

III

HELPS FOR THE TEACHING OF
VIRGINIA HISTORY

FOURTH INSTALMENT

Below is presented a table of dates. These dates are interesting and more or less important in the history of Virginia and America.

It is not expected or recommended that pupil or teacher should memorize this list, though it is not too much to say that the well educated teacher will know most of the items included therein sooner or later. This list is given for convenient reference—for such use by teacher and pupil alike—and also to supplement the textbooks in some cases; for it is not probable that any one text will chronicle every important event that is tabulated in this list.

For purposes of review, as well as for daily reference, this list may be found useful. It may be utilized with good effect if the pupil is required to look it over with a view toward selecting the twenty or the thirty dates that are most important in Virginia history. This will be a fine exercise for teacher and pupils together. After an approved list of, say, twenty dates has been made, it will be found that most of those selected are already learned. Too much emphasis on dates should be avoided, but at the same time it should be remembered that any citizen who cannot recall at least a few facts and dates in connection cannot be regarded as very proficient in the history of his country.

For any one who wishes to remember dates, the following simple rules are offered:

1—Make a select list.

2—Learn it.

3—Use or review the items occasionally.

Dates may not be of first importance in history study, but they are great conveniences for keeping greater things in their proper places and relations. The person who turns up his nose at dates probably does not know very many.

TABLE OF DATES

- 1492—Columbus brings over the flag of Spain
- 1497—The Cabots bring over the flag of England
- 1584—Raleigh sends over explorers
- 1585—Queen Elizabeth names our land Virginia
- 1607—A hundred Englishmen settle Jamestown, May 13
- 1609—John Smith returns to England
- 1613—Pocahontas marries John Rolfe
Governor Dale gives each man a farm
- 1617—Death of Pocahontas, in England
- 1619—A red-letter year:
First House of Burgesses meets,
July 30
Real home life begins in Virginia
A ship load of tobacco is sent to England
A shipload of negroes are made slaves
A college is planned at Henrico
- 1622—First massacre by the Indians
- 1624—Virginia made a royal colony
- 1634—Eight counties laid out
- 1642—Civil war breaks out in England
- 1644—Second massacre by the Indians
- 1649—King Charles I is executed
- 1660—The kingship is restored in England
- 1676—Bacon's Rebellion
- 1682—The Tobacco Rebellion
- 1693—College of William & Mary founded
- 1698—The capital moved to Williamsburg
- 1716—Spotswood crosses the Blue Ridge
- 1732—Another red-letter year:
George Washington born, Feb. 22
Jost Hite settles near Winchester
John Lewis settles near Staunton
Building of Independence Hall begun
- 1733—William Byrd lays out Richmond and Petersburg
- 1736—*Virginia Gazette* first published at Williamsburg
- 1743—Thomas Jefferson born, April 13
- 1748—Washington begins surveying for Fairfax
- 1750—Thomas Walker goes through Cumberland Gap
- 1753—Washington carries the Governor's message

- 1755—Braddock's army ambushed
 1759—The British capture Quebec
 1763—End of the long war
 Patrick Henry makes his first great speech
 1765—Patrick Henry speaks against the Stamp Act
 1774—Continental Congress meets at Philadelphia, September 5
 Battle of Point Pleasant, October 10
 1775—Washington called to be a soldier again
 1776—A third red-letter year:
 Lord Dunmore leaves Virginia
 George Mason writes our Bill of Rights
 Thomas Jefferson writes the Declaration of Independence
 1777—Henry Clay born
 General Burgoyne surrenders, Oct. 17
 1778—France recognizes our independence
 1779—Clark conquers the Northwest
 1780—Battle of King's Mountain
 1781—Surrender of Cornwallis at Yorktown, October 19
 1784—Virginia cedes her northwest territory to the Union
 1787—Northwest Ordinance framed
 Federal Constitution made
 1789—Washington made first President
 The Bastille stormed at Paris
 1792—Kentucky becomes a state
 1793—Whitney invents the cotton gin
 1799—Washington dies at Mt. Vernon
 1800—Washington City becomes the national capital
 1801—John Marshall appointed Chief Justice
 1803—Jefferson buys Louisiana
 1804—Lewis and Clark start westward
 1807—Robert E. Lee born, January 19
 1809—Edgar Allan Poe born, January 19
 Abraham Lincoln born, February 12
 1811—Richmond theatre burns
 1819—University of Virginia chartered
 1823—Monroe Doctrine proclaimed
 1824—Lafayette's last visit
 1825—University of Virginia opened to students
 1831—McCormick makes his first reaper
 1839—Virginia Military Institute established
 1859—John Brown's raid at Harper's Ferry
 1861—First battle of Manassas, July 21
 Richmond made the capital of the Confederacy
 1862—Jackson's Valley Campaign, May-June
 Lee's first defence of Richmond, May-July
 Second Manassas, August 29, 30
 Battle of Antietam, Maryland, September 17
 Battle of Fredericksburg, Dec. 13
 1863—Battle of Chancellorsville, May 2, 3
 Death of Stonewall Jackson, May 10
 West Virginia made a state by Congress, June 20
 Battle of Gettysburg, Pa., July 1—3
 1864—Lee meets Grant in the Wilderness, May 5—6
 Death of General Stuart, May 12
 Battle of New Market, May 15
 The Crater explosion at Petersburg, July 30
 Battle of Cedar Creek, October 19
 1865—Petersburg and Richmond given up, April 2, 3
 General Lee surrenders, April 9
 General Lee becomes a teacher, Oct.
 1868—Maury also locates at Lexington, September
 1870—Our present public school system established
 Death of General Lee, October 12
 1884—Farmville Normal School established
 1902—Virginia adopts her fifth constitution
 1907—Jamestown Exposition held near Norfolk
 Monument to John Smith erected at Jamestown
 1914—Virginia votes 30,000 majority for prohibition, September 22
 Tablet to Pocahontas unveiled at Jamestown, October 24
 1918—Women admitted to William and Mary College
 1919—Founding of House of Burgesses celebrated at Richmond, August 15
 1920—University of Virginia admits women to certain departments