture, the grandest country, the most glorious nation, the most just government upon which the sun shines today, with a full and fair conception of what is actually meant by the doctrine of the equality of all men before the law, let us freely and unreservedly tender to all men, of whatever race or creed, engaged as we are on this day in a struggle for the perpetuity of our principles of democracy, so far as need be, and so far as we may, our lives, our fortunes and our sacred honor; and let us here resolve that we will hold fast to that which is good, adhere to that which is glorious, emulate that which is virtuous, cleave unto that which is true, cherish that which is grandest and best in our country's history.

The beacons of independence which our fathers set upon the watch towers of liberty, we must ever maintain; the principles of glorious freedom which they established, we must inculcate into the minds and hearts of our fellow men, and ever espouse as our dearest and most priceless heritage. It is ours to emulate their illustrious example; ours to cherish the love of the country and of universal freedom which should inspire the hearts of all true and loyal Americans; ours to elevate the standard of our civilization to an ever-heightening, ever-broadening plane; ours to guard the genius of our country's institutions; our to keep the sacred fires of patriotism forever burning upon the altars of liberty.

And may the God of Wisdom, the God of Justice, the God of Truth, judge of the sincerity of our professions, the integrity of our actions, and the justness of our cause; and may the destiny of our beloved country ever rest beneath the sheltering care of the Everlasting Arms!

ADDRESS OF DR. FRANK LEMOYNE HUPP AT WHEELING, W. VA.,
DELIVERED BEFORE THE SOCIETY OF THE SONS OF
THE REVOLUTION DINNER, FEBRUARY 22, 1919.

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Mr Toastmaster:

It affords me gratification to meet this little gathering of the Sons of the Revolution in West Virginia; to pay the homage of our profound admiration to that patriotism which animated our forebears in the Washingtonian days to fight for a principle and to make this country not only safe for Democracy but a safe and decent place to live in. Yea, they did more than this. They, through patriotic example and living, handed down to the boys of today, who are now returning from France and Flanders, a brand of daring, courage, and love of freedom, which has proved itself a legacy rich indeed, and, shall we say which is more enduring as a memorial than brass.

I cannot do better than quote literally from the address of the great President McKinley, at the end of the Spanish-American War: "Upon the suspension of hostilities of a foreign war we are here in a spirit of peace," profoundly grateful for the glorious achievements of the Allies and particularly our own men, who were permitted to help win the victory, and earnestly wishing in the final termination to realize an equally glorious fulfillment.

It is not with a feeling of exultation, but with profound thankfulness, we contemplate the work of the past year. They have all been too serious to admit of boasting or vain glorification. They have been so full of responsibility, immediate and prospective, to admonish the soberest judgment and counsel and the most conservative and yet finest action.

This, gentlemen, is not the time to fire the imagination—notwithstanding we are thanking God for the valor, achievement and patriotism of 1918, but rather to discover, in calm reason, the way to truth and justice and right, and when discovered to follow it with fidelity and courage, without fear, hesitation or weakness.

This great war, gentlemen, has put upon our Allies, and particularly this great nation, grave responsibilities. Their extent was not altogether anticipated, yet, probably foreseen by that great man, Woodrow Wilson.

Our country cannot escape the obligation of victory. We cannot avoid the serious questions which have been brought home to us by the achievements of our arms by land and by sea. How true, as McKinley has said: "We are bound in conscience to keep and perform the covenants which the great cruel war has sacredly sealed with mankind."

The splendid victories we have achieved would be our eternal shame and not our everlasting glory, if they lead to the weakening of our original, lofty purpose, or to the desertion of the immortal principles and ideals on which the national government was founded and in accordance with whose ennobling spirit it has ever since been faithfully administered from Washington to Wilson.

We shall hope and pray as a Society, that the final confirmation of peace will be as just and humane, yet as firm as the conduct and the consummation of

the War. When the work of the treaty-makers is done the work of the law-makers will begin. The one will settle the extent of our responsibilities in dealing with the Hun assassin, the other must provide the legislation to met them—and backed by the self same patriotism that animated the boys in the trenches. As McKinley has said:

“The army and navy have nobly performed their part. May God give the Executive, Congress, and the people, wisdom to perform theirs.”

I thank you!

ADDRESS OF JAMES ROGERS MORELAND, PRESIDENT OF THE
SOCIETY AT THE ANNUAL MEETING AT WHEELING,
FEBRUARY 22ND, 1919.

Mr. Toastmaster and Gentlemen:

In behalf of the Society of the Sons of the Revolution in the State of West Virginia, it becomes my pleasant duty to bid you welcome on this occasion, the anniversary of the birthday of George Washington, the Father of his Country.

The Society of the Sons of the Revolution was founded in 1883, in New York; its purpose, as expressed by the constitution, being,

“to perpetuate the memory of the men, who in the military, naval, and civic service of the Colonies and of the Continental Congress, by their acts and counsel, achieved the independence of the Country.”

The New York Society, to be historically correct, was instituted February 22, 1876, but was reorganized in 1883, when the General Society was formed. State societies have since then been organized in most of the States of the Union.

The Society in the State of West Virginia was organized April 19, 1894, at the McClure Hotel in this city (of Wheeling), and it seems peculiarly fitting that the Society should return to this, the city of its birth, to celebrate the occasion of its completion of the first quarter century of its existence.

The organizers were Judge John Marshall Hagans of Morgantown, John Dailey of Piedmont, Major William Clark McGrew of Morgantown, Charles Mathew Hart of Clarksburg, John Bassel of Clarksburg, John Battelle Hart of Clarksburg, Colonel Henry Haymond of Clarksburg, Colonel Thomas Moore Jackson of Clarksburg, and Professor John George Gettings of Clarksburg. Of that number only three remain today as members of our Society—Charles Mathew Hart, John Battelle Hart and Colonel Henry Haymond. All the others excepting Major William Clark McGrew have crossed the bar and gone to their great reward. Major McGrew is greatly broken in health and has withdrawn from all active duties and associations of life. The little band of organizers were all distinguished men, and well fitted by natural endowments to carry out the purpose of the society as expressed in the Constitution by them adopted, and their standing and influence assured the Society of its success from the very beginning of its existence.

The first officers of the Society were, Judge John Marshall Hagans, President; John Dailey, Vice President; Colonel Henry Haymond, Secretary; Major William Clark McGrew, Treasurer; John George Geddings, Registrar and Historian. The Board of Managers were John Bassel, Charles Mathew Hart, Thomas Moore Jackson, John Battelle Hart and John George Gettings, all of Clarksburg.

By way of digression let me suggest that practically all of the organizers and first officers of the Society were from the upper Monongahela Valley, and there, as a consequence, the majority of its members are still to be found. The result has been that following lines of least resistance most of the meetings

have been held at Clarksburg or at Fairmont, and the failure of members living at a distance from the place of meeting to attend has made the Society somewhat provincial. Even at the risk of a smaller attendance we, this year, decided to reach out, and if the Wheeling members would not come over into our valley, we would take the meeting to them. We hope the wisdom of our decision will be established by renewed interest hereafter on the part of the Wheeling members.

The objects of the State Society as expressed in its Constitution, "are social, educational and patriotic; and the society is formed for the particular purpose of perpetuating the memory of the men who in the military, naval and civic service of the Colonies and of the Continental Congress achieved the Independence of the Country; and to further the proper celebration of the anniversaries of the birthday of Washington, and prominent events connected with the war of the Revolution; to collect and secure for preservation the manuscripts, records, and other documents of that period; to inspire the members of the society with the patriotic spirit of their forefathers; and to promote the feeling of fellowship among its members."

The object of the Society is not, as some may imagine, to indulge in pride of ancestry, or to establish exclusive organizations with a membership dependent upon the deeds of forefathers for its own distinction, but rather to encourage and stimulate a desire for knowledge of the problems which were presented to, and the circumstances which confronted our revolutionary forefathers; study their courage and wisdom in council and their valor in war, which resulted in the establishment of a Republic, the most potent in the history of the world. To perpetuate their achievements by reducing the result of that study to writing, and marking the places of historical interest that those of future generations as well as ourselves may receive the stimulating effect of their noble examples.

The illumination of the past is useless unless its rays are made to penetrate into the present, bestowing guidance and confidence. The records of our forefathers, therefore, are brought forth and published to the world, chiefly to stimulate ourselves to like courage and devotion should occasion arise.

The celebration today is of peculiar significance. Questions, second only in importance to those which confronted Washington, are before us. The nation is entering upon a career of influence and beneficence of which even Washington never dreamed. Questions of government involving the rights of men, the responsibilities of the strong in their relations to the weak, the promulgation of freedom without license, are problems facing the American people today. We are now a world power, whether we will it or not, and the force of events during the last four years has extended the responsibilities of the United States to every continent on the globe. From a position of isolation we have suddenly become a leader—yes, almost *the* leader of the world.

During the events of the past four years every thinking man and woman must have been impressed by the enormity and the gravity of the problems

with which our present Chief Executive has been forced to grapple—problems which demanded of him many of the great qualities which distinguished our first President. These problems involved a steady adherence to what is right, a lofty patriotism sinking the individual in the consideration of the public good. Firmness before the enemy, bouyancy and strength before friends, and humility before the Creator who disposes of all things. These are elements of character which not only distinguished George Washington, but our present Chief Executive as well, and has made Woodrow Wilson a great leader amongst great leaders during the present momentous conferences in Paris.

Of the living we may not speak too freely, but every act and sentiment of him “who by his unwearied exertions in the cabinet and in the field achieved for us the glorious revolution” is ours for contemplation and comment. In a society having for its purpose the study of the great cause which he so nobly led, it is peculiarly fitting that we should study his life and celebrate his natal day.

The late Senator John W. Daniels of Virginia once said, “Alone in its grandeur stands forth the character of Washington in history; alone like some peak that has no fellow in the mountain range of greatness.”

“Washington,” says Guizot, “did the two greatest things which in politics it is permitted to man to attempt. He maintained by peace the independence of his country which he had conquered by war. He founded a free government in the name of the principles of order and by re-establishing their sway.”

Washington did indeed do these things. But he did more. Out of disconnected fragments he molded a whole and made it a country. He achieved his country’s independence by the sword. He maintained that independence by peace as by war. He finally established both his country and its freedom in an enduring frame of constitutional government, fashioned to make Liberty and Union one and inseparable.

These four things together constitute the unexampled achievement of Washington. The world has ratified the remark of Fisher Ames that “he changed man’s ideas of political greatness.”

It has approved the opinion of Edward Everett, that “he was the greatest of good men and the best of great men.”

It is a matter of fact today, as when General Hamilton, announcing his death to the army, said, “The voice of praise would in vain endeavor to exalt a name unrivaled in the lists of true glory.”

America still proclaims him as did Colonel Henry Lee, on the floor of the House of Representatives, the man “first in war, first in peace, first in the hearts of his countrymen.”

Washington’s and Lincoln’s birthdays both come in the month of February and are both legal holidays. Never since the creation of man were two human beings so unlike, so nearly extremes or opposed to each other as Washington and Lincoln. The one an aristocrat by birth, by breeding and association; the other in every sense and by every surrounding a Democrat. As the richest man in America, a large slave holder, the possessor of an enormous landed estate and the leader and representative of the property and the culture and

the colleges of the Colonial period, Washington stood for the conservation and preservation of law and order. He could be a revolutionist and pledge his life and fortune and honor for the principles which in his judgment safeguarded the rights and liberties of his country. But in the construction of the Republic and in the formation of its institutions, and in the critical period of experiment until they could get in working order, he gave to them and implanted in them conservative elements which are found in no other system of government. And yet, millionaire, slave holder and aristocrat in its best sense, that he was all his life; so at any time he would have died for the immortal principle put by the Puritans in their charter adopted in the cabin of the "Mayflower" and re-enacted in the Declaration of Independence, of the equality of all men before the law, and of the equal opportunity for all to rise.

Lincoln, on the other hand, was born in a cabin among that class known as poor whites in slaveholding times, who held and could hold no position, and whose condition was so hopeless as to paralyze ambition and effort. His situation, so far as his surroundings were concerned, had considerable mental, but no moral improvement by the removal to Indiana, and subsequently to Illinois. Anywhere in Europe a man born amid such an environment and teachings, and possessed of unconquerable energy, eloquence and constructive statesmanship, would have been a socialist, and the leader of a social revolt. He might have been an anarchist such as Lenine, Trotsky, Liebnich or Rosa Luxemburg. His one ambition would have been, as is theirs, to break the crust above him and shatter it to pieces. He would see otherwise no opportunity for himself and his fellows in social or political or professional life. But Lincoln attained from the log cabin of the poor white in the wilderness the same position which Washington reached from his palatial mansion and baronial estate on the Potomac. He made the same fight, unselfishly, patriotically and grandly for the preservation of the Republic that Washington had made for its creation and foundation.

Widely as they were separated, these two heroes of the two first great crisis of our national life stand together in representing solvent powers, inspiring processes and the hopeful opportunities of American liberty. The one coming from the top and the other from the bottom to the presidency of the United States, the leadership of the people, the building up of government and the reconstruction of States; they superbly illustrate the fact that under our institutions there is neither place nor time for Bolshevism, Socialism or Anarchism in America; but there is a place and a time always, notwithstanding the discouragement of origin or of youth, for grit, pluck, ambition, honesty and brains.

