

The Story of our National Hymn.

MISS ELIZABETH PHELPS, CRESWELL High SCHOOL

Submitted at County Commencement, and Winner of the Gold Medal, Offered as a Prize by The Roanoke Beacon.

It was on the fourteenth of September over one hundred years ago that Francis Scott Key, a gentleman and a patriot, under circumstances as thrilling as any that has ever inspired a poem, wrote, "The Star Spangled Banner".

It was on the morning following the unsuccessful British attack on Fort McHenry, which defended Baltimore, that Key saw the starry flag still flying from the ramparts of the fort and it was therefore that in Baltimore the elaborated centennial exercises were held during the week beginning September sixth, nineteen hundred fourteen in commemoration of this event. But it was supposed that the event was celebrated with more or less formality all over the country and in our foreign possessions. One of the features of the Baltimore celebration was the remnant of the flag that flew over the fort and which is still preserved the same as when Key saw it, disclosed by the parting mist of the morning after the British attack had failed. The old fort was dedicated as a park and there is a monument to its commander, at the time of the defence, Major George Armistead.

The original Star Spangled Banner, the old Fort McHenry flag, the very colors that inspired Key to write this poem, is now in a chapel connected with a group of buildings of the National Museum at Washington, and it is expected to be fully restored when the time set for raising the old flag over the old fort from whose ramparts its broad stripes and bright stars greeted Key's straining eyes the morning after the bombardment. The work has been under the direction of Mrs. Flower, of Boston, who restored the flag trophies of the War of 1812 for which purpose Congress has appropriated \$300,000.

These flags are now at the United States Naval Academy, Annapolis. The "Star Spangled Banner" or rather the large remnant of it that has been described is the property of National Museum. It was originally placed in its keeping by Eben Appleton of New York City, a grandson of Major George Armistead, who commanded the American forces against the British at the defence of Baltimore. Later Mr. Appleton presented this Precious relic to the government. A great many particles of the bunting from the parts of the flag that was missing from the remnants have been located and secured so that they have been used to make the restorator of the old colors as complete as possible.

In Baltimore, September 12th, 1914, the one hundredth anniversary of the "Star Spangled Banner" was celebrated with brilliant ceremonies in which the chief officials of the nation participated. Twenty-one years ago the Pennsylvania Society of the Colonial Dames of America, under the suggestion of Mrs. Francis Howard Williams, passed resolutions petitioning Congress for the adoption of the "Star Spangled Banner" as a national air and later began the movement by singing it at the theatres and having the audience rise. The argument for

it was that it was the only patriotic song composed during the great national crisis and written by an American in commemoration of events which should appeal to all American hearts.

The things the women requested have come to pass by executive order. The "Star Spangled Banner" today is the official air in both army and navy and all officers and enlisted men must stand when it is played or sung. Gradually Americans in general are acquiring the habit of rising when the air begins, so while a man wrote the "Star Spangled Banner" the maker of the flag that inspired it, the one who sang it first, and those who established it as the nation's anthem, were women. Therefore it is as seemingly as it is gratifying that all celebrations, "women" are on all committees and in every part of the world's elaborate programs. This is wholly right. Where patriotism is womed must be.

The women of Baltimore, who formed the Historical Exhibit Committee took a prominent part in the celebration of the centennial in Baltimore September 6th, 1914, by conducting alone an exhibition of relics of the War of 1812, and of souvenirs of Key. There has been a collection placed in the hall erected at Fort McHenry. Not only was the "Star Spangled Banner" made by a woman but during the bombardment of Fort McHenry women were in the fort to attend the wounded and during these ministrations one woman was killed by the explosion of a bomb from the British war ship.

Saturday of the Centennial week was observed as "Star Spangled Banner Day" and Tuesday was "Francis Scott Key Day." It was celebrated by a floral automobile parade. How Key would rub his eyes to make sure he was not dreaming, if he could have seen the procession of "gasoline buggies." On this day there were receptions on war ships and Colonial lawn fetes which was in charge of women.

Key is buried at Frederick, Maryland, and over his grave there has been for many years a ceremonious raising of the flag on each Memorial Day. Every year on that day a new flag has been displayed and has been raised every day of the year—a tribute as appropriate as it is beautiful.

The flag that flew from Fort McHenry must have been enormous, probably at least forty feet long and thirty feet in the hoist, for the remnant still existing with the hole shot through it during the attack, is thirty-two feet in length by twenty-nine feet in the hoist. It had fifteen stripes (a stripe at that time being added for each new state) each stripe nearly two feet wide while each of the fifteen stars was two feet from point to point. It was made by Mrs. Mary Pickersgill, who took care to have the topings especially strong. It was due to this strength that, although one bomb and the fragments of another tore through the flag, it was not carried away. It was due to the strength of the patriotism of its defenders that now over one hundred years later when the vapors of morning shall part again and disclose the ramparts of Fort McHenry,

the descendants of those who fought so well shall see the old flag "Still There."

Today no matter the world over wherever our flag flies from an army post or a flag ship the band can be plainly heard playing our own sweet National air, "Oh, say does the 'Star Spangled Banner' yet wave, O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?"

North Carolina, In the Superior Court, Beaufort County, Before the Clerk.

John L. Roper Lumber Company and others vs. A. W. Lashunay, John Davis and others. NOTICE.

The final report of the Engineer and Viewers having been completed and filed on April 11, 1917, and having been accepted by the Court, it is now ordered and notice is hereby given that the final hearing thereon will be held before George A. Paul, Clerk of the Superior Court of Beaufort County at his office in the Court house at Washington, North Carolina, on Friday, May 4th, 1917, at eleven o'clock in the forenoon.

Let copies of this order and notice be posted at the court house doors of Beaufort and Washington Counties and at five conspicuous places throughout the District and published at least two successive weeks before the final hearing in the Washington Daily News and in the Roanoke Beacon, newspapers of general circulation published in Beaufort and Washington Counties, respectively.

Witness my hand and seal of said Court, this April 11, 1917. (Seal) GEO. A. PAUL, Clerk of the Superior Court.

NOTICE OF SUMMONS

Minnie Bemby vs. Garfield Bemby.

The defendant above named will take notice that an action entitled as above has been commenced in the Superior Court of Washington County for an absolute divorce; and the said defendant will further take notice that he is required to appear at the next term of the Superior Court of the said county to be held on the 1st Monday in June, 1917, at the court house in said county, in Plymouth, N. C., and answer or demur to the complaint in said action, or the plaintiff will apply to the court for the relief demanded in said complaint. This 10th day April, 1917. C. V. W. AUSBON, Clerk Superior Court.

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS ON BOND SALE.

The Board of Education of Washington County will, on the 14th day of May, 1917, at their office in Plymouth, N. C., receive bids for \$15,000.00 "School-house Bonds," authorized by the qualified voters in the Creswell High School Graded District. Said Board will receive bids on 5, 5½ or 6 per cent. bonds. Said bonds to mature at the expiration of twenty years. Said Board reserves the right to reject any or all bids. This the 12th day of April, 1917. C. J. NORMAN, Chairman.

DR. J. C. COGGINS, ATTORNEY-AT-LAW, Plymouth, N. C.

THE PLYMOUTH BARGAIN STORE

Will Hold a Big Money-Saving Sale For 10 Days Only, Commencing Saturday, April 28.

We are going to offer ladies' waists at 48c; ladies' wash skirts at 89c. Ladies' silk hose at 29c; 15c hose at 12c. Best 15c gingham at 11c; best grade bleaching at 10½c; Sea Island yellow cottons 11c. Men's 75c dress shirts at 48c; Men's \$1.00 dress shirts at 89c; Men's \$1.25 to \$1.50 overalls at 98c. Ladies' coat suits worth \$17.50 to \$20.00 will be offered at \$13.50. Men's good grade low quarter shoes, regular \$3.00 values at \$2.48. We will sell all our Millinery at half price. We are closing out all the ladies' hats.

Read This. We have many other bargains, but have not the space here to mention them. Come and select the goods you want. Prices are reduced on all. Don't miss it.

Buy your goods at home, as the well-fare of your community depends on that.

ADLER

We compete with the Mail Ordering Houses. Your dollar spent at home is worth more to you than the dollar spent away.

The Spring is here, the warm weather has at last come. We have made great preparations for the last few days, to take care of the Spring trade, when the weather opened up. We have thousands and thousands of dollars worth of beautiful Spring Goods, most any material you wish at prices as cheap as possible:—owing to the advance of price of goods.

MILLINERY! MILLINERY!

Beautiful new shapes coming in daily, we have hundreds and hundreds of shapes to select from. Prices has not advanced at all in the millinery department.

Now, is the time to buy white shirt waist and skirts, We have hundreds of dollars worth of white waist and white skirts. Come early and get your Spring Goods for the summer.

SLIPPERS! SLIPPERS

We have a beautiful line of Slippers. Prices from 98 cents to \$7.00.

ABE ADLER.

FARMERS:

We will take a special delight in showing you our lot of horses and mules, because they are clean, good bred stock and are especially adapted to the needs of the farmers of this section. Our new, commodious brick stables are kept in a perfectly Sanitary condition and the stock we have on hand gets the best treatment possible; consequently when they leave here they are in tip-top shape. We will carry a lot during the Spring and you need not hesitate to come in at any time—for you will be sure to find what you want.

Buggies and Harness

We have just received a solid car of nice, up-to-date buggies which we are offering at a most pleasing price. Our line of harness comes from the best factories and are known for their neat appearance and durable qualities.

We are here to serve you and to look out for your best interest and our motto is "Satisfaction to all." Our stock is guaranteed to be just as we represent them.

Ky. Horse & Mule Exchange
J. S. SHUGAR, Manager

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