

## ***The Birthday Visit to Staunton***

**Hello, friends. Think about your favorite birthday ever! Family, presents, special foods, and cake - all played a part of YOUR special celebration. That was very much like a special birthday for Woodrow Wilson back in 1912. Wilson had just won the election for President of the United States and was about to become our 28th president. His birthday was December 28 so he decided to visit the town where he was born for his special day - Staunton, Virginia.**

**President-elect Wilson arrived by train at 8:27 pm where he was greeted by thousands of people excited to see our next president. A parade with military bands escorted him to the manse (home of the minister) where he had been born in 1856. After being greeted by Rev. Fraser, Wilson retired to bed to prepare for a busy birthday.**

**His special day was full of events. He made a speech at then, Mary Baldwin College, at noon - a 17 gun salute and parade, followed by a banquet at Staunton Military Academy. The guests enjoyed ham, turkey, rice, peas, spinach, corn pone and Lady Baltimore Cake. What a birthday to remember! What would his next birthday be like when he was living in the White House? What do you think?**