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Wyoming Valley—Wythe

science and tactics is also given. The University has organized a University Extension Association, which conducts extension lectures in all parts of the State; a Correspondence Teaching Department is also conducted, by which some of the work toward a degree may be done. The campus now occupied 40 acres in the eastern part of the city; the buildings are the Hall of Languages, the Mechanical Building, the Hall of Science, and the Gymnasium; the three first mentioned are built of gray sandstone, which is found near Laramie. The library in 1903 contained 10,000 volumes; the students numbered 181, of whom 21 were in the College of Liberal Arts, 50 in the Normal School, 47 in the School of Commerce, 16 in the College of Engineering, 15 in the School of Mines, 4 in the Graduate School, and 1 in the Department of Agriculture.

The University of Wyoming, though in numbers one of the smallest of the State universities, is well equipped and maintains a high standard of scholarship, as the real head of the educational system of the State.

Wyoming Valley, a crescent-shaped valley in Luzerne County, Pa., traversed by the northern end of the Susquehanna River; length 21 miles. It is a fertile alluvial plain, with rich deposits of anthracite coal, and is noted for its beautiful scenery. The valley was claimed by the colony of Connecticut as early as 1753, and was first settled by people from Connecticut; the ensuing dispute between Pennsylvania and Connecticut over this territory is known as the "Pennamite and Yankee war," and was not finally settled till after the Revolutionary War. (See PENNSYLVANIA; Wyoming Valley; and in 1778, when they were joined by the British force, including the

Wyon, wi'ôn, William, English engraver and designer of coins and medals: b. Birmingham 1795; d. Brighton, Sussex, 29 Oct. 1851. Having won several prizes for medals offered by the society of arts, he went in 1816 to London, and was appointed second engraver at the mint, a post which he filled until the close of his life. In 1832 he was elected an associate of the Royal Academy, and in 1838 an academician, being the first of his department who had ever obtained these honors. His works, comprising coins, cameos, not used, medals, and seals, are numerous. His coins cover a period of nearly 30 years, including the latter part of the reign of George IV., the reign of William IV., and the first 13 years of the reign of Victoria. To these are his war, scientific, artistic, and testimonial medals, executed from his own or from Flaxman's designs, and in the highest style of art.

Wyss, vis, Johann Rudolf, Swiss author: b. Bern 13 March 1751; d. there 31 March 1830. He was educated at various German universities, became professor of philosophy at Bern in 1806, and later also chief librarian. His "Der Schweizerische Robinson" (1812-13), an imitation of Defoe's novel, was translated into various languages, the first series appearing in English ("The Swiss Family Robinson") in 1820, the second in 1849. Wyss also wrote "Vorlesungen über das Höchste Gut" (1811), and "Idyllen und Epen aus der Schweiz, "and edited the collection "Alpenrose" (1811-30).

Wythe, with George, American patriot: b. 1726 in the county of Elizabeth City, Va., a short distance from Yorktown; d. Richmond, Va., 1806. One of his ancestors was George Keith (1639-1716), a Scotch Quaker, distinguished as a mathematician and Oriental scholar, who emigrated to America about 1684. On account of his radical religious views and his opposition to slavery, he was often imprisoned. On 15 Oct. 1693, Keith issued an "Exhortation and Caution against buying or keeping Negroes," a seemingly the earliest Quaker protest against slavery. These views were inherited by George Wythe. From his mother, Wythe received a "life-long bent toward classical scholarship. Even at the age of 80, he began to learn a new language. He was trained in the law by an uncle. Wythe's connection with the House of Burgesses, in Virginia, began on 27 Feb. 1752, on the eve of the French and Indian war. Hence he knew in a practical way the steps leading up to the Revolution, and when the Revolution came, he was destined to influence. He was a member of the Continental Congress, and one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence. He sat in the Philadelphia Convention of 1787, and enlisted himself to the support of the Constitution by Virginia the following year. For ten years he was a member of Virginia's supreme court of appeals, and for above 20 years sole chancellor of the State. However important and varied were such positions that he filled, George Wythe is not to be judged chiefly as statesman or jurist. He was greatest as teacher, and his most lasting work was the "ompressive influence of his singularly pure and lofty character. Either in his law office or as professor in William and Mary College, he was the teacher of Thomas Jefferson, John Marshall, James Monroe, Henry Clay, and scores of other men only less prominent than these. With Jefferson, in particular, Wythe maintained a friendship, and interchange of thought which had a bearing upon national concerns. So highly did Jefferson prize the work of Wythe as a teacher, that he exerted himself to establish, in 1779, in the College of William and Mary a chair of law, expressly for the occupancy of his master
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and friend, as he delighted to call Wythe. Wythe was the first professor of law in the United States. William and Mary College was the first institution of learning in the Commonwealth, and the first to have a chair of Municipal Law; George Wythe coming to such a professorship a few years after Sir William Blackstone. Jefferson, in writing from Paris in 1785 to Dr. Richard Price, an English opponent of slavery, gives striking evidence of his estimate of the services which Wythe was rendering to his country: "The College of William and Mary in Williamsburg, since the remodelling of its plan, is the place where are collected together all the young men (of Virginia) under preparation for public life. They are under the direction (most of them) of a Mr. Wythe, one of the most virtuous of characters, and whose sentiments on the subject of slavery are unequivocal." Henry Clay, in a letter of 3 May 1851, to B. B. Minor, says in reference to Wythe: "To no man was I more indebted; by his instructions, his advice, and his example, for the little intellectual improvement which I made, up to the period when, in my twenty-first year, I finally left the city of Richmond, a region almost entirely remote from me, its influence, says Manford, "of his genuine patriotism, to which I confess I am rendered most partial perhaps by my own experience of its effects, was his zeal for the education of youth. Harassed as he was with business; enveloped with perplexing papers, and intricate facts in chancery, he yet found time for many years to keep a private school for the instruction of a few young men at a time, always with very little, and often demanding no compensation." That Wythe conceived the training of publicists to be his true task appears from this sentence in a letter on 5 Dec. 1785, to John Adams: "A letter will meet me in Williamsburg, where I have again settled, assisting, as professor of law and police in the University there, to form such characters as may be fit to succeed those which have been ornamental and useful in the national councils of America." In three signal instances Wythe was a forerunner. As early as 1764, he wrote Virginia's first remonstrance to the House of Commons against the Stamp Act, taking so advanced a position in regard to that ominous Act as to alarm his fellow-burgesses. He was perhaps the first judge to lay down, in 1782, the cardinal principle that a court can annul a statute deemed repugnant to the Constitution, thus anticipating by a score of years the classic task appears from this sentence in a letter on 5 Dec. 1785, to John Adams: "A letter will meet me in Williamsburg, where I have again settled, assisting, as professor of law and police in the University there, to form such characters as may be fit to succeed those which have been ornamental and useful in the national councils of America." In three signal instances Wythe was a forerunner. As early as 1764, he wrote Virginia's first remonstrance to the House of Commons against the Stamp Act, taking so advanced a position in regard to that ominous Act as to alarm his fellow-burgesses. He was perhaps the first judge to lay down, in 1782, the cardinal principle that a court can annul a statute deemed repugnant to the Constitution, thus anticipating by a score of years the classic decision of his great pupil, John Marshall, in the case of Marbury v. Madison. He was an ardent advocate for the emancipation of the slaves, not only inducing his students with his abolition sentiment, but actually freeing his own slaves and making provision for them in his will. His death occurred in Richmond, Va., in 1806, from poison administered by his great-nephew, who hoped to come thus into the inheritance of his estate. "No man," says Jefferson, "ever left behind him a character more venerable than George Wythe. His virtue was of the purest kind; his integrity inflexible, and his justice exact; of warm patriotism, and devoted as he was to liberty and the natural and equal rights of men, he might truly be called the Cato of his country, without the avareness of the Roman; for a more disinterested person never lived. Temperance and regularity in all his habits gave him general good health, and his unaffected modesty and suavity of manner endeared him to every one. He was of easy elocution, his language character, methodical in the arrangement of his matter, learned and logical in the use of it, and of great urbanity in debate. Not quick of apprehension, but with a little time profound in penetration, and sound in conclusion. His style was unornamented, formed and proportioned, and the features of his face manly, comely, and engaging. Such was George Wythe, the honor of his own and the model of future times." S. C. Mitchell, Professor of History, Richmond College.

WYTHEVILLE, with'vil, Va., town, county-seat of Wythe County; on the Norfolk & Western Railroad; 130 miles west of Lynchburg and 215 miles southwest of Richmond. It is in a stock-raising and mining region and has considerable lumbering interests. The town has a county court-house, Trinity Hall Female College (Luth.), Wytheville Seminary (P. E.), Academy of the Visitation (R. C.), public schools, public libraries. The two state banks have a combined capital of $100,000. Pop. (1890) 2,570; (1900) 3,003.

WYTHEVILLE, Military Operations at. During the Civil War the lead mines and works near Wytheville assumed much importance. On 13 July 1863 Col. John T. Toland, with the 2d West Virginia cavalry and 34th Ohio mounted infantry, about 800 men, started from Fay­etteville, W. Va., to damage the lead works and destroy the railroad near Wytheville. On the evening of the 18th Toland arrived within five miles of the town and detaching two companies to destroy a railroad depot and track, 10 miles west, marched his remaining force into the town, which was defended by less than 200 men, under Maj. Bowyer, most of them distributed in houses and some in the streets supporting two guns. There was an obstinate fight in the streets, lasting an hour, when the town was taken, and 8 or 10 of the best houses burned. The two guns were captured, and some prisoners taken, but all were abandoned when the return march was taken up next morning. The command reached Fay­etteville on the 23d after a march of about 300 miles. The expedition had failed of its object with the loss of 78 killed, wounded, and missing, of whom 17 were killed, including Col. Toland and two other officers. Col. Powell, commanding the 2d West Virginia cavalry, was severely wounded and captured. The Confederates report a loss of 6 killed and 12 wounded. On 2 May 1864, Gen. Crook started from Charleston on the Kanawha to destroy the Vir­ginia and Tennessee Railroad and join Gen. Sigel in the Shenandoah Valley. One of his columns, of 2,600 cavalry, under Gen. Averell, was directed upon Saltville to destroy the saltworks, and then rejoin the main column under Crook at Dublin Station. After a very difficult march through the mountains and some sharp skirmishing Averell reached Tazewell Court House on the afternoon of the 8th, where he learned that Saltville was defended by earthworks and artillery, and was held in strength by Gen. W. E. Jones, upon which he abandoned

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