

**A HISTORY OF THE LIFE AND DEATH,
VIRTUES AND EXPLOITS OF GENERAL
GEORGE WASHINGTON, WITH CURIOUS
ANECDOTES, EQUALLY HONOURABLE
TO HIMSELF AND EXEMPLARY TO HIS
YOUNG COUNTRYMEN**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649750986

A History of the Life and Death, Virtues and Exploits of General George Washington, with
Curious Anecdotes, Equally Honourable to Himself and Exemplary to His Young Countrymen
by Mason L. Weems

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

MASON L. WEEMS

**A HISTORY OF THE LIFE AND DEATH,
VIRTUES AND EXPLOITS OF GENERAL
GEORGE WASHINGTON, WITH CURIOUS
ANECDOTES, EQUALLY HONOURABLE
TO HIMSELF AND EXEMPLARY TO HIS
YOUNG COUNTRYMEN**

A History of the Life and
Death, Virtues and Exploits of
General George Washington

THE "TRUE" BIOGRAPHIES AND HISTORIES

EACH FULLY ILLUSTRATED
BOUND IN DECORATED CLOTH, GILT TOP, \$2.00 NET, OR
HALF LEVANT, GILT TOP, \$5.00 NET

THE TRUE ULYSSES S. GRANT
BY GENERAL CHARLES KING
With 28 illustrations

THE TRUE WILLIAM PENN
BY SYDNEY GEORGE FISHER
24 illustrations

THE TRUE GEORGE WASHINGTON
BY PAUL LEICESTER FORD
24 full-page illustrations

THE TRUE BENJAMIN FRANKLIN
BY SYDNEY GEORGE FISHER
24 illustrations

THE TRUE THOMAS JEFFERSON
BY WILLIAM ELMER CURTIS
24 illustrations

THE TRUE ABRAHAM LINCOLN
BY WILLIAM ELMER CURTIS
24 illustrations

THE TRUE HENRY CLAY
BY JOSEPH M. ROGERS
24 illustrations

THE TRUE ANDREW JACKSON
BY CYRUS T. BRADY
23 illustrations

THE TRUE PATRICK HENRY
BY GEORGE MORGAN
24 illustrations

THE TRUE DANIEL WEBSTER
BY SYDNEY GEORGE FISHER
25 illustrations

THE TRUE HISTORY OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION
BY SYDNEY GEORGE FISHER
24 illustrations

THE TRUE HISTORY OF THE CIVIL WAR
BY GUY CARLETON LEE, PH.D.
24 illustrations and maps



WASHINGTON CROSSING THE DELAWARE

A History of the Life and Death, Virtues and Exploits of General George Washington

WITH CURIOUS ANECDOTES
EQUALLY HONOURABLE TO HIMSELF AND
EXEMPLARY TO HIS YOUNG COUNTRYMEN

BY
MASON L. WEEMS

FORMERLY RECTOR OF MOUNT VERNON PARISH

MOUNT VERNON EDITION
WITH 8 ILLUSTRATIONS AND THE OLD WOOD CUTS

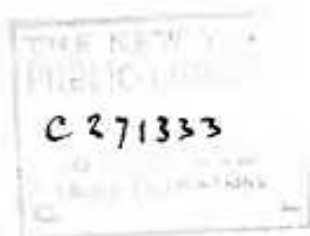
A life how useful to his country led!
How loved while living! how revered now dead!
Liept his name, ye children yet unborn!
And with like deeds your own great names adorn.



PHILADELPHIA AND LONDON
J. B. LIPPINCOTT COMPANY

1918

INTRODUCTION COPYRIGHT, 1918, BY J. B. LIPPINCOTT COMPANY



PUBLISHED FEBRUARY, 1918

WORLD
WAR
I

PRINTED BY J. B. LIPPINCOTT COMPANY
AT THE WASHINGTON SQUARE PRESS
PHILADELPHIA, U. S. A.

INTRODUCTION

TO THE MOUNT VERNON EDITION

WHEN we realize that the famous anecdote of George Washington and the cherry tree and accounts of certain exploits equally inspiring were first given to the world by Washington's biographer, Mason Locke Weems, it becomes interesting to trace the events which led to the writing of a book that above any other has contributed to the veneration accorded our greatest national hero.

Weems was one of a family of nineteen. He was born in Maryland in the year 1759 and at an early age journeyed to England to learn medicine. Later he dropped medicine and made a second trip abroad to secure ordination under the strict regulations of the English Episcopal Church.

Returning to Maryland he became rector of Westminster Parish and the conductor of a school for girls.* Before long he made another change and took up book selling in the peddler fashion. It is as writer and book salesman that he is most conspicuous, for his journeys were many and the books he wrote widely distributed.

His popular "Life of Washington" was issued in the year 1800, sometime after he had served as rector of Mt. Vernon Parish, in Virginia. Edition after edition was brought out, nearly every one containing some

* Parson Weems, by L. C. Wroth.

new anecdote or other fresh material drawn from his personal recollections of Washington and from other sources. His sprightly style delighted both young and old, but for the boys and girls of that as well as present generations the pages held especial appeal.

No celebration of Washington's Birthday is conducted to-day without countless references to some of those anecdotes of virtue in the character of young George made famous by this doctor, parson, salesman and author who understood human nature and revered the greatest man of his time.