

bare faced soldiers - who left
their bloody foot prints on the
snows at Valley Forge

Saw him accept the surrender
of Cornwallis at Yorktown and
thereby ensure the freedom of
Thirteen struggling colonies.

Saw him taking leave of his
officers in New York City and saw
him, with tears in his eyes, exclaim
"I shall be obliged if each of you
will come and take me by the
hand" and finally, my friend,
we see him before the Continental
Congress, whose members remained
seated with their hats upon their
heads when he entered and prepared

to read his farewell - heard him
as he drew his spectacles from
his pocket say: "you see I have
grown old in your service"
What a strange thing in the
history of men - the history of
people - when we see a tobacco
farmer turning from the
chasing of foxes to the head
the struggle for liberty of a people
when we see him by tact
and persistence with an untrained
and sometimes rebellious army
of men, surrounded by Tories
or those who favored the
continuance of allegiance to England

Successfully combating the strongest
Kingdom on the face of the earth
and bringing independence to thirteen
struggling, passion torn colonies.

But strongest of all in regard to
this strongest and strongest of men
we find him classed not among
the warriors of the world or our
country but among the statesmen.

And we ask ourselves, why?

It was Washington who proposed
the constitution of the United States
and the solidifying of the colonies
into one strong, central government,
yet leaving to the States their
sovereignty and the balance of
power - the people's local self
government -

And it was Washington who
permeated his famous "Farewell
Address" one of the greatest
State papers ever written and
it was Washington who, in
fact organized, put into
operation a government of the
people which has become, under
the guidance of those long dead
hands, the greatest nation of
the world —