

Skyrocket Still Holds Supremacy Among Fireworks

THE skyrocket, with its possibilities of flight, color and varied display, still holds its position of primacy as the most beautiful of all fireworks. The firing composition extends around a hollow, conical base for three-quarters of its length. When fired the base fills with heated gas, which, forcing its way down through the narrow central orifice, urges the rocket up through the air. Above the firing composition is a plaster of paris plug, through which a fuse communicates with the head, which contains the stars, sparks, serpents, crackers or gold and silver rain to be scattered by bursting fire as soon as the rocket has reached its highest point.

These beautiful effects, which experts call the "carniture," are largely trade secrets, always kept inviolate by the firms possessing them. In successful experiments with carniture for rockets and shells the pyrotechnist finds his richest rewards, while failures are often attended by unforeseen destruction of property or life.

Some of the later devices in rockets are of surpassing beauty in grace of motion, brilliancy of fire and variety of color. The new "golden cloud" rocket, for example, presents to the eye, at the highest point of its fiery flight, a huge and gorgeous cloud mass, blazing brilliantly for some moments and dropping streams of fire rain far below. How such an expansive and continued display can follow upon the flight of so small a projectile is a secret save to a few of the higher guild of pyrotechnists. The larger rockets of this type—their cost \$8 each—fairly fill the upper air with fire of dazzling brilliancy.

Even more impressive and wonderful is the "mammoth balloon rocket," which makes the largest aerial display yet achieved by pyrotechnic skill. At a height of 600 feet this rocket releases simultaneously seven balloons with variegated signal stars attached. These float in the air for some time, burning with changing colors of intense brilliancy. With these the patriotic citizen can burn up his money quickly. They are sold for \$12 each.

Another high novelty is the "diamond chain" rocket, which rises to a great height and then projects a series of fiery chains with diamond shaped links, which change swiftly in color as they slowly descend and finally disappear in the distance amid a shower of colored stars and golden rain.

COLONEL MARTIN'S BANQUET.

First One to Commemorate the Fourth of July.

The first banquet to commemorate the Declaration of Independence took place at Colonel Martin's hostelry in Boston on July 4, 1780. The following was the toast list:

- First.—"The grand congress of the United States."
- Second.—"General Washington and the American army."
- Third.—"His most Christian majesty the king of France."
- Fourth.—"His most Catholic majesty the king of Spain."
- Fifth.—"The strength and unity of the triple alliance."
- Sixth.—"The council of the Massachusetts state."
- Seventh.—"The new levies for the war in 1780."
- Eighth.—"General Lincoln and the officers and soldiers in captivity."
- Ninth.—"The Marquis Lafayette."
- Tenth.—"May the officers of the Boston regiment be spirited, may they be supported in making the regiment of the town respectable."
- Eleventh.—"To the memory of General Montgomery and all the officers and soldiers who have fallen in the glorious cause of liberty."
- Twelfth.—"May Americans never forget that virtue, valor and science (wisdom) are the bulwarks of their high beneficence."
- Thirteenth.—"May the anniversary of American Independence be celebrated till time shall be no more."

THE FIRST CELEBRATION.

Joy and Festivity in Philadelphia on the Fourth of July, 1777.

Of the event in Philadelphia, where the Fourth had been born the previous year, a contemporary writes in the Pennsylvania Packet of July 8, 1777: "Last Friday, being the first anniversary of the independence of the United States of America, was celebrated in this city with joy and festivity. About noon all the armed ships and galleys in the river were drawn up before the city, dressed in the gayest manner, with the colors of the United States and streamers displayed, and at 1 o'clock, the yards being properly manned, they began the day by a discharge of thirteen guns from each ship and one from each of the thirteen United States.

"In the afternoon an elegant dinner was prepared for the congress then in session here, to which all distinguished citizens and strangers of eminence were invited. . . . The Hessian bands of music, captured at Trenton on the 26th of December last by General Washington, attended and heightened the festivity with some fine performances suited to the occasion, while a corps of British deserters, being drawn up before the door, filled up the intervals with feus de joie."

Run Up Old Glory



A Fourth of July Poem by W. D. Nesbit

RUN up Old Glory! Let it blaze In red and white against the sky And tell the story of the days When hearts were stout and hopes were high. Forget the daily fights of greed! Forget the struggles, the dismay Of facing cruelty and need— Run up Old Glory for the day!

Run up Old Glory! Think of all The old flag means to you and me. Of how the blast of freedom's call Shook out its folds from sea to sea; Red with the blood that it has cost. White with the souls of them that died— Today by laughing breezes tossed. It whispers of a nation's pride. Run up Old Glory! Fling it forth And feel anew the country call That thrills east, west and south and north. And has its word for one and all. Run up Old Glory—fling it far Across the blue of heaven's dome And feel that every stripe and star Is warder of your hearth and home.

STORY OF INDEPENDENCE DAY

Steps Which Led Up to Adoption of the Immortal Declaration.

In May, 1776, Virginia adopted those famous instructions to her delegates in congress "to propose to that respectable body to declare the united colonies free and independent states." This encouraged, John Adams of Massachusetts the next day urged successfully the adoption of a resolution recommending all the colonies to form for themselves independent governments. In the preamble which he wrote it was declared that the American people could no longer conscientiously take oath to support any government deriving its authority from the crown.

On the 7th of June, 1776, Richard Henry Lee submitted a motion embodying the Virginia instructions. The motion was seconded, as a descendant of Patrick Henry writes, "by glorious old John Adams, and Massachusetts stood side by side with Virginia." Then, on the 1st of July, congress taking up the resolution respecting independence once more, "all eyes were turned on me," says John Adams. Rising, he led off in a speech of surpassing eloquence and "a power of thought and expression which," said Jefferson, "moved the members from their seats."

He was "the colossus of that congress," as Jefferson again testifies, the "Atlas of Independence," as Richard Stockton declares. "He compelled conviction, and at last, on the 21 of July, the flame in his own soul fused into a single molten current the aspirations of a people, and amid the glow of noble, daring, fervent speech the resolutions of independence were unanimously adopted." It was then that John Adams, in a letter to Abigail, burst forth in prophetic strains of the way the glad event would be celebrated. So it has been celebrated, but the date of the adoption of the celebration, July 4, is the one the people recognize as the culminating moment of the great event.

The Old Fashioned Fourth.

The tantalizing third we beat the birds to bed at night And raced the roosters on "the day" to greet the morning light. The cannon, loaded week before, was ready to salute. Our "captain" touched her off and shouted, "Hi there, fellers, scot!" But we, who scorned discretion, stood around the piece of scrap. Each hoping, if the captain fell, to fill the glorious gap. Nay, not a whit more cheerfully the fathers faced the powder. Nor could their blunderbusses raise a racket any louder. And what more reckless hero ever drew a sword from sheath Than he who fired his crackers while he held them in his teeth? And, since nobody dared to "take a stump," I've often prayed A blessing on the boy who cried, "Let's go to the per-rade!"

And then we heard the orator (though much against our will), Who said, "The blood our fathers bled, thank God, is bleeding still!" He bled so long we greatly feared he never would run dry. And some one read "the grand old words"—we vainly wondered why— But, heaven be praised, a monster gun was there to make a noise! And a gallant fifer and drum corps understood the needs of boys.

All day the crimson lemonade gushed gaily forth at us Till aniline enamel lined each boy's esophagus. All day, as long as all our wealth could syndicate the price. We chilled our ardent stomachs with canary colored ice. How could that coal tar dye compel the flavor of a dream? How could that starch of corn produce so heavenly a cream?

I wonder why "the day" is never celebrated now. They try to celebrate it, but they plainly don't know how. And would I do it in the way we used to if I could? Of course I—well, no; come to think, I don't believe I would! You see, I'm just a human man and lack a boy's endurance. Nor do I want the company to pay my life insurance. —Edmund Vance Cooke in Puck.



Mr. John C. Sikes, Chief Marshal, who will direct a large force of assistants.

A Union County Poet.

The following poem was published some days ago in the Charlotte Observer. The author is a native of this county, son of Esq. W. G. Long, and is now professor of English in Erskine College.

DADDY'S LITTLE GIRL.

Come here to your daddy, Little eyes of blue; Come and hug a bear hug; Daddy loves but you.

Daddy's little girlie, Just his little pet; Squeeze him tight as you can, A little tighter yet.

What you been a-doing, Little golden head? Since your daddy left you In your trundle bed.

Since he left this morning And's been gone all day; What you been a-doing? Can't you tell me? Say!

Been a-calling kitty, "Kitty, kitty, dear," Been a-nursing dolly, And this toy dog here?

Been a-helping mother? What! that's mighty sweet; Been a-procuring girly, Little baby feet.

Glad to see your daddy, Little baby hand; Want to see him come home And put you in the sand?

Well! he's glad to get here, Dearest baby curl; Hug him, squeeze him, kiss him, Daddy's baby girl!

—EDGAR LONG. Due West, S. C.

AID THE KIDNEYS

Do Not Endanger Life When a Monroe Citizen Shows You the Way to Avoid It.

Why will people continue to suffer the agonies of kidney complaint, backache, urinary disorders, lameness, headaches, languor, why allow themselves to become chronic invalids, when a tested kidney remedy is offered them?

Doan's Kidney Pills have been used in kidney trouble over fifty years, have been tested in thousands of cases.

If you have any, even one, of the symptoms of kidney diseases, act now. Dropsy or Bright's disease may set in and make neglect dangerous. Read this Monroe testimony: Mrs. A. G. McNeely, 234 Franklin St., Monroe, N. C., says: "One of our family had weak kidneys and lame back. Doan's Kidney Pills were procured from the English Drug Co. and they strengthened the back and restored the kidneys to a normal condition."

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It quickly removes the internal cause. Booklet from DR. LEONHARDT CO., Buffalo, N. Y. Sold by English Drug Co. and all druggists.

The will of Herbert Lutterloh, who died at Fayetteville May 24, leaving an estate which is estimated at figures running from \$125,000 to \$175,000, leaves a special bequest of \$5,000 in cash to Mr. Lutterloh's nephew, Edward Lutterloh Utley, if living. Utley has been a fugitive from justice since he escaped from State prison at Raleigh three years ago, here he was serving a sentence for murder. If Utley is dead the money is to revert to the estate.

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"THE STORE OF QUALITY."



Selling Agents for South Bend Watches

An Indigo Crop Report.

Monroe, N. C., June 19, 1913. The Commercial Appeal, Memphis, Tenn.

Dear Sirs: Gloom, bane, and frenzy as applied to the crop situation are mere meaningless insipidities. True, the fair, warm weather for several days has brought about a resumption of hostilities against General Green and his trusted, effective ally, high-priced labor, but it has also revealed, in detail, the damage wrought by the recent trunk escapee of the months—December, January, May, and June play-

ing at hide and seek. This mere without suffering and disturbance of spirit at the situation is not pessimism, looms large as a hero, misn, nor, yet, the whole truth, but and by comparison, Cyrus, Alexander, a kind of pardonable approximation. der, Caesar, Bonaparte, and all their in truth, I doubt if Timon, of Ath-lik, pale and degenerate into mere ens, the celebrated misanthrope petty, pestiferous local bullies. The immortalized by Shakespeare, were writer of this squib has recently he now living, even though in the tried the achievement of distinction, amidst of a paroxysm and blessed but, after a time, a short time, with the versatility of the great bard with feelings blended of joy and sorrow, could fittingly deplet the row, bade farewell to fleeting fame. situation, Heroes!!! Truly, "The Just what the condition is to this man with the Hoe," the fellow who, date no sane man knows. Possi- in the midst of seeming expanding, by some mystic, whilst wield and the damage wrought by the recent trunk escapee of the months—December, January, May, and June play- rays of a mid-June sun, can labor, from early morn until dewey eve, Very truly yours, GEO. E. FLOW.

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