

**LIVES OF THE PRESIDENTS OF THE
UNITED STATES: DESIGNED FOR
STUDY AND SUPPLEMENTARY
READING, PP. 12-240**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649638086

Lives of the Presidents of the United States: Designed for Study and Supplementary Reading, pp. 12-240 by Edward S. Ellis & J. O. Hall

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

www.triestepublishing.com

EDWARD S. ELLIS & J. O. HALL

**LIVES OF THE PRESIDENTS OF THE
UNITED STATES: DESIGNED FOR
STUDY AND SUPPLEMENTARY
READING, PP. 12-240**



WASHINGTON, FROM THE PORTRAIT BY GILBERT STUART

Lives of the Presidents

OF THE

UNITED STATES

Designed for Study and Supplementary Reading

By EDWARD S. ELLIS, A. M.

AUTHOR OF "STORIES FROM AMERICAN HISTORY," "EPOCHS OF AMERICAN HISTORY," "THE YOUNG PEOPLE'S STANDARD HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES," ETC., ETC.

REVISED BY J. O. HALL, A. B.,

Superintendent of Schools, Beloit, Kansas.

AUTHOR OF "HALL'S OUTLINES OF UNITED STATES HISTORY," ETC.

A. FLANAGAN COMPANY
CHICAGO

Edwards 708 2.28.13
✓

HARVARD COLLEGE LIBRARY
GIFT OF
ALBERT BISHOP HUNT
DEC 5 1913

COPYRIGHT, 1897,
BY
A. FLANAGAN

Revised Edition,
COPYRIGHT 1913,
BY
A. FLANAGAN COMPANY

INTRODUCTION

It is an old saying that every American Boy expects some day to become President of the United States. Whether this be true or not, all boys and girls are interested in reading about the men whose deeds have made them prominent in history; and our form of Government makes it possible for the poorest youth to attain, by his own efforts, the highest honor the Nation has to confer.

It is hoped these biographical sketches may aid in determining what traits of character and achievements will most certainly lead to honorable recognition.

The lives of public men are so closely associated with and influenced by the events of their times that their biographies naturally include much of the history of the country, while a knowledge of the character and progress of the people may be gained by studying the careers of the men who have been chosen as their leaders.

It is difficult for a contemporary to review the events of the recent administrations and pass judgment on public men, with regard to their final place in history, on account of the environment of party strife with all its conflicting opinions; but it has been our aim to present these biographies from an entirely non-partisan viewpoint.

CONTENTS

	PAGE
George Washington,	7
John Adams,	16
Thomas Jefferson,	25
James Madison,	34
James Monroe	42
John Quincy Adams,	51
Andrew Jackson,	60
Martin Van Buren	72
William Henry Harrison,	78
John Tyler,	87
James K. Polk,	96
Zachary Taylor,	103
Millard Fillmore,	113
Franklin Pierce,	121
James Buchanan,	129
Abraham Lincoln,	138
Andrew Johnson,	147
Ulysses S. Grant,	156
Rutherford B. Hayes,	167
James A. Garfield,	176
Chester A. Arthur,	185
Grover Cleveland,	194
Benjamin Harrison,	203
William McKinley,	210
Theodore Roosevelt,	221
William H. Taft,	229
Woodrow Wilson,	237

that it would benefit him. George was absent four months, during which he had a violent attack of small-pox. His brother stayed longer in the West Indies, but died shortly after his return home, leaving George as one of the executors of his large estate.

Governor Dinwiddie renewed the appointment of Washington as adjutant-general, and he was placed in charge of one of the grand military divisions of the State.

For years England and France had been rivals in the New World. The English settlements were planted along the Atlantic coast, while those of the French were in Canada. France began extending her colonies down the Mississippi Valley, intending to press on until she reached the Gulf of Mexico. She meant to found a great empire in the Mississippi Valley. She thus entered upon lands claimed by the English, and it was clear that before long the two nations would go to war to decide which should be master of the American continent.

Finding that the French had established posts on the banks of the Ohio, so as to confine the English settlements within the Allegheny Mountains, Governor Dinwiddie decided to send a protest to the French commandant. The bearer of this message was George Washington. He set out with a number of companions, on the last day

of October, 1753, and traveled nearly six hundred miles through an unbroken wilderness, the return journey being made in the depth of winter. It was attended by many perils. In crossing a river on a raft, the masses of ice hurled Washington into the stream, and had he not been a powerful swimmer, he would have been drowned. At another time an Indian guide deliberately raised his rifle and fired at Washington when only a few rods distant, intending to kill him. He missed, and when Washington's infuriated comrade would have killed the Indian, Washington forbade it. The journey was completed without mishap, and Washington delivered the reply of the French commandant to Governor Dinwiddie. This reply was a refusal to leave the lands claimed by the English, and the French and Indian War began.

Washington was present at the dreadful massacre of Braddock and his command by the French and Indians, in 1755. The disaster was caused by Braddock's refusal to take the advice of the young Virginian, and fight the Indians in their own way. The whole command would have been slain had not Washington and his small company covered the retreat of the British troops.

The deciding battle of the war was fought in front of Quebec in 1759, when the French were routed and the city taken. France was driven