

THE FLAG IN BATTLE

WHEN OR WHERE IT WAS FIRST BORNE HISTORY RECORDS NOT.

Its 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 cognizance. 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 rump of a pasha being known by the number of tails it 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 mêlée 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, gonfalon, 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:

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

Here, it will be noted, the whole gist and point of the fight 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 1757 the French Rear Admiral Sarcy when cruising with six frigates in the bay of Bala came in sight of five or four Indians, 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 Indians to chase and reconnoiter the enemy, and as these advanced toward the French reconnoitering frigate, the Cybèle, the latter, completely deceived, made all sail to join her consorts, 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 embazoned 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 mortal 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' because I'm entertainin' another little boy?

Mamma—Yes, dear, of course.
Tommy—All right. Gimme some cake for him.—Exchange.

Accomplished.
Ethel—I isn't Judy newby?
Mayme—Isn't she, though? She tells so much I don't see how she gets time to hear anything.—Detroit Free Press.

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

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Take Laxative Bromo Quinine Tablets. All druggists refund the money if it fails to cure. E. W. Grove's signature is on each box. 25¢.

How about your stock of Stationery?
Look it up, then call and see us.

"KEEP YOUR MOUTH SHUT"

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

"Help me to catch him, master," 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 cause them to appear before the police magistrate. If they had kept their mouths shut, they would not have said it or drunk it. More foolish fish are caught with hooks in the mouth 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 Hindoo 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 Hindoo system was greatly facilitated by the facts that it was explained in most of the calendars for more than a century, beginning with 1300, 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 inaccurate and destructive of the illusion of the play, since it drags the actress out of her part and in her bowing, curtseying and smiling 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 kidneys. 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 saucy youth?

Enid—Mercy, 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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WANTED—YOUNG MEN to prepare for Government Positions. Fine Open-Road Departments. Good Salaries. Rapid Promotions. Examinations soon. Particulars Free. Inter-State Cor. Inst., Cedar Rapids, Ia.

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 and 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 littleplexus 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 cubic 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 thinks, 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 small of your back down into your legs and wiggle the same or inform you when member of the family is stabbed, 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.

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 senility has struck them and that they have gone to seed, they cannot expect favorable consideration. If gray-haired applicants for positions would only appreciate the value of appearances and would "brace 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—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 physician 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.

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.

Curing 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, sor, 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.

Paint Your Buggy for 75¢.

to \$1.00 with Devoe's Gloss Carriage Paint. It weighs 3 to 8 ozs. more to the pint than others, wears longer, and gives a gloss equal to new work. Sold by James D. Davis. Jnl.

Spare Sickly Children.

Growth strong and well after using Thompson's SWEET WORM POWDER.

Very pleasant to take. Contains no camphor. Never fails. Worms are often mistaken for indigestion and other diseases. Be sure to get Thompson's in glass bottles. Druggists, 25 cents.

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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 camping 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.

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