

Address delivered by James P. B. Hyndman, from Station WHAP New York City, on Monday, April 12, 1926, 9:15 P.M. on AMERICANISM. Subject:

THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

Then all the elders of Israel gathered themselves together, and came to Samuel unto Ramah
And said unto him, ... make us a king to judge us like all the nations.

And the LORD said unto Samuel, Hearken unto the voice of the people in all that they say unto thee: for they have not rejected thee, but they have rejected me, that I should not reign over them. (I Samuel 8:4, 5 & 7.)

The American Revolution marked the dawn of the final Millennium, the seventh millennium in the history of the world, and it ushered in, once more on earth, the absolute reign of Christ among men, and its accompanying Kingdom of Harmony, which Christ Jesus, in his sublime communion with his Father, (recorded in the 17th chapter of John), characterized as "the glory which I had with thee before the world was."

As there is but one spiritual and absolute King over all the earth, Christ, the eternal Son of God, so there is but one usurper, or anti-Christ, who assumes to himself the titles and prerogatives of the Prince of Peace; and from this anti-Christ emanates the so-called authority of all the kings of the earth, under the blasphemous doctrine of "the divine right of kings."

The Declaration of Independence, which brought forth the American Nation, the United States of America, on July 4, 1776, marked the beginning of the end of ecclesiastical and political despotism in all the earth, and set the seal of God's condemnation on priests and princes.

In all the history of the world, there has not been a period, since that of the first appearing of Christ, in Palestine, so fraught with spiritual significance, power, and promise, as the period of the American Revolution, until today, when every portent points to the second and final appearing of Christ, the King of kings and Lord of lords, whose reign is forever.

Among all the names of history, the name of George Washington takes its place with those of the disciples and apostles of Christ, and the star of Washington shines forever in the spiritual firmament, with the steady glow and glory reflected from the Star of Bethlehem, the Star of Christ.

The meaning of the American Revolution is made clearer, when it is understood, that the event signaled in the American Declaration of Independence, was the coming forth of a great spiritual people, after centuries of discipline

and preparation, hidden from the world. It was in no wise, the breaking away of mere colonies from their mother country, for Britain was never the Mother of America, and those who brought forth the American Federal Republic were of a distinct spiritual lineage, whose spiritual individuality was maintained by God throughout centuries, while still they sojourned with their kinsmen, their brothers of Britain.

In the year 1000, the same year in which Leif Ericson, the young Norseman (Icelander) discovered America, Thorfinn, the Dane, settled in the North of England, at a place called Tessington. Thorfinn belonged to that peculiar Northern Norse-Scottish aristocracy, known as the Lords of the Isles. When Harold, the Red-Head, in the tenth century, made himself despot of Norway, and popery forced itself upon the Norse peoples, in the guise of Christianity, the sturdy Vikings, to whom political and ecclesiastical slavery was intolerable, became Pilgrims, and found a refuge from persecution in the British Isles, Iceland and Greenland. Eric the Red, Leif's father, founded the Greenland Colony, and the Norse Republic of Iceland became the center of culture and of learning for the world. The Norsemen who settled in Scotland, and the Scottish chiefs, became the Lords of the Isles, to whose prowess, courage, and native spirituality, the Roman political and pagan system owed its expulsion from Britain, at that time.

The house which Thorfinn, the Dane, founded, at Wessington, in the north of England, at the end of the first millennium, or the beginning of the second, was destined to bring forth the leader of the American Revolution, the father of his country, George Washington. The blood of the purest aristocracy in the world, flowed in Washington's veins; the ideals of the noblest spiritual race of men and women, taught for a thousand years, first direct from the lips of Jesus and his apostles, and through the subsequent centuries of the first millennium, and into the Second, by their faithful and inspired skalds and their learned writers, these primal Christian ideals were the rich heritage of George Washington, who, under God, was to bring forth and to lead a political and spiritual revolution, which should shake the earth to its foundations.

That this noble spiritual aristocracy should dwell for eight hundred years, hidden in the heart of the British Empire, side by side with their true brethren, the Anglo-Saxon British people, yet in seeming subjection to and continual conflict with Roman priestcraft and ritualism, was foretold in the Holy Bible, and is one of the miracles of history. While, throughout the continent of Europe, brave men were aroused to protest against the tyranny and corruption of popery, and these men thus became known as the Reformers, and their movement, as the Reformation, there dwelt, in the British Isles, almost unknown and unsuspected, a spiritual group of people, whose primitive love for Christ and for the Word of God, was as the unquenchable burning of a "little candle, that sheds his beams in a naughty world." This people who were revealers rather than reformers, were the root from which should spring the American Federal Republic, in the place which Christ had prepared for it, to be revealed at the close of the sixth millennium, and the beginning of the

seventh millennium, or to-day, as the Kingdom of God, "on earth as it is in heaven."

The Pilgrim Fathers, who were of this primal Puritan spiritual lineage, took possession of the Western Hemisphere "IN THE NAME OF GOD, AMEN!" in order that they might "find freedom to worship God:" and it remained for Washington and the patriot fathers to come forth from their hiding place in the British Empire, and to establish, on the Western Continent, in the sight of all the world, the United States of America, on the foundation of Christ.

The history of the Revolution itself is quickly and briefly told. By various acts of tyranny and unwarranted high-handedness, on the part of the British King, George III, the British Commons, and the royal Governors of the colonies, directed against the colonists, the latter were aroused in resistance. From the time that George took the throne, in 1760, similar acts of tyranny had been practised in England, which threatened the freedom of the press, one of the cherished ideals of the free Anglo-Saxon peoples. Riots had occurred, a famous editor had been imprisoned, fined, and repeatedly done out of his seat in the House of Commons, in defiance of the will of the people expressed through the ballot, and the Commons, under the leadership of such reactionaries as George Grenville, and the Marquis of Rockingham, had invaded the constitutional rights of the British people.

The passage of the Stamp Act, in 1765, by which the colonists were to be compelled to purchase stamps and to place them on documents, caused most of the colonial legislatures to pass resolutions, denouncing the measure. James Otis, in Massachusetts, and Patrick Henry, in Virginia, thundered forth eloquent denunciations of the act. Finally, the American merchants refused to import British goods to America, and the Stamp Act was repealed. The colonists expressed their attitude to William Pitt (Earl of Chatham) and to Edmund Burke, the great friends and champions of the Americans, in Parliament. The colonists had other British friends, John Wilkes, the noted and persecuted editor, and Colonel Barre, whose two names were given to the town of Wilkesbarre, in Pennsylvania. However, the British Parliament, under the Declaratory Act, passed new measures, as obnoxious to the colonists as was the Stamp Act. In addition for the purpose of intimidating the Americans, British troops were sent to America in June, 1766, and Parliament passed a Mutiny Act, requiring the colonists to support these troops. The American people refused to furnish the British troops with food and quarters, and non-importation leagues were formed while pamphlets and newspapers instigated the American people to oppose the oppressive measures of the British Parliament. A sloop of John Hancock was seized in Boston Harbor, for non-payment of duty, but a mob compelled the tax commissioners to flee to Castle William, in Boston Harbor.

Some troops, who were quartered in Boston, in 1770, fired on a group of citizens, killing three and wounding two others. The British Ministry, alarmed at the disturbances in America, repealed all taxes except that on tea, which it

retained with the double object of adding the English East-India Company, and of maintaining its right to tax the colonists. Lord North was then Prime Minister, and retained this office until the end of the Revolution. The Americans then began open resistance, by an appeal to arms; and a body of sixty men, disguised as Indians, went on board the tea ships, and threw the contents of 342 chests of tea, into Boston Harbor. The British Parliament thereupon closed the port of Boston. Committees of Correspondence were formed, which brought the colonies together in an interchange of views. A Declaration of Rights was drawn up, by the First Continental Congress, which met in Carpenter's Hall in Philadelphia, on September 5, 1774. During the summer of 1774, the people of English America were preparing for the inevitable struggle. They engaged daily in military exercises, ready at a moment's notice to respond to the defense of their country. Hence, they were called Minutemen. The first battle of the war occurred at Lexington, Massachusetts, on April 19, 1775. Warning had been given the colonists, by Paul Revere, who rode through the night, arousing the citizens, on the 15th of June, 1775, the Continental Congress elected George Washington, a delegate from Virginia, commander-in-chief of all the forces raised, or to be raised, for the defense of American liberty.

On July 4, 1776, the Continental Congress adopted the Declaration of Independence, drafted by a committee of five patriots, and written by Thomas Jefferson the chairman of this committee. This Declaration proclaimed the Anglo-American colonies free and independent States, under the name of the United States of America. From this time on, the British government pursued the war with renewed vigor and determination, and the fortunes of the American patriots were almost uniformly at low ebb, until the final surrender of Lord Cornwallis to General Washington, at Yorktown, Virginia, on October 19, 1781. This triumph of the patriot Cause, which from the first, was inevitable, under "the protection of Divine Providence", was announced to the assembled Congress, in Philadelphia, at an early hour on October 24, 1781, by Charles Thomson, Secretary; and the Congress appointed the 13th of December, the following as a day of national Thanksgiving. Lord North, the British premier, acknowledged, in dismay, that "It is all over;" and the British people accepted the result.

Many interesting details might be given, and the names of devoted and masterful patriots recorded but these were mentioned in a recent paper on the Masonic Founders of America.

It has been shown, that the American Revolution was, in fact, a mighty spiritual upheaval, an epochal spiritual event in the history of the world, directly related to the first and second appearing of Christ. It was to establish a spiritual Nation, which should end, first in the Western Hemisphere, and later in all the earth, the despotic rule of priests and princes, the tyranny of political ecclesiasticism or the usurping reign of anti-Christ, and usher in once more upon earth, the primal reign of the eternal Christ, the Son of God, and his marvellous Kingdom of Harmony, wherein "is no more death, neither

sorrow, nor sighing, neither shall there be any more pain; for the former things are passed away." (Revelation) "The gates" of this celestial City "shall not be shut at all by day: for there shall be no night there." (Rev. 21:25.) This vision, in its inception, came to George Washington; and his steady spiritual gaze retained the God-given vision, in one unbroken continuity. Throughout incredible hardships, discouragements, temporary but ever-recurring defeats, and finally black treason, yet with the support of the noblest men and women who ever trod the soil of the virgin Western Continent, except in the days of the Pilgrim Fathers, Washington brought this child Nation through the throes of political and to the threshold of spiritual birth; and it was named the United States of America, The American Federal Republic.

Washington's noble words reflect the character of the great nation which he founded:

"Let us raise a standard to which the wise and the honest can repair. The event is in the hands of God."

The "event" is the second appearing of Christ, the King of kings and the Lord of lords.

James P. B. Hyndman