



The Mother of Washington and Her Times

Sara Agnes Rice Pryor

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This illustrated volume was published in 1907.

Some book reviews:

" One of the most charming books of the season is ' The Mother of Washington and Her Times,* by Mrs. Roger A. Pryor of New York City, It is by far the most accurate and lifelike pen portrait of this noble Colonial Dame ever published. Those who have the pleasure of reading Mrs. Pryor's book, as the writer has, with all the many authorities from which she quotes at hand, will fully appreciate the great labor required to prepare such a memoir. ... It is impossible to separate such a character from the times in which she lived. Mrs. Pryor has not only drawn an attractive likeness of this Virginia matron, but she has as attractively portrayed the history and manners of the day and locality in which she lived. This is an easy task only to a Virginian, or one who has long lived in the Old Dominion. ... It is doubtful if a fitter pen could be found to portray this feature of Virginia culture than Mrs. Pryor, who is ' to the manor born,' and was reared amid the memories of a past where, until the war for Southern independence, homes and lands were rarely changed, and families retained their social standing and customs from generation to generation."

— Horace Edwin Hayden in the New York Times

" Mrs. Pryor's book is thrice welcome. Although it is written along strictly historical lines, it is more fascinating than any novel. . . . The illustrations of the volume are many and beautiful, particularly the portraits in color." — The Boston Transcript

" Around the slender thread of her story, for really very little is known of her, Mrs. Pryor has twisted a pretty chain made of the anecdotes and incidents of her contemporaries, who lived the sort of life we have reason to suppose she carried on; there are many pleasing stories, and the habits and customs of the times are quaintly illustrated from old memoirs and journals and letters." — Springfield Republican

"The pictures which the author draws of Colonial society in Virginia are really very useful. After all to understand the people and things surrounding Washington's mother is to obtain a clearer notion of the manner of woman that she was. She was indubitably a type, one of those well-born women of the eighteenth century whose lives were powerfully governed by wholesome conventions. They all were taught the same lessons, not merely in the schoolroom, but in the sphere of morals and manners, and in a simpler day than our own they were apt to develop the same traits of courtesy, resourcefulness, and courage. Mary Washington was, in short, a representative woman. ... A good woman, with no brilliance of intellect, but well qualified to be the mother of a great man, Mrs. Pryor portrays in these pages. They are written in a smooth and interesting strain, and they are lavishly illustrated with portraits and views."

--- The Tribune, New York

Other books by this author:

- My Day, Reminiscences of a Long Life
- Reminiscences of Peace and War

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