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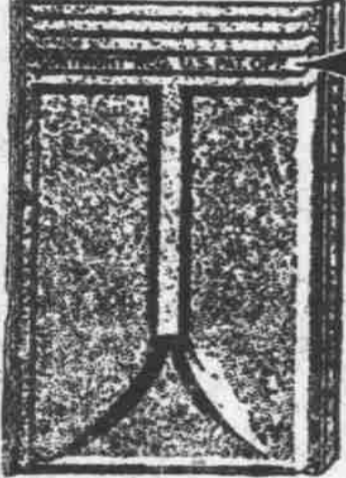
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President-Elect Wilson and the Inauguration of Jefferson.

(The Daily News.)

In an interview a few weeks ago President-elect Wilson stated that Jefferson did not ride the famous nag to the capitol. Since this interview the President-elect has abolished the inaugural ball. It may be of interest to know just what the books say about the inauguration of Jefferson. Here is what I find in a ramble among my books.

The Hon. Thos. E. Watson, the fiery politician and brilliant writer, and former candidate for President of the United States, says: "On foot and attended informally by a few friends, Mr. Jefferson went to the capitol and read his noble first inaugural address." Life of Jefferson, page 112.

Henry Adams, in his History of the First Administration of Thomas Jefferson, History of the United States, Volume No. 1, page 196 and 197, says: "John Davis, one of many Englishmen who were allowed by Burr to attach themselves to him on the chance of some future benefit to be derived from them, asserted in a book of American travels published in London two years afterward, that he was present at the inauguration, and that Jefferson rode on horseback to the capitol, and after hitching his horse to the palings went in to take the oath. This story, being spread by the Federalist newspapers, was accepted by the Republicans and became a legend of the capitol. In fact Davis was not then at Washington, and his story was untrue. Afterward as President, Jefferson was in the habit of going on horseback rather than in a carriage, wherever business called him, and the Federalist found fault with him for doing so. "He makes it a point," they declared, (Evening Post, April 20, 1802), "when he has occasion to visit the capitol to meet the representatives of the nation on public business, to go on a single horse, which he leads into the shed and hitches to a peg." Davis wished to write a book that should amuse Englishmen, and in order to give an air of truth to invention, he added that he was himself present at the ceremony. Jefferson was then living as vice-president at Conrad's boarding house, within a stone's throw of the capitol. He did not mount his horse only to ride across the square and dismount in a crowd of observers. Doubtless he wished to offer an example of republican simplicity, and he was not unwilling to annoy his appointments; but the ceremony was conducted with proper form. Edward Thornton, then in charge of the British legation at Washington, wrote to Lord Grenville, then foreign secretary in Pitt's administration, a dispatch enclosing the new President's inaugural address, with comments upon its democratic tendencies; and after a few remarks on this subject, he added: (Thornton to Grenville, March 4, 1801; MSS. British Archives.) "The same republican spirit which runs through this performance, and which in passages discovers some bitterness through all the sentiments of conciliation and philanthropy with which it is overcharged, Mr. Jefferson affected to display in performing the customary ceremonies. He came from his own lodgings to the house where the congress convenes, and which goes by the name of the capitol, on foot, in his ordinary dress, escorted by a body of militia artillery from the neighboring state, and accompanied by the secretaries of the navy and treasury, and a number of his political friends in the house of representatives."

John T. Moss, Jr., in the Life of Thomas Jefferson, American Statesman Series, page 186 and 187, says: "Adams added his own little personal insult by driving out the ceremony during the night, in order to avoid the spectacle of the following day. In one sense of the word that spectacle was sufficiently extraordinary to be worth seeing, for Jefferson had resolved that no pageant should give the lie to his democratic principles, and accordingly he rode on horseback, clad in studiously plain clothes, without attendants to the capitol, dismounted, tied his horse to the fence, and walked unceremoniously into the senate chamber. (This legend is far from being sufficiently vouched for; but it has been repeated for so long time, that it has come to be accepted as a sort of truth by prescription.) There he delivered his inaugural address, an effusion rhetorical excess and breathing boundless philanthropy. One can read between the lines of his declaratory harangue the conviction of the speaker that his accession to office marked the opening of a glorious epoch in human progress."

Richard Hildreth in the history of the United States of America, Volume No. 5, page 420 says: "Among other Federal poems, Jefferson had condemned with strong emphasis, as savoring of monarchy, any public ceremony at the swearing in of the president. Yet, on the morning of his accession to office, not to disappoint the multitude of his friends and partisans who had assembled to pay him honors, and perhaps, now that his own turn had come, looking at the matter in a somewhat different light, escorted by a body of militia and procession of citizens, he proceeded to the capitol, where the senate had met in special session, in obedience to a call issued by Adams weeks before."

The Hon. Thomas E. Watson, in the Life and Times of Thomas Jefferson, page 398 and 399, again writes: "No cream colored chariot and prancing horses with outriders and heavy bore him to the capitol to take the oath. He walked from his boarding house, attended informally by a few friends and read in a low voice the beautiful address which will always be to good government what the Sermon on the Mount is to religion. Great changes were made at once in all matters of form and ceremony. Semi-royal levees were discontinued. Dinner parties given by the President were as informal as those of any private gentlemen. Congress ceased to wait upon the President in a body, and the President ceased to come in state to Congress to deliver his 'king's speech.' When Jefferson had occasion to go to the capitol upon any matter of business he rode horseback,

hitched his horse to a peg under the shed which stood near, and walked in as any plain citizen would have done. It was probable this habit (it angered and disgusted the Federalist so much) which gave currency to the rumor that he rode to his inauguration on a brood mare, followed by a sucking colt. The writer is personally acquainted with good citizens who seem to consider the legendary brood mare and her mythical colt as a part of the stage property of modern democracy."

Prof. J. B. McMaster, of the University of Pennsylvania, in his history of the people of the United States, No. 2, page 533, says:

"The ink was not six hours dry when he (Adams) entered his coach and was driven out of the city. It has been long popularly believed that at noon Jefferson, unattended by a living soul, rode up the capitol hill, tied his horse to the picket fence, entered the chamber of the senate, and took the oath of office. (This idle story, in which there is not a word of truth, has found its way into so many books where it ought not to be, that I will give the true account of the inauguration ceremonies as published at the time.) "At an early hour Wednesday, March 4, the city of Washington presented a spectacle of uncommon animation, occasioned by the addition to its usual population of a large body of citizens from the adjacent districts. A discharge from the company of Washington artillery ushered in the day; and about 10 o'clock the Alexandria company of riflemen, with the company of artillery, paraded in front of the President's lodgings. At 12 o'clock, Thomas Jefferson attended by a number of his fellow citizens, among whom were many members of Congress, repaired to the capitol. His dress was, as usual, that of a plain citizen, without any distinctive badge of office." Surrounded by a crowd of citizens and a troop of militia, beating drums and bearing flags, he ambled slowly on to the capitol and mounted the steps, with the shouts of a multitude and the roar of a cannon ringing in his ears."

ZEB V. WALSER.

Lexington, Feb. 7, 1913.

HOUSE RESENTS EDITORIAL.

Charity and Children Condemned for References to Members in Newspaper Article.

(News and Observer, Feb. 14.) An editorial in the current issue of Charity and Children, of which Archibald Johnson, otherwise known as the blockade preacher, is editor, figured in a somewhat sensational incident in the House of Representatives early in yesterday's session. The edition itself, combined with the fact that when the House convened yesterday a copy of the paper containing it was found on each representative's desk, brought Representative Plummer Stewart, of Mecklenburg, to his feet on a point of personal privilege. He called attention to the presence of probably 120 copies of the paper and read the editorial, which had reference to the passage in the House of the two divorce bills killed in the Senate, and then proceeded to make a dramatic and red hot speech in denunciation of the language used by Editor Johnson. He spoke of the word "Charity" in the title of the paper as a misfit, and characterized the editor as lacking in the quality for which the word stands, as evidenced, he claimed, by the use of the words "gate posts" and "mules" with reference to the members of the House. He was roundly applauded.

Later Representative W. A. Devin offered the following resolution, which was adopted without an audible vote in the negative:

The Resolution.
"Resolved by the House of Representatives: That the House of Representatives of North Carolina condemns the unjust criticism of this body appearing in an editorial appearing in Charity and Children of February 13, and the grave charges therein contained against the integrity, patriotism and intelligence of this body."

Representative Walter Murphy and others opposed the passage of the resolution on the ground that for the House to recognize the utterance by a resolution would be according it too much dignity. They desired that the House ignore it, but expressed themselves in sympathy with the sentiments of the resolution and Mr. Murphy said he would vote for it if it came to a vote. The editorial that caused the "breeze" follows:

The Editorial.
"Thanks to the Senate, the horrible divorce bill introduced by Representative Stewart and which passed the House, was killed before the Senate committee by an overwhelming vote."

"The fact that such a bill got half way through the Legislature is enough to cause us to stop and think a little. We are entirely too careless in selecting men to represent us in Raleigh. We send a lot of moral molly coddles there, whose intentions are good enough, but who are as innocent of color and conviction as so many gate posts. They are led around by the nose by men stronger than themselves, and have about as much foresight as a drove of mules."

"Fortunately we are usually a little more careful in our selection of Senators; and this has saved us many a time from wild and foolish legislation not only, but from laws that open the good gates to immorality and vice."

"We thank the Lord that this Stewart bill which aimed at the heart of the fireside and the home, is as dead as a door-nail; and it is not likely that another like it will be presented before this legislature. Our present divorce law is not creditable to the virtue of the State, and to lower the bars would put us outside the pale of respectability."

"The House of Representatives is not a strong body as we hoped when it first assembled. It has a few strong men in it, some of whom are much more ambitious than patriotic, and there is danger that the House will prevent some legislation that is greatly needed, notably the provision for a six months' term of our public schools."

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