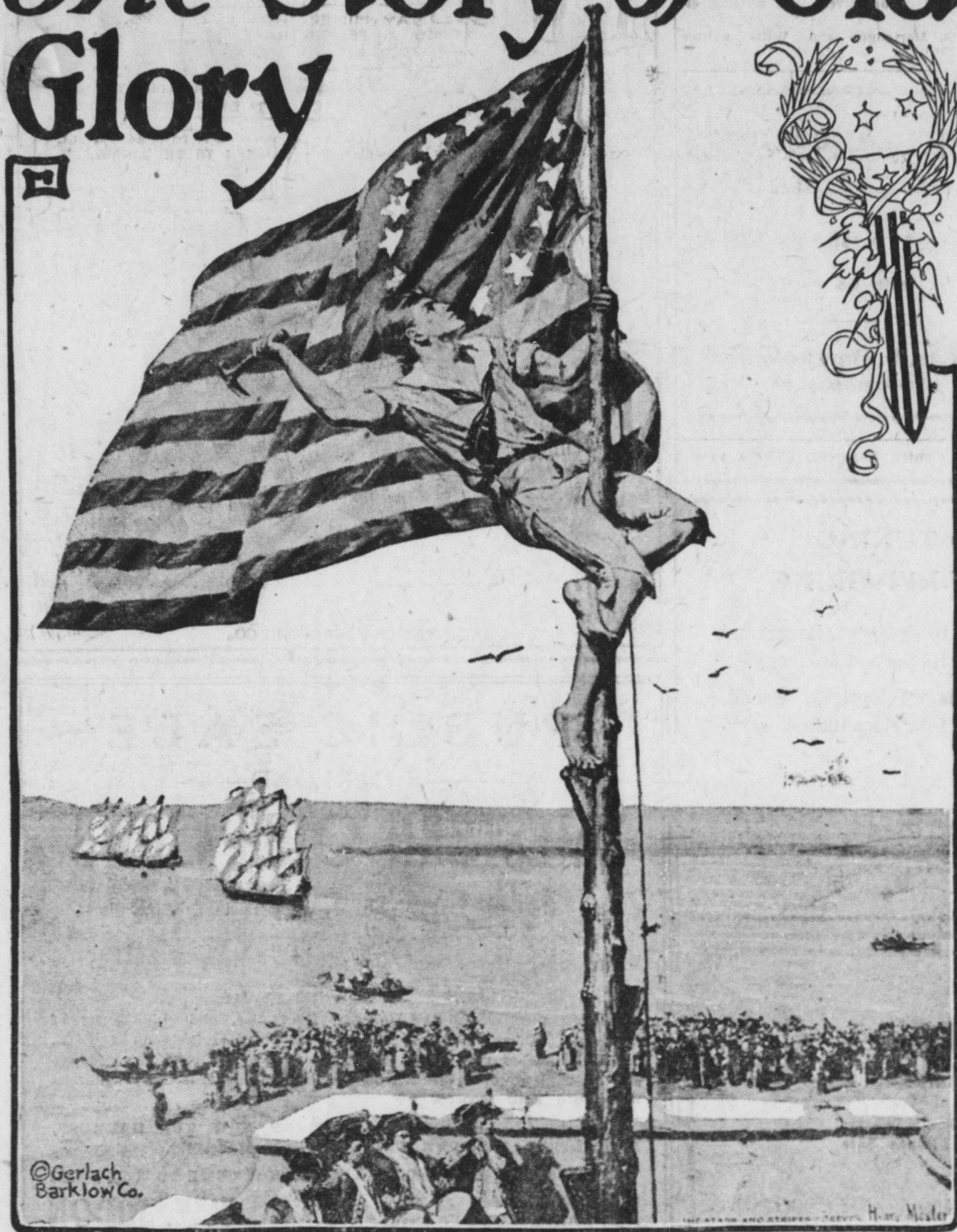


# The Story of Old Glory



"THE STARS AND STRIPES FOREVER."

By ELMO SCOTT WATSON

**C**ALL it the Star-Spangled Banner, Old Glory, the Stars and Stripes, or the Red, White and Blue. Call it the National Standard, the Starry Flag, the Flag of the Free, the Banner of Freedom, the Rainbow of Hope, or the "Colors." They all mean the same, for they all refer to the Flag, the symbol of the United States of America, and June 14 of each year is Flag day, a day for honoring the Flag.

How did it get all of those names? They are a part of the story of Old Glory, the story of one of the oldest national standards of the world with its century and a half of thrilling incident and history-making events. On June 14, 1777, the Second Continental Congress in session at Philadelphia passed a resolution which stated that the flag of the United States should be "thirteen stripes, alternate red and white, that the union be thirteen stars, white in a blue field, representing a new constellation." And that is why we call the Flag the Stars and Stripes or the Red, White and Blue.

On the night of September 12, 1814, Francis Scott Key, a young lawyer, was detained upon board a British man-of-war, which was bombarding Fort Mchenry, the principal defense of Baltimore and the national capital, Washington, D. C. All night long the guns of the British fleet roared, and all night long the fort answered with such artillery as could reach the enemy. As the dawn of September 13 broke, Key strained his eyes to see if the fort still held out or if its guns had been silenced. When he saw that "our flag was still there," he sat down on the back of an old envelope expressed in a poem his great joy that "the Star-Spangled Banner doth wave, O'er the Land of the Free and the Home of the Brave." His poem, set to music, became the national anthem, and the Stars and Stripes became the Star-Spangled Banner.

On August 10, 1831, Capt. William Driver of the brig Charles Doggett, ready to sail his ship to the South Seas, was presented with a fine new American flag, a magnificent banner containing 110 yards of bunting. As it was hoisted over the ship, the captain named it "Old Glory," and Old Glory, the American flag has been ever since. The reason for the other names

Reproduction of the famous painting by Henry Mosler. The British, evacuating New York after the Yorktown surrender, nailed the British flag to the flagstaff at the Battery and then greased the pole. A barefoot sailor boy volunteered to climb up, take down the enemy flag and nail the American flag to the pole.—"The Winning of Freedom," in the "Pageant of America," Yale University Press.

for the flag listed above are, too obvious to need explanation.

Due to the fragmentary records in the early history of the flag, there have been a number of disputed points in regard to the matter of "historical firsts." Did Betsy Ross of Philadelphia or Francis Hopkinson of New Jersey design the first Stars and Stripes? No one can say for certain.

Within the last year a new story about the first Stars and Stripes has come to light. Among the effects of Capt. John Hulbert, who commanded a Long Island company which went to Ticonderoga at the outbreak of the war and returned with British prisoners to show to congress in Philadelphia on November 20, 1775, has been found a flag, believed to have been the company flag of Captain Hulbert's organization, which has thirteen red and white stripes and thirteen six-pointed stars which are arranged in a sort of a cross. This flag was found in the attic of an old Long Island home and is now in the possession of William D. Halsey of Bridgehampton, His., orians, who have seen the flag and the documents found with it, believe it possible that this flag, carried by Captain Hulbert's men, made such an impression upon the members of congress that, when they came to adopt a national ensign, they simply adapted a local seamstress' (Betsy Ross), to make a similar flag. Or Hopkinson may have seen it, made a design after it and submitted to congress that design which was accepted and which led to the historic revolution of June 14, 1777.

Just as there is a dispute over the origin of the Stars and Stripes, so is there a dispute over the question of when the new flag, after its adoption by congress, received its first baptism of fire. The usual view is that this occurred at Fort Schuyler (or Fort Stanwix) near Rome, N. Y., on August 3, 1777. However, it has been pointed out by historians, who have in-

vestigated the subject, that the Fort Stanwix flag was a tricolor of red, white and blue stripes, and not red and white stripes with a blue field upon which appeared stars. In fact so far as documentary evidence is concerned, there is no mention of stars, so that it now seems certain that the Fort Stanwix flag was neither the "first Stars and Stripes to face the enemy," nor the "first Stars and Stripes to be hoisted over an American fort."

There are at least two other occasions upon which it has been asserted that the Stars and Stripes were first carried into battle, and therefore "first faced the enemy." The usual statement is that this first occurred at the Battle of Brandywine on September 11, 1777. But this is disputed by the citizens of Delaware who declare that this took place at the only Revolutionary engagement fought in that state, and that was eight days before Brandywine. A monument declaring that "The Stars and Stripes were first unfurled in battle at Cooch's bridge September 3, 1777," was erected there in 1901 as proof of their belief.

But New York, Pennsylvania and Delaware are not the only states which claim that honor. Vermont also claims it and apparently she has the strongest evidence that has yet been brought forth to support the claim. Researches made by John Spargo, president of the Vermont Historical society, have revealed the fact that when John Stark defeated the British and Hessians at the famous Battle of Bennington on August 16, 1777, his men fought under an American flag that was made of thirteen red-and-white stripes and a field of blue upon which appeared thirteen white stars arranged in the form of a circle. That flag is preserved in the Bennington battle museum and the evidence in support of the fact that "the Stars and Stripes first faced the enemy" and that "Old Glory received its first baptism of fire" at the Battle of Bennington on August 16, 1777, more than a year before Cooch's Bridge or Brandywine, seems indisputable. But, at that, Vermont, in depriving New York of the honor by proving that the Fort Schuyler banner was not a true Stars and Stripes, must share its honor with the Empire state. For the so-called Battle of Bennington was not fought at Bennington at all. It was fought six miles from Bennington at Walloomsac, and Walloomsac is on the soil of New York!

much later dates. Lode mining for gold began at Tangier river, Nova Scotia, in 1858.

### Old Custom Kept Up

The Indian mother in Waterton Lakes national park of the Canadian Rockies, just north of Glacier park, Montana, still draws her papoose upon the travois when she goes for firewood. The firewood is tied onto the lower part of the travois for the return journey, leaving the papoose undisturbed.

### Banana's Food Value

Bananas are said to exceed nearly any other fruit or vegetable in food value. They contain 460 calories per pound, as compared with potatoes, 385; milk, 325; macaroni, cooked, 415.

### Expert Tattooing

The New Zealanders trace artistic and elaborate patterns under the skin, producing the most beautiful effects known, if the word beautiful may be applied to the art.

### The Golden Dominion

Gold has been found in every province of Canada except Prince Edward island. The first recorded discovery was made in Quebec in 1824 on the Gilbert river, fifty miles south of Quebec city. Placer mining operations commenced here in 1847 and intermittent operations have been carried on ever since. Placer discoveries were made in Ontario, in British Columbia, and in Yukon territory at

## Increase Yield With Same Cost

### Two Systems Outlined for Securing More Products From Acre.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

Farmers have two general ways of increasing the yields of crops on their lands, according to Dr. R. O. E. Davis, of the United States Department of Agriculture, who makes the division on methods according to whether they do or do not increase the cost per acre of raising crops. An example of a cropping method that tends to increase yields without increasing costs of production is the planting of crops better adapted to the type of soil on the farm; for example, the seeding of alsike clover on lands which have not produced good crops of alfalfa or red clover because of acid soil. Rotation of crops with frequent planting of legumes is another method of increasing yields without increasing costs per acre. Still another is the use of varieties of the crops which have been improved by plant breeding. These, Doctor Davis points out, are naturally the first aids to which the farmer is likely to turn in an effort to get more production from his farm. Any increase in production is to a large extent net profit.

### Improved Methods.

The methods of the other class involve increased costs per acre of crop. For example, better weed control gives commercial plants a better chance in competition with the weeds, but it costs money or effort. The same applies to more thorough preparation of the seed bed and more thorough cultivation. A third and increasingly important method is the use of commercial fertilizer, which means a direct expenditure of money. In this class of improved farming methods the increased yield is not net profit. Before a farmer will turn to such methods he must be convinced or convince himself that the increased yield as the result of better cultivation or use of fertilizer will return the added expense and leave a profit over and above the added expense of growing the crop.

### Increased Yields.

That farmers in following one or another of several of such methods have increased yields per acre seems to be evident from figures of the number of acres of improved land per capita, which in the decade from 1880 to 1890 was 5.7, and which declined to 4.8 acres per capita in 1920.

## New Nematodes of Birds Described in Bulletin

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

In "Nematodes of Pathological Significance Found in Some Economically Important Birds in North America," just published by the United States Department of Agriculture as Technical Bulletin 49-T, Eloise B. Cram of the bureau of animal industry reports on eight parasitic nematodes, part of which are familiar abroad but only recently discovered in this country, and part believed to be new in science. The latter are described and names proposed. The parasites include such diverse groups as strongyles, spirurids and capillariae, and the hosts include the chicken, turkey, domestic and wild geese, wild ducks, carrier and domestic pigeons, ruffed grouse and quail, all economically important. "The finding within less than a year and a half that parasitic nematodes are responsible for such a variety of previously unrecognized pathological conditions in birds," says the author, "suggests that the role played by these parasites has been considerably underestimated and that other significant forms will doubtless be found in this country if sufficient search is made for them."

Technical Bulletin No. 49-T may be obtained free, while the supply lasts, on application to the Department of Agriculture, Washington.

## Agricultural Hints

Legumes are generally richer in protein and minerals than other roughages.

In very few locations is it profitable to risk the chicks without windows of some kind.

It is difficult to lay down hard and fast rules as to the proper time to plant the different products we are able to grow.

The home garden will produce more in dollars and cents than any other area of equal size on the farm. Indications point to a favorable year for gardening.

Any grower wishing to grow staked tomatoes should begin with not more than 1,000 plants the first year and gradually increase his plantings from year to year as seems advisable.

Specialists at South Dakota State college advise that corn silage is quite beneficial to lambs only if fed in small quantities in connection with a regular ration and not as the only roughage.

Allowing barley to germinate and form root sprouts seems to encourage the old hens to eat it. The best results will come when some corn is used in the ration along with the barley.

## Watch the Children Eat it

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Delights the fussy eaters  
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### B Class

Sam (the negro gardener to his New England employer)—Mr. Smyth, is yo' all going South fo' the winter like the rest of the folks up heah? Smyth—No, Sam, I don't believe I'll get away this winter. "Then yo' all is goin' to be in the B class with mahself." "The B class? How's that, Sam?" "Yo' all is goin' to B here when they go and yo' all is goin' to B here when they gets back."

Old bells can be made as good as new—but not so with old beliefs.

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