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THE FOURTH.

See, what a fuss!
And a fuss!
What's it about?
Why do we shout?
It's the Fourth of July.

The third is no fun;
On the fifth all is done.
It's all the same—
Just, hot and tame—
Except for the glorious Fourth.

You're live on that day;
It hums out our way.
Joy, but it's great!
I can hardly wait
For the Fourth of July.

Our dads had spunk,
And never would flunk,
But just told the King
A most impudent thing
On the Fourth of July.

"We're free," they said,
"And we won't be led."
The King found it out,
And that's why we shout
On the Fourth of July.
—Mirror and Farmer.

The Story of the Star Spangled Banner

BY JOHN R. SPEARS,
Author of "The History of Our Navy."

THE story of the American flag is the most thrilling known to history. On Saturday, June 14, 1777, the Continental Congress resolved "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." A great variety of flags, in number equal, perhaps, to the kinds of uniforms worn by the troops of the Revolution, were used among them. The yellow flag bearing a rattlesnake and the motto, "Don't tread on me," which Paul Jones hoisted over the first flagship of the patriot navy. A more appropriate ensign for use while the patriots as British citizens were fighting for their rights as British citizens was that displayed on the Royal Savage schooner, under Arnold at the battle of Lake Champlain, for it had thirteen stripes, alternate red and white, with the British Union in the corner.

But once the colonies had declared their independence a new flag was needed, and it was developed from the old one of the Royal Savage. Washington himself, George Ross, of Philadelphia, and Robert Morris designed the flag, and good Mrs. Betsy Ross, at her home, No. 239 Arch street, Philadelphia, sewed the bunting. The thirteen stripes to represent the thirteen States were retained, and then a Union of thirteen white stars on a blue field, a constellation that was to astound the astronomers of politics in more ways than one, took the place of the British Union.

The exact time when the flag was unfurled over the halls of Congress is not a matter of record, but when it was first blackened with the smoke of battle we know right well. While Betsy Ross was stitching the flag together Burgoyne was marching down through the wilderness by the way of Lake Champlain to meet the British army that was to come up the Hudson from New York. To aid in crushing the patriots that, under Schuyler, were opposing Burgoyne, St. Leger was sent with 1700 men, chiefly Tories and Indians, to Oswego, whence he marched down to the head of the Mohawk Valley where Rome now stands. The Mohawk Valley was the home of the Tories. No part of the country could show a greater proportion of them, but the patriots had taken to the field in surprising numbers and with unshaken faith. Fort Stanwix, at the site of Rome, was manned by 600 men under Col. Peter Gansevoort, and Col. Marinus Willett was with him.

On August 3, 1777, St. Leger arrived before this fort and demanded its surrender under pain of the slaughter of the garrison by the Indians. But Gansevoort in emphatic language declined, though short of provisions and ammunition. How a siege followed; how the patriotic general, Nicholas Herkimer, started up the Mohawk Valley to relieve Gansevoort; how he was ambushed by St. Leger's force at Oriskany, and how during the hot hours that followed his men stood in a circle and fought hand to hand one of the most bloody battles of the Revolution, need not be told. But while the battle raged, Colonel Willett sallied from the fort, drove the British from their camp, captured flags, papers and baggage, and returned in triumph. It was a splendid sortie and it was made under the flag. A most curious combination



"HURRAH FOR OLD GLORY."

of hunting was that flag. The white stripes and stars were cut from soldiers' shirts, the blue field was made from a cloak captured from the British down beyond the Hudson, and the red

stripes were made from the petticoat of one of the women in the garrison. When Willett came in from the sortie he hoisted the British flag on a staff above the fort with this new constellation waving over them. And there it fluttered till Burgoyne surrendered and St. Leger fled away with Indians cursing him.

One would like to dwell on the exploits of John Paul Jones, who hoisted the flag on the Ranger. "That flag and I are twins. Born the same hour from the same womb of destiny," as he used to say, because Congress ordered him to the Ranger at the time it established the flag. But of him it can be said only that on February 14, 1778, he sailed the Ranger with her flag flying through the French fleet in the harbor of Brest and had the satisfaction of seeing the flag, for the first time, receive a national salute from a foreign ship of war.

One may note that the flag was seen flying in the Thames on February 3, 1783, before the treaty of peace had been signed. It was on the good ship Bedford, of Nantucket, with a cargo

At last the firing died down, and the last gun was fired. At this a dead silence spread over the great throngs that had stood upon the hills. For the battle was over and no one there could tell how it had ended. For a few moments they gazed anxiously while the smoke of battle drifted slowly from around the ships, until a single tall mast appeared and then a patriot on Cumberland Head began to shout. A moment later the whole throng there saw the stars and stripes fluttering from that masthead above the smoke



INDEPENDENCE MORNING.

cloud, and with voices that were heard across the bay and over on the green hills of Vermont they told that Macdonough had won.

That flag waving alone above the cloud of smoke told the story of a nation saved from dismemberment. Of many memorable occasions when the flag has thrilled the nation in time of peace not even mention can be made save only as we all remember that hurricane in Samoa, when our ships were driven to destruction, with the band on deck playing "The Star-Spangled Banner."



PASSED ON SECOND.

The resolution of independence on which our loved Declaration was based passed the House of Delegates on July 2, but because the Declaration was not signed until the 4th, we celebrated that day instead of the 2d.

LIBERTY BELLS.



of whale oil, and Captain William Mores was the venturesome Yankee skipper who went thus early to market. The arrival made a great stir in London, and especially in Parliament, but the war was over and the ship was safe.

As a part in the composition of a picture the flag was perhaps never so conspicuous as on Sunday, September 11, 1814, when it was seen over the American fleet at the battle of Lake Champlain.

The British had come from Canada with a great fleet under Captain George Downie, to sweep Lieutenant Macdonough's vessels from the lake, while Sir George Prevost, with an army of 11,000 veterans, chiefly "Wellington's Invincibles," had marched to the Saranac bank at Plattsburgh, where Macomb had but a few more than half as many men to meet him, even if untrained militia be counted. For two years the Americans had struggled well nigh in vain and the supreme moment of the war had come.

As 8 o'clock drew nigh that morning the great throngs of spectators saw the crew of the cutter bend to their oars and drive it away to the flagship. Then came the British fleet, rounding the point and sailing up close to the wind until opposite Macdonough's line of battle, where they anchored, and the fight began.

As the broadsides roared among the hills the breeze died out, and soon the ships became enveloped in a cloud of smoke that rose and swelled till it covered the bay and buried the loftiest masthead from view. The spectators on the hills could see nothing of the battle, save only as the flash of the guns at times illuminated the smoke and sent a cumulous puff here and there from the great white cloud.

The Anglo-Maniac—"Gwatt Heavens! If I even escape from this predicament alive, I'll never again ask



a livewyman for an English-bred horse on the Fourth of July!"—Puck.

BUNKER HILL.

With thoughts of Independence Day are indissolubly linked Bunker Hill. It is said the original Bunker Hill is just outside Belfast, Ireland. The corner-stone of the Bunker Hill monument was laid June 17, 1825. Daniel Webster made the address, and Lafayette was present. When the shaft was dedicated there was also an oration by Webster, and President Tyler and his Cabinet were present. In 1842, upon its completion, an address written by the Hon. Robert Charles Winthrop was read by ex-Governor John D. Long.

SOLDIERS OF THE REVOLUTION.

During the Revolutionary War, Great Britain sent 112,584 troops for land service and over 22,000 seamen to America, while the colonists had 230,000 continental soldiers and 50,000 militia under arms.

DEATH FOR RIOTERS

Two Hundred or More Dead and a Thousand Wounded

STREET FIGHTING STILL CONTINUED

Polish City Resembles a Shambles and the Fighting Spirit of the People is So Fully Aroused That the Presence of Ten Russian Regiments is Insufficient to Stop Firing From Houses.

Lodz, By Cable.—Since the arrival of reinforcements actual fighting in the city has stopped, but the outbreak is by no means quelled, and fresh collisions are expected momentarily.

The city resembles a shambles and the terrible scenes of the last two days will never be wiped from the memory of the Polish people.

The fighting spirit of the people is fully aroused. They have tasted blood and want more. Certainly the revolutionary spirit is abroad and it remains to be seen whether military measures will have the same effect as previously.

Saturday at Baluty, a suburb of Lodz, four Cossacks were killed and sixteen others wounded by a bomb which was thrown into the barracks. Twenty of their horses were killed.

Occasional volleys are still fired by the police or gendarmes in response to shots from houses.

The soldiers are showing what appears to be wanton cruelty. Late in the afternoon they shot and killed two women—a mother and her daughter. The funerals of victims of the shooting of Thursday and Friday took place surreptitiously in various outlying villages. It is quite impossible to give the exact number of killed and wounded, as reports vary according to the quarter from which they are obtained. Certainly the killed number more than a hundred, and the wounded five times as many.

An official report says that the number of casualties was largely increased by the neglect of the police to remain indoors, and the others who insisted on looking out of doors and windows when the volleys were being fired upon the rioters by the soldiers. Residents of the city say that they received no orders to remain indoors.

Lodz, Russian Poland, By Cable.—The victims of the last week's outbreak, the bodies of 343 Jews and 218 Christians have been buried. The wounded number over 700.

Some semblance of order has been restored, and the workmen are gradually returning to the factories. Lieutenant General Sutsworth, commander of the First Cavalry Corps, has assumed command of the forces here during the existence of martial law. The Governor General has proclaimed a state of siege here.

Since the proclamation of martial law, the situation has become quieter. The rumor of an approaching massacre of Jews has caused 20,000 Jews to leave the town.

Peace Conference Date.

St. Petersburg, By Cable.—Negotiations for the peace conference have taken an important step forward, a proposition for the date of the meeting of the plenipotentiaries at Washington having been submitted to Russia and being now under consideration. The exact date proposed has not been ascertained, but there is reason to suppose that it is some time during the first week or ten days of August, which is about the earliest period at which the Japanese representatives could be expected to reach Washington.

The Emperor's answer is not expected for a day or two, as the diplomatic mills of Russia grind slowly, and the Foreign Office, as one of the secretaries put it, "is not used to your hustling American methods;" but it is thought that the date will be satisfactory as it will give ample time for Mr. Nelidoff, the Russian ambassador at Paris, or other Russian negotiators, to reach Washington, and there will be little preliminary work for them to do until the Japanese terms are submitted.

Sheriff Resists Gov. Folk.

St. Louis, Special.—Governor Folk's order to stop race track gambling in Missouri with the aid of the militia, if necessary, met defeat at the hands of the sheriff of St. Louis county, John Herpel, who says he will not raid race tracks or call for troops, and that if the Governor sends troops to molest any one the soldiers will be arrested, possibly shot. Sheriff Herpel declared he was opposed to raids as a usurpation of the judicial authority, and said: "An appeal to bayonets is the first threat of a bigot, fired by fanatical zeal, his personal ambition and by ideas against the guaranteed liberties of the people."

Passenger Wreck in Colorado.

Denver, Special.—Westbound passenger train on the Denver and Rio Grande railroad was wrecked at Pinto, a small station, sixty miles west of Grand Junction, Col. No fatalities resulted. The accident was caused by a broken bolt in a frog at a switch. Three coaches were derailed and twenty-nine passengers were slightly injured.

Hanged For Murdering Manager.

Birmingham, Ala., Special.—A special from Tuscaloosa says that John Carpenter, a negro, was hanged there Friday for the murder of Stewart Champion, superintendent of the Stewart plantation, last April. Carpenter, an employee of the plantation, had a grudge against the manager, and shot him in his home at night firing through the window as Champion sat with his child in his arms. The child was slightly wounded and Champion was killed.

NORTH CAROLINA CROP BULLETIN

Conditions For Past Week as Given Out by the Department.

The North Carolina director of the Department of Agriculture issues the following bulletin for the past week:

Throughout most of the State the weather during the past week was generally fair and very warm, with refreshing showers towards the close. It is true that drought prevails in some counties, but nevertheless as a whole, the week was quite favorable for farm work, and caused marked improvement in the growth of crops, except in a few sections. The mean temperature was high, averaging nearly 80 degrees for the State at large, while the maxima exceeded 90 almost every day except Sunday (25th); the nights also were quite warm and favorable for growth. Most of the week was entirely dry, but on Friday, 23rd and Sunday 25th, fine showers occurred in the east, giving new life to vegetation. Drought continues to prevail in several central-western counties, chiefly Caswell, Anson, Scotland, Forsyth, Guilford and further west Gaston, Rutherford, Mecklenburg, Cabarrus and Yadkin, and in these corn and gardens are suffering for lack of sufficient moisture. In the extreme west (Swain, Cherokee, etc.) abundant precipitation interfered a little with farm work. Cultivating crops, laying by corn, harvesting, and planting field peas progressed favorably, being only hindered somewhat in sections suffering from drought, where the land has become too dry and hard. Crops are still late and small for the season, but are growing rapidly.

The weather has been just right for cotton, which though small is improving rapidly; squares are forming freely and blooms will soon appear; rice continue to damage this crop considerably. The weather was too dry for late planted corn; upland corn also, in the counties suffering from drought, has grown well, a little firing being reported; laying by corn is general, even in the west. Tobacco has grown well in the east, but is somewhat well, the planting is delayed; topping tobacco has begun in the east. Most of the wheat crop has been safely housed and threshing has commenced; many spring oats remain to be cut. Gardens look fine, but need rain in the central west, and along the coast. Irish potatoes turned out to be a fine crop; sweet potatoes, and all minor crops are doing fairly well. A large crop of hay was cut and nicely cured this week. Fruit, peaches, apples and huckleberries continue to come into market in abundance; grapes appear to be rotting in a few places.

Rains reported: Nashville .67; Goldsboro .62; Lumberton, Trace, Newbern 1.44; Weldon .72; Wilmington 1.50; Hatteras 1.10; Greensboro .26; Raleigh .95; Lexington .65; Monroeville 1.10; Ramseur .04; Davidson 1.77.

Request For Receiver.

Asheville, Special.—Judge J. C. Pritchard, of the United States Circuit Court, has signed an order continuing the hearing of the Southern Railway Company to show cause why a receiver should not be appointed for the South Carolina and Georgia Railroad, until Wednesday, July 26. The order was made at the request of the Southern Railway Company, which has more time in which to file its answer to the complaint. The request for a receiver for the South Carolina and Georgia division of the Southern was made by a stockholder of the Southern, residing at Augusta, Ga., who complains that the treasury of the Southern is being depleted by reason of suits against the Southern for violation of the merger law of South Carolina, and that already suits to the amount of \$470,000 are pending against the Southern.

Pardon Applications.

The Governor took the following action on applications for pardons: State vs. H. J. Mattox, retailing, sentenced to four months in jail. The prisoner was a saloon-keeper in Goldsboro. The people by vote adopted prohibition, and in defiance of law he continued to sell liquors. Judge and solicitor refuse to recommend a pardon, seeing no merit in the application, and it is refused.

State vs. John McNeill, of Richmond, convicted of larceny and sentenced to five years on the roads of Anson. Solicitor, two attorneys assisting solicitor and prosecutor, recommend a pardon, and after reviewing all the evidence, this seems right. Pardon was granted on condition of good behavior.

State vs. Ephraim Hensley, manslaughter, sentenced to the penitentiary for two years. Prisoner is 70 years old. His son killed a man and fled. All the prisoner did was to say before-hand that no one should impose on his son. This was considered as aiding his son and he was convicted. The judge and solicitor recommended a pardon, which is granted on condition of good behavior.

State vs. Ed. Williams, of Graham, assault with a deadly weapon, sentenced to 5 months on the roads, of Swain. The prisoner on his own evidence was guilty. He used excessive force, shooting at the assailant when he was fleeing. The application is refused.

State vs. John Miller, of Rutherford, indecent exposure of person, 4 months on the county roads. Judge, solicitor and prosecutor refuse to recommend a pardon. The prisoner pleaded guilty and the application for pardon is refused.

WILL MEET BY AUG.

Confirmation of Previous St. Petersburg Dispatch—President Would Prefer Aug. 1—Minister Takahira to Be One of Japan's Plenipotentiaries.

Washington, Special.—The President has expressed a wish to the Japanese and Russian governments that the plenipotentiaries meet in the United States on the first day of August, and if not on that date, then at the earliest date thereafter. The following statement regarding the meeting of the plenipotentiaries was made public at the White House.

"The President has received from both the Russian and Japanese governments the statement that the plenipotentiaries of the two countries will meet in the United States during the first ten days of August, and the President has expressed to both governments the wish that the meeting should take place, if possible, on the first of August, and if not on that date, then at the earliest date thereafter."

M. Nelidoff, the Russian ambassador to Paris, and Baron Rosen, the new Russian ambassador to Washington, are Russia's tentative selections of plenipotentiaries. Mr. Takahira, the Japanese minister here, it is understood, has been selected by his government as one of the plenipotentiaries, but the name of the ranking Japanese envoy cannot be learned.

ALMOST CYCLONE IN NEW YORK.

Gale of 43 Miles an Hour, Accompanied by Blinding Sheets of Rain, Causes Widespread Damage—Foreman Killed and Two Laborers Injured by Collapse of Uncompleted Building.

New York, Special.—A storm of cyclonic proportions, accompanied by a terrific deluge of rain, passed over Harlem and the Bronx Monday afternoon, causing widespread havoc.

A building in course of erection in One Hundred and Thirty-sixth street, near Riverside drive, was demolished. John Lawler, foreman of the bricklayers, being crushed to death and two Italian laborers severely injured by the collapse of the building. The two laborers, seeing the storm approaching from the New Jersey shore, ran to the fifth floor and made a brave effort to shore up the western wall. Having finished their work, the men started for the street, and had reached the first floor when the building collapsed.

Abraham Pearlman, of the firm of Pearlman & Brown, the builders of the house, and Abraham Bordock, the superintendent of the construction, were later arrested.

The lower section of the city experienced only a somewhat heavy gale with no rain. The storm appeared to break almost simultaneously in the Bronx and Harlem, and the wind reached a velocity of 43 miles an hour, accompanied by blinding sheets of driving rain. Plate glass windows were shattered and trees and chimneys were blown down. The storm passed within fifteen minutes.

Cotton Rises \$1.50 Per Bale.

New York, Special.—The cotton market was active and excited with prices advancing about \$1.50 a bale and reaching a new high point for the current year on aggressive buying by leading bulls and covering by shorts. The advance was attributed to strength in Liverpool, further reports of a good trade demand and firm stock market, and a circular which had been issued by the bull leaders predicting a crop of only about 9,500,000 bales for the coming season.

Makes Promising Trip.

Provincetown, Mass., Special.—The protected cruiser Charleston, which is to undergo speed and endurance tests off this coast this week, arrived in this harbor. A representative of the Newport News Ship-building and Dry Dock Company, which built the vessel, reported that on her passage up the coast the cruiser averaged 22 knots an hour, which is the speed called for in the government contract.

Hoch Gets Reprieve.

Springfield, Ill., Special.—In order that his case may be taken to a Supreme Court justice for a writ of superseas, Governor Dennen granted to Johann Hoch, the Chicago wife murderer, who was to have been hanged Friday, a reprieve until July 28th.

Russian Auxiliary Cruisers Must Be Have.

St. Petersburg, By Cable.—In consequence of British representations, British warships will be dispatched to convey orders to the Russian auxiliary cruisers Dnelper and Rion to cease interference with shipping and to return immediately.

Two Dead; One Wounded.

Waynesboro, Ga., Special.—Two men are dead and one seriously wounded as a result of a shooting affray that occurred here Monday. The parties to the affair were L. D. and John Hill, of Drone, and L. Schraeck, of Augusta, and D. C. Curtis, of Saint Clair. John Hill was seriously wounded in the stomach and thigh. Curtis was shot in the face and through the heart, also dying instantly.

IN NORTH CAROLINA

Occurrences of Interest in Various Parts of the State.

Charlotte Cotton Market. These figures represent prices paid to wagons: Good middling 8 15-16 Strict middling 8 15-16 Middling 8 15-16 Tines 7 to 7 1/2 Stains 6 1/2 to 7 1/4 General Cotton Market.

Galveston, steady 9 3-16 New Orleans, firm 9 1-16 Mobile, firm 8 1/2 Savannah, steady 8 1/2 Wilmington, steady 8 1/2 Norfolk, steady 8 1/2 Baltimore, normal 8 1/2 New York, quiet 8 3-16 Boston, quiet 8 3-16 Philadelphia, steady 9 1/4 Houston, quiet 9 1/4 Augusta, quiet 8 15-16 Memphis, firm 8 15-16 St. Louis, quiet 8 15-16 Louisville, firm 8 15-16

Rural Mail Carriers.

Asheville, Special.—The North Carolina Association of Rural Mail Carriers will meet in Asheville on July 4, and from letters received by President Monday, of the association, there will be over 200 carriers here at that time. Many of the carriers have written the president they will be accompanied by their wives, and it is expected that this year's convention will be the largest attended in the history of the organization. President Monday said today that the local Knights of Pythias Hall had been secured for the occasion and that preparations were being made to give the delegates the time of their lives. He said that Congressman Blackburn, of the Eighth District, and Congressman Poe, would be here, and would address the convention. Postmaster Bodley, of this city, has been invited to deliver the address of welcome, and an acceptance of the invitation has been received.

War on Monday Lenders.

Winston-Salem, Special.—The Winston-Salem aldermen have decided to make war on money lenders in this city, especially those who loan small amounts and papers. Tax Collector Farrow has been instructed to collect a \$500 tax from every concern doing a money lending business in this city. The authorities hold that under the amended loan agents are liable for this tax. The ordinance reads as follows: "Every person, firm or corporation engaged in the business of loaning money on goods, wares and merchandise, household furniture and other personal property of whatsoever nature or description is liable for this tax."

Insurance Situation.

The insurance commissioner has mailed advance sheets containing extracts from his report for the year ending April 1. During the year, forty-one life insurance companies, twelve assessments, 109 fire and marine, 31 accident and surety companies, and 53 fraternal orders were admitted to do business in this state under the general insurance law, where they had not been already admitted and were duly licensed. During the year North Carolina companies doing a fire and tornado business wrote risks to the amount of \$26,559,053, receiving as premiums \$509,336, and incurring losses amounting to \$281,575.

Asheville Wants Peace Meeting.

Asheville, Special.—In a mass meeting of citizens, conducted by the Asheville board of trade Friday afternoon, Judge J. C. Pritchard, of the United States Circuit Court, and ex-United States Senator from North Carolina, was appointed to extend to the plenipotentiaries of Russia and Japan, in the event of their leaving Washington, an invitation to hold the peace conference in Asheville. The invitation will be formally extended as soon as it is announced that another location will be sought for during the summer months.

Potat Made President.

Raleigh, Special.—At a meeting of the board of trustees of Wake Forest College here, Prof. William S. Potat, of the college faculty, was chosen to succeed Dr. Chas. E. Taylor as president of the institution. Dr. Taylor has been head of the institution for twenty years and it is owing to feebleness that he decided to resign. Professor Potat has been professor of biology at Wake Forest for a long time.

New Enterprises.

The State grants a charter to the Burlington Hardware Company, capital stock \$50,000 R. E. L. Holt, and others, stockholders. The Hickory Railway and Power Company is authorized to increase its capital stock from \$125,000 to \$350,000, and to issue bonds to the latter amount.

North State News.

Curator Brimly and State Entomologist Franklin Sherman, are on a visit to the lakes near Newbern, where they are collecting specimens. Mr. Brimly being after alligators and things of that kind and Mr. Sherman in search of insects, the field there being very rich indeed.

The corporation commission as the State board of assessors will devote next week to the assessment of all the railroads, telegraph and telephone companies, in fact all common carriers exercising the right of eminent domain. From these returns the commission will be able to give the figures not only as to the increase in valuation but to the amounts of mileage. It is expected that the new mileage during the past twelve months will be so large as to make quite a good showing, as construction is in progress on a number of roads.