

# SONS *of the* REVOLUTION IN STATE OF VIRGINIA QUARTERLY MAGAZINE



APRIL  
1929

A magazine to keep alive the glorious traditions of the Revolutionary War.

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SONS OF THE REVOLUTION IN STATE OF VIRGINIA  
G. WATSON JAMES, JR., Editor

# SONS OF THE REVOLUTION

IN STATE OF VIRGINIA

## QUARTERLY MAGAZINE

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**Monument to Chancellor George Wythe**

**The First Virginia Signer of the Declaration of Independence  
First Professor of Law in the United States  
Teacher at William and Mary College of Randolph, Jefferson  
and Marshall**

**This monument will shortly be unveiled in historic St. John's Church  
Yard, Richmond, Va., within a stone's throw of where  
Patrick Henry made his famous speech.**

## AN ENGLISHMAN'S TRIBUTE TO CHANCELLOR WYTHE

By R. B. MUNFORD, JR.

In 1759, the Rev. Andrew Burnaby, D. D., an Englishman of culture, who was Archdeacon of Leicester, and Vicar of Greenwich, visited our country, and a few years later published an interesting account of his travels entitled: "Travels Through the Middle Settlements in North America in the Years 1759 and 1760, With Observations Upon the State of the Colonies."

Three editions of this work were published recently in looking over R. R. Wilson's reprint of the 1798 edition of this book (the third edition), I came across the following tribute to George Wythe, which I feel sure will be of interest to members of The Society of the Sons of the Revolution in Virginia and to the members of the other patriotic organizations that have contributed to the memorial stone to be placed at the grave of this great and good man.

Dr. Burnaby, the writer, had been describing the general characteristics of the Virginia people as observed by him and seems to feel that of those he had met in Virginia, one at least—George Wythe—deserved an individual tribute.

In a note then he speaks of Judge Wythe in the following terms: "Amongst others I can not resist the inclination of mentioning George Wythe, Esquire, who, to a perfect knowledge of the Greek language, which was taught him by his mother in the back woods, and of the ancient, particularly the Platonic, philosophy, had joined such a profound reverence for the Supreme Being, such respect for the divine laws, such philanthropy for mankind, such simplicity of manners, and such inflexible rectitude, and integrity of principle, as would have dignified a Roman Senator even in the most virtuous times of the republic."

