

# WINDSOR LEDGER.

PRICE ONE DOLLAR PER YEAR, INVARIABLY IN ADVANCE.

OUR MOTTO: DIEU ET MON DROIT.

THE LEDGER PUBLISHING COMPANY.

VOL. XIII.

WINDSOR, BERTIE COUNTY, N. C., THURSDAY, JULY 2, 1896.

NO. 30.

## A NATION'S BIRTH.

ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY YEARS AGO  
THE REPUBLIC WAS BORN.

### OUR FIRST CENTURY.

"It will be celebrated by succeeding generations as the great anniversary festival. It ought to be commemorated as the day of deliverance by solemn acts of devotion to Almighty God. It ought to be solemnized with pomp and parade, with shows, games, sports, guns, bells, bonfires and illuminations, from one end of the continent to the other, from this time forth forevermore."—John Adams.

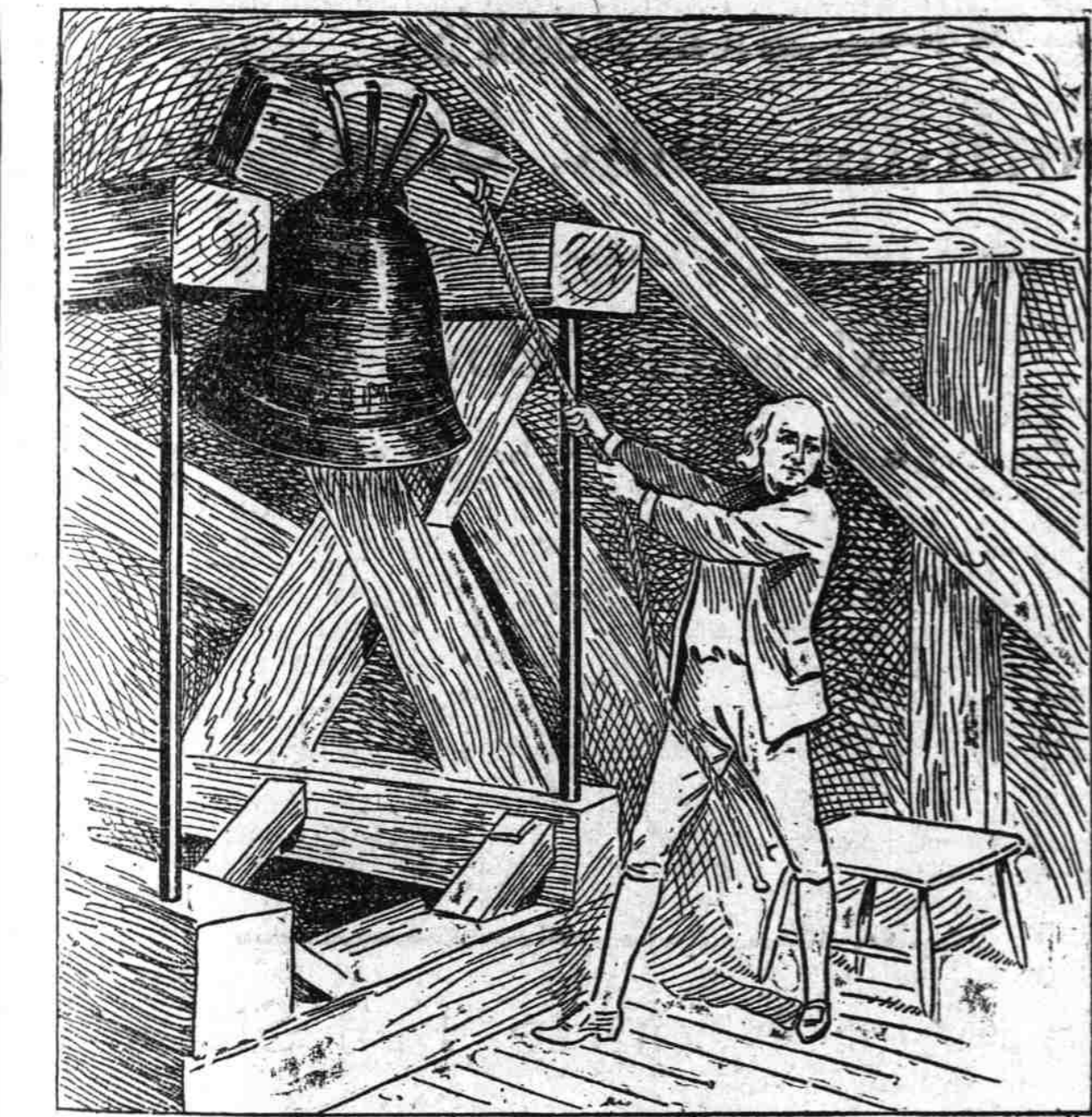
One hundred and twenty years ago, namely, on the Fourth of July, 1776, there was born in the western world a new Nation—the Republic of the United States.

Defiance to tyrants was emblazoned in empyreal light upon her brow, and Freedom and Justice were the frontlets between her eyes.

Monarchs, crowned with kingly diadems, stood awed at the august manifesto, and at the solemn arraignment of King George before the judgment of mankind, and parliaments and cabinets started in dismay to their feet; but the people as they desecrated the eagle of Liberty spreading her wings and soaring proudly aloft, breathed freer and took stronger heart, as the clearing of her voice sounded through the air, declaring, with grandly rounded enunciation, that "all men are created equal."

### REFUSING TRIBUTE.

Refusing to pay the tribute of taxation arbitrarily imposed upon them at the point of the bayonet by the British crown; failing, too, to move the King and his ministers from their career of haughty and reckless obstinacy, the thirteen American colonies found themselves reduced to the alternative of subject submission to their so-called royal masters, or of armed resistance.



RINGING THE LIBERTY BELL IN PHILADELPHIA, JULY 4, 1776.

Already there had flashed throughout the country the electric words of Patrick Henry:

"We must fight! An appeal to arms and to the God of Hosts is all that is left us. I repeat it, sir, we must fight!" And as the blood of patriot hearts had now flowed freely and bravely at Concord and Lexington and Bunker Hill, Washington declared, in words of solemn emphasis and characteristic brevity:

"Nothing short of Independence, it appears to me, can possibly do."

He also warmly approved and commended Paine's pamphlet, "Common Sense," written to this end.

The sons of liberty shouted their responsive acclaim to this manly summons from the great American soldier—Washington—and, like the sound of many waters, the spirit of National independence which thus possessed the people came upon the Continental Congress then in session in the State House at Philadelphia, Penn.

### THE RESOLUTION.

It was in this temple of freedom, wherein was sitting as noble and august a legislative body as the world ever saw, that Richard Henry Lee introduced a resolution on the 7th of June, 1776, declaring:

"That the United Colonies are and ought to be free and independent States, and that their political con-

nection with Great Britain is and ought to be dissolved."

Upon this resolution there sprang up at once an earnest and powerful debate. It was opposed, principally, on the ground that it was premature.

Some of the best and strongest advocates of colonial rights spoke and voted against the motion, which at last was adopted only by a vote of seven States in its favor to six against. Some of the delegates had not received definite instructions from their constituents, and others had been requested to vote against it.

Its further consideration was accordingly postponed until there was a prospect of greater unanimity. On the 11th of June, therefore, a committee was appointed to draft a formal Declaration.

### MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE.

This committee consisted of Benjamin Franklin, John Adams, Thomas Jefferson, Roger Sherman and Robert R. Livingston. On the 28th of June

the committee made their report, and presented the Declaration which they had drawn up.

The first or original draft was penned by Mr. Jefferson, Chairman of the committee. On the 2d of July Congress proceeded to the serious consideration of this momentous paper. The discussion, as to the tone and statements characterizing the document, and the propriety of adopting it at that time a measure so decisive, lasted for nearly three days, and was extremely earnest.

It was so powerfully opposed by some of the members that Jefferson compared the opposition to "ceaseless action of gravity, weighing upon us by night and by day." Its supporters, however, were the leading minds, and urged its adoption with masterly eloquence and ability.

John Adams, Jefferson asserts, was "the Colossus in that debate," and "fought fearlessly for every word of it." The bond which was formed between those two great men on this occasion seems never to have been completely severed, both of them finally expiring, with a sort of poetic justice, on the fiftieth anniversary of the act which constituted their chief glory.

### WELL CHARACTERIZED.

Well and truly did the mighty patriot Adams characterize this event as the most memorable epoch in the history of America.

## FIRE CRACKERS FOR THE LION.



A FOURTH OF JULY PASTIME FOR UNCLE SAM'S PRECOCOUS "KIDS."

"I am apt to believe," said he, "that it will be celebrated by succeeding generations as the great anniversary festival. It ought to be commemorated as the day of deliverance, by solemn acts of devotion to Almighty God. It ought to be solemnized with pomp and parade, with shows, games, sports, guns, bells, bonfires and illuminations from one end of this continent to the other, from this time forth forevermore!"

The result has equalled the great patriot's wishes. Tradition gives a dramatic effect to its announcement.

It was known throughout the city that the great event was to be determined that day by the last formal acts; but the closed doors of Congress excluded the populace from witnessing the august assembly or its proceedings, though thousands of anxious citizens had gathered around the building eager to hear the words of National destiny soon to be officially proclaimed.

From the hour when Congress came together in the forenoon all business was suspended throughout the city, and the old bellman steadily remained at his post in the steeple, prepared to sound forth to the waiting multitudes the expected glad tidings.

He had even stationed a boy at the door of the hall, below, to give immediate signal of the turn of events.

### AFT INSCRIPTION.

This bell, manufactured in England, bore upon its ample curve the now prophetic inscription, "Proclaim liberty throughout all the land unto all the inhabitants thereof."

Hours passed on, and fear began to take the place of hope in many a heart; even the venerable and always cheerful bellman was overheard in his despondent soliloquy:

"They will never do it! they will never do it!"

Finally, at about 2 o'clock in the afternoon, the door of the mysterious hall swung open, and a voice exclaimed:

"Passed!—it has passed!"

The word was caught up by ten thousand glad mouths, and the watch-boy now clapped his hands and shouted, "Ring! Ring!" Seizing the iron tongue of the bell in which he had long felt such a professional pride, the electrified old patriot rang forth such a joyous peal as was never heard before, nor ceased to hurl it backward and forward till every voice joined in its notes of gladness and triumph.

The roar of cannon, and illuminations from every house and hilltop, added to these demonstrations of universal rejoicing.

### WIDESPREAD EXULTATION.

And this was the type of that exultation which everywhere manifested itself, as the news spread with lightning rapidity from city to city and from State to State. Every American patriot regarded the declaration by Congress as the noble performance of an act which had become inevitable; and the paper itself as the complete vindication of America before the bar of public opinion throughout the world.

When it was read by the magistrates and other functionaries in the cities and towns of the whole Nation, it was greeted with shouts, bonfires and processions. It was read to the troops, drawn up under arms, and to the congregations in churches by ministers from the pulpit.

Washington hailed the declaration with joy. It is true, it was but a formal recognition of a state of things which had long existed, but it put an end to all those temporizing hopes of reconciliation which had clogged the

military action of the country. On the 9th of July, therefore, Washington caused it to be read at 6 o'clock in the evening, at the head of each brigade of the army.

### WASHINGTON'S COMMENT.

"The General hopes," said he in his orders, "that this important event will serve as a fresh incentive to every officer and soldier to act with fidelity and courage, as knowing that now the peace and safety of his country depend, under God, solely on the success of our arms; and that he is now in the service of the State possessed of sufficient power to reward his merit and advance him to the highest honors of a free country."

The troops listened to the reading of this with eager attention, and at its close broke forth in tumultuous applause.

The excitable populace of New York were not content with the ringing of bells and the other usual manifestations of public joy. There was a leaden equestrian statue of George the Third in Bowling Green, in front of the fort.

Around this kingly effigy the excited multitude, surging hither and thither, unitedly gathered, and, pulling it down to the ground, broke it into fragments, which fragments were afterward conveniently molded into bullets and made to do service against His Majesty's troops.

Some of the soldiers and officers of the American army having joined in this proceeding, Washington censured it, as having much the appearance of a riot and a want of discipline, and the army was ordered to abstain, in the future, from all irregularities of the kind.

### GREAT JOY IN BOSTON.

In Boston, that citadel of radical insubordination to "His Majesty," the public joy knew no bounds, and even the British prisoners were courteously summoned to witness the spirit with which a brave people, determined to be free, dare to defy the British throne. On the seventeenth day of July, the British officers on parole received each a card from the Gov-



HALL OF INDEPENDENCE, PHILADELPHIA, IN 1776.

ernor, requesting the honor of said officer's attendance in the town hall.

As rumors were pretty well abroad, however, touching the decided steps that had been taken at Philadelphia, the officers were not without a suspicion as to the purport of the meeting, and hesitated for a while as to the consistency of giving the sanction of their presence to a proceeding which they could not but regard as traitorous.

Curiosity, however, got the better of these scruples, and it was resolved, after a brief consultation, that the invitation ought to be accepted.

On entering the hall the King's officers found it occupied by "rebellious" functionaries, military, civil and ecclesiastical, and among whom the same good humor and excitement prevailed as among the throng out of doors. The British officials were received with great frankness and cordiality, and were allotted such stations as enabled them to witness the whole ceremony.

Exactly as the clock struck one, Colonel Crafts, who occupied the chair, rose, and, silence being obtained, read aloud the declaration, which announced to the world that the tie of allegiance, which had so long held Britain and her North American colonies together, was forever separated. This being finished, the gentlemen stood up, and such, repeating the words as they were spoken by an officer, swore to uphold, at the sacrifice of his life, the rights of his country.

Meanwhile the town clerk read from a balcony the solemn declaration to the collected multitude, at the close of which a shout began in the hall and passed like an electric spark to the

streets, which now rang with loud huzzas, the slow and measured boom of cannon and the rattle of musketry.

The batteries on Fort Hill, Dorchester Neck, the castle, Nantasket and Long Island, each saluted with thirteen guns, the artillery in the town fired thirteen rounds, and the infantry scattered into thirteen divisions, poured forth thirteen volleys—all corresponding to the number of States which formed the Union.

There was also a municipal banquet, at which speeches were made and toasts drunk, and in the evening a brilliant illumination of the houses.

### ARDOR IN VIRGINIA.

In Virginia, the proclamation of independence was greeted with that same ardor of enthusiasm which for so many years had characterized the people of that ancient commonwealth, in the course of political freedom.

In South Carolina, too, the declaration was read to the assembled multitudes, amid the greatest rejoicings, public addresses, military and civic processions, bands of music, firing of cannon and kindred demonstrations of popular favor.

In all the colonies, indeed, the declaration was hailed as the passing away of the old world and the birth of the new.

### Origin of "The Star Spangled Banner."

There is little in the history of all literature more interesting than the narrative of the circumstances under which "The Star Spangled Banner" was written. Often after the bombardment of Fort Mifflin, Francis Scott Key himself, with great animation, described his feelings that memorable night, and how he wrote that song. His heart was sick with anxiety.

He commenced the verses on the deck, in the fervor of the moment, in the dim light of the September morning when he saw the British soldiers hastening to their ships, and when he caught a glimpse of the flag which he had watched for so anxiously from the first faint gleam of dawn. He had a letter in his pocket, and upon the back of this he jotted down the opening lines and some brief memoranda of the current of his thoughts. He relied also a good deal upon his memory.

In the small boat which conveyed him to shore he completed the poem, and that night he wrote it out as it now stands, at the hotel at which he stopped in Baltimore. Next morning he showed the verses to Judge Nicholson, who was greatly pleased with them, and took them at once to the office of the Baltimore American, and had them printed for general circulation.

The poem was set up by Samuel Sands, an apprentice in the Baltimore American office, who up to a few years ago was still living in Baltimore County at a venerable age, but in fairly good health, with mind and memory clear, for many years having taken great interest in the peaceful pursuit of agriculture.

### Willie Touched Off the Bicycle.

"Where's my bicycle?" asked papa on the morning of the Fourth, as he came out into the yard.

"Boo-hoo!—I d-don't know," said Willie. "It went off a little while ago."

"Went off! Where?" "Boo-hoo!—I d-don't know. I f-fu-filled the roomatic tire with powder an' touched a m-match to it, an'—sh-hoo-ah-hoo!—it went away."—Harper's Bazar.

### Wouldn't Pop.

"I wish," said she, as by the pack of crackers they did stop, "that you, dear George, were like these squibs, For then perhaps you'd pop."

### Ready for the Fourth.



### PROMINENT PEOPLE.

The new Shah of Persia is said to be a rabid Moslem.

Christian XI. of Denmark is the oldest King of Europe, being seventy-nine.

The German Emperor has recently developed a lively interest in bi-metalism.

Senator Voorhees, of Indiana, who is seventy years old, has been in Congress since 1861.

Emperor William has volunteered to act as godfather of Count William Bismarck's newborn son.

General Baratter, the unaccomplished Italian General in Africa, it is said, has practically lost his mind.

Charlotte Brontë's husband, the Rev. Arthur Bell Nicholls, is still alive, though he is in feeble health.

The black flies have driven Ex-President Harrison and his new wife from their summer home in the Adirondacks.

Hartford, Conn., proposes to give a benefit performance in one of her theatres for Mark Twain as soon as he gets home.

Paderewski, the pianist, once thought of studying the violin, but the teacher to whom he applied told him he could never become a musician.

Postmaster-General Wilson is said to have received an offer of the Presidency of a Western college, and may accept it when he leaves the Cabinet.

Prince Henry of Battenberg's estate, for which letters of administration have just been granted to Princess Beatrice, his widow, amounted to \$148 in all.

Ex-Governor Bots, of Iowa, cultivates a farm of 2500 acres, and is one of the most prosperous agriculturists in the State. He is worth upward of \$300,000.

The late Baron Hirsch's fortune is estimated at \$60,000,000, of which his widow gets half, two brothers get \$5,000,000, and about \$20,000,000 goes for charities.

The oldest living graduate of West Point is General George S. Greene, who celebrated his ninety-fifth birthday at his home in New York a few days since. He is in vigorous health.

M. Zola, although, perhaps, he makes more than any other French novelist, is a poor man. The talent for amazing wealth is absolutely lacking in him, and he spends his money, if anything, rather more quickly than he receives it.

Miss Fanny Edgar Thomas has been made Officer d'Academie by the French Government in recognition of her work in musical criticism. She is said to be the first American woman to be so honored. She went to Paris about a year ago, entirely unknown.

By the will of Sir Julian Goldsmith, the husband of Fanny Lind, just expired, each of her four daughters is left property which will bring about \$50,000 a year. The will provides that if any of them marries a gentleman she shall lose half her fortune.

### THE LABOR WORLD.

In Brooklyn bakers work from forty-eight to 110 hours per week.

Detroit (Mich.) bricklayers have intruded the eight-hour day.

The Beer Drivers' Union of Buffalo, N. Y., raised its initiation fee to \$50.

San Francisco expert lithographers who draw on stone get \$60 a week.

Annual convention of International Carpenters will be held in Cleveland September 21.

The striking Milwaukee (Wis.) street railway men propose to organize a competing municipal railway.

D. H. Allen, of Brooklyn, is the new President of the National Alliance of Hotel and Restaurant Employes.

"Musicians for summer resorts a specialty," is the announcement on the window of an agency in New York City.

The Utah Constitution prohibits the exchange of blacklists by railroad companies or other incorporations, associations or persons.

Toledo (Ohio) street car men demand nine hours, twenty cents an hour, and the employment of Union men and citizens exclusively.

Work on the new shops of the Big Four at Urbana, Ill., will begin at once. They will cost \$150,000, and will give employment to 700 men.

The Milwaukee (Wis.) street car strikers offered to return to work if the company would discharge the new men, but their offer was declined.

William Drummond, a discharged conductor, was awarded at Vincennes, Ind., \$3550 damages against the Evansville and Terre Haute Railroad for alleged blacklisting.

The International Bricklayers' Union has 275 members and its reserve fund amounts to \$228,458. It has expended \$120,329 during the past six months for benevolent purposes.

A conference has been held between the Stone Founders' National Defense Association and the Iron Moulders' Union of North America over the question of working hours and wages.

The snapper-up boys at the Cobassey Hollow Wren Works, Bridgton, N. J., went on strike for ice water. They were out several hours and then returned to work, having gained their point.

Chinese blouse waistmakers of San Francisco went out on a strike for higher wages, and their places have been filled with American girls, who work for the wages the Chinese refused to accept. They make from \$15 to seventy-five cents a day.

The membership of Indianapolis Teamsters' and Showers' Union is largely composed of colored men, and their delegate to the Central Labor Union is a colored man. The color line cannot be drawn in any labor organization affiliated with the American Federation of Trades.

United States Consul-General Judd, from Berlin, sends a report regarding the recent clockmakers' strike, in which he quotes Herr Timm as stating that a woman of twenty years' experience in the clockmaking business earned in 1893, in forty-three weeks, \$108.28, and the next year, in forty-nine weeks, \$120.

### NEWSY CLEANINGS.

Hawaii is raising tea.

Europe has 66,230 farmers.

California is growing tobacco.

Germany uses Pennsylvania coal.

There are 109,000 locomotives in the world.

Alabama has twenty-seven National banks.

Great Britain's orchards cover over 216,000 acres.

The Brooklyn Bridge receipts have fallen off lately.

New York City is talking about holding an international exposition.

French facilities of learning have opened their doors to American students.

A Chicago woman has recovered \$25,000 from a railroad for the loss of both feet.

The Duke of Orleans summoned a council of his leaders to discuss his claims to the throne of France.