

CAUGHT ON TO THE FACTS.

What a Texas Editor has to say About the Southern People.

(From The Volunteer.)

"One of the cardinal faults of the American character," writes the editor of the Texas Iconoclast, "is a propensity to brag. Brother Jonathan's egotism long since passed into a proverb. In no section of this land of the free and home of the 'isms' does the blowhard blow longer and louder and with less excuse than in the South. We are the people, the nonpareil; there are none like us beneath the sun! From the empyrean we look down upon common humanity, talk turgid, and swell up with the vain glory of a young turkey cock with his first tail feathers!

"Perhaps it were well for us to drop the King Cambyzes vein long enough to inquire what we are chattering about. What have we ever done that entitles us to assume airs of superiority? Nothing in God's great world; absolutely nothing. We are so far in the rear of civilization that we foolishly imagine ourselves to be in the van, with the whole world behind us, struggling desperately to catch up! We speak sneeringly of the 'Yankees,' and yet the same despised Yankees are our guardians and tutors, even our protectors. Without them were but a lost calf foolishly running about in circles until some political prowler lassoed us and led us to the shambles.

"Take the South proper, south of the 35th parallel—Virginia and Kentucky, Tennessee and North Carolina are Southern only in name—and how will it compare with New England? Here we have a veritable Eden, broad and fertile savannahs, a land of perennial summer, the richest in natural resources in the western world. New England is a cold and sterile land, where nature is ever at war with man. Yet New England was developed a century ago. Her rocky hillsides were made to bloom like the vale of Temple; her mountains were ransacked for ore; her forests transformed into stately ships or still more imposing buildings; the hum of the factory rose in the city and hamlet, and the rich commerce of a world rose in mighty waves over her wharves. Now we are stretching out our hands imploringly to that storm-cursed, forest-girt land, praying that she will send brain and brawn to develop our rich mines, utilize our vast forests, build our railroads, and teach our children the magic art of industry; that she will do for us what we have been too indolent or too inert to do for ourselves. We look to the Yankees for everything; for our machinery, our very household utensils, for brains to plan, and skill to direct our great enterprises.

"While New England has been making reapers and sewing machines, spinning jennies and telegraphs, we have been making stump speeches and moonshine whiskey. While New England has been breeding statesmen, scientists and poets, we have been breeding 'yaller niggers' and Cheap John politicians. We cannot boast half a dozen men born south of the 35th parallel, in the South proper, whom historians, a century hence, will consider worthy of a dozen lines. We have not produced a dozen books worth burning; in the field of invention we have done little more than the red Indian who so long lurked in our forests.

"But if we cannot neither work nor think, we are at least incomparable fighters! Behold the recent civil war and how we did amaze the world! Amaze it we certainly did, but not in the way we would have our children to believe. Whenever the civil war is mentioned the South mounts to the top rail of the fence, flaps its wings and crows lustily—for what reason it were difficult for an unprejudiced critic to discover. It is now nearly half a century since Lee's surrender; high time surely that the foolish falsehood that for four years the South contended against five-fold odds was relegated to desuetude instead of being ostentatiously paraded by able editors and aspiring Ciceros on all occasions.

"Such fables but make us the laughing stock of the world; cause our Northern brethren to feel like thrashing us again instead of helping to develop our country. It is a fact patent to all the world, a fact that no honest man possessing any knowledge of the subject will dispute, that the backbone of the Southern Confederacy was broken, and that the 'cause' was hopelessly and ir-

retrievably lost in 1863, when the Confederate armies aggregated between 1,000,000 and 2,000,000 fighting men—almost, if not altogether equal in point of numbers of the federal forces. It was in 1863 that Vicksburg fell, that Grant tore the Confederacy in twain, that Lee's magnificent army was rolled back a wreck from Gettysburg. With these reverses the Southern people became discouraged, and thenceforth gave to the new government but a half-hearted support. Naturally the Confederate armies began to dwindle, while the federal government continued to push men to the front to hold the conquered territory and overawe the people, as well as to speedily crush the decimated legions of Lee and Johnston and end the war. Practically it was man to man in 1863, when the Confederacy received its death blow. Furthermore, we were acting chiefly on the defensive. We were in our own mountain passes, behind our own magnificent fortifications. It was the business of the Yankee to dislodge us. How in the devil's name they managed to accomplish it matters not; but they did it. Really the wonder, if wonder there be, is not that we held out so long, but that those despised Yankees 'boosted us' so quickly, and the magnanimously turned us loose to give the world our own explanation of how it happened.

"These may be unsavory to some of the chattering swashbucklers and fuming Falstaffs, but truths just the same, obvious to all the world. Southern chivalry rolled up against Northern valor and got the worst of it. That is the whole story. It was not that the former lacked courage. No braver men than those who followed the stars and bars ever won the moral crown. But they were opposed to men equally fearless, of superior physical strength, insured to toil and hardship, and who knew how to use tools, to bridge rivers, to make roads over the mountains, and crumble bulwark and bastion into dust. It was a contest of a lower with a higher civilization, and the former had to down. The haughty but indolent slaveholder and the 'possum-hunting' white struggled desperately but vainly against men whose heads and hands were educated in the exacting school of Northern industry. The men who had outstripped us in the field of labor fairly outfought us on the field of war.

"It were all for us now to cease our foolish boasting and con well the stern lessons taught at the cannon's mouth. The first and greatest of these is that only by honest labor and earnest endeavor can a people become truly great. The war swept away the curse that was our weakness—negro slavery. It broke in upon our old exclusiveness, shattered the foolish caste that held us in iron thrall; made labor respectable and progress possible. It brought energetic Northern people among us to teach us that the way to greatness lies through the workshop; to incite us to shake off our indolence and enter the race for preferment. Grant's red throated batteries did more than to break the shackles from the wrists of the blacks. They tore the cursed fetters of caste and custom from the minds of the whites—a noble emancipation! They set the heart of Southern chivalry to beating with a truer, a stronger life. In the mad tempest of battle the new South was born. The clash of arms was the groans of maternity; the deluge of blood her baptismal rite. From the ashes of desolate homes and ruined cities she sprang Phoenix-like, and is now mounting the empyrean with the strong and steady wing. The emancipation proclamation was a blow of promises, that never again, while the world stands and the heavens endure, will North and South meet in battle shock; that the greatness of the one shall become the proud heritage of the other; that the grandest section of the American Union shall yet with God's blessing, produce the greatest people that ever adorned the earth.

"The war is long past; we fought and lost. Our triumphant foe extended to us a brother's hand, accorded us the honor due a brave and spirited people. That we should suffer reconstruction pains was to have been expected. That they were unnecessarily severe was due chiefly to the greed of a clique of politicians; partly also to the fact that the North misunderstood us and our black wards, even as we persist in misunderstanding the Yankee. But no gibbet rose in that storm swept waste; our very leaders now occupy positions of honor

under the flag they defied. Let us not requite the generosity of our erstwhile foes by a base attempt to tarnish their well earned laurels. Rather let us praise and emulate them; strive with them in a nobler field than that of war. When the North and South blend in one homogeneous people, as blend they must; when the blood of the stern Puritan mingles with that of the dashing cavalier, then, indeed, will we be a nation and a people at which the world will stand agaze; for Northern vigor wedded to Southern blood will 'Strike within the pulses like a God's To push us forward thro' a life of shocks,

Dangers and deeds, until endurance grew
Sinewed with action, and the full grown will,
Circled thro' all experiences, pure law,
Commensure perfect freedom."

THE AMERICAN FLAG.

Interesting and Instructive Catechism for Children as Well as Grown People.

1. What is the primary object of a flag?
Ans. The primary object of a flag is to denote nationality.
2. Do all the nations have the same form of flag?
Ans. Each nation has its own peculiar form and colors.
3. Is the use of flags of early, or of recent, date?
Ans. Probably of very early date.
4. What leads you to think so?
Ans. During the wanderings of the Israelites in the Wilderness they were ordered to pitch every man "by his own standard, with the ensign of his father's house."
5. What is the meaning of the word flag?
Ans. That which flags or hangs down loosely.
6. When was the first U. S. flag having the stars and stripes adopted by Congress?
Ans. January 14, 1777.
7. Out of what was it made?
Ans. Out of a soldier's white shirt, an old blue overcoat, and a red flannel petticoat.
8. When was it first hoisted?
Ans. It was first hoisted by our army at Fort Stanwix, N. J., 1777. (During Burgoyne's campaign).
9. Who first raised this flag at sea?
Ans. Captain John Paul Jones.
10. What important act was passed by Congress April 4th, 1817?
Ans. An Act to establish the flag of the United States.
11. What was enacted?
Ans. 1. That from and after the 4th of July, 1818, the flag of the United States be 13 horizontal stripes, alternate red and white; that the union be 20 stars, white in a blue field. 2. On the admission of every new State into the Union, one star be added to the union of the flag; and that such additions shall take effect on the 4th day of July next succeeding such admission.
12. Where in our flag is the blue field located?
Ans. It is located in the upper corner next the flag-staff.
13. How many stars are now in this field?
Ans. There should be forty-six.
14. How many red stripes are there?
Ans. There are seven red stripes.
15. How many white stripes?
Ans. There are six white stripes.
16. What do the stars represent?
Ans. The stars represent union.
17. What do they teach?
Ans. They teach that in union there is strength. "United, we stand; divided, we fall."
18. What do the thirteen stripes represent?
Ans. They represent the thirteen original States.
19. Tell about the colors: What does the white represent?
Ans. The white is an emblem of purity and modesty.
20. What does the red represent?
Ans. The red represents the blood of our forefathers shed in the struggle for liberty, as well as that poured out by our fathers and brothers in defense of union and liberty.
21. What can you say of the blue?
Ans. The blue is the emblem of a tender and delicate sentiment, nourished by hope.
22. What was the name given to the Confederate flag?
Ans. The Confederate flag was called the "Stars and Bars," to dis-

tinguish it from the "Stars and Stripes."

23. How many stripes or "bars" in the Confederate flag?

Ans. It had three very broad stripes, the middle one white, the two others red.

24. How many stars did it have?

Ans. At first it contained seven stars and later, eleven, white stars—representing the number of Confederate States—arranged in a circle.

25. When a flag is hoisted half-mast high, what does it signify?

Ans. It is a mark of mourning.

26. When it is hoisted upside-down, what does it mean?

Ans. It forms a signal of distress.

27. What does a white flag betoken?

Ans. It is a flag of truce, and shows a desire to surrender, or to communicate with the enemy.

28. What does a yellow flag indicate?

Ans. It indicates that there is sickness of a dangerous character on board the vessel which bears it.

29. What does a red flag signify?

Ans. A red flag is a sign of defiance and an invitation to battle.

30. A black flag?

Ans. A black flag indicates that no mercy will be shown to the vanquished.

31. What other flags were used in the early history of our country?

Ans. When Washington took command of the army at Cambridge he raised the English flag with 13 red and white stripes added.

There was also a flag called the Pine Tree Flag of the navy. The tall tree pointing upward indicated an "Appeal to Heaven."

There is still another flag called the Rattlesnake Flag, bearing the warning, "Don't Tread on Me."

CHILDREN LEARN HOW TO PREVENT CONSUMPTION.

Over 2,500,000 of the 17,000,000 school children enrolled in the United States have during the school year just closed, been systematically instructed concerning the dangers of consumption and the methods for its cure and prevention, according to a statement issued to-day by the National Association for the Study and Prevention of Tuberculosis.

Besides the 2,500,000 children thus regularly instructed in their schools, the National Association estimates that fully 1,000,000 more have received instruction at the various tuberculosis exhibits held in all parts of the country or in separate classes and organizations.

A number of investigations conducted in various parts of the world show that a large percentage of the children in the public schools have

tuberculosis before they are eighteen. That a larger number of them do not die, is due to the fact that healthy children are able to resist the attack of the consumption germ. On account of the prevalence of the disease among children, the National Association considers their education to be of prime importance.

In Boston, a special commission which recently investigated the subject, found that over 5,000 school children in that city alone had positive cases of tuberculosis. In New York, a recent study showed over 25,000 tuberculosis children in the schools. On the basis of these and other investigations, it is estimated by certain authorities that there are nearly 1,000,000 school children in the United States to-day, who will probably die of tuberculosis before they have reached the age of eighteen. This would mean that the public schools of the country are paying annually about \$7,500,000 for the education of children who will die before they reach the age of eighteen. At least one-half of this sickness, and possibly three-fourths of it, could be prevented, if the municipal and state governments would adopt better and more hygienic methods of controlling and teaching the children, and if the public in general were alive to the need for tuberculosis prevention.

The National Association declares that the best way to wipe out consumption among the children is to educate both them and their parents so that they will know that tuberculosis is a communicable disease, that it can be cured and that it must be prevented.

Announcement is made that those officers of the navy who have sentimental affection for the old cruisers Olympia and Cincinnati, are greatly pleased with the decision of the Navy Department to except those vessels from the order directing the removal of figure-heads from all battleships, and the figureheads so removed are to be loaned to the states or cities whose names they bear. The order for the removal was issued in pursuance of the policy of eliminate everything from ships which does not contribute to fighting efficiency. The figureheads of the Olympia and the Cincinnati which are to remain, are probably the most artistic designs of any in the navy. The Olympia, it will be remembered, was the flagship of Admiral Dewey at the battle of Manila Bay, and her figurehead is made of bronze from the torpedo boats of the vessel carried at that time. It is a representation of a winged Liberty wearing the helmet of Minerva, the figure standing on the head of a dolphin.

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What Eczema Is

Eczema is a disease of the blood and affects all parts of the body—the face, lips, ears, hands, feet, genital organ, etc.

SYMPTOMS.—Yellowish red eruption; the pimples or patches may swell and the itching is so great the person will scratch the top off, then they bleed and dark scales form; there is an oozing of matter. In some the skin cracks and bleeds. Itching is terrible; a person suffering will scratch till they bleed. Scales form on parts of the body, where the clothing comes in contact.

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