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LIBERTY'S EMBLEM.

EVOLUTION OF THE STARS AND STRIPES. BE flag of the United States, that glorious emblem of red, white and blue which every Fourth of July proudly waves on the tops of battlements of flagpoles, cupolas, domes and scores of other slightly places in both city and country, is not as old by almost a year as the independence of our land. The United States was not a country in the usual sense of the word when the troubles occasioned by the hateful Stamp Act had broken out with the mother country, and as the difficulties grew so that a war was the only method of settling the dispute, our Colonial legislators first busied themselves in asserting their independence, and it was not until some time later that the flag, as the distinctive emblem of the country's freedom, was chosen.

THE BIRD OF FREEDOM.



ON THE GLORIOUS FOURTH HE IS MUCH IN EVIDENCE.

occupied by a Mrs. Munday, who, besides showing patriotic visitors the room in which General Washington gave Betsy Ross the rough design for the flag, dispenses over a small counter in front of the house pipes and tobacco. The house, although about 300 years old, is still in an excellent state of preservation. It is a small two-story brick building, being the second one of its kind erected in Philadelphia, the bricks having been sent over from England. This house, in 1777, was occupied by Mrs. Elizabeth Ross, but she is known in history simply as Betsy Ross.

fore, but this was objected to by many on the ground that twenty stripes make the flag too clumsy. At this point Captain Samuel C. Reid offered the suggestion which won for him the honor of being styled the father of the Stars and Stripes as it exists to-day. His idea was simple and convenient, however great the number of States might be in the future. It was that the stripes be reduced to the former number of thirteen and always remain so, while the stars be made as numerous as the States comprising the Union. On April 4, 1818, this plan was adopted by Congress, and the first flag under the new idea was made by Captain Reid's wife.

What was called the New England flag was also used quite extensively. This was a plain blue flag with a white field in the upper left hand corner, divided into four squares by a red cross. The other first square was a sphere, divided, emblematical of American as the new world. The Massachusetts troops had a number of these flags, but instead of the sphere put a green pine tree in the white square.

Our Stars and Stripes was 119 years old on the 4th of July, and in the celebration of our one hundred and twentieth Independence Day something of its history may well be remembered by all patriotic Americans.

Jerry Fusk's 4th of July Speech.

"In Iowa, when I was a youngster," said the Hon. James S. Clark, "the Fourth of July was celebrated in the cities, country towns and villages and at the cross roads, and the celebrations were sincere demonstrations of popular affection for the flag. Oratory, dancing and driving made up the day, sentiment, love making and dancing the night."

"Just such Fourth of July celebrations are held now in some parts of the country. The late Jerry Fusk attended such a one in West Virginia a year or two before he died. He was scheduled to make an address, but the other speakers had been long winded, and when it came to his turn he saw that the young folks, especially the girls, were anxious to begin the dancing. So his remarks were brief and to the point.

"My friends," he said, "it seems to me it is about time the pretty girls here had a chance to shake their feet. Besides, I want to dance myself, and so instead of talking, I shall be delighted if I may lead the first set. Who of all you girls will be my partner?"

An Up-to-Date Celebration.



HOW TO CELEBRATE.

Julia Ward Howe suggests a Programme for the Fourth.

The question will be, How to make the Fourth of July a true festival, a National solemnity, without forgetting the claims of the young to be amused, as well as to be instructed. In the first place, I should think that the day might fitly be made one of reunion, by different clubs and associations of culture and philanthropy. Those whose thoughts go deep enough to understand the true conditions of human freedom, might meet and compare their studies and experiences. Very fitly, after such a meeting, each individual of them might seek a group, to whose members he might present a popular statement of the philosophy of freedom. Mothers, who should be the true guardians of peace, might well come together to study all that promotes its maintenance. In gatherings of older children, prize essays might be presented and discussed. I can imagine civic banquets, of a serious and stately character, in which men and women might sit together and pledge each other in the exhilaration of friendship and good feeling.

PEARLS OF THOUGHT.

The top of the cloud is always bright. It is a waste of time to watch a hypocrite. The feet of truth are slow, but they never slip. Try not only to be good, but to be good for something. Believing right has everything to do with feeling right. Doing good will pay better in the end than digging gold.

It is a common misfortune to be blind to our own faults. People who live alone remain strangers to themselves. Wherever love finds a burden, it puts out both hands to lift. Whenever you make a mistake, make it teach you something. There is more life in one grain of wheat than in a bushel of chaff. A soft answer has often been the means of breaking a hard heart. Give some people money enough, and they will vex themselves to death. Be careful where you step and the man who follows you won't stumble so much. The millennium will soon come when men begin to carry brotherly love into poetry. Showers of blessing can always be had by bringing the best title into the storehouse. The man who is willing to only have a little religion, might as well not have any. The man who becomes a successful hypocrite, will not be much of a success at anything else. Man is never so unhappy as when he hates his brother, and never more happy than when he loves him. It is better to have a contented and sunny spirit, than it is to have a pedigree that goes back to the Mayflower. The man who will not improve his chance is bound to lose it, no matter whether it has to do with seeking salvation or making a fortune.—Ran's Horn.

Beneath His Dignity. The church wardens of an English village had placed an organ in their little church, and in the delight of their hearts they told the attendance what they had done at his next visitation. He fell in with their enthusiasm, and advised them to have a grand opening, at which Dr. C— would be present. "But where is the keyboard?" inquired the great man, who had already been somewhat disconcerted at the size of the organ. "Oh, said the church wardens, 'we turn an round w' that there,' pointing to the handle. The amazement and indignation of Dr. C— were beyond words. He had been invited to open a hand-organ.

John Wilkes Booth. At this time John Wilkes Booth was twenty-seven years old, a man of striking presence, handsome face, and very winning manners, and yet, without given to the most violent excesses of every description. As an actor he gave promise of being the equal, if not the superior, of his elder brother, and his own statements are to be credited, his income from his profession alone amounted to \$20,000 a year. Up to the date of the failure of the plot to poison he had played quite regularly, invariably before large audiences, with whom he enjoyed much favor. He appears now to have devoted all his energies to the furtherance of the matter nearest his heart—the plots against the president.—Century.

One Can Starve on Beef Tea. Extract of beef, if pure, according to Mr. Woods, contains nothing but the flavoring matter of the meat from which it is prepared. According to the way in which it is made it cannot contain any protein. It is therefore not a food at all, but a stimulant, and should be classed with tea and coffee. It should never be given to a sick person unless specially prescribed by a competent physician. Its strong, meaty taste is deceptive, and a person depending upon it alone for food would die of starvation.—Washington Star.

Absence. How crowded now these empty rooms Have grown since she has gone— No trifle but becomes a thing That thought must wait upon. The very silence seems to move About on stealthy feet, Tiptoeing lest it wake some thought The heart would dread to meet. And oh, the hidden sense of all Irrevocable fate In that neglected glove still left So close behind its mate! —Melville Upon in the Century.

HEMORRHOIDS.

The mermaid's favorite tace— Neptune. Breakfast is the proper time to call the roll. A colony of Poles is well fixed to raise beans. Twin brothers may be eccentric, but they are never odd. Some men never tumble, even when an idea strikes them. Keep your conscience, but not your farm, void of a fence. A fat man, though not blind, is compelled to feel his weight. The pessimist should remember that, according to his own theories, it can do no good to circulate them. Flippity—I'm going to have a high old time this summer. Small—Ah! Flippity—You bet! I'm going to the mountains. Blouzin—I see that the election did not result as you predicted. Jazrig—Yes, it did. You're not the only one I predicted to.

I wish professor Langley would hurry and get his flying machine perfected. "Why?" "I want to visit some of my castles in the air." He married her because her neck With rapture wild did set him. And yet there were some folks who said She broke it for to get him.

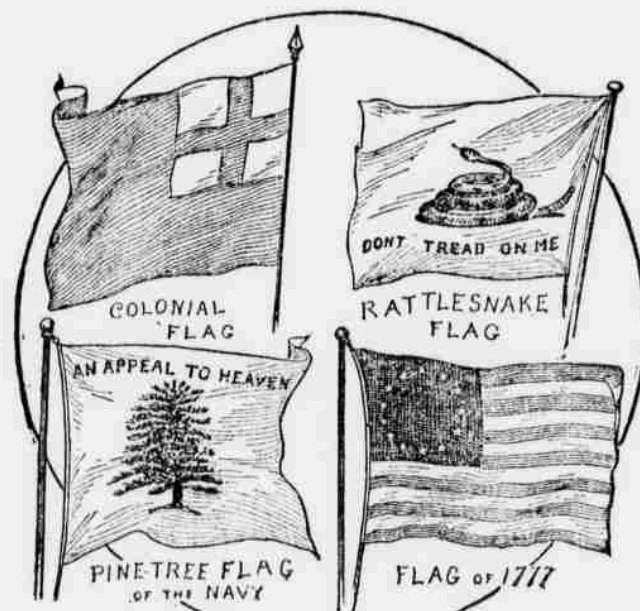
First Night—Was the new play a success? Parquet—Well, I don't know; but one outraged man in the audience called the author out. "George!" "Yes, dear!" "You don't you lay me one of those Harlan wrappers that you were talking to Mr. Smyth about last night?" Higgins—Do you think it is possible for an educated man to live, so as to be respected by his neighbors, on a dollar a day? Wiggins—Well, possibly. But his employer can't.

"Your dad has to work for a living," said the boy on the coalhouse. "That ain't so!" replied the boy in the back yard adjoining. "All he has to do is to set on a bench and mend shoes." Muddled Energy—"I notice," observed Uncle Allen Sparks, "that Edison has procured 711 patents in the last twenty-five years, and still there isn't a corn cure worth having."

Wife—I don't see why you should object to signing some checks and leaving them for me to fill out. Husband—Not much. I would rather give you what money there is in the bank. "But, Bertie, it was only last month that I paid a dress-maker's bill of \$250, and here is another one for this month of \$200." "Well, dear Elgar, you see that shows that I am beginning to spend less."

False Tails for Horses. Miss Mary Grace Thornton, daughter of Sir Edward Thornton, British ambassador, describes "The Crowning of a Colt" in the Century. She writes:—"We are deeply prepared (dresses first—I feel quite ready now to crown the Emperor), and one hears nothing but discussions about horses, carriages, house arrangements, servants, etc. The ambassadors are exercised about horses for these state carriages, the Russian horse, with all his 'points,' being too small. Besides, if they are too short their tails are too long. The Austrians are having a stable from Vienna; but the French are boldly taking the Russian horses and getting over the tail difficulty by tying up those long natural tails and fastening on short false ones. They've had a dress rehearsal, and say the effect is excellent. What it is to be smart.

Why and How Thread Is Numbered. The question, "Why is spool cotton numbered as it is, and why are the figures not used in regular order?" is often asked, says the Boston Journal of Commerce. The explanation is this: The numbers on the spools express the number of "hanks" which are required to wind a pound. The very finest spinning rarely exceeds 500 hanks to the pound, while in the very coarsest there is about a half pound in each hank. The more common qualities, however, those from which sewing thread is usually made, run from ten to fifty hanks to the pound, and the spools on which it is wound are numbered from ten to fifty in accordance.



VARIOUS AMERICAN FLAGS OF EARLY DATE.

structed in flag lore and what "Oh! Glory," as it has been fondly called, really stands for.

A RECOMMENDATION FOR NO. 13.

Probably every schoolboy and schoolgirl knows that the thirteen alternate red and white stripes on our flag typify the thirteen original States or colonies, from which our country grew. This number thirteen, coming down from the remote ages of superstitions antiquity, has been stamped as the forerunner of dire misfortune and untold evils, but surely those individuals who are still inclined to fight shy of the number must admit that a glorious exception has been the case in so far as these United States have been affected by having their birth from thirteen colonies.

The white stars in the blue field also are known to represent the number of States in the Union, a new star being added with the entrance of every new

gress to provide a suitable design for the flag consisted of George Washington, Hon. George Ross, and Robert Morris, the great Pennsylvania financier, who freely gave all of his great wealth in the cause of his country. Betsy Ross kept a little upholstery store and was also one of the best seamstresses in the city, so it was natural that the committee should select her as the best one to make the flag. The design which she used was a rough one sketched by Washington in pencil, and it is worthy of remark that to Betsy Ross is due the credit for the design the stars had been made with six points. Betsy Ross plainly told the august committee that five-pointed stars would look much better, and cut one from a piece of paper to show how it looked. The suggestion was adopted, and Betsy made the flag, which was greatly admired. She then received the contract from the Government to make all its flags, for which she was paid \$14 12s. 3d. apiece, about \$70. The contract was held in this family for several years, but later her daughter, who belonged to the Society of Friends, known as Quakers, objected to making flags for war vessels, although the society's scruples against warfare never seemed to have bothered Betsy Ross in the peaceful occupation of making the flags. The thirteen stars in the original flag were arranged in a circle, emblematic of the perpetuity of the Union.

The Stars and Stripes met with universal favor, and as soon as extra copies could be made the different detachments of the American armies were supplied with them, and from that time to the close of the war they were an inspiration to victory and renewed patriotism.

CHANGES IN THE FLAG.

In 1795 the flag underwent its first change. Two more States, Vermont and Kentucky, had been admitted to the Union, and it was decided to increase both the Stripes and Stars to fifteen. This was done, and for twenty-three years the flag remained in this condition. The first United States ship to sail from her masts this fifteen striped banner was the historic old battleship Constitution, better known as "Old Ironsides," which was built in 1795, and did good service in the war of 1812.

In 1818 the question of a change in the flag came before Congress again. Since 1795 five more States had been admitted to the Union and they wanted to be represented in some manner in their country's flag. The committee in charge of the matter were first in favor of increasing the stars and stripes as had been done be-

GRAVE OF FATHER OF THE FLAG.

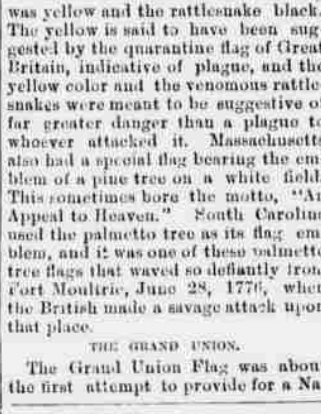
A point of interest that may not be generally known is that Captain Reid lies buried in Greenwood Cemetery, Brooklyn. His grave is plot 13 108, near Cypress avenue and Zephyr path, but the little mound is unmarked by even the simplest headstone. Congress, however, did, last year, grant an appropriation to place a suitable monument over the grave. Captain Reid was one of America's true naval heroes, and he was famous in his day as the intrepid commander of the privateer General Armstrong, which fought a desperate battle against three English gunboats in Fayal Roads, Azores Islands, September 26, 1814. The naval battle lasted the greater part of two days, but Captain Reid, by the exercise of rare skill and judgment against his powerful adversaries, finally defeated them with great loss.

THE GRAND UNION.

The Grand Union Flag was about the first attempt to provide for a Na-

tional emblem. It was the design of Benjamin Franklin and two others who in the camp of the Continental troops at Cambridge, in the winter of 1775, and it is said to have been first raised over the camp, January 2, 1776. It contained thirteen white and red stripes. The King's colors, the Cross of the Georges, had been retained, testifying that the Colonies were united, but were still really to acknowledge the rule of Great Britain, if the colonies' taxation laws would be repealed. But the flag had a very short lease of life for, after the Declaration of Independence on the following Fourth of July, there was no further use for the banner with the King's colors.

WHERE THE FIRST FLAG WAS MADE.



A Fourth of July Conversation.

Foreigner—"So eternal vigilance is the price of liberty."

Native—"That, sir, is the regular price, but without having made special investigation, sir, I have no hesitation in saying that you will doubtless find our great department stores offering heavy reductions."—Detroit Tribune.

In the History Class.

Teacher—"What great event occurred on the Fourth of July?" Scholar—"Columbus discovered America."

Teacher—"Oh, no, he didn't." Scholar (in surprise)—"He didn't." Teacher—"Of course not." Scholar—"Well, who did discover it?"

A Patriotic Thing.

"The horse thief who broke into my shop last night," said the false-hair merchant, "reminded me very much of a fire-cracker."

"How was that?" asked his friend. "He went off with a bang," sighed the hair merchant.—Harper's Bazar.

An Accompaniment.

Mrs. Parke Row—"Now that the Fourth is here, I think I shall have to make some Washington cake." Parke Row—"If it's the same kind that you had last year, you'll want a listlet to go with it."—Pack.

The Difference.

What does it mean to one little man. Popovers and peanuts and pink lemonade. What does it mean to two little boys? Popovers and fire-crackers, racket and noise.

THE LIBERTY BELL.

I heard it ring all through the night In joyful tones supreme As though from freedom's far-off height The melody did stream: And liberty— O' Liberty— Its only constant theme, And liberty— O' Liberty— It shouted through my dream. It seemed to lift, to rise, to float Above the joyful strain; The pulsing accents seemed to glaze On that one rich refrain. And liberty— O' Liberty— It echoed through my brain, And liberty— O' Liberty— It called and called again. All through the dreamful, happy night I heard its voice outpour: The "poor old bell," the people said, "Would ring, all overnights."

"O' Liberty— O' Liberty— As in the days of yore. And does it ring no more?—ah me! Its voice is rolling round the world— Such music never dies. Still liberty— O' Liberty— Unceasingly it cries, And liberty— O' Liberty— A listening world replies.

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BETSY ROSS.

State, but the star is not added until July 4, following the admission of the State. Beyond these few facts comparatively little is known regarding the "Stars and Stripes."

It was on June 14, 1777, a very trying year in the Revolution for Americans, that the flag of the United States came into existence. Congress on that day passed the resolution, "That the flag of the United States be thirteen stripes, alternate red and white; that the Union be thirteen stars, a white in a blue field, representing a new constellation."

FOUNDED IN PHILADELPHIA.

Philadelphia has the honor of being the scene of the birth of this flag, as a year previous it gave birth to the country's freedom. It is also an interesting fact that the old house in which the first regular United States flag was made is still standing. This house is at 239 Arch street and is now

His Cup Overflowed.

Gimlet—"Did you have a good time on the Fourth, Johnny?" Johnny—"Did I? Well, say! Ma ain't got over the hysterics yet."

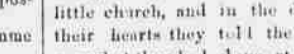
The Small Boy's Fourth.

Mrs. Parke Row—"Now that the Fourth is here, I think I shall have to make some Washington cake." Parke Row—"If it's the same kind that you had last year, you'll want a listlet to go with it."—Pack.

The Difference.

What does it mean to one little man. Popovers and peanuts and pink lemonade. What does it mean to two little boys? Popovers and fire-crackers, racket and noise.

He begins so— And ends so



He begins so— And ends so