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BERMUDAS HAD HISTORY LIKE U. S.

But Revolution Failed to Gain for Them Their Independence.

PEOPLE HELPED WASHINGTON

Supplied Ammunition With Which Continental Army Forced British to Evacuate Boston—Islands Discovered as Result of Shipwreck.

Washington, D. C.—"The Bermuda Islands suggest the adventures of Robinson Crusoe in their colonization and present in their later chronology a curious parallel to United States history, with the events consistently predated by a number of years."

With this statement the National Geographic society prefaces a bulletin on the Bermudas, a principal group of the British West Indies, which some Englishmen suggest should be ceded to the United States in part payment of the American war loans to Great Britain.

"The Robinson Crusoe comparison obtrudes because the islands were discovered and later settled as the direct result of shipwrecks, and the settlers had to build themselves a bark to set sail again," the bulletin continues.

"As for the anticipation of American history, on a miniature scale, it may be noted that the colonization took place seven years before the Pilgrims landed at Plymouth, Mass.; that witches were burned, Quakers were persecuted and miscreants were ducked before similar occurrences are recorded in New England, and that slavery was abolished in 1834. The Bermudians protested long before 1776 against the mother country's rule, until the island prisons were over full, but relief came, in their case, not through a declaration of freedom but by the accession of Cromwell.

Helped to Start Revolution.
"But the essential point of contact of the American with the Bermudian arises from the all-but-forgotten fact that while the immortal Lafayette gallantly helped the colonies conclude their war of independence, the Bermudians supplied the ammunition to begin it.

"So acute was the need for powder in 1775 that George Washington wrote to the governor of Rhode Island that 'no quantity of powder, however small, is beneath notice.' Learning that there was a store in Bermuda, and that the islanders were anxious to have the embargo lifted upon shipment of food supplies from the colonies, Washington addressed a letter to the people of the island, who had shown themselves sympathetic with the American Revolution, promising them ample supply of provisions and every other mark of affection and friendship which the grateful citizens of a free country can bestow upon its brethren and benefactors if they would make this ammunition available for the Continental army.

"It so happened that the powder had been procured before the letter was delivered, and with it the Continental army compelled the British to evacuate Boston.

A Winthrop Joined Tories.
"Not only the sale of powder but the fact that Bermuda allowed the colonies to have salt, so incensed the governor of Bermuda that he upbraided the citizens for treason, and feeling ran so high that he was removed. His successor was a native of Salem, Mass., whose loyalty to the mother country was such that he gave up large estates in the colonies rather than join the revolutionists. He was connected, both by blood and by marriage, with the Winthrop family. Under his rule the island's full allegiance to England was restored.

"Browne was succeeded by Henry Hamilton, during whose administration the town of Hamilton was founded and named for him. This town today is the seat of the island government. It has a population of less than 3,000.

"Hamilton is on Main Island, or Bermuda, while St. George, the former capital, is on the island of the same name. There are more than 300 small islands in the Bermuda group, of which only a score are inhabited. The total population of the islands in 1916 was little over 20,000, of whom about one-third were white. Bermuda suffered during the war by the cessation of the American tourist patronage, which had doubled the entire island population in preceding seasons.

"The Bermudas attracted visitors because of their mild climate, which knew no frosts, and by their scenic beauty.

"Juan Bermudez, sailing from Spain to Cuba in 1515 with a cargo of hogs, discovered the islands when a storm blew him to their shores. Apparently he left some of the hogs there, for later visitors found the animals on the island. From him the islands were named, and thus originated the 'hog money' coins stamped with a hog on one side and a ship on the other, which still are preserved in various collections.

"The islands were settled through the efforts of Sir George Somers, who became impressed with their fertility and beauty during a sojourn enforced by the wrecking of the ship which was carrying him to Virginia."

For hundreds of years the Nile floods have not varied ten days in their arrival.

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NEW WIRELESS 12,500 MILES

Bordeaux Station to Reach French Colonies All Over the World.

Paris.—The new wireless station to be erected at Croix d'Elins near Bordeaux will have a sending radius of 12,500 miles, according to the Excelsior. It will be one of the most powerful wireless stations in the world, the power adds, with five times the strength of the Eiffel Tower, three times that of Lyons and twice that of Haum. The station will have a capacity of 72,000 words daily and will reach all the French colonies throughout the world.

In Bed Twelve Years.
English, Ind.—Mrs. Nancy Stroud is dead, the end coming at the home of Eli Stroud, her grandson, near Marengo, at the age of ninety-nine years seven months and seventeen days. She had been an invalid for 12 years, during which time she had been confined to her bed, but her mind remained unimpaired to the last. Her husband, Riley Stroud, died many years ago, and one son, Amli Stroud of Milltown, the grandson and a number of great-grandchildren survive. Mrs. Stroud had been a member of the United Brethren church since early youth.

Didn't Like Untidy Ankles.
Luton, England.—Neat ankles and short skirts may be fashionable, but when scrubwomen at the local workhouse planned up their skirts and displayed pairs of rickety old boots as they got into action with the scrubbing brushes, the workhouse's guardians called an executive meeting and appropriated \$200 to buy them overalls.

250 Miles of War Medal Ribbon.
London.—Two hundred and fifty miles of British war medal ribbon are to be issued to the men and women entitled to these decorations through recent edicts of the king.