OUR NATION'S FLAG
IN STORY AND INCIDENT

COL. NICHOLAS SMITH

"Old Glory"—1903

Our Nation's Flag

In History and Incident

BY

COLONEL NICHOLAS SMITH

AUTHOR OF

Stories of Great National Songs, Hymns Historically Famous, and Songs from the Hearts of Women.

MILWAUKEE

THE YOUNG CHURCHMAN CO.

1903

THIS VOLUME IS DEDICATED TO

Mrs. FRANCES SAUNDERS KEMPSTER

CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE

TO PREVENT

THE DESECRATION OF OUR COUNTRY'S FLAG

OF THE

NATIONAL SOCIETY

DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

FOREWORD.

THE FLAG of our country was ordained one hundred and twenty-six years ago. During this period it has been unfurled in five memorable wars besides sixteen wars with Indians. My fellow-countrymen cannot fail to be deeply interested in the story which tells how this flag came into being and the great events connected with its evolution.

Historical sketches of "Old Glory" in newspapers and magazines are abundant but fragmentary. Not including the present volume only eight or nine books have been written on the flag. This is a small number when the greatness of the theme is considered. General Schuyler Hamilton was its pioneer historian, his small but valuable volume appearing in 1852. Admiral George Henry Preble published his exhaustive work on the flags of all nations twenty-five years ago. He gives much space to the American flag, but the bulk of the volume and the peculiar style in which it was compiled and edited make it more suitable as a reference book for public libraries than for popular reading. Other books put forth since Preble's monumental work was issued are small, and, while in some degree meritorious, are not sufficiently comprehensive in scope and treatment.

My purpose in preparing this volume was to supply much that is lacking in other books on our Nation's flag. The story here given of the many banners used in the early part of the American Revolution, and of the first Stars and Stripes, is concise, straightforward

and, I firmly believe, reliable. Tradition is not accepted as history.

A feature peculiar to this volume is the synopses of the debates in the American Congress relative to the alterations of the flags of 1795 and 1818. There is nothing more curious and interesting in the history of the Star Spangled Banner than those debates which have never before been published in any work on the flag.

A chapter of special value is the one giving the work being done by the Daughters of the American Revolution to save the flag from desecration.

I invoke the attention of the reader to sections Five and Seven as giving more valuable historical incidents with which the starry banner has been associated and more eloquent apostrophes to, and paragraphs about, the flag than all other books on that subject combined. Those seeking for important flag history and noteworthy incidents, and splendid "salutes" to the great emblem of human freedom, will find much that is useful and inspiring.

I am under obligation to United States Senator Henry Cabot Lodge of Massachusetts; United States Senator Albert J. Beveridge of Indiana; General John C. Black, commander-in-chief of the Grand Army of the Republic; General John B. Gordon; Colonel Henry Watterson; the Rev. H. Clay Trumbull; Mr. Jacob A. Riis; Mr. James Whitcomb Riley; Mr. Ogden Hoffman Fethers; Mr. C. P. Farrell, owner of copyright of Robert G. Ingersoll's works; Mrs. Catherine Gansevoort Lansing, Albany, N. Y.; the New York *Tribune;* and others, who have generously responded to the call for a helping hand in the preparation of the book.

NICHOLAS SMITH.

Milwaukee, Wis., September 28, 1903.

CONTENTS.

OUR NATION'S FLAG.

THE GREAT VARIETY OF FLAGS DURING THE EARLY PERIOD OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION.

"No tyrant hath claimed that flag for his own;
Its bright folds were never unfurled
To flatter or shelter the glare of a throne;
That banner was born for the world."

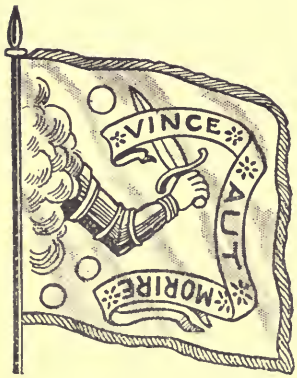
AMERICANS rightly claim that the most beautiful flag in the world is the Star Spangled Banner. It symbolizes the union of the greatest Republic on earth. It stands for all that is just, and true, and progressive, in National government. The American flag has been unfurled in more movements for the protection, the liberty, and the elevation of man, than any other flag that ever waved triumphantly on the wings of the wind. Over half a million human lives have been laid on the altar of Freedom that the Stars and Stripes might wave over a united and peaceful people. Not counting the changes which have been made in the number of stars which brighten its blue

field, our flag is older than that of either Great Britain, France, Germany, Italy, Sweden, Portugal, or Spain. The true story of a banner that has never waved on any battle-field or ship-of-war but for the single purpose to defend and uplift mankind, is an inspiring study.

For nearly seventy years before the Revolutionary War broke out, the red ensign of Great Britain was generally adopted by the American colonies. It was called the Union flag, because in the upper corner next to the staff, which is called the canton, were the red cross of St. George, representing England; and the white cross, representing Scotland. The combination of these crosses which indicated a union character, was prescribed in 1707. While the colonists were not lacking in devotion to the British ensign in pre-revolutionary times, they nevertheless took occasion to place some particular device upon it applicable to the individual colony to which it belonged.

Some writers contend that it is difficult to describe with accuracy the first flag under which a battle for American independence was fought. Others claim that there was no standard carried either at Lexington or Concord—the first battles of the Revolution, and fought on the same day—April nineteenth, 1775. But this is an error. Captain Nathaniel Page, of the minute men of the

town of Bedford, Massachusetts, was flag-bearer of his company at Concord when Emerson's "embattled farmers fired the shot heard round the world." His standard had a maroon ground, bore an outstretched hand grasping a sword, and on a scroll was imprinted the motto, *Vince aut morire,* signifying, "Con or die." A report on this peculiar standard made to the Massachusetts Historical Society in January, 1886, says it was originally designed in England as far back as 1660-70 for the three-county troop in the "Bay State," and became one of the accepted standards of the organized militia of that colony, and as such was used by the Bedford company.



Concord Flag 1778.

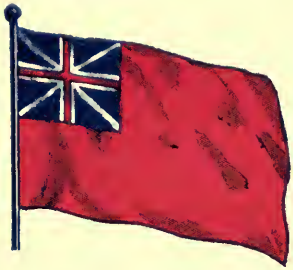
Miss Frances A. Wood, librarian of the Public Library at Bedford, writes the author concerning this valuable relic of the Revolution, that the Concord flag is not only a fact, but that it now occupies a place in a fire-proof vault in the library.

Some years ago Mr. William S. Appleton told the Massachusetts Historical Society that in his opinion the Concord flag far exceeds in historic

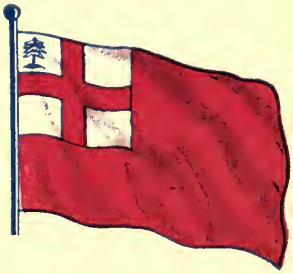
value the famed flag of Eutaw and Pulaski's banner, and it is the most precious memorial of its kind of which we have any knowledge.

The Liberty Tree.

In proportion to the number of men engaged, the most desperate battle of the Revolution was Bunker Hill, fought on the seventeenth of June, 1775. It was a contest between fifteen hundred Americans and two thousand and five hundred British. For an engagement of small forces it was one of the bloodiest and hardest fought battles of modern times. Four hundred and forty-nine Americans, and one thousand and fifty-four British, were either killed or wounded in the space of one hour's actual fighting. While some authorities claim that it is doubtful that the colonists carried a flag on that fateful Saturday afternoon, Benson J. Lossing, the greatest master of revolutionary history this country has produced, believes that the standard raised at Bunker Hill was the time-honored New England flag. Its ground was blue, the red cross of St. George was in the inner corner quartering a white field, and in the upper inner quarter was the figure of a pine tree. While the colonists expressed their loyalty to England by placing the cross of St. George on their flag, they asserted their right to place on the same banner an emblem symbolical of the sturdy manhood of New England.



Red Ensign of Great Britain
1707



Pine Tree Flag of New England
1704.

Bunker Hill Flag
1775.

Colonel Moultrie's Flag
1775.

One reason for supposing that the colonists were without colors is that in the third charge by the British which gave them the victory, no flag or standard of any kind was seen or taken. In a success so sweeping it would seem almost certain that an American flag would have been captured by the enemy had one been on the field.

An ensign that was much used for many years prior to the Revolution is known as the pine tree flag of New England, and was in all respects like the so-called Bunker Hill flag except that its ground was red. Its use began as early as 1704.

John Trumbull, son of the distinguished Revolutionary patriot, Jonathan Trumbull, was one of America's best artists. One of his most famous paintings is "The Battle of Bunker Hill," which now occupies a place in the rotunda of the capital at Washington. In this composition Trumbull represents the Americans carrying a red flag, instead of blue, having a white center and a red cross and a green pine tree. Admiral Preble, in his large and valuable work on the flags of various Nations, says this representation of the Bunker Hill banner cannot be correct; and he suggests that painters frequently take a poet's license, and are not always particular in the accuracy of the accessories of their paintings. The illusions of history are varied and numerous. In the same battle-piece, Trumbull clothes General Israel Put-

nam in a splendid uniform of blue and scarlet when defending his guns, but the brave "Israelite," as he was often called, fought in his shirt sleeves and wore an old hat. The Admiral recalls the interesting incident that in Leutze's "Washington Crossing the Delaware," on Christmas Day, 1776, there is prominently displayed the American flag with the blue field and union of white stars, although the flag in the painting had no existence whatever until June fourteenth, 1777!

Just one month after the battle of Bunker Hill, General Putnam rallied his division at Prospect Hill, near Boston, and read a declaration of the Continental Congress which set forth the causes and necessity of taking up arms against England. The soldiers attested their approval of the declaration by loud cheering. A pathetic address was then delivered by the Rev. Abiel Leonard, chaplain to Putnam's regiment. A fervent prayer was made, and at the close a grand Amen! came from the assembled troops. Following a salute of thunder-sound from the cannon, a beautiful flag was unfurled. It was a present, so it is said, from John Hancock, to the General and his men for their valorous deeds at Bunker Hill. It had a red ground, and on one side was the Connecticut motto, *Qui transtulit sustinet*, the English rendering being, "He who transplanted still sustains";

and on the reverse side, over a pine tree, was the early motto of Massachusetts, "An Appeal to Heaven." It is singular that no satisfactory illustration of this flag has been printed.

Associated with the history of our flag are two trees, the stories of which are worth telling. One became famous early in the Revolution, and the other was popular in Massachusetts some seventy years before the war for independence was declared. The pine tree appeared on silver coins of that colony as early as 1652, the dies being cut by Joseph Jenckes, at the Lynn iron works. Eventually the tree became a part of the New England flag, and has already been described.

The Bunker Hill Flag.

The Liberty Tree will always be invested with peculiar interest because of its connection with the stirring events during the decade prior to the Revolution. The grand old elm stood in a grove on the present site of Washington and Essex streets, Boston. Its precise location is marked by a building, on the front of which is an enduring bas-relief of the tree, and above it are the words, "Liberty Tree." At the root of the tree is the maxim, "Law and Order," and on the base is the legend, "Sons of Liberty, 1766." The following inscription was fastened for a long time to the giant elm:

"This tree was planted 1614, and pruned by the Sons of Liberty, February 14, 1766." A few years ago Lydia Bolles Newcomb wrote for *The Outlook* a bright article on "Songs and Ballads of the Revolution," in which she says that to the people of New England the Liberty Tree was the prototype of "Liberty enlightening the world," although they very dimly realized what the "signs of promise" were.

Many patriotic meetings were held under the wide-spreading branches of this majestic elm, and effigies of objectionable persons were hanged upon it during the excitement growing out of the stamp act. The colonists were full of righteous indignation in those days, and on the third of November, 1773, the Liberty Tree was the scene of an historic assembly. It had become known to the colonists that ships loaded with tea were on their way to Boston, and, gathering under the tree, resolutions were adopted prohibiting the consignees of the cargo from selling the tea on American soil, and demanding that it should be promptly returned to London. The resolve of the colonists was ignored, and on the sixth of December, 1773, the famous "Boston tea party" took place, when three hundred and forty chests of tea were cast into the bay. When the British re-occupied the city in 1774, the Liberty Tree was cut down, and fourteen cords of wood were made of its trunk and branches.

About this time, Thomas Paine, one of the most zealous patriots of the Revolution, and surely one of its ablest defenders, wrote a beautiful ballad entitled "Liberty Tree," which was first published in the *Pennsylvania Magazine.* I append the full text:

"In a chariot of light from the region of day
The Goddess of Liberty came;
Ten thousand celestials directed the way,
And hither conducted the dame.
A fair budding branch from the gardens above,
Where millions with millions agree,
She brought in her hand as a pledge of her love,
And the plant she named Liberty Tree.

"The celestial exotic struck deep in the ground;
Like a native it flourished and bore;
The fame of its fruit drew the nations around
To seek out this peaceable shore.
Unmindful of names or distinction they came;
For freemen like brothers agree.
With one spirit endued, they one friendship pursued,
And their temple was Liberty Tree.

"Beneath this fair tree, like the patriarchs of old,
Their bread in contentment they ate,
Unvexed with the troubles of silver and gold,
The cares of the grand and the great.
With timber and tar they old England supplied,
And supported her power on the sea;
Her battles they fought without getting a groat,
For the honor of Liberty Tree.

"But hear, O ye swains,—'tis a tale most profane,
How all the tyrannical powers,

Kings, Commons, and Lords, are uniting amain,
To cut down this guardian of ours.
From the East to the West, blow the trumpet to arms;
Through the land let the sound of it flee.
Let the far and the near all unite with a cheer,
In defence of our Liberty Tree."

It does not appear that many flags bore the legend, "Liberty Tree," during the early part of the Revolution. One carried by Commodore Hopkins has been illustrated, and of this I shall have something to say hereafter.

The Markoe Flag.

A beautiful and unique flag of historic interest made its appearance in 1775. When General Washington departed from Philadelphia in June of that year to take command of the army at Cambridge, near Boston, he was escorted to New York City by the Philadelphia troop of Light-horse. The banner carried by the troop was forty inches long and thirty-four inches wide, and was made of yellow silk, and both sides were alike. On a scroll beneath the shield are the words, "For these we strive." In an

Markoe Banner, 1775.

illustration given elsewhere, one simple design strikes the eye. In the upper left-hand corner are thirteen stripes, blue and silver, and this master-thought of the artist is of special significance because it was the first flag or banner of the Revolution to display, in any form, thirteen stripes to symbolize the thirteen colonies which were contending for their rights.

The banner was designed by John Folwell of Philadelphia, of whom, unfortunately, nothing is now known; and the painting was executed by James Claypole of that city. More than a century and a quarter have rolled by since that flag was made, yet it is fairly well preserved. It is placed between two plates of glass in an iron vault built expressly for that purpose, in the armory of the Philadelphia troop of Light-horse. The banner has been displayed only on a few notable occasions since 1830.

Abram Markoe, who presented the banner to the troop of Light-horse early in the summer of 1775, was an enthusiastic patriot, and was the organizer of the troop of which he was made captain. He was born in the Danish West Indies in 1729, and in early boyhood he settled in Philadelphia, and in the course of years became wealthy. Being a Danish subject, he was compelled to resign the captaincy of the troop when the neutrality edict of Christian VII. of Denmark, was promulgated.

The idea has been advanced, and it seems on reasonable ground, that the thirteen stripes on Captain Markoe's flag may have suggested to Washington the stripes for the new colonial flag hoisted at Cambridge, six months later.

The Cambridge Flag.

The origin of the first flag, which was distinctively colonial, is clouded with uncertainty. A great deal has been published in newspapers, magazines, and books concerning the flag, but much of what has been said is indifferent, and is tradition rather than history.

When Congress was in session in Philadelphia in September, 1775, it was asked to consider many pressing questions raised by General Washington, who was then at army headquarters at Cambridge. The Continental Congress did not count itself competent to legislate wisely on army affairs without a clearer understanding of the wishes and opinion of the commander-in-chief. To reach an intelligent consideration of all matters pertaining to the army as speedily as possible, Congress, on the thirtieth of September, 1775, appointed a committee of three, of which Benjamin Franklin was chairman, with instructions to repair immediately to Cambridge and confer with Washington and representatives from several colonies touching the

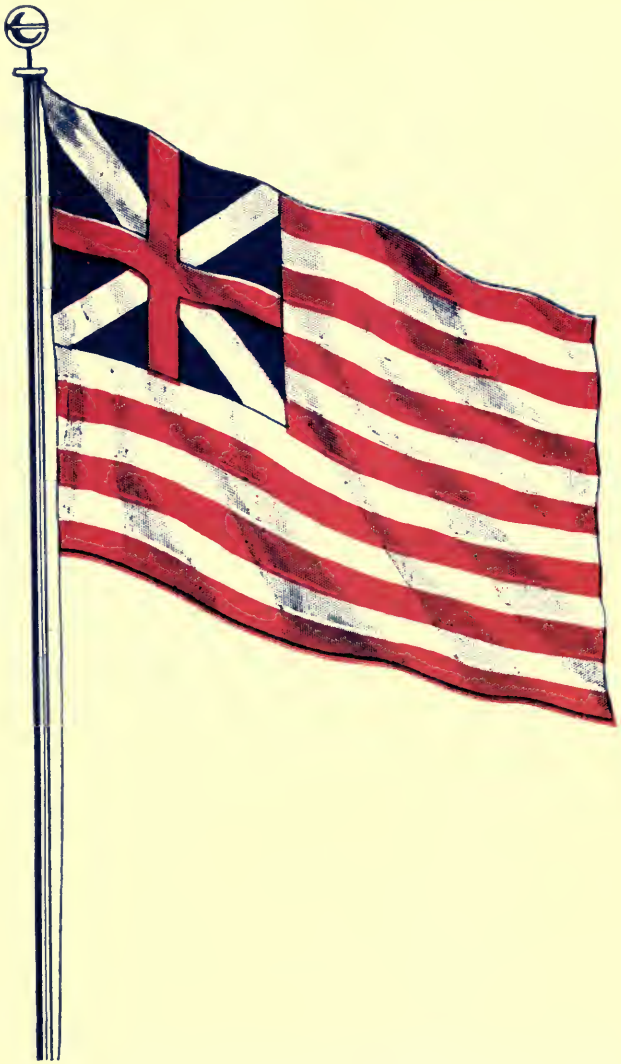
most effectual method of continuing, supporting, and regulating a Continental army. For reasons which have never been explained, this committee is alluded to by most writers on the subject as "a committee to design a flag," when according to all official records its appointment is no part of the history of the colonial banner which was first hoisted at Cambridge.

Writers on the American flag generally conceal the identity of two members of the committee by referring to them as simply "Mr. Harrison and Mr. Lynch." To the general reader this is as meaningless as it is unjust to the memory of those distinguished patriots. Benjamin Harrison of Virginia was a Colossus in the cause of liberty. He was a member of the Continental Congress, a signer of the Declaration of Independence, was father of President William Henry Harrison, and great-grandfather of our late President Benjamin Harrison. Thomas Lynch of South Carolina, was also a member of the Continental Congress, and served as a member of the Colonial Congress in 1765, and was reputed as a man of large ability.

The making of a new flag was a matter of great concern. It meant a forward movement and marked the beginning of a new order of things in the army. To symbolize the union of thirteen colonies by the beautiful blending of thirteen stripes, red and white, was of striking significance.

Yet the Journal of Congress does not mention the flag in connection with the appointment of this committee of conference. If these gentlemen had been authorized to make a flag to meet the new conditions under which a united colonial army was to fight for the rights and liberties of the American people, surely Congress would have suggested as much to the committee. The works of Franklin do not associate the flag with their official duties at Cambridge. Washington, always painstaking and methodical in noting on paper events which deeply concerned the colonists, omits in his numerous letters from the camp, any reference to the designing of a flag for the reorganized army.

A small book on the flag, published a few few years ago, says the flag committee arrived at Cambridge on the morning of the thirteenth of December, 1775. The author draws profusely upon his fancy when he says that immediately on the arrival of the committeemen they invited an unnamed person to join them in making a new flag, and that during the following night the stranger submitted a design that met the approval of Washington and Franklin, and was then and there "formally and unanimously" adopted by the committee. The proceedings of the American Congress, and the letters of Washington and Franklin tell us that the conference committee was



Cambridge Flag Hoisted by Washington, Jan. 2, 1776.

not at Cambridge at any time during the month of December, 1775. The members of the committee departed from Philadelphia on October fourth, and reached Washington's camp on the fifteenth of the same month. They were in conference with the General on official business from the eighteenth to the twenty-second of October. The committeemen left the camp in time to reach Philadelphia early in November to submit their report to Congress, in which not a word was said about a new flag for the new army.

However, some patriotic and thoughtful mind, not known to historians of our time, had done some right thinking about a new flag for a reorganized army, and on the second day of January, 1776, it was hoisted over the American camp at Cambridge. It was called the "Great Union Flag," and in one striking particular it was rightly named. It consisted of thirteen stripes, red and white, with the crosses of St. George and St. Andrew in the canton, from which it will be seen that the flag was only half American. Colonel Joseph Reed of Philadelphia, was Washington's military secretary, and he was also secretary of the conference committee, and it is possible that the peculiar feature of the Union flag may have been suggested by him. It is not too much to presume, although the probable evidence of such a presumption is not sufficiently strong to satisfy

some writers, that Washington may have been the inspiration of the stripes of red and white. However that may be, the design of the flag came within one step of being the Star Spangled Banner.

Those who fancy that Washington was not inclined to humor, will read with mingled surprise and pleasure, a quotation from a letter written by him to Colonel Reed, dated at Cambridge, January fourth, 1776, just after the hoisting of the new flag:

"We are at length favored with a sight of His Majesty's most gracious speech, breathing sentiments of tenderness for his deluded American subjects. A volume of them was sent out by the Boston gentry, and, farcical enough, we gave great joy to them (the red coats, I mean), without knowing or intending it; for on that day, the day which gave being to the new army, we had hoisted the union flag in compliment to the united colonists. But, behold! it was received in Boston as a token of the deep impression the speech had made upon us, and a sign of submission! By this time I presume they begin to think it strange that we have not made a formal surrender of our lines."

The flag of thirteen stripes which symbolized a union of the thirteen colonists, and was first unfurled at Cambridge, received considerable recognition during the year 1776. It is said that

when Commodore Esek Hopkins' American fleet sailed from Philadelphia in February of that year, he did so "amidst the acclamation of thousands assembled on the joyful occasion, with the display of a Union flag with thirteen stripes emblematical of the thirteen colonies."

The Crescent Flag and Sergeant Jasper.

The most famous of the flags used in the South at the beginning of the Revolutionary War, and which was peculiarly American, was designed by Colonel William Moultrie, who commanded the Second South Carolina infantry. In 1775 he began to prepare for the defense of Charleston, and when planning to make an assault on Fort Jackson, on James Island, he felt the need of a banner to pilot and cheer his men. He designed an ensign of blue, with a white crescent in the upper corner near the staff, and this was the first American flag hoisted in the South. Sometimes the word "Liberty" was inscribed upon it.

With these colors a body of patriots captured the fort, and afterwards it inspired Moultrie's command to drive the British out of Charleston Harbor. It was this flag that called forth the remarkable heroism of Sergeant William Jasper. He was a member of the Second South Carolina regiment, and was in Fort Moultrie on Sullivan's

Island in the main entrance to Charleston when, on the twenty-eighth of June, 1776, the British squadron poured a tempest of balls on the fort. In the hottest of the fire the flag of the fort was shot down and fell over the ramparts. Jasper leaped fearlessly through an embrasure, recovered the colors and held them in his hand on the parapet of the fort until another staff was found. His heroism was recognized by Governor Rutledge, who gave him his own sword, and offered him a lieutenant's commission, but the promotion was refused by Jasper on the ground that he could neither read nor write. In the assault by the British on Savannah on the ninth of October, 1779, Jasper received a mortal wound while making an effort to fasten the flag to the parapet. Georgia has not forgotten Sergeant Jasper's patriotism and bravery. A square in the city of Savannah, and a county in the state, bear his name.

Flags of Many Kinds.

For the first two years of the Revolution there was no sort of uniformity of battle-flags either on land or sea. Designs varying from the serious to the comic were displayed by the ever patriotic and hopeful colonists. The Cambridge flag, though the nearest approach to what may be called

a National flag that had been made up to that time, was not wholly American, and was not authorized by the American Congress. One emblem of supreme importance was lacking. The crosses of St. George and St. Andrew, which were emblematic of the union of England and Scotland, were a misrepresentation of the aspirations of the American colonists.

Let us see what kind of flags were in use during those two eventful years. The rattlesnake was not an uncommon emblem on flags, especially those carried by cruisers. The first commodore of the navy was Esek Hopkins, who was made commander-in-chief of a fleet of seventeen vessels late in the autumn of 1775; and with his commission Congress gave him a salary of one hundred and twenty-five dollars a month for his services! The commodore made several important captures early in the war, but was unfortunate in his relation with his officers. Charges were preferred against him by his enemies, and neglecting to respond to a citation to appear before a naval committee in Philadelphia, he was dismissed from the service in January, 1777.

In August, 1776, a portrait of the commodore was printed in London, in the background of which appears a portion of his fleet. On his right is a flag of thirteen stripes, without a union, a rattle-snake undulates diagonally across the sur-

face, and underneath is the defiant motto, "Don't tread on me." On the left of Commodore Hopkins is a second flag with a plain ground, a tree in the centre, and above it are the words, "Liberty Tree"; and on the lower margin is the sentiment found on many flags of that period, "An Appeal to God."

Liberty Tree Flag, 1776.

Paul Jones and His Flag.

A great deal of interesting history is connected with the naval career of John Paul Jones, who can aptly be called the most daring sea-rover in the annals of the American navy. His devotion to the flag under which he so valiantly fought, is as unquestionable as his fearlessness. In Mr. Augustus C. Buell's excellent life of the commodore he notes that enthusiasts have credited him with being "the first to hoist the flag on an American man-of-war; first to show it upon the sea; first to receive and acknowledge a salute to it from a foreign power; first to fight a naval battle under it; and first to decorate with it a man-of-war of the enemy taken prize in action." Jones was a

great sea-fighter, had won many victories under the flag to which he was so deeply devoted, and was a high-born patriot, but he was not without a commendable degree of modesty, and never claimed for himself more honor than even-handed justice would award him. In the course of these pages I think the reader will be particularly interested in the story of Paul Jones' connection with the flag which he honored with wondrous deeds.

Paul Jones was made a first lieutenant of the infant navy on the twenty-second of December, 1775. The commission was presented to him by John Hancock in person, in the old Hall of Independence, in Philadelphia. Upon receiving his commission Lieutenant Jones, in company with John Hancock, Thomas Jefferson, and several other distinguished persons, went aboard the *Alfred*—the flag-ship of Commander Hopkins—which anchored first off Chestnut wharf. Captain Saltonstall, commander of the vessel, being temporarily absent, Hancock directed the lieutenant to take command *pro tempore*. In obeying this order Jones flung to the breeze an ensign which has been called the first "flag of America" ever shown on a regular man-of-war. It was not the Stars and Stripes, but very likely was a combination of the pine tree and the rattle-snake, the tree in the centre and the snake coiled around its base in an attitude to strike, and below was the

motto, "Don't tread on me." Jones did not like the flag, and once spoke of it in his journal:

Flag of the Alfred.

"For my own part I could never see how or why a venemous serpent could be the combatant emblem of a brave and honest folk, fighting to be free. Of course I had no choice but to break the pennant as it was given to me. But I always abhorred the device and was glad when it was discarded for one much more symmetrical as well as appropriate, a year or so later."

From the day of the *Alfred* incident to the immortal success of the sinking of the *Bon Homme Richard,* the name of no other man is so closely and interestingly associated with the American flag as that of John Paul Jones. There has been much discussion in late years as to the character of the flag he hoisted over the *Alfred.* Mr. Buell, whose life of Jones is one of the latest, and I venture to say one of the most reliable, says it was the pine tree, the rattle-snake, and the motto already mentioned; but the late Admiral Preble, whose authority on flags of all nations is sometime hard to question, thinks there is good reason

for supposing that the "flag of America" which Jones unfurled on the *Alfred* was the union flag of thirteen stripes which Washington hoisted at Cambridge nearly two weeks after the event aboard Hopkins' flag-ship. He also suggests that the snake flag mentioned by Jones was the admiral's flag used by Hopkins and designed by Colonel Gadsden. Professor Edward S. Holden, in his excellent little story of the flag for school children, adopts the admiral's theory regarding the *Alfred's* flag when Jones broke the pennant; but his reason therefor is kept in the dark.

In the *Encyclopedia of American History,* edited by Lossing, and published by the Harpers, is an illustration of Paul Jones hoisting the "first flag of America" aboard the *Alfred.* There is no visible trace of any emblem on the flag except that of a rattle-snake undulating upon a white field. It is unfortunate that the editor should embellish a page of that great work by a meaningless cut, when it should have been his aim to represent fairly an important historical fact.

Some writers claim that the *Alfred's* flag was the pine tree, with the coiled snake around its base, and above the figures was the motto, "An appeal to Heaven," and below was the timely admonition, "Don't tread on me." Other "historians" affirm that the *Alfred* was seen to carry a flag of thirteen stripes with the undulating snake, and on

the lower white stripe was the popular defiant motto. General Schuyler Hamilton, who fifty years ago wrote the history of the National flag, considers it quite possible that the flag Jones flung to the breeze on the *Alfred,* had a yellow ground with a coiled snake in the middle, and under it the battle-brand, "Don't tread on me."

The "flag of America" at that particular time seems to have meant any sort of a flag which differed in every feature from the British union jack; and it is reasonable to suppose that Lieutenant Jones knew nothing of the Cambridge flag when he "broke the pennant" on the *Alfred,* for no account of its appearance in Philadelphia prior to February, 1776, can be found.

Gadsden's Standard.

A flag about which clusters a peculiar interest was designed by Colonel Christopher Gadsden while he was engaged in the defense of Charleston. He was a wealthy merchant, and was known as the frank, fearless Gadsden. He was eminent in scholarship, and read the Bible in languages in which it was originally written. In 1782 he was elected Governor of South Carolina, but declined to serve on account of impaired health. The flag of which he was proud had a bright yellow field, and in the centre was a coiled rattle-snake ready to strike if attacked, and below was the

common motto. In February, 1776, while a member of the naval committee, the colonel presented the flag to Congress with the expressed wish that it might be designated as the flag of the commander-in-chief of the navy. But the only action Congress took in relation to the matter was to thank Gadsden for his patriotic gift, and suspend the banner in the "Congress rooms." The "elegant standard," as the colonel was pleased to call it, decorated the hall of Congress for some years, but eventually it was removed by stealth, and all trace of it was lost. By what authority General Hamilton can say that the Gadsden flag was the one hoisted on the *Alfred,* is not known. Jones' flag bore the pine tree—Gadsden's did not.

Gadsden's Flag, 1776.

Pine Tree Flags.

There were several varieties of pine tree flags in the early part of the Revolution, but the assertion that the tree was officially adopted as a flag emblem by the Continental Congress in October, 1775, cannot be verified by the records of that body.

John Adams, who became President, and who thought Jones was the most ambitious and intriguing officer in the American navy, claimed that the honor of unfurling the first American flag on a battle-ship, should be awarded to Captain John Manly, who captured the British vessel *Nancy,* in November, 1775. Upon what evidence Adams should make this claim is not produced. Manly did not hold a commission from Congress when he commanded the *Lee* in 1775. The vessel was not a man-of-war, but a schooner engaged in the business of privateering, and was no part of the Continental navy. It is doubtful, furthermore, if the *Lee* carried any colonial flag at all, but if it did, no record of it has been preserved.

Laying aside all contentions as to whether the New England flag was presented at Bunker Hill, the earliest use of the pine tree on American flags of which we have any positive authority, was on the banner presented to General Putnam on Prospect Hill on the eighteenth of July, 1775. If we can take Lossing's *Field Book of the Revolution* into our confidence, the two powerful colonial floating batteries which opened fire on Boston in October, 1775, displayed the pine tree flag. Several cruisers were sent to sea in the autumn of that year under the pine tree flag and without any provision for a National ensign. About the same time the floating batteries on the Delaware—

equipped by the liberality and patriotism of Pennsylvania—also carried the pine tree banner. The council of Massachusetts adopted a resolution early in 1776, which provided that colors for the sea service should be a pine tree in the centre, and above it the fervent expression of the colonists, "An appeal to Heaven."

In Drake's *History of Boston,* he says the pine tree on the New England flags no more represents a pine tree than a cabbage. Perhaps this can be called hyperbolical criticism; and whatever Drake may have thought concerning the lack of accuracy in reproducing the pine tree on flags which were designed to express unity among the colonists and inspire the army of the Revolution with courage, the simple emblem was a power in the beginning of the struggle for American liberty. The pine tree was so much in mind as a patriotic symbol in those days that Colonel Joseph Reed, Washington's military secretary, requested Colonels Stephen Moylan and John Glover, who were in the service in Massachusetts Bay, "to fix upon some particular color for a

Flag of the Floating Batteries, 1776.

flag, and a signal by which American vessels could be recognized by each other." He then suggests: "What do you think of a flag with a white ground and a tree in the middle with the motto, 'An appeal to heaven'? This is the flag of our floating batteries." The flag which was suggested by Colonel Reed on the twentieth of October, 1775, was borne by the New Hampshire and Massachusetts regiments; and our lamented historian, John Fiske, says the same colors were carried by most naval vessels until the adoption of the new flag in June, 1777.

Among the many interesting incidents in the life of Commodore Samuel Tucker, is one which is inseparable from the flag. Washington commissioned him a captain in January, 1776, and placed him in command of the armed schooner *Franklin*. The severe need of money for strengthening the navy at that time is shown in the fact that all the small arms necessary for the vessel had to be bought and paid for out of the captain's private funds. The *Franklin* had no banner of any kind, and, acting upon Colonel Reed's suggestion as to the design, Mrs. Tucker made a flag with a white ground and a green union containing a pine tree, and furnished all the material at her own expense. The crowning result of Tucker's zealous patriotism and great seamanship, was the capture, within a few weeks, of the British vessels

Westmoreland County Flag.

Pulaski Banner—1778.

Rattlesnake Flag—1776.

George and *Arabella,* and before the close of 1776, while sailing under the home-made flag, his captures of ships of various grades, numbered not far from thirty. His career on the sea was remarkably successful; and at the time of his death in 1833, he was, excepting General Lafayette, the highest in rank of surviving officers of the Revolution.

Some Peculiar Flags.

An erroneous claim has been made that there is no authentic account of a snake flag being carried into battle by the army during the Revolution. Colonel John Proctor commanded a brigade from Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania, and the flag peculiar to his troops had a white ground. It bore the crosses of St. George and St. Andrew in the canton, and in the centre was the familiar rattle-snake coiled and in the attitude to strike the union jack; and below the reptile was the motto common to such flags. This flag was unfurled on the victorious battlefield of Trenton, December twenty-sixth, 1776; Princeton, January third, 1777; and was carried on through the Revolution. For many years the same flag was in possession of Mrs. Margaret C. Craig of New Alexandria, Pennsylvania; but recently the author received a letter from Miss Jane M. Craig, saying that since her grandmother's death, which occurred four

years previous, the famous colonial flag is now in the care of her mother, Mrs. Jane E. Craig. Miss Craig writes that the Proctor flag was presented to General Alexander Craig almost a hundred years ago, and that its present possessor is his granddaughter.

Another flag quite as unique as the one just described was used in Virginia. The Culpepper minute-men of that colony were part of a regiment commanded by Patrick Henry in the latter part of 1775. Their flag bore the snake device, accompanied by the warning motto, and Henry's stirring words, "Liberty or Death." On a scroll running lengthwise on the upper part of the flag were the words, "Culpepper minute-men." The men were as peculiar as their banner. They wore green hunting shirts, with "Liberty or Death" in large white letters on their bosoms; and in their belts were tomahawks and scalping knives. They fought the battle of Great Bridge (Norfolk), December ninth, 1775, in which only one American was lost, while the loss of the enemy was between fifty and sixty.

The rattle-snake device which found a place

on so many flags for the army and navy before the adoption of the stars and stripes in June, 1777, may have been suggested in Benjamin Franklin's printing office as far back as 1754, when he published the *Pennsylvania Gazette.* In urging mutual defense against the Indians he illustrated his idea in a wood-cut—a snake divided into ten parts (not thirteen, as some publications have it), with the legend, "Unite or die." This was a practical suggestion concerning the duty of unity in time of threatened danger; and twenty years later, when the spirit of independence took root in all the colonies, Franklin's idea, with some necessary modifications, as the previous pages show, was largely popularized.

There were many other flags and banners used by the colonial army contemporaneous with those already described, a few of which are here mentioned. The Morgan Rifles adopted a flag on which the date "1776" was placed in the field, and surrounded by a wreath of laurel was the inscription "XI. Virginia Regiment," and the words "Morgan Rifle Corps."

Count Casimir Pulaski, whose father perished in a dungeon for advocating the cause of Polish liberty, came to this country at the uprising of the American colonists, and joined the army of Washington. When engaged in organizing a corps of cavalry at Baltimore, the Moravian Sis-

ters at Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, made Pulaski a banner and sent it to him "with their blessing." It was of rich crimson silk, and was emblazoned with emblems. The banner was carried in the fatal assault on Savannah, Georgia, October ninth, 1779, when Count Pulaski, commanding both the French and American cavalry, fell mortally wounded, dying two days later.

A Flag with a Beautiful Story.

Colonel William Washington, a kinsman of General Washington, was commander of a cavalry force, and in 1780 was ordered to South Carolina. The story of the flag which led his command into several battles, is romantic and interesting. Soon after Colonel Washington went to Carolina, he became acquainted with Miss Jane Elliot, whose family lived ten miles west of Charleston. Between the two a friendship was formed which easily ripened into mutual love. A happy circumstance made it convenient for the colonel to pay a brief visit to his fiancee in the autumn of 1780, and when about to take his departure, Miss Elliott expressed the wish that she might soon hear good news of his "flag and fortune." But the colonel replied that his corps had no flag. It is never by accident that love and a noble purpose meet. The young patriot, as if by a motive in-

spired, took her scissors and quickly cut from a large red damask curtain a portion sufficient to make a banner of fair size, and when it was properly fringed, and attached to the curtain-pole, she presented it to him with the remark, "Take this, Colonel, and make it your standard."

The flag's first victory was at Cowpens, January seventeenth, 1781, and it also led Colonel Washington's forces at Eutaw Springs on the eighth of the following September, when it became familiarly known as the Eutaw flag, although the battle is said to have been a technical victory for the British. The flag was displayed at the centennial of the battle of Cowpens in 1881. It is the property of the Washington Light Infantry of Charleston, and was presented to them in 1827 by the same hands with which it was so quickly and singularly made, forty-seven years before.

Eutaw Flag.

Other flags and banners, peculiar to the various colonies, could be described if the scope of the volume would permit. All were not of equal consequence in an historic sense, but it can be safely said that all of them served a good purpose in that long and hard struggle which was carried on with steadfast courage and sublime patriotism, and finally accomplished American independence.

A GREAT HISTORIC EVENT.

THE MAKING OF THE FIRST STAR SPANGLED BANNER.

SATURDAY, the fourteenth day of June, 1777, marked the beginning of great things for the American colonists. For two years the grand little army of the Revolution had been fighting bravely and hopefully with varying fortunes, and in all that time Congress did not say a single word about a flag. Evidently, some master-spirit of the Revolution finally became sensible of the unwisdom of the confusion of flags and banners which had existed in the army and navy from the commencement of the war; and a new standard was fixed in his mind that would arise like a day-star in the hearts of the people.

The first authoritative action to establish and legalize a National flag is fraught with peculiar interest. If we take actual history for our guide,

no one knows who suggested either the stars or the stripes. It would be interesting to know what prophet stood up in the Continental Congress on Saturday morning, the fourteenth of June, 1777, and called for the adoption of the resolution which declared that "the flag of the thirteen United States be thirteen stripes, alternate red and white; that the union be thirteen stars, white, in a blue field, representing a new constellation." That was a memorable day in American history. It brought into being a genuine American flag that was to challenge the respect of all the powers of the earth, and became the emblem of more glorious deeds than any other flag in history.

There is no record of any debate on the flag resolution. Everything that was necessary to be said or done to reach the supreme event of that historic Saturday morning is now forgotten. All that we can judge is that the flag raised by Washington at Cambridge in January, 1776, was considered deficient by the American Congress. The standard had become obsolete. The colonies were growing in strength. There were no unfulfilled hopes. The Declaration of Independence had been made. A flag was wanted to harmonize with the growing spirit of Americanism, one that would beautifully symbolize the aspirations of the thirteen United States.

In the very hour that a new flag was ordained

another event of great import is recorded in the annals of the American Congress. It would seem as if Congress "had kept an eye on Paul Jones." Within a few minutes after the flag resolution was adopted, Captain John Roach was released from the command of the Continental ship-of-war *Ranger,* and Captain Jones was appointed commander in his stead. Professor Theodore W. Dwight of Columbia Law School, New York City, says the circumstance that the flag, ordained on the same day with the appointment of Paul Jones without any intervening act (save one), was not accidental. "It was of set, deliberate purpose. The achievements of the *Ranger* were thenceforward among the most stirring events of our history." But this matter will be referred to later on.

The Flag and Betsy Ross.

We cannot escape more or less difficulty when we search for light as to who designed and manufactured the first flag bearing the Stars and Stripes. The popular story bestows the honor upon Mrs. Betsy Ross. It is alleged that Congress appointed a committee composed of General Washington, Robert Morris, and George Ross to design a flag. These gentlemen called upon Mrs. Ross in the month of May or June, 1776, and commissioned her to make the first flag with thir-

teen stars to harmonize with the thirteen stripes which had been placed on the standard raised at Cambridge six months previous. Mrs. Ross enjoyed the reputation of being a needlewoman of superior skill, and was the owner of an upholstery shop at her little home, No. 239 Arch Street, Philadelphia. The story runs that General Washington made an imperfect drawing of a flag which embodied the stripes and the new constellation afterwards provided by Congress. The thirteen stars in the circle were six-pointed, and being peculiar to the British, Mrs. Ross suggested that a star of five points would be more symmetrical and appropriate, and the committee adopted it.

This story of the making of the first stars and stripes as early as 1776, comes from William J. Canby, a grandson of Mrs. Ross. In 1870 he read a paper on the American flag before the Pennsylvania Historical Society, in which he says that when a little boy his grandmother related to him the particulars concerning the making of the flag.

In contemporaneous accounts of flag-making by Mrs. Ross there is not a single recorded instance that a flag with stars was used during any portion of 1776. If Washington had assisted Mrs. Ross in designing the flag at the time given by Mr. Canby, surely the patriotism of the commander-in-chief of the army would have inspired

him to raise the Star Spangled Banner when he caused the Declaration of Independence to be read to his assembled troops in New York on the tenth of July following. That event was six or seven weeks after Washington is said to have ordered the flag of Mrs. Ross; and yet when the American troops in New York heard the Declaration of Independence read, the Cambridge flag, half British and half American, was unfurled. Evidently, the Star Spangled Banner had not been born.

Some other facts should be considered in connection with Mr. Canby's statements. The annals of the American Congress do not say that any committee was appointed to design a flag. Washington made no note of a visit to Mrs. Ross' house, and his writings do not contain a word that suggests when, where, or by whom the first American flag was made. Neither do any of the distinguished historians of the Revolutionary period give us light on this question. The newspapers of Philadelphia, issued at that time, did not chronicle any portion of the story as told by Mr. Canby. It recorded however on good authority that Mrs. Ross made State colors for vessels and batteries prior to June fourteenth, 1777, but it was not until after the stars and stripes were ordained that she became a Government flag-maker.

Recently a statement went out in the public prints that Washington was in Philadelphia in

June, 1777, to receive instructions from Congress, and on this occasion he designed the first flag, and that body immediately adopted the famous resolution which made his design the legalized National flag. But this is not history. Washington was with the army at Middlebrook, New Jersey, continuously from the latter part of May to July second, of that year.

There is hardly anything more surprising than the things which people generally do not know, and among those causes of astonishment in this country is the prevailing lack of knowledge concerning the origin of the American flag.

However much we may live in uncertainty as to how the Nation's flag was born, we do know that it was a new creation to symbolize American patriotism and independence, and from the third day of September, 1777, when the act of June the fourteenth was officially promulgated, the Star Spangled Banner was inseparably associated with the army of the Revolution in all its trying experiences, its defeats and victories, and final triumph.

How the Stars and Stripes Came Into Being.

A great many theories have been advanced in late years relative to the origin of the stars and stripes which beautify our flag. Numerous news-

papers, magazines, and books have sought to enlighten the public on this question, but little that is reliable has been learned from such contributions. Some very important events of history are involved in mystery, so is the combination of the stripes and stars which make "Old Glory" the most beautiful banner in the world. Much has been said in favor of the theory that they were taken from Washington's coat-of-arms, but it is hard to reconcile this supposition with the actual history of the flag. A hint has come from some writers that the thirteen stripes in the canton of the banner of the Philadelphia troop of Light-horse, which Washington first saw in June, 1775, were a suggestion for stripes in the flag hoisted at Cambrige six months later. While this seems to be quite possible, it is not accepted as conclusive by reliable historians of the flag. Perhaps the most rational explanation why the stars were chosen is that they, of all other devices, more appropriately symbolize the elevated purposes and lofty motives of the republic.

It would be interesting to know what became of the first flag made under the act of Congress in 1777. Was it raised in defense of American liberty? Was it baptized by fire on the field of battle? It has been claimed that it was borne on the field of Brandywine, September eleventh, 1777, when it went down to defeat against a supe-

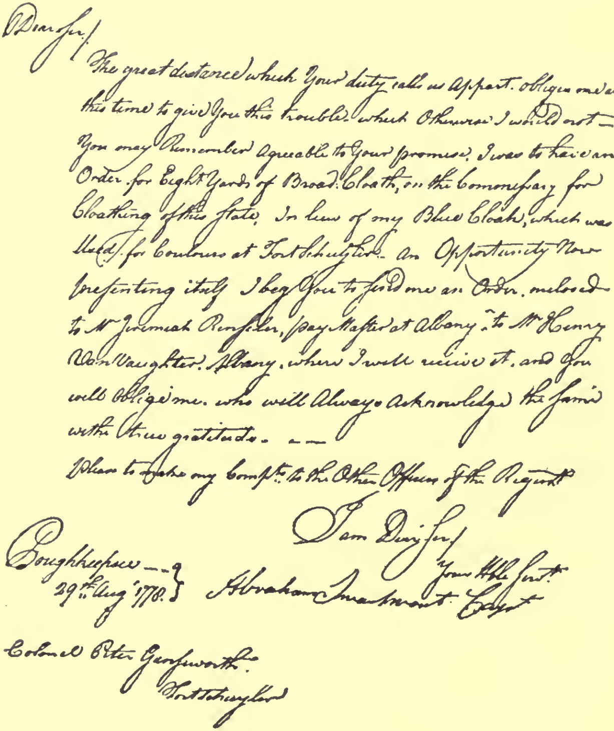
rior force; but the opinion that this was the first flag has not attained to any weight of character.

The Flag at Fort Schuyler.

There can scarcely be any doubt that the earliest use of the new flag in battle was at Fort Stanwix, re-named Schuyler, built on the site now occupied by the city of Rome, New York. The fort was without a flag or banner of any sort, and was invested by the British on the second of August, 1777. The event suggested to Commandant Peter Gansevoort and his brave officers and men, that they needed the inspiring force in an unfurled flag. They had heard that six weeks before Congress had created a new flag, and being determined to fight with American colors flying, Lossing tells us in his *Field-Book of the Revolution,* that shirts were cut up to form the white stripes, pieces of scarlet cloth were joined for the red, and the blue ground for the stars was made of a cloth cloak belonging to Captain Abraham Swartwout of Dutchess County, who was then in the fort. Before the sun went down on that day a unique flag—the genuine stars and stripes—was waving over Fort Stanwix. The courageous band of six hundred Americans pluckily resisted the siege for twenty days, when the flag, so curiously wrought, waved in triumph over the fort..

Many events of the Revolution have been discussed from various and conflicting view-points, and it would be strange indeed if there were not someone to challenge Lossing's account of the making of the Fort Schuyler flag. Colonel Marinus Willett, second in command at the fort, led, on the sixth of August, a successful sally against the main force of Colonel Bary St. Leger which resulted in the battle of Oriskany (some five or six miles from the fort), which the late historian, John Fiske, says was the most murderous battle of the Revolution. The colonel says: "The white stripes of the flag were cut out of ammunition shirts, furnished by the soldiers; the blue out of the camlet cloak taken away from the enemy at Peekskill; while the red stripes were made of different pieces of stuff found in the garrison." Mr. Fiske claims that the flag, "hastily extemporized out of a white shirt and an old blue jacket, and some stripes of red cloth from the petticoat of a soldier's wife, was the first American flag with stars and stripes that was ever hoisted."

I am indebted to Mrs. Abraham Lansing of Albany, New York, for the following facsimile of a letter written to Colonel Gansevoort by Captain Swartwout, in 1778, which is important in that it practically sustains Lossing's account of the making of the Fort Stanwix flag:



Dear Sir/

The great distance which Your duty calls us Appart. obliges me at this time to give You this trouble. which Otherwise I would not —
You may Remember agreeable to Your promise, I was to have an Order for Eight Yards of Broad Cloath, on the Commissary for Cloathing of this State, In lieu of my Blue Cloak, which was Used, for Colours at Fort Schuyler. An Opportunity Now presenting itself I beg You to send me an Order. inclosed to Mr Jeremiah Renseler, Pay Master at Albany — to Mr Henry Van Vaughter. Albany. where I will receive it. and You will Oblige me. who will Always acknowledge the same with true gratitude. — —

Please to make my Compts. to the Other Officers of the Regimt.

I am Dear Sir,
Your Hble Servt.

Poughkeepsie — 29th Aug 1778 } Abraham Swartwout. Capt

Colonel Peter Gansworth
Fort Schuyler

Some four or five years ago the Albany (New York) *Times* published the statement that the Fort Stanwix flag was then in possession of Mrs. Abraham Lansing of that city and had been dis-

played on several important events during the past few years. But Mrs. Lansing (Catherine Gansevoort Lansing), granddaughter of General Peter Gansevoort, writes the author that the flag referred to by the *Times* has now no existence. She never heard her father speak of ever having seen the flag, and inquiries made concerning it have never resulted in its discovery.

Notwithstanding the historical facts which have been presented relative to the service of the Stars and Stripes at Fort Schuyler, Delaware claims that the new flag was first hoisted in battle in that state. Mr. Henry C. Conrad, formerly librarian of the Historical Society of Delaware, maintains that the flag was first unfurled at Coach's Bridge on the third day of September, 1777, when the Americans met the British in a skirmish. At that place a monument was dedicated on the third of September, 1901, on which was inscribed:

"The Stars and Stripes were
First Unfurled in Battle at
Coach's Bridge,
September the 3d, 1777."

"Erected by the Patriotic
Societies and Citizens
of the State of Delaware,
September the 3d, 1901."

Mr. Conrad's reason for this claim is absurd. He says that "on August the second, 1777, a short skirmish or sally occurred at Fort Schuyler, New York, in which the Americans floated a rudely devised flag, intended to represent the ideas embodied in the resolve of Congress; and that all historians agree that the flag floated on that occasion was merely an improvised one, and in no sense a complete and regular flag of the United States."

In answering Mr. Conrad's theory, I cannot do better than to quote a few lines from an article contributed to the New York *Tribune* by Mr. Edward Hagaman Hall, Secretary of the American Scenic and Historical Preservation Society: "Thus the twenty days' siege at Fort Schuyler so courageously and successfully resisted is dismissed by Mr. Conrad as a short skirmish or rally, and the fine distinction drawn between a heroic siege with all its terrors of possible starvation and barbarous massacre, and a morning's skirmish at Coach's Bridge between two small bodies of troops formally drawn up in line of battle. I do not know of any historian who says that the Fort Schuyler flag was not 'complete,' although they do agree that it was improvised. It was under the folds of this flag that the brave Colonel Willett bore in triumph from

the battle-field (Oriskany) five captured British flags and much baggage and stores."

Jones and the First Flag.

Professor Dwight, from whom I have already quoted, says that the naval committee of Congress presented to Paul Jones the first official flag of the United States that was ever made. There is no official record, however, to confirm this statement. In his *Life of Paul Jones,* Mr. Buell says the captain displayed the new flag on the *Ranger* on the fourth of July, 1777, and made a special trip for that purpose from Boston to Portsmouth, New Hampshire, where the vessel was being fitted for sea.

Paul Jones' devotion to the flag is shown in what he said some time after Congress had bestowed upon him the honor of commanding the *Ranger:* "That flag and I are twins; born the same hour from the same womb of destiny. We cannot be parted in life or death. So long as we can float, we shall float together. If we must sink we shall go down as one."

He was right. The flag and Captain Jones were indeed born in the same hour. It was a fortunate conjunction of the flag and the man. One was ordained to be the symbol of sovereignty over the civilized world; and the other was re-born

to stand foremost among the bravest heroes of the sea.

The First Salute to the Stars and Stripes.

On the first of November, 1777, Captain Jones started across the sea in his little vessel to prowl about the British coast, and "distress the enemy" by capturing or annoying any craft that he might meet. On this memorable cruise he made an opportunity for a foreign power to salute our flag. Jones was a stickler for his rights as a commander of an American man-of-war, and a defender of the Stars and Stripes. He sailed near the French fleet then at Brest Road, and giving a salute, he demanded and received one in return for the new flag on the fourteenth of February, 1778. This was the first salute given the flag by a foreign power.

But some persons have tried to change the current of history as to the flag salute, by denying to Paul Jones the honor which undoubtedly belongs to him. At the present day this may seem to many a threadbare story, but from an historical view-point the matter is of great concern.

In 1819, John Adams, who manifested a deep interest in this subject, wrote a letter to Josiah Quincy in which he said that the first American

vessel—carrying the American ensign—to obtain a salute from a foreign power was the *Andreas Doria,* at St. Eustatia, in the Danish West Indies, in November, 1776. But it will be borne in mind that the flag carried by Jones and which received a salute from the French commander at Brest Road, was the authorized Stars and Stripes. The brig *Andreas Doria,* carried only a Continental ensign, perhaps the union flag that Washington hoisted at Cambridge, which was never legalized or recognized by the Continental Congress. It is a surprise that so eminent a statesman as the late James Birney, who was appointed minister to the Hague by President Grant, should contend that the flag of our country was first formally saluted by the Governor of St. Eustatia, when the incident occurred nearly eight months before the Stars and Stripes had a being! No stars on any flag were ever seen prior to the act of Congress in June, 1777.

The New Flag Across the Sea.

In April, 1778, Jones sailed from Brest and continued his phenomenal cruise. On the twenty-third of the month he fell in with the British man-of-war *Drake,* off Carrickfergus, Ireland, and after a battle of a little more than an hour, he compelled the captain to surrender. The little *Ranger* lost only eight men in killed and wounded,

while the *Drake,* of superior strength in fighting capacity, lost forty-two. Thus Jones was the first officer of the American navy to compel a regular British man-of-war to strike the cross of St. George and St. Andrew to the Stars and Stripes. The *Ranger* had extraordinary success while on the English coast, and after many stirring events which cannot be related here, the vessel which had never brought discredit upon the flag in any battle, passed from under the command of Paul Jones. The "sauciest craft afloat," as the *Ranger* was often called, returned home, and in 1780, while anchored in Charleston harbor she was captured by Sir Henry Clinton, commander of the British forces.

When Paul Jones was sent abroad to "vex the enemy" on the British coast, he was to act with almost unlimited orders under the commission and flag of the United States. The *Ranger* having been ordered back to America, Jones remained in Europe for some months—chiefly in France—seeking the good fortune to be placed in command of a squadron that he might renew his cruise with additional vigor and strength. Finally the French Government, with the approval of Dr. Franklin, one of the American Commissioners, placed at his command a squadron of five vessels, of which *le Duras* was the flag-ship. Desiring to compliment his friend Franklin, Jones,

with the Doctor's consent, changed the name of the ship to *Bon Homme Richard* (Poor Richard), the *nom de plume* of Franklin. Jones had retained the flag of the *Ranger* and transferred it to the *Richard* when he assumed command of the squadron.

The Richard and the Serapis.

In August, 1779, the squadron sailed from Isle de Groaix, France, to cruise around the British Islands. On the evening of September twenty-third, when close off Flamborough Head—a promontory of the Yorkshire coast—Jones fell in with the British ship *Serapis,* of forty-four guns, commanded by Captain Pearson. At seven o'clock and fifteen minutes, on a moonlight night, the *Richard,* carrying forty-two cannon, gave the *Serapis* a broadside, and this opened the most remarkable battle between two ships of war that was ever fought on the sea. The story of the battle cannot be given in these pages. Thackeray once told an American friend that the account of the amazing capture of the *Serapis* by Paul Jones was one of the most extraordinary stories ever recorded in naval history. I would advise everyone interested in the achievements of the American flag, to read the account of this battle as given in any good life of Jones, and particularly that found in

Bancroft's history. The world will never tire hearing of Paul Jones' sublime confidence and daring in an hour when, according to all human calculation, his own defeat was inevitable. But with a sinking ship, half of his men dead or dying, when hope and chance seemed totally lost, he won immortal victory.

The Flag of the Richard.

There is more than ordinary interest in the story of the flag which floated over the *Ranger* and subsequently went down, battle-torn, with the *Bon Homme Richard.* On December twenty-fourth, 1898, a dispatch was sent from Washington to many prominent journals which gave an account of the ensign of the *Richard* being presented to the Government. President McKinley is said to have received it from the hands of Mrs. Harriet R. P. Stafford of College City, Massachusetts, to whom it had descended from her ancestor, James B. Stafford. The dispatch stated that the flag was made by the Misses Mary and Sarah Austin of Philadelphia, who presented it to Paul Jones shortly after the Stars and Stripes were adopted in June, 1777. As the story goes, the patriotic ladies of Philadelphia met at the Swedes' church—the Misses Austin being among them—and there made the flag which Jones accepted, and

The "Stafford" Flag.

with which he was so delighted that "he procured a small boat and unfurled the star-gemmed banner and sailed up and down the river before Philadelphia, showing it to thousands on shore."

This ensign bore thirteen stripes but only twelve stars, the omission of the thirteenth being explained by the erroneous statement that Georgia at that time had not come into the confederation. It is claimed that this flag was hoisted over the *Ranger* at Portsmouth, and finally over the *Bon Homme Richard.* Admiral Preble made diligent search for authority to sustain this account of the making of the flag, and says he could find no notice of the event at the Swedes' church, in the church records or in the newspapers of that time; from which it may be inferred that the story is simply tradition.

Another story regarding this flag of only twelve stars is told by Miss Sarah S. Stafford, a descendant of James B. Stafford, who is said to have been on the *Bon Homme Richard.* It has been rehearsed by Admiral Preble and various publications with seeming approval, although there is double reason why the story should not pass without comment or explanation. The story in substance, is that about ten days before the *Bon Homme Richard* fell in with the *Serapis,* Paul Jones captured a British vessel called the *Kitty.* Her crew volunteered to serve on the

Richard, and among them was James B. Stafford, a nephew of the captain of the ill-fated vessel. It is alleged that Stafford was made an officer on the *Richard* because of his excellent education; and when the flag was shot away in the battle with the *Serapis,* he plunged into the sea, recovered it, and, while attempting to replace it, his shoulder was cut in two by an officer on the English ship. When the *Bon Homme Richard* was sinking, the flag was seized by a sailor (some accounts say by Stafford) and was transferred by Jones to the *Serapis,* and later accompanied him to the *Alliance* upon his assuming command of that frigate. After the sale of the *Alliance* in 1784, the flag was presented to Lieutenant Stafford in recognition of his meritorious service through the Revolutionary War.

The story of this flag which the Government supposes was the flag of the *Bon Homme Richard,* is singular indeed. The most surprising of all statements concerning it I find in Mr. Edward S. Ellis' *Historical Readings,* published the present year. He speaks of the flag in this wise: "I have examined it many times, and was struck by the fact that it contains only twelve stripes. Miss Stafford's explanation to me was that it originally had thirteen, but the lower portion was so mutilated in the great sea fight that it was cut off to preserve its comeliness."

There seems to be an inexplicable mystery in the quotation concerning the twelve stripes. A photograph of this self-same flag was taken in 1872 for Admiral Preble's work, and another was printed in the New York *Tribune* in 1898, and in each case the thirteen stripes are intact. Furthermore, both illustrations appear to be presumptive evidence that the flag never waved on the ensign-gaff of the *Richard* in the fiercest and most deadly of all sea conflicts. It is not a battle-torn ensign such as went down with the *Richard.*

What High Authorities Say of the Flag.

Mr. Brady in his Life of Jones has this to say about Stafford and his flag:

"Stafford, it is claimed, had been a sailor on the American armed ship *Kitty,* which had been captured by a British cruiser, said cruiser and her prize being subsequently taken by the *Bon Homme Richard,* whereupon Stafford volunteered for service on the *Richard,* was warranted a midshipman, and is alleged to have performed several heroic deeds in connection with the flag during the action. There is no authority whatever for these statements in any existing contemporary account of the battle. Stafford's name does not appear in any of the lists of the officers and crew. But we

have evidence which is more than negative, for Jones explicitly states that when the *Richard* went down the flag was left flying at the peak.

"In subsequent letters, though he takes occasion to refer specifically to the fact that he sailed under American colors in the *Alliance*—he calls them 'my very best American colors,' a phrase certainly inappropriate for the tattered ensign of the *Richard*—he never makes the slightest reference to their having been used in the famous battle."

Another excellent authority on Paul Jones and the American flag is Mr. Buell, whose account of the making of the first flag hoisted over the *Ranger* is full of interest:

"The 'unconquered and unstricken' flag that went down with the *Bon Homme Richard* was the same one which the girls of Portsmouth made from slices of their best silk gowns, and presented to Jones to hoist on the *Ranger,* July the fourth, 1777, and he considered it his personal property —or, perhaps, the property of the girls who made it—intrusted to his keeping. On relinquishing command of the *Ranger* in 1778, he kept this flag with him, and used it on the *Richard.* It was made by a quilting party, according to specifications which Jones furnished. The thirteen white stars were cut from the bridal dress in which Helen Seary had been wedded in May, 1777.

"This was the first edition of the Stars and Stripes that Europe ever saw; the first to be saluted by the guns of a European naval power; but, far beyond that, and beyond anything, it was the first and last flag that ever went down or ever will go down flying on the ship that conquered and captured the ship that sunk her.

"When Jones returned to this country in February, 1781, he found Miss Langdon of the 'quilting party,' a guest of the Ross family, whose house was always his home in Philadelphia. By way of apology he explained to her that his most ardent desire had been to bring that flag home to America, with all its glories, and give it back untarnished into the fair hands that had given it to him nearly four years before. 'But, Miss Mary,' he said, 'I couldn't bear to strip it from the poor old ship in her last agony, nor could I deny to my dead on her decks, who had given their lives to keep it flying, the glory of taking it with them.'

"'You did exactly right, Commodore,' exclaimed Miss Langdon, 'that flag is just where we all wish it to be—flying at the bottom of the sea over the only ship that ever sunk in victory!'"

Paul Jones' Eloquent Words.

Again, the evidence that shatters to pieces the fanciful story that the flag now laid away among the sacred relics in the National Museum at Wash-

ington, is the "unconquered and unstricken" flag that floated over the *Bon Homme Richard,* comes in stronger words than ever from Paul Jones himself. In his journal is this pathetic, unblemished piece of eloquence:

"No one was now left aboard the *Richard* but her dead. To them I gave the good old ship for their coffin, and in her they found a sublime sepulchre. She rolled heavily in the long swell, her gun-deck awash to the port-sills, settled slowly by the head, and sank peacefully in about forty fathoms.

"The ensign-gaff, shot away in action, had been fished and put in place soon after firing ceased, and our torn and tattered flag was left flying when we abandoned her. As she plunged down by the head at the last, her taffrail momentarily rose in the air; so the very last vestige mortal eyes ever saw of the *Bon Homme Richard* was the defiant waving of her unconquered and unstricken flag as she went down. And, as I had given them the good old ship for their sepulchre, I now bequeathed to my immortal dead the flag they had so desperately defended, for their winding sheet!"

First Flag of the United States—June 14, 1777.

Second Flag of the United States—1795.
Fifteen Stars and Fifteen Stripes.

GROWTH OF THE FLAG.

THE FIRST ALTERATION OF THE STARS AND STRIPES BY CONGRESS.

THE Stars and Stripes ordered by Congress in 1777 had strongly appealed to the patriotism of the colonists during the remaining period of the Revolution, and continued to be the flag of the United States till the first of May, 1795. Vermont was admitted into the Union on the fourth of March, 1791, and Kentucky on June first, 1792. As a matter of course these new States asked to be represented in the flag. Stephen R. Bradley, the first senator from Vermont, notified the Senate on Monday, December twenty-third, 1793, that on the following Wednesday he should move to bring in a bill to alter the flag so that after the first day of May, 1795, it should carry fifteen stars and fifteen stripes.

The bill was introduced on the twenty-sixth of December, and was passed by the Senate on the

thirtieth. The measure was sent to the House of Representatives for concurrence, and was considered on Tuesday, January the seventh, 1794. The House resolved itself into a committee of the whole, and a curious and lengthy debate began on the Senate bill. The leader of the opposition to give Vermont and Kentucky a place in the National flag, was Benjamin Goodhue of Salem, Massachusetts. He was engaged in commercial pursuits, was afterwards a senator of the United States, and distinguished himself as chairman of the committee on commerce. Mr. Goodhue thought the alteration of the flag was a trifling piece of business which ought not to engross the attention of the House when it was their duty to discuss matters of "infinitely greater consequence." He contended that if Congress were to alter the flag from thirteen to fifteen stripes, with two additional stars because Vermont and Kentucky had been added to the Union, it might go on adding and altering at that rate for a hundred years to come. He laid special stress on his idea that the flag ought to be permanent in its number of stars and stripes.

William Lyman of Northampton, Massachusetts, was appointed consul to Liverpool after his congressional term expired, and died there in 1811. He was somewhat of a political prophet, and wanted the flag to grow with the Union, and

thought it of the greatest consequence not to offend the new States by denying them representation on the flag.

George Thatcher was a member from Yarmouth, Massachusetts, and served many years in Congress, and afterwards was Judge of the Supreme Court of his State. He was famous for his wit, and had but little devotion for the flag. When a bill was reported in Congress respecting the use of the eagle on American coins, he recommended the goose, for which he was challenged to a duel by the author of the bill, but Thatcher's ridicule of the challenge led to its withdrawal. His wit and sarcasm were his chief weapons in opposing the alteration of the flag. He ridiculed the idea of Congress being at so much trouble about the flag, and he charged that the consideration of the matter was a consummate specimen of frivolity. At this rate, he declared, every State should alter its public seal when an additional county or township was formed.

Christopher Greenup of Kentucky (subsequently governor of that State) touched the keynote of patriotism in saying that he considered it of very great consequence to inform the rest of the world that we had two new States to join the Union.

Among the members of the House of Representatives who could see neither patriotism nor

justice in the purpose to change the flag, was Nathaniel Niles of Vermont. He was the inventor of the process of making wire from bar iron; was judge of the Supreme Court of his State; was a poet and theologian, and expounded the gospel to his neighbors every Sunday, for twelve years in his own house. When the flag bill was before the committee of the whole he expressed sorrow that such a matter should even for a moment have hindered the House of Representatives from going into more important affairs. He did not think the alteration either worth the trouble of adopting or rejecting; but he supposed the shortest way to get rid of it was to agree to it, and for that reason, and that alone, he advised to pass it as soon as possible.

The committee agreed to the bill, and it was taken up by the House.

A large number of representatives in Congress seemed to have no well defined thought as to the merit of the measure by which the flag was to be changed to correspond to the new condition brought about by the rapid growth of the country. Among such members was Elias Boudinot who, after leaving Congress, was made director of the United States Mint, and for many years was president of the American Bible Society. In his speech before the House he declared that his only

motive in supporting the bill was to keep the citizens of Vermont and Kentucky in good humor.

Mr. Goodhue raised his voice in the committee of the whole against altering the flag. He said he felt for the honor of Congress when spending its time in such sort of business as talking of altering the flag. But since the bill must be passed he had to beg the favor that a record of the proceedings might not appear upon the journal of the House and go into the world as the first of the bills to pass at that session.

James Madison of Virginia, afterwards President, favored giving Vermont and Kentucky representation on the flag, but made no speech during the remarkable debate.

William Smith of South Carolina, who became a senator, and once refused a place on the Supreme Bench of the United States, stated that the proposed alteration would cost him five hundred dollars, and every American vessel thirty dollars. He could not conceive what the Senate meant by sending them such a bill, unless it was the want of something better to do. He said he would indulge them this time, however, but warned the senators against trying to make any more alterations of that kind. Mr. Smith declared that his conviction was that the flag should remain permanent as to the number of its stars and stripes.

On Wednesday, January the eighth, 1794, the bill passed to a third reading, when Shearjashur Browne of Massachusetts, moved that it be referred to a select committee. John Watts of New York City, in seconding the motion, stated that his object was to have a clause inserted in the bill to establish the flag of the United States, so that in case of new accessions to the Union, future applications for alterations might be precluded. The motion was lost by a vote of forty-nine to thirty-nine, when Mr. Watts moved that the bill should be re-committed to the committee of the whole for the purpose of introducing a clause to fix forever the flag of the United States. This motion was likewise lost; and the original bill, providing that from and after the first day of May, 1795, the flag of the United States be fifteen stripes, alternate red and white; that the union be fifteen stars, white in a blue field, was passed by a vote of fifty yeas to forty-two nays.

The bill was approved by President Washington on the thirteenth day of January, 1794.

The assertion of General Schuyler Hamilton that the stars formed into one large star in the canton, was the flag of 1812, is not sustained on sufficient evidence. It is well known that the Star Spangled Banner of Fort McHenry had the stars arranged in parallel rows.

MORE STARS AND FEWER STRIPES.

THE SECOND AND LAST ALTERATION OF THE FLAG BY CONGRESS.

IT WAS nearly twenty-two years after the flag of 1795 was ordained before any further steps were taken by Congress to change its form. During that interval much inspiring progress and development of Young America had been made. The flag of fifteen stripes and stars had won many victories, and had undergone some vicissitudes. It was victorious in some forty of the seventy principal engagements in the war of 1812. Of the eighteen naval battles fought in that war, the Stars and Stripes conquered in thirteen. At Fort McHenry, in 1814, the banner inspired the greatest flag-anthem ever written. Five States had been added to the Union, and Illinois was knocking at the door for admission.

When Peter H. Wendover of New York City, had studied these facts he was impressed with the

thought that the flag was not up to date. He was a member of Congress, serving from 1815 to 1821, and was the first and most intelligent champion of the new flag then serving in that body. Above all other Americans that lived in the early days of the Republic, Mr. Wendover was second to John Paul Jones in his intense devotion to, and masterful defense of, the flag. On Monday, the ninth of December, 1816, he offered a resolution in the House of Representatives calling for a select committe to inquire into the expediency of altering the flag of the United States to meet the conditions then existing. When the question was put to the House of Representatives it escaped defeat by such a narrow margin that the patriotic feelings of Mr. Wendover were deeply wounded. In his remarks upon the temper of the House concerning the proposed changes, he said that while the flag was not then appropriate, and had incongruities that should be corrected, he would not press the resolution, but would consent that it be laid on the table.

But by the Thursday following, Mr. Wendover's hope and courage seemed to have been revived, for on that day he brought the flag resolution before the House. In urging the adoption of his motion he said there was no man in the House, he hoped, who would not consent to change a flag under which had been falsified the predictions of Euro-

pean orators and paragraphists when they said Yankee cock-boats would be speedily driven from the sea. His own thought was to make an unessential, though an appropriate variation. When first adopted, he said, the flag bore one star and one stripe for every State; when two additional States entered the Union, the flag was altered by a special act by Congress so that it would carry two additional stars and stripes. Since then, Mr. Wendover observed, four States had been added to the Union, but the flag remained the same. Conceiving this not to be correct, he hoped the House of Representatives would consent to the proposed inquiry.

Mr. John W. Taylor of New York, who served in the House twenty years, and was speaker of the Nineteenth Congress, favored the inquiry, but for a reason quite different from that assigned by Mr. Wendover. He said he had been informed by a gentleman of the navy that the American flag could be seen and recognized on the seas at a greater distance than that of any other Nation. But, he suggested, if the stripes and stars were multiplied the flag would become less distinct to distant observation, and therefore he was in favor of restricting the flag to its original character of thirteen stars and stripes, and establish it permanently in that form.

A vote was finally taken on Mr. Wendover's motion, and being carried, the committee of inquiry was appointed.

On Thursday, the second day of January, 1817, the special committee submitted a report through its chairman, Mr. Wendover, in which was expressed the belief that any proposition essentially to alter the flag of the United States, either in its general form or in the distribution of its parts, would be as unacceptable to Congress and the people, as it would be uncongenial with the views of the committee.

The committee was fully persuaded that the form selected for the American flag was truly emblematical of our origin and existence as an independent nation, and that as such, it had received the approbation and support of the citizens of the Union, and ought not to undergo any change that would decrease its conspicuity, or tend to deprive it of its representative character. The committee, however, believed that "a change in the number of stars in the union sufficiently indicated the propriety of such an alteration in the arrangement of the flag as would best accord with the reasons that led to its adoption, and sufficiently pointed to important periods of our history."

Attention was called by the committee to the fact that the original flag was composed of thirteen stripes and thirteen stars, and was adopted

by a resolution of the Continental Congress on the fourteenth of June, 1777; and that on the thirteenth of January, 1794, after two States (Vermont and Kentucky) had been admitted into the Union, the National Legislature had created a law which provided that the stripes and stars should, on a fixed day, be increased to fifteen each, to compare with the then number of independent States. The accession of a number of States since that alteration, and the certain prospects that at no distant period the number of States would be considerably multipled, rendered it, in the opinion of the committee, highly expedient to increase the number of stars, as every flag must, in some measure, be limited in its size, from the circumstances of convenience to the place on which it is to be displayed; and that this consideration had induced many to retain only the general form of the flag, while there actually existed a great want of uniformity in its adjustment, particularly when used on small vessels.

The conclusions of the committee were prophetic, for it suggested that no alteration in the flag could be made that would be more emblematic of the origin of the Union than to reduce the stripes to the original thirteen, representing the number of States then contending for, and happily achieving, their independence, and to increase the stars to correspond with the number of States then

in the Union, and thereafter to add a star to the flag whenever a new State should be fully admitted.

No action was taken by the second session of the Fourteenth Congress on the report of the committee which foretold in what form the flag of the Union should forever remain. The report was "crowded out" by the pressure of business which Congress thought of greater consequence. But on Tuesday, December sixteenth, 1817, Mr. Wendover, with his interest in the flag not in the least abated, submitted his previous resolution for the appointment of a select committee to inquire into the necessity for changing the flag.

The resolution was agreed to, and Mr. Wendover was made chairman of the committee, and on the sixth of January, 1818, he presented a report to the House of Representatives accompanied by a bill. The bill provided that from the fourth day of July, 1818, the flag of the United States be thirteen horizontal stripes, alternate red and white; that the union have twenty stars, white in a blue field; that on the admission of every new State into the Union, one star be added to the union of the flag, and that such addition shall take effect on the fourth of July next, succeeding such admission.

Action was deferred on the Star Spangled Banner till Tuesday, March twenty-fourth, 1818,

when it was the first call on the docket. Mr. Wendover moved to go in committee of the whole, which prevailed, and he then began an eloquent speech on the proposition to so alter the flag that thereafter, without the trouble and delay of congressional action, it would keep pace with the progress of the country.

In addressing the committee Mr. Wendover said he was not particularly well informed as to the origin of the American flag, but was convinced that at its adoption it was founded on a representative principle, and in the arrangement of its parts made applicable to the number of the States then united against a common foe.

The flag being once altered to give Vermont and Kentucky representation thereon, Mr. Wendover asked the attention of Congress to the fact that Tennessee came into the sisterhood of States in June, 1796; Ohio, in February, 1803; Louisiana, in April, 1812; Indiana, in December, 1816; Mississippi, in December, 1817; and Illinois was then knocking at the door of the Union for admission, and all of them desired to be represented on the flag. Calculating on such a result, he said it caused many to regret the former alteration of the flag, and no doubt the same reason operated in the House of Representatives when the bill passed, and doubtless accounted for the small majority of eight by which it succeeded.

As Mr. Wendover's speech was a notable patriotic achievement, a few striking paragraphs are given therefrom:

"It cannot be deemed desirable under the existing state of things, in relation to the stripes and stars in the flag, to retain it in its present situation. It is not only inapplicable, but both parts refer to the same thing, and the one is a duplicate of the other. But the alteration proposed will direct the view to two striking facts in our national history, and teach the world an important reality, that republican government is not only practicable, but that it is also progressive.

"It is desirable to have uniformity in the flag. In the navy the law is generally conformed to, but it is well known that uniformity does not elsewhere exist. I could refer you to the flag at this moment waving over the heads of the representatives of the nation, and two others in sight, equally the flags of the government; while the law directs that the flag shall contain fifteen stripes, that on the hall of Congress, whence laws emanate, has but thirteen, and those of the navy yard and marine barracks, have each eighteen. Nor can I omit to mention the flag under which the last Congress sat during its first session, which, from some cause or other unknown, had but nine stripes.

"As to the particular disposition of the stars in the Union of the flag, the committee are of the

opinion that that might be left to the discretion of persons more immediately concerned, either to arrange them in the form of one great luminary or in the words of the original resolution of 1777, representing a new constellation.

"Mr. Chairman, in viewing this subject there appears to be a happy coincidence of circumstances in having adopted the symbol in your flag, and a peculiar fitness of things in making the proposed alteration. In that part designed at a distance to characterize your country, and which ought, for the information of all other nations, to appear conspicuous and remain permanent, you present the number of the stripes that burst the bands of oppression, and achieved your independence; while in the other part intended for a nearer, or a home view, you see a representation of your happy Union as it now exists, and space sufficient to embrace the symbol of those who may hereafter join under your banner.

"I believe it is now time to legislate on this subject. Your flag now stands pre-eminently high in the estimation of other nations, and is justly the pride of your own. And although, for a moment, your flag was veiled at Detroit (August, 1812), and left to droop at Castine (September, 1814), and although, if I may so express it, it was made to weep at Washington (August, 1814), it has not lost its lustre—it remains unsullied.

No disgrace has attached to your Star Spangled Banner, it has been the signal of victory on land, of successful valor on the lakes, and moved triumphantly on the sea. And even on those who predicted that in nine months the striped bunting would be swept from the seas, it possessed the wonderful charm, that before the nine months had elapsed 'fir-built-frigates' and 'Yankee-cock-boats' were magnified into ships-of-the-line; and his Majesty's faithful officers, careful for the preservation of British Oak, sought protection for their frigates under the convoy of seventy-four-gun ships.

"But, sir, whatever be the fate of this bill, I hope the time is not far distant when you will give to your flag its deserved honor, as the guardian of your citizens; when your hardy seamen shall no longer be doomed to the degradation to ask for, nor to you to give them, paper protection; but when they shall point aloft to the flag of their country, and say, 'This is the protection of freemen; under this we desire peacefully to traverse the ocean and sail to every clime.' And whenever called to the contest by the voice of their country, may rally round the Star Spangled Banner, and emphatically exclaim—

" 'High-waving, unsullied, unstruck, proudly showeth,
What each friend, and each foe, and each neutral knoweth;

That her path is ethereal, high she aspires,
Her stripes aloft streaming like boreal fires.

" 'Joined with stars, they astonish, dismay, or delight,
As the foe, or the friend, may encounter the sight.'

"Mr. Chairman, I shall add no more. The subject is plain and well understood; and though not of a character to be classed with those of the highest national importance, is still proper to be acted upon, and worthy the attention of the representatives of a people whose flag will never be insulted for want of protection, and which, I hope and believe, will never be struck to an inferior or an equal force."

To lend interest to the debate on the flag bill, Mr. Wendover had hoisted striped bunting in committee of the whole. His modest estimate of his speech is shown in a brief note to a friend on the day following its delivery: "After I had made a few observations and sat down Mr. Poindexter (George Poindexter of Mississippi), moved to strike out twenty stars and insert seven, with a view to have stripes for the old, and stars for the new States. The motion was rejected almost unanimously."

The debate having closed, the committee of the whole reported the bill for engrossment and a third reading. All the reference thereafter made in the Debates and Proceedings of the House of Representatives of the United States concerning

the alteration of the flag—an event that now possesses so much historic interest—is found in the doings of Wednesday, March twenty-fifth, 1818, and is given in eighteeen words: "An engrossed bill to alter the flag of the United States was read the third time, and passed."

The Senate seems never to have taken anything more than a passive interest in the flag bill, at least no debates thereon are published in the History of Congress. The battle was fought in the House of Representatives, and in the struggle in the Fourteeenth and Fifteenth Congresses to make the flag a truly representative one, Mr. Wendover was the hopeful and vigorous leader. The bill was sent to the Senate for concurrence, and on Tuesday, March the thirty-first, 1818, it passed; but the vote is not recorded.

The bill was signed by President Monroe on the fourth of April, 1818, and on the thirteenth of the month, the new flag waved over the Congress of the United States.

Captain Samuel C. Reid—whose fame in connection with his command of the privateer *The General Armstrong,* in her fight at Fayal Roads, in the Azores Islands, in September, 1814, had spread far and wide—was much interested in the flag discussion in Washington. Before the first report of the select committee was submitted, Mr. Wendover had invited the captain to suggest a

design for the proposed flag. The popular account of the making of the new Star Spangled Banner is that Captain Reid recommended that the stripes be reduced to thirteeen to represent the original thirteen States; that the stars representing each of the States be formed into one large five-pointed star, symbolizing the national motto, *E Pluribus Unum,* and that a star be added for each new State.

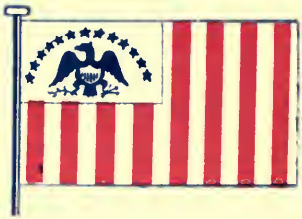
It is somewhat curious that Congress never designated how the stars in the blue field of the flag should be arranged. The reader will remember that in Mr. Wendover's interesting speech in Congress on the twenty-fourth of March, 1818, he did not contend for any special arrangement of the stars in the union of the flag. As to that particular point he thought the committee were of the opinion that it might be left to the discretion of persons more immediately concerned, either to arrange them in the form of one great luminary, or in the words of the original resolution of 1777, "representing a new constellation." The committee did not accept Captain Reid's suggestion to form a large five-pointed luminary out of the individual stars. In 1859 Congress tendered its thanks to Captain Reid (two years before his death), and an effort was made to insert a clause in the resolution which would fix the mode of arranging the stars in the blue firmament,

and the resolution was adopted, but the proposed clause was rejected.

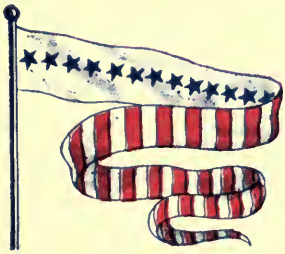
The first flag, according to the design of Captain Reid, is said to have been made by his wife and some of her young women friends, and was hoisted over the House of Representatives on the thirteenth of April, 1818. The plan of formulating one large star in the field was soon abandoned. It was plainly evident that as the number of States increased, it would be necessary to make the individual stars so small as to be almost indistinguishable as stars. On the eighteenth of September, 1818, the Navy Department issued an order in which was illustrated the plan of arranging the stars in parallel rows on the flags to be used on all American ships of war, and since that time the National flag, whether floating over land or sea, has the same arrangement of its stars.

This, in brief, is the history of the flag of our fathers, and is now the emblem of the most powerful, intelligent, liberty-loving people on the earth. It is the victorious kind of a flag. In every great cause in which it has been unfurled, the Star Spangled Banner has been supreme and unconquerable.

Yacht Ensign.



Ensign of the Revenue Marine.



Pennant Revenue Marine.

United States Jack.

NOTEWORTHY FLAG INCIDENTS.

MANY HISTORICAL FACTS WITH WHICH THE STAR SPANGLED BANNER HAS BEEN ASSOCIATED.

IN THE latter part of August, 1814, Dr. William Beanes, an old resident of Upper Marlborough, Maryland, was captured by General Ross of the British army, and was held a prisoner on the admiral's flagship, the *Surprise*. The doctor was a personal friend of Francis Scott Key, then a young lawyer living at Baltimore. On the second of September, 1814, writing from Georgetown to his mother, Key said: "Am going to Baltimore to-morrow and proceed in a flag vessel to General Ross. Dr. Beanes has been taken prisoner by the enemy, who threaten to carry him off." Key found the English fleet in Chesapeake Bay, and was kindly received by Admiral Cockrane. The enemy was about to make a combined

attack by sea and land upon Fort McHenry; and while General Ross consented to the release of Dr. Beanes, it was stipulated that all of the American party should remain on the *Surprise* until the fort was reduced.

All during that eventful night, the thirteenth of September, the great guns of the fleet poured a blazing shower of shot and shell upon the fortress. Key, standing on the deck of the English ship, in the midst of the excitement of the terrific bombardment, could see at intervals, by the glare of the rocket and the flash of the cannon, the American flag waving victoriously over its gallant defenders. It was a hot, persistent fight, taxing to the utmost the courage, endurance, and patriotism of the soldiers. In the stirring enthusiasm of that supreme moment, and at the dawn's early light, when the Stars and Stripes waved in triumph above the smoke of battle, Key wrote the lines that are as deathless as the flag itself:

"O say can you see by the dawn's early light,
What so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last gleaming;
Whose stripes and bright stars thro' the perilous fight
O'er the ramparts we watched were so gallantly streaming—
And the rockets' red glare, the bombs bursting in air,
Gave proof through the night that our flag was still there;
O say, does that star-spangled banner yet wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?

"On the shore dimly seen through the mists of the deep,
Where the foe's haughty host in dread silence reposes,

What is that which the breeze o'er the towering steep,
As it fitfully blows, half conceals, half discloses?
Now it catches the gleam of the morning's first beam,
In full glory reflected now shines in the stream;
'Tis the star-spangled banner—Oh, long may it wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave!

"And where is that band who so vauntingly swore
That the havoc of war and the battle's confusion
A home and a country should leave us no more?
Their blood has washed out their foul footsteps' pollution.
No refuge could save the hireling and slave
From the terror of flight or the gloom of the grave;
And the star-spangled banner in triumph doth wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave.

"O! thus be it ever when freemen shall stand
Between their loved homes and the war's desolation;
Blest with vict'ry and peace may the Heaven-rescued land
Praise the Power that hath made and preserved us a nation.
Then conquer we must, when our cause it is just,
And this be our motto: 'In God is our trust';
And the star-spangled banner in triumph shall wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave!"

President Lincoln and the Flag.

When President Lincoln reached Philadelphia on his memorable journey to Washington in February, 1861, he was informed by a detective, that his enemies were plotting against his life, and that it would be unsafe for him to appear prominently in public. Mr. Lincoln heard the officer's statement in detail and then said: "I have

promised to raise the American flag on old Independence Hall to-morrow morning—the anniversary of Washington's birthday—and in the afternoon to attend a reception by the Pennsylvania Legislature, and both of these engagements I will keep if it costs me my life."

The following morning he was escorted to Independence Hall, and after a brief address to the people from a platform, he was publicly invited to raise a new flag. He then hoisted the flag to the top of the staff amid the cheers of a vast concourse of people. Dr. Josiah G. Holland, in his life of Lincoln, says: "It was certainly a remarkable occasion when Abraham Lincoln stood within the room where the Declaration of Independence was framed and signed, and pledged himself anew to its truths and principles, and then walked out into the presence of the people and ran up to its home the beautiful National ensign prepared for his hands."

Major Anderson and the Flag.

Mr. Henry J. Raymond, founder of the New York *Times,* and for many years its distinguished editor, once said in a public meeting: "I heard an anecdote to-day from Major Anderson during the attack on Fort Sumter. A report came that the flag on the morning of the fight was at half mast. I asked the Major if that was true, and he

said there was not a word of truth in it. During the firing, one of the halyards was shot away, and the flag dropped down a few feet. The rope caught in the staff and could not be reached so that the flag could neither be lowered nor hoisted; and, said the Major: 'God Almighty nailed that flag to the mast, and I could not have lowered it if I had tried!' "

The Flag of Fort Walker.

A correspondent of the New York *World,* writing of the capture of Fort Walker, South Carolina, November 7th, 1861, said: "The cheers that uprose on the hoisting of the flag on the fort were deafening. The stentorian ringing of human voices would have drowned the roar of artillery. The cheer was taken up man by man, ship by ship, regiment by regiment. Such a spontaneous outburst of soldierly enthusiasm never greeted the ears of Napoleon amid the victories of Marengo, Austerlitz, or the pyramids of the Nile."

The Flag Raised on the Mountains.

The first Union flag raised in the Rocky Mountains occurred at Carson City, Colorado, on the twenty-fifth of June, 1861. It was a memorable day in the history of the town. Governor Gilpin made a speech on the flag. People came

fifty miles to witness the scene. The flag was made by Mrs. J. D. Jenks and Mrs. M. G. Pratt. The Carson City *Weekly Times* of July 1st, 1861, said of the event: "Forever wave the standard Sheet! The glorious Stars and Stripes now float from a flag-staff in front of the Carson City Hotel. The sun meets it at early morn, his departing rays fall upon its graceful folds, while the eyes of our admiring citizens are often raised to it with love and patriotism."

The Cross and the Flag.

The New York *News* gave an interesting incident of how the flag was unfurled on the spire of Grace Episcopal Church in that city in April, 1861. The vestrymen desired that the American flag should wave from the apex of the spire of the church, 260 feet from the ground. Several persons undertook the dangerous feat, but on mounting to the highest window in the steeple, they had not sufficient nerve to continue their efforts. At last two young painters, O'Donnel and McLaughlin (unfortunately their Christian names were not given), decided to make the attempt. Getting out of the little diamond-shaped window about half way up, they climbed to the lightning-rod to the top. Here one of them fastened the pole securely to the cross, although quite a gale was blowing. The flag secured, he mounted

the cross and, taking off his hat, bowed to the assembled thousands watching him from Broadway. As the flag floated out freely in the air it was hailed with loud and repeated cheers. The New York *Commercial Advertiser,* which did not sympathize with the Union cause, made note of this remarkable event, but added ironically: "The historian of the day will not fail to mention, for the edification of the men of future ages, the fact that the flag, which was once the flag of our Union, floats boldly to the breeze of heaven above the Cross of Christ and Grace Church steeple." But the *Commercial Advertiser* did not seem to grasp the fact that the mission of the flag bore a strong relationship to the mission of the Cross.

Hanged for Hauling Down the Flag.

Commodore Farragut's fleet—at that time the largest that ever sailed under the flag of the United States—anchored in front of New Orleans on the twenty-fifth of April, 1862. His success in fighting his way from the mouth of the Mississippi river against powerfully equipped forts and fortifications of the Confederates, was one of the marvels of the war. The city being at his mercy, Farragut issued a written demand that the civil authorities hoist the American flag over the city hall, the Government mint, and the custom house,

as an emblem of the authority of the United States. To this demand the mayor made the following reply: "As to hoisting any flag not of our own adoption, I must say to you that the man lives not in our midst whose hand and heart would not be paralyzed at the mere thought of such an act."

The mayor having intimated that the commodore took the city by brute force, and therefore could do his own flag raising, Farragut sent a party ashore on the twenty-seventh of April, to raise the Stars and Stripes over the mint building. In a few hours thereafter, four citizens of New Orleans—of whom William B. Mumford, a professional gambler, was the leader—ascended the roof of the mint, tore down the flag, trailed it in the mud; and mounting a cart with it, paraded it about the city, and at last tore it into shreds. Afterwards Mumford walked the streets and boasted of his daring act. He was a disturbance to the peace of the city, and the military authorities ordered his arrest. Mumford was tried by a commission and condemned to death. The thugs and outlaws of New Orleans defied the Federal authorities to carry out the sentence, but General Butler, then in command of the city, dared do anything he thought was right, and Mumford was hanged on the seventh of June, 1862. It was a severe, but a just, penalty for outraging the Amer-

ican flag, and from that moment the peace and good order of New Orleans were secure.

The Fifth New Hampshire's Hard Experience.

The original flag carried by the Fifth New Hampshire was shot to pieces at the battle of Fredericksburg. In that engagement the flag was borne by Color-Sergeant Reuel G. Austin, who was wounded. It was then carried by Sergeant George S. Gove, and he also was dangerously wounded. The flag was then carried by Sergeant John R. McCrillis till the close of the day. It is related that during the battle, Captain James B. Perry received a mortal wound. He could not be taken to the rear because of the terrific firing by the enemy. Lying where he fell, he said: "I know I cannot recover from this wound, but I would be content if I could see the old flag once more." The flag was taken to him for a few moments and he died while clasping it with his hands. The Fifth received a new flag to be carried at Gettysburg, and seven color-bearers were killed or wounded while attempting to pilot the regiment in that battle.

Dix's Famous Order.

"If any man attempts to haul down the American flag, shoot him on the spot." This famous

command was embodied in a telegram sent from Washington by John A. Dix, January twenty-ninth, 1861. He was then Secretary of the Treasury under President Buchanan. The purpose of the order was to secure the arrest of Captain Breshwood, commander of the revenue cutter *McClernard,* which, it was learned, he proposed to turn over to the Confederates. The dispatch was intercepted at New Orleans, and therefore did not reach its destination. But it reached the public which was better still, for it impressed upon the minds of the Confederates that the policy of temporizing was at an end.

One man in Buchanan's administration felt as patriots feel when their country is threatened with dishonor. One order was issued which did not disgrace the government. "When I read it," wrote General Butler to General Dix, long after, "my heart bounded with joy. It was the first bold stroke in favor of the Union under the Buchanan administration." Butler had the pleasure of sending to General Dix from New Orleans, the identical flag which was the object of the order, and the Confederate flag which was hoisted in its place; as well as the recommendation for promotion of the sailor, David Ritchie, who contrived to snatch both flags from the *McClernard* when the Confederates abandoned and blew her up as Farragut's fleet drew near, a little over a year later.

The Flag of the 24th Michigan.

In Mrs. Mary A. Livermore's volume containing her experiences in the Civil War, it is related that the Twenty-fourth Michigan, which formed a part of the famous Iron Brigade, was the first infantry engaged on the first day of the battle of Gettysburg. At the beginning of the famous charge of the brigade, Abel G. Peck, the color-bearer, was instantly killed. Private Thomas B. Ballou seized the flag and immediately was mortally wounded. August Ernst then raised the flag and was instantly killed. Captain Andrew Wagner at once took the colors but was soon shot in the breast, the wound proving fatal a year after the war closed. When Wagner fell Colonel Henry A. Morrill took up the flag, and gallantly attempted to rally the few soldiers that survived the deadly charge; but Private William Kelly said to the colonel: "You shall not carry the flag while I am alive." He took the Stars and Stripes and raised them to the breeze, and in a few moments received a shot in the heart and fell dead. Private L. Spaulding took the flag from the hands of Kelly and carried it till he was severely wounded. Colonel Morrill for the second time seized the flag, but in a few moments was shot in the head, and he was carried off the field. After the fall of Colonel Morrill the flag was borne by

a soldier whose name is unknown. He fell with the banner fast in his hands. Captain Edwards then held it until the remnant of the regiment fell back and reached Culp's Hill. He was the only man who carried the flag on the first day of the battle that was not killed or severely wounded.

The Tattered Banner of the 9th Iowa.

The flag of the Ninth Iowa Infantry had a hard experience in the War of the Rebellion. The regiment fought heroically and suffered terribly in the battle of Pea Ridge, Arkansas, on the seventh of March, 1862, for which a committee of patriotic ladies of Boston gave it a handsome silk flag. The Ninth belonged to the Army of the Tennessee, and led in the desperate assault at Vicksburg, on the twenty-second of May, 1863. In the effort to reach the Confederate breastworks every member of the color-guard had fallen, either killed or badly wounded. Sergeant Elson fell frightfully wounded and lay on the flag he so bravely carried. When night came, Captain George Granger drew its dripping folds from under the bleeding body of its prostrate bearer, concealed it under his blouse, and carried it off the field in safety. Mrs. Mary A. Livermore says, though the flag was covered with blood and riddled by shot and shell, it was sent up to the cannon's mouth at the siege of Vicksburg, was carried at

the battles of Jackson, Brandon, Cherokee Station, Lookout Mountain, Missionary Ridge, and Chattanooga. When it came out of the latter battle the flag was so riddled by shot and shell that it was no longer fit for service, and by an unanimous vote of the regiment it was returned to the donors in Boston.

Sergeant Munsell at Gettysburg.

The Ninety-ninth Pennsylvania Infantry at Gettysburg, occupied a post of great danger at the "Devil's Den." Sergeant Harvey May Munsell had a color-guard of eight corporals, and every man was killed in defending the flag. He had eleven bullet holes in his clothing, but was not injured. Obliged to retreat from the "Den," he was stunned by the explosion of a shell, and fell. On recovering consciousness, he found himself between the lines in the midst of furious fighting. He drew the flag under his body and remained quiet until the Confederates were driven back, when he gathered up his flag and started for the rear. He had been reported killed and the flag captured. Afterwards Sergeant Munsell wrote: "Twenty-three years have passed since that terrible tragedy, and it is as fresh in my mind to-day as if it was but yesterday. Heroes they were, every inch of them. Eight boys (for they were nothing else)

shot to death defending the flag of their country at a critical point—at a critical moment."

Sergeant Munsell carried the flag through thirteen general engagements before being promoted, and was unharmed. The officers of the regiment gave him a heavy silk flag and staff, suitably inscribed, for meritorious conduct on several fields of battle, the names of which were imprinted thereon. He also received a medal of honor from Congress.

On the second of July, 1886—the twenty-third anniversary of the second day's conflict at Gettysburg—the surviving members of the Ninety-ninth Pennsylvania, dedicated a beautiful monument to the memory of its fallen heroes, on the very spot where the little band of eight gave their lives that we might live as a Nation. And it was on this same spot that President Lincoln spoke those memorable words: "We cannot consecrate nor hallow this ground. The brave men, living and dead, who struggled here have consecrated it far above our power to add or detract."

Also at Gettysburg the Fourth Michigan had a fearful experience. It was there that a Confederate officer seized the regimental colors, and was instantly killed by the colonel, who was bayoneted the next moment by a Confederate soldier who, in his turn, was killed by the major, and the flag was saved.

A Notable Banner.

The Rev. Henry Clay Trumbull, D.D., of Philadelphia, who is noted for his distinguished services as chaplain of the Tenth Connecticut Infantry, in the Civil War, wrote an interesting volume on *War Memories of an Army Chaplain,* which was published by the Charles Scribner's Sons, New York, in 1899. From that work I am glad to quote the following paragraph, which tells a wonderful story of the flag:

"It was not an uncommon thing for a regimental flag to have two, or four, or more, noble fellows fall in its upbearing in a single fight. In the Military Museum at Albany is a tattered flag of the Thirtieth New York Infantry, on the staff of which is this inscription: 'At the last battle of Bull Run (August twenty-ninth and thirtieth, 1862), these colors fell during the engagement in the hands of ten different soldiers, shot dead on the field. Thirty-six balls passed through the stars and stripes, and the staff was shot to splinters.' Such a record gives point to the story of the devoted soldier who, catching up the falling colors as they went down again in fight, called out, heroically: 'Here are two minutes more for the old flag!' and dashed ahead into the jaws of death."

An Extemporized Flag.

That noted clergyman, Dr. Stephen H. Tyng of New York city (father of the Rev. Dudley A. Tyng, whose tragic death in 1858, inspired the popular hymn, *Stand up for Jesus*), once gave in a public address the following touching war incident: Amid the horrors of Libby prison, the loyal soldiers, there confined in filth, beggary, and wretchedness, determined to celebrate among themselves their country's independence in 1863. But they had no flag. How could they celebrate and rejoice without a banner which, as American citizens, represented all that was near and dear to them? Finally, one poor soldier whose patriotism was not starved out of him, said, "I have a red shirt"; and another, "I have a blue blouse"; and another, "I have a white shirt." And no sooner was it said, than they stripped themselves and gave their red and white shirts, and a blue blouse, to be torn into stripes and pinned together to extemporize their country's flag.

A Stirring Scene at Macon.

The fourth of July, 1864, will ever remain a memorable day to those who, at that time, were prisoners of war within the stockade at Macon, Georgia. The prisoners had crowded in and around the central structure to listen to some

speeches in commemoration of the Nation's birthday. Captain Todd of the Eighth New Jersey Infantry, displayed a small United States flag which he had secreted on his person. The effect was indescribable. The air was rent with cheers, shouts, and cries. Tears in streams rolled down the cheeks of the great, rough, shaggy men as they hugged each other at the sight of the banner. Those at a distance away climbed upon the back of others to catch a view of the flag. "Hold it up!" shouted a voice, "don't be afraid; hold it up so that we can feast our souls upon it." The *Star Spangled Banner,* and *Rally 'round the Flag* were sung. During the singing some of the older guards were seen leaning and trembling over their muskets, and crying like children. The enthusiasm and noise became so great that the long roll was sounded by the Confederates outside, the artillery was manned, the infantry stood at their guns, and the commandant ordered us to repair to our quarters and remain quiet.—*Prisoners and Military Prisons.*

A Great Day at Sumter.

Just four years after the flag was hauled down at Sumter, there was a memorable gathering at the old fort. It was on the very day Lincoln was assassinated. The self-same flag, shattered by shell in the bombardment of '61, was to be re-

hoisted. Henry Ward Beecher was requested by Lincoln to go to Sumter and deliver the oration. It was a great day for "Old Glory."

After the cannon had given many emphatic expressions of exultant gladness, the flag was uncovered at the base of the staff, and a ripple of applause passed over the multitude, but this was hushed as if by the breath of God, and the pent-up feelings of the great orator and of the vast concourse, broke out in tears and sobs of joy. But when Major Anderson, with his own hands, hoisted the flag, and it floated beautifully out in the charming breeze of a perfect day, the band struck up *The Star Spangled Banner,* and the people gave their patriotic emotions full sway in singing the song of the triumphal flag.

Two Wisconsin Flags of Historic Interest.

The Second Wisconsin Infantry was a part of the Iron Brigade. In the battle of Antietam, September seventeenth, 1862, all the color-guards of the regiment were either killed or wounded. At Gettysburg, in July, 1863, nearly one-third of the regiment was cut down by the first fire received from the Confederate forces, this work of human destruction being accomplished in less than thirty minutes. When the last color-bearer was killed, Private R. E. Davison picked up the flag and un-

furled it in front of the regiment when a charge was made by the brigade. It is said that when night came after the first day's battle, only fifty men out of the three hundred who were in the charge, answered to the roll-call. "Old Glory" was present, though it had fallen many times during the day. Few battle-flags were so completely torn by bullet and shell as that of the Fifth Wisconsin, and when Gettysburg was fought and won, it could be no longer carried in battle, and was returned to the State.

The Sixth Wisconsin Infantry was also at Gettysburg, and in the "railroad cut," where the regiment saw desperate fighting, the colors went down seven times; but each time were raised by the color-guard, every man of whom was killed or wounded. The Second Mississippi Infantry was in front of the Sixth Wisconsin, and the latter, regardless of the cost, determined to make an effort to capture the Confederate colors. Private Lewis W. Eggleston, a mere boy, rushed forward to seize them, and was instantly shot down, when Private Henry Anderson immediately dealt a crushing blow with his musket upon the head of the Confederate who shot him, splitting his skull. Lieutenant Remington (?) was mortally wounded while attempting to reach the colors, but Corporal Francis Walker, with undaunted courage, sprang forward, grasped the flag, successfully holding it.

To Encourage the Use of Flags.

Soon after the close of the Civil War, doubtless inspired by its results, Mr. Jacob Ross of Charlestown, Massachusetts, bequeathed to that city several thousand dollars, the interest to be expended in United States flags, in the celebration of the Fourth of July, and in perpetuating the name of Andrew Jackson. He also gave to the town of Cornish, New Hampshire, his native place, the sum of one thousand dollars to be kept at interest, the annual income therefrom to be expended in the purchase and erection of flags. No mottoes are to be emblazoned on these flags, nor are they to be used for party purposes; but on all important occasions of a national character they are to be hoisted to the breeze and kept flying.—*Boston Herald*, 1869.

Germans Salute Our Flag.

Shortly after the beginning of the Franco-Prussian War, in 1870, Emperor William and his son, the Crown Prince (afterwards Frederick III., Emperor of Germany and King of Prussia from March ninth to June fifteenth, 1888), passed through Hamburg on their way to the field. A young American girl, stopping with her parents at one of the hotels, displayed a large American flag from the balcony, and, as the Emperor and

the Crown Prince passed, she waved her handkerchief. They looked up and bowed pleasantly, and the Prince, who afterwards won great honors at the battle of Sedan, ordered each regiment as it marched by to salute the Stars and Stripes.

First Salute to the American Flag.

A great stickler for his rights and for the prerogatives of his station, was John Paul Jones. In this instance (on the *Ranger* in Quiberon Bay), "he was maintaining the dignity of the United States by insisting upon a proper recognition of his command. However, having learned afterwards that the contention of the French Admiral La Motte Piquet, was correct, Jones realizing with his usual keenness that the gist of the matter lay in receiving any salute rather than in the number of guns which it composed"; so the *Ranger* got under way late in the evening of the fourteenth of February, 1778, and beat in toward the harbor. It was almost dark when she drew abreast the great French flag-ship. Backing his main-topsail, the six-pounder on the main deck of the *Ranger* barked out their salute of thirteen guns, which was promptly returned by the French commander with nine heavy guns from the battleship.

This was the first time the Stars and Stripes had been saluted on the high seas. It was, in fact, the first official recognition of this new power by

the authorized military representatives of any civilized Nation. As this little transaction between Paul Jones and La Motte Piquet had occurred so late at night, the American sent word to the Frenchman that he proposed to sail through his lines in broad daylight on the morrow, with the brig *Independence* temporarily attached to his command, and salute him in open light of day. With great good humor, La Motte Piquet again expressed his intention of responding. Accordingly the next morning, Jones repaired on board the *Independence,* and, having made everything as smart and as shipshape as possible, with the newest and brightest of American ensigns flying from every masthead, the little brig sailed past the towering wall of the great ship of the French line, saluting and receiving their reply. There were no doubts in anyone's mind as to the reality of the salute to the flag after that!

It must have been a proud moment for the man who hoisted the pine tree flag for the first time on the *Alfred;* for the man who had been the first officer of the American navy to receive promotion; for the man who first flung the Stars and Stripes to the breeze from the masthead of a ship; for the man who—his little vessel, trifling and inconsiderable as she was—was yet about to maintain the honor of that flag with unexampled heroism in the home waters and in the presence of the proudest,

most splendid and most efficient navy in the world. That fifteenth of February, that bright, cold, clear winter morning, is one of the memorable anniversaries in the history of our Nation.—*Cyrus T. Brady*, in *Great Commanders' Series.*

The Flag a Protection Abroad.

The Hon. William H. Seward, Secretary of State under Lincoln and Johnson, once related the following incident of his travels in Egypt: "One day our party, made up of ladies and gentlemen on horseback, were ascending a hill when we observed one of the war parties that infest the country, closely following us; and when we reached the top of the hill we met another of those war parties, and they were enemies about to engage in mortal conflict. Here we were, a party of Americans, between these two contending forces—what to do, at first none of us knew, but what we did do was this—we took from a portmanteau the American flag, and, riding a little way to the side of the road, we threw that flag over the limb of a tree, and it was instantly recognized by both of those contending war parties, and we sat down beneath it, as safe as if we had been sitting in the shadow of our own capitol in Washington." Away from home, across the wide ocean, in a strange land, "Old Glory" gave complete protection to that party of American ladies

and gentlemen. Everywhere on land, everywhere on the ocean, where the white wings of commerce fly, among all people in whose language the word "liberty" is known, that flag is respected and honored.

The Flag at a Great Altitude.

Some claim that the greatest altitude to which the American flag was ever hoisted in this country was at Everett, Pennsylvania. Mr. J. C. McGonagle of that place, writing to the New York *Tribune,* says the flag was thirty-six by twenty-eight feet, and was suspended on a wire cable 3,200 feet long, being stretched from mountain to mountain, which made the flag float some seven hundred feet above the earth.

Home-Made Flag Material.

A good piece of history connected with the flag of our country is that relating to the material out of which our flags are made. It is a strange fact that for eighty-nine years after the Stars and Stripes were adopted by the American Congress, they were made of foreign material. All through the war of 1812, and even through the Civil War, no American soldier marched or fought under a yard of American bunting. The reasons for this condition of things were two: First, no one knew how to make it; and second, no manufacturer

dared to invest money in the bunting enterprise because he could not compete with Great Britain, for there was no protection duty on flag bunting.

General Benjamin F. Butler, at the request of the Secretary of War, undertook, with the aid of some young friends in Lowell, Massachusetts, to make a good article of flag bunting. A man was sent to England to learn the process of making it. In 1865, Congress put a duty of forty per cent. on bunting, and that afforded ample protection. Twelve looms were first started at Lowell, and the business increased so rapidly that within twelve years thirteen thousand looms were engaged in making bunting that could not be surpassed in quality by that manufactured in Great Britain. More than that, the price of bunting was cut down from thirty dollars and thirty-five dollars a piece, to eighteen dollars.

It is worthy of special note that the first American flag, made of American bunting, was hoisted over the capitol at Washington in February, 1866. It was twenty-one feet by twelve feet, and was the gift of General Butler.

The Flag in London.

In November, 1881, the Lord Mayor of London held a "Show," or perhaps more properly speaking, the event was the Lord Mayor's Day. It was a great day for Londoners, and was par-

ticularly an interesting day for Americans, of whom a large number were in the city. When the Lord Mayor, and other distinguished Englishmen, and some Americans, rode through the streets in splendid form, the flag of the United States was borne first before the Sheriffs in their state carriages. A roar of cheering greeted the flag throughout the entire route. It was an unprecedented thing that the flag of a foreign country should be carried through the streets of London from the Guildhall to Westminster and back again with a guard of honor attending it, and cheers attending its progress.

The drums and fifes of the city of London Regiment supplied the music, and a company of sergeants, detailed from the same regiment, escorted the flag; and the people did the shouting. One writer says that at every point in the route the appearance of the famous ensign of the States was the signal for outbursts of cheering, which was especially noticeable by St. Martin's Church, and the New Law Courts, at Charing Cross, and opposite the Houses of Parliament, and Westminster bridge. And during the movement of this pageant, the bands frequently played the Star Spangled Banner. Perhaps no flag of any other foreign power in the world would have been so much honored on such an occasion by the high

officials of London.—*George W. Smilley, in N. Y. Tribune* (1881).

Captured Battle Flags.

In the War Department at Washington there are 750 captured battle flags. Five hundred of them were taken from the Confederates, and the remainder are Federal flags recaptured from their captors.

William Jackson Armstrong of Washington, has written an interesting description of these tokens of the greatest civil war the world has seen. The article appeared in the New York *World* in July, 1887, from which I take some extracts.

The contrast in the appearance of the Southern and Union standards is significant of the history of the war. The latter are rigged on clean, polished poles and are of firm, rich material, many of them silk, showing an abundance in the North of the fabrics of which they were made. The majority of the Confederate flags are of the wretchedest, shoddy bunting, miserable in color, as in substance, while great numbers of them are mounted on rude, unbarked poles or saplings—recalling the blockade and the pinching days when war had fallen on a section without manufactures, and the intense desperate purpose of a people forgot seemliness, and absorbed every thought but the winning of the fight.

A study of the records kept by the War Department of the name and capture of each of these flags, though a work of many days, would be of intense interest to the veteran soldier. The sight of these flags themselves would quicken the soldier's heart-beat with memories of the great struggle. That not a few of these standards have been the centres of deadly personal encounters is evident from the numerous blood-stains still traceable upon them. Everything, in fact, in the appearance of the whole collection, faded and soiled and tattered, shows that these are no banners of holiday parade, but have passed through the fire of extremity and actual war—the sorrowful weeds blasted and fallen from its wrath.

I recall the stirring incident of some of these flags in the War Department as they were brought straight from the field of their capture. On one of these occasions thirty of these standards were carried here two days after the battle of Winchester, by a delegation of soldiers whose hands had actually seized them in the fight, Custer with his long yellow hair at their head. Stanton, the grim Secretary of War, unbent. Stanton loved results, and these were the palpable evidences of triumph. Coming out of the lion's den of his office, he took each soldier by the hand and welcomed them as a body, with a speech. When the affair was over the soldiers started again for the

field, and Stanton, taking General Custer's arm, walked slowly down the steps of the War Office. Such was his habit with any of the brilliant leaders of the war after a visit to his department.

The Stars and Stripes in Ireland.

Two or three incidents associated with our Nation's flag in Ireland have impressed me deeply. One was its first and unexpected beholding by an Americal girl whose father had been a soldier in the Civil War. Tears unbidden sprang to resplendent eyes and a heart swelled with exultation—denoting more eloquently than words the passionate love of country characteristic of American women, which has made puissant the arm of the American soldier.

Another was the fervent salutation of the flag in homely speech by a native peasant woman—an octogenarian who had lost her only son in the war for the Union, and whose sole dependence was the pension she was receiving. To her the flag spoke of sacrifice and yet, next to the sign of the cross, it was to her the most precious emblem.

The third impressive incident was the display of the flag over an emigration bureau in the little cathedral town of Cloyne in southeast Ireland, witnessed on the occasion of a pilgrimage there; and curiously enough, the caressing zephyrs carried the glorious colors towards the setting sun,

whither the most vigorous blood of Ireland and of other European countries has long coursed. So much was divined, nearly two centuries ago, by the great Bishop Berkeley, who was born and lived there, in his prophetic verses, thus ending:

"Westward the course of empire takes its way;
The first four acts already past,
A fifth shall close the drama of the day;
Time's noblest offspring is the last."

—*Alexander J. Reid, Wisconsin* (U. S. Consul, Dublin, 1889-92).

A Flag Presented to Lincoln.

What more beautiful conception than that which prompted Mr. Abram Kohn of Chicago in February, 1861, to send Mr. Lincoln, on the eve of his starting to Washington to take the office of President, to which he had been elected, a flag of our country bearing upon its silken folds these words from the fifth and ninth verses of the first chapter of Joshua: "Have I not commanded thee, be strong and of good courage? Be not afraid! Neither be thou dismayed, for the Lord, our God, is with thee, whithersoever thou goest. There shall no man be able to stand before thee all the days of thy life. As I was with Moses, so shall I be with thee. I will not fail thee nor forsake thee."

Could anything have given Mr. Lincoln more

cheer, or been better calculated to sustain his courage or strengthen his faith in the mighty work before him? Thus commanded, thus assured, Mr. Lincoln journeyed to the capital, where he took the oath of office and registered in heaven an oath to save the Union; and "the Lord our God" was with him and did not fail nor forsake him until every obligation of oath and duty was sacredly kept and honored. Not any man was able to stand before him. Liberty was enthroned, the Union was saved, and the flag which he carried floated in triumph and glory upon every flagstaff of the Republic.—*William McKinley* (Cleveland, 1894).

The Sumter Flag After Many Years.

Thirty years after that new upraising of the old flag at Sumter, on April fourteenth, 1895, there was a gathering in Brooklyn, New York, of soldiers and sailors who had served in war time in the vicinity of Fort Sumter, in the successful effort to restore that flag to its place. Every officer and man present had battled and endured in the trenches of the sea islands, or had done service in the vessels of the navy before Charleston harbor or off Fort Sumter. General Stewart L. Woodford, afterwards our Minister to Spain, presided. That identical flag, which had been lowered by General Anderson in 1861, and raised by him

again in 1865, and which had not afterwards been seen in public since it was wrapped about his coffin in 1871, was once more exhibited, by the favor of Mrs. Anderson, who had it in keeping. It was stretched across the platform behind the patriotic speakers. Its rents from shot and shell were more eloquent than Cæsar's gaping wounds, telling their story by their "poor dumb mouths." It was accompanied to that gathering, at the special request of Mrs. Anderson, by members of the old Anderson's Zouaves as a body guard of honor. As one and another of the officers who spoke pointed to that old flag, and reminded us all of what it had stood for, and of what it had cost, in those four years of war, to restore it to its rightful supremacy, the scene was dramatic and impressive. All realized the worth of that flag, and the value of the efforts to restore its supremacy.—*Dr. Henry Clay Trumbull, Army Chaplain* (1895).

Hymn to the Flag.

The greatest flag day ever known in the United States was the thirty-first of October, 1896. Hundred of thousands of flags were flying all over the country. Editorially, *The Tribune* of New York said, on November first of that year: "The flag of the United States was everywhere on Saturday. It never looked more beautiful, and it

never waved in a better cause. It symbolized, as always, union, freedom, honor and power. New York was aflame with the National colors, and the splendid sight was made more impressive by the thought that they were flying all over the country, expressing the same ardent hope and invincible determination. There was no narrow partisanship in the demonstration. It rose far above that. It was an uprising of patriots inspired by a sentiment as deep, and as pure, as that which obliterated party distinction thirty-five years ago." It was during this time when the country was enthusiastically cheering the Star Spangled Banner, that Mr. Anson A. Gard of New York City, contributed to *The Tribune* the following "Hymn to the Flag":

"Our country's flag we raise,
Each star and stripe we praise,
Emblem we love.
Banner of liberty
Float o'er our country free;
Honors we give to thee,
Wave thou above.

"Wave thou our Nation's pride,
O'er vale and mountain side,
Glorious and free.
If on the battle field,
Our lines we're called to yield
Thy fold we'll ever shield;
We'll follow thee.

"Our ships in every clime
Bear thee aloft sublime,
Thou art supreme.
Banner of azure hue,
Float o'er our brave and true,
No foe shall e'er undo
Thy hold supreme.

"Our flag now floats above
Brothers in holy love;
Both blue and gray.
No foreign foe dare tread
On lands thy stars o'er spread;
Thy stripes all nations dread
Wave thou alway."

It will be observed that the lines can be sung to the popular tune, *America*. It seems to be a worthy hymn for patriotic occasions.

A Boom in the Flag Trade.

In March, 1896, the Hon. Nathan Goff, Jr., of Clarksburg, West Virginia, called at the warerooms of a large flag factory in New York City, and said: "I have read your advertisement regarding the National Colors, and have come all the way from my Virginian home to arrange for some decorations. I am going to educate the people down in my part of the Union to respect the flag of our country." Mr. Goff then gave his order for nine flags for private use at his own home. One was 20 by 12 feet; two 15 by 10 feet; two 12 by 8 feet; two 8 by 5 feet; and two 6 by 4

feet. The gentleman in charge of the factory said this was only one of many incidents which proved that patriotism was on an increase in this country. The firm had been in business since 1830, but this was the first time in its history that it had a flag boom in mid-winter. Orders, he said, for American flags, were constantly coming from every part of the habitable globe—from Deadwood, South Dakota, to the Transvaal in far-off South Africa.

At no period between the Civil War, and the war with Spain in 1898, was the spirit of George P. Morris' inspiring lines more genuinely manifested by the American people than in 1896:

"A song for our banner! The watchword recall
Which gave the Republic her station;
'United we stand—divided we fall!'
It made and preserved us a nation!
The union of lakes, the union of lands,
The union of States none can sever,
The union of hearts, the union of hands,
And the flag of our Union forever!"

The Flag Has Never Known Defeat.

While Charles L. Benjamin and George D. Sutton were at Camp Alger, Virginia, during the war with Spain in 1898, they wrote of "The Flag that has Never Known Defeat." The words may be considered a brief, but stirring chapter of the history of the Stars and Stripes:

"On history's crimson pages, high up on the roll of fame,
The story of Old Glory burns, in deathless words of flame.
'Twas cradled in war's blinding smoke, amid the roar of guns,
Its lullabies were battle-cries, the shouts of freedom's sons;
It is the old red, white, and blue, proud emblem of the free,
It is the flag that floats above our land of liberty.
Then greet it, when you meet it, boys, the flag that waves on high;
And hats off, all along the line, when freedom's flag goes by.

"All honor to the Stars and Stripes, our glory and our pride.
All honor to the flag for which our fathers fought and died;
On many a blood-stained battlefield, on many a gory sea,
The flag has triumphed, evermore triumphant may it be.
And since again, mid shot and shell, its folds must be unfurled,
God grant that we may keep it still unstained before the world.
All hail the flag we love, may it victorious ever fly,
And hats off, all along the line, when freedom's flag goes by."

The war's enthusiasm enabled Mary Dowling Sutton to set the words to adequate music, and to the close of the war it was largely popular.

British Honoring the Flag.

Significant of the friendliness which exists at the present moment between Great Britain and this country is the display by the representatives of the English insurance companies in the neighborhood of Pine and Williams Streets of "Old Glory" and the Union Jack. Symbolical of the

sympathy which England extends to America in her struggle for justice and humanity, the two flags are hung side by side, while the entrance halls of some of the British offices are draped with entwinements of the Stars and Stripes and the British flag. Mention should be made also that what is said to be the largest flag ever seen in this city was suspended yesterday between the two spires of St. Patrick's Cathedral. Its size is 40 by 35 feet. The last time "Old Glory" floated from the spires of the Cathedral was during the Columbian celebration (New York, May 5, 1898).

Children and the Flag.

On the occasion of the laying of the corner stone of the dormitory at Northfield, Massachusetts, with a number of others I stood on the piazza of Mr. Moody's house when the children of the two schools, three hundred boys and as many girls, marched up. Flags were scarce, a few only being carried by the children. Things for a moment seemed rather dull, when Mr. Moody, grasping the situation at once, said: "Come, we must do something to give these children a send-off." Looking at his little grandchild, who stood by his side holding a flag, he said:

"Give me that flag, quick!" He took it, and waving it in the air began cheering the children, and instantaneously such a shout went up from

those hundreds of little throats as only the sight of the Stars and Stripes could call forth.

I recall another occasion, twelve or fifteen years ago, when the schools of the Home for the Friendless celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of that institution. There were six hundred or seven hundred poor little children gathered in Madison Square Garden, every one of them carrying an American flag. At a signal from the superintendent they all stood up and waved the flags while they sang the National hymn. I shall never forget that sight. I do not believe there was a dry eye in the house.—*Mrs. Russell Sage* (New York *Tribune,* 1898).

Carrying the Flag Through England.

The Americans, jealous of the honor of their flag, have sometimes, to our insular notions, a rather odd way of showing it. Some of our readers will remember how an American, some time ago, undertook to carry the flag of his country through England. Whatever visions he or his compatriots may have had of his defending it against hostile attacks were soon proven baseless. Englishmen, *cela va sans dire* (it goes without saying), have no hostility to the Americans, and the populace—urban, suburban, and rural—everywhere entered into the humor of the thing, and cheered the gallant sergeant and his bunting

wherever he appeared. All the risk and terror of the exploit melted away in general acclamation and hearty welcome.

An Englishman told us that in descending a mountain in Norway he met an American carrying something rolled up; he unfolded it, and displayed the Stars and Stripes, and said that he had brought it to plant on the summit of the mountain. Why he should do so is by no means apparent; but still, as it pleased him and hurt no one else, it would be churlish indeed to demur to so innocent a pastime. Our friend courteously raised his hat to the symbol of the great daughter Nation over the sea, whereupon the American heartily reciprocated, saying, "Thanks, stranger; and here's to the Union Jack."—*Edward Hulme,* London (in *Flags of the World,* 1898).

The Original "Old Glory."

I am indebted to the Boston *Globe* for the following account of the origin of the name "Old Glory":

The flag was named "Old Glory" in 1831 by a Salem (Massachusetts) skipper named William Driver. He was at that time captain of the brig *Charles Doggett.* He was a successful deep-sea sailor, and was preparing the brig for a voyage to the Southern Pacific. Just before the brig left Salem, a young man at the head of a party of

friends, saluted Captain Driver on the deck of the *Doggett,* and presented him with a large and beautifully made American flag. When it was sent aloft and broke out to the air, Captain Driver christened it "Old Glory." He took it to the South Pacific, and years after, when old age forced him to relinquish the sea, he treasured the flag.

Captain Driver settled in Nashville in 1837, and previous to the Civil War the flag was displayed from the window of the Captain's house, but at the beginning of hostilities it was struck by bullets, whereupon it was kept in out of sight until February twenty-seven, 1862, when General Nelson (shot to death by General Jefferson C. Davis, Louisville, September twenty-nine, 1862) appeared at Nashville with a division of the Union army. Captain Driver presented the flag to the general, to be hoisted on the capitol. The original "Old Glory" could not endure wind and storm, and was carefully stored away, and after the death of the captain in March, 1886, the flag was presented by the compiler of the Driver memoir to the Essex Institute, at Salem, where it is securely kept (1898).

Old Glory at Santiago.

One of the most thrilling incidents in the annals of war, showing the inspiring influence of the flag, occurred on the ramparts of Santiago

on that memorable Friday, July first, 1898. I believe it was in the Twenty-first Regulars, that man after man was fast falling in blood and death before a blazing fire of Mauser bullets, when the soldiers catching a fresh gleam of the flag at a critical moment, spontaneously began to sing "The Star Spangled Banner," and its majestic strains so stirred the souls of the men that they seemed to be nerved, as if by some superhuman power, to defy the storm of battle, and thus they won the victory that sealed the fate of Santiago.

The Flag an Object Lesson.

Mrs. Russell Sage, writing to the New York *Tribune,* says: "My attention has been recently called to the expressions of opinion in your paper regarding the use of our National flag. My idea concerning our flag is that it should be displayed in every place and on all occasions and I do not think we can ever see that flag too often. No matter where it appears, it is an evidence of patriotism. I could recall different times when the sight of our flag made such an impression on my mind, and filled my heart with so much of love for its every star and stripe, that the occasions on which those sentiments were so deeply aroused stand out in the light of events; they are like mile-stones along my path through life.

"I clearly remember the raising of 'Old Glory' at the Highlands of Navesink. It was in the spring of Centennial year, 1876, and up to that time there was not a flag belonging to the Government flying from a port in this country. This flag was bought and paid for by subscription, and an act of Congress gave a grant of a certain space in front of the big Highland Light building for a pole to be erected. When all the details were arranged, the day for hoisting the flag was set, and, with proper ceremonies, the flag was raised and dedicated to the use of the country. I was one of those whose privilege it was to be present, and it was a red-letter day in my life! Every clear day I can see that flag across the bay from my country home at Cedarhurst. Americans returning home from abroad say it is the most welcome sight which greets their eyes."

A Pathetic Incident.

Colonel Richard S. Thompson of the Illinois Commandery, Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States, was a member of the Twelfth New Jersey Infantry in the Civil War. Four or five years ago at the commandery he gave an account of "A Scrap at Gettysburg," in which he related the following touching incident:

"A Confederate major, terribly wounded with buckshot, was brought within the line. He begged

that he might lie on the ground, and, after his pain had been somewhat relieved by a dose of morphia, he noticed our division flag, a blue trefoil on a white field. He stated that before the column started they were addressed by their officers and told that they would have to meet nothing but green Pennsylvania militia, and, he added: 'But when we saw that old clover sheaf unfurled, we knew what kind of green militia we had to contend with.' The major then turning his head a little, his eyes, on which the shadow of death was setting, rested upon the graceful folds of 'Old Glory.' An expression of gentle sadness came over his face as he said: 'After all, that is the glorious old flag.' These were his last words. A blanket was laid over his face and he slept his last sleep. Who shall say that in the twilight wherein life sinks into death, there did not come to him a feeling of loyalty to the grand old flag of his country."

Patriotism and the Flag.

At the battle of Malvern Hill (Virginia, July first, 1862), a number of boys in blue were captured by the Confederates and imprisoned in Barrett's tobacco factory, Richmond. These noble men well-nigh perished through sickness and starvation. Their sacrifice only intensified their patriotism, and though under strict surveillance, they

determined to celebrate in some fitting way the approaching Fourth of July, 1862. The leading spirit in this heroic band was Timothy S. Regan, of Irish descent, and a recent emigrant from Wales. Though coming to this country just before the war, he was as ardently a patriot and an American, as any man in the Ninth Massachusetts, to which he belonged. To give vent to their pent-up feelings and love of country, they decided to make a flag, even though its discovery meant death to its possessors.

"Pathetic and beautiful was the task these martyrs in the cause of human liberty set themselves. They must literally rob their own bodies for its accomplishment. Twenty or twenty-five men were in this part of the prison. A flannel shirt made the ground-work of blue. From another shirt of white cotton, were cut the stars. Poor as was this garment, Regan paid for it the sum of $6.50. In early twilight, in concealment, and as best they could, the brave men wrought. The task was accomplished. The flag was theirs. High up among the timber of the roof the eloquent banner was unfurled. Then as the sun mounted the sky and the day came to its climax of splendor, these sick and weary, hungry, starving and dying men huddled together under the Stars and Stripes. Did ever patriotism find nobler expression? Did ever the flag better prove its power as the symbol

of a nation's freedom and life? The flag was soon taken down. As it could not be kept without peril to life, it was torn into strips and divided among the twenty or more men present. Each wound around his body as a sacred memento the piece given him. Nor was this the last of this wondrous banner. The men of the prison were soon exchanged. Regan was so sick that his comrades were compelled to support him while standing in line waiting for his turn. Wherever the liberated patriots went, their portion of the flag went with them. After the war, by persistent correspondence, Regan succeeded in recovering every piece. The last was secured in 1893. All were sewed together, and the banner of the prison days completely restored. Through the recent death of Regan, the unique flag became the property of Thomas G. Stevenson Post 26, G. A. R., Roxbury District, Boston."—*The Rev. Dwight M. Pratt, Auburndale, Mass.* (*Independent,* 1898).

The Flag and the Home.

The beautiful home of one of the most hospitable of New York's hostesses, is profusely draped with the National emblem. When the hostess was asked her opinion as to the proper display of the flag, she said:

"On the interior of my house I feel that I cannot have too great a display of the emblem that

means so much to every patriotic heart. In my husband's office and study I have made a panel of the colors and a drapery of the flag, and these are the first things upon which a patient's eyes fall on entering the room. Perhaps the sight may recall the memory of pain or illness incurred voluntarily and borne bravely for the sake of country and home, and the thought may help some shrinking soul here to meet unflinchingly the trial of sickness and agony.

"At this time, too, when I give a dinner to any one whose connection with, or sentiments for, the war are of a pronounced nature, I like to spread the board with the flag which stands for the cause. On the back of each chair I hang some banner that has been baptized with fire. This is all that I do now. When the strife is ended and our soldier boys come marching home again, then I shall drape the house-front with flags from basement to roof, and fling the starry banner forth with the gladdest exultation heart can feel."—*New York Tribune* (1898).

Southern Respect for the Flag.

There were many instances of love for the old flag on the Southern side of the dividing line in war times. Even among those who fought under the Stars and Bars there was not wholly lacking a recognition of the superiority of the Stars and

Stripes, with their patriotic and inspiring history and associations as a National flag. As I talked with a group of Confederate soldiers on my way from Columbus to Richmond as a prisoner of war, I was asked by one why we made such a fuss over our flag, as if that were the only thing worth having and fighting for. Before I could reply, another Confederate spoke up warmly, as if out of the memories of the Mexican war, or other national service:

"Oh, well! as to that, the Stars and Stripes are just the sauciest rag to fight under that ever swung on a battlefield; and I don't wonder they like that flag."

Any old soldier on our side of the lines could say amen to the sentiment.—*Rev. Dr. Trumbull, Army Chaplain* (1898).

The Largest Flag Ever Made.

The largest flag ever put together in the United States, was made by Miss Josephine Mulford of Madison, New Jersey. She was moved partly by sentiment and partly by a desire to pay off a mortgage on her mother's little home in a novel, yet patriotic way. The flag is 100 by 65 feet; the blue field is 40 by 35 feet; each star measures two feet eight inches across; the stripes are five feet wide; and the flag contains as many stitches

as there were soldiers in the Spanish-American War—325,000.

Miss Mulford made five of the stars in the historic places of the States they represent. The Pennsylvania star was made in Philadelphia, partly in the house of Betsy Ross in the very room in which, it is claimed by some writers, the first American flag was made in 1776; partly in Carpenter Hall, in the room where the first Continental Congress met, and partly while sitting in Hancock's chair at Independence Hall, which he occupied when he signed the Declaration of Independence. The New Jersey star was made in Washington's headquarters at Morristown. The Maryland star was made at Fort McHenry in honor of Francis Scott Key's flag—our everlasting Star Spangled Banner. The Virginia star was made in the Lafayette room at Washington's home, Mount Vernon. The New York star represents two victories. It was made in the long room at Fraunce's Tavern, where Washington bade farewell to his officers after the Revolution.

Miss Mulford was wonderfully inspired in carrying to completion this remarkable undertaking. She was greatly encouraged by President McKinley, and other public officials. On the halyard-canvas she embroidered the following beautiful sentiment for our victorious army and navy: "While making this flag I have followed

you with my thoughts and needle all through this late war, and taken a stitch for each one of you. I felt confident from the beginning that you would overcome all difficulties, and return as you have, still under the glorious Stars and Stripes, for which I am truly grateful, and I would like the people of our country to present this flag to the Nation which you have so nobly preserved, as a thanksgiving to you all."

At a meeting of the American Flag Association in New York City, June fourteenth, 1901, Mrs. Virginia Chandler Titcomb of Brooklyn, moved that the Association take the necessary steps to obtain for the Hall of Fame the great flag made by Miss Mulford, and which was unfurled on National Flag Day at the Pan-American Exposition at Buffalo. President Prince of the Association, shocked the members by raising a technical point against Miss Mulford's flag. He claimed that on New York State soil the flag was a violation of the law, because the names of the various States were embroidered in the stars, which, he said, amounted to a desecration of the Stars and Stripes; therefore, the motion of Mrs. Titcomb did not prevail.

Miss Mulford died in the summer of 1900, her death undoubtedly being caused by the great effort she put forth to finish the flag against approaching illness. When I made an inquiry of

her relatives as to what disposition had been made of the wonderful flag, her sister requested Mr. Edward R. Forman of Brooklyn, New York, to say that the Daughters of the American Revolution and other patriotic societies have attempted to take the matter up with a view to making some patriotic and appropriate use of the flag, but so far (March, 1903) nothing has been accomplished.

Trying to Imitate "Old Glory."

State flags were to be seen in the Civil War on either side, but "Old Glory" was the proud ensign of brotherhood for all Union soldiers—its regimental folds, as the fight went on, inscribed in historic gilt with the names of battles or crimsoned with the blood of the valiant who bore it. Nor had secession the ingenuity to design a substitute, wholly different, wholly admirable, or wholly convenient for its purpose. Four times did the Confederate States essay a flag for an independent power on earth. First came the "Stars and Bars," hoisted over the capitol at Montgomery, Alabama, on the fourth of March, 1861; with its seven stars and three stripes, it looked amid dust and smoke so much like the old repudiated colors, that something more original was sought for. Next, Beauregard designed a battle-flag which was borne continually after the first Bull Run (July twenty-first, 1861), under public sanction, its red

field crossed by two blue bars, each bearing six gilt stars besides a large one in the centre. In May, 1863, the Congress at Richmond ordered a new flag, which used the Beauregard emblem as the upper inner corner or union, adding a plain white fly; but this so resembled on its staff a flag of truce, when fallen limp, that in March, 1865, the Confederate Congress gave to the fly a broad red edge; and then came truce in earnest!—*Schouler's History, U. S.*

The Daughters Raise a Flag.

When the Twelfth Continental Congress of the Daughters of the American Revolution met at Washington, D. C., in February, 1903, an inspirited scene was witnessed by a large and patriotic assemblage at which were representatives from all the States of the Union. The Daughters purposed to erect a Continental Hall at the corner of Seventeenth and D Streets, Northwest, and a part of the programme on the twenty-third day of the month was the raising of a flag on the proposed site of their Congress Hall. After the regular proceedings of the day were concluded, Mrs. Cornelia Fairbanks, President-General of the Congress, wife of United States Senator Fairbanks of Indiana, leaning on the arm of General Warfield, and followed by the National Officers and members of the Sons of the American Revolu-

tion, marched to the site of the new building. This spot was made historic in 1896 because thereon was created the flag-staff used at the inauguration of President McKinley. The beautiful flag was attached to a rope in the hands of Mrs. Fairbanks, and, with a hip! hip! hurrah! it was hoisted aloft to the tune of "The Star Spangled Banner," sung from the hearts and by the voices of a great audience.

The cheering that followed was simply an expression of a sentiment that is now taking hold of the people in all parts of our land—The Flag of our Union forever!

The Flag Saved a County to the Union.

The death, on the eleventh of March, 1903, of Mrs. Sarah Landis Maher of Wilmette, Illinois, calls to mind an incident of peculiar interest associated with the beginning of the Civil War. The Chicago *Record-Herald* says that Mrs. Maher and her husband were then living at Mill Creek, Kanawha County, which is now a part of West Virginia, where Mr. Maher had charge of coal and oil works. The sentiment was running strongly to the side of division of the Union, when Mrs. Maher urged that, as there was not a Union flag in the district, her husband ride to Charleston, ten miles away, and procure silk materials so that she could manufacture one. The question of se-

cession from the Union or from the eastern part of the State was to be voted on two days after Mrs. Maher received her silk, and she was compelled to work all day Sunday and all Sunday night to get the flag finished in time. The next morning, when the men of the district went to the polling place, they found floating above it a beautiful banner, Mr. Maher on a block ready to address them, and his wife by his side pointing to the flag as its folds flapped from the staff. Mr. Maher made an impassioned speech, and with tears streaming down his cheeks, begged his neighbors to remain true to the Union. The appeal was not made in vain, as a large majority was given against secession. Mrs. Maher then took the flag and, aided by a large body of men, planted it on a hill overlooking the whole valley, where it stayed till it fell in tatters.

The Greatness of the Stars and Stripes.

At a dinner at the Union League, Philadelphia, in April, 1899, given in honor of Charles E. Clark, Commander of the battleship *Oregon,* the Hon. Hampton L. Carson delivered an address on "Our Navy," from which the following salute to the flag is taken:

On the very day when the British were driven out of Boston, John Paul Jones, with that historic rattle-snake flag, and floating above it, not the Stars

and Stripes, but the stripes of the Union Jack, entered the waters of Great Britain, and then it was seen that an American captain with an American ship and American sailors had pluck to push out into foreign seas, and beard the British lion in his den. I know of no more thrilling incident in Revolutionary naval annals than the fight between the *Serapis* and the *Bon Homme Richard,* when Paul Jones, on the burning deck of a sinking ship, lashed his yardarms to those of the enemy and fought hand to hand, man to man, until the British colors struck; and then, under the very cliffs of Old England, ran up for the first time the Stars and Stripes—with a field of blue into which the skillful fingers of Betsy Ross of Philadelphia had woven inextinguishable stars; the red stripes typifying the glory, the valor, and the self-sacrifice of the men who died that liberty might live; and the white emblematic of purity, fitly expressing those principles to preserve which, these men had sanctified themselves by an immortal self-dedication.

The Banner as a Charm.

It is an old story how men have loved the standard of their country, how they have longed for the sight of that memorial of home in far-off lands, and have grown happier when the sight of it was vouchsafed to them. A fine illustration of

this thought is found in Mr. Jacob A. Riis' *The Making of an American.* He describes an incident which occurred while on a visit to the land of his birth, and with this reference to the flag, he closes his delightful volume:

"Then I fell ill of a fever and lay many weeks in the house of a friend upon the shore of the beautiful Oeresund. One day when the fever had left me, they rolled my bed into a room overlooking the sea. The sunlight danced upon the waves, and the distant mountains of Sweden were blue against the horizon. Ships passed under full sail up and down the great waterway of the Nations. But the sunshine of the peaceful day bore no message for me. I lay moodily picking at the coverlet, sick and discouraged and sore—I hardly knew why myself—until all at once there sailed past, close ashore, a ship flying the flag of freedom, blown out in the breeze till every star in it showed bright and clear. That moment I knew. Gone were illness, discouragement, and gloom. Forgotten weakness and suffering, the cautions of doctors and nurses, I sat up in bed and shouted, laughed and cried by turns, waving my handkerchief to the flag. They thought I had lost my head; but I told them no, thank God! I had found it, my heart too, at last. I knew then that it was my flag; that my children's home was mine, indeed, that I also had become an American in

truth. And thank God, and like unto the man sick of the palsy, I arose from my bed and went home, healed!"

"*The Flag of Our Country.*"

A banquet was given to Rear Admiral Winfield Scott Schley at Kansas City, Missouri, in November, 1902. One of the toasts of the occasion was "The Flag of Our Country," to which Hugh Gordon Miller responded. From the address are these two forcible paragraphs:

I may be permitted to remark that the flag is "up there" (referring to Porto Rico and the Philippines), but it went up there backed by a united country without regard to section or to party; and I am here to say to you that there are 5,000,000 young Americans in this country who are prepared to back up the President of this great Republic when he says "the flag of our country is up there to stay put." For after all has been said and done, and not only the smoke of battle but the smoke of partisan turmoil have forever rolled away, and we look over the recent record of our country and our flag, is there one of us who does not now believe that when on that holy Sabbath morning, four years ago, the guns of our Asiatic squadron under the command of the immortal Dewey—fired the first shot at Manila, that like the shot at Lexington, went echoing round the

Porto Rico Flag.

Hawaiian Flag.

When Porto Rico became one of the possessions of the United States it hauled down the flag of Spain and adopted the design of the Cuban flag, with the single exception that the colors were interchanged.

It is said that the British Union Jack in the upper corner of the Hawaiian flag was given to the king of the islands in 1793, by George Vancouver, the noted English explorer. The eight stripes in the flag represent the eight islands of the Hawaiian territory.

The present flag of Hawaii has the red crosses of St. George and St. Andrew bordered with white. This has formed the British Union Jack since 1801.

world, it pealed forth to mankind that from that time on, in whatever clime or region of the earth the old Star Spangled Banner might be unfurled, the shackles of human tyranny and oppression should forever fall at the feet of Columbia, and that from that holy Sabbath morning every wind that swept through the hills and valleys of Cuba and the Philippine Islands, should sing the same song of universal freedom and of the glory and the greatness of a people, a country, and a flag, forever consecrated to the genius of universal liberty?

Since that first great naval engagement which occurred on the other side of the ocean and off the enemy's shore, the first naval engagement in which our flag appeared—when, after the flag-staff was shot away, we are told that John Paul Jones was asked by the British warship if he had struck his colors, he replied that he had not yet begun to fight—until the gallant old General Wheeler refused to fall back with the banner over the hills at Santiago, and gallant Admiral Schley stood under the same banner, exclaiming in language that will ring down the ages as long as the records of civilized man shall last, "There is glory enough for us all," the story of the Star Spangled Banner has always and everywhere been the same.

PROTECTING THE FLAG FROM DESECRATION.

THE PATRIOTIC WORK ACCOMPLISHED BY THE DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION.

THE first appeal to the Congress of the United States for protection of the American flag from wilful indignity and malicious insult, was made at a regular meeting of the Milwaukee Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, held on the fourth of December, 1896.

At that event, Mrs. Walter Kempster, a member of the Chapter, gave an account of numerous public assaults and outrages upon the National flag which had occurred within the preceding months, and then offered the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted:

"*Resolved,* That the members of the Milwaukee Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution request all chapters of this organiza-

tion to unite with them in a petition to the Congress of the United States, to enact a law providing penalties for any disrespect shown to the flag of our country, and making it a misdemeanor to place upon or attach to the flag any political or other device of any kind."

Mrs. Kempster was appointed a committee of one to carry out the provisions of the resolution; and in furtherance of this, by December twelfth, 1896, she had sent to every chapter in the National Society a circular asking for united action in a petition to the Congress of the United States for a law to prevent desecration of the flag. The effect of the circular was, for the first time, to bring sharply to the minds of thousands of women the appreciation of the fact that they, as well as their husbands, sons, and brothers, had a personal duty to the flag which protected them.

On February the twenty-second, 1897, the annual national meeting of the Continental Congress of the National Society, Daughters of the American Revolution, met in the city of Washington, and on the twenty-seventh instant the representatives of the Milwaukee Chapter presented in its Chapter, a memorial drawn by Mrs. Kempster, endorsed by eighty-one chapters; also a draft of a bill forbidding all forms of desecration of the flag, and an appeal to the Continental Congress for its active support in an endeavor to secure the

enactment of an effective flag law. The Continental Congress, then representing sixteen thousand women, endorsed the memorial on the same day.

On the ninth of July, 1897, the president-general of the National Society, Mrs. Adlai E. Stevenson of Illinois, appointed a flag committee to plan and conduct the work suggested in the memorial, which consisted of Mrs. Walter Kempster, chairman, Mrs. James G. Jenkins, Mrs. Henry C. Payne, Mrs. Julius H. Pratt, of Wisconsin; Mrs. R. Randolph Powell, Washington, D. C.; and Mrs. John Ritchie, of Maryland. The bill drawn and proposed by Mrs. Kempster, endorsed by the Milwaukee Chapter and by the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution, was first introduced in Congress, December eighteenth, 1897. Since that time the bill has been continuously in the hands of Congressional committees, and the effort to arouse public sentiment to demand its passage has been actively prosecuted.

At the National Congress of the Daughters of the American Revolution, held in Washington in February, 1899, Mrs. Kempster made an eloquent personal appeal to the members for individual, enthusiastic work, from which I take the following paragraphs:

"First, let me say for all the workers in this effort for a law that we want the flag used as freely as possible. We want it upon the school houses and national buildings. We want the flag with its symbolism of loyalty and fidelity—like the unchanging stars in the sky; with its purity of devotion; with all it typifies of agony and of sublime self-sacrifice—held free and pure and sacred as the cross. It has been contaminated by the greed of gain until it has been dragged down to the vilest associations. It has been used as a trade mark of party patriotism.

"We reverence the heroism of our patriots, but do we protect the dearly bought benefits? We shed tears of sympathy as we hear of the deeds of the lion-hearted of our land, and then—do we look on serene and unmoved at the daily and hourly mockery and degradation of the emblem of all the bloodshed and glory of our national history?

"Long years ago the great powers of the earth found it necessary to protect the symbol of their sovereignty from the vicious and lawless, and to secure for it the deference due to a representative of the Government. Even the earliest known enactments of the very early times, fifteen centuries before Christ, 3,400 years ago, the laws of Manu, the great Hindu lawgiver (whose institutes are probably the fountain-head of modern law), included the following: 'The breaker of a foot-

bridge, of a public flag, of a palisade, and of idols made of clay shall repair what he has broken and pay a mulct of 500 panas.' Thus, thirty-four centuries ago, the power of law protected life and, with the same sentence, the emblem of religion and of nationality.

"At the present time there are few great nations but have laws to preserve their flag from desecration, and all consider their national ensign sacred, not to be sullied by love of gain, not to be at the mercy of the reckless, the evil-minded, nor the anarchist. The first effort to induce the United States Government to protect its flag seems to have been made in 1880, when a bill was introduced in Congress for that purpose. It died in the committee-room, and ten years appear to have elapsed before the introduction of the next flag bill in 1890; since that time some similar bill has been before Congress almost continually.

"The bill to save the flag from desecration is not without companionship—many other patriotic societies—the Sons of the American Revolution, the Grand Army of the Republic, the Military Order of the Loyal Legion, the Society of Colonial Wars—doubtless others—have presented bills embodying the hopes and wishes of many thousands of members for some form of protection for our flag. Petitions containing this request from hundreds of thousands have asked for such a law dur-

ing this Fifty-fifth Congress, and have asked in vain. . . . .

"The great patriotic work done by all the Daughters in the past year has shown how deep and wide is their love and reverence for our country, how national and all-embracing is their conception of our duty as a national society. The glory and beauty of our organization is the fact that we are all banded together as sisters of one land. There is no North, no South, no East, no West. We have not even the slight dividing line of State societies and we stand together, shoulder to shoulder, a union of 28,000 earnest women, helping to uphold the great principles from which our forefathers made liberty for us.

"In your several States are many thousands of men and women with hearts but recently stirred to their depth by love of the flag, ready to aid us, if you will ask them. Will you not unite—America knows that in union is strength—and by your union and organization, help to convince Congress that 'the people' want the flag protected from desecration?

"We plead with you, as daughters descended from those who kept all sacred things pure and holy, who suffered and endured all things, to give us a flag and a country, that you go back to all parts of this great land and arouse your people in each corner and district of your State with such

ardor that our Representatives in Congress cannot another year refuse to grant our prayer—that the Government itself shall respect the dignity of our flag, shall hold aloof its ensign, pure and unsullied, demanding respect and honor from all who are sheltered by its folds."

The part which the Daughters of the American Revolution have taken in this movement differs in but one respect from that of the many other patriotic societies that have urged so strenuously the enactment of a flag law by the Federal Government. The Daughters began their effort by asking for complete protection of the flag—meaning thereby to forbid its use for advertisements, to forbid placing upon or attaching to it, devices or inscriptions and to punish those who maliciously injure or destroy it. Wanton and malignant indignity and assault upon the flag they have always felt to be an unendurable evil and outrage, not to be permitted by any government that would be respected at home or abroad; but the clause forbidding such desecration they struggled for, for three years unsupported by any other organization.

The efforts of the Daughters of the Revolution to secure a strict law against all forms of desecration of the flag brought upon them much criticism from some other patriotic associations, but to their constant appeal "to protect the flag from

street brawls and riots, from use as a party sign-board and trade-mark, from degradation and mutilation and insult at the hands of anarchists and fomentors of sedition"—there was never any reply. But finally, when under the influence of public opinion, legislatures of the different States began to enact laws to protect the emblem of the Nation which the Nation itself neglected to do, then the awakened heart and mind of the people made themselves felt in the laws placed upon the statute books of the various States. At the present time twenty-two States and Territories have enacted laws to protect the flag from desecration, and a large portion of this number embody the three provisions of the bill first asked for by the Daughters of the American Revolution, and so ardently and unfalteringly urged by them. And at last, in the winter of 1900, the American flag association withdrew the opposition which some of its officers had hitherto made to the measure presented by the National Society of the Daughters, and recommended a bill substantially the same as the one presented by them in 1897, and which the flag association now urges Congress and State legislatures to enact.

In the widely extended effort to arouse public opinion regarding the disgraceful misuse of our country's flag, all patriotic societies have done good work, and all have a share in the honor and

credit which may come with ultimate success. In the general growth of reverence for our National colors no boundaries or limits can be given to the influence any one society has wielded; but the Daughters of the American Revolution must be recognized as the vanguard of patriotic Americans who first sought to protect the flag from desecration, and to their unyielding loyalty to the Stars and Stripes—sacred, unpolluted, and uninjured—must be given the credit for the noble sentiment which led to the enactment of so many wholesome State flag-laws, and for which the united patriotic societies appeal to the Congress of the United States.

Secretary of the Navy.

Rear Admiral Senior in Rank.

Rear Admiral Second in Rank.

Commodore's Broad Pennant, Senior in Rank

Commodore's Broad Pennant, Second in Rank

GOOD THINGS SPOKEN OF THE FLAG

INCLUDING MANY APOSTROPHES TO THE BANNER OF LIBERTY BY EMINENT ORATORS, POETS AND SOLDIERS.

FIVE years after Francis Scott Key wrote the words of the "Star Spangled Banner," Joseph Rodman Drake gave the world the popular poem, "The American Flag." This was in 1819, one year before the death of the gifted young poet. The Union was then composed of twenty States—Illinois having been made a member only a few months—and Territories were earnestly seeking admission. The Stars in the union of the flag were thus increasing, and "Old Glory" was more than ever emblematic of progressive American citizenship. It was when contemplating the growing greatness of the flag, that Drake wrote this noble poem, entitled "The American Flag":

"When Freedom, from her mountain height,
Unfurled her standard to the air,
She tore the azure robe of night,
And set the stars of glory there!
She mingled with its gorgeous dyes
The milky baldric of the skies,
And striped its pure celestial white
With streakings of the morning light;
Then, from his mansion in the sun,
She called her eagle bearer down,
And gave into his mighty hand
The symbol of her chosen land!

"Majestic monarch of the cloud!
Who rear'st aloft thy regal form,
To hear the tempest trumpings loud,
And see the lightning-lances driven,
When stride the warriors of the storm,
And rolls the thunder-drum of heaven!
Child of the sun! to thee 'tis given
To guard the banner of the free,
To hover in the sulphur smoke,
To ward away the battle stroke,
And bid its blendings shine afar,
Like rainbows on the cloud of war,
The harbingers of victory.

"Flag of the brave! thy folds shall fly,
The sign of hope and triumph high!
When speaks the signal trumpet tone
And the long line comes gleaming on,
(Ere yet the life-blood warm and wet
Has dimmed the glistening bayonet)
Each soldier eye shall brightly turn
To where thy skyborn glories burn,
And, as his springing steps advance,
Catch war and vengeance from the glance.

"And when the eannon mouthings loud,
Heave in wild wreaths the battle shroud,
And gory sabres rise and fall,
Like shoots of flame on midnight's pall;
There shall thy meteor-glanees glow,
And cowering foes shall shrink beneath,
Each gallant arm that strikes below
That lovely messenger of death.

"Flag of the seas! on oeean wave
Thy stars shall glitter o'er the brave;
When death, eareering on the gale,
Sweeps darkly round the bellied sail,
And frighted waves rush wildly back
Before the broadside's reeling rack,
Each dying wanderer of the sea
Shall look at once to heaven and thee,
And smile to see thy splendors fly
In triumph o'er his elosing eye.

"Flag of the free heart's hope and home,
By angel hands to valor given;
Thy stars have lit the welkin dome
And all thy hues were born in heaven!
Forever float that standard sheet!
Where breathes the foe but falls before us?
With freedom's soil beneath our feet,
And freedom's banner streaming o'er us?"

The last four lines of the poem were written by Drake's friend and literary partner, Fitz-Greene Halleck. There is deep pathos in the death of young Drake. The span of his life was only twenty-five years. At Mrs. Drake's request, all of her husband's unpublished poems were carefully copied by Dr. De Kay, an intimate friend

of the family, and when Drake lay on his death-bed, the doctor took the collection to him and said: "See, Joe, what I have done." But the dying poet said: "Burn them, they are valueless." Among the lot was "The American Flag," a poem of enduring value.

Duty to Our Flag.

When the Standard of the Union is raised and waves over my head, the Standard which Washington planted on the ramparts of the Constitution, God forbid that I should inquire whom the people have commissioned to unfurl it and bear it up. I can only ask in what manner, as a humble individual, I can best discharge my duties in defending it. . . .

We wish that the last object on the sight of him who leaves his native shores, and the first to gladden his who revisits it, may be something which should remind him of the liberty and the glory of his country. Let the flag rise till it meets the sun in his coming; let the earlier light of the morning gild it, and the parting day linger to play on its summit.—*Daniel Webster.*

The following is Mr. Webster's grand apostrophe to the flag, which forms the closing sentence of his immortal speech in reply to Hayne, United States Senate, January 26, 1830:

"Let my last feeble, lingering glance behold the gorgeous ensign of the republic, now known and honored throughout the earth, its arms and trophies streaming in their original luster; not a stripe erased or polluted, not a single star obscured—bearing for its motto no such miserable interrogatory as, What is all this worth? nor these other words of delusion and folly, Liberty first, and union afterwards; but everywhere, spread all over in characters of living light, blazing on all its ample folds as they float over the sea and over the land, and in every wind under the whole heavens, that other sentiment, dear to every true American heart—Liberty and Union, now and forever, one and inseparable!"

The Flag and American Citizenship.

But, sir, so long as that flag shall bear aloft its glittering stars—bearing them amid the din of battle and waving them triumphantly above the storm of the ocean—so long, I trust, shall the rights of American citizens be preserved, safe and unimpaired, and transmitted as a sacred legacy from one generation to another, till discord shall wreck the spheres, the grand march of time shall cease, and but one fragment of all creation be left to chafe on the bosom of eternity's waves.—*Samuel Houston, Tex.* (Congress, 1832).

The Old Flag.

The flags of Nations have been hallowed by lofty and ennobling associations; but none of them by higher or more endearing recollections than the flag which hangs over us to-day—the same flag under which our fathers battled for freedom and independence. It was adopted by the old Congress while the new-born Republic was struggling into life. In the hour of victory we have given it to the winds, as the expression of our thankfulness and joy. In the days of our calamity we have turned to it for support, as the people of God turned in the darkness of the night to the Pillar of Fire, which was conducting them through the perils of the wilderness.

When our day of trial shall have gone by, the old flag shall float again unquestioned in the land and on the sea, the emblem not merely of the past, but of the latest and noblest of all victories—the triumph of a great nation over the elements of weakness and danger contained within itself.—*General John A. Dix* (New England Society, New York, 1863).

General Grant and the Flag.

During the National campaign of 1868, when General Grant was first nominated for the presidency, he observed the names of Grant and Col-

fax attached to a national flag, suspended over a business street in Galena, and at once he requested that the flag be taken down or the names removed, saying: "There is no name so great that it should be placed upon the flag of our country."

The Glorious Flag at Sumter.

At the request of President Lincoln, Henry Ward Beecher delivered the oration at Fort Sumter, on the rehoisting of the flag by General Anderson, April fourteenth, 1865. The following beautiful apostrophe to the flag is taken from that oration:

On this solemn and joyful day we again lift to the breeze our father's flag, now again the banner of the United States, with the fervent prayers that God will crown it with favor, protect it from treason, and send it down to our children, with all the blessings of civilization, liberty, and religion. Happily, no bird of prey has been inscribed upon it. The stars that redeem the night from darkness, and the beams of red light that beautify the morning, have been united upon its folds. As long as the sun endures, or the stars, may it wave over a Nation neither enslaved nor enslaving! Once, and but once, has treason dishonored it. In that insane hour when the guiltiest and bloodiest rebellion of all time hurled their fires upon this fort, you, sir (turning to General Anderson), and

a small heroic band, stood within these now crumbling walls, and did gallant and just battle for the honor and defense of the Nation's banner. In that cope of fire, that glorious flag still peacefully waved to the breeze above your head, unconscious of the harm as the stars and skies above it. After a vain resistance, with trembling hand and sad heart, you withdrew it from its height, closed its wings, and bore it away, sternly to sleep amid the tumults of rebellion, and the thunder of battle. . . . You that then, for the day, were humbled, are here again, to triumph once and forever. In the storm of that assault this glorious ensign was often struck, but, memorable fact, not one of its stars was torn out by shot or shell! Lifted to the air to-day, it proclaims that after four years of war, not a State is blotted out.

Hail to the flag of our fathers, and our flag! Glory to the banner that has gone through four years black with the tempests of war, to pilot the Nation back to peace without dismemberment! . . . When our flag came down, four years ago, it lay brooding in darkness. When it went down four million people had no flag. And to-day it rises, and four million people cry out, "Behold our flag!" It is the gospel that they recite in sacred words: "It is the gospel of the poor, it heals our broken hearts, it preaches deliverance to the captives, it gives sight to the blind, it sets

at liberty them that are bruised." Rise up, then, glorious gospel banner, and roll out these messages of God. Tell the air that not a spot now sullies thy whiteness. Thy red is not the blush of shame, but the flush of joy. Tell the dews that wash thee that thou art as pure as they. Say to the night that thy stars lead towards the morning; and to the morning, that a brighter day arises with healing in its wing. And then, O glorious flag, bid the sun pour light on all thy folds with double brightness while thou art bearing round and round the world the solemn joy—a race set free, a Nation redeemed!

Beautiful Symbolization of the Flag.

There is the National flag. He must be cold, indeed, who can look upon its folds rippling in the breeze without pride of country. If in a foreign land the flag is companionship, and country itself, with all its endearments, who, as he sees it, can think of a State merely, whose eyes, once fastened upon its radiant trophies, can fail to recognize the image of the whole Nation? It has been called "a floating piece of poetry"; and yet I know not if it have an intrinsic beauty beyond other ensigns. Its highest beauty is what it symbolizes. It is because it represents all, that all gaze at it with delight and reverence. It is a piece of bunting lifted in the air; but it speaks

sublimity, and every part has a voice. Its stripes of alternate red and white, proclaim the original Union of thirteen States to maintain the Declaration of Independence. Its stars of white on a field of blue proclaim Union of States constituting our National constellation, which receives a new star with every new State. The two together signify Union, past, present. The very colors have a language, officially recognized by our fathers. White is purity; red, for valor; blue for justice. And altogether, bunting, stripes, stars, and colors, blazing in the sky, make the flag of our country, to be cherished by all hearts, to be upheld by all our hands.—*Charles Sumner* (1873).

The Old Flag.

Everywhere the dominion and the power belong to that same old flag under which our fathers conquered and under which we, thank God and the brave men who led us, have succeeded. What does this flag mean? What is that trumpery, that piece of bunting you can buy for six shillings a yard? What does it amount to? Who would live for it, or die for it? It is only so much a yard, that is all—a poor piece of bunting. But around it, and in it, and for it, the life, and hopes, and growth, and majesty of this whole people stand to-day. Can you value it by the yard? The value of a thing depends on what you give

for it, and what more can a man give than his life? How many of us here offered that thing? Don't I see the countenance of one man before us (pointing to the portrait of General McPherson), who is to us the emblem of the million dead whose bones sanctify every foot of that ground we conquered? Some died and some of us had the good fortune to survive. Don't you know, however highly you value your personal life, that far beyond and above that is the life of the Nation, and this life is symbolized by the old flag. . . .

This is the flag, inviolate and unstained, as we receive it from our ancestors, and we stand ready to deliver it to those who come after us, and we have the assurance that this Government, which was saved by the men of this day, has been planted upon a basis that nothing that human foresight can avert, can overthrow. God led the flag and the army that sustained it.—*Major-General Stephen A. Hulburt, Illinois* (Toledo, 1873).

Great Objects Symbolized by Our Flag.

Great objects are symbolized by our flag, and herein as a Nation we have just reason to be proud. We are greatly favored in extent of territory, in variety of productions, in everything that enables a people to be just and great, and on us and our children rests the mighty responsibil-

ity of continuing our history, so that our flag shall continue to be emblem of all the virtues that constitute national greatness, quite as much as numbers and wealth. We in our day fought a great battle that unity should be maintained, that liberty should be universal, and that justice should not be at the mercy of the disaffected. Now our flag is universally respected because it is the true emblem of the power of a united people, and because it respects principles which are dear to all mankind.

Let us cherish the memories of the past, and resolve, each in his own sphere, to uphold the right as we see it; and the blue of our flag, studded with stars, will be as the firmament of heaven, and the stripes symbolic of the sun's glory, as he sets in the summer's horizon of the west.—*General William T. Sherman* (Springfield, Ill., 1874).

Our Old Flag.

For nearly one hundred years the old flag has waved over a united and prosperous people. Its insults have always been avenged, and to-day it is respected by all nations and people, and everywhere is sure protection to every American who stands under its broad folds.

In our own land we see the old flag everywhere—on our shipping and public buildings, on our streets and in our homes, and the sight of it

inspires, naturally enough, no unusual emotions. Were we to see it in some far-off land, it would be different.

Some years ago in my wanderings, I found myself on a steamer anchored in the Bay of Naples, the dense fog preventing our entrance into port. Standing on the deck and peering through the mist to get, if possible, a sight of Naples and its beautiful surroundings, a rift in the fog disclosed the old flag borne by a man-of-war. Excitedly I turned to my traveling companion, the tears starting to my eyes, and pointing to it said: "See our flag!" I shall never forget the emotions I then experienced. I felt in my heart that though a wanderer far from country, home, and friends, I had in the old flag a protector. Then, dear old flag, long may you wave—not as in years gone by, over a Nation part free and part slave, but over a land wholly and gloriously free.—*General A. L. Chetlain, Illinois* (St. Paul, 1877).

The True Banner of Liberty.

Our old banner is the only true banner of liberty. It has gathered its millions from lands of tyranny and gladdened their hearts with freedom. It rejoices the eye and heart of every liberty-loving man wherever seen around the globe. It is the banner of freedom to-day, it was yesterday, and a century ago. It is the same that waved

over and inspired the noble land of unshod patriots that gained the independence of this people. On more than a hundred hardly contested fields for the Union as borne aloft it gladdened the weary, the wounded, and the dying. It took the manacles from the limbs of men chained in the deep gulf of despair, and stood them erect in the glorious sunlight of freedom.

All hail! proud old flag; no ruthless hand shall despoil thee. As the stars that deck the plains of heaven and the glory of the night, and light up the foot-path of man, so shall these stars be the glory of this Nation, shedding their light along the pathway of liberty.—*General John A. Logan* (Chicago, 1879).

Garfield's Trust.

I trust the time is not far distant when, under the crossed swords and the locked shields of Americans, North and South, our people shall sleep in peace, and rise in liberty, love, and harmony, under the Union of our flag—the Stars and Stripes.—*James A. Garfield* (1879).

Ingersoll's Apostrophe to the Flag.

The flag for which the heroes fought, for which they died, is the symbol of all we are, of all we hope to be.

It is the emblem of equal rights.

It means free hands, free lips, self-government, and the sovereignty of the individual.

It means that this continent has been dedicated to freedom.

It means universal education—light for every mind, knowledge for every child.

It means that the school house is the fortress of Liberty.

It means that it is the duty of every citizen to bear his share of the public burden—to take part in the affairs of his town, his county, his State, and his country.

It means that the ballot box is the Ark of the Covenant; that the source of authority must not be poisoned.

It means the perpetual right of peaceful revolution. It means that every citizen of the Republic—native or naturalized—must be protected; at home, in every State—abroad, in every land, on every sea.

It means that all distinctions based on birth or blood have perished from our laws; that our government shall stand between labor and capital, between the weak and the strong, between the individual and the corporation, between want and wealth, and give the guarantee of simple justice to each and all.

It means that there shall be a legal remedy for every wrong.

It means national hospitality—that we must welcome to our shores the exiles of the world, and that we may not drive them back. Some may be deformed by labor, dwarfed by hunger, broken in spirit, victims of tyranny and caste—in whose sad faces may be read the touching record of a weary life; and yet their children, born of liberty and love, will be symmetrical and fair, intelligent and free.

That flag is the emblem of a supreme will of a Nation's power. Beneath its folds the weakest must be protected and the strongest must obey. It shields and canopies alike the loftiest mansion and the rudest hut.

That flag was given to the air in the Revolution's darkest days. It represents the sufferings of the past, the glories yet to be; and like the bow of heaven it is the child of storm and sun.—*Robert G. Ingersoll* (Memorial Day, New York, 1882).

The Voice of Our Flag.

The National ensign, pure and simple, dearer to our hearts at this moment, as we lift it to the gale and see no other sign of hope upon the storm-cloud which rolls and settles above it, save that which is reflected from its own radiant hues. It speaks for itself far more eloquently than I can speak for it. Every star has a tongue. Every

stripe is articulate. There is no language or speech where their voices are not heard. It has an answer for every question. It has a solution for every doubt and every perplexity. It has a word of good cheer for every hour of gloom or despondency. It speaks of earlier and later struggle. It speaks of heroes and patriots among the living and among the dead. But before all and above all other associations and memories, whether of glorious men or of glorious deeds, or glorious plans, its voice is ever of union and liberty, of the Constitution and laws. Let it tell the story of its birth to these gallant volunteers as they march beneath its folds by day, or repose beneath its sentinel stars by night. Let it recall to them the strange, eventful history of its rise and progress. Let it rehearse to them the wondrous tale of its trials and its triumphs in peace as well as in war.—*Robert C. Winthrop, Massachusetts.*

The Flag and the Nation.

Known as a Nation by the men who made it so, its flag was unfurled in 1777. The thirteen States placed there the thirteen stripes in the body of the flag. These stripes fastened together became the sign and emblem of a union of these States which no blow can break. In a blue field the stars were set—each the sign of a State—and in this field, as new States came, new stars were

there to mark the bond that bound them to the flag. Should trouble and disaster come, and should one star be eclipsed by the unreasoning action of those who placed it there; should it even drop from the galaxy of stars that adorned the shield, and should other stars fall with it from that firmament of freedom, still the flag would be there; these stripes—red, emblematic of war, and white, of peace, would be there. They were there to cheer the soldier of the Union in the fight, and there to soothe his lingering hours in hospitals, where there was no fair hand to smooth the soldier's pillow. In the midst of action that same flag, with some of its stars, perhaps obscured, but with these same old stripes, waving in their first beauty, was there to cheer the wavering, to rally the faltering, and to save the day.

And this flag, beautiful in the breeze, as it unfolds from its staff, dear to every man who loves his country, whether it hangs listlessly in quiet, or snaps its ends in defiance, blown in full display by the winds of heaven; this flag with its first stripes is the best emblem of a Nation which could not be broken—a Nation which no assault can harm and no attack dismay—a Nation for which we fought and won, my comrades—a Nation with a capital N.—*Major-General W. W. Belknap, Iowa* (Toledo, 1888).

The Beauty of the Flag.

I have seen the glories of art and architecture, and of mountain and river. I have seen the sun set on Jungfrau, and the full moon rise over Mount Blanc, but the fairest vision on which these eyes ever looked was the flag of my own country in a foreign land. Beautiful as a flower to those who love it, terrible as a meteor to those who hate it, it is the symbol of the power and the glory and the honor of seventy millions of Americans.—*George F. Hoar, U. S. Senator, Massachusetts* (1888).

American Flags Not Captured.

I looked over the capitals of Europe and saw the captured flags of their Nations, but I looked in vain to see the Stars and Stripes of America among the trophies. I then said to myself, "God be praised for the thrilling order which the grand old hero, General Dix, gave when he said, 'Any man who hauls down the American flag, shoot him on the spot!'"

Those who have not seen our flag in the shock and smoke of battle; who have not seen it planted on the ramparts of the enemy; who have not felt the joy when borne to victory; who have not suffered the grief when borne back or lost in defeat; who have not seen it riddled with bullets; who

have not used it as a shroud for a valiant brother; who have not seen the begrimed veterans hug and caress it, can never know how dearly the soldiers love the flag.

Comrades, our days are well-nigh numbered, but, thank God, the old flag will continue to float after we are gone, and as generations succeed each other. No; not abroad as captured trophies, but here in the capital of America, and in the State capitals, are the flags our soldiers carried. Glorious ensign of liberty, noble incentives to patriotism, silent monitors of duty!—*Colonel Wheeler G. Veasey* (Scranton, Pa., 1892).

Flag of a Continental Union.

On the fourteenth of June, 1894, General Stewart L. Woodford delivered an address at Dobbs Ferry, New York, at the laying of the corner-stone of the monument to commemorate the planning there by Washington and Count Jean Baptiste Rochambeau, of the Yorktown campaign, August fourteenth, 1781. Of the flag Mr. Woodford said:

This is the birthday of our flag—a flag that repeats the story of the original thirteen colonies in its thirteen blended stripes, and that keeps the record of our increasing states in the numbers of its increasing stars—a star for every State upon

its field of blue. May these stars multiply until they shall represent the willing union under equal laws of all the peoples of this continent from the pole to the isthmus. On this flag-day I greet in prophetic vision and with patriotic hope the flag of the Union of the future—a Union that shall be continental in its extent, a flag whose stars shall be as the milky way.

Do you think me dreamy or visionary? It was the dream that was before Jefferson when he penned the Declaration of Independence in 1776; that kindled in the calm greatness of Washington's soul when he took command beneath the elm at Cambridge. Else why did our fathers call the first Congress the Continental Congress, and why were those lives the farmer boys ennobled forever as the Continental army? To the realness of which they dreamed and of which in their weakness they were not ashamed, let us in our young manhood and increasing strength resolutely and hopefully aspire. Let us not take it by strong hand force; let us deserve it, and compel it by justice, by wisdom, by demonstration of its advantage and necessity. And so again, in memory of our fathers, and with comprehension of our growth and needs, on this birthday of our flag, I hail the flag of the surely coming Continental Union.

Soldiers' Love of the Flag.

At the dedication of the Cuyahoga County soldiers' and sailors' monument at Cleveland, July fourth, 1894, William McKinley, then governor of Ohio, thus spoke of the flag:

Nothing has so impressed me in the programme of to-day, as the organization of the old soldiers, carrying with them their tattered flag, which they bore a third of a century ago upon the field of war. Is it any wonder that these old soldiers love to carry the flag under which they fought and for which their brave comrades gave their lives?

Is it any wonder that the old soldier loves the flag under whose folds his comrades shed so much blood? He loves it for what it is and for what it represents. It embodies the purposes and history of the government itself. It records the achievements of its defenders upon land and sea. It heralds the heroism and sacrifices of our Revolutionary fathers who planted free government on this continent, and dedicated it to liberty forever. It attests the struggles of our army and the valor of our citizens in all the wars of the Republic. It has been sanctified by the blood of our best and our bravest. It records the achievements of Washington and the martyrdom of Lincoln. It has been bathed in the tears of a sorrowing people.

It has been glorified in the hearts of a freedom-loving people, not only at home but in every part of the world. Our flag expresses more than any other flag; it means more than any other emblem. It expresses the will of a free people, and proclaims that they are supreme and that they acknowledge no earthly sovereign other than themselves. It was never assaulted that thousands did not rise up to smite the assailant. Glorious old banner!

An Emblem of Unity and Power.

Our flag which floats over us to-day, with no star lost or dimmed, is emblematical of assured unity of power. As we gather under its protecting folds, shoulder to shoulder, heart-beat to heart-beat, in the full blaze of the risen sun of liberty, which gilds the glories of the past and clearly reveals the duties of the future, with one voice let us respect the deathless words of our martyr President Lincoln, that "this Nation shall, under God, have a new birth of freedom; and that government of the people, by the people, and for the people, shall not perish from the earth."—*Chauncey M. Depew, U. S. Senator, New York* (1895).

A Flag with a Great History.

The history of our flag is one of the most interesting chapters in American annals. Our

fore-fathers, in their wisdom, did not create their country first, and then fashion a banner to represent it; but in the early years of that struggle they adopted a definite flag, and under its folds they went forth to conquer the right to call themselves a free and independent people. But a year after the Declaration of Independence, in 1777, Congress adopted a measure which prescribed that the flag should consist of thirteen stripes and stars to represent the original colonies. In 1795 Congress changed the flag to fifteen stripes and stars, and it was the intention to add a stripe and a star for every new State. After more States had been added they were about to change the flag to correspond, when Mr. Wendover, a member of Congress from New York, rose in his place and said: "If the Union keeps on increasing at its present rate, you will soon find that the tallest pine in the forests of Maine will not be high enough to serve as a flag-staff." And it was then decided that the permanent form of the flag should be its present one, thirteen stripes and a star for each State.

I like the term "ensign"—*Insigno*—the sign of. It means it has a peculiar significance. And so that the flag, in its present form, was the flag born of the first war for freedom. It was baptized in blood, consecrated in tears, hallowed in prayers. It has not been the flag of aggression, but of progression, not the flag of destruction, but of con-

struction, never a flag of oppression, always a flag of liberty. . . . The flag never has and never shall be once dethroned from its proud supremacy.

The blending of its colors forms a banner of transcendant beauty. The red, typical of the blood which was shed in the war for freedom; the white, emblematic of the purity of the principles upon which the government was organized; the blue, the azure snatched from heaven to represent the devotion and loyalty of the founders of the Republic.

At the beginning of the Civil War there was a rallying cry which rang throughout the country, which warmed the hearts of every patriotic person, which made the blood tingle in the hearts of every loyal citizen. It was a cry that can never be repeated too often in this land—"If any man hauls down the American flag, shoot him on the spot."—*General Horace Porter, U. S. Ambassador to France* (1895).

The Young Should Love the Flag.

Teach the young among you to look with eyes of love and pride upon the flag, wherever they see it floating—to remember always that

> "For every star in its field of blue,
> For every stripe of stainless hue,
> Ten thousand of the tried and true
> Have lain them down and died."

There is music in its rustling, there is magic in its web. "Every star is a league; every stripe is articulate." It is an inspiration to those who love it. It is a sunburst to those who are proud of it. Heaven has blessed it, and the sacrifice of man has sanctified it. Keep it forever floating in the midst of our people, high up where the morning sun may transfigure it. Spread it where the school children may look upon it. No school house is finished without it. Let it float over the halls of justice, for liberty is the twin sister of justice and this is the flag of liberty. It is furthermore the flag of a united people, the ensign of a Union preserved, redeemed, and regenerated.—*John C. Spooner, U. S. Senator, Wisconsin* (1896).

"*Our Flag.*"

When Mrs. Julia Ward Howe was at Newport in 1863, she was greatly stirred by the expression of southern sympathizers. Florence Howe Hall tells us that the Naval Academy was stationed at Newport at that time, on board the old *Constitution,* and the presence of the naval officers, no doubt, stimulated expressions on both sides. "The Flag" was an outburst of loyalty and of a protest as well, against those who failed to honor our National emblem. The following fine tribute to

the flag is from a longer poem which first appeared in the *Atlantic Monthly,* April, 1863:

"There's a flag hangs over my threshold, whose folds are more dear to me
Than the blood that thrills in my bosom its earnest of liberty,
And dear are the stars it harbors in its sunny field of blue
As the hope of a further heaven, that lights all our dim lives through.

. . . . . .

"The flag of our stately battles, not struggles of wrath and greed,
Its stripes were a holy lesson, its spangles a deathless creed;
'Twas red with the blood of freemen, and white with the fear of the foe;
And the stars that fight in their courses 'gainst tyrants its symbols know."

"*God Bless Our Flag.*"

And the flag! God bless the flag! As the heart of McCallum More warmed to the tartan, do all hearts warm to the flag! Have you upon your round of sight-seeing missed it hereabout? Does it make itself on any hand conspicuous by its absence? Can you doubt the loyal sincerity of those who from housetop and rooftree have thrown it to the breeze? Let some sacrilegious hand be raised to haul it down and see! No, no, comrades; the people *enmasse* do not deal in subterfuges; they do not stoop to conquer; they may be wrong; they may be perverse; but they never dis-

semble. These are honest flags, with honest hearts behind them. They are the symbols of a nationality as precious to us as to you. They fly at last as Webster would have had them fly, bearing no such mottoes as "What is all this worth," or "Liberty first and union afterwards," but blazing in letters of living light upon their ample folds, as they float over the sea and over the land, those words dear to every American heart, "Union and liberty, now and forever, one and inseparable."—*Henry Watterson* (G. A. R., Louisville, 1895).

The Flag as an Emblem.

The flag is an emblem of national honor. It says to all the world that the business men of this country are men of integrity and opposed to repudiation. It took us a century to wipe out the stain of slavery, and if we put upon the flag the stain of repudiation it may take us another hundred years to make it clean again.

The flag is an emblem of the reign of law. It stands for law-protected freedom, law-protected labor, law-protected wealth, law-protected prosperity, and law-protected happiness. Liberty without law is a dream; it is license; it is barbarism.

The flag is an emblem of peace. Wherever it floats it heralds a day when swords shall be beaten into pruning hooks, and the universal brother-

hood of man shall become a fulfilled condition.—*Frank M. Bristol, D.D.* (Chicago, 1896).

Harrison on the Flag.

I was never so profoundly touched with the beauty of our flag than at night time in one of our immense political demonstrations. One of the features of the occasion was the sending upward of a mighty stream of electric light which, piercing the darkness of the night, reached a large flag which had been carried upon cords a thousand feet from the earth. The scene was too impressive for me to describe. I can only say that it did seem as though the flag of our country was waving from the very battlements of heaven. . . God pity the American citzen who does not love the flag; who does not see in it the story of our great, free institutions, and the hope of the home as well as the Nation.—*Benjamin Harrison.*

The Flag and Patriotism.

In every great Nation there is patriotism, love of country, pride of race, courage, manliness, the things which money cannot make and which money cannot buy. When everything is money, and there is no other standard to try every question by, decadence has begun, the hour of the downfall is approaching. . . . You may call it sentiment or passion or what you will, but the love

of country is one of the great moving causes of National life. When we look at that flag, what is it that makes our hearts throb? If you see it in foreign lands, as I did last summer, after months of separation, what is it that makes your throat choke and your eyes get damp? Is it because a great many men have made money under it? I believe that that flag is a great deal more than the sign of a successful National shop, never to be unfurled for fear that the trader on the opposite side of the way may have his feelings ruffled; I think it is a great deal more than that. And when I look at it, I do not see, and you do not see, there the graven image of the dollar; you do not read there the motto of the epicure, "Let us eat and drink, for to-morrow we die." No; you read on that flag the old Latin motto, *"Per aspera ad astra,"*—Through toil and conflict to the stars.

You do not see the dollar on it. But when you look, and your heart swells within you as you look, the memories that come are very different. If you see any faces there, they are the faces of Washington and his Continentals behind him, marching from defeat at Long Island to victory at Trenton, from misery at Valley Forge, to final triumph at Yorktown. Look again, and we all see the face of Lincoln. The mighty hosts are there of the men who have lived for their country,

and given their lives for their country, and labored for it, each in his separate way, and believed in it and loved it. They are all there, from the great chiefs to the boys who fell in Baltimore. That is what I see in the flag, that is what you see. That is why we love it, because it means this great country and all the people. It means all the struggles and sufferings we have gone through, all our hopes, all our aspirations. . . . I see it as the American poet saw it:

> "And fixed as yonder orb divine
> That saw thy bannered blaze unfurled,
> Shall thy proud stars resplendent shine
> The guard and glory of the world."

—*Henry Cabot Lodge, U. S. Senator, Massachusetts* (Rep. St. Con., 1896).

"*The Flag to go Up.*"

It is due to the efforts of the Daughters of the American Revolution that our flag, "the bright morning star of hope to the Nations," now floats unchallenged in the wake of Sherman's march to the sea. In 1892, Mrs. Harrison, our President-General, issued an order to us to hang our beloved banner on the outer wall on the coming Fourth of July. In far Southland, where, for many years, the American flag had symbolized defeat and long-continued suffering, where, from private homes at least, it had not floated since

the war, this order created a sensation. On the twenty-fifth of June, the *Atlanta Constitution* published a full column on the subject, called "The Flag to go Up." I quote a brief passage from that article: "It has been a long day, long ago, since the Union flag was hoisted by woman's fair hand over the roof-tree of the family circle in celebration of the glorious Fourth of July; but this year, when the bright sun rises on this fair land of old Columbia, it will greet again the Stars and Stripes unfurled over hundreds of housetops. It will be the work of the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution." The Atlanta chapter of our society adopted signing resolutions of approval which re-echoed through the States and thus once more "Old Glory" went marching through Georgia.—*Mrs. Charles H. Smith, Cleveland* (Milwaukee, 1897).

The Flag and the Armorless Army.

For a moment to us, here, in this festive scene, the curtained future opens, and we may see such a review in which those who marched and saluted, are on the stand. Their old flags are above them; flags from Pea Ridge and Donelson; from Vicksburg and Gettysburg; from Chickamauga and Antietam; from Mobile and Appomattox; flags of the Potomac army and the Tennessee; the Cumberland and the Ohio; the Georgia and the James;

the frontier and the southwest, flags from cavalry, and artillery, and infantry; flags from the Hartford and from the Kearsarge, and the sea graves of the "wide future empire of America"; flags from the siege and the march, out from twenty-three hundred fields of strife—all afloat in skies of peace, while drums are jubilant, and bugles blow the brave airs of old! Under those colors they are there—the steadfast and the brave—crowned with the laurels of great liberty's bestowal, while before them move the columns of the young, who salute them, as they pass and cry,

"What you have won we will keep."

The vanishing men in blue review the children of the Republic. All the children of ALL the Republic! What countless columns pass before them! How long the lines stretch on! They come from Florida and its everglades; they come from the golden-gated Pacific; they rise from the hearthstones of our mighty West, and from the shores of our inland seas. They come from the Atlantic border, and from Pennsylvania, and New York, and Tennessee, and Kentucky, and New England, from Alabama, and Georgia, and Texas —an armorless army!

No guns gleam over them, no flashing swords array their lines. They are children; they are children of the whole people, North and South, marshalled in the interest of the Republic. While

bearing no material weapons, they know a geography which shows an unbroken country; they have learned the mathematics of "many in one"; they speak one tongue; they march to a future which is one for all of America's children, and over them all rises one flag, unchallenged, supreme, and glorious—the flag of the free—never to be lowered until this mighty array for whom we saved the country, to whose feet we open every avenue of progress and prosperity, have helped enlighten the eyes, and made the brotherhood of mankind a fact as wide as the world.—*General John C. Black, Illinois* (Milwaukee, 1897).

"*Every Star a Story.*"

It was during the war with Spain that Dr. Melancthon Woolsey Stryker, president of Hamilton College, New York, sent to the *Hamilton Literary Monthly,* the following stirring poem on the flag:

Roll a river wide and strong,
Like the tides a-swinging,
Lift the joyful floods of song,
Set the mountains ringing.
Run the lovely banner high—
Crimson morning glory!—
Field as blue as yonder sky,
Every star a story.

Let the people, heart and lip,
Hail the gleaming splendor!

Let the guns from shore and ship
  Acclamation render!
All ye oceans clap your hands!
  Echo, plains and highlands,
Speed the voice through all the lands
  To the Orient islands.

Darling flag of liberty
  Law and love revealing,
All the downcast turn to thee
  For thy help appealing.
In the front of human right,
  Flash thy stars of morning,
All that hates and hides the light
  Flies before thy warning.

By the colors of the day,
  By the breasts that wear them,
To the living God we pray,
  That the brave may bear them!
Run the rippling banner high;
  Peace or war the weather,
Cheers or tears, we'll live or die
  Under it together.

What the Flag Teaches and Typifies.

The mysterious influence of patriotism has its fountain head in the flag of our country. It gleams upon us from the stars; it is fastened to our existence by the immovable, unchanging stripes. Its brilliant red teaches us to remember the heroes who brought it into existence to symbolize the birth of freedom. Its cerulean blue is emblematic of truth, of honor, of principle, and of that kind of glory which is everlasting. Its

spotless white typifies the purity of purpose which actuated our forefathers who conceived it. Its stars are the coronet of freedom; its stripes the scourges of oppression. There can be no influence more august, there can be no holier thrill than that which the flag of our country inspires in every patriotic breast."

"Old Glory" is among the oldest flags, although we are one of the youngest of Nations. The present flag of Spain was adopted in 1785; the tri-color of France in 1794; the Union Jack of Great Britain in 1801; the banner of Portugal, in 1830; of Italy, in 1848; and of the German empire in 1871. It is claimed for the Stars and Stripes—and no flag except the French or the British can possibly dispute the claim—that it has been in more battles, and has waved over more victories on land and sea, than any banner in the world, and there is not an European standard for which so many men have fought and died. Something like a million lives have been laid down that the Stars and Stripes might continue to wave over the free.—*Frederic Van Rensselaer Dey* (*Munsey's Mag.,* 1898).

The Glory of the Flag.

When the monument to Francis Scott Key was unveiled at Frederick, Maryland, on the ninth of August, 1898, Colonel Henry Watterson, of Louis-

ville, delieverd the oration. It was a splendid characterization of the poet, and a fine apostrophe to the flag. I can make only brief quotations from the address:

The Star Spangled Banner! Was ever a flag so beautiful, did ever a flag so fill the souls of men? The love of women; the sense of duty; the thirst for glory; the heart-throbbing that impels the humblest American to stand by his colors, fearless in the defense of his native soil and holding it sweet to die for it—the yearning which draws him to it when exiled from it—its free institutions and its blessed memories, all live again in the lines of Key's anthem.

The poem tells its own story, and never a truer, for every word comes direct from a great, heroic soul, powder-stained and dipped, as it were, in sacred blood:

"O say, can you see by the dawn's early light
What so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last gleaming,
Whose broad stripes and bright stars through the perilous fight,
O'er the ramparts we watched, were so gallantly streaming?"

Key and the flag-officer walked the deck of the cartel boat and had waited long. They had counted the hours as they watched the course of the battle. But a deeper anxiety is yet to possess them. The firing has ceased. Ominous silence!

Whilst cannon roared they knew that the fort held out. Whilst the sky was lit by messengers of death they could see the National colors flying above it—

—"the rockets' red glare and bombs bursting in air
Gave proof through the night that our flag was still there."

But there comes an end at last to waiting and watching; and as the first rays of the sun shoot above the horizon and gild the eastern shore, behold the sight that gladdens their eyes as it—

—"catches the gleam of the morning's first beam,
In full glory reflected now shines in the stream—"

for there over the battlements of McHenry the Stars and Stripes float defiant on the breeze, whilst all around evidences multiply that the attack has failed, that the Americans have successfully resisted it, and that the British are withdrawing their forces. For then, and for now, and for all time, come the words of the anthem—

"Oh, thus be it ever, when freedom shall stand
Between their loved homes and the war's desolation!
Blest with victory and peace, may the heaven-rescued land
Praise the Power that hath made and preserved us a nation!"

for—

—"conquer we must when our cause it is just,
And this be our motto: 'In God is our trust';
And the star-spangled banner in triumph shall wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave!"

"The Star Spangled Banner" owed little to chance. It was the emanation of a patriotic fer-

vor as sincere and natural as it was simple and noble. It sprang from one of those glorious inspirations which, coming to the author unbidden, seized at once upon the hearts and minds of men.

The Flag a Call to Heroism.

Patriotism, loyalty, devotion, center in the flag as a symbol, as it could not, in the nature of things, center in anything else. Soldiers come to love and honor the flag above all other visible objects. They look at it in battle as that for which they are willing to die. They looked at it in quieter times as that for which they had already done so much, and for which they were willing to do yet more. The very sight of it was a call to heroism, and an inspiration to noble thoughts and deeds. The formal bringing of the colors to their place in the line, at parade or review, was a ceremony that never lost its power through familiarity. It grew in impressiveness with the growing experience of the soldiers in the army service. It intensified the sacredness of their guide and their charge.—*H. C. Trumbull, Army Chaplain* (1898).

The Name of "Old Glory."

The quaintness of Mr. Riley's poem on "Old Glory" will deeply interest the reader. It first appeared in the *Atlantic Monthly* for December,

1898, and is included in this volume by the gracious permission of the author:

"THE NAME OF 'OLD GLORY'—1898.

"When, why, and by whom, was our flag The Stars and Stripes first called 'Old Glory'?

—Daily Query to Press."

I.

OLD GLORY! say, who,
By the ships and the crew,
And the long, blended ranks of the Gray and the Blue—
Who gave you, Old Glory, the name that you bear
With such pride everywhere,
As you cast yourself free to the rapturous air,
And leap out full length, as we're wanting you to?—
Who gave you that name, with the ring of the same,
And the honor and fame so becoming to you?
Your stripes stroked in ripples of white and of red,
With your stars at their glittering best overhead—
By day or by night
Their delightfulest light
Laughing down from their little square heaven of blue!
Who gave you the name of Old Glory—say, who—
Who gave you the name of Old Glory?

Then the old banner lifted, and faltering then
In vague lisps and whispers fell silent again.

II.

Old Glory,—speak out! We are asking about
How you happened to "favor" a name, so to say,
That sounds so familiar and careless and gay,
As we cheer it, and shout in our wild, breezy way—
We—the crowd, every man of us, calling you that—
We, Tom, Dick, and Harry, each swinging his hat
And hurrahing "Old Glory!" like you were our kin,
When—*Lord!*—we all know we're as common as sin!

And yet it just seems like you *humor* us all
And waft us your thanks, as we hail you and fall
Into line, with you over us, waving us on
Where our glorified, sanctified betters have gone.
And this is the reason we're wanting to know
(And we're wanting it *so!*
Where our own fathers went we are willing to go)
Who gave you the name of Old Glory—O-ho!—
Who gave you the name of Old Glory?

The old flag unfurled with a billowy thrill
For an instant; then wistfully sighed and was still.

III.

Old Glory, the story we're wanting to hear
Is what the plain facts of your christening were,—
For your name—just to hear it,
Repeat it, and cheer it, 's a tang to the spirit
As salt as a tear:
And seeing you fly, and the boys marching by,
There's a shout in the throat and a blur in the eye,
And an aching to live for you always—or die.
If, dying, we still keep you waving on high.
And so, by our love
For you, floating above,
And the scars of all wars and the sorrows thereof,
Who gave you the name of Old Glory, and why
Are we thrilled at the name of Old Glory?

Then the old banner leaped, like a sail in the blast,
And fluttered an audible answer at last.

And it spake, with a shake of the voice, and it said:—
By the driven snow-white and the living blood-red
Of my bars, and their heaven of stars overhead—
By the symbol conjoined of them all, skyward cast,
As I float from the steeple, or flap at the mast,
Or droop o'er the sod where the long grasses nod,
My name is as old as the glory of God.
. . . So I came by the name of Old Glory.

—*James Whitcomb Riley.*

Character follows the Flag.

And the flag now is not the flag of tyranny—it is the flag of liberty; and wherever the flag goes there go character, education, American civilization, and American liberty.

We all love that flag. It gladdens the heart of the old and the young and it shelters us all. Wherever it is raised, on land or sea, at home or in our distant possessions, it always stands for liberty and humanity; and wherever it is assaulted the whole Nation rises up to defend it.—*William McKinley* (October, 1899).

Protect the Flag.

Foreign Nations protect their National colors, and the United States should not be less jealous than they to save our National emblems from being cheapened or degraded. The approval of this patriotic movement to secure a flag law is almost as general as was the recent approval of the appropriation of fifty million dollars for any emergency that might confront the country.—*Daily Transcript* (Boston, 1899).

The Banner that never Retreats.

The Republic never retreats. Its flag is the only flag that has never known defeat. Where the flag leads, we follow, for we know that the

hand that bears it onward, is the unseen hand of God. We follow the flag, and independence is ours. We follow the flag, and nationality is ours. We follow the flag, and oceans are ruled. We follow the flag, and the Occident and Orient tyranny falls and barbarism is subdued. We follow the flag at Trenton and Valley Forge, at Saratoga and upon the crimson seas, at Buena Vista and Chapultepec, at Gettysburg and Mission Ridge, at Santiago and Manila, and everywhere and always it means larger liberty, nobler opportunity, and greater human happiness; for everywhere and always it means the blessings of the greater Republic. And so God leads, we follow the flag, and the Republic never retreats.—*A. J. Beveridge, U. S. Senator, Indiana* (Philadelphia, 1899).

The Emblem of Human Freedom.

While political passion has now and then, and for brief periods, disturbed this auspicious harmony, yet what a marvel of concord, of power, and of progress is presented for the contemplation of mankind by this reunited country. The bloodiest war of the ages, with its embittered alienations all in the past; its lessons of immortal memories are a guide and inspiration for all the future. . . . As the vanguard, the color-bearers in the march of the Nations, we lift aloft this proud

banner of freedom and bid universal humanity to catch its inspiration.

By the memories of the Fathers who bequeathed us this priceless heritage; by the names and deeds of Northern heroes, living and dead; by the sacrifice and measureless woes endured by Southern womanhood; by the heroic devotion and dauntless courage of the sons of the South—by all these we unite in solemn compact that this American people shall know intestine war no more: but shall forever remain an unbroken brotherhood from sea to sea. By all these, and by the resistless fiat of an inexorable sentiment, we proclaim that the American flag shall protect every American citizen on all oceans and in all lands. And in God's own time, it may be His will that this flag shall become omnipotent on every acre of soil on this North American continent.

But whatever be the geographical limits over which destiny decrees it to float as the symbol of our National sovereignty, there shall be at least no boundaries to its moral sway; but as long as political truth triumphs or liberty survives, this flag of our fathers shall remain the proudest and most potential emblem of human freedom in all the world.—*General John B. Gordon, Georgia* (Brooklyn, N. Y., 1901).

What the Flag Means.

What American of all of us, can see our Starry Banner flutter out on mast or tower, or in the street, without a sudden heart throb? Love, pride, memory, exultation, mingle in one swift emotion, and yet we seldom pause to think what "Old Glory" really means to us.

It means history—stained here and there with mistake and wrong, indeed, but as a whole, wonderful and glorious. It means protection—the right to live, to think, to aspire, to work in an atmosphere of the most blessed freedom and safety our earth has ever known. It means hope—hope and help for ourselves and for all the world.

Whatever the Nation is to achieve or to become in the future depends upon its citizenship, and the mighty voice of the people is but the combined voice of individuals. What would you have your country to be in honor, purity, high endeavor, and righteousness? Make one citizen of that kind; that is the part given to you to do.—*Kate W. Hamilton,* in *Wellspring* (Boston, 1901).

The Flag Woven of Heroism and Grief.

United States Senator Albert J. Beveridge, of Indiana, was requested by the Senators, and the members of the House of Representatives, to speak

for both sides, on the Philippine question. He acceded to their request, and the speech was delivered in the Senate on Tuesday, January ninth, 1900. The following paragraphs are from that masterful speech:

Do you remind me of the precious blood that must be shed, the lives that must be given, the broken hearts of loved ones for their slain? And this is indeed a heavier price than all combined. And yet, as a Nation, every historic duty we have done, every achievement we have accomplished, has been by the sacrifice of our noblest sons. Every holy memory that glorifies the flag is of those heroes who died that its onward march might not be stayed. It is the Nation's dearest lives yielded for the flag that makes it dear to us; it is the Nation's most precious blood poured out for it that makes it precious to us. That flag is woven of heroism and grief, of the bravery of men, and women's tears, of righteousness and battle, of sacrifice and anguish, of triumph and glory. It is these which made our flag a holy thing. Who would tear from that sacred banner the glorious legends of a single battle where it has waved on land or sea? What son of a soldier of the flag whose father fell beneath it on any field would surrender that proud record for the heraldry of a king? In the cause of civilization, in the service of the Republic anywhere on earth, Americans

consider wounds the noblest decorations man can win, and count the giving of their lives a glad and precious duty.

Pray God that spirit never fails. Pray God time may never come when Mammon and the love of ease shall so debase our blood that we will fear to shed it for the flag and its imperial destiny. Pray God the time may never come when American heroism is but a legend like the story of the Cid, American faith in our mission and our might a dream dissolved, and the glory of our mighty race departed.

That time will never come. We will renew our youth at the fountain of new and glorious deeds. We will exalt our reverence for the flag by carrying it to a nobler future as well as by remembering its ineffable past. Its immortality will not pass because everywhere and always we will acknowledge and discharge the solemn responsibilities our sacred flag, in its deepest meaning, puts upon us.

The Unconquerable Banner.

Thousands of battles were fought; the lines of the rebellion were broken; its strongholds overthrown; the flag was lifted higher and higher, and at the last Appomattox crowned the great work; the hosts of the rebellion disappeared; the hosts of the Union turned their faces with song and re-

joicing and hallelujahs to the dear old homes. But they had kept the flag in the sky! they had taught the world that under God it was to remain there forever, that it was the imperishable and unconquerable banner!—*Mrs. John C. Black, Chicago,* in *War Memories and Music* (Indianapolis, 1901).

All Rally 'Round the Flag.

The States are all right as far as they go, but let anyone just touch "Old Glory" and the many are one—America.—*Andrew Carnegie* (1902).

The Language of the Flag.

The Star Spangled Banner of Freedom was always beautiful but never as beautiful as now. The very colors have a language known and read of all men. The groundwork of the flag, as of the Union, is whiteness, white being the symbol of truthfulness, righteousness, and purity, and drawn across that white face—white as an angel's wing—is the crimson band which from creation's morning has symbolized all the courage and self-sacrifice and open-veined manhood which can flow in wide red streams from the gaping wounds of patriot and hero. And pressed close upon that seamless robe of purity, and close beside the costly crimson streams that flow like rivers of salvation over it is the blue, the faithful blue, like the very body of heaven for clearness, out of which shine

the mysterious, deathless stars, lighting the night with cheerful fires.

Ah, yes, the blue of the ocean and of the sky is there, and on whatever coast the deep blue ocean beats, and over whatever people the peaceful firmament bends down like God's own pity, the starry flag shall shed its triumphant, beneficent, celestial influence. The stars and all the powers of heaven are there, and so surely as the stars in their courses fought against Sisera in the olden time, so will they fight now for the flag which is the emblem of righteousness and truth and freedom.—*C. H. Cobern, D.D., Chicago* (1902).

The Sun Never Sets on the Starry Banner.

Born of the highest intellectual and ethical development of the centuries, our flag stands for the sacredness of the home, the integrity of manhood, and the purity of womanhood. It is a far cry from Maine to the Philippines, but in the earth's swift journey there is now no hour when the Starry Banner is not kissed by the radiant sun; as it sinks beneath the waters of Orient seas, the splendor of the opal and the rose illumes a new day on the Atlantic coast of proud America. Wherever borne in battle, whether through ancient wilderness or on sounding sea, some sacred right of humanity is secured, while with song and shout

the Nation's heroes follow our triumphant flag around the world.—*Ogden Hoffman Fethers, LL.D., Wisconsin* (1902).

A Symbol of Ideal Aspirations.

The flag of the American Union is a visible symbol of the ideal aspirations of the American people. It is the one focus in which all unite in reverential devotion. We differ in religion; we differ in politics; we engage in violent disputes as to the true meaning of the Constitution, and even challenge the wisdom of some of its provisions; we inject self-interest and cupidity into most of the ordinary transactions of daily life, but through the sanctifying folds of the flag the collective intelligence of the Nation rises superior to the wisdom of any of its parts, and thereby ensures the perpetuity of the Republic.—*Major-General Arthur MacArthur, U. S. A.* (1903).

Mistress over Greater Territory.

A dinner was given by the Minnesota Society in New York City in December, 1902, to Archbishop John Ireland, at which he delivered an address on "The Future of the Great Republic." The Archbishop is one of the great prophets of our time and from the address is taken the following striking apostrophe to the flag:

I do not want to be bellicose, but I say this for myself: As sure as fate, although you and I may not see it, the Starry Banner will wave mistress over all the territory from the Gulf to the Bay. There will be no conquest, no war. The hearts across the border are already beating with love for us, and commerce and agriculture are calling for espousals.

The Flag and Young Men.

I have already drawn upon General Horace Porter—our Ambassador to France—for a tribute to the flag, but I believe nothing will more fittingly close this volume than two paragraphs from the address he delivered at the meeting of the Army of the Tennessee, in Cincinnati, in 1895. All of the General's speeches on the flag read like an inspiration:

I want to see the young men of this land taught that our banner should be to them like the banner in the sky which appeared to Constantine of old, which turned him back into the path of duty from which he had strayed. It should be taught that it is to be their pillar of cloud by day; their pillar of fire by night; that it is to wave about them in victory, be their rallying point in defeat, and if perchance they offer up their lives a sacrifice in its defence, its gentle folds will rest upon their bosoms in death; its

crimson stripes will mingle with their generous hearts' blood; its very presence there upon their bodies, coffined or uncoffined, will write a more enduring epitaph than that on the sarcophagus in which the great Sesostris sleeps.

I think we can all agree that France is one of the most patriotic countries that the world has seen, and you are all aware that the French flag is hoisted upon every public building, every public place, and never once hauled down until it is worn to tatters; and so, in calm and in storm, by day and by night, in the brilliancy of the sun's rays and in the glare of the electric light, that National standard is ever present to the view of a French citizen. We can learn something from France in this respect. I believe that nothing would more gladden the heart of every patriotic citizen of this land than to see it decreed by National and State enactments that that flag should be hoisted upon every public building, every public place, every public memorial, and especially on every school house, and never once hauled down.

GENERAL INDEX.

GENERAL INDEX.