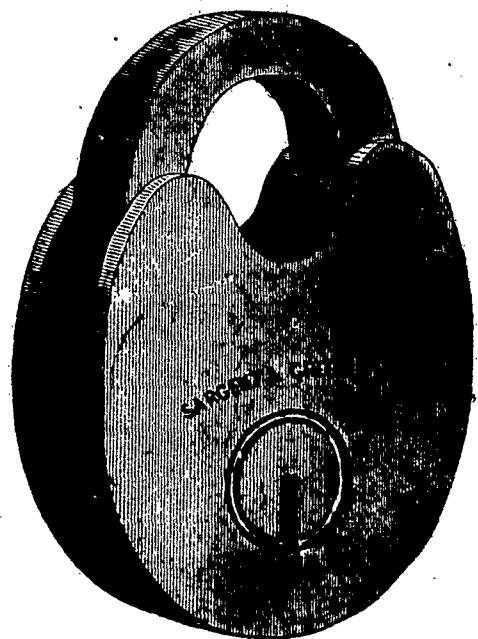


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### Americanism

By LEONARD WOOD

**PREAMBLE:** We, the people of the United States, in order to form a more perfect union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.—Preamble of the Constitution of the United States.

IT is upon the rock of the Great Document of which the preamble has been quoted, that our liberties are founded. The Constitution of the United States can be changed if the people so desire, but its fundamentals of freedom never can be changed if liberty is to endure.

The Constitution and Law and Order—the first means the other two and the other two mean the first. They are inseparable in their spirit and in their substance. The securing of the general welfare, which of course includes the blessings of liberty, was the object of the framers of the Constitution of the United States. The work of the framers and of the adopting states has stood until this day, and in those of its provisions which touch the vital matter of the people's liberty, it will stand for all time unless liberty is to leave us.

The Constitution was not adopted without trouble. Americans all but fought over some of its provisions. In order to secure its adoption it was necessary for the great minds of the country to bend their energies to the proper interpretation of its provisions in order that the people thoroughly might understand them and know beyond peradventure that liberty was safeguarded to the utmost by the proposed pact. There were men who thought sincerely that freedom was put in jeopardy by the Constitution. Those who so felt were unable rightly to interpret for themselves either the letter or the spirit of this work of the Fathers.

The Constitution should be better understood by the youth of America. The story of its framing, of the struggle for its adoption and its final sanction is not dry reading.

From the Constitution one gets the spirit of Americanism. The Constitution is the safeguard of our country, the bulwark of our freedom. On it all our laws are based. Outside of it there can be no legal or orderly procedure. Outside of it there can be no Americanism.

Feet are born—and so are prose writers, for the matter of that.

### Five Minute Chats on Our Presidents

By JAMES MORGAN

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#### SLUGS AND ARROWS

1877-9—Grant's tour of the world.

1880—June, defeated for nomination for third term in Republican national convention. Entered the firm of Grant & Ward, bankers in New York.

1884—Failure of Grant & Ward. Grant began to write his "Personal Memoirs." Afflicted with cancer of the throat.

1885—March 4, Congress revived the rank of General for him. July 23, died at Mt. McGregor, N. Y., aged sixty-three.



Ulysses S. Grant

WHEN Grant left the White House, freed from public care for the first time in 15 years, his uppermost wish was to visit his daughter, Mrs. Nellie Sartoris, in England, where he was adored by the public welcome that greeted his arrival. He was "puzzled to find himself a personage," said James Russell Lowell. But his political friends were quick to see in his triumphs abroad a chance to restore their own prestige at home, and they urged him on until he had completed a tour of the world, which remains, perhaps, unequalled in brilliance. As he went his way from London to Tokyo, emperors and kings honored him.

Coming home after a three year absence, he weakly yielded to the politicians who were using his name in a desperate adventure to regain power for the "Stewart" faction of the Republican party. But the unwritten law against a third term was violated in his defeat in the Republican convention of 1880.

Falling from the White House, he was tempted by a "young Napoleon of Finance" into the whirlpool of New York and to become a partner in a Wall street bank. Into that blind venture he put what little money he had and most of all . . . his name.

After three years he was rudely awakened from his dream of wealth by the "young Napoleon's" request that he go borrowing from William H. Vanderbilt to save the bank from crashing. He was lame from a fall on an icy street when the truth was broken to him, but he leaped into the Fifth Avenue palace of the multi-millionaire and came out with \$150,000 a common saying.

As he entered the bank, two days later, he was met with the crushing news that the firm of Grant & Ward

had gone down in a shameful failure. Hours afterward a clerk found the broken man still sitting at his desk in silent despair, his head dropped forward, his hands gripping the arms of his chair.

Out of bad came good. Grant opens his "Personal Memoirs" with a frank admission that he consented to write that great narrative only because he was living on borrowed money when a publisher proposed the undertaking. As he pursued his theme he was gratified to discover an unsuspected gift for unfolding a moving tale of his adventures and achievements in the field. He wrote on until he had finished a story as imposing in its directness and simplicity as his own nature. And the first sales of it brought him when he was gone more money than all the earnings of his lifetime.

One day, in the midst of his writing, as he was eating a peach, he felt a stabbing pain in his throat. A deadly cancer had him in its clutches. With grim heroism, he fought it until he had completed the two volumes of his "Memoirs," although he was reduced to the necessity of whispering his dictation in the ear of a stenographer. Finally he was left speechless and had to write out the closing chapters on a pad in his lap.

At the coming of summer, he was taken up state to a cottage on Mt. McGregor. There he silently welcomed, as he sat on the piazza, the visitors who came to see him, among them General Simon Bolivar Buckner. To that classmate at West Point and comrade at Fort Donelson, Grant gave his last message of rejoicing that his country had united North and South in a common sympathy.

True Americans love all three colors: Red, White and Blue.

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