JOURNAL OF A YOUNG LADY OF VIRGINIA 1782

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Journal of a Young Lady of Virginia 1782 by Lucinda Orr

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OF A

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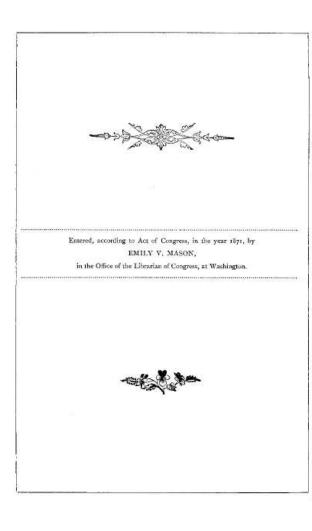
PRINTED AND PUBLISHED

For the Benefit of the Lee Memorial Association of Richmond,

BY JOHN MURPHY AND COMPANY,

No. 182 BALTIMORE STREET, BALTIMORE.

1871.





THE following pages contain a fragment of the Journal of a young lady of Virginia of the last century.

It seems to have been written by her while on a visit to her

relatives, the Lees, Washingtons, and other families of Lower Virginia, mentioned in her Journal.

The friend for whom it was intended was Miss Polly Brent, also of Virginia.

The manuscript was found torn, and discolored by age, in an old desk at the country place in Maryland, to which Polly Brent carried it, upon her marriage into one of the old families of that

State.

The Lees, of whom so much mention is made in the Journal —

"Nancy," "Molly," "Hannah," and "Harriet" — were the daughters of Richard Henry Lee, of Chantilly. Molly married W. A. Washington, and Hannah was —at the time of the Journal

— the wife of Corbin Washington. Their grandson, John A. Washington, was the last occupant of Mount Vernon.

Harriet married the son of Mrs. Turberville, the "old lady"

spoken of in the manuscript.

Ludwell Lee, a son of Richard Henry Lee, married the "Flora" of this chronicle. She was a daughter of Philip

"Flora" of this chronicle. She was a daughter of Philip Ludwell Lee, of Stratford, and sister of Matilda Lee, the first vi

wife of "Colonel Henry Lee;" whose little boy is mentioned as so "fine" a "child." Colonel Henry Lee was none other than "Light-horse Harry;" the "little boy," his eldest son

Henry, half-brother to General Robert E. Lee.

It is believed the publication of this Journal will be well received, at a period when everything relating to the family of

General Lee is of peculiar interest. It presents, also, a curious picture of the life and manners of that day.

There will be found in it many errors, and some antiquities

of orthography, which it has not been deemed advisable to correct. It is believed that the Journal will be more entertaining in its original state than it would be with the aid of any amend-

ments that we might make. It is certainly the work of a very clever girl, and possesses all that freedom of style and charming

JANUARY, 1871.

simplicity which is so pleasing and so rare.

Had the writer anticipated any criticism more searching than that of her amiable Polly, her style and orthography would doubtless have been more correct, and her Journal quite as

doubtless have been more correct, and her Journal quite as commonplace as most of those that find their way into print.

The proceeds of the sale of this little volume will be devoted

The proceeds of the sale of this little volume will be devoted to the "Lee Memorial Association of Richmond," which must further commend it to the favor of the public.



JOURNAL

OF A

YOUNG LADY

OF VIRGINIA.

FROM LUCINDA TO MARCIA.

THE WILDERNESS, September 16.

HEAR you say, "The Wilderness! where in the world is that,

Lucy?" It is the name of this place. I can't say I was much struck

with the situation of the House; but they are as kind, good People as I

ever saw. To-day is Sunday. Old Mrs. Gor-

Gen. Robert don lives in sight of this [place]. One of her Daughters is just come - Lucy

Lee's grandmother.

7

Gordon

1782. Sept. 16.

" Wilderness'

Residence

of John Grymes,

Esq., who married

Miss Fitzhugh, of

Eagle's

Nest. One of this

family was

8	JOURNAL OF A YOUNG			
1782. Sept. 17.	Gordon — very clever, though not a Beauty.			
	A Mr. Spotswood and his Lady are come to dine here. I must dress, of			
	course.			
	They are gone.			
	Mrs. Spotswood, I think, is very Af-			
	fable and agreeable, though not hand- some. She has invited us to see her,			
	and we shall go day after to-morrow.			
	I have spent the day pretty agree- ably. Lucy Gordon is to stay with			
	me to-night.			
	I have spent the morning in read-			
	ing; and, much to my satisfaction, old Mrs. Gordon is just come to spend			
	the day here. Lucy Gordon and			
	myself are just returned from walk-			
	ing out. I was delighted: we walked			
	to a river—they call it here; but it is			
	very narrow. The banks of it are			
	beautiful, covered with moss and wild			
1	NATE OF A STATE OF A			

flowers;

I have to crape my

Washington,

Sept. 18.

my return.

Well, my dear, I am returned; and much

dined here to-day: a very clever man. To-day we return Mrs. Spots-

hair, which, of all things, is the most disagreeable. Adieu, my Polly, till

wood's visit.