



**THE FLAG**  
by  
**Amelia Josephine Burr**

Before, it was our heritage, the red and white and blue;  
Our grandfathers died to raise it and our sires to keep it true.  
We prayed we might be worthy of their memory as we cast in shimmering beauty to the wind the banner of our past.  
But now—O God, our hearts are with our living and our dead!  
Bone of our bone the white has grown, flesh of our flesh the red.  
Our substance and our souls are pledged to keep it undefiled.  
Before, it was our heritage—today it is our child.

**Day of Solemn Dedication**

The old Fourth is gone like the dodo—the Fourth of tall-twisting and eagle-screaming, and crash-banging, and dynamite, and lockjaw. It had its uses. A nation has a long youth, and our old boastfulness, and self-esteem, and excitability, and recklessness befitted us well enough. On the old Fourth we let our crudity and our arrogance and our raw love of noise rise to the surface and skimmed it off all at once, and were the better for the process, costly though it was. But time has quieted our adolescence into something nearer maturity, and the old sound and fury can never return.

Doubtless to some, to whom old associations are dear, the change has sometimes seemed almost painful. He was happy, that boy who slipped from his bed with the first streaks of dawn, who by noon had used up his available supply of firecrackers and fingers, who spent the afternoon on the edge of the crowd in the grove, vaguely aware of gesticulations from the wooden platform in the center and about equally conscious of his own dirty bandages and the ability of his country to lick creation, and who longed for darkness as earlier he had longed for day, and split the welkin with his exultant yell when the first rocket whizzed from its narrow trough and burst into pale stars. His sons, on this great day, are hungry at breakfast time and play tennis in the parks, and he has watched them knowing it was well, but it surprised him a little.

This year, though, he is not distressed. This is a new Fourth; the change is striking. But for all our seriousness on this Fourth we are not less, but more, a confident country. We have lost our flamboyance, but we have increased our determination. The spirit is ours not of the platform without but of the Gettysburg oration. Our ears ring not with the sound of the firecracker but with the great words of Lincoln: Consecrate . . . dedicate . . . the government by the people . . . shall not perish from the earth!

**MAY HAVE FIRED FIRST GUN**

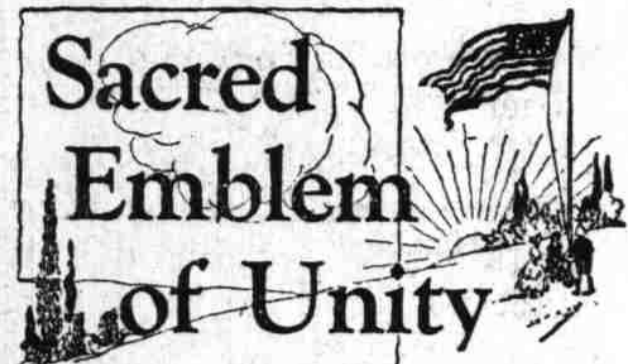
Good Evidence That Ebenezer Monroe Had Honor of Opening Hostilities on Revolutionary Side.

Ebenezer Munroe, a Revolutionary hero, was a member of the Lexington minute men, and ready on the 19th of April to do battle in freedom's cause. He was wounded in the elbow in the morning, but mounted his horse and rode from town to town, alarming the people and rousing them to action, until quite exhausted by the loss of blood. He claimed to have fired the first gun on the American side.

That he did return the fire is abundantly proved by the testimony of others. His own account is as follows: "After the first fire (of the regulars) I received a wound in my arm. As I turned to run, I discharged my gun into the main body of the enemy. Another ball passed between my arm and my body, and just marked my clothes; one ball cut off a part of my ear-locks, which were plumped up. The balls flew so thick I thought there was no chance of escape, and that I might as well fire my gun as stand still and do nothing."

**CREED FOR AMERICANS**

I BELIEVE in the United States of America as a government of the people, by the people, for the people; whose just powers are derived from the consent of the governed; a democracy in a republic; a sovereign nation of many sovereign states; a perfect union, one and inseparable; established upon those principles of freedom, equality, justice and humanity for which American patriots sacrificed their lives and fortunes. I therefore believe it is my duty to my country to love it, to support its constitution, to obey its laws, to respect its flag and to defend it against all enemies.



The Stars and Stripes is not the flag of a ruler or an individual. When General Grant was a candidate for the Presidency he saw a flag with his name attached to it and exclaimed, "Take down that flag or take my name from it; the man has never yet been born whose name is great enough to put upon the flag of my country." It is the flag of all the people. It is the emblem of our unity, safety and faith. Into whatever parties we may be divided by varying political convictions, as a single person we take our stand under the one flag. It is not the badge of a particular policy, but of a complex agreement of privileges and checks.

The flag is the only thing we have about which to twine our national sentiment. We have no royal family; we have no hereditary aristocracy; we are pledged to no political party. Of any country we have the least race pride; we can scarcely be said to have any distinctive art or music.

As the grave of the martyred Kosciuszko is made of a handful of earth from every battlefield of long-suffer-



Gettysburg House Where the First United States Flag is Thought to Have Been Made.

ing Poland, so our flag is woven of every thread of our national struggles. Because it alone represents all the principles which our forefathers upheld, because it is a constant reminder of duties heroically performed and of errors and defects retrieved through suffering and sacrifice, because it testifies to a century and a half of enlightened progress and prophecies all the hope and assurance of our future, it still has power to direct thought and concentrate emotion, to make the hot blood throb in the heart of every citizen.

Its white stands for purity, its red for valor, its blue for justice. Together they form a trinity of social virtues which it is our inherited privilege to honor and uphold and promulgate over the whole earth. As a nation we are pledged to let no human power dim the brightness of that galaxy, but to establish it forever in the observance of order, in the obedience to law, in the recognition of human right and in the immortal loveliness of world-brotherhood. We have rebaptized it the emblem of democracy's fairest flower and the flaming meteor of resistless destruction against all tyranny.

**RAISING BLAZES.**



"Say, how do people raise blazes?" "By shootin' off skyrockets and roman candles."

**RAISE ONE CROP AFTER ANOTHER**

Garden Plot Should Be Kept Busy by Successive Plantings of Different Vegetables.

**COMPANION CROPPING URGED**

Maximum Production Can Only Be Obtained by Careful Study and Strict Attention to Various Little Details.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

Southern gardens begin to look seedy about June 10, gardens in the Middle states section are in the height of their glory, and the New England gardens are just getting well started. It seems to be a foregone conclusion on the part of most persons throughout the Southern states that southern gardens can be grown only in the spring and in the fall, with a few chance hardy crops during the winter.

The farmer of the middle section plants his spring garden, then gets busy with farm crops, and very little further attention is given the garden, unless the work is done by the women. In the New England states and parts of the Northwest where the growing season is quite short only one crop of most vegetables can be grown. In the middle section, however, two crops can often be grown on the same land, and, more important still, a continuous supply of peas, beans, sweet corn, and a number of other vegetables can be had by making successive plantings.

Grow One Crop After Another. The garden is generally the richest spot of ground on the farm, and for that reason should be expected to produce more than any other similar area.

To get maximum production, however, it is necessary to keep the land busy all the time. This can be done two ways; first by companion cropping, and, second, by following one crop with another or successive planting.



Companion Cropping Peas and Potatoes in the Home Garden.

There are a number of crops that lend themselves to companion cropping. For example, where onion sets are planted in rows, say 18 inches between the rows, a row of radishes, spinach, or lettuce can be drilled between the rows of onions and be off the ground before the onions need the space. Spinach, radishes, early beets, or turnips can be planted between carrots, parsnips, and salsify. A crop of snap beans can frequently be grown between the rows of tomatoes. Radish seeds may often be planted alongside a row of peas, the radishes being pulled and out of the way before the peas begin to climb the trellis or brush provided for their support or to spread over the ground. A little later in the season sweet corn or late cabbage can be planted between the rows of early Irish potatoes and make considerable of a start before the Irish potatoes are dug.

In the middle section, early peas may be followed by late cabbage, late potatoes, late snap beans, beets, or turnips. Early Irish potatoes may be followed by turnips, late snap beans, or by late sweet corn.

Plan Fall Gardens. Fall gardens should in no case be overlooked, especially from the Middle states southward. Plantings of practically all the early spring vegetables may be made from July to September, according to locality, and be brought to maturity before early autumn frosts. By proper attention to the garden, fresh vegetables may be had through a period of about 10 months of the year in the extreme south and for about 7 months in the middle section. The season for the New England and northwestern sections is necessarily much more limited, but even here the efficiency of a garden can be greatly increased by a careful study and attention to the matter of companion cropping and successive plantings of certain vegetables.

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**CONSERVING MANURE HELPS CROP YIELDS**

Efficient Method Used By Pennsylvania Farmers.

Walled Enclosures Adjacent to Stables, Often Paved With Flagstones, Save Valuable Elements Needed by Soil.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

Farmers in some parts of eastern Pennsylvania, notably in Chester county, have been saving barnyard manure in walled enclosures adjacent to the stables, often paved with flagstones, for more than a century. The value of this efficiency has been shown



Plowing Manure in This Manner Permits the Rain to Wash Out Its Fertilizing Elements.

In an investigation embracing the standards of management on ten farms selected by specialists of the United States Department of Agriculture in the region mentioned, and the results are embodied in Farmers' Bulletin 978, which may be had free upon application to the division of publications.

The bulletin shows that the average yield of corn for the state is 42.50 bushels an acre, while on the ten selected farms it is 85.50 bushels; the average wheat yield for the state is 18 bushels and for the ten farms 29.75; hay average for the state is 1.43 tons an acre and for the ten farms 2.65 tons; while the three farms that grew oats produced an average of 45 bushels an acre as compared with the state average of 33.10 bushels.

A survey of 378 farms in Chester county in which exceptionally high standards of management are maintained, including close attention to handling of barnyard manure, showed an average corn yield of 65.3 bushels; wheat 24.8, and oats 41.6. The comparatively high yields in Chester county, the specialists say, cannot be credited entirely to the way in which manure is handled, because the soil in that county is much better than the state's average soil, but special attention to manure and its conservation has been an outstanding feature of that county's farming.

**COST OF PRODUCTION VARIES**

Specialists Point Out Fallacy of Considering Average as Basis for Figuring.

The fact that there is a wide variation on individual farms in the cost of producing any product has been substantiated by recent cost surveys conducted by specialists of the United States Department of Agriculture. Because of this variation, the specialists point out, it is a fallacy to consider the average as representing the cost of production. For example, the average cost of wheat per bushel on the 481 farms studied by the specialists last year was \$2.51, but more than 50 per cent of the farmers concerned produced wheat at a cost above this figure, ranging up to an extreme of \$8.20 per bushel. Similarly the average cost of cotton for the 842 farms studied was approximately 23 cents per pound, yet almost 60 per cent of the growers had costs above this average.

The department now gives the results of cost studies in the form of frequency tables in order to show the proportion of a product that is produced at or below a given cost and to call attention to the importance of a bulk-line cost rather than average cost in relation to price.

**DISINFECTATION OF HENHOUSE**

Woodwork and Roosts Should Be Gone Over Occasionally With Some Good Lice Killer.

The roosts and nearby woodwork of the poultry house should be painted occasionally with some good liquid lice killer (which can be bought from poultry supply dealers) or with kerosene, to kill the little mites which live there during the day and at night torment the fowls.

**MAKING PROFIT WITH GEESSE**

Cheap Shed Is All Shelter Necessary and Feed Need Not Be of Expensive Variety.

Almost any farmer might raise a flock of geese with profit. A cheap shed is all the shelter needed by the breeders. Even in winter they are not costly to feed, as they do well on ensilage, clover and chopped vegetables with some grain.

**OFFICERS OFTEN TALK TOO MUCH**

INCIDENT OF ADMIRAL SIMS' SPEECH RECALLS OTHERS THAT CAUSED TROUBLE.

**SPANISH WAR "ROUND ROBIN"**

Captain Coghlan's Famous Recitation About the Kaiser—Admiral Brownson Once Disciplined for Angry Criticism of Order by Roosevelt.

By EDWARD B. CLARK.

Washington.—Rear Admiral W. S. Sims, who won fame as the American commander in European waters during the war, has been talking again. There is no intention here to express an opinion as to whether Sims talked right or talked wrong. While the matter is in abeyance so far as the outcome is concerned, administration officials are keeping mum. They probably are doing a lot of thinking, however. The people probably will guess at the nature of these thoughts after a manner in keeping with their own thoughts on the subject.

Army and navy officers from the very beginning of things in the service occasionally have been brought into the field of criticism because they have opened their mouths. There is a regulation forbidding service men from expressing their opinions in public writing or in public speech on matters which are reserved for discussion to the executive department, and this department covers a wide field.

There were troubles back in the Spanish war days over the "round robin" which was signed by many officers who were at the front in Cuba. Theodore Roosevelt was one of the signers of this then famous document. General Miles and General Corbin had a controversy during the Spanish war which was aired in the public prints and which the administration seemed to feel went beyond the limits of service discretion.

The quartermaster general of the army at that time got into real trouble because of some things which he either said or wrote.

**Memorable Case of Coghlan.**

It is probable that a good many Americans with memories not necessarily long will recall the after-dinner speech made by Captain Coghlan of the navy just after the Spanish war. He had been in command of one of Dewey's ships at the battle of Manila, and he, with other American officers, was extremely resentful at the conduct of the German admiral who commanded the kaiser's ships in Manila bay, and who tried to cause trouble for Dewey.

Coghlan recited to the dinner guests the famous "Me and Gott" poem. The country roared over it, but it caused anger in some places.

Coghlan said he was in civilian clothes, on leave, and merely acting as a private citizen when he spoke, and that he believed he had all the rights of a private citizen to say what he wanted to. The country pretty generally agreed with him. It was understood that the matter virtually was allowed to drop because high officials in Germany could not help laughing over the thing, and when the risibilities are aroused no man can be over-indignant.

When Theodore Roosevelt was president, Rear Admiral Brownson, now on the retired list, held a high position in the navy department. Recollection has it that he was chief of the bureau of navigation. Roosevelt and Brownson were great friends, but when, as president, Roosevelt ordered that a navy doctor should be supreme commander at sea of the hospital ship Solace, the line officers waxed wrothy and Admiral Brownson said some things which caused him in a way to be disciplined.

**Solace Order Caused Amusement.**

There was a lot of fun over the matter. As the order was understood by the people, the chief surgeon on the Solace actually was to command the ship; in other words, navigate it. This was not what was intended by the order. A line officer was to continue to run the ship, but the doctor was to be allowed to tell where it was to go.

McLandburg Wilson took advantage of the row to write a poem which many a naval officer has stowed away in his scrapbook. The poem appeared, as memory has it, in the New York Sun. Here it is:

The good vessel Iceberg,  
The finest afloat,  
Had Admiral Sawbones  
Commanding the boat.  
While these were his duties,  
With many a kick  
Great Admiral Bowlines  
Looked after the sick.  
Though all of the potions  
He faithfully tried,  
Beneath his attention  
The sick men all died.  
But little it mattered—  
Just then with a shock  
Great Admiral Sawbones  
Ran onto a rock.

Admiral Sims always has been an outspoken man. Those who agree with his views are seemingly glad that he was their champion, because he never has been afraid to speak his convictions, although navy department authorities are not backward in saying that a naval officer is not supposed to speak his convictions, when speaking them is likely to get the country into trouble.

**POULTRY CACKLES**

REDUCE POULTRY FEED BILL

Utilization of Table Scraps and Kitchen Waste Is Most Wise and Economical Plan.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)  
If the chicken flock is to prove an economic success, it must be fed wisely. All table scraps and kitchen waste should be utilized.

Scraps of meat or leftover vegetables which cannot be utilized in any other way make excellent food. Many other waste products, such as beet tops, turnip tops, carrot tops, potato parings, onion tops, watermelon and cantaloupe rinds, the outside leaves of cucumbers, waste lettuce leaves, and bread and cake crumbs are relished by the hens and can be used to good advantage.

In saving the scraps and waste it is well to separate the portions adapted for feeding to the flock and place these in a receptacle or pail of their own.



Meat Scraps and Waste Vegetables Make Excellent Feed for Chickens Flock.

Decomposed waste material or moldy bread or cake should never be saved to feed to the hens, as it is harmful to them and may cause serious bowel trouble. Sloppy materials, such as dishwater, should not be thrown into their pail. It is also useless to put in such things as banana peels or the skins of oranges, as these have little or no food value.

Any sour milk which is not utilized in the house should be given to the chickens. This should be fed separately, however, either by allowing the hens to drink it or by allowing it to clabber on the back of the stove and feeding it in that condition. When the family's table waste is not sufficient for feeding the flock, it is usually possible to get some of the neighbors who keep no hens to save material suitable for feeding. Many people are glad to do this if a small pail in which to put the waste is furnished.

Table scraps and kitchen waste are best prepared for feeding by running them through an ordinary household food chopper or meat grinder. After the material has been put through the grinder it is usually a rather moist mass, and it is well to mix with it some corn meal, bran or other ground grain until the whole mass assumes a crumbly condition. The usual method is to feed the table scraps at noon or night, or at both times, as may be desired, in a trough or on a board. All should be fed that the hens will eat up clean, and if any of the material is left after one-half or three-quarters of an hour, it should be removed. If allowed to remain it may spoil and be very bad for the hens.

**POULTRY NOTES.**

A hen is in her best condition only when she is seen industriously at work.

Nothing will more quickly make scrubs out of good stock than scrub treatment.

Perches should be built low and arranged so they can easily be taken out and cleaned.

Uniformity in the size of eggs can best be obtained by keeping one standard breed of hens.

If ducks are overfed, they sometimes become so fat that their legs are incapable of supporting their bodies.

Every poultryman should lay in a supply of alfalfa and clover for his fowls during the winter. Green feed is as essential as grain.

If every farm flock could be rid of the drones and worthless members that lay few eggs, there would at once be an amazing increase in profits.

One of the greatest drawbacks to successful poultry-keeping is the attempt of many folks to crowd 50 fowls where there is only room for 25.

One of the greatest mistakes in feeding poultry is that of giving an exclusive grain ration. Meat, greens, vegetables, etc., should all have a place.

Poultry raising is similar to farming in that it is not so much the number of acres owned, but the number properly handled that gives the profits. Small, well cared for flocks of fowls always bring the best returns.