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GEORGE WASHINGTON IN PENNSYLVANIA.

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[Washington's birthday has been celebrated at the University of Pennsylvania as "University Day" for more than a century, and in 1826 was formally set apart in the University Calendar as one of the annual observances of the University. The following oration was delivered by Hon. Samuel W. Pennypacker, Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, on "University Day," 1904, at the American Academy of Music.]

We meet under the auspices of that University which, in its plan of organization, in its teachings of medicine and law, and in recent years in its archæological investigations of Eastern civilizations, has led all others upon the continent; and we meet upon the anniversary of the birth of the great Virginian, the fame of whose deeds, at once a beacon and an example for mankind, has reached to the confines of the earth and will continue to the limits of time. Are the careers of those men who have seemingly fashioned the institutions of a nation and moulded the destinies of a race the outcome of exceptional capabilities and characteristics, not bestowed upon their fellows, or are the results due to the favorable conditions existing at the time

LETTER OF REV. FRANCIS ALISON, 1776.—

PHILAD^A August y^e 20, 1776.

COZEN ROBERT

I received yours dated at Ty July y^e 30th by Dr. Stringer, but had not y^e pleasure of yours of y^e fourth of July by Lieutenant Bartielson, nor do I know where he lives. I was from y^e first to y^e fourteenth of August in New London, y^r mother & brother & friends there are all well; she lives where you left her, & they are provided pretty well in hay for their Cattle this approaching winter. Benjamin must be with you before this comes to hand, as he is appointed Surgeon [*torn*] Battalion & Frank is now with a Battalion of the Militia from New London [*torn*] their Physician & Surgeon, & lies at y^e new blazing star at Staten Island. [*torn*] sent you a News paper, but the news are hardly worth y^r notice, they are [*torn*] changing, & still fresh news destroy y^e taste of what we had last. We have a Conv[en]tion of about 90 persons elected out of every county in y^e Province to form a new constitution. They have formed a bill of Rights; that is in y^e main pretty well; but they seem hardly equal to y^e Task to form a new plan of Government. Nothing is yet determin'd finally, but the assembly is to make all laws without any check from y^e Governor & counsel; They propose to have a Council to be chosen yearly and a Governor or a president, who shall execute the laws and appoint all officers, magistrates, Judges &c, & these shall continue no longer than five years without a new appointment; These are some of the outlines, & some are for laying aside all our present laws, & making a few plain simple easy ones; others are for keeping the present laws, with some alterations; They are mostly honest well meaning Country men, who are employed; but intirely unacquainted with such high matters. Our fears & prayers & our whole attention is to our army at New York. The Militia of this Province & Maryland are marching well armd, & with great spirits to New York, & Jersey; but are raw & undisciplined, & too rash & self confident, & secure, for which I fear that they will suffer.

I am sorry for y^r hard campaine, but hope y^t you will wether it, & y^r Military skill & reputation will rise in proportion to y^r dangers & sufferings. I am glad y^t you were advanced to be a lieutenant, & would rejoice to hear y^t you were a Cap^t if I can serve you this way, depend on it. I do not expect y^t you can be recalled till y^r time be up, & if after this, if you can serve to advantage elsewhere, I wish you would do it. You will now get fresh provisions & better fare & I hope [*torn*] all recover your health & spirits. Blaney Alison is mate in a [*torn*]; & John Alison y^r Uncle John's son is gone in a Maryland Battalion, [*torn*] York, so that many of my friends are in y^e contest, I pray God to preserve [*torn*] Your aunt & cousins Join in love to you, which please to accept from y^r friend & Uncle

FRA: ALISON.

SOCIETY OF UNITED BOWMEN.—The *United States Gazette* of September 10, 1835, contains the following account of an anniversary celebration by the United Bowmen:

Yesterday was the anniversary of the company of "UNITED BOWMEN," which holds its charter from the ancient company in England, that traces its line of existence almost to the merry days of the hero of Sherwood forest.