

INK & QUILL

TEXAS SOCIETY SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

Denton Chapter #23, TXSSAR Inc. Newsletter

"Patriotism, American History, & Education"

Our thanks to the Benjamin Lyon Chapter of the DAR

for inviting us to their Celebration/Luncheon November 14th. It was an excellent meeting which those of us who attended thoroughly enjoyed.

You might think that a lecture about women's dress would be mundane. You might be wrong. We watched, pretty much spellbound, as Grace Courtney dressed and re-dressed her two young teenage daughters in the styles of periods from the days before Columbus up through the late eighteen hundreds.

Surprisingly, the quality of underwear worn in those days of seemingly heavy clothing played a vital role in women's lives. Just enough underwear was exposed to reveal their status or class in life. The better the quality of underwear, the better the selection of potential husbands. Pantaloon, by the way, were worn by men and were a forerunner of trousers.

The degree of restrictiveness of clothing indicated class or status. If you could hardly move about, you had servants to do all your bending over.

We learned how the execution of Marie Antoinette, Queen of France, caused an abrupt change in the style of women's dress throughout the western world.

We saw how boxes called panniers were attached to each side, underneath the dress to give the appearance of hips up to six feet wide and how corsets squeezed the waistline to as small as 16 inches. The extreme width of these skirts even had an effect on architecture. Staircases had to be specially constructed to allow for the passage of the women. Young girls were forced into corsets beginning at age three and waist training began at age ten. We were even shown how ladies clothing was designed so that they could meet the call of nature without having to remove the layers and layers of clothing.

Suddenly it was over, and we were left eagerly waiting to hear and see more.

Next Meeting Dec 3rd

Bring wives & guests. Colonial dress welcome. Refreshments.

NEXT MEETING DEC. 3rd
7:00 pm Good Samaritan
Speaker: Curtis Flatt, President-
Dallas Chapter, Sons of the Republic
of Texas

Cancelled
Subject: Col. Banastre Tarleton-
Dashing rider who, showing no mercy, cut to pieces
a detachment of American cavalry, then destroyed Buford's
Virginia regiment near the North Carolina border

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VOICES PRECEDING THE REVOLUTION

“ Tarquin and Caesar had each his Brutus, Charles I had his Cromwell and George III - - - and George III may profit by their example. If that be treason, make the most of it.” - - - “I know not what course others may take, but as for me, give me liberty or give me death.”

Patrick Henry (1736 - 1799)

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