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"To add brightness to the sun or glory to the name of Washington is alike impossible."—Abraham Lincoln.

WASHINGTON'S PRAYER

Almighty God, we make our earnest prayer that Thou wilt keep the United States in Thy holy protection; that Thou wilt incline the hearts of the citizens to cultivate a spirit of subordination and obedience to government and entertain a brotherly affection and love for one another and for their fellow citizens of the United States at large.

And finally that Thou wilt graciously be pleased to dispose us all to do justice, to love mercy and to demean ourselves that charity, humility, and pacific temper of mind which were the characteristics of the divine Author of our blessed religion, and without a humble imitation of whose example in these things we can never hope to be a happy nation.

Grant our supplication, we beseech Thee, through Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN.

WASHINGTON'S FAREWELL ADDRESS

September 17, 1796

In looking forward to the moment which is intended to terminate the career of my political life, my feelings do not permit me to suspend the deep acknowledgment of that debt of gratitude which I owe to my beloved country for the many honors it has conferred upon me; still more for the steadfast confidence with which it has supported me, and for the opportunities I have thence enjoyed of manifesting my inviolable attachment by services faithful and persevering, though in usefulness unequalled to my zeal. If benefits have resulted in our country from these services, let it always be remembered to your praise and as an instructive example in our annals that under circumstances in which the passions agitated in every direction were liable to mislead; amidst appearances sometimes dubious; vicissitudes of fortune often discouraging; in situations in which, not infrequently, want of success has countenanced the spirit of criticism, the constancy of your support was the essential prop of the efforts and a guaranty of the plans by which they were effected. May heaven continue to you the choicest tokens of its beneficence; may your union and brotherly affection be perpetual; may the free Constitution which is the work of your hands be sacredly maintained; may the administration in every department be stamped with wisdom and virtue; in fine, may the happiness of the people of these States, under the auspices of liberty be made complete by so careful a preservation and so prudent a use of this blessing as will acquire to them the glory of recommending it to the applause, the affection, and the adoption of every nation which is yet a stranger to it.

Here, perhaps, I ought to stop. But a solicitude for your welfare which can end but with my life, and the apprehension of danger natural to that solicitude urge me on an occasion like the present to offer to your solemn contemplation and to recommend to your frequent review, some sentiments which are the result of much reflection, of no inconsiderable observation and which appear to me all important to the permanency of your felicity as a people.

These will be offered to you with the more freedom as you can only see in them the disinterested warnings of a parting friend who can possibly have no personal motive to bias his council.

Intervened as is the love of liberty with every ligament of your hearts; no recommendation of mine is necessary to fortify or confirm the attachment.

Citizens by birth or choice of a common country, that country has a right to concentrate your affections. The name of American which belongs to you in your national capacity, must always exalt the just pride of patriotism more than any appellation derived from local discriminations.

You have improved upon the first essay by the adoption of a Constitution of Government better calculated than the former for an intimate union and for the efficacious management of your common concerns.

This government, the offspring of your own choice, uninfluenced and unawed, adopted upon full investigation and mature deliberation, completely free in its principles, in the distribu-

tion of its powers, uniting security with energy, and containing within itself a provision for its own amendment, has a just claim to your confidence and your support.

Respect for its authority, compliance with its laws, acquiescence in its measures are duties enjoined by the fundamental maxims of true liberty. The basis of our political systems is the right of the people to make and to alter their constitutions of government. But the constitution which at any time exists, till changed by an explicit and authentic act of the whole people, is sacredly obligatory upon all. The very idea of the power and the right of the people to establish government presupposes the duty of every individual to obey the established government.

All obstructions to the execution of the laws, all combinations and associations under whatever plausible character, with the real design to direct, control, counteract, or awe the regular deliberation and action of the constituted authorities, are destructive of this fundamental principle, and of fatal tendency.

It is substantially true that virtue or morality is a necessary spring of popular government. Promote, then as an object of primary importance, institutions for the general diffusion of knowledge.

In proportion as the structure of a government gives force to public opinion, it is essential that public opinion should be enlightened.

As a very important source of strength and security cherish public credit. One method of preserving it is to use it as sparingly as possible, avoiding occasions of expense by cultivating peace, but remembering, also that timely disbursements to prepare for danger frequently prevent much greater disbursements to repel it; avoiding, likewise, the accumulation of debt, not only by shunning the occasions of expense, but by vigorous exertions at times of peace to discharge the debts which unavoidable wars have occasioned, not ungenerously throwing upon posterity the burden which we ourselves ought to bear. The executions of these maxims belong to your representatives; but it is necessary that public opinion should co-operate.

To felicitate to them the performance of their duty it is essential that you should practically bear in mind that toward the payment of debts, there must be revenue; that to have revenue there must be taxes; that no taxes can be devised which are not, more or less inconvenient and unpleasant; that intrinsic embarrassment, inseparable from the selection of the proper objects (which is always a choice of difficulties) ought to be a decisive motive for a candid construction of the conduct of the Government in making it, and for a spirit of acquiescence in the measures for obtaining revenue which the public exigencies may at any time dictate.

Observe good faith and justice toward all nations. Cultivate peace and harmony with all. Religion and morality enjoin this conduct.

And can it be that good policy does not equally enjoin it?

Nothing is more essential than that permanent, inveterate antipathies against popular nations and passionate attachments for others should be excluded, and that in place of them just and amicable feelings toward all should be cultivated. The nation which indulges toward another an habitual hatred, or an habitual fondness is in some degree a slave.

Against the insidious wiles of foreign influence I conjure you to believe me, fellow citizens, the jealousy of a free people ought to be constantly awake, since history and experience prove that foreign influence is one of the most baneful foes of republican government.

But that jealousy to be useful, must be impartial. Excessive partiality for one foreign nation and excessive dislike for another cause those (whom they actuate to see danger only on one side and serve to veil and even second the arts of influence on the other.

Real patriots who may resist the intrigues of the favorite are liable to become suspected and odious while its tools and dupes, usurp the applause and confidence of the people to surrender their interests.

The great rule of conduct for us in regard to foreign nations is in extending our commercial relations to have as little political connection as possible. Europe has a set of primary interests which to us have none or a very remote relation. Hence she must be engaged in frequent controversies, the cause of which are essentially foreign to our concerns. Hence, therefore it must be unwise in us to implicate ourselves by artificial ties in the ordinary vicissitudes of her politics of the ordinary combinations and collisions of her friendships or enemies.

Our detached and distant situation invites and enables us to pursue a different course. If we remain one people under an efficient government the period is not far off when we

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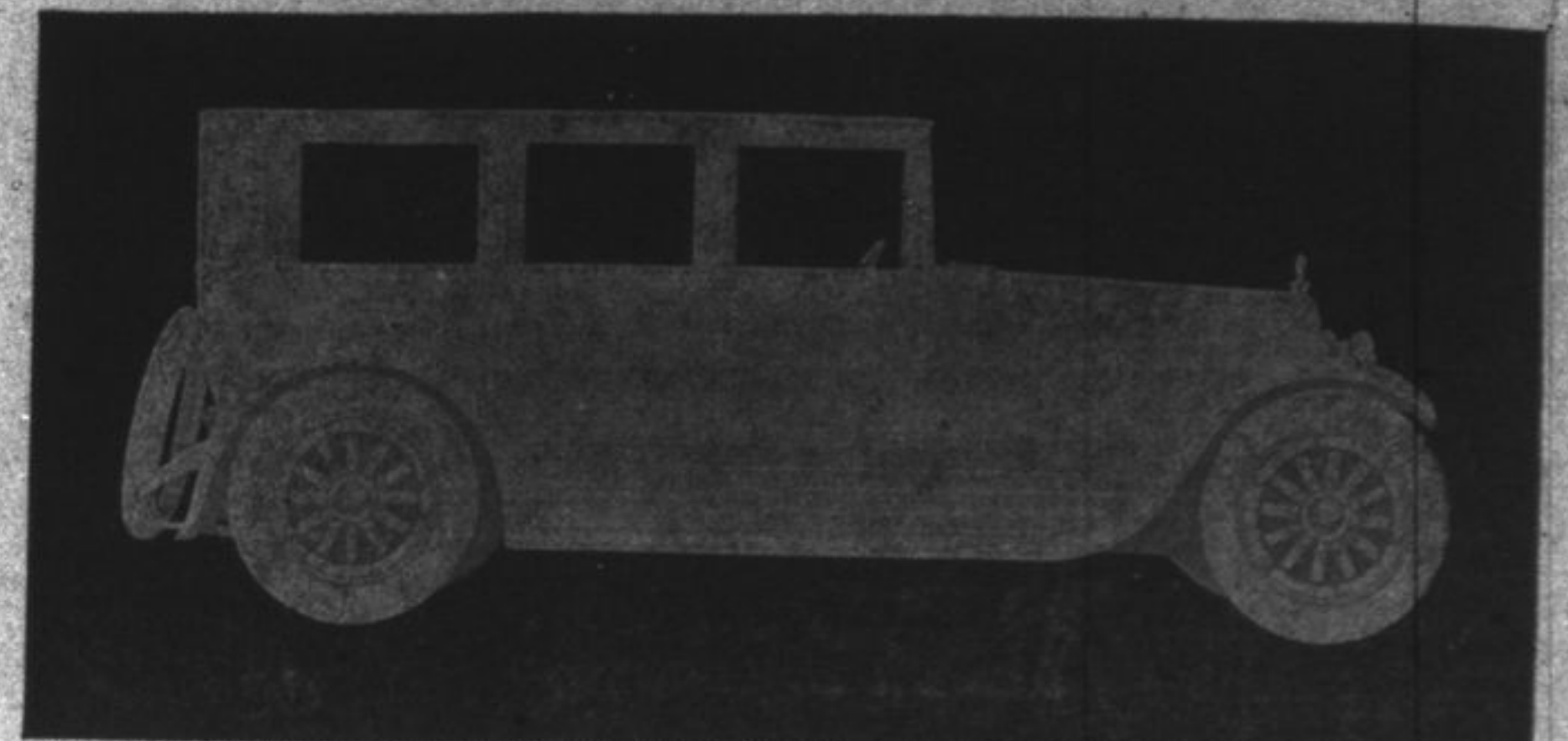
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may defy material injury from external annoyance; when we may take such an attitude as will cause the neutrality we may at any time resolve upon to be scrupulously respected; when belligerent nations under the impossibility of making acquisitions upon us, will not lightly hazard the giving us provocation; when we may choose peace or war as our interest, guided justice, shall counsel.

Why forego the advantages of so peculiar a situation? Why quit our own to stand upon foreign ground? Why, by interweaving our destiny with that of any part of Europe, entangle our peace and prosperity in the toils of European ambition, rivalry, interest, humor or caprice? It is our true policy to steer clear of permanent alliances with any portion of the foreign world, so far, I mean, as we are now at liberty to do it.

Taking care to keep ourselves by suitable establishments on a respectable defensive posture, we may safely trust to temporary alliances for extraordinary emergencies.

Even our commercial policy should hold an equal and impartial hand, neither seeking nor granting exclusive favors or preferences; consulting the natural cause of things, diffusing and diversifying by gentle means the streams of commerce, but forcing nothing; constantly keeping in view that it is folly in one nation to look for disinterested favors from another; that it must pay with a portion of its independence for whatever it may accept under that character; that by such acceptance it may place itself in the condition of having given equivalents for nominal favors and yet of being reproached for not giving more.

In offering you, my countrymen, these counsels of an old and affectionate friend, I dare not hope they will control the usual current of the passions or prevent our nation from running the course which has hitherto marked the destiny of nations. But if I may even flatter myself that they may be productive of some partial benefit, some occasional good,—that they may, now and then recur to moderate the fury of party spirit, to warn against the mischief of foreign intrigue, to guard against the impostures of pretended patriotism,—this hope will be full of recompense for the solicitude for your welfare by which they have been dictated.

(Selections from President George Washington's "Farewell Address" to the American people.)



Don't Guess
 THE telephone number of a big business house is 7000. A subscriber whose number was 6000 had to ask us to change his number. He complained that he was called a score of times a day by people wanting the business house.

The explanation is that many people guessed at the number, and guessed wrong, asking the operator for 6000 instead of 7000.

It is easy to be wrong when you guess and the result is annoying to the person called in error. The operator gets the blame, whereas she has simply called the number asked for.

Always make sure of the number by consulting the telephone directory before calling. Following this custom you will improve the entire service.

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