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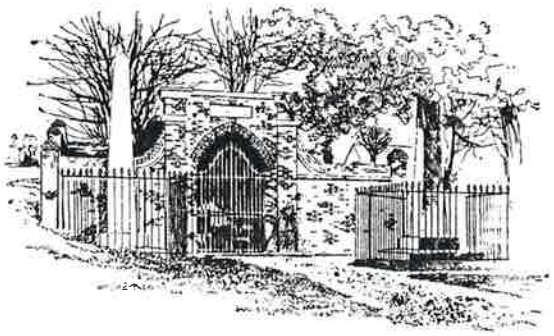
olution on Feb. 3, 1781, appealed to the several states to grant them the power to levy for the use of the United States a uniform duty of five per cent. on all foreign merchandise imported into the country. In speaking to this question Mr. Madison observed that: "It was needless to go into proofs of the necessity of paying the public debt; the idea of erecting our national independence on the ruins of the public faith and national honor must be horrid to every mind which retained either interest or pride." The period of Mr. Madison's services in congress presented the most arduous and complexed problems of national policy, internal and external, to which the war of the revolution gave rise. Mr. Madison took a leading and successful part in the solution of these great and difficult questions. He married, in September, 1794, Dorothy Payne Todd, the widow of a member of a Society of Friends. In 1775, released temporarily from his public duties, he resumed his literary, legal and scientific studies, and it was about this time that the College of William and Mary conferred upon him the degree of LL.D. which was followed by the same honor conferred by his alma mater. During the entire period of Washington's administration, Mr. Madison was an active member of the house of representatives, and by universal acknowledgment was considered the ablest and most distinguished member of the republican party in congress. He became interested in the political contests of the day and received



ed a full share of the obloquy of party denunciation. Meanwhile, a mutual confidence and respect which had so long existed between Mr. Madison and President Washington suffered no abatement while they were on the public stage together. In 1801 Mr. Jefferson became president and Madison was appointed secretary of state and took an active part in negotiations then pending between the United States, Spain, Great Britain and France. Mr. Madison succeeded Jefferson as president in 1809, and one of his first acts was to forbid all communication with England and France until those powers should revoke their orders in council and their Berlin decrees. France complied, but England stood firm, and this produced a five years' war between the United States and Great Britain. The growing desire for war was shown in the choice of Henry Clay for speaker of the house, and Mr. Madison's nomination for a second term was on condition of adopting a war policy. He was re-elected in opposition to De Witt Clinton. The history of the war of 1812 is virtually a history of Madison's administration. Within four days after the declaration of war one of its causes was removed, as Great Britain revoked her orders in council. The impressment of American citizens, however, remained still an unsettled question, nearly six thousand cases being on record in the state department in Washington, while it was admitted on the floor of the house of commons that there were probably sixteen hundred native Americans held in bondage in the British navy. Meanwhile the despised little American navy won laurels as unexpected as they were glorious. The Essex captured the Alert, the Constitution destroyed the Guerriere, the United States captured the Macedonian after the latter had lost one hundred of her three hundred men while the United States lost only five men killed and seven wounded. The Wasp, Capt. Paul Jones, took the Frolic, and both vessels were immediately afterward caught by the Poictiers, a seventy-four-gun ship. Off the coast of Brazil the Constitution gave chase to the British frigate Java and they fought, yard arm and yard arm, when the Java's mast was shot away and her fire silenced, and soon after she struck her flag. Nearly half of her men, numbering four hundred, were killed or wounded, including her commander. On land the Americans were divided into three armies—that of the West at Lake Erie under Gen. Harrison, that of the centre under Gen. Dearborn and that of the North in the vicinity of Lake Champlain under Gen. Wade Hampton. Military enthusiasm was not confined, however, to the region north of the Ohio. Volunteers in great numbers assembled at Nashville and Gen. Jackson was chosen their commander. In less than a year after the declaration of the war Russia made an offer of mediation, and President Madison appointed Albert Gallatin, secretary of the treasury, and James A. Bayard, commissioners to negotiate peace. They were to act in concert with John Quincy Adams then minister at the Court of St. Petersburg, but the offer of mediation was declined by England and nothing was accomplished by the commissioners. Lundy's Lane was fought on July 25, 1814 and it was shown that the Americans when properly led could and would fight. They had met the veterans who fought under Wellington in Spain and repulsed them in three desperate encounters. Meanwhile the ports of the United States were blockaded by British vessels while the land force of five thousand troops was put ashore fifty miles from Washington from a British fleet. They encountered very little opposition as they marched toward the capitol on entering which they found it almost entirely deserted by its male inhabitants. They burned the capitol and with it the congressional library, the treasury and state departments. The president's mansion was pillaged and set on fire as were also some private dwellings. The British continued to advance while the fleet moved up the Chesapeake toward Baltimore, intending to capture Fort McHenry. In this however, they were unsuccessful. Meanwhile the distress, especially among the people of New England, was great. The embargo ruined their fisheries and their coasting trade, and it was very generally believed that the war was uncalled for and wrong in principle. To President Madison this was the gloomiest period of the war. Affairs were almost desperate, the treasury was exhausted, the national credit gone, a law of conscription was hovering over the people like an ominous cloud, and then, as a gleam of sunshine through the darkness the rumor came that peace had been concluded in London. Finally the battle of New Orleans virtually ended the conflict. The senate unanimously ratified the treaty within thirty hours after it was laid before them. With the exception of occasional assistance given to the legislature of Virginia in revising their constitution and the discharge of the duties of rector of their university, Mr. Madison remained in the closest retirement during the rest of his life. He died June 28, 1836.

MADISON, Dorothy Payne Todd, wife of President James Madison, was born in North Carolina May 20, 1772. Her grandfather was John Payne, gentleman, who migrated from England

to Virginia early in the eighteenth century and married Hannah Fleming, granddaughter of Sir Thomas Fleming, who was an early settler of Jamestown. His son, John Payne, second of the name, was Dorothy's father, and married Mary Coles, who was first cousin to Patrick Henry. Mr. and Mrs. Payne, it appears, had conscientious scruples in regard to the holding of slaves, and set theirs free, and also joined the Society of Friends, sold their plantation and removed to Philadelphia. Dorothy was brought up as a Quaker, and at the age of twenty, married a young lawyer of the same belief named Todd. Her husband lived only three years, leaving her with one child, a son, and with little else. Mrs. Todd's mother, who lived in Philadelphia, was in poor circumstances and took boarders in order to support herself. Mrs. Todd went to reside with her mother and assisted her in the care of her house. At this time she was esteemed as one of the most beautiful young women in Philadelphia. A portrait of her justifies this reputation. She is described as being nobly proportioned in her figure, while her face possessed the robust charms of a fresh and vigorous country girl. From the period of her husband's death she relinquished her belief, if she possessed any, in the doctrines of the Quakers, and also their costume and manners, and gave free play to her disposition, which was naturally gay and cheerful. Among her mother's boarders were two men already distinguished in the history of their countries, James Madison, a member of the house of representatives of Virginia, and Aaron Burr, then a United States senator. In 1794 she married Mr. Madison, who in 1801 was appointed secretary of state, an office which he continued to hold for eight years, during which period Mrs. Madison was the center of the most brilliant circle of Washington society. In 1809 Madison became president of the United States, which, of course, gave his vivacious and beautiful wife a still larger field and greater opportunities for the exhibition of her charms and advantages. Dur- Mr. Madison's second term, in August, 1814, the British army landed on the coast and made a quick march to the capital. The president and his cabinet fled to Virginia, but Mrs. Madison remained in the presidential mansion, listening to the distant roar of the cannon at Bladensburg. At the door of the mansion a carriage waited, filled with plate and papers, while she delayed until she should receive her husband's instructions to fly; and this, although she was visited during the day by the mayor of Washington, who strongly urged her to leave the city. A messenger at length arrived at the White House, bearing a note from Madison, written hurriedly with a lead-pencil, containing the direction she awaited, and looking about to see if anything important had been left, Mrs. Madison caught sight of Stuart's portrait of Washington, taken from life. Seizing a carving-knife from the table, she cut the picture out of its frame, rolled it up and hurrying into the carriage, drove away. When the British officers entered the president's house that evening, they found the dinner-table spread for forty guests, the president having invited a large dinner party for that day. The wine was cooling on the sideboard, the plates warming by the fire. The knives, forks and spoons were arranged on the snowy table-cloth. In the kitchen, joints of meat were roasting on spits before the fire. Saucepans full of vegetables were steaming upon the range and everything was in a state of forwardness for a substantial banquet. The officers sat down to the table, devoured the dinner and concluded the entertainment by setting fire to the house. The capitol was burned, the treasury building, the president's house, all the principal public buildings and the navy-yard. A few days later, the president and his wife, after encountering some hardships, returned to Washington, which they found still smoking from the recent conflagration. They established themselves in the best apartments they could find, and the government was soon performing its accustomed duties. Madison's term as president terminated in 1817, and from this period until 1836, when he died, Mrs. Madison lived in retirement at their seat in Virginia, where she dispensed a liberal hospitality, and made the later years of her husband's life cheerful and happy by her gaiety and humor. Her last years were spent in the city of Washington, and it was said of her that she continued to retain much of her beauty, vivacity and grace up to her eightieth year. Although the pair were singularly different, he being a specially intellectual man and she a woman of peculiarly physical and animal nature, a difference which was moreover aggravated by the disparity of their ages, Madison being eighteen years older than his wife, nevertheless they are believed to have lived very happily together, while both died past fourscore. Mrs. Madison died in Washington, D. C., July 12, 1849.

GERRY, Elbridge, vice-president of the United States and governor of Massachusetts, was born at Marblehead, Mass., July 17, 1744. His father was a merchant who came to this country from England in 1730, and died in 1774. Elbridge was graduated from Harvard in 1762, and entering the counting-house of his father, eventually became one of the most wealthy, as well as the most enterprising, merchants of his native town. In May, 1773, he commenced his political career as a member of the assembly of Massachusetts Bay, at that time called the general court, and was appointed a member of the important committee on inquiry and correspondence. In 1775, the provincial congress appointed him on the committee on public safety and supplies. The night previous to the battle of Lexington, while at Cambridge, he narrowly escaped capture at the hands of British soldiers, who passed through that town on their way to Lexington. Mr. Gerry and two other gentlemen left their beds and fled, half-dressed, to a neighboring corn field, where they remained until the troops, after a fruitless search, took their departure. In January, 1776, Mr. Gerry was elected to the Continental congress and continued in that body, except for some slight intervals, during the next nine years, serving upon several important committees. In pursuance of his duty as a member of the committee to obtain supplies for the army, Mr. Gerry visited the camp of Gen. Washington in 1777. It is to be observed, with regard to Mr. Gerry's action in the Continental congress, that he was prominent in the support of all resolutions against theatrical entertainments, horse-racing and other such diversions, as also for those which recommended days of fasting, humiliation and prayer. In 1787, he was deputed a member of the convention which framed the constitution of the United States. He was opposed to the plan adopted, conceiving that both the executive and the legislature were granted powers that were both ambiguous and dangerous, and he refused to sign the instrument. He was elected by the republican party to the first