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A DEED OF DARING

One of Mad Anthony Wayne's Remarkable Achievements.

STORMING OF STONY POINT.

This Brilliant Feat of Arms, in Which Success Was Won at the Point of the Bayonet, Was One of the Most Desperate Incidents of Any War.

One of the most marvelous achievements credited to American bravery and strategy was that of the capture of Stony Point by Mad Anthony Wayne, who was one of the most picturesque figures of the American revolution. When he was suspended in command of the Pennsylvania line, even after his brilliant success at Monmouth on June 28, 1778, a less ambitious and patriotic man would have resigned his commission.

It seemed the irony of fate that the setback in his career should follow so closely the official encomiums for his work at Monmouth, but that very setback gave him Stony Point—the greatest opportunity of his life—and he made good.

There were two important factors, discipline and valor, that entered into this remarkable achievement, the capture of a fortress on the Hudson held by the British and considered almost impregnable. Stony Point was an island and the fortress was built on a rock which was precipitous and rough. It was guarded by three redoubts and protected by a double abatis of logs that extended across the peninsula. The post was garrisoned by 607 men, who felt so secure in their position that they were wont to refer to the post as the "Little Gibraltar."

On July 14 General Wayne assembled all his troops at Sandy Beach, and at that moment none of his soldiers knew the plans of their commander. The following day the march began over a wilderness trail and in perfect silence. Not a man was allowed to leave the column under penalty of death. By 8 o'clock that night they were within one and one-half miles of the British fortress. Then the men were told of the desperate work ahead of them and the battle order read.

No man was allowed to load his musket, and the battle was to be won or lost with the bayonet alone. One portion of the order provided that any man found retreating a single foot was to be put to death at once.

Close to midnight the order to advance was given. The fort was to be attacked from all sides. Once in motion General Wayne lost no time. The British opened fire with guns, both great and small. Seventeen of the twenty men in one advance guard were shot down, but the companies in the rear eagerly pressed on. General Wayne himself, struck in the head with a musket ball, fell stunned. He recovered in a moment and, rising on one knee, shouted: "March on! March on!" Then, turning to his aids he begged them to take him into the fort so that if his wound was mortal he would die at the head of his column.

General Wayne's wound drove his followers to a frenzy. They dashed up the hill and battered down all opposition. Colonel Fleury, a French officer in the American service, at the head of his determined band forced his way up the redoubt and as the soldiers poured into the fort the British flag and lowered it. The victory was complete. The British lost 33 killed and 643 taken prisoners, of whom 70 were wounded. The Americans lost 15 killed and 83 wounded. It was one of the most daring and desperate incidents of any war.

From every point of view the storming of Stony Point was a remarkable feat of arms, but back of the success of that night was a story of preparedness, the cause which has always been overshadowed by the brilliancy of the result. General Wayne had trained his men, stimulated their pride, enforced rigid discipline, had them at the point of attack at the right moment and then with inspiring valor led them.

The victory at Stony Point naturally aroused a tremendous enthusiasm, and it came at the right time. The country was depressed if not quite discouraged, and Stony Point was like a tonic. It gave the people more strength, more courage and at a time when they sadly needed it. Not only did General Wayne receive official recognition, but he was in receipt of hundreds of congratulatory letters expressing popular and professional opinion.—Chicago News.

A Cheerful Suggestion.
Not long ago a stock of crockery was sold at auction, and Mrs. Wilson attended the sale. When she returned her face was radiant with joy.

"You must join the cremation society," were the first words she said to her husband.

Mr. W.—What for?
Mrs. W.—I've bought such a lovely vase to hold your ashes! You have no idea how it will set off the mantle-piece.—London Answers.

Has a Right to Be Resentful.
"I don't mind having my trousers, my coat, my necktie or even my collar splashed with mud by an automobile," says a South Broad street man. "But when one motorcar spatters my spectacles so that I can't see to dodge the next one I think I have a right to feel resentful."—Newark News.

Saving comes too late when you get to the bottom.—Seneca.

LOVE OF PUBLICITY.

All Who Profess Indifference Love To Be Mentioned In The Press.

No wonder editors, reporters, and journalists generally are cynics! They see so much of the inner side of things. The public see Lord Blank, the cold, austere statesman, who cares nothing for the praise or blame of the newspapers, who "does not advertise"—in Kipling's famous phrase. The editor knows Lord Blank to be a fussy old gentleman, who is furiously angry if his name is not in the account of any function he has happened to attend, if only as a spectator, and sends his chief private secretary to the newspaper in a swift motor-car in order that he may insist on the omission being rectified.

This writer once interviewed, for a London evening paper, a member of Parliament who had been making himself rather conspicuous by his attitude on Indian affairs. At the interview the M.P. was very condescending, and tried to give the impression that he cared nothing for publicity, and that he was merely giving the information "to oblige," so to speak. I will hardly be believed that that condescending legislator was so impatient to see what the paper said that he called at the office at the publishing hour in order to obtain a copy at the earliest possible moment!

A lady prominent in philanthropic and "social reform" circles was once made the object of a little gentle journalistic chaff by a colleague of the writer's. How angry she was! She called at the office, accompanied by a mild and down-trodden-looking husband, for the express purpose of raving him. After pouring out the vials of her wrath on the offending—but, one is afraid, quite unrepentant—scribe, she swept towards the door, which gave her husband a chance to whisper, with a stealthy wink: "The best advertisement my wife has ever had!"

Many people would rather be abused by the press than ignored altogether. There is one class, at least, that resents disparagement most bitterly, and that is the theatrical folk. As a dramatic critic and theatrical paragrapher this writer has noticed one curious fact. Mention to an actor of your acquaintance that you have given him a good notice, and he professes the utmost indifference—"hasn't seen it," and so forth. Give him a bad notice, and he sees it at once, and takes the trouble to seek you out, and remonstrate with you personally.

In this connection here is another funny story. An eminent actor-manager once went to the United States with his company, and in due course "opened" in New York. The New York critics were very unkind, and next morning's paper contained a set of the most terrible slanders. The great man's manager went into his room at the hotel, where he was still in bed, to see how he was taking his "roasting." "Seen the papers? No! What do I care about papers?" said the actor languidly, turning over as if to sleep again and show his indifference. Alas, on that action there followed a most portentous rustling and crackling. He had got all the papers underneath the bedclothes!

One of these "hate-publicity" people once gave the present writer some information for an article, and on being asked, said he did not care about his name being mentioned, one way or the other. As the editor of the paper was down on anything that looked like a free "ad," the name was accordingly omitted from the article. But the person, on his own showing, was utterly indifferent to publicity, took the trouble to write a furious letter, roundly abusing the journalist for his "bad faith" in leaving out his name!

Thimbles.
The thimble was at first worn on the thumb, and for that reason was called thumb nail, which later became thimble and finally thimble. It was invented by the Dutch and brought to England in 1695. The first thimbles were made of iron or brass; later came those of silver, gold, steel, horn, ivory, pearl and glass. The Chinese make beautiful thimbles of carved pearl, with gold binding and ends. One of the most gorgeous thimbles ever seen was a bride's gift from the king of Spain to his Queen; it was made of gold, shaped like a lotus bud, and was thickly studded with diamonds, arranged so as to spell the Queen's name.

The New and the Old.
Governor Foss of Massachusetts tells of a well known divine who came visiting a state prison when he came across a prisoner whose features were familiar to him. "What brought you here, my poor fellow?" he asked. "You married me to a woman a little while ago, sir," the prisoner replied, with a sigh. "Ah, I see," said the person. "And she was domineering and extravagant, and she drove you to desperate courses, eh?" "No," said the prisoner, "my old woman turned up."

Job Got His.
"You know Job was a very patient man," said the Sunday school teacher. "Yes, ma'am," said the little scholar. "And you know he had many, many afflictions come to him." "Yes, ma'am." "Well, what do we learn from Job's life?" "That everything comes to him who waits, ma'am."

Her Reason.
"Mabel proposed to me last night." "What did you say?" "I asked her if she was sure I am the only man she ever loved." "Did she say that you are?" "Not exactly. She said that I am the only man she ever loved, that she thought she could manage."

Looking Backward.
Pelatiah Webster gnashed his teeth. "If I had dreamed they wanted to erect a statue to me I would have made it unconstitutional," he snorted. Sadly he gazed at current specimens of art.

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