Women's Page

BY A WOMAN



GEORGE WASHINGTON'S MOTHER

August 25th marks the 142nd anniversary of the death of Mary Ball Washington, mother of the man whose two hundredth birthday anniversary the entire world will celebrate in 1932.

In Fredericksburg, Va., where Mary Ball Washington lived the greater part of her life, and where she lies buried, the shaft erected over her resting place bears a single line that perhaps tells in its half dozen words the uttermost that could be said of her. That simple line reads, "Mary, the Mother of George Washington." It would seem to be praise and glory enough for any woman.

Not far from her burial place stands the simple, white house, the gift of her devoted son who saw to it that her declining days were days of comfort and peace.

According to the little we know of Mary Ball Washington, she was a woman remarkable for sound sense and force of character, and was possessed of the same reserve as her illustrious son. Of his military achievements she is said ever to have spoken. She was proud, rather, of his character. Yet even in this regard she contented herself with such modest comment as: "George was always a good boy."

The death of Washington's father left Mary Ball Washington a widow without large means and with five children besides her eldest boy George, then eleven years of age. The farm on which they lived, near Fredericksburg, had been willed to George, but his mother was given the use of it during her life. The situation meant careful management on the part of the mother, and it obliged the young George Washington to act as head of the family, to prepare himself to earn his own living, and meanwhile to help his mother support the family.

As George grew up, prospered, and entered on his great career, he saw to it that his mother lived in comfort and security. Though he lived some distance away at Mount Vernon, he paid regular visits to her in Fredericksburg, and she was first in his mind after every signal achievement. His diary and memoranda of accounts bear witness to his continued interest in her welfare.

The United States George Washington Bicentennial Commission refers to one of these occasions. It was after the surrender of Cornwallis at Yorktown, the event that virtually ended the Revolution and guaranteed victory to the American cause. Washington proceeded to Fredericksburg to call on his mother. Leaving Lafayette and the other distinguished French generals who accompanied him the American commander-in-chief went alone and on foot to his mother's house. What they said to each other has never been recorded, but the meeting may well be imagined.

Afterward, May Ball Washington was persuaded to appear at a ball in Fredericksburg, in celebration of victory. All were so impressed by her great dignity and simple yet commanding manner that Lafayette is recorded as exclaiming, "If such are the matrons of America, she may well boast of her illustrious sons."

Washington saw his mother for the last time shortly after his election as First President of the United States, the honor that crowned all the others he received and merited from a grateful people. Before leaving Mount Vernon for his inaugural in New York, then the naional capital, the newly elected President traveled to Fredericksburg to present himself to his mother. George Washington Parke Custis, adopted son of Washington, has left a touching description of this last time that Washington saw hit mother alive.

He spoke the usual words of looking forward to seeing her soon again, but, in the description of Custis, she answered, "You shall see me no more; my great age and the disease that is fast approaching my vitals, warn me that I shall not be long in this world."

Her prediction was only too true. Her great son was inaugurated in March, 1789. Less than six months afterward, on August 25, that year, his mother died in her eighty-fifth year, a victim of cancer.

HEALTH FOR THE TEETH

Are you taking good care of your teeth? They are so essential for beauty, as well as for good health. Well chewed food, well mixed with saliva is ecessary for pood digestion. One of the first cares is to keep them clean. It is better to use a stiff toothbrush, dental floss and toothpicks for this. As healthy gums are necessary for the preservation of the teeth, it is well to massage them with the fingers quite often. Be careful not to let food stay lodged between the teeth and be careful to clean them before retiring at night.

LA MODE

OILCLOTH SUITS FOR BOATING FANS

By Associated Press

Navy blue oilcloth is the latest fabric for motorboat costumes. Suits, consisting of loose trousers and closely buttoned hip-length coats, are made of pliable blue oilcloth, which sheds the spray like a mackintosh. They are worn with an oilcloth beret and a bright-colored wool scarf.

HATS

Two outstanding influences are evident in the first Fall hats: The Second Empire and Victorian hats, already noted during the big racing season, which are being continued in even more extreme forms; and the French colonial influence expressed in higher, beplumed turbans, inspired by the head-dresses of African chiefs, and original bonnets reminiscent of the coiffures of their wives.

The new Victorian hats are worn so far down over the right ear that they have to be tied on round the left side of the head or it would be impossible to keep them on. Agnes' new beret, which she makes in both felt and velvet, is an example of this one-sided trend. It's worn pulled down on the right side and tilted forward over the right eye and is tied on with a ribbon bow over the left ear.

DARK FUR TRIMS LIGHT COATS, FROCKS

PARIS (A. P.).

Dark fur on light coats and frocks is the latest edict in costume trimmings. Light blue, green or beige coats are collared and cuffed in dark brown fur, while dark reds, greens and blues are almost invariably trimmed in flat black pelts.

RECIPES

EGG NOODLES ARE MADE WITH APPLES

1 package egg noodles.
4 tabelspoons butter.
4 apples, cut in eighths.
3-4 cup sugar.
1 teaspoon cinnamon.
1-4 teaspoon salt.

Parboil the noodles for 7 minutes in 4 quarts rapidly boiling water to which I tablespoon salt has been added. Drain.

Melt the butter in a frying pan. Place alternate layers of egg noodles and apples in the pan, seasoning with sugar, cinnamon and salt. Cook for 25 minutes keeping well covered the first 10 minutes.

Fried Bananas Served In Place of Potatoes

Fried bananas are usually served with the meat course. As they contain considerable starch, potatoes or other starchy vegetables may be omitted, bu cabbage, spinach or some other leafy vegetable should be included as usual. The directions for preparing fried baanas are from the Bureau of Home Economics, United States Department of Agriculture.

4 ripe bananas.
1 egg.
1-2 cup flour.
3-4 cup milk.
1-2 teaspoon salt.
1 tablespoon sugar.
Dried sifted bread crumbs.
Lemon juice.

Select ripe bananas, remove the sgin, scrape off the stringy portions and cut the baanas in half lengthwise. Dip the pieces of banana into the batter made from the flour, milk, sugar, egg and salt and then roll them in the bread crumbs. Fry the bananas until a golden brown in shallow fat and drain on paper to remove excess fat. Serve hot and squeeze lemon juice over the bananas.

Tomato Sauce

2 cups tomatoes
1 cup water
2 slices onions
2 bay leaves
2 celery leaves
1-2 teaspoon sugar
1 teaspoon salt
1-4 teaspoon paprika
2 tablespoons butter
4 tablespoons flour

Mix all ingredients except butter and flour. Cover and cook slowly 20 minutes. Strain thoroughly. Melt butter and add flour. Blend well and add tomato mixture. Boil two minutes, stirring constantly. Pour over baked fish. Garnish with parsley.

Paul Vinton Won Both Ways

By H. IRVING KING

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(WNU Service.)

PAUL VINTON had made the rash statement that he was not dependent on the fortune his father had left him—that he would be able to make his own living. He made this statement at the club and Gifford Briggs and Sam Burke laughed at him.

"Just what could you do now?" asked Sam, "to earn your bread and butter?"

"I can drive a machine," said Paul, "and I'm pretty good at mechanics generally; I can repair almost any sort of car—if the trouble isn't serious."

"Poof!" cried Gifford, "you are a fair amateur, I'll admit; but as a professional!—I'll bet you five hundred you could not get a job off your own bat as a chauffeur and keep it three months."

"Done," said Paul. And thereafter for sometime his place at the club was vacant.

Soon after Paul's disappearance from his accustomed haunts a young man presented himself before Mrs. Richard Charteris of Beacon street, Boston, and applied for the post of chauffeur in that lady's establshment, which, he understood, had become vacant. Mrs. Charteris looked him over and questioned him; Mr. Charteris did the same as did their daughters, Penelope and Barbara. He was asked for a recommendation from his last employer and presented a most laudatory one. Paul had written it himself and signed his own name to it. The name he gave to his employers was one which he had chosen after much worried cognition—it was John Snooks.

"Dear me! what an awful name," cried Mrs. Charteris. "We generally call our chauffeur by his last name; but Snooks?—never! Suppose we call you Harrison."

Barbara, the younger of the Charteris girls, regarded Paul with a suspicious look.

"Father," said she, "do you know anything of this Paul Vinton from whom this person professes to bring a recommendation?"

"Oh, yes," replied Mr. Charteris, "I know of him. He's old Hard Pine Vinton's son. He inherited heaps of money."

"I rather think I've heard of him," said Barbara. "He's a dissipated youth, I understand; not over bright. Do you think a recommendation from him is of any value?"

Paul tried not to glare at Barbara while she was traducing his character. Was that really his reputation? He did not believe it. The girl was just spiteful; evidently one of those people who never speak well of anybody if they can help it.

All the family liked "Harrison," as they insisted upon calling him, except Barbara. And for some reason, which no one could not comprehend himself, Barbara was the one person he laid himself out to please.

For two months Paul stuck to his job. "One month more," he meditated, "and then I'm going to stage a dramatic climax to my little adventure." He pictured himself disclosing his real identity before the whole family and demanding of Barbara—who would, of course, be overwhelmed with astonishment—her authority for the aspersions she had cast upon his character. And then? Why then, having convinced Barbara of his worthiness, he would approach the young lady from another angle.

Then one day when, because of thinking too much of Barbara, he had been guilty of some little dereliction, Barbara said to him coldly: "Your training with that rather disreputable Mr. Vinton has, evidently, not fitted you for the position of chauffeur in a family such as ours."

Paul lost his head and began an energetic defense of his "late employer."

"Really," said Barbara, "I had no idea that Mr. Vinton was such a paragon. Your able defense of him would lead one to believe, almost, that you were Mr. Vinton himself."

Paul looked at her with a start and an expression on his face that was a confession.

Barbara broke into a peal of laughter. "Oh, you guileless youth," said she. "I have known who you were all along. When you applied for the position of chauffeur I saw at once what that you were no professional. And that little 'recommend' you presented was a trifle too flattering. I suspected some mystery and made my attack upon Mr. Vinton's character as a chance shot. The way you looked at me confirmed my suspicions. I wrote to my cousin, Tom Perberton, in New York, asking him if he knew one Paul Vinton. He replied that he knew you well, belonged to your club and had heard about the bet you made. The mystery was cleared up. But I determined to make you really earn your five hundred—it was such fun. If you really want to stay on another month I think I can keep your secret just about that much longer."

"I do want to stay on," replied Paul.

Paul won his five hundred and about two months later put the money into a wedding present for his bride—whose name was Barbara.

BIG FELLOW EVIDENTLY

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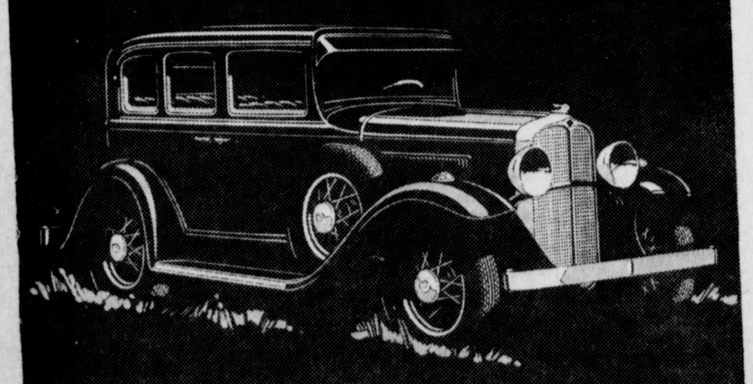
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