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Part 13, by J. Jay Smith**

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CURIOSITIES, PART 13 ***

**AMERICAN HISTORICAL
AND
LITERARY CURIOSITIES**

By John Jay Smith

Part 13.

Second Series

1860

AMERICAN
Historical and Literary Curiosities;

CONSISTING OF

Fac-Similes of some Plates, &c. Relating to

COLUMBUS,

AND

ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS of the REVOLUTION,

&c. &c.

WITH A VARIETY OF RELIQUES, ANTIQUITIES, AND AUTOGRAPHS.

EDITED AND ARRANGED,

WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF SEVERAL AUTOGRAPH COLLECTORS,

BY

JOHN JAY SMITH,

MEMBER OF THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF PENNSYLVANIA, ETC.

SECOND SERIES—COMPLETE IN ITSELF.

NEW YORK:

CHARLES B. RICHARDSON.

1860.

P R E F A C E.

THE First Series of "American Historical and Literary Curiosities," by John F. Watson, Esq. and myself, was commenced privately as a means of preserving many documents in the possession of our friends and ourselves; but they soon increased to such importance by contributions, that it was determined to publish them. Five editions were demanded by the public at home and abroad, and the work is now scarce and high-priced. The plates being worn out, no other edition of it is likely soon, if ever, to be issued.

This Second Series, complete in itself, owes its origin to the Commercial Panic, when it was desirable to employ several artists in want of work. It has been carried through by the assistance and contributions of various friends. I am particularly indebted to Ferdinand J. Dreer, Esq., Peter Force, Esq., Lewis J. Cist, Esq., Frank M. Etting, Esq., J. Wingate Thornton, Esq., Hon. George Folsom, Herman and Caleb Cope, Esqs., J. Francis Fisher, Esq., John Macalester, Esq., Charles J. Wister, Esq., Winthrop Sargent, Esq., Bushrod W. Adams, Esq. and others, and to the Philadelphia Library for the rare Broad-sides of the Revolution, and the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, whose valuable collections have been opened to my use in the handsomest and most liberal manner.

It may be proper to copy here a portion of the Preface to the fifth edition of the First Series, explanatory of the object of the work:—

"The past has a charm for Americans, as well as for the inhabitants of countries whose history extends far into the shadowy and unknown. *Our* early and romantic past has the merit of being known and truly related. Every thing which adds to these truths is sought for with avidity by the curious and intelligent inquirer. We have now many autograph-collectors, who may be viewed in the light of preservers of documents which would otherwise perish or be dispersed. To few, comparatively, are their treasures revealed. It was suggested, therefore, that some of the most rare 'Historical and Literary Curiosities' in the possession of individuals, should be grouped for the amusement and instruction of the present and of future generations, who may well know from printed accounts *what* things were done, but who can also thus learn *how* they were done."

As in the First Series, nearly all the articles in the present collection have been taken by competent artists from the originals of which they purport to be fac-similes. Considerable labor and trouble have been expended in collecting together and adapting the varied materials here presented, but I have been rewarded by the pleasure of the pursuit.

JOHN JAY SMITH.

* * Fully to understand the work, it is necessary, in turning over the pages, to have constant reference to the Tables of Contents, where will be found many explanations for which there was not space on the plates.

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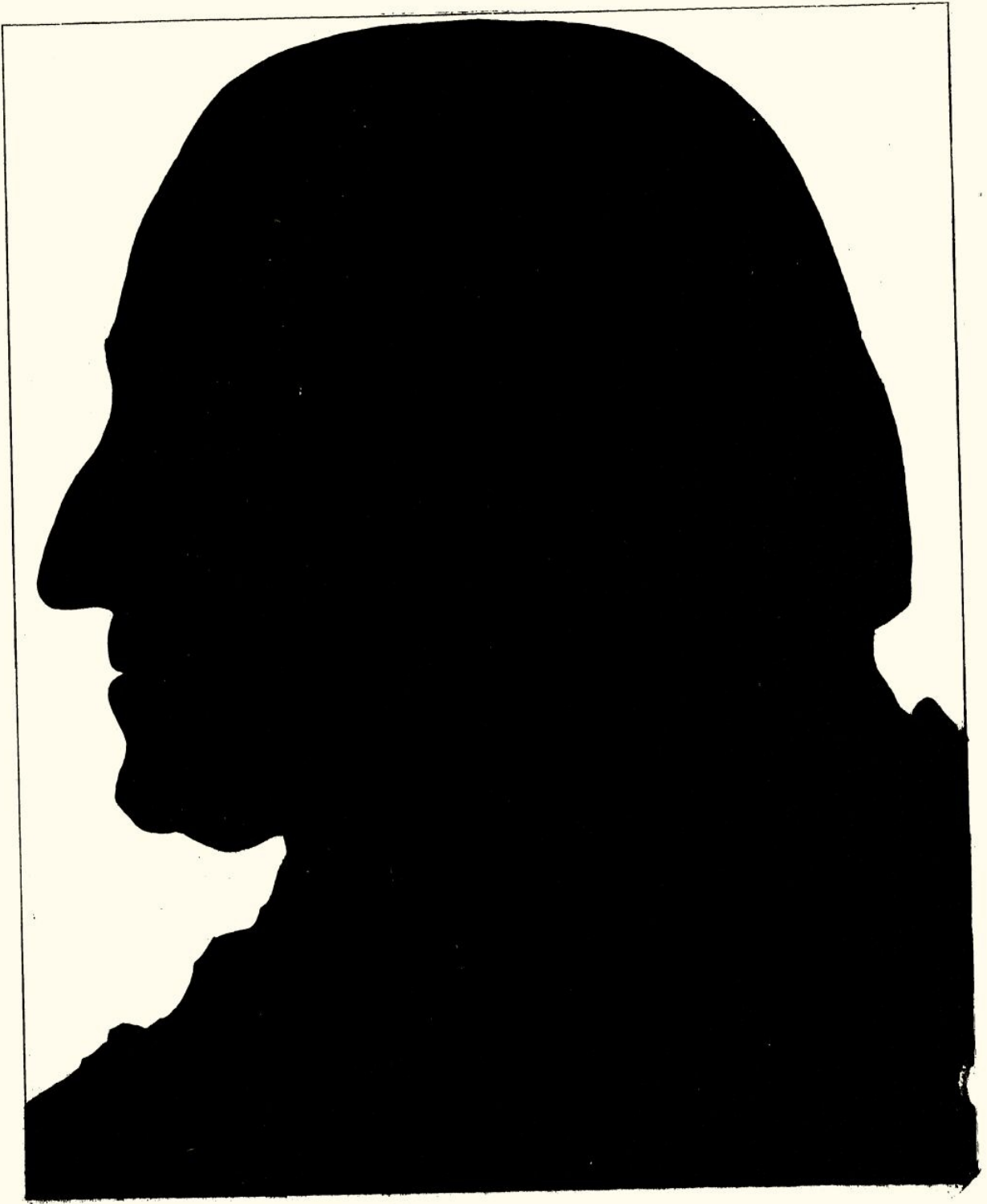
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[Plate 20.](#)



George Washington

Enlarge

LETTER FROM GENERAL WASHINGTON

TO

FRANCIS HOPKINSON, Esq.

MOUNT VERNON, May 16, 1785.

DEAR SIR :

“In for a penny, in for a pound,” is an old adage. I am so hackneyed to the touches of the painter’s pencil, that I am *now* altogether at their beck, and sit like Patience on a monument, whilst they are delineating the lines of my face.

It is a proof among many others of what habit and custom can effect. At first I was as impatient at the request, and as restive under the operation, as a colt is of the saddle. The next time, I submitted very reluctantly, but with less of flouncing. Now no dray moves more readily to the thill than I do to the painter’s chair. It may easily be conceived, therefore, that I yielded a ready obedience to your request and to the views of Mr. Pine.

Letters from England, recommendatory of this gentleman, came to my hand previous to his arrival in America,—not only as an artist of acknowledged eminence, but as one who had discovered a friendly disposition to this country, for which it seems he had been marked.

It gave me pleasure to hear from you. I shall always feel an interest in your happiness ; and, with Mrs. Washington’s compliments and best wishes joined to my own, for Mrs. Hopkinson and yourself,

I am,

Dear Sir,

Your most obedt and affecte hble servant,

GO. WASHINGTON.

FRANCIS HOPKINSON, Esq.

Enlarge





George Washington

Miniature of Washington on Ivory
by Mrs. Sharpless.



*Your friend & son
Alexander Hamilton
A.D.C.*

Miniature of Alexander Hamilton on Ivory

my dear Jenny
New York October the 22^d 1789

I have by Mrs Sims sent you a watch -
It is one of the cages that I have so long mentioned
to you, that was expected, I hope is such a one as will
please you - It is of the newest fashion, & that has
any influence on you - that the chain is of soft
steel, choicest and such as Mrs Adams the vice
presidents lady and those in the polite circle wear

Mrs Sims will give you a better account of the
fashions than I can - I love a very busy life here
and know nothing that happens in the town - I never
go to any public place - indeed I think I am more
like a state prisoner than any thing else, there is
certain bounds set for me which I must not
depart from - and as I cannot do as I like I am
obedient and stay at home a great deal

The President set out this day week on a
tour to the eastward Mr Dear and Mrs Jackson
attended him - my dear children has had
very bad colds but thank God they are getting
better my love and good wishes attend
you and all with you - remember me to
Mr & Mrs L Wm how is the poor child - kiss
maria & send her my little handkerchiefs & wipe
her nose

Adieu I am my dear Jane my yours

most affectionately
M^{rs} Washington

Mount Vernon Jan 31st 1785.

Sir,

The interruption of the Post by the frost, with held your letter of the 31st Ult^o from me until within a few days.

The liberty you have taken in dedicating your Poetical Works to me, does me honor — The conditions upon which you offer them to the Public are generous — evincing of their parity and conscious worth. — I shall with my pleasure therefore take a few copies of the bound & lettered Books, when they are ready for delivery.

It behoves me to correct a mistake in your printed address "To the patrons of the fine arts" I am ne Marshall of France — nor do I hold any Commission, or fill any office under that Government — or any other whatever. — I am — Sir
Y^r most obed^t & affec^t Serv^t

M^{rs} Abigail Lambert

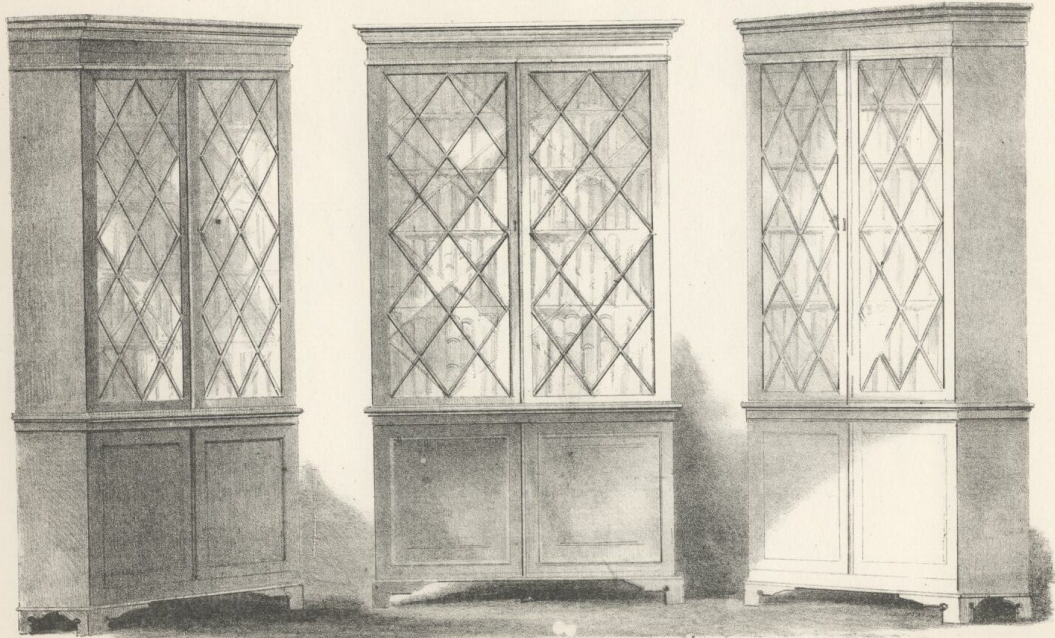
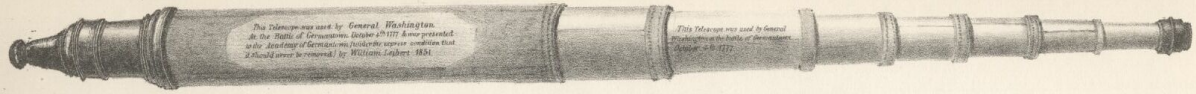
G. Washington

Frank of
PRESIDENT WASHINGTON
April 28th 1789

Clement Biddle Esquire

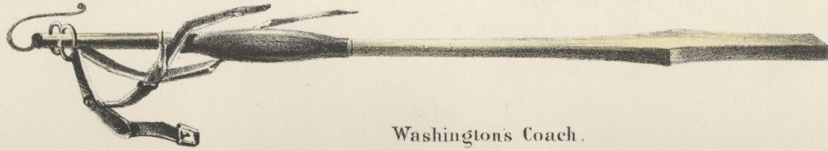
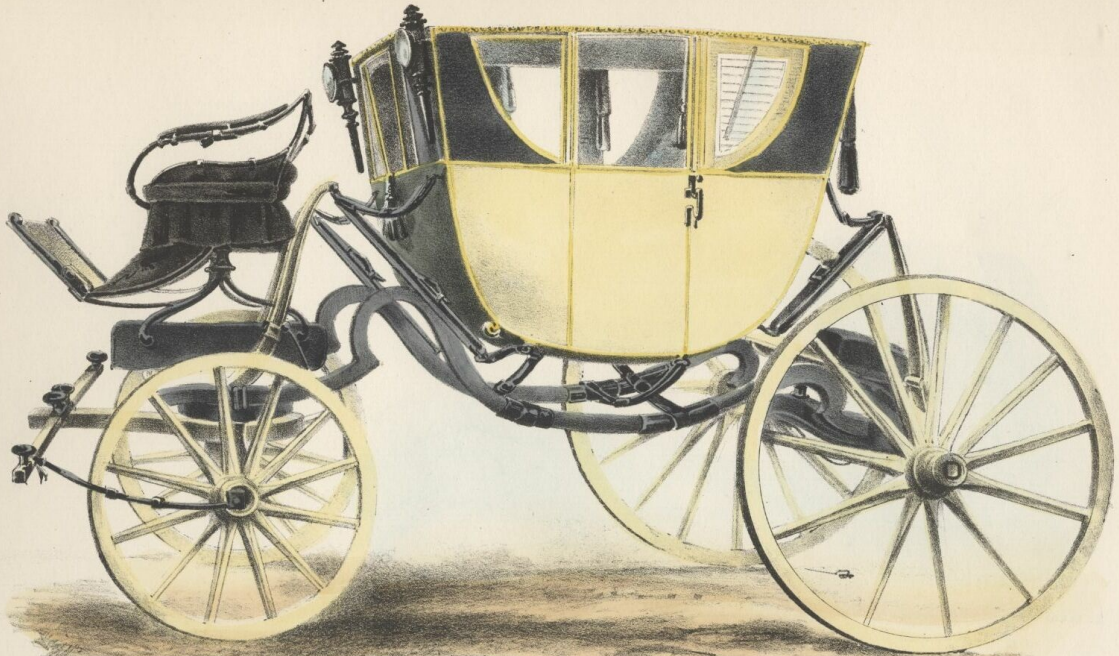
President
U. S

Philadelphia



Washington's Book-cases & Telescope.

Enlarge



Washingtons Coach.

Enlarge

Bps. consecrated by me - Wm. White

1795. Sep. 14	-----	Reverend Robert Smith. D.D.
-----7	May	----- Edward Bass. D.D.
-----	Oct. 10	----- Abraham Jarvis D.D.
1801. Sep. 11	-----	Benj. Moore D.D.
-----4	Sep. 14	----- Sam. Parker D.D.
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-----29	Aug. 19	----- Reverend Wm. Meade. D. D.
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-----32	Oct. 31	----- Reverend John H. Hopkins. D.D.
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-----	-----	----- Reverend Charles P. McFlaur D.D.
-----	-----	----- Reverend George W. Doene. D.D.
34	Jan 14	----- Reverend James H. Otey. D.D.
35	Sep. 25	----- Reverend Jackson Kemper D.D.

Bishops consecrated by Bishop White.

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