

# The HARP on the SHIELD

PROF. BERNARD J. CIGRAND

T. Patrick's day, March the 17th, belongs to the Sons of Erin by world-wide assent, but few Americans, outside of those descended from natives of the Emerald Isle, pause to consider what memorable services were rendered by Irish during the Revolutionary war. With the single exception of our French allies, they merit the highest commendation for their aid to the cause of freedom; and only because the former people hailed from an already established government are their claims granted precedence. Irish historic emblems, both in device and tincture, are woven unalterably into the fabric of the evolution of American history. Here, for the first time, are set forth items of great heraldic importance, giving the proper credit to Erin's emblems, as they have formed an equation in the development of the present governmental devices of heraldic or symbolic meaning.

It is generally supposed that the only important matter which engaged the attention of the first Continental Congress, on the fourth day of July, was the adoption of the Declaration of Independence; but the records show that no less essential national problem—a government signature, or seal—was a part of the considerations of that eventful occasion. It was about three o'clock in the afternoon, when the Liberty Bell was still sounding the call to arms and proclaiming the dawn of freedom, that John Hancock, president of the Continental Congress, arose from his chair and said:

"We are now a nation, and I appoint Dr. Benjamin Franklin, John Adams and Thomas Jefferson a committee to prepare a device for a great seal of the thirteen United States."

The committee immediately proceeded



Device Proposed by Benjamin Franklin.

Six thousand Irish came to this country in 1729, and dispersed and settled throughout the colonies, principally in Maryland, Virginia and the Carolinas. From among those devout settlers sprang some of the most prominent and influential colonists. The musical instrument which symbolizes the land of Erin was an attributive emblem of early Ireland. As early as the fifth century, the harp was so common in Erin that hardly a peasant house was without one. In the old laws of Wales and Erin the Triads specified the use of the harp as one of the three things necessary to distinguish a freeman or gentleman from a slave. Pretenders were

rejected to as an American emblem on account of the harp being representative of Ireland.

But this, like many other devices, was not reported from the committee. There is good reason to believe that the following design came as a later proposal from Doctor Franklin, as he refers to it in his writings:

"Supporters.—In the dexter side: the genius of America (represented by a maiden with loose auburn tresses), having on her head a radiated crown of gold encircled with a sky blue fillet, spangled with silver stars, and clothed in a long, loose white garment bordered with green. From her right shoulder to her left a scarf, semée of stars, the tinctures

of the national banner was taken until June 14, 1777. But Jefferson was so impressed with the idea of recognizing the countries from whence America was peopled, and to show definitely admiration for their patriotism in the fight for liberty, that he placed below the Du Simitier idea the motto, "E Pluribus Unum," to indicate "From Many (People), one (people);" or "From Many Nationalities, one nation;" or "From England, Scotland, Ireland, France, Germany, and the Netherlands—the United States." The motto does not mean "From many Colonies, one nation," as the basic definition is clearly indicated in the device and in Jefferson's description. Still, Congress was hard to please, and the report of the distinguished committee was set aside and a new committee assigned to the task. Though Jefferson continued deeply interested in the matter and submitted several other devices, no less than twenty designs were under discussion, and four subsequent committees labored with the seal problem.

Then in 1782 a committee called to their aid a certain Mr. William Barton, a patriot, soldier and heraldic expert, and he designed a seal which again incorporated the emblems in token of the Irish allies of the Republic. His design was elaborate and practically became the basis of our present seal. In the shield the Stars and Stripes appear and the eagle and eye of Providence. But the special consideration of the Irish is found in the two figures supporting the proposed design. The harp and the fleur-de-lis relate to the assistance rendered by Ireland and France, and are blazoned on a green banner. However, this committee's report fared no better than its predecessors, and finally the entire question of evolving an appropriate seal was placed in the hands of the secretary of the Continental Congress—the Irishman, Charles Thomson. He, with the aid of William Barton, gave to the world our present emblematic signature. Americans in general, and those of Irish ancestry in particular, will be in-



Du Simitiere's Design of Seal.



Thompson's Design, the Basis of Present Seal.

ed to perform its assigned duty, and after six weeks of labor, during which time many designs were considered, it was announced that the device ar-

discovered by their unskillfulness in "playing of the harp."

That the heraldic device of which Du Simitier was the author pleased his critics is proved by the fact that Franklin at once withdrew his design, Adams abandoned his and Jefferson relegated his diagram to oblivion in favor of the compilation offered by the French expert. Also there were other designs placed in evidence by distinguished colonists. Among them was an emblem of Ireland, a "Harp" with thirteen strings, and the motto, *Majora Minoribus Consonant*, meaning "The greater and lesser ones sound together." The strings of the harp were of different lengths, yet they composed one instrument in a strong frame and sounded in harmony. This appropriate device was intended to represent

thereof the same as in the canton; and round her waist a purple girdle, fringed or embroidered, argent, with the word "Virtute," resting her interior hand on the escutcheon, and holding in the other the proper standard of the United States, having a dove argent perched on the top of it.

"On the sinister side: a man in complete armor, his sword-belt azure fringed with gold, his helmet encircled with a wreath of laurel and crested with one white and two blue plumes; supporting with his dexter hand the escutcheon, and holding in the interior a lance, with the point sanguinated, and upon it a banner displayed, vert; (green), in the fess-point a harp strung with silver, between a star in chief, two fleurs-de-lis in fess, a pair of swords in saltire, in bases, all argent.

terested in the following sketch of the career of the man who solved the problem of providing a seal for the Government of the United States:

Charles Thomson was born at Maghera, Ireland, November 29, 1729, and came to America with his three elder brothers in 1741. They landed at New Castle, Delaware, with no other dependence than their industry. Thomson was educated by Doctor Allison, the tutor of several of the signers of the Declaration of Independence. He had a great passion for reading and when yet a young man he had gained sufficient knowledge to be counted among the "literati." He was afterwards a teacher in the Friends' academy, at New Castle, Delaware. From thence he went to Philadelphia, where he became acquainted with and obtained advice from Benjamin Franklin; he soon became the intimate friend of the "learned Philadelphian" and their friendship seemed to increase daily. In 1772 he served as negotiator with the Iroquois and Delaware Indians, and his good, conscientious work among the natives brought for him the worthy nickname, "Truth-teller," by which name the Indians always after called him. He was a man of rare abilities and had the peculiar qualities to make and keep friends where ever he happened to wander. He was called to the responsible duty of keeping minutes of the proceedings of the first Continental Congress in 1774, and from that time until he resigned his office in 1789—then fifty-nine years old—he was the secretary of that dignified and important body.

John Adams called him "the Sam Adams of Philadelphia, the life of the cause of liberty." This certainly was a compliment, coming as it did from a tried and honest patriot. Thomson, it is true, made a most diligent secretary, and in that position he had the rare pleasure of taking notes of all the important congressional actions. For the first year's work he received no pay. He served as permanent secretary during the eventful fifteen years that followed. His seal was accepted officially on June 26, 1782.

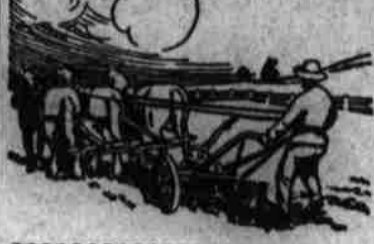
the new government under the Continental Congress, as composed of provinces of various sizes and strength, but all working and responding harmoniously for the general good—made united in strength and purpose by the framework of Congress. This design no doubt was ob-

The tenants of the escutcheon stand on a scroll on which is the following motto: "Deo Favente," which alludes to the eye in the arms, meant for the eye of Providence."

The Congress evidently counted it more important to possess the seal than a flag, for no definite action on

## NOTES FROM MEADOWBROOK FARM

By William Pitt



Guard against sun scald.  
Treat the dairy cow kindly.  
The dairy increases the crop yield.  
Not every man is cut out for a dairyman.  
Remove all ailing fowls from the flock.  
Kaffir corn is a splendid feed for horses.  
A heifer twin with a bull seldom, if ever, breeds.  
Keep a little gas tar on hand and apply it for scaly legs.  
The good dairy cow is a lady and ought to be treated as such.

Alfalfa leaves contain most of the feeding value of the alfalfa plant.  
Orchard grass makes a better mixture with clover than timothy does.  
Cream for churning should be allowed to sour at about 65 degrees F.  
Calves should have daily outdoor exercise when the weather will permit.  
The value of skim-milk makes the separator necessary on every dairy farm.  
If you are going to plant a new orchard next spring, make your selections now.

Any dairy farmer can have plenty of cream for sale when the cows are on pasture.  
Hens won't lay in such severe cold weather unless extra good care is taken of them.  
An old sow, if not too clumsy and fat, will raise better and stronger pigs than a young one.  
Nothing ever came so near turning December into June for dairy cattle and sheep as the silo.  
Probably the best results come from pruning the orchard rather vigorously every two or three years.  
There is a great tendency on the part of many to neglect the colts on the farm during the winter.

When spraying do not work with bare hands. They'll be sore if you do. Put on a pair of rubber gloves.  
Scrubs do not produce the best market animals, and this is the final test for all meat producing animals.  
Field roots are an excellent feed for all sheep during the winter months and especially for the ewe in lamb.  
The cow barn should and can be kept so clean that milking will not prove objectionable to any of the farm women.

When a fowl is found to be suffering from a cold it is best to put it in a warm, well lighted coop by itself and treat it there.  
Corn is the best crop to plant on new land, as the constant working will put the ground in good order for seeding in the fall.  
Cows permitted to continue their natural lactation periods, nine to ten months, will usually cease milking with very little trouble.  
If you want to make first-class cows from your young heifers, feed well while they are carrying their first calf and don't forget to handle them.

Remember that an egg contains 90 per cent of water, and that no matter how much you feed the hens, unless you give them water there can be no eggs.  
The dairy cow brings to impoverished, half-farmed lands methods that give larger profits and greater improvement than come from other types of farming.  
In buying sheep in the big markets be careful that you do not get a lot with some disease hitched on them. Natives are more apt to be diseased than range sheep.

There is every appearance that pasture rent is going to be higher than ever the coming season. Owing to the drought last summer many pastures have been badly injured.  
In order to get the greatest value from the manure, it should be applied to the land as soon after it is made as possible, scattering out from the wagon or with the spreader.  
Always slop the hogs or give them drink before feeding. If they eat their grain when thirsty they will drink too heartily after and some of the grain will be washed out of their stomachs.  
Soak stale bread in sweet milk, press out the milk as completely as possible, and feed the chicks. Also, two weeks' feed before them; with out in the chicks' water, grind their feed.

Colts need exercise.  
Keep the apple tree low.  
Cold does not kill insects.  
Ice should be cut when it is sound and solid.  
Plenty of salt ought always to go with dry feeding.  
A half fed colt will never make a first-class draft horse.  
Rapidly is one of the great essentials in milking a cow.  
Never whip a horse when he shies. It will increase his fear.  
In many cases it is safer to dehorn cattle in winter than in summer.  
Flavor is the one great quality of butter fat over other kinds of fat.  
Quite often the flavor in butter is spoiled by making the cream too sour.  
The flavor of butter depends mainly upon the cream previous to churning.  
Lead the colt with a halter. A bit will make sore his mouth and disposition.

The cow is an animal that delights in warmth, and it pays to keep her comfortable.  
Absolute comfort and contentment should also be enjoyed by the steers at all times.  
It is well to give the fowls' quarters an extra bedding of hay and straw in cold weather.  
The old saying had it that the old sow's pigs were 2 weeks old the day they were born.  
Every poultryman at this time of year is trying to seek out the causes of poor hatching.  
Ground limestone is useful in any soil that is so deficient in lime that there is sourness present.  
A sheep will contract a cold much more quickly in a draughty barn than it will right out in the open.

The high-headed tree is easier cultivated, but the low-headed trees makes the fruit picking easier.  
The length of the stall should be adjusted by the size of the cow, and always used by the same cow.  
Rabbits are very particular about their food and any taint on the tree will keep them from injuring it.  
Nothing better than camphorated oil for an udder inflammation. For scratches or sores apply vaseline.  
The city dealer profits by the laziness of the grower, by grading and repacking his badly assorted fruit.  
There is nothing like silage to keep the dairy cow's appetite on edge throughout the long winter period.  
Each bedded cow or horse will make a large two-horse cartload of good quality manure for each month stabled.

The price of horses seems to be rather on the down grade, although good ones sell nearly as high as ever.  
One way to save feed bills is to protect the cows from flies during the summer and the cold weather in the winter.  
Horses are very fond of a variety, and fussing always pays in the better condition and greater usefulness of the horse.  
Good feeding does not consist of stuffing the horse for a number of weeks before he is put to work on heavy grain feeds.  
The number of acres required to feed a herd of 20 cows in full milk will depend largely upon the condition of the ground and the season.

Beans are not as good a feed for live stock as peas, simply because they are not as palatable, the cows don't like them so well.  
Many farmers have yet to learn that a cow cannot live upon an unpalatable ration of corn and straw, and do anywhere near her best.  
The silo should be its widest popularity in the corn belt where the corn stalks are allowed to deteriorate and largely waste in the weather.  
The hatching season for the egg farms is March, April and May for northern climates, and February, March and April for milder latitudes.

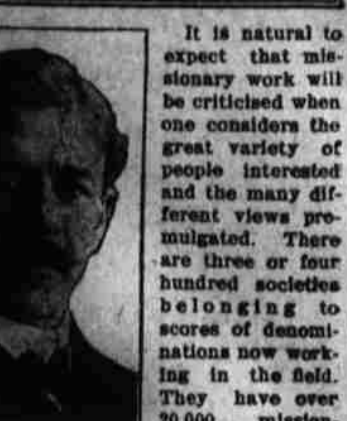
The best milk pails to use are the common enameled ones which have become so cheap in the past few years that they are within the reach of all.  
Manure for farm crops, such as potatoes, corn and fodder-crops, should be hauled and spread over the sod ground that is to be plowed in the spring.  
Get the ewes out into the open every clear day, no matter how cold. They need the exercise and are so warmly clad by nature that they will not suffer.

In a time of high-priced dairy products and high-priced feed the dairyman who raises his own feed comes out far ahead of the one who has his feed to buy.  
The dairyman who has alfalfa, clover or sorghum hay to go with his corn fodder does not have to buy any high-priced mill feed to balance up the cow's rations.  
Never milk the cow with wet hands. No more filthy habit is indulged in than that of milking on the hand in order to strip the teat. Milkers should always be done with a full dry hand.

These things make a wise man careful in his judgment for he realizes that his influence may mean the well or woe of some of his fellowmen, both at home and abroad. The man who is not both wise and careful in his speech cannot of course expect men who are in the thick of the fight to leave their posts and come back to where he resides comfortably in the barracks in order to answer his criticisms.

## The Criticism of Missions

By Rev. Edward A. Marshall, Director of Missionary Course, Moody Bible Institute, Chicago



It is natural to expect that missionary work will be criticised when one considers the great variety of people interested and the many different views promulgated. There are three or four hundred societies belonging to scores of denominations now working in the field. They have over 20,000 missionaries in active service and are spending more than \$30,000,000 annually on the work.

It would be unfair to say that criticism must be prohibited and that no critical questions would be answered. The critic could justly reply that since he was unable to learn how his money was being spent, he would cease to contribute. On the other hand the critic must be fair to the society and worker who naturally expect him to know what he is talking about before he speaks.

Of course there are different kinds of criticism just as there are different kinds of people. One speaks with a view to helpfulness, another criticises because he desires to find reasons to excuse himself from responsibility while a third may talk against the work because he is not content to sanction the use of any ecclesiastical harness or work in harmony with his fellows on any task. The latter must be allowed to talk on for he is so constituted, and it is his practice on all subjects. Christ said, "It must needs be that offences come; but woe to that man by whom the offence cometh."

However the person who wishes to be accorded a hearing on missionary work (or any other work) should comply with certain rules, which, if observed will make him an aid to the building up of that work in some substantial, beneficial way.

I. The critic must be a Christian. A man out of Christ looks at the subject from the wrong viewpoint. He naturally thinks it unnecessary to send the gospel to the heathen if he has refused it himself. Neither can he be expected to support a teaching he does not himself believe.

II. The critic must be a soul winner. That is, he must have some adequate realization of the value of a lost soul and must have tried to bring souls to Christ. If this be wanting in his experience there is nothing that can be substituted to give him the necessary correctness of judgment requisite to being a critic of missions.

III. The critic must be an honest student of missionary work. The great task of missions cannot be learned by intuition. It involves matters touching the personal life and liberties of thousands and the purses of millions. It deals with the deepest principles of organization and requires a broad knowledge of the working value of policies and methods. Therefore the person who would dictate standards for the adoption of missionaries must know whereof he speaks.

IV. The critic should have visited the mission fields or talked freely with missionaries. Theory is one thing and practice is quite another, especially when the theory is created in America, but has to be applied in Africa. Parents find that the course of training applied to one child is sometimes worthless when applied to another, even though the children be in the same family. How much more is this true when some method used by the white man in a north temperate climate, is applied to a black man living on an island in the tropics. Before one can advocate the adoption of any plan he may deem valuable he must have sufficient knowledge of conditions to feel reasonably certain that it will work.

Then again, if a person is capable of offering criticism he must see that it is wisely given because:

I. It is unwise to criticize what God has especially commanded. The person who criticises the work of missions must remember that he is dealing with the throne of God. Every person of the Godhead is vitally interested, and is also a personal participant in the work of saving the heathen. Therefore the critic stands on perilous ground before his Creator.

II. There are 20,000 missionaries who have believed enough in missions to be out on the field today. The critic who remains at home in a well feathered nest must realize that it is no small thing to put his inexperienced judgment up against the actual labors of conserved thousands whose testimony in a life of missions pay.

III. The transformation of the heathen, which has taken place during the past 100 years, overwhelming by its swiftness all those who would say that the work is not worth while. Any one who has watched the evolution of tribes and nations by the process of divine regeneration, who has seen annihilating customs become only fables for the historian, and the number of printed languages leap from fifty to more than five hundred, through missionary toil, has surely felt his thoughts and criticisms grow cold on his lips.

These things make a wise man careful in his judgment for he realizes that his influence may mean the well or woe of some of his fellowmen, both at home and abroad. The man who is not both wise and careful in his speech cannot of course expect men who are in the thick of the fight to leave their posts and come back to where he resides comfortably in the barracks in order to answer his criticisms.

## Convent Stormed By Nuns

Jesuit Priests Unable to Hold Dominions Against Determination of the Fair Religionists.

A curious tale of a besieged and beleaguered monastery belongs to the early history of the Canary Islands. In the early part of the sixteenth century the island of Tenerife was in the hands of the Moors. The Christians had been expelled from the island, and the Moors had established a kingdom there. The Christians returned in 1496, and the Moors were driven out. The Christians then established a kingdom there, and the Moors were driven out. The Christians then established a kingdom there, and the Moors were driven out.

case had the misfortune to be burned out.

At that time there was in Orotava a house of Jesuits which had lost its former importance, and though comfortable and beautiful, gave lodging to but two men, the rector of the house and his assistant. On this occasion the same sort of events took place, and the result was as follows.

One morning about forty of them advanced against it, by strategy induced the Jesuit brother to open the outer gate, and then trooping into the courtyard fell upon their knees, thanking God for this preliminary success, in vain did the two monks reason with them on their scandalous conduct.

Some of the more reasonable members of the monastery explained that they were really in need of a dwelling as spacious as this and that they did not purpose leaving it. The rector in

despair fled into the sacristy, from which retreat he exhorted his colleagues to be of good cheer, crying that they must do their best, "to extricate themselves from these ladies."

The siege lasted for three or four hours. News of it few about town, and bands of young men, scrupulously neutral, watched proceedings from the bars of the outer gate. Eventually the Jesuits yielded, and the same occupied the house with a new convent, and their cells were now used for their own use.