

Since the convention last December the Association has grown readily and perfected its workings along all lines. It now ranks a fine national organization, with the usual officers and in addition a Board of Trustees, an Advisory Council, and a number of chairmen of standing committees, such as Committee on Finance, on the Charter, Building Site, Certificates, Auditing, Legislation, Ways and Means, and University Relations. Systematic State work is accomplished through State organization, and in cities by local cooperation. Thus, each State has a State Committee, with a State Chairman acting as its head, or president. These State Committees are formed on a similar plan to that of the parent Association. The State Committee's Chairman then divides the State into its counties, the Chairman of each County Circle appoints City Councils with City Chairmen, and in this chain of subdivisions the whole of the United States is canvassed and placed in working trim. There is also a Committee-at-Large, with members from all parts of the land; and many chairmen of specialties—for example, of the undergraduate work in Colleges, of Seminaries and Private Schools, Public and High Schools, and Women's Organizations. If you want to become a member of the Central or National Association and help along the good cause, you may do so by paying five dollars and having your name endorsed by two members already within the charmed circle. You will then be considered by the Board

of Trustees, and if you have always borne yourself like a true gentleman, you need have no fears about being accepted by that august body. If you feel that you cannot afford to join the main society, a fee of one dollar will make you a representative of your State division. Gentlemen also have the privilege of joining the movement; there is an associate membership numbering men only, which came into being because so many fathers and husbands and cousins wanted to show their appreciation of the noble project. Again, if you want to lend your aid, but are not particular about becoming a member, you may send a contribution: every penny subscribed goes to the Building Fund, while the membership fees constitute the fund for current expenses. Handsome engraved certificates, properly signed and bearing a fine cut of George Washington, are sent to all subscribers of five dollars or more, as a souvenir. Mrs. George B. Bigelow, Hotel Oxford, Boston, Massachusetts, is the main Association's corresponding secretary, and to her all applicants for membership should send their names when they have been properly endorsed by two members. Contributions may be sent to Mrs. Frank Northrop, No. 33 West 34th Street, New York City.

The money is flowing in on all sides, indicating that the patriotic enterprise is arousing responsive sympathy. Three chairs for \$100,000 each, with endowment, are already vouchered for as permanent professorships in the coming seat of learning; while four more are in plain sight. Two large checks are in hand for the emergency fund, and more are promised. But the dominating idea of the Association is that the splendid Memorial Building shall be the result of the little offerings of the people—given in the times to the five dollar subscriptions; that the movement shall be a general, a national one; that every American citizen, young or old, rich or poor, may feel a personal pride in the University of the United States and may be glad that his or her contribution helped to make it.

Letters brimming over with patriotism and encouragement come in from widely different sources. A lady writes: "I am immensely interested in the proposed National University and desire above all things to be one of the helpers. I am an officer of the Melicent Porter Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution and am descended from the second President of Harvard College. My father was Hon. Samuel G. Goodrich, 'Peter Parley,' the great educator of his time; and as his descendant I should like to be in this glorious work you patriotic

ladies have taken up. I send you ten dollars—out of my pension, as I am the widow of a colonel in the late war."

Another characteristic one reads: "Having read the account of a meeting to raise money for a Washington Memorial Building, I have saved my pennies and would like to be the first boy in Westmoreland county to help pay for the building. I am ten years old and am going to school. We have a nice big picture of George Washington in our home."

Last Washington's Birthday was celebrated as first Offering Day, and special efforts were made all over the country to obtain contributions. Inspiring reunions were held in public and private rooms and sentiment roused to push forward the grand object. In Boston crowds came to Faneuil Hall, the "Old Cradle of Liberty," where speaking and music and a gay social time cheered to greater effort, and no one departed without leaving an offering substantial in worth and a pledge of good will. Flag Day and Independence Day were also made occasions for rallying forces, when the returns were liberal and the sympathy infused new zeal into the heads and hearts of the working corps. But the great Offering Day is to be next Washington's Birthday, February 22, 1899, the last one in the century, preparations for which are under way. Meetings and functions differing in character and kind will draw the people together in every state in the Union, all with one

thought and one purpose—to make possible the dearest hope of our Nation's most revered head for the future well-being of his country. The culmination of all this labor will be the laying of the cornerstone of the precious structure one hundred years after the legacy had been left by Washington in his will, signed by him July 9, 1799. That is sure to be one of the greatest occasions in the history of America, drawing together its greatest scholars, educators and statesmen. Perhaps the building may stand on the very site set apart by Washington, comprising one hundred acres of land upon part of which the present Hygienic Museum is said to stand. When that cornerstone is really laid a new era in American—perhaps universal—civilization will have begun.

In this busy world every one is constantly lending his or her powers toward furthering some worthy cause in one way or another, and if the way is a pleasant one and while helping the cause every one is having a jolly

good time, so much the better. It is a fact that, as a rule, we enjoy a fine function or other affair much more if we know we have been giving efforts and contributions where they are to improve the condition of humanity in some greater or less degree. We like a thoroughly deserving object as an impetus to arranging a gay merry-making or some quieter entertainment. And here we have at hand a glorious reason for every good American to exhibit the liveliest zest in instituting delightful ways and means for amusements. There could hardly be found a more ennobling object to enlist our services than the founding of the long-needed National University, open and free to every citizen, man or maid of these United States who is properly equipped mentally to take advantage of its splendid privileges, where all facilities of the highest order and the best can be found for perfecting such wonderful inventions and discoveries as have been brought to successful issue by fertile brains in the past few decades and where the conditions of life may be simplified and advanced. In the Summer, when country life is most popular, all sorts of benefit entertainments can be arranged out-of-doors for the Building Fund of the George Washington Memorial Association, flower fêtes, corn roasts, garden parties, camp-fires, picnics, festivals, cake sales, harvest homes, tennis, archery and golf tournaments, etc.; while in Winter come the more indoor functions, such as the concerts, flag teas, subscription dances, Christmas market and whist or bowling parties. These affairs can be held in public places or at private houses and grounds.



MRS. SUSANNA PHELPS GAGE.