

THE CABLETOW

Editorials

GEORGE WASHINGTON — Soldier, Statesman, Mason

Napoleon Bonaparte in paying homage to Washington said. "This great man fought against tyranny; he established the liberty of his country. His memory will always be dear to the French people, as it will be to all freemen of two worlds."

We are quoting hereunder MAXIMS of Washington which we believe may help relieve us in our present day problems, either political, social, moral or religious. To Comte de Moustier, Washington said, "... The aggregate happiness of the society, which is best promoted by the practice of a virtuous policy, is or ought to be, the end of all governments..." And to Gouverneur Morris he wrote "... In a government as free as ours where the people are at liberty, and will express their sentiments, oftentimes imprudently, and for want of information sometimes unjustly, allowances must be made for occasional effervescences; but after the declaration which I have here made of my political creed, you can run no hazard in asserting, that the Executive branch of this government never has, nor will suffer, while I preside, any improper conduct of its officers to escape with impunity; or will give its sanctions to any disorderly proceedings of its citizens."

On personal friendship and political disagreement, Washington wrote to Bryan Fairfax, "... The friendship I ever professed, and felt for you, met with no diminution from the difference in our political Sentiments. I know the rectitude of my own intentions, and believing in the sincerity of yours, lamented, though I did not condemn, your renunciation of the creed I had adpoted. Nor do I think any person, or power, ought to do it, whilst your conduct is not opposed to the general Interest of the people and the measures they are pursuing; the latter, that is our actions, depending upon ourselves, may be controlled, while the powers of thinking originating in higher causes, cannot always be moulded to our wishes." On Morality and Civil Government, Washington said in his farewell address, "... 'Tis substantially true, that virtue or morality is a necessary spring of popular government." On brotherly love, he wrote to the Clergy of Different Denominations residing in and near the City of Philadelphia in this wise: "... Believing, as I

do, that Religion and Morality are the essential pillars of Civil society, I view, with unspeakable pleasure, that harmony and brotherly love which characterizes the Clergy of different denominations, as well in this, as in other places of the United States; exhibiting to the world a new and interesting spectacle, at once the pride of our Country and the surest basis of universal Harmony." And on Religious liberty, he wrote the General Committee of the United Baptist Churches in Virginia thus: "... I have often expressed my sentiments, that every man, conducting himself as a good citizen, and being accountable to God alone for his religious opinions, ought to be protected in worshipping the Deity according to the dictates of his own conscience."

In our quoting the above MAXIMS of Washington, we are only reminding our readers a few of the sterling qualities of the valiant soldier and statesman, George Washington, the Mason; that they may serve to refresh our minds to improve our efforts for our government, our social attachments and our moral and religious inclinations. May the leaders that be be imbued with forces that helped made Washington great. — Jose E. Racela, Editor.

LET'S REMOVE THAT APATHY IN GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS

The matter of politics is taboo in the lodge room. It is unmasonic to bring political matters before a lodge meeting. And, truly, the bulk of the Craft is taking this to mean that it has an excuse to sit on the side line and not bother what would become to any phase of government affairs. This attitude of apathy is worse than becoming a dormant Mason, for a dormant Mason, according to a well placed brother is just like a soldier in the reserve.

Our Masonic heroes fought and died for the liberties we now enjoy—freedom from want, freedom from fear, freedom of speech and of the press and freedom of conscience. There are sinister signs to diminish, if not to kill, these liberties. One of such signs is the move to bring back the state and church together. Some members of our law-making body are aiming at repealing certain laws to satisfy a particular religion. The voice of the minorities no matter how forceful and intelligent it might be is stifled by plain plurality.

Masons should be on the front line when there are things to be corrected or atheistic doctrines to fight. We have a duty to perform in the diligent participation therein. "No good Mason is too busy, too

disinterested or too sanctified to engage in the political life of this country . . ."

Let us then take stock with the changing world. Remember the furor caused by a court conviction of an Italian bishop on slander charge? Our apathy in government affairs will hasten our losing what our forebears have bequeathed to us and which we must transmit to generations following us. — Jose E. Racela.

THE GRAND MASTER'S . . .

(Continued from front-inside cover)

milarly fought and died. To keep alive the spirit of Washington here, we are also honoring our Masonic heroes who have perished in the darkness of the night that we may enjoy democratic principles for which they labored so much at the cost of their own lives. Such celebrations keep forever aglow the determination to safeguard our democratic way of life and fight to the bitter end any attempt to curtail it.



VICENTE OROSA
Grand Master