

THE FLAG IN BATTLE

WHEN OR WHERE IT WAS FIRST BORNE HISTORY RECORDS NOT.

In Development From the First Inanimate Object Carried Aloft on a Staff—Dear to the Hearts of Fighters in All Ages and Nations.

Where in the whole world is another thing meaningless in itself that has signified so much or served so greatly in the dramas of national life as the flag? asks the London Globe.

One tradition says the Saracens first carried an orthodox standard into battle and thus gave the idea, as they gave so many others, to the crusaders. But obviously the flag is far older than this, and it is interesting to note its development from the first inanimate object borne aloft on a staff so as to be generally visible down to the complicated blazonry of a royal banner in our own ages. The Egyptians thus carried before their hosts the figure of a sacred animal on a spear, and the Assyrians, as their carvings tell us, inspired the hopes and centered the attentions of their soldiers in the same way. The royal standard of the Persians for many centuries was a blacksmith's apron, and it is said a local prince in passing a hermit's cell on the way to battle one morning asked the inmate for his blessing or something expressive to put on that artless countenance. The hermit, possibly a little touchy, as even saints will be when disturbed at breakfast time, threw the chieftain the flat, round cake he was eating, which was duly added to the apron; hence the Persian "sun." The lion was an obvious afterthought. The Turks used a horse's tail, the rank of a pasha being known by the number of tails he carried, and probably this suggested the much bifurcated pennon of early western chivalry familiar to every one who has studied the Bayeux tapestry or early illuminated missals.

In the middle ages, devoted to display and military arrogance, the flag stood in relationship to the great captain's array as his personal armor stood to himself; it insured recognition in the melee and supplied a rallying point for the fighters such as nothing else could have done. This led to an etiquette of flags which apportioned shape and size to every rank of the peerage, from the royal standard itself down through a varied array of banners, gonfions, pennons, ensigns and other "bits of red rag," and kept the heralds' college busy, besides supplying the poets with admirable local coloring for their battle pieces. Does not Scott tell us in some famous lines:

Then fell that spotless banner white,
Lord Howard's lion fell;
But still Lord Marmion's falcon flew
With waving flight, while fiercer grew
Around the battle yell.

Here, it will be noted, the whole gist and point of the light centers in the pennons of the leaders, and of the same vital importance of the flag there are innumerable instances in medieval literature. When the Douglas unfurled his standard at Otterburn—a flag, by the way, which is still in existence—he declared, and thought not without reason, that the mere sight of that famous cloth would put the English host to rout. And even in comparatively modern and prosaic times the belief that a dreaded captain was beneath a certain emblem has sufficed to turn the scales of battle.

Thus in the French war of 1797 the French Rear Admiral Saury when cruising with six frigates in the bay of Bali came in sight of five or our Indianmen, one of them the Woodford, Captain Lennox. They were homeward bound and all richly laden, and to all appearances they had no chance of escape, when Captain Lennox rescued them by an act of great judgment and presence of mind. He first of all hoisted in his own ship a flag which the French admiral knew well, that of the British Admiral Rainier, blue, at the mizzen, and he made all the other ships in his company hoist pennants and ensigns to correspond. But he did more. He detached two of the Indianmen to chase and reconnoiter the enemy, and as these advanced toward the French reconnoitering frigate, the Cybele, the latter, completely deceived, made all sail to join her consort, on which the French admiral, believing he was in the presence of a powerful British squadron, made off with his frigates under all sail, and Captain Lennox and his consorts completed their voyage in safety.

The flag indeed preserved its glamour long after the time when it was the cynosure of conflict, the emblazoned meteor of victory, as Milton calls it. Napoleon's officers, retreating from Moscow, burned their standards and in the excess of their bitter affection mixed the ashes with wine and drank them so. The same was done at Metz and Sedan, and even today there is probably no soldier in the world who would not do a little more for his colors than for anything else within his martial horizon. The idea has penetrated into all ranks of society. To nail one's colors to the mast is the last expression of desperate resolve, just as to haul them down indicates the abyss of humiliation.

Generous Host.
Tommy—Ma, can I play makin' believe I'm entertainin' another little boy?
Mamma—Yes, dear, of course.
Tommy—All right, Gimme some cake for him.—Exchange.

Ethel—Isn't July newswy?
Maynoe—Isn't she, though? She tells so much I don't see how she gets time to bear anything.—Detroit Free Press.

Don't think that every and eyed woman you meet has loved and loved. She may have loved and got him.—Lyre.

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"KEEP YOUR MOUTH SHUT"

People Who Say Little and Drink Less "Get There" Oftenest.

"Help me to catch him, mister," said the small boy as he dashed by in panting pursuit of his juvenile enemy.

"Keep your mouth shut, and you'll catch him," advised the man, and the boy understood in an instant and, understanding, closed his mouth and ran on, easily running down the object of his pursuit, who had been running open mouthed and was soon doubled up with a stitch in his side.

There is a good deal in keeping your mouth shut. There are more people in the world who never open a mouth without putting a foot in it than you have any idea of. You may be a fool, but if you keep your mouth shut who's to know it? Generally you can size up the fellows who'll get there, are getting there or have got there by the way their lower jaw hangs. You may occasionally meet a wise man wandering around with his mouth open, but not as a usual thing. It's what people say and drink chiefly that causes them to appear before the police magistrate. If they had kept their mouths shut, it more fool than have said it or drunk it. More foolish fish are caught with hooks in the month than through the tail. The fellow who goes around with his mouth open may catch a few flies in the aperture, but he isn't likely to catch anything very valuable that way. It's the fellow who sets his teeth and consequently shuts his mouth who gets there.—Toronto Star.

The Cipher.
It has not been definitely established that zero was in use any earlier than 400 A. D. About this time it was used in India, and several centuries later the Arabs began to employ it. Through the Arabs its use became known to Europeans during the twelfth century. It was not generally adopted in Europe until several centuries later, notwithstanding its great advantages. For a considerable time there were two parties among the European educators. One party, known as the algorists, favored the adoption of the Hindu system of notation (falsely called Arabic, with its position values, while the other, known as the abacists, favored the Roman notation, without zero or position value.

The general adoption of the Hindu system was greatly facilitated by the facts that it was explained in most of the calendars for more than a century, beginning with 1509, and that the medieval universities frequently offered courses devoted to the use of this notation.—G. A. Miller in Science.

The Artist and the Woman.
Every actress is sensitively alive to the pleasure of a warm reception—that being the technical term for the applause with which the audience greets the first appearance of an artist before any word has been spoken. Generally speaking, it signifies a courteous greeting corresponding to a lifted hat and pleasant salutation. But on occasions when the actress is a special favorite the reception, enthusiastic and long continued, becomes a demonstration which is inartistic and destructive of the illusion of the play, since it drags the actress out of her part and in her bowing, curtsying and snuggling she becomes Miss Jones or Miss Morris returning thanks to the public. A woman would not be human who did not enjoy to the last drop of her blood just such a greeting, even though her artistic sense condemned it.—McClure's.

Animals Are Sensitive.
"The fact that a horse is sensitive to ridicule," said a student of the biological department of the University of Pennsylvania, "may easily be demonstrated. Take, for instance, the case of a horse that is eating out of a nosebag. If you stand in front of such a horse, attract his attention, and then, with loud laughter, mock his way of feeding, he will stop, with a look of embarrassment and shame, and he will not resume his meal until you are gone away."
"Dogs also object to being laughed at. Make fun of them and they will cease whatever they are doing. It is only when they are in a fight that they will remain impervious to the shafts of mockery."—Philadelphia Post.

The Human Body.
A pupil in a village school who had been requested to write an essay on the human body handed in the following: "The human body consists of the head, thorax, abdomen and legs. The head contains the brains, in case there are any. The thorax contains the heart and lungs; also the liver and lights. The abdomen contains the bowels, of which there are five—a, e, l, o, u and sometimes w and y. The legs extend from the abdomen to the floor and have hinges at the top and middle to enable a fellow to sit when standing or to stand when sitting."

Worth More.
Customer (in art gallery)—Ten dollars is a high price for that picture. It's nothing but a man smoking a pipe.
Dealer—Yes, but look at that pipe, my dear sir. It's genuine meerschaum, beautifully colored and extra large size. You couldn't buy that pipe alone for less than \$15.—Chicago Tribune.

How Maudie Gets Experienced.
Irene—Is Maud really going to marry that sappy youth?
Ethel—Mery, no! She is only engaged to him. You see, poor dear Maud has never been engaged before, and she thinks she ought to practice a little before entering into it seriously.—New Yorker.

The genuine attar of roses, like the best olive oil, will freeze, affording proof of its purity.

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THE AVERAGE BRAIN.

What It Weighs and the Number of Cells It Contains.

Whether it be the brain cell of a glowworm or one trembling with the harmonies of "Tristan und Isolde" the stuff it is made of is much the same. It is a difference of structure apparently rather than of material. And the chemical difference between a brain or nerve cell and that of the muscles or the skin seems reducible mainly to a difference in the proportion of two substances—water and phosphorus. Lean beef, for example, is from 70 to 80 per cent water; the brain is from 90 to 95 per cent water. And a brain or nerve cell may contain from five to ten times as much phosphorus as, let us say, the cells of the liver or the heart. The actual quantity is of course extremely small—by weight but a fraction of 1 per cent.

About three pounds avoirdupois of this very complex phosphorized stuff make up an average human brain. There is a lot more of it distributed down one's spinal column, and little plexuses all over the body wherever a group of muscles are to be moved, and others still, the sensory or feeling nerves, which are everywhere. It is hard to find a cubical half inch outside the bones where they are not.

All told, the nervous substance, which for the sake of making its functions clear I have called the matter which forms a not inconsiderable portion of the body outside of the bony skeleton. It is made up of distinct and separated units, for the most part extremely minute, though some attain a length of two or three feet. These units, for lack of a more misleading name, are called cells. The "cells" which run from the snail of your back down into your legs and wiggle the same or inform you when a member of the family is stubbed, are the longest. Those of the brain are mostly so small as to tax the powers of the microscope. Their average length would be measured in thousandths of an inch. There have been many attempts to get at their actual number. It is certainly large. Computations for the brain alone range from 600,000,000 upward. One, due, I think, to Waldeyer, sets the total number of brain cells (average) at 1,500,000,000,000. This would mean a brain population exceeding the known population of the earth.—Carl Snyder in Harper's Magazine.

FACTS ABOUT FOLKS.
Boys grow more regularly than girls. The memory which acts quickest acts best.
Urban life decreases stature from five years of age on.
Firstborn children exceed later born in stature and weight.
Children born in summer are taller than those born in winter.
Red and yellow are visible at greater distances than green and blue.
Truant boys are inferior in weight, height and chest girth to boys in general.
Dull children are lighter and precocious children heavier than the average child.
Great men, though often absent-minded, have strong memories on the lines of their interests.
Healthy men ought to weigh an additional five pounds for every inch in height beyond sixty-one inches, at which height they ought to weigh 120 pounds.
Baldness caused by Fear.
Several carefully observed cases of falling hair from emotion have been recorded, but the following is probably one of the most curious: A normally healthy farmer, thirty-eight years of age, saw his child thrown out of a cart and trampled upon by a mule. He supposed it killed and experienced in his fright and tension a sensation of chilliness and tension in the head and face. The child escaped with a few bruises, but the father's hair, beard and eyebrows commenced to drop out the next day, and by the end of the week he was entirely bald. A new growth of hair appeared in time, but much finer.—London Answers.

Curling a Snake Bite.
This is how the Indians of Central America cure a snake bite: They pin the unlucky patient to the ground and wind strong creepers above and below the bite until they cut into the flesh. Then they apply a live coal to the wound to cauterize it and follow that up by rubbing in a mixture of chewed tobacco and crushed garlic. By this time the victim is nearly mad with pain and ready to kill everybody in sight, especially when he finds, as he often does, that the snake was not venomous.

Pleased Him.
"I think we might give Bridget a dollar more a week," said the family man.
"What?" exclaimed his wife. "I set her to work cleaning the parlor today, and you should see the way she left it!"
"I did. That's what influenced me. I noticed she fixed the piano with the keyboard close up against the wall."—Philadelphia Ledger.

A Literalist.
Wealthy Citizen—But I said distinctly in my advertisement that I wanted "a reliable colored coachman," and you are a red faced Irishman.
Applicant—But sure, sir, isn't red as reliable a color as black?—Baltimore American.

Dividing the Deck.
"Now, Johnny," said the teacher, who had been describing a war ship to the class, "how is the deck divided?"
"A deck is divided," replied the bright boy, "into spades, hearts, diamonds and clubs."—Philadelphia Press.

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CLOSE OBSERVERS.

Savages Note Things to Which Civilized Eyes Are Blind.

Savages are supposed to have keener senses, especially a keener sense of sight, than civilized races. The author of "Idle Days in Patagonia" does not accept this theory. He believes that savages have no keener senses, but that they pay closer attention to what comes within the range of their perception. As an instance of quick response to an impression he tells the following story:

On March 12, 1861, a company of hunters were capping beside a grove of willows in Patagonia. About 9 o'clock that evening, while they were seated round the fire roasting their ostrich meat, Sosa suddenly sprang to his feet and held his open hand high above his head for some moments.

"There is not a breath of wind blowing," he exclaimed, "yet the leaves of the trees are trembling. What can this portend?"

The others stared at the trees, but could see no motion, and they began to laugh at him. Presently he sat down again, remarking that the trembling had ceased, but during the rest of the evening he was very much disturbed in his mind. He remarked repeatedly that such a thing had never happened in his experience before, for, he said, he could feel a breath of wind before the leaves felt it, and there had been no wind. He feared that it was a warning of some disaster about to overtake their party.

The disaster was not for them. On that evening occurred the earthquake which destroyed the distant city of Mendoza and crushed 12,000 people to death beneath the ruins. That the subterranean wave extended east to the Plata and southward into Patagonia was afterward known, for in the cities of Rosario and Buenos Ayres clocks stopped, and a slight shock was also experienced in the Carmen on the Rio Negro.

PEOPLE WHO APPEAR OLD.
How They May Preserve the Buoyancy and Freshness of Youth.
People who appear old must expect to be considered so, and, if they apply for positions with every appearance that suitably has struck them and that they have some seed, they cannot expect favorable consideration. If gray-haired applicants for positions would only appreciate the value of appearance and would "brave up" when they seek situations—go "well groomed" and well dressed, with elastic steps, showing that they still possess fire, force and enthusiasm—they would eliminate an obstacle greater than their gray hairs.

We think ourselves into incapacity by looking for signs of age and dwelling on them, and the body follows the thought. We should, therefore, avoid the appearance of age in every possible way—by dress, carriage, conversation and especially by our attitude toward people and things. It is not difficult to preserve the buoyancy and freshness of youth, but it must be done by constant effort and practice. A musician who expects to make only one or two important appearances a year must keep up his practice. Youthfulness cannot be put on for a day if old age has had a grip on you for months.

It is important to preserve the fire of youth as long as possible, to carry freshness and vigor into old age by keeping up a hearty interest in everything that interests youth. Many of us seem to think that youthful sports and pastimes are foolish, and before we know it we get entirely out of sympathy with all young life, and consequently really old, whatever our years. We must think youthful thoughts, associate with young people and interest them. When a person ceases to interest the young he may be sure that he is showing signs of old age.—Success.

A Sheeplike Client.
An amusing story is told among lawyers of a Wallston peasant who had gone to law with a neighbor. In a conversation with his lawyer he suggested sending the magistrate a couple of fine ducks.
"Not for your life," said his adviser. "If you do you'll lose the case."
The judgment was given in his favor, when he turned to his lawyer and said, "I sent the ducks." Astonishment on the latter's part turned to admiration when his client continued, "But I sent them in my neighbor's name."—London Express.

Simply Impossible.
"Have you got the plans for your new house completed yet?" some one asked him.
"Not quite," he replied. "There is a difference of opinion between my wife and me as to the interior arrangements. She says the pantry is too large and that there are too many closets."
Without another word the medal for the biggest lie of the evening was awarded to him.—Chicago Tribune.

His Idea Capacity.
"I read somewhere the other day," said Mr. Heespeck, "that one of the big mercantile corporations pays a certain man \$1,000 for each idea he furnishes. George, I'd like to have a chance of that kind!"
"Wretch!" exclaimed Mrs. Heespeck. "Do you want your innocent wife and child to starve?"—Chicago Record-Herald.

So Smart.
Gerald—May I kiss you?
Gertrude—Mother is in the next room.
Gerald—That's all right. Your father can kiss her.—Illustrated Bits.

It is a sign you are growing old when you read the obituary before the marriage notices.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

His Dearest.
Wife—Do you love me as much as ever?
Husband—I reckon so.
Wife—Will I always be the dearest thing to the world to you?
Husband—I am sure you will unless the landlord raises the rent.

How She Felt.
"How do you feel after your ordeal?" asked the fair divorcee's friend as they came down the courthouse steps.
"Feel?" repeated she, with a gurgle of triumph. "I feel completely unimpaired!"—Houston Post.

Wanted—An Idea Who can think of some simple, practical, and profitable invention? We have \$100,000 in cash and a list of two hundred inventions wanted.

WOMEN'S HATS.

Men, Says a Milliner, Are Keen Judges of Becoming Effects.

"Don't think for a minute that men know nothing about women's hats," said a milliner. "I don't refer to men who can describe feminine frills with the fluency of a floorwalker. I mean the average specimen, who doesn't know the difference between a toque and a Gainsborough. They are keen judges of effects—better than their wives. Men often come in here with their wives. The woman begins to try on all the hats in the shop. The man grows nervous. While madam will prouette before the mirror and view the creation from every side before passing judgment the man gives his opinion without a bit of hesitation.

"Take it off!" he will say. "You look like a Sioux brave with his war bonnet on!"

"He doesn't know why he disapproves. He couldn't describe the trimming if he tried, but he does know that it doesn't suit his wife. Without waiting a second he gives his decision, and his wife is almost in tears as she sees him turn down some of the prettiest models. But he doesn't care how they look in the window or on the head of Mrs. Jones or Mrs. Brown. He wants something that is becoming to his wife.

"At last she tries on the hat he wants. He knows it even before she has had a chance to glance at herself in the mirror. And I would say that his judgment usually coincides with ours."—New York Press.

Driving Twelve Horses.
Here is an arithmetical problem for you: If it is great fun to drive one horse, how much fun is it to drive twelve horses? It is quite a natural answer to say twelve times as much fun, but if you were to ask me I should say divide one by twelve, and you will have a more correct answer. Think of it—twelve horses to manage at once! That is a sight I saw a few days ago, however, in the crowded streets of New York. The driver showed such superb horsemanship that people in the streets stopped to admire his dexterity. The horses were drawing immense steel girders to be used in erecting a skyscraper. Two men went ahead of this cavalcade to warn the cars to stop at convenient places for passing and to clear the street generally. Especially where a corner was turned was there much admiration expressed for the driver's skill. There he sat, as calm and cool as if driving an old nag down a country lane instead of twelve sturdy horses down New York's busiest thoroughfares. Broadway.—New York Letter in Pittsburg Dispatch.

Greek and Bulgarian.
"The struggle for racial supremacy between the Slav and Hellenic," says a writer on Macedonia, "is a struggle as old as the hills, is here identified with and imbittered by the religious strife which rages between the followers of the Bulgarian exarch and those of the Greek patriarch—the schismatic and the orthodox parties. This animosity pervades and poisons all the relations of life, private no less than public. A Greek will on no account speak to or shake hands with a Bulgarian. Nor will a Bulgarian patronize a shop kept by a Greek. The antipathy between the two nationalities amounts almost to physical repugnance. It far exceeds any feeling of enmity that either of them may entertain toward the Turk, who has ground them both to the dust during five centuries of the most unmitigated oppression imaginable."

Sunday.
In A. D. 313 the Emperor Constantine of Rome granted toleration to the Christians, and in 321 he gave imperial sanction to the observance of the first day of the week. The edict which introduced a new era in Sunday observance runs: "On the venerable day of the sun let the magistrates and people residing in cities rest and let all workshops be closed. In the country, however, persons engaged in the work of cultivation may freely and lawfully continue their pursuits, because it often happens that another day is not so suitable for grain sowing or for vine planting, lest by neglecting the proper moment for such operations the bounty of heaven should be lost."

Know That Didn't Pay.
Mrs. Woodly Ruyter—What does your husband do for a living?
Mrs. Kautton (daughtily)—He's an author.
Mrs. Woodly Ruyter—I know; so is mine. But, I say, what does your husband do for a living?—Philadelphia Press.

The Key to the Situation.
Husband—Darling, I'm too tired to go to that dance tonight. Do you mind going alone?
Wife—Why, no. But when I get home where shall I leave the latchkey?—Smart Set.

Insty Judgment.
Jones—Women are not good listeners. Johnson—Evidently you've never had 'em for servants.—Kansas City Independent.

Connecticut Is from Quonne, long; tuk, tidal river; gut, at—that is, quonnetucket, at the long tidal river.

His Dearest.
Wife—Do you love me as much as ever?
Husband—I reckon so.
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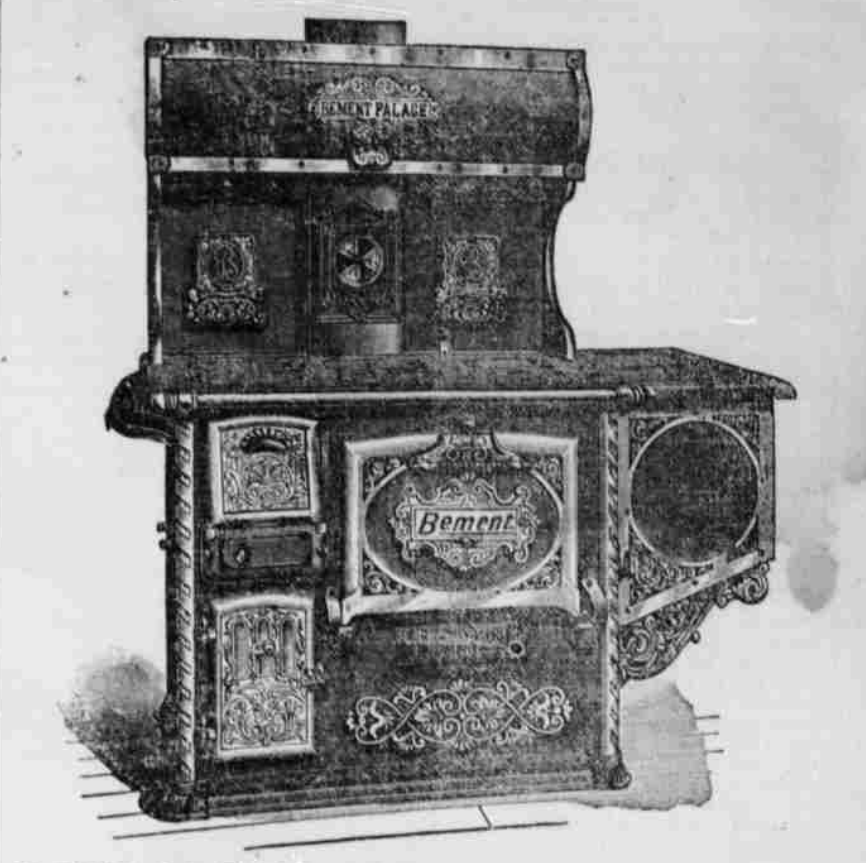
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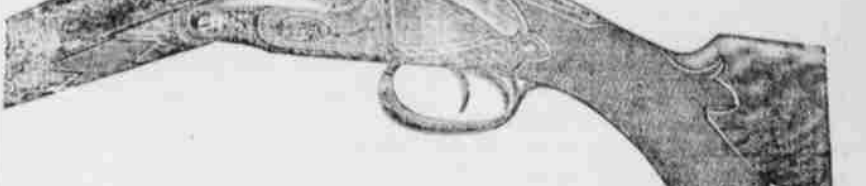
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