

The Welsh in American History

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way was returning to him in evidences of boundless sympathy. His sick chamber was filled with flowers like a florist's bower, a rainbow about his sunset; they filled him with thoughts deep and tender; he saw them as the spirits of friends, thousands of them, coming now to strengthen his own; he looked upon them with measureless appreciation and understanding; and as he looked with failing eyes, they stretched farther and farther away, making a pathway that blended with the flowers within the Eternal Garden. And—over this beautiful way his spirit passed.

No farther seek his merits to disclose,
Or draw his frailties from their dread abode,
(There they alike in trembling hope repose)
The bosom of his Father and his God.

THE WELSH IN AMERICAN HISTORY

A very useful and upright class of citizens are the sons of David among us, and men of Welsh blood have played an important part in our history, according to Dr. Alexander Jones: "Seventeen of the signers of the Declaration of Independence were of Welsh origin, among them Thomas Jefferson. Other eminent Americans of Welsh descent were John and Samuel Adams, Jonathan Edwards, Yale, the founder of Yale College, General Harrison, Richard Henry Lee, and John Marshall. No less than six of our Presidents have had Welsh blood in their veins—Jefferson, Madison, Monroe, Harrison, and the two Adamses, John and John Quincy. Fourteen of the Revolutionary Generals were of Welsh origin, of whom Gen. Wayne was one. Martha Washington was the grand-daughter of a Welsh clergyman." Dr. Jones also adds (this was in 1855) that there are fifty thousand native Welshmen in the United States—and not one office holder among them.—*Des Moines Valley Whig*, Keokuk, Sept. 5, 1855. (In the Newspaper Division of the Historical, Memorial and Art Department of Iowa.)

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