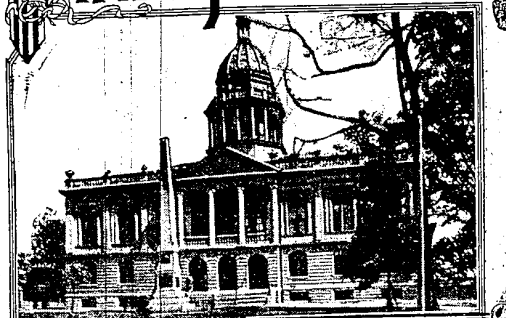


# Declarations of Independence



LEXINGTON COUNTY COURT HOUSE WITH DECLARATION MONUMENT

By JOHN DICKINSON SHERMAN. THERE is of course but one Declaration of Independence—the Declaration of Independence we celebrate on the Fourth of July. It makes no difference that Richard Henry Lee's resolution—"That these united colonies are and of right ought to be, free and independent States"—was introduced in congress June 7, 1776; that it was adopted July 2, and that the document itself was not made public until July 5, and was not signed by the members of congress until August 2. It was on July 4, 1776, that the vote on the Declaration itself was taken, and the document ordered "authenticated and printed." So the Fourth of July it is—and ever shall be.

Nevertheless, there are other Declarations, and some of them come pretty near being Declarations of Independence, except that they were not adopted by congress. The truth is that independence was in the air for some time before July 4, 1776. The leaders preferred to say that they were "petitioners in arms" even after Lexington and Concord, and Bunker Hill, and many of them doubtless had determination for independence. But the people in many localities were ripe for independence. So it is not to be wondered that some of them made declarations.

One of the earliest of these Declarations was that of the people of Mendon, Mass., March 11, 1773. It speaks for itself, and here it is: "That all men have a natural and equal right to life, liberty and property. That all just and lawful government must originate in the free consent of the people. That the good, happiness and safety of the people is the great end of civil government. That a principle of self preservation, being justly planted by the God of Nature in every human breast, it is necessary, not only to the well-being of the individual, but also to the order of the universe, as attraction and cohesion are to the preservation of material bodies and the order of the natural world. That a voluntary renunciation of any power or privileges included in or necessarily connected with a principle of self preservation is manifestly acting counter to the will of the great Author of Nature, the Supreme Legislator, that a right to liberty and property is absolutely indispensable to the citizen of the parliament of Great Britain to the power of legislation for the colonies in all cases whatsoever is abhorrent to the spirit and genius of the British Constitution, to the letter of our charter and to the most obvious principles of reason and to the essential natural rights given us by God Almighty; and finally, That the introduction of standing armies in a free country in time of peace, without the consent of the people, is a violation of their rights as free men."

Then there is the Declaration of the people of Hanna's Town, May 10, 1776. On that day the men of that portion of the colony of Pennsylvania known as Laurel Mountain and embraced in the present limits of the county of Westmoreland, then, and for long afterwards claimed by Virginia county, in the Old Dominion, assembled at Hanna's Town, then the seat of justice, to take counsel on the situation. The first two paragraphs of the document adopted are as follows: "At a general meeting of the inhabitants of Westmoreland county, held at Hanna's Town, on May 10, 1776, for taking into consideration the very alarming situation of the country occasioned by the dispute with Great Britain, resolved unanimously, that the parliament of Great Britain by several late acts has declared the inhabitants of Massachusetts Bay to be in rebellion; and the ministry, by endeavoring to enforce said acts, has attempted to reduce the said inhabitants to a more wretched state of slavery than ever before existed in any country; not content with thus violating their constitutional and chartered privileges, they would strike their throats, they would strip them of their rights of humanity, exposing their lives to the wanton and unpunishable sport of a licentious soldiery and depriving them of the very means of subsistence. Resolved, unanimously, That there is no reason to doubt but the same system of tyranny and oppression will, should it meet with success in Massachusetts, be extended to other parts of America; it is therefore become the duty of every man who has any love for his country, or any bowels for posterity, by every means which God has put in his power, to resist and oppose the execution of the said acts, and be ready to oppose it with our lives and fortunes. And the better to enable us to accomplish it we will immediately form ourselves here at Hanna's Town into a company, and hereby make up out of the several townships under the following association, which is declared to be the Association of Westmoreland County."

And, finally, there is the famous so-called "Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence," adopted at Charlotte, Mecklenburg county, North Carolina, May 20, 1776, of which the first three resolutions are as follows: "Resolved, That whoever directly or indirectly, abetted, or in any way, form or manner, countenanced the unchartered and dangerous invasion of our rights, as claimed by Great Britain, is an enemy to this country, and hereby absolves ourselves from all allegiance to the British crown, and abjure all political connection, contact or association with that nation, who has wantonly trampled on our rights and indignantly shed the blood of American patriots at Lexington. Resolved, That we do hereby declare ourselves a free and independent people, and of right ought to be a sovereign and self-governing association, and the control of no power other than that of our God and the general government of the congress; to the maintenance of which independence we solemnly pledge to each other our mutual co-operation, our lives, our fortunes, and our souls, sacred honor."

The Mecklenburg convention was called for May 19. Its original purpose was to pronounce the annulment of all laws and commissions in consideration of the King's address of February declaring the colonies in a state of rebellion; and to make provision for a temporary form of government until instructions from the provincial congress regarding the independence of the colonies should be received. It was also, or so it was supposed, or so the legislative body of Great Britain resists its unjust and arbitrary pretensions with respect to the colonies. In this expectation an elaborate set of resolutions had been prepared. Discussion of these resolutions was interrupted by the arrival of a courier with the news of Lexington. The convention reassembled in a hurry of patriotism. It seethed and debated until well into the morning of May 20, when the quoted paragraphs were adopted as a preliminary to the regular business of the convention. It was declared that the Mecklenburgs did a good job. They organized a provisional central government. They sequestered all public and county taxes and all quit rents to the crown and declared traitors all persons who should accept new commissions from the crown or exercise old commissions. And they formed nine military companies for action—when the time should come.

Curiously enough, this Mecklenburg Declaration did not become generally known till 1819, forty-four years later, and then through publication in the Raleigh Register. In a publication caused an endorsement by the convention to go on, inasmuch as some historians still refuse to accept the genuineness of the document. In 1829 Jefferson and John Adams were both old men, and Adams said, in so many words, that Jefferson evidently had plagiarized. Jefferson angrily retorted that in his belief the document was spurious. The controversy over the genuineness of the Mecklenburg Declaration immediately became fast and furious. North Carolina finally took a hand in it, and in 1831 its legislature appointed a committee of investigation. This committee reported that the document was genuine. Accordingly, May 20th was made a state holiday, which is celebrated as the "Anniversary of the Signing of the Mecklenburg Declaration" in 1880 in Charlotte, and dedicated a monument in commemoration of the signing of the Mecklenburg Declaration. The historians have been busy all these years, and little by little the truth of the Mecklenburg has been built up, until now it is generally accepted. The contract of government signed in 1620 in the cabin of the Mayflower in Massachusetts Bay may be said in a sense to be the first Declaration of Independence, out of which grew the Declaration of Independence of 1776.

single bat having left the cave, says the Christian Science Monitor. American engineers stationed there told the officer that the flight of the bats had occurred at practically the same time each day during two years. From other sources it was learned that the phenomenon had been observed for at least 30 years. While Indiana has no anesthetics, properly speaking, their constant use of "cocca" creates insensibility. They always apply this plant to wounds, bruises, and contusions for healing purpose, and, as it certainly tends to deaden pain if not to eliminate it, they unconsciously employ an anesthetic. It is extremely difficult to obtain information from Indians regarding its properties, either merely because of the dislike of white men and their dread of interference and punishment, or because they associate "magic" with the practice and therefore think it must be protected by profound secrecy.

**Bats Breed in Cave**  
In a mountain near Mountain, Luzon, Philippine Islands, there is a large cavern, with many branching chambers, and a central dome 200 feet in height, perforating the mountain top, from which, in December last, an American officer saw issue a solid column of bats, which flew rapidly in a straight line, for 15 minutes, appearing over mountains and ranges in the direction of Manila, without a

# THE LAST GUEST.

IT WAS nearly the end of the season; in fact, it was for some of the wood folk, and as yet Mr. Fox had not given his yearly dinner party.

All the other had and were now waiting for an invitation from Mr. Fox before the roof lid was covered with snow and food sent.

But wise Mr. Fox was waiting with a purpose in view, and it was that Mr. Bear should begin his winter nap before the invitation was sent.

Of course, Mr. Fox intended to leave an invitation under Mr. Bear's door and pretend he didn't know he had gone to sleep, and so when he did at last hear Mr. Bear talking long, deep breaths he hurried home and got the invitations and slipped one under Mr. Bear's door, as well as under the doors of all the other wood folks.

The night of the dinner party everybody had arrived when Mr. Fox, looking very innocent, said: "Mr. Bear is late. I hope he has not fallen asleep. I know I am a little late in giving my party, but I was trying to get some very nice honey especially for Mr. Bear. I hope, after all my trouble, he is not going to miss it."

Mr. Coon said he passed Mr. Bear's house that afternoon and heard sounds that made him think he had begun his sleep for the winter.

Mr. Squirrel said he also ran past Mr. Bear's that very night on his way to the party and he was sure Mr. Bear was sound asleep from the noise he was making.

Mr. Rabbit said he, too, was sure there was no use waiting any longer for Mr. Bear, for he had noticed that all of the windows were closed in Mr. Bear's house as he passed.

Mr. Fox coughed to hide a smile which he could not hold back and said: "Too bad, too bad; and I had planned so on giving him a nice treat. Well, we may as well begin, then, for I am afraid he has fallen asleep and won't come."

Mr. Fox had a big armchair which he said was to have been for Mr. Bear, but as he was not there to use it, he better sit in it himself.

It was the plan he had all the time, for Mr. Fox was very fond of comfort and planned to eat a great deal that night, as he had prepared things he especially liked for the party.

But he had hardly seated himself when the door opened and in came Mr. Bear, all out of breath from running.

He was smiling and in his paw he held the invitation that Mr. Fox had put under his door. "I almost missed it," he said, when he got his breath, "but I woke up and the moonlight shone on the floor just where the invitation was and I jumped right up."

"Of course, I know what it was, for I was trying not to go to sleep for good until you gave this party, Mr. Fox. I knew you would be real disappointed if I did."

Mr. Fox, of course, said that was true and had to give up his chair to the late guest.

Mr. Bear did not waste time or words. He began to eat as soon as he was seated, beginning with the honey, which he finished in short order.

There was not enough left for even soup, just as Mr. Fox had thought, and as he lighted the guests out that night he looked up at the moon and shook his paw. "You see the meddling old fellow," he said, "that spoiled my party." And old Mr. Moon smiled back just as if he knew it and enjoyed the joke he had played on Mr. Fox.

(Copyright.)

# Betty Carpenter



Many followers of the "screen" pictures will readily recognize the countenance of Betty Carpenter, the popular "movie" star, who is smiling in a broad-brimmed hat of rough straw banded with wide orange ribbon in two shades and which is fringed at the sides to fall over the edge of the brim. The brim is bound with orange ribbon.

# HOW DO YOU SAY IT?

By C. N. LURIE

Common Errors in English and How to Avoid Them

"FURTHER" AND "FARTHER."

PROBABLY the best way of showing the difference between these two words, in correct usage, is to give examples. The following two sentences will illustrate this:

"My time is limited, so I shall not be able to go further into the subject."

"We have to travel ten miles farther before we reach our destination."

It will be seen from the foregoing examples that the word "further" is to be used when the writer or speaker intends to give the idea of quantity, or degree, and the word "farther" when the application is to actual distance. Thus, do not say, "San Francisco is further from New York than Chicago is," but "farther from New York." In the language of the grammarians, "farther" is the comparative of "far," and "further" is derived from the old Anglo-Saxon word "fore."

(Copyright.)

# The Right Thing at the Right Time

By MARY MARSHALL DUFFEE

## PLAYING CARDS.

"A wise player ought to accept his throws and score them, not bewail his luck."—Sophocles.

THERE are two sorts of rules for playing cards—if you know and follow one, you will be successful in playing the game for which those rules apply; but, you won't, unless you follow the other set of rules, be all sure of finding partners to play with. For most of us can forgive indifferent playing better than we can forgive the inconsiderate or ill-bred player, no matter how skillful he or she may be at the game.

So bear this in mind, if you wish to be the popular card-player. Unless someone has requested you to give instructions in the game and asked you for criticism, avoid the post-mortem. After the game is over do not turn to your partner and say: "Why didn't you return my lead in the fourth hand round?" or "Didn't you see, by my discard that I was strong in clubs? Why didn't you play them?"

The answer to these questions usually is that the player didn't play the game as well as might be, but most players don't like to be forced to admit it. Nor do they like to start an argument by asserting that what they did play was better. So make up your mind that when a hand is played, it is played. Don't bore those who are playing with you by telling them what a remarkable hand you had after the hand is played. If they have been watching the cards, they have seen that it was remarkable, but, anyway, they won't be interested in hearing about it afterwards.

Don't complain of your bad luck. When you do that the inference always is that you ascribe your poor success to your cards and your opponent's success merely to his good luck and not to his good playing. Yet there are persons who always, unless warning, assure us that they are having all the bad hands and that they play very much better when the cards favor them.

And here is an important "don't." Don't say "if you don't win." If you are one of those persons who always play a game without winning, you ought to put yourself on the list of those who do not play, for, somehow, when you show that you are not a good loser, you reveal something in your character that no one can admire. There is nothing so indicative of the truly well-bred person, as the ability to take defeat, whether in cards or in the affairs of business and social activity. The poor loser who always puts down as being no thoroughbred.

If you do not play a game fairly well, do not accept an invitation to play with others who probably play better. If you see that you will be conferring a kindness by playing when, perhaps, they need you to make up a game, tell them quite frankly that you play indifferently. If, after you have made this announcement, you are severely criticized by one of the players for some mistake in your play, do not insist on withdrawing from the game, quite unbecomingly, of course, if you have played several hands round. You should not make too much noise that no one can admire. It appears that you have been offended, but you have not been.

Authority.  
"Are you sure it was just a year ago today we became engaged, dear?"  
"Yes, I looked it up in my check-book this morning."

Much Taken With It.  
Mrs. Swellman—I want you to make my bathing suit this summer. I was much taken with the one you made me last season.  
Dressmaker—Indeed!  
Mrs. Swellman—Yes, the camera lens was simply camped on my trail—Boston Transcript.

Interpreting the Law.  
Warden (to prisoner)—You say you want a key. What in thunder are you going to use it for?  
Inmate—I want to sleep home at night—I was only sentenced to 30 days in jail.

A LINN O' CHEER.  
By John Kendrick Bangs.

A PREFERENCE.  
LET those who will devote their days to the study of a Maney-side. For I much prefer the boys. Of him who sings in terms of praise Chinese, it is a secret symbol which represents the secret thoughts of the soul and the sense of happiness and love.

Like its celestial counterpart, Juliet, for the name Juliet had its origin in the Julia's gens that preceded Roman civilization. Various legends are put forward to account for Juliet, but the generally accepted theory is that Juliet is the diminutive for "Julia" meaning divine, and was evolved in the same manner that Zeus, father of the gods, came to be the Roman Jupiter. If such is the case Juliet may fairly be called a daughter of the gods. The name has been carried to all nations in various forms; she is Giulia in Italy and Julija in Russia. In Brittany she is Sullian and Julianna in Spain. Wednesday is her lucky day, according to all historical and mystical indications, and number five is her fortunate number. (Copyright.)



I HAD MOST WISHED IT, HE SAID.

Mr. Bear did not waste time or words. He began to eat as soon as he was seated, beginning with the honey, which he finished in short order.

There was not enough left for even soup, just as Mr. Fox had thought, and as he lighted the guests out that night he looked up at the moon and shook his paw.

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