

George Washington and the Revolution



COURTESY GEORGE WASHINGTON BICENTENNIAL COMMISSION

Twelve Portraits of George Washington

The above pictures were used in the Bicentennial Series of Stamps honoring George Washington, 1932. Reading from upper left to right, they are:

Washington at the age of 25; artist, Charles Willson Peale, half cent stamp. Houdon bust of Washington, at Mount Vernon, one cent stamp. "Virginia Colonel" portrait, artist, Charles Willson Peale, one and one half cent stamp. Artist, Gilbert Stuart, two cent stamp. Artist, Charles Willson Peale, portrait in State Normal School, Westchester, Pa., three cent stamp. Artist, Charles Willson Peale, four cent stamp. Artist, Charles Willson Peale, in New York Historical Society Art

Gallery, five cent stamp. Artist, John Trumbull, portrait in Yale University, six cent stamp. Artist, John Trumbull, in Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, seven cent stamp. Artist, Saint-Memin, eight cent stamp. Artist, William J. Williams, portrait in the Masonic Lodge, Alexandria, Va., nine cent stamp. "Gibbs-Channing" portrait, artist, Gilbert Stuart, Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, ten cent stamp.

George Washington Appreciation Course

The material which follows depicting the life of George Washington forms the brief outline of the Appreciation Course prepared for the Bicentennial of George Washington's birth in 1932. This outline and development is found in the History of the George Washington Bicentennial Celebration, Vol. 1, pp. 303-369. The course was offered in many high schools, normal schools, and teachers colleges throughout the nation for a period of three years. Hundreds of students received credit for the completion of this course.

The Setting for the Course

- I. Background—Knowledge of the Historical and Geographical Conditions Relating to the Colonies at the Birth of George Washington, 1732.
 - A. Relation of Geography and History.
 - B. Colonial America at the End of Period of New Colonization with the Founding of Georgia in 1732.
 1. Effect of Geographic Conditions on the Settlement of the Colonies.
 - a. New England.
 - b. Middle Section.
 - c. South.
 2. Population.
 - a. *Race Conditions in the Colonies.**
 3. Industrial Development.
 - a. *Conditions of Colonial Business.*
 4. Political Development.
 5. Social Development.
 6. Intercolonial Relations.
 7. Virginia, a Typical Southern Colony.
 - a. Comparison of Virginia with Colonies of the Other Sections.
 - b. *Causes of Its Prominence.*

II. Study of Maps of This Period.

Early Life of George Washington

- I. Birth—Time and Place.
 - A. 1732, February 22 new style (February 11 old style)—George Washington was born at the estate between Bridges Creek and Popes Creek, then known as Bridges Creek Estate, later called "Wakefield."
- II. Family.
 - A. Parents.
 1. His Father, Augustine.
 - a. *Paternal Ancestry.*
 - b. *Family Name of Washington.*
 - c. *Genealogical Table.*
 2. His Mother, Mary Ball.
 - a. *Maternal Ancestry.*
 - b. *Mary Ball in Early Life.*
 - B. Relatives.
 1. *Brothers, Sisters, Nieces, and Nephews.*
 2. *Stepchildren and Stepgrandchildren.*
- III. Boyhood.
 - A. Activities.
 1. Home.
 - a. Location of the Homes.
 - b. *Birthplace and Early History of Wakefield and Mount Vernon.*
 - c. *Mount Vernon.*
 - d. *Washington Homestead on the Rappahannock River.*
 - e. *Mary Ball Washington as Wife and Mother.*

2. School.
 - a. *The Boyhood of George Washington.*
 - b. *Washington's Rules of Civility.*
3. Social and Religious.
 - a. *Social Life of Childhood Home.*
 - b. Religious Life of Childhood Home.
 1. *Inherited Religious Attitude.*
 2. *George Washington the Son.*

IV. Significant Dates. (This topic also forms the close of each of the following personal units to *Special Tributes.*)

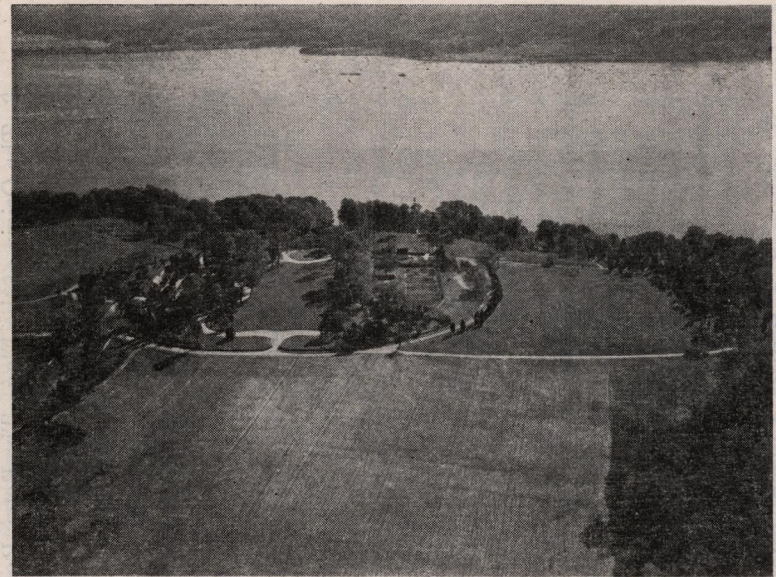
The Young Manhood of George Washington

- I. The Youth Himself.
 - A. Physique and Personality.
 1. Personal Appearance.
 2. *The Man Himself.*
 - B. Activities.
 1. Home.
 - a. In the Home of Lawrence Washington.
 - b. In the Home of the Fairfaxes.
 2. Outside.
 - a. Sports and Athletics.
- II. Early Occupations.
 - A. Surveyor.
 1. *Periods of Washington's Youth.*
 2. *George Washington, Engineer.*
 3. *George Washington the Surveyor.*
 4. Travels.
 - a. *Western Journeys.*
 - b. *Travels, Pursuits and Ideals.* (Pre-Revolutionary Period.)
 - B. Military.
 1. Expeditions into the Ohio Valley.
 - a. *Washington's Contact with the Indians.*
 2. Participation in the French and Indian War as Preparation for the American Revolution.
 - a. *Preparation for Command.*
 - b. *George Washington the Soldier, Through French and Indian War.*
 - c. *Military Experience Under British Rule.*
 - d. Maps.
 - C. Political.
 1. Officeholder in House of Burgesses.
 - a. *Washington in Colonial Politics.*
 - D. Farmer at Mount Vernon.
 1. Ownership of the Estate.
 - a. *The Estate.*
 - b. *Ownership of Mount Vernon.*
 2. Agricultural Development.
 3. *Map of Mount Vernon.*
- III. Social Life.
 - A. *George Washington the Country Squire.*
 - B. *George Washington the Husband.*
 - C. *Migratory Abiding Places.*
 - D. *Social Life Before the Revolution: At Williamsburg and Mount Vernon.*
 - E. *Colonel and Mrs. Washington in Residence Before the Revolution.*

* See Comments at end of Outline.



Mount Vernon—National Shrine

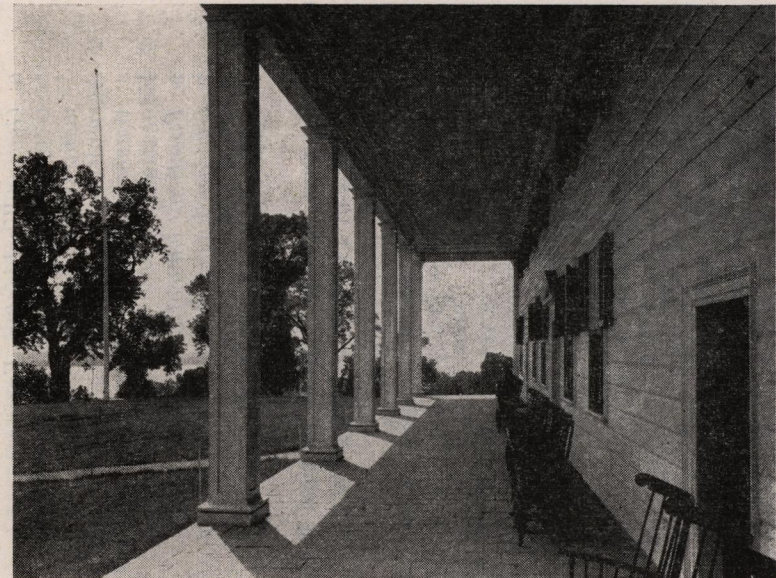


Mount Vernon—A View General Washington Never Saw



Washington
at Home
Painted
by
Alonzo Chappel
Engraved
by
H. B. Hall.

COURTESY GEORGE WASHINGTON
BICENTENNIAL COMMISSION



The Long View from the Mount Vernon Porch

George Washington a Leader of Men During The Struggle for Independence

- I. American Revolution.
 - A. Historical Background.
 1. Causes of the Separation.
 - a. Political.
 - b. Economic—Acts of Trade and Navigation.
 - c. Geographical.
 - B. Political Activity of George Washington Prior to Military Command.
 1. *Washington in Colonial Politics.*
 - a. In the House of Burgesses of Virginia.
 - b. In the First and Second Continental Congresses.
 2. *Changing Views on British Control.*
 - C. Campaigns.
 1. Northern—New England Area; Siege of Boston. June 15, 1775, George Washington chosen General and Commander in Chief of the Army of the United Colonies.
 2. Central—Hudson Valley and Philadelphia Area.
 3. Southern—Georgia, Carolinas, and Virginia.
 4. Western.
 5. Naval.
 6. Maps of Principal Campaigns.
 - D. Results.
 1. Treaty of Peace, 1783.
 - a. Terms of Treaty.
 2. Need for a Stronger Union.
 - a. Articles of Confederation, 1781-1789.
 - E. *Race Contributions to the American Army.*
 1. *Foreign Officers.*
 - F. The Contributions Made by Women During the Revolution.
 1. Service of Martha Washington.
 2. *Mary Ball Washington in later life.*
 3. *The Origin of the Flag—The Betsy Ross Story.*
 4. Abigail Adams—Her Service to the Cause.
- II. George Washington in the Revolution.
 - A. *George Washington the Commander in Chief.*
 - B. Washington's Relations to Congress (1775-1786).
 - C. *The Revolution to Valley Forge.*
 - D. *Valley Forge and Afterwards.*
 1. The French Alliance.
 - E. Military Homes.
 1. *Military Headquarters.*
 2. *War-Time Households.*
 - F. Resignation of Commission to Congress.
 - G. Recognitions for Services.
 - H. Characteristics of George Washington Displayed in This Period.
 1. Faith.
 - a. *George Washington as a Christian—In Military Experiences.*
 2. Courage.—Physical and Moral.
 3. Fortitude.
 4. Loyalty.—To an Ideal and Purpose.
 5. Determination.—Surmounting All Difficulties to Reach the Goal.
 6. Magnanimity.
 7. Humility.—Cause Before Personal Ambition.
 8. Self-Control.—Master of Himself.
 9. Leadership.—Ability to Handle Men.

George Washington a Private Citizen Immediately Following the Revolution

- I. Retirement to Mount Vernon Following Resignation of Commission to Congress.
- II. Activities.
 - A. As a Farmer.
 1. *George Washington the Farmer.*
 2. *Land and Crops and Stock.*
 3. *Organization and Labor.*
 - B. As a Business Man.
 1. *George Washington, The Business Man and Engineer.*
 2. *George Washington, Engineer.*
 3. *The Promoter and Planter.*
 4. *The Business Organizer.*
 - C. *George Washington, the Citizen.*
- III. Social Life at Mount Vernon.
 - A. Week Days.
 - B. Sundays.
 1. *George Washington as a Christian.*
 2. *George Washington and Religion.*
 3. *Washington's Own Words on Religion.*
- IV. Fraternal Life.
 - A. Fraternal Relations.
 - B. *Academic, Municipal, and Fraternal Honors Held by George Washington.*
- V. Man of Letters.
 - A. Personal Writings.
 1. Diaries.
 2. *Literary Records.*
 3. *Washington Sayings.*
 4. Correspondence.
 5. Business Books.
 - a. *Washington's Business Records.*
 6. The writings of George Washington—Edited by John C. Fitzpatrick.
 - B. Scientific Writings.
 1. Engineering.
 - a. *George Washington, Engineer.*
 - b. *George Washington: Leader in Advancement of Civilization.*
 2. Agriculture.
 - a. *Washington's Scientific Farm Methods.*
 3. Education.
 - a. *Practical Education.*
 - b. *George Washington: Patron of Education.*
 - c. Washington's Words on a National University as Found in His Will.

George Washington a Leader in the "Critical Period" Of American History (1783-1789)

- I. Antecedents of the Constitution.
 - A. Plans for Union Prior to the Revolution.
 1. New England Confederation.
 2. Albany Plan of Union.
 3. Stamp Act of Congress.
 4. Intercolonial Committees of Correspondence.
 5. First Continental Congress.
 - B. Plans for Union During and After the Revolution.
 1. Second Continental Congress.
 2. Declaration of Independence.
 3. Articles of Confederation.
 - a. Origin and Nature.
 - b. Adoption.
 - c. Value.
 - d. Defects.
 - e. Results from Operation.

- II. The Constitutional Convention.
 - A. Preliminaries of the Convention.
 1. Commercial Conferences.
 - a. Alexandria-Mount Vernon, 1785.
 - b. Annapolis Convention, September, 1786.
 - B. Meeting at Philadelphia.
 - C. Organization and Membership.
 1. Representation of States.
 2. Delegates.
 - a. Number.
 - b. Character of Men.
 3. George Washington as Delegate and Presiding Officer.
 4. *Creation and Organization of a New Nation.*
 - D. Work of the Convention.
 1. Debates in the Federal Convention as Reported by James Madison.
 2. The Great Compromises.
 3. Notes of Alexander Hamilton and Others in the Federal Convention of 1787.
 4. *Results of the Convention.*
 5. The Leading Features of the Constitution.
 6. The Six Fundamental Principles of the Constitution—James M. Beck.

- III. Ratification of the Constitution (1787-1790).
 - A. Difficulties Encountered.
 - B. Public Discussion.
 - C. The Federalist.
 - D. Conventions and Ratifications of the Constitution by the Several States.

George Washington The Executive

- I. The First President of the United States.
 - A. Election.
 1. *Triumphant Journey as President Elect.*
 2. Inauguration.
 - a. *First Term of the First President.*
 - B. Organization of the New Republic.
 1. Formation of Cabinet and Judiciary.
 - a. *Creation and Organization of a New Nation.*
 - C. Problems of the Administration.
 1. *Washington's Domestic Policy.*
 2. *Washington's Foreign Policy.*
 3. *Washington and Public Business.*
 4. Development of Political Parties.
 - a. *George Washington: His Friends and Enemies.*
 5. Second Administration.
 - a. Election.
 - b. Inauguration.
 - c. Events—*Second Term of President Washington.*
 - D. Washington's Farewell Address.
 - E. Social Life.
 1. Travels.
 - a. *New England Journeys.*
 - b. *The First Presidential Tours.*
 - c. *Southern Journeys.*
 - d. *The Southern Tour.*
 - e. Map of the Principal Routes.
 2. *Presidential Mansions.*
 3. Official Society.
 - a. *Presidential Households.*
 - b. *Social Life in Later Years.*
- II. Characteristics Portrayed.
 - A. Judgment.

- B. Balance.
- C. Wisdom.
- D. Vision.
- E. Integrity.
- F. Justice.

George Washington A Private Citizen Following The Presidency

- I. Life at Mount Vernon.
 - A. Activities.
 1. Business on the Farm and in the Home.
 2. Public.
 - a. July 4, 1798, General Washington was appointed Lieutenant General and Commander in Chief of the Armies.
 - b. *George Washington a Leader in Philanthropy.*
 - c. *Significant Dates in the Public Life of Washington.*
 - d. *Principal Official Appointments.*
 3. Home and Social.
 - a. *Personal Appearance.*
 - b. *Family Life and Friends.*
 - c. *Last Years at Mount Vernon.*
- II. Death and Will.
 - A. December 14, 1799, Death of George Washington.
 - B. December 18, 1799, Funeral of George Washington.
 - C. Washington's Fortune and Will.

III. Mount Vernon a National Shrine.

Selected Tributes To George Washington

- I. Prior to The Centennial of His Birth (1832).
 - A. By contemporaries.
 1. *Character and Service.*
 2. *World Status.*
- II. At the Centennial (1832).
- III. Between The Centennial and Bicentennial.

Correlation Of This Course With Other Subjects Of The Curriculum

- I. Agriculture.
 - A. George Washington Up-to-Date in Methods.
 1. Conducted Experiments to Improve Agriculture.
 2. Promoted Stock Raising.
 3. Kept Farm Records.
 4. Sought New Ideas Through Correspondence.
 5. Owned Flour Mills.
 6. Interested in Commerce and Transportation Facilities.
 7. Recommended Board of Agriculture.
- II. Art.
 - A. Paintings and Pictures of George Washington.
 - B. Sculpture.
 1. Statues of George Washington.
 2. Memorials.
 - C. Landscapes.
 1. Mount Vernon.
 2. The Capital City.
 - D. In the City of Washington.
 1. Paintings.
 2. Monuments.
 3. Architecture.
 - E. Museums.

III. Business.

- A. Discussion.
 - 1. Methods of Business.
 - 2. Business Man and Engineer.
 - 3. Vision Displayed by George Washington in His Policy Regarding the Commerce and Industry of the United States.

IV. Civics.

- A. Origin and Growth of Representative Government in the United States.
- B. Background of the Constitution.
- C. Essentials of American Constitutional Government.
- D. Creation of a Nation.
- E. Functions of the Government.
 - 1. Divisions.
- F. Flag of the United States.
- G. Character Education.
 - 1. Discussions.
 - 2. George Washington an Exponent of Patriotism and Citizenship.

V. Geography.

- A. Travel Trails.
 - 1. Correlation With Other Subjects.
 - a. Pre-Presidential Journeys.
 - b. Presidential Tours.
 - c. Incidents of Travel.
- B. Places Named for George Washington.
 - 1. State.
 - 2. Counties.
 - 3. Townships.
 - 4. Cities.
 - 5. Mountains and Other Physical Features.
 - 6. Schools and Other Civic Institutions.
- C. Study of Maps.
 - 1. Maps in *Honor to George Washington and Reading about George Washington Series*.
 - 2. The George Washington Atlas.
 - 3. Maps and Articles; in The National Geographic Magazines.

VI. Health Education.

- A. Physical.
 - 1. Health Habits of George Washington.
 - 2. Opportunity to Revive Dances of Colonial Days.
 - 3. Games of Colonial Days.
- B. Mental.
 - 1. Link Up with Discussions Produced in Study of Washington's Characteristics.

VII. Home Economics.

- A. Life in the Home.
 - 1. Manner of Living.

VIII. Literature.

- A. By George Washington.
 - 1. The Writings of George Washington—Edited by John C. Fitzpatrick.
 - 2. *Highlights of the Writings*.
 - 3. Man of Letters.
- B. About George Washington.
 - 1. *Classified Washington Bibliography* (by American Library Association), *Honor to George Washington*, No. 16.
 - 2. Tributes.
 - 3. Poems, Stories, and Books.
 - a. *Washington the Nation-Builders*, Bicentennial Poem by Edwin Markham.

- C. Political Documents of This Period.
 - 1. Declaration of Independence.
 - 2. Articles of Confederation.
 - 3. Constitution of the United States.

IX. Music.

- A. Songs of This Period (partial list).
 - 1. Yankee Doodle.
 - 2. The Battle of the Kegs.
 - 3. Other Revolutionary Ballads of Francis Hopkinson.
 - 4. Hail Columbia.
 - 5. Other Ballads.
- B. Musical Instruments Used in Colonial Days.
- C. Marches—In Honor of George Washington.
 - 1. President's March.
 - 2. George Washington Bicentennial March by John Philip Sousa.
- D. Colonial Dances.
- E. Patriotic Songs and Their Historical Background.
 - 1. America.
 - 2. Star-Spangled Banner.
 - 3. Columbia, the Gem of the Ocean.
 - 4. America the Beautiful.
- F. *Father of the Land We Love*, Bicentennial Song by George M. Cohan.
- G. *Song of Faith*, Choral Ode by John A. Carpenter.

X. Outside Activities—Extra Curricula.

- A. Plays.
- B. Pageants.
- C. Educational Contests.
 - 1. Declamatory Contests in Elementary Schools.
 - 2. Essay Contests in High Schools.
 - 3. Oratorical Contests in Colleges.
- D. George Washington Bicentennial Tree and Garden Planting.

Contributions Of George Washington To Civilization

I. Elements of George Washington's Contributions Worthy of Emphasis.

- A. Administrator, Launching a New Nation.
- B. Business Man, Originating New Enterprises.
- C. Farmer, Developing New Methods of Agriculture.
- D. Moral Leader, Demonstrating Honesty and Truth.
- E. National Guide, Steering the New Republic Away from Dangerous Entanglements.
- F. Patriot, Exemplifying Unselfish Devotion to his Country.
- G. Political Leader, Aiding in the Establishment of a National Government, instead of a Confederacy.
- H. Soldier and Commander, Bringing Independence to America.
- I. Statesman, Determining a Republican Form of Government for the United States of America.
- J. Surveyor and Engineer, Encouraging Western Expansion.

The contributions which George Washington made to civilization are without number. They are still being enjoyed by this generation and will continue to be enjoyed by humanity for all time.—Hazel B. Nielson.

Note: Topics in Italics are titles of 48 papers in a series of 12 George Washington Programs and the parts of the Honor to George Washington series of 16 pamphlets issued by the George Washington Bicentennial Commission.

Washington and His Cabinet



GEORGE WASHINGTON
GEN. HENRY KNOX, Secretary of War

ALEXANDER HAMILTON, Secretary of the Treasury

THOMAS JEFFERSON, Secretary of State
EDMUND RANDOLPH, Attorney General

BATTLE OF YORKTOWN

The accompanying map of Yorktown (1781) is a facsimile reproduction of a rare contemporary map made available by the Naval Historical Foundation, whose purpose is to foster patriotism and to increase the knowledge of American naval and shipping history. The map (18 x 24 inches) is reproduced in color type and hand colored from an original tinted engraving in the Library of Congress. A limited number of copies are available for general sale by the Naval Historical Foundation of which Fleet Admiral Ernest J. King is now serving as president. The Foundation is reproducing rare pamphlets, papers, and charts to make source material more easily available.

Captain Dudley W. Knox, U.S.N., author of "The Naval Genius of George Washington," has prepared the

following account of this final battle of the Revolution at Yorktown where the surrender took place Oct. 19, 1781:

"The decisive influence of naval power in winning the Revolution is clearly portrayed in this impressionistic view of the joint land and sea situation about Yorktown in the autumn of 1781. It represents the fruition of the naval strategy of General Washington who had pleaded earnestly since 1778 for a strong French Fleet to act in concert with his army.

"When the large French Army under Rochambeau had arrived at Newport in 1780, Washington would not then employ it actively because no fleet was available. He contended formally to the French general that:— 'In any operation, and under all circumstances, a decisive naval superiority is to be considered as a fundamental principle, and the basis upon which every hope of success must ultimately depend.'



Battle of Yorktown

"Washington never receded from this position. Over and over again for nearly three years he had pleaded for decisive naval support, maintaining that it 'was the pivot upon which everything turned,' that 'whatever efforts are made by land armies, the navy must have the deciding vote in the present contest,' and many similar expressions. His superlative wisdom and judgment in military-naval strategy was amply proved by the Yorktown campaign which won our War of Independence.

"By means of fast frigates in the summer of 1781 Washington communicated with Admiral Comte de Grasse and arranged that the French Fleet should sail from the West Indies to the Chesapeake in conjunction with the movement of the Franco-American Army by land and water from north of New York to Yorktown, where the British Army under Cornwallis had fortified itself. The safe transportation of the Allied Army by water from upper Chesapeake Bay to Jamestown was contingent upon naval protection by De Grasse against attack of the British Fleet under Admiral Graves.

"After a long march from the Hudson, Washington reached the head of the Chesapeake Bay on 6 September and arranged for water transport in advance of news from De Grasse. The latter had arrived and anchored his twenty-eight ships-of-the-line to guard the lower entrance of the bay a week before. The troops that had been brought up in the fleet from the West Indies were immediately landed on the James River as a reinforcement to Lafayette, then confronting Yorktown. Some French ships were sent to the mouth of the York River to prevent the exit of British ships there that might interrupt Washington's projected movement down Chesapeake Bay to the James.

"The British Fleet of nineteen ships from New York approached the Chesapeake entrance on 5 September the day before Washington reached the far northern end of that bay. Preferring to fight while underway, the Comte de Grasse went out to meet the British. Only the van ships fought one another east-southeast of Cape Henry, and the action was broken off towards sunset. Several days of calms or very light airs followed, during which the two fleets drifted nearly one hundred miles to the southward while within sight but out of gun-range of each other.

"Finally on 9 September De Grasse took advantage of a favorable wind and made all sail for the Chesapeake. His principal mission was to support the operation against Yorktown and this necessitated protection of the movement of Washington's army down the Chesapeake. He could not risk allowing the faster British Fleet to slip into Chesapeake Bay ahead of him, perhaps destroy a water-borne Allied Army and sue for Cornwallis. Thus baffled, the British Fleet returned to New York.

"Meanwhile Washington had learned of the absence of the French Fleet from Chesapeake Bay and accordingly delayed his water movement to Jamestown until its return. With this indispensable protection renewed he then moved to Jamestown. When later he proceeded by land to the investment of Yorktown, Cornwallis became aware of the hopelessness of possible relief by sea and surrendered after very little fighting. Thus was Washington fully justified in his long sustained contention that a 'decisive naval superiority' to act in concert with his army was essential to bring victory to American arms."

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National Defense Committee • Daughters of the American Revolution • Washington, D. C.