

**HANDBOOK OF THE ADMINISTRATIONS OF THE
UNITED STATES; COMPRISING A SYNOPSIS OF
THE LEADING POLITICAL EVENTS IN
AMERICAN HISTORY, FROM THE
INAUGURATION OF WASHINGTON TO THE
PRESENT PERIOD, ALSO A RECORD OF
CONTEMPORANEOUS ENGLISH HISTORY**

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Handbook of the administrations of the United States; comprising a synopsis of the leading political events in American history, from the inauguration of Washington to the present period, also a record of contemporaneous English history by Edward G. Tileston

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EDWARD G. TILESTON

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P R E F A C E.

A FEW months ago, passing through the library of the Boston Athenæum, we picked up a "Handbook of the Administrations of Great Britain," written by Francis Culling Carr, Esq.; published by Smith, Elder, & Co., London. The thought at once occurred to us, that a Handbook of the Administrations of the United States would also be a valuable manual. This little volume is the result. Nothing elaborate is intended. It is simply a collection of familiar facts carefully grouped together in moments of leisure from business engagements, — facts so classified and arranged as to be easily remembered, and readily referred to. Notwithstanding the limits of the work, we have given extended extracts

from the inaugural and other addresses of the early Presidents; also leading incidents in contemporaneous English and French history, and official financial statements of the General Government. Although the Vice-President of the United States is not a member of the cabinet, and the Postmaster-General was not admitted until Jackson's time, we have thought best to give the names of these officers with those who actually belong to that body. We are indebted to the courtesy of the Superintendent of the Department of the Interior, Washington, for the facts in the Appendix, "Census 1870," which have been kindly furnished in advance of the official publication. As it is not impossible that a new edition of this Handbook may be issued at the close of each administration, suggestions are respectfully requested for its improvement, and may be addressed to the Editor.

BOSTON, March 4, 1871.

WASHINGTON'S ADMINISTRATION.

1789 TO 1797.

THE CABINET.

PRESIDENT:

GEORGE WASHINGTON, VIRGINIA.

VICE-PRESIDENT:

JOHN ADAMS, MASSACHUSETTS.

SECRETARIES OF STATE:

1789. — THOMAS JEFFERSON, Virginia.
1794. — EDMUND RANDOLPH, Virginia.
1795. — TIMOTHY PICKERING, Massachusetts.

SECRETARIES OF THE TREASURY:

1789. — ALEXANDER HAMILTON, New York.
1795. — OLIVER WOLCOTT, Connecticut.

SECRETARIES OF WAR AND NAVY:

1789. — HENRY KNOX, Massachusetts.
1794. — TIMOTHY PICKERING, Massachusetts.
1796. — JAMES MCHERRY, Maryland.

POSTMASTERS-GENERAL:

1789. — SAMUEL OSGOOD, Massachusetts.
1794. — TIMOTHY PICKERING, Massachusetts.
1795. — JOSEPH HABERSHAM, Georgia.

ATTORNEYS-GENERAL:

1789. — EDMUND RANDOLPH, Virginia.
1794. — WILLIAM BRADFORD, Pennsylvania.
1795. — CHARLES LEE, Virginia.
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CONTEMPORANEOUS ENGLISH HISTORY.

George III., King of England.
Mr. Pitt, Prime-Minister,
Revolution in France, and
War between France and England; }
Napoleon First Consul.

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

FROM—March 4, 1789, to 1797.

DURATION.—Two terms,—eight years.

PARTY.—Federalists.

PRINCIPAL EVENTS.—Organization of the Federal Government. National Thanksgiving established. United States Bank organized. Federal loan negotiated in Europe. Land secured for seat of government. Death of Franklin at 84. North Carolina, Vermont, Tennessee, and Kentucky admitted. Indian hostilities. Whiskey Insurrection. Subsequent prosperity. Farewell Address.

PRESIDENT OF SENATE.—John Adams.

CHAPLAIN OF SENATE, 1789.—Rt. Rev. Bishop Provost (Episcopal).

SPEAKERS OF THE HOUSE.—First Congress, F. A. Muhlenberg, Pennsylvania.

Second Congress, Jonathan Trumbull, Connecticut.

Third Congress, F. A. Muhlenberg, Pennsylvania.

Fourth Congress, Jonathan Dayton, New Jersey.

CHAPLAIN OF HOUSE, 1789.—Rev. William Lynn (Presbyterian).

CHANCELLOR OF NEW YORK.—Robert R. Livingston.

1789.—The first marked event in the administration of Washington was his reception by Congress, convened in New York.

His journey from Mount Vernon had been like a triumphal procession, the way often strewed with flowers:

Addresses, both public and private, were aglow with gratitude to the Father of his Country, but, above all, to Almighty God, who had raised him up to be a nation's deliverer.

It was just prior to this reception that John Adams said of him, "Were I blessed with powers to do justice to his character, it would be impossible to increase the confidence or affection of his country, or make the smallest addition to his glory. If we look over the catalogue of the first magistrates of nations, whether they have been denominated presidents or consuls, kings or princes, where shall we find one whose commanding talents and virtues, whose overruling good fortune, have so completely united all hearts and voices in his favor, who enjoyed the esteem and admiration of foreign nations and fellow-citizens with equal unanimity? Qualities so uncommon are no common blessings to the country that possesses them. By these great qualities and their benign effects has Providence marked out the head of this nation with