

LIFE OF WASHINGTON

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Life of Washington by Virginia F. Townsend

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VIRGINIA F. TOWNSEND

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WASHINGTON**

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BY

VIRGINIA F. TOWNSEND

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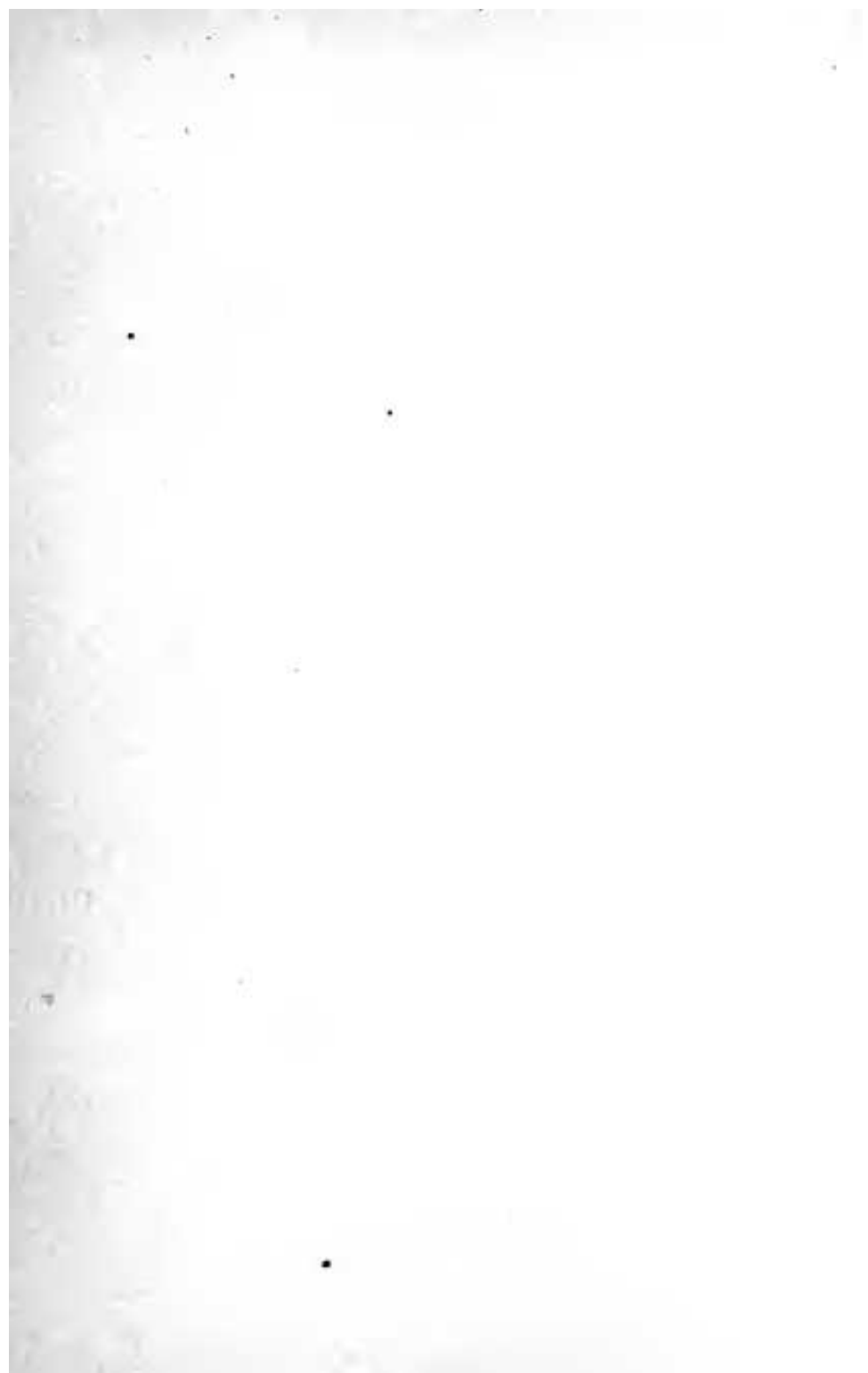
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TO THE MILLIONS WHO SIT AROUND THE FIRESIDES OF AMERICA, WHOSE FREEDOM HE FOUGHT FOR, AND WHOSE LIBERTIES HE WON, THIS LIFE OF GEORGE WASHINGTON IS DEDICATED, BY ITS AUTHOR.



PREFACE.

So many lives of George Washington have already been written that a new one perhaps requires some justification.

The character and deeds of the man who stands in the foreground of American history may be regarded from many sides.

The brief biography in these pages must, at the beginning, claim to be a woman's way of looking at George Washington.

In going over the familiar ground, the author believes she has entered some by-paths where she has gained a new view of the figure which stands in solitary majesty in the heart and imagination of the American people.

The author has also endeavored, while adhering strictly to the truths of history, to set the great scenes and crises in the career of Washington in

a picturesque and dramatic form before her readers.

The limits of this sketch do not, of course, admit of the broad lines and the grouping of stately figures with which other writers have filled their larger historic canvases.

To George Washington, when he reached the splendor of his power and greatness, his Virginia farm and his Mount Vernon fireside were the dearest objects of his ambitions and affections.

The author hopes that the real man, not only the great general, the wise statesman, but he who moved about that Virginia farm and sat at that Mount Vernon fireside, may live and breathe in these pages.

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