

THE NEW BERN MIRROR

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HONORING WASHINGTON

Citizens of New Bern, more than most Americans, have good reason to observe George Washington's birthday. The Father of Our Country spent two nights and part of two days here, danced the light fantastic at a colorful ball held in Tryon's Palace, and presided as Worshipful Master over St. Johns Masonic Lodge.

It is recorded that the only portrait of Washington in full Masonic regalia was painted by a New Bern artist, William Williams, whose mortal remains rest in historic Cedar Grove cemetery. G. W. was impressed by the brand of hospitality extended to him here, and said so later to friends elsewhere.

Washington was every inch a gentleman, remembering constantly the "Rules of Civility" he wrote in his copybook as an exercise in penmanship as a 15-year-old boy. Originally published by French Jesuits in 1595, they cover 10 pages in the aforementioned copybook—now in the Library of Congress.

The admonitions were more than just so many words to Washington, and a lot of us in this day and time do well to heed what they advocated. With this thought in mind, we'll offer a few of the rules for your solemn or humorous consideration. They are spelled and punctuated exactly as G. W. put them down on paper.

"Associate yourself with Men of good Quality if you Esteem your own Reputation; for 'tis better to be alone than in bad company."

"Wear not your Cloths, foul, unript or Dusty but See they be Brush'd once every day at least and take heed that you approach not to any uncleanness."

"Be not hasty to believe flying Reports to the Disparagement of any."

"Shift not yourself in the Sight of others nor Gnaw your nails."

"Treat with men at fit Times about Business & Whisper not in the Company of Others."

"Be not Curious to Know the Affairs tof Others neither approach those that Speak in Private."

"If you Cough, Sneeze, Sigh, or Yawn, do it not Loud but Privately; and Speak not in your Yawning, but put Your handkerchief or Hand before your face and turn aside."

"Do not express Joy before one sick or in pain for that contrary Passion will aggravate his Misery."

"Play not the Peacock, looking every where about you, to Se if you be well Deck't, if your Shoes fit well if your Stockings Sit neatly, and Cloths handsomely."

"While you are talking, Point not with your Finger at him of Whom you Discourse, nor Approach too near to him to whom you talk especially to his face."

"Drink not nor talk with your mouth full neither Gaze about you while you are Drinking."

"In visiting the Sick, do not Presently play the Physician if you be not Knowing therein."

"Turn not your Back to others especially in Speaking. Jog not the Table or Desk on which Another reads or writes, lean not upon any one."

"Think before you Speak pronounce not imperfectly nor bring out your Words to hastily but orderly & distinctly."

"Be not froward but friendly and courteous; the first to Salute hear and answer & be not Pensive when it's time to Converse."

"In Company of your Betters be not longer in eating than they are lay not your Arm but only your hand upon the table."

"Let your Discourse with Men of Business be Short and Comprehensive."

"If others talk at Table be attentive but talk not with Meat in your Mouth."

"When you Speak of God or his Atributes, let it be Seriously & with Reverence. Honour & Obey your Natural Parents altho they be Poor."

It is easy to see that young George, like quite a few of today's teen agers, wasn't so hot when it came to punctuation. Apparently, he chose to ignore it. But he didn't ignore the rules in his copybook.

Historical Gleanings

—By—

ELIZABETH MOORE

TOWN TAXABLES, NEW BERN, NORTH CAROLINA

Entries in Ledger: 1760, Joseph Leech, 410 and 414 Change street; George Hayes, Nos. 264 Broad and Eden, 201 Eden and 189 granted August 2, 1760; 1761, Peter Conway, 286 New street joining Robert Harbin; Sarah Bond lot —; Matthew Arthur Lot on S. side of Change street; Joseph Leech, front of Lot 410; Col. William Dry, front of Lot 243; also 107 and 412; Christopher Dawson, lot on Change street; 1763, W. Clitherell, signed for book of entries from Joseph Leech, treasurer in the presence of John Rice, Richard Cogdell and Peter Conway.

1766, October 31, James Davis, all the vacant front lot lying to the E. of lot 9 and joining on water; 1767, Feb. 20, Thomas Haslen, Esq., present treasurer of the Town of New Bern, this day received from J. Clitherell, Esq., late treasurer, this entry book in the presence of Christopher Neale and Thomas Haslen; 1767, John Clitherell, Nos. 408 and 410 Norwood street; Robert Palmer, Nos. 314 and 330 on Metcalf street; Richard Blackledge and John Hawks and Christopher Neale, lots Nos. 37 and 39 on Front, 236 and 355 on German, 201 on Eden street; March 16, Robert Burney, 315 on Metcalf; April 4, Joseph Leech and Christopher Neale, 415 on Craven & Change; John Butcher, 264 North side of Broad and W. side of Eden; 1767, Thomas Haslen, Nos. 329 and 328 for the trustees to the school house; Gabriel Cathcart, Nos. 325-326; June 8, George Hay, 286 on New street, 278 on New street; Gabriel Cathcart, 286 on New street, part of lot; 1767, Aug. 5, John Baptista Toole, Nos. 289 and 290, New street; Oct. 29, Eleanor Cox, 101, this lot in the Palace Square.

1768, Aug. 16, John Smith, S. Front of lot he now lives on; James Ryan, Nos. 237 and 238, German; Nov. 5, Richard Doudy, 401 Norwood street; Dec. 13, Colonel Dry on Johnson and Hancock, Nos. 341 and 342; Cornelius Harnett, lot on Johnson and Hancock, Nos. 340 and 339; Lancelot Graves Berry, Nos. 286 on New street; Thomas Haslen, Nos. 325 and 326, 343, Johnston street; 1769, Thomas Haslen, Nos. 37, 236, 355; John Moore, 201, Thos. Haslen, 201, William Goode, 315 on Metcalf street; Robert Burney, 316 on New street; Thomas Leech, 414 caveated by Jos. Leech.

Joseph Leech, 315; William Dry, Nos. 331, 332, 333; Joseph Fulcher,

Nos. 216, 286, 318; May 5, Levi Gill, 292; May 17, Isaac Darby, 261 on Broad; Mr. Bromage, 344; Thomas Webber, Nos. 408, 410 on Norwood street; Eunice Carruthers, Nos. 213, 214; No. 214 caveated by John Green; July 7, His Excellency William Tryon, Esq., No. 207 on Eden street; 210 and 211 on Muddy street; 401 on Norwood and 408 and 410 on Norwood; Thomas Haslen, 401 on Norwood and 237, 238 on German street; 1770, David Calhoun, 350 on Queen and Hancock; July 25, John Edmondson, 317 on New street; John Green received this book as treasurer of the Town of New Bern the 3rd Tuesday, Nov. 1770;

1771, March 19, James Coor, 382 Queen street and Pollock; April 8, Joseph Leech, 346 on Middle street; June 25, Timothy Clear and John Green, merchants, Nos. 37 Front street and N. Corner of 236 German street; Hannah Moore, No. 358 Jones street; 1771, July 19, Francis Lynaugh, No. 350 on Queen and Hancock; this entry is void, deed granted to David Calhoun 17 July, 1770 for this lot;

1771, Sept. 9, Jesse Wood, No. 297 on Eden and New street, Jahleel Smith, No. 359 on German and Jones street; December 23, Jesse Wood, 298 on New street; William Goode, 217 on the South side of Broad street; Richard Cogdell, No. 216 on Muddy street; John Green, No. 215 Muddy; Richard Graves, 204 Eden street; Jos. Wood, 293, New street, this day settled with Col. William Dry for the above deeds granted to Col. Joseph Leech, two deeds, Nos. 346 and 367, Middle street; Hannah Moore, 358; Jesse Wood, Lots 297 and 298, Jahleel Smith, 358.

1772, Joseph Montford, 415 on Craven and Change street; 341, 342, 343 on Johnston street; 350 on Hancock, 325 and 326 on Hancock, 216 Muddy. The above Lots were entered at 6 o'clock in the morning; James Milner, Esq., 331, 332, 333, Johnston and Queen; Thomas Haslen, Esq., 408-450, Norwood street;

Thomas Webber, Esq., 237 and 238, German street. Thomas Webber, Esq., Lot 401 on Norwood. Thomas Haslen, Esq., Lot —, Queen and Hancock, 318 saved by Stephen Cook. (Copied from Town Taxables," Town of New Bern, office of City Clerk. Eden street is spelled "Eaden and Eden"; Hancock is spelled Handcock; Johnston is spelled "Johnston and Johnson.")

What's wrong with the poor is poverty; what's wrong with the rich is uselessness.

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SOME DAY

Some day all doubt and mystery
Will be made clear;
The clouds that cast their shadows 'round
Will disappear.

Some day what seemed a trouble sore
And caused much pain,
Will prove to be God's blessing sent
For every gain.

Some day, all wearied, we will rest
In sweet content.
Then we will know it proved the best
What God has sent.

And looking back with vision cleared
Over the span
Of fleeting years we'll see at last
God's perfect plan.

And knowing that the path, though steep,
Was God's own way,
Will understand His wise design,
At last—SOME DAY.

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