

LIVES OF THE PRESIDENTS

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Lives of the Presidents by Prescott Holmes

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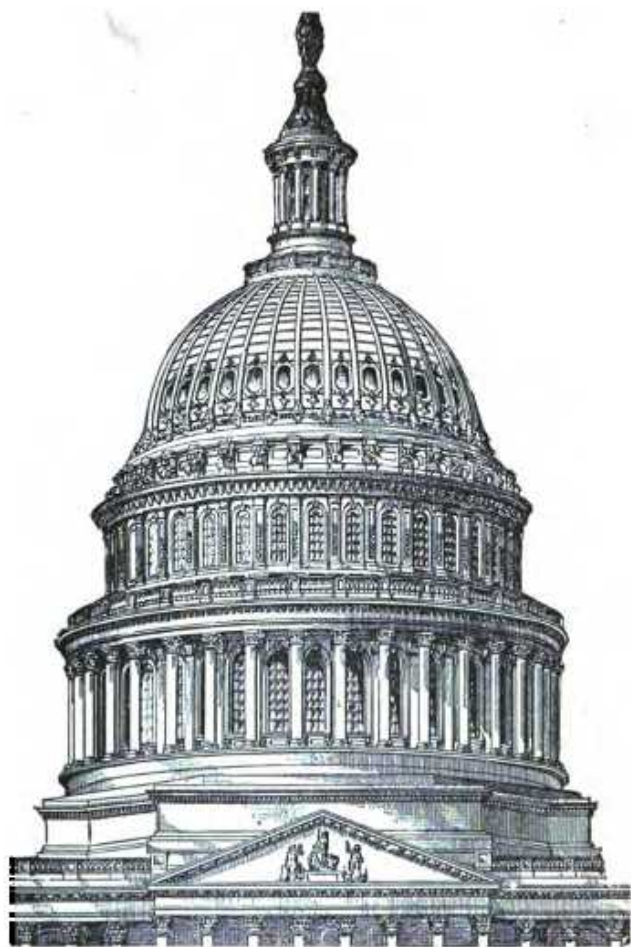
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PRESCOTT HOLMES

**LIVES OF
THE PRESIDENTS**



DOME OF THE CAPITOL AT WASHINGTON.

LIVES OF
THE
PRESIDENTS
BY
PRESCOTT HOLMES

With Portraits and Numerous Illustrations

PHILADELPHIA
HENRY ALTEMUS
1898

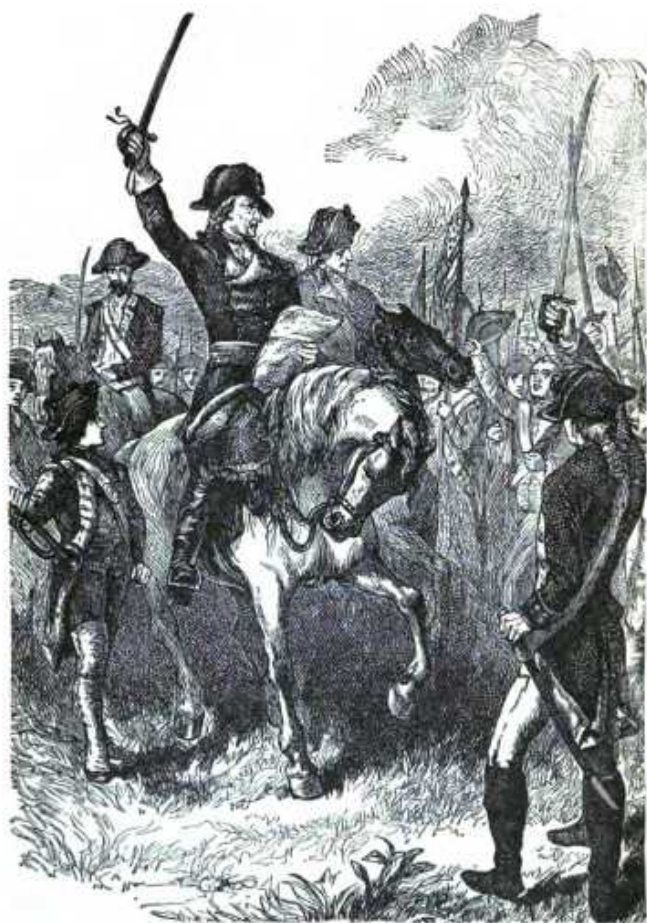
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PREFACE.

WE have here endeavored to acquaint young people with the story of the lives and attainments of the men who achieved the highest civic honor in the gift of the people; and to explain, in a necessarily brief narrative, the history of our political parties, the issues involved in their several contests, and their differing administrations.

The youth of the present is the *President* of the future; and an intelligent understanding of the rights and duties of citizenship is an imperative feature of his education. He will perceive that honest differences of opinion have ever prevailed, and that most of these have been settled by judicious compromises under constitutional limitations. The slavery question submitted itself to the arbitration of the sword, and was worsted; and the sin and stain of slavery was forever removed from our country.

We have attempted to describe the things which have been accomplished in order that the young patriot may have the warning and the promise in the things yet to be done. At the cost of much blood and treasure is crystalized the Nation's motto, *E Pluribus Unum*. Let us hope and act so that it will be always "now, and forever."



THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE READ TO THE ARMY.
(6)

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WASHINGTON IN 1772, AT THE AGE OF FORTY.

LIVES OF THE PRESIDENTS.



GEORGE WASHINGTON—1789-1797.

GEORGE WASHINGTON, the first President, was born in Virginia, February 22, 1732. His ancestors emigrated to Virginia in the time of Cromwell (1657). His father died when he was ten years old, leaving