

American Revolution to celebrate the adoption of the Flag, June 14th as Flag Day, and to commemorate it by displaying the Flag at our homes.

Mrs. Julius C. Burrows, first State Regent of Michigan, held office 1894-1895.

At Continental Congress of 1895, Mrs. Daniel Lothrop made a plea for a similar Society among the children. The first branch was formed in Concord, Massachusetts, and the first public meeting was held at the Old South Meeting House, Boston.

In 1895, applications for membership outside of the United States were received for the first time, including Geneva, Switzerland, South Africa, Naples and Paris.

February 20th, 1896, a Charter from the Congress of the United States was granted to our Society which was signed by Grover Cleveland and Adlai Stevenson, the real and personal property not to exceed \$500,000.00. The headquarters were established in Washington and, by the terms of the Charter, the Chapters were required to report annually to the Smithsonian Institution. Thus, in a way becoming a branch of the Government, it is mandatory that we render our annual Chapter Reports to the Smithsonian; but, also, it is a great patriotic opportunity for our work and our ideals to become better known throughout the United States.

In February, 1896, three Medals bearing the word "Founders" were presented to Miss Washington, Miss Desha and Mrs. Walworth. A separate medal bearing a pen and the word "Service" was given at the same time to Mrs. Mary S. Lockwood for special service through the Press in July, 1890.

In February, also, a Bill and Memorial was presented to Continental Congress to prevent the improper use of the Flag. The first Flag Committee was appointed and the proposed Bill was endorsed and the Memorial adopted and, that winter, presented to the Congress of the United States.

In April, 1898, the services of our National Society were offered to the President of the United States and to the Surgeon General of the Army and the Navy for the War with Spain. The Government asked if it would be possible for us to send fifty nurses. We organized a Hospital Corps and seventeen hundred nurses were certified and equipped.

Fifty thousand garments were made by the hands of the Daughters and \$60,000.00 was disbursed for the hospital work, Mrs. Amos G. Draper being Treasurer General. The sum of \$2,500.00 was voted for a steam launch for the Hospital Ship Missouri to be

presented to the Government and \$300,000.00 was raised privately to help the soldiers and sailors.

On July 3d, 1900, in commemoration of the one hundred and fifth anniversary of George Washington taking command of the American Army, the statue of George Washington, presented by the women of America, was unveiled at the Paris Exposition; and upon July 4th, a plaster replica statue of Lafayette from the children of America was unveiled in Paris. (This was replaced by a completed statue in 1908.) By appointment from President McKinley, Mrs. Daniel Manning, President General, 1898-1901, represented the United States and our National Society at both ceremonies.

Thanksgiving Day, 1900, Miss Eugenia Washington, "Founder", died.

There were approximately thirty thousand Members at the close of the first decade of our Society's existence. Much historical work was accomplished in the next few years, such as locating graves of Revolutionary heroes, collecting relics of the Revolutionary period, marking historic buildings and adding Real Daughters to our membership.

Mrs. Daniel Manning, who was elected by Continental Congress, Chairman of Memorial Continental Hall Committee, the first President General to hold this Chairmanship, selected the ground for the building. She had the vision to see the future possibilities of the neighborhood which was at the time swamp-land, and could be secured at a comparatively low figure.

Mrs. Charles Fairbanks, President General from 1901-1905 was for years deeply interested in the erection of the Hall and gave much time and thought to it. In June, 1902, plans for the Hall were selected. The site originally chosen by Mrs. Manning was purchased at a cost of \$50,000.00. Edward Pearce Casey of New York was chosen as architect.

October 11th, 1902, the ground was broken, Mrs. Fairbanks turning the first sod, and Mrs. Mary S. Lockwood, who had the vision of a three story fire-proof brick building turning the second sod.

A Flag presented by the Sons of the American Revolution was first raised in February, 1903, by Miss Mary Desha and a Flag has flown almost continuously over our property ever since.

For thirteen years, the Society had been slowly collecting a Building Fund, brought each year to the Continental Congress as to a shrine. In April, 1904, the cornerstone was laid with fitting ceremony, the same trowel being used with which Washington laid the