美国著名教育专家麦加菲倾注20年精力创造了一个1.3亿册的销售奇迹!

美国语文

美国各州学校必选的最佳课外读本!



美国人代代相传的经典作品, 培养了美国孩子和成人的阅读能力!

(下册)



美国《出版商周刊》评为仅次于《圣经》,人类有史以来最畅销的图书之一

响美国五代人心灵的经典畅销书!





华盛顿的性格 Character of Washington

哥伦布的性格 Character of Columbus

皮特先生的性格 Character of Mr. Pitt

本杰明·富兰克林初到费城 Franklin's Entry into Philadelphia

亚历山大大帝 Alexander the Great

小男孩和斧子 The Little Boy and the Hatchet 富兰克林的谈吐魅力

Colloquial Powers of Franklin

拿破仑的性格

6

10

Character of Napoleon Bonaparte

华盛顿颂歌 Eulogy on Washington

》 阿尔弗雷德大帝 Alfred the Great

马丁·路德的性格

Character of Martin Luther



华盛顿的性格

Character of Washington

The person of Washington was commanding, graceful, and fitly proportioned; his stature six feet, his chest broad and full, his limbs long and somewhat slender, but well-shaped and muscular. His features were regular and symmetrical, his eyes of a light blue color, and his whole countenance, in its quiet state, was grave, placid, and benignant. When alone, or not engaged in conversation, he appeared sedate and thoughtful; but when his attention was excited, his eye kindled quickly, and his face beamed with animation and intelligence.

Words and Phrases:

benignant [bi'nignənt]
adj. 仁慈的;有益的;和蔼的
apposite ['æpəzit] adj. 适当的;

seclusion [si'klu:ʒən]

n. 隔离,隔绝;隐居 austerity [ɔːˈsteriti] n. 节俭;

苦行;严厉

贴切的

He was not fluent in speech, but what he said was apposite, and listened to with the more interest as being known to come from the heart. He seldom attempted sallies of wit or humor, but no man received more pleasure from an exhibition of them by others; and, although contented in seclusion, he sought his chief happiness in society, and participated with delight in all its rational and innocent amusements. Without austority on the one hand, or an appearance of

adi. 热切的, 焦虑的

condescending familiarity on the other, he was affable, courteous, and cheerful; but it has often been remarked that there was a dignity in his person and manner not easy to be defined, which impressed everyone that saw him for the first time with an instinctive deference and awe. This may have arisen, in part, from a conviction of his superiority, as well as from the effect produced by his external form and deportment.

The character of his mind was unfolded in the public and private acts of his life; and the proofs of his greatness are seen almost as much in the one as the other. The same qualities which raised him to the ascendency he possessed over

the will of a nation, as the commander of armies and chief magistrate, caused him to be loved and respected as an individual. Wisdom, judgment, prudence, and firmness were his predominant traits. No man ever saw more clearly the relative importance of things and actions, or divested himself more entirely of the bias of personal interest, partiality, and prejudice, in discriminating between the true and the false, the right and the wrong, in all questions and subjects that were presented to him. He deliberated slowly, but decided surely; and when his decision was once formed he seldom reversed it, and never relaxed from the execution of a measure till it was completed. Courage, physical and moral, was a part of his nature; and, whether in battle, or in the midst of popular excitement, he was fearless of danger, and regardless of consequences to himself.

His ambition was of that noble kind which aims to excel in whatever it undertakes, and to acquire a power over the hearts of men by promoting their happiness and winning their affections. Sensitive to the approbation of others, and solicitous to deserve it, he made no concessions to gain their applause, either by flattering their vanity or yielding to their caprices. Cautious without timidity, bold without rashness, cool in counsel, deliberate but firm in action, clear in foresight,

patient under reverses, steady, persevering, and self-possessed, he met and conquered every obstacle that obstructed his path to honor, renown and success. More confident in the uprightness of his intention than in his resources, he sought knowledge and advice from other men. He chose his counselors with unerring sagacity; and his quick perception of the soundness of an opinion, and of the strong points in an argument, enabled him to draw to his aid the best fruits of their talents, and the light of their collected wisdom.

Words and Phrases:

sanctity ['sænktiti] n. 神圣, /'sænktəti/圣洁: 尊严 indiscretion [indiskrefən] n. 不慎重, 鲁莽; 轻率之举 subterfuge ['snbtəfju:d3]

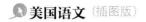
n. 借口, 托词: 诡计 dissimulation [di simju'lei[ən]

n. 假装, 掩饰; 虚伪

His moral qualities were in perfect harmony with those of his intellect. Duty was the ruling principle of his conduct; and the rare endowments of his understanding were not more constantly tasked to devise the best methods of affecting an object, than they were to guard the sanctity of conscience. No instance can be adduced in which he was actuated by a sinister motive or endeavored to attain an end by unworthy means. Truth, integrity, and justice were deeply rooted in his mind; and nothing could rouse his indignation so soon, or so utterly destroy his confidence, as the discovery of the want of these virtues in anyone whom he had trusted. Weaknesses, follies, indiscretions be could forgive; but subterfuge and dishonesty he never forgot, rarely pardoned.

He was candid and sincere, true to his friends, and faithful to all; neither practicing dissimulation, descending to artifice, nor holding out expectations which he did not intend should be realized. His passions were strong, and sometimes they broke out with vehemence: but he had the power of checking them in an instant. Perhaps self-control was the most remarkable trait of his character. It was, in part, the effect of discipline; yet he seems by nature to have possessed this power in a degree which has been denied to other men.

A Christian in faith and practice, he was habitually devout. His reverence for religion is seen in his example, his public communications, and his private



Words and Phrases:

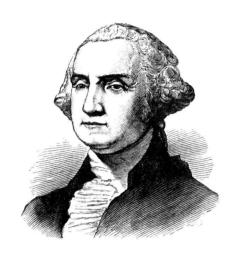
swerve [swə:v] / 突然转向, 转弯: 背离 writings. He uniformly ascribed his successes to the beneficent agency of the Supreme Being. Charitable and humane, he was liberal to the poor, and kind to those in distress. As a husband, son, and brother, he was tender and affectionate. Without vanity, ostentation, or pride, he never spoke of himself or his actions

unless required by circumstances which concerned the public interests.

As he was free from envy, so he had the good fortune to escape the envy of others by standing on an elevation which none could hope to attain. If he had one passion more strong than another it was love of his country. The purity and ardor of his patriotism were commensurate with the greatness of its object. Love of country in him was invested with the sacred obligation of a duty; and from the faithful discharge of this duty he never Swerved for a moment, either in thought or deed, through the whole period of his eventful career.

Such are some of the traits in the character of Washington, which have acquired for him the love and veneration of mankind. If they are not marked with the brilliancy, extravagance, and eccentricity, which, in other men, have excited the astonishment of the world, so neither are they tarnished by the follies, nor disgraced by the crimes of those men. It is the happy combination of rare talents and qualities, the harmonious union of the intellectual and moral powers, rather than the dazzling splendor of any one trait, which constitute the grandeur of his character. If the title of great man ought to be reserved for him who can not be charged with an indiscretion or a vice; who spent his life in establishing the independence, the glory, and durable prosperity of his country; who succeeded in all that he undertook; and whose successes were never won at the expense of honor, justice, integrity, or by the sacrifice of a single principle — this title will not be denied to Washington.

Jared Sparks





华盛顿的性格

华盛顿不但威风凛凛、举止优雅,而且身材匀称。他身高6英尺,胸膛宽而厚实,手脚很长,身材偏瘦,但体型匀称,肌肉发达。他五官整齐,眼睛为淡蓝色。华盛顿不说话的时候,整体给人一种严肃、沉着、亲切的感觉。当他一个人静处或者不与人交谈的时候,就表现得很安静,仿佛是在沉思。但当他一旦对某件事情感兴趣时,他的眼睛立刻变得很有神采,脸上散发出活泼睿智的光芒。

华盛顿说话不是很流利,但是他所说的话都非常恰当得体,让人觉得他所讲的一切都是发自内心的。他很少说出充满智慧的话语,也很少讲一些诙谐的笑话,但他却能给他的听众带来从其他人那里得不到的愉悦。尽管他喜欢独处,却将奉献社会作为人生最大的乐事,并欣然和大家共同分享快乐。他既不严厉,也不过分谦逊,而是亲切和蔼、温文有礼,能够让身边的人都感到十分愉快。尽管如此,他身上也总是有一种难以言说的高贵气质,令初次见到他的人对他印象深刻,并不自觉地对他充满尊敬与敬畏。这一方面也许是因为自身的优越感,同时也是因为他庄重的外表和优雅的举止。

华盛顿在公共场合和私人活动中展现出的思想性格都充分证明了他的伟大。正是这一品质使得他成为军队的总司令和国家的最高行政长官,获得了掌握一个国家命运的权力,同时深受民众的爱戴。睿智、果断、谨慎、坚毅是他最显著的特点。在处理提交给他的所有的问题和事务时,没有谁能够像他那样,清楚地分辨出相

♪美国语文(插图版)

对重要的事情;也没有谁能够像他那样,在分辨是非对错时,彻底地摆脱个人的爱好、偏袒和偏见。他思考得很慢,但作出决定时却十分肯定,而且他一旦作出了决定,就很少改变,并不遗余力地执行这一措施直到它得到贯彻的实施。无论是在身体上还是在精神上,他都非常具有勇气,这是他本质的一部分。不管是在战场上,还是在面对激昂的群众时,他都不惧危险,也不考虑对自己造成的后果。

华盛顿志向高远。他的目标就是不管付出怎样的代价,都要促使人们获得幸福,从而赢得人们的心和爱。他对人们的嘉许很敏感,而且非常渴望得到人们的嘉许。所以无论是通过满足人们的虚荣心,还是屈服于他们的反复无常,他都坚决地争取人们的嘉许。他谨慎但不胆怯,大胆却不鲁莽;在思考时冷静沉着,在做事时坚定不移;对于未来他眼光锐利,遇到挫折他能耐心对待。在前进的道路上,他以坚定的脚步、坚忍的意志和沉着的态度克服了重重的困难与障碍,最终获得了成功、威望与荣耀。比起智谋,他对自己的正直更加自信。他常常从别人身上获得知识和建议。他选择那些一贯正确的人作为自己的顾问,他具有敏锐的观察力,能够使他判断出一种观点是否正确或者一条论据的重点,从而能够充分利用助手们的才能和智慧。

华盛顿品德高尚,与他的才能完美一致。他行为的主导原则是有责任心。他那罕见的理解力被用来捍卫良心的圣洁,而不是用来设计达到目的的最佳手段。没有证据证明他曾为不良的动机所驱使或者试图利用不光彩的手段来达到目的。诚实、正直和坚守正义深深植根于他的脑海中,没有什么比他发现自己信任的人缺乏这些品质更能激起他的愤慨,更能摧毁他的自信。他可以原谅软弱、愚蠢和鲁莽,但对于推卸责任和不诚实,他是永远也不会忘记和原谅的。

华盛顿对朋友公正无私,真挚忠诚。他对待朋友从不虚伪掩饰或曲意迎逢,也从来不会给朋友虚假的期望。他的感情是强烈的,有时候会因为过于强烈而爆发,但他能够在瞬间遏制住它们。也许自制正是他性格中最显著的特征。从某种程度上来说,自制是自律的结果。但华盛顿似乎天生就拥有别人无法获得的高度的自制力。

作为一个基督徒,华盛顿一贯忠实而又虔诚。他对宗教十分敬重,这一点在他的公开演讲和私人书信中都能够体现出来。他总是把自己的成功归功于万能的上帝。华盛顿为人宽厚仁慈,对穷人慷慨大方,对处于困境中的人亲切和善。作为丈夫、儿子和兄长的他,对家人既温柔又深情。他不虚荣,也从不炫耀,更不会趾高气扬。如果不是在关系到民众利益的情况下,他从不谈论自己或是自己的行为。

华盛顿从不嫉妒,所以他能够达到别人无法企及的境界,从而免于嫉妒的折磨。如果说他有一种情感胜于其他情感的话,那么这就是他对国家的爱。他对祖国的爱纯洁而炽热,这恰与他的伟大目标符合。这种强烈的爱国主义赋予了他神圣的职责。在他动荡的一生之中,他一直坚守着这一神圣职责,不管是在思想上还是在行动上,都从来没有动摇过。

这些都是华盛顿性格中的一些特征,这些特征为他赢得了人们的爱戴和尊敬。如果这些特征不被标上光辉、极端或古怪的标签并出现在其他人身上,那必将引起世界的震惊。而这些特征既不会因为人们的讥讽而暗淡无光,也不会因为某种罪行而变得可耻。正是这罕见的聪明才智与高贵品质的完美结合,智力与道德的和谐统一,而不仅只是其中一种光辉奇目的优点形成了华盛顿伟大的性格。"伟人"这个头衔理应授予一个从未有过轻率及恶行的人:他为了国家的独立、荣誉和持久的繁荣贡献了自己的一生;他所从事的事业全部都获得了成功;而他的成功从来都没有以牺牲荣誉、正义、诚实或者任何原则为代价。对于"伟人"这个头衔华盛顿当之无愧。

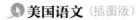
贾雷徳・斯帕克斯

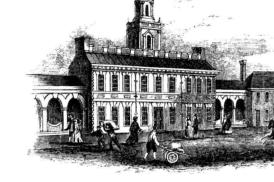
。背景知识。

贾雷德·斯帕克斯(1789-1866),出生于美国康涅狄格州的威灵顿,1815年从哈佛大学毕业。之后,他曾在哈佛大学担任过两年的指导老师。1819年,他被任命为巴尔的摩的一所基督教堂牧师。斯帕克斯于1823年返回波士顿,收购了《北美评论》,并担任社中惟一的编辑。从1839年到1849年,他在哈佛大学担任教授一职,并在之后的3年中担任哈佛大学校长。斯帕克斯写了许多关于美国历史和传记方面的论著,包括《华盛顿的一生》和《富兰克林的一生》。

Practice

Try to summarize the	characters	of Washington	described in	n the article	with
brief words.	5.				





2

富兰克林的谈吐魅力

Colloquial Powers of Franklin

Words and Phrases:

colloquial [kə'ləukwiəl]
adj. 口语的,会话的
perpetual [pər'petʃuəl]
adj. 永恒的,永久的
analogous [ə'næləgəs]
adj. 类似的,相似的
despotic [de'spɔtik]
adj. 专横的;暴虐的

Never have I known such a fireside companion. Great as he was both as a statesman and philosopher, he never shone in a light more winning than when he was seen in a domestic circle. It was once my good fortune to pass two or three weeks with him, at the house of a private gentleman, in the back part of Pennsylvania, and we were confined to the house during the whole of that time by the unintermitting constancy and depth of the snows. But confinement never could be felt where Franklin was an inmate. His cheerfulness and his colloquial powers spread

around him a perpetual spring.

When I speak, however, of his colloquial powers, I do not mean to awaken any notion analogous to that which Boswell has given us of Johnson. The conversation of the latter continually reminds one of the "pomp and circumstance of glorious war." It was, indeed, a perpetual contest for victory, or an arbitrary or despotic exaction

of homage to his superior talents. It was strong, acute, prompt, splendid, and vociferous; as loud, stormy, and sublime as those winds which he represents as shaking the Hebrides, and rocking the old castle which frowned on the dark-rolling sea beneath.

But one gets tired of storms, however sublime they may be, and longs for the more orderly current of nature. Of Franklin, no one ever became tired. There was no ambition of eloquence, no effort to shine in anything which came from him. There was nothing which made any demand upon either your allegiance or your admiration. His manner was as unaffected as infancy. It was nature's self. He talked like an old patriarch; and his plainness and simplicity put you at once at your ease, and gave you the full and free possession and use of your faculties. His thoughts were of a character to shine by their own light, without any adventitious aid.

Words and Phrases:

homage ['hɔmidʒ] n. 敬意; 效忠

vociferous [vəu'sifərəs]

adj. 喧哗的,大叫大嚷的
eloquence ['eləkwəns]

n.雄辩;口才 allegiance [ə'li:dʒəns] n. 忠诚, 效忠

unaffected [.ʌnəˈfektid] adj.不矫揉造作的,自然的 adventitious [ˌædvenˈtiʃəs]

adj. 偶然的;外来的salutary ['sæljutəri] adj. 有用的;有益的;有益健康的coruscation [ˌkɔrəs'keiʃən]

n. 闪光; 焕发; 灵光一现

They only required a medium of vision like his pure and simple style, to exhibit to the highest advantage their native radiance and beauty.

His cheerfulness was unremitting. It seemed to be as much the effect of a systematic and salutary exercise of the mind, as of its superior organization. His wit was of the first order. It did not show itself merely in occasional coruscations; but, without any effort or force on his part, it shed a constant stream of the purest light over the whole of his discourse. Whether in the company of commons or nobles, he was always the same plain man, always most perfectly at his ease, with his faculties in full play, and the full orbit of his genius forever clear and unclouded.

And then, the stores of his mind were inexhaustible. He had commenced life with an attention so vigilant that nothing had escaped his observation; and

Words and Phrases:

felicity **[fi'lisiti]** n. 幸福; 措辞得体恰当 a judgment so solid that every incident was turned to advantage. His youth had not been wasted in idleness, nor overcast by intemperance. He had been, all his life, a close and deep reader, as well as thinker; and by the force of his own powers, had wrought up the raw materials which he had gathered from

books, with such exquisite skill and felicity, that he has added a hundred fold to their original value, and justly made them his own.



William Wirt



富兰克林的谈吐魅力

我从来没有结识过像富兰克林这样随和的同伴。不管是作为政治家还是哲学家,他都很了不起,尤其是与家人在一起的时候,最能显示出他非凡的魅力。我曾有幸和他在宾夕法尼亚的一位朋友家中一起度过了两三周的时光。在那段时间里,因为大雪一直下个不停,地面上已积了厚厚的一层,我们被困在了家中。但因为有富兰克林和我们在一起,一点儿也没有被困的感觉。他很乐观,那富有魅力的谈吐让我们感觉如沐春风。

然而,我提到富兰克林的谈吐魅力,并不是要与博斯韦尔描写的约翰逊进行比较。后者的交谈方式总是让人联想到"大规模的光荣战争"。而事实上,约翰逊的

高谈阔论也的确是时刻在争夺胜利,蛮横地要赢得对方对自己卓越才华的尊重。他 语气强硬尖锐,头脑反应迅速,用词铺张华丽,并且说话声音响亮。他的谈话犹如 狂风暴雨,气势宏大,仿佛席卷了赫布里底群岛,撼动着岛上因下方黑潮汹涌而忧 虑的的古老城堡。

但是,人们会对这种狂风暴雨式的谈话感到厌倦,无论其内容有多么崇高。 他们渴望听到的是更加平静自然、井然有序的谈话。对于富兰克林,没有人会对 他产生厌倦。他谈话时从不刻意追求雄辩,或是努力要展现自己的才华。他没有 一丝一毫要你效忠和佩服的意思。他的谈吐方式像孩子一般真实自然,毫不造 作。他谈话时就像一位老族长,其真诚与坦率会让你立刻放松,并给你充分表现 自己才能的机会。他的观点本身就具有夺目的光彩,不需要其他任何外在的帮 助。只需要以简单纯粹的方式就能够最大程度地展现他思想本身的魅力。

富兰克林谈话时总是兴高采烈。这似乎是得益于清晰有序并坚持练习的头脑和一流的组织才能的缘故。他高超的智慧不是仅仅在特殊的场合才会展现出来,而是像涓涓的细流一样,不需刻意努力,就在他的整个谈话当中散发着夺目的光芒。无论是身处贵族还是平民之中,他都一如既往地朴素,以最轻松最完美的方式展现自己的才能和澄澈天赋。

于是,他的智慧源泉永不会枯竭。富兰克林自小就十分警惕,任何事物都不 曾逃脱他的观察。而他的判断能力又如此准确,能够把生活中的每个事件都转变成 对自己有利的机会。他没有虚度自己的青春,也没有放纵自己。他一生都是一个痴 迷的读书人,同时也是一位思想家。他凭借自己的努力,以精妙的技巧和恰当的措 辞,将书中的知识融会贯通,并大大增加他们的价值,从而成为自己的东西。

威廉・沃特

。背景知识。

威廉·沃特(1772~1834年),美国作家,同时也是一位政治家。出生于马里兰州的布莱登斯伯格。在他8岁那年双亲亡故。此后由叔叔抚养长大。他对知识充满了强烈的求知欲,经常废寝忘食地读书。后来他攻读法律,开始从事律师职业。他在政治方面也很有建树。从1817年到1829年任美国司法部长职务。威廉·沃特的作品主要有1803年发表的《一名英国间谍的书信》和在1817年发表的《帕特里克·亨利传》等。

美国语文 (插图版)

Practice

- 1. Which is not the feature of Johnson's conversation?
 - A. splendid
 - B. acute
 - C. tiring
 - D. unaffected
- 2. Which is not the feature of Franklin's conversation?
 - A. simple
 - B. vociferous
 - C. pure
 - D. natural
- 3. Among the following four statements, which is wrong?
 - A. Few people would feel tired of Franklin's conversations.
 - B. Franklin was the same plain when he was in the company of civilians and nobles.
 - C. Franklin always tried his best to present his eloquence in conversation.
 - D. Franklin had been vigilant when he was very young.

Answers

1. D 2. B 3. C





Columbus was a man of great and inventive genius. The operations of his mind were energetic, but irregular; bursting forth, at times, with that irresistible force which characterizes intellect of such an order. His ambition was lofty and noble, inspiring him with high thoughts and an anxiety to distinguish himself by great achievements. He aimed at dignity and wealth in the same elevated spirit with which he sought renown; they were to rise from the territories he should discover, and be commensurate in importance.

His conduct was characterized by the grandeur of his views and the magnanimity

Words and Phrases:
lofty ['lɔfti] adj. 崇高的,高尚的
renown [ri'naun] n. 声誉;
名望
commensurate [kə'menʃərit]
adj. 相称的,成比例的
magnanimity
[ˌmæɡnə'niməti]
n. 宽宏大量;慷慨
ravage ['rævidʒ] v. 毁坏,

of his spirit. Instead of ravaging the newly-found countries, like many of his cotemporary discoverers, who were intent only on immediate gain, he regarded them with the eyes of a legislator; he sought to colonize and cultivate them, to civilize the natives, to build cities, introduce the useful arts, subject everything to

破坏;掠夺

Words and Phrases:

rabble ['ræbl] n. 乌合之众: 暴民 impetuous [im'petjuəs] adi. 冲动的; 猛烈的; 轻率的

exasperate [ig'zæspəreit] v. 激怒; 使恶化 supplicate ['sʌplikeit] v. 恳求, ケ求 atonement [ə'təunmənt]

n. 赎罪: 弥补 exalt [ig'zo:lt] v. 赞扬;提升; 加强

prostrate ['prostreit] v. 拜倒; 倒下

partake [pa:'teik] v. 参与;

分享; 吃, 喝

the control of law, order, and religion, and thus to found regular and prosperous empires. That he failed in this was the fault of the dissolute rabble which it was his misfortune to command. with whom all law was tyranny and all order oppression.

He was naturally irascible and impetuous, and keenly sensible to injury and injustice; yet the quickness of his temper was counteracted by the generosity and benevolence of his heart. The magnanimity of his nature shone forth through all the troubles of his stormy career. Though continually outraged in his dignity, braved in his authority, foiled in his plans, and endangered in his person by the seditions of turbulent and worthless men, and that, too, at times when suffering under anguish of body and anxiety of mind enough to exasperate the most patient, yet he restrained his valiant and

indignant spirit, and brought himself to forbear, and reason, and even to supplicate. Nor can the reader of the story of his eventful life fail to notice how free he was from all feeling of revenge, how ready to forgive and forget on the least sign of repentance and atonement. He has been exalted for his skill in controlling others, but far greater praise is due to him for the firmness he displayed in governing himself.

His piety was genuine and fervent. Religion mingled with the whole course of his thoughts and actions, and shone forth in his most private and unstudied writings. Whenever he made any great discovery he devoutly returned thanks to God. The voice of prayer and the melody of praise rose from his ships on discovering the new world, and his first action on landing was to prostrate himself upon the earth and offer up thanksgiving. All his great enterprises were undertaken in the name of the Holy Trinity, and he partook of the holy sacrament previous to embarkation. He observed the festivals of the church in the wildest situations. The Sabbath was to him a day of sacred rest, on which he would never sail from a port unless in case of extreme necessity. The religion thus deeply seated in his soul diffused a sober dignity and a benign composure over his whole deportment; his very language was pure and guarded, and free from all gross or irreverent expressions.

Words and Phrases:

discernible [di'sə:nəbl]

adj. 可辨别的

opulent ['opjulent]

adj. 富裕的, 充足的

A peculiar trait in his rich and varied character remains to be noticed; namely, that ardent and enthusiastic imagination which threw a magnificence over his whole course of thought. A poetical temperament is discernible throughout all his writings and in all his actions. We see it in all his descriptions of the beauties of the wild land he was discovering, in the enthusiasm with which he extolled the blandness of the temperature, the purity of the atmosphere, the fragrance of the air, "full of dew and sweetness," the verdure of the forests, the grandeur of the mountains, and the crystal purity of the running streams. It spread a glorious and golden world around him, and tinged everything with its own gorgeous colors.

With all the visionary fervor of his imagination, its fondest dreams fell short of the reality. He died in ignorance of the real grandeur of his discovery. Until his last breath, he entertained the idea that he had merely opened a new way to the old resorts of opulent commerce, and had discovered some of the wild regions of the East. What visions of glory would have broken upon his mind could he have known that he had indeed discovered a new continent equal to the old world in magnitude, and separated by two vast oceans from all the earth hitherto known by civilized man! How would his magnanimous spirit have been consoled amid the afflictions of age and the cares of penury, the neglect of a fickle public and the injustice of an ungrateful king, could he have anticipated the splendid empires which would arise in the beautiful world he had discovered, and the nations, and tongues, and languages which were to fill its land with his renown, and to revere and bless his name to the latest posterity!

Washington Irving