

The Lehigh Register

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PAY THE PRINTER.

BY HENRY BRADY.

As honest men, attend and hear The serious fact—the times are dear; Who owes a bill, 'tis just as clear As star light in the winter.

The Printer's check is seldom red, The fine machinery of his head Is working when you are in bed, Your true and faithful "Mentor."

'Tis known, or ought to be, by all His dues are scattered and they're small, And if not paid he's bound to fall In debt—for fuel, bread, rent, or Perhaps his paper; then to square Up with his help—a double care

His wife and little prattlers too, Are now depending upon you; And if you pay the score that's due, Necessity can't stint her;

The cats will mew between your feet, The dogs will bite you on the street; And every urchin that you meet, Will roar with voice of Stentor,

Be simply just, and don't disgrace Yourself, but beg the "Lord of grace," To thaw that harden'd icy "case," That honesty may enter;

Miscellaneous.

(From the Boston Post.)

OUR NATIONAL FLAG.

It is somewhat remarkable, so far as we know, there is no entirely satisfactory account of the origin of the device of our national flag.

There are early allusions to local standards, or to devices on colonial flags. Thus the standards and drums of the Connecticut troops, immediately after the battle of Lexington, had on them the colonial arms with the motto, "qui transitit sustinet"; in letters of gold; which was translated—"God, who transplanted us hither, will support us."

The earliest notice of a banner emblematical of more than one colony is of the New England flag, and this is seen as early as 1686. A representation of one of these flags, in a work printed in 1701, shows it to be simply an English ensign, with a quarter divided into four by a cross, and having in one of the corners the figure of a pine tree.

There are references to a common flag—one that had probably a symbol of a common sentiment—in 1774; and it is called "The Union Flag." The newspapers, speeches, and essays, and toasts of this year glow with a union sentiment.

At this period, also, Boston and Charlestown were suffering great distress in consequence of the operation of the port bill; and to relieve it large contributions were made from all the colonies. These donations, accompanied with patriotic letters and committees, were often received with parade: when teams loaded with grain, or wood, or other articles, would have flying about them "The Union Flag." We never met with a description of it; and aged people who well remembered the processions and "the great flags" could not recall the device.

LEHIGH REGISTER.

A FAMILY JOURNAL—NEUTRAL IN POLITICS.

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The writer of this article made much inquiry to learn under what flag the battle of Bunker Hill was fought. But neither contemporary documents, nor the recollection of old soldiers, supplied a satisfactory answer.

Columbia's troops are seen in dread array, And waving streamers in the air display.

Tradition, a doubtful authority, says a red flag was used, with the motto "Come if you dare." Trumbull, in his picture of the battle, shows the pine tree flag.

There occur allusions to the "Union Flag" through 1775. Now and then the British, in describing the doings of "the rebels," name their flag. Thus the colors carried by Gen. Montgomery's troops, in his memorable Canada expedition, were named by them as being red; letters from Boston say the same as the standards flying from the American camp, though some of them name "blue streamers;" and in the fall of this year, privates captured and carried into British ports, had colors consisting of "a white bunting with a spreading green pine; the motto, 'Appeal to Heaven.'"

At the close of the year 1775 the two ideas of UNION and INDEPENDENCE were making rapid progress; and this should be taken into account in tracing the device. There were relief and joy in the American army, then besieging the British army in Boston, when it was announced that Georgia had acceded to the Union.

From theory we proceed to facts. The first mention, we think, there is of the THIRTEEN STRIPES on the flag is by Washington, in a letter dated Jan. 4, 1776, who states that on the day (Jan. 1, 1776,) that gave birth to the new army, "the UNION FLAG was hoisted, in compliment to the Thirteen United Colonies."

In the succeeding May, when the Virginia convention so nobly instructed its delegates to Congress "to declare the united colonies free and independent States," and to propose "a confederation of the colonies," there was a great civic and military parade, when the contemporary account states, "the Union flag of the American States waved upon the capitol during the whole of the ceremony."

The flag is spoken of in a manner to indicate that it was something new. It is called "the great Union flag;" and it was first unfurled to the breeze in the army under Washington. No account we have seen names the colors of the stripes, though it is probable they were red and white; and nothing is said of the stars.

cratical of sentiments—that all men are free and equal, was, as the phrase goes, a gentleman of blood, of ancient time, and of coat armor: nor was he slow to acknowledge the fact. When the Americans in their most righteous revolt, against the tyranny of the mother country, cast about for an ensign with which to distinguish themselves from their English oppressors, what did they ultimately adopt? Why, nothing more no less than a gentleman's badge—a modification of the old English coat of arms borne by their leader and deliverer.

This is not the first time this suggestion has been made. But there were stars and stripes on the Douglas arms as well as on the Washington. Stripes, too, had been long used in national ensigns. Thus the flag of the Netherlands had on it three colors, red, white and blue, arranged in three equal horizontal stripes, which device was adopted as early as 1582.

It is not clear what there was in the place now occupied by the stars. We have before us a fac-simile of what is termed the "flag of the confederated States," which was used between July, 1776, and June, 1777. It has represented, in the union emblem of the stripes, a rattlesnake, coiled, and ready to strike, with the motto, "Don't tread on me."

The subsequent history of our national flag has been too often given to need a repetition in detail. The following is the original resolution adopting the stars and stripes: "In Congress, June 14, 1777, Resolved, That the flag of the thirteen United States be thirteen stripes, alternately red and white; that the Union be thirteen stars, white, in a blue field, representing a new constellation."

The following is the law April 4, 1818: "Be it enacted, &c. That from and after the fourth day of July next, the flag of the United States be thirteen horizontal stripes, alternate red and white, that the Union be twenty stars, white, in a blue field.

And that, on the admission of a new State into the Union, one star be added to the Union of the flag; and that such addition shall take effect on the fourth day of July next succeeding such admission."

A Gem.

One of the sweetest gems of poetry ever written is the following, from the pen of Frances Anne Butler:

"Better trust all, and be deceived, And weep that trust, and that deceiving, Than doubt one heart, that if believed, Had blessed one's life with true believing.

It is delicious to have a pretty girl open the front door and mistake you for her cousin; but still more delicious—to have her remain deceived till she has kissed you twice, and hugged the buttons off your coat. "Maw, here's Charles."

Girls who Want Husbands.

There is a great deal of truth in what Nellie Gray says to "girls who are anxious to marry." Some may object to the manner of telling it, but the facts are facts, notwithstanding; and to those marriageable maidens, "who make fools of themselves; and go into a fit of the hips every time they see a hat," we commend them.—Ed.

A husband hunter is the most detestable of all young ladies. She is full of starch and pukes; she puts on many false airs, and she is so nice that she appears ridiculous in the eyes of every decent person.

Now, girls, let Nellie give you a piece of advice, and she knows from experience if you practice it, you will gain a reputation of being worthy girls, and stand a fair chance of getting respectable husbands.

Finally, girls, listen to the counsel of your mothers, and ask their advice in everything.—Think less of fashion than you do of kitchen duties of life—and instead of trying to catch husbands, strive to make yourself worthy of being caught by them.

Anatomy of the Teeth.

A nerve, an artery, and a vein, enter the root of every tooth: "and all through an opening just large enough to admit a human hair." The dental pulp is in the termination of the nerve in the crown of the tooth.

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Where Mosquitoes come From.

A writer on entomology, discussing about these summer pests, thus handles the subject:—"The mosquito proceeds from the animalcule commonly termed the wiggle-tail. I took a bowl of clean water and set it in the sun. In a few days, some half a dozen wiggle tails were visible. These continued to increase in size till they were about 3-16ths of an inch in length.

After the water had gone through this process, I found it perfectly free from animalcule. I therefore came to the conclusion that this wiggle-tail is a species of the shark, who, having devoured whole tribes of animalcule, takes to himself wings and escapes into a different medium to torture mankind, and deposit eggs upon the water to produce other wiggle-tails, who in turn produce other mosquitoes.

Any man who has "kept house" with a cistern in the yard has doubtless observed the same effect every summer. Open your cistern-cover any morning in the mosquito season and millions of them will fly up in your face. Close the windows of your room at night at the risk of being smothered for want of air, being careful at same time previously to exclude every mosquito, and go to bed with a pitcher of that same cistern water in the room, and enough will breed from it during the night to give you any satisfactory amount of trouble.

The Raining Tree.

The Island of Ferro is one of the most considerable of the Canaries, and it is conceived that its name was given to it upon this account—that, its soil not affording so much as a drop of fresh water, seems to be iron, and indeed there is in this island, neither river nor rivulet, nor well nor spring, save that only towards the seaside there are some wells, but they lie at such a distance from the city that the inhabitants can make no use thereof.

Easy Way to Compute Interest.

In a late Baltimore paper a correspondent gives the following plan for computing interest at 6 per cent. for any number of days:—Divide the number of days by six, and multiply the dollars by the dividend, the result is the interest in decimals; cut off the right hand figure and you have it in dollars or cents, thus:—What is the interest of \$100 for twenty-one days? 21 divided by 6 is 3 1/2; 100 multiplied by 3 1/2 is 350, or 35 cents. Again: What is the interest on \$378 for ninety-three days? 93 divided by 6 is 15 1/2; 378 multiplied by 15 1/2 is 5859, or \$58 and 9-10.

New Geography.

"John, give us a description of the earth." "Yes, sir. The earth is a vast globe, filled with mud, filth, Sebastapols and Shanghais." "What are its products?" "Whiskey, gin, Nebraska bills, and also bursted bank bills."

Making a Needle.

I wonder if any little girl who may read this ever thought how many people are all the time at work in making things which she every day uses. What can be more common, and, you may think, more simple, than a needle? Yet, if you do not know it, I can tell you that it takes a great many persons to make a needle; and it takes a great deal of time, too. Let us take a peep into a needle factory. In going over the premises, we must pass hither and thither, and walk into the next street and back again, and take a drive to a mill, in order to see the whole process.

The bundle is thrown into a red-hot furnace; then taken out, and rolled backward and forward on a table until the wires are straight.—This process is called "rubbing straight."—We now see a mill for grinding needles. We go down into the basement, and find a needle-point seated on his bench. He takes up two dozen or so of the wires, and rolls them between his thumb and fingers, with their ends on the grindstone, first one end and then the other.—We have now the wires straight and pointed at both ends. Next is a machine which flattens and gutters the heads of ten thousand needles an hour. Observe the little gutters at the head of your needle. Next comes the punching of the eyes; and the boy who does it punches eight thousand in an hour, and he does it so fast your eye can hardly keep pace with him.

A woman, with a little anvil before her, files between the heads and separates them. They are now complete needles, but rough and rusty and, what is worse, they easily bend. A poor needle, you will say. But the hardening comes next. They are heated in batches in a furnace, and when red hot, are thrown in a pan of cold water. Next, they must be tempered; and this is done by rolling them backward and forward on a hot metal plate. The polishing still remains to be done. On a very coarse cloth, needles are spread to the number of forty or fifty thousand. Emery dust is strewn over them, oil is sprinkled, and soft soap dashed by spoonfuls over the cloth; the cloth is then rolled hard up, and, with several others of the same kind, thrown into a sort of wash-pot, to roll to and fro for twelve hours or more. They come out dirty enough; but after a rinsing in clean hot water, and a tossing in sawdust, they look as bright as can be, and are ready to be sorted and put up for sale. But the sorting and the doing up in papers, you may imagine, is quite a work by itself.

The Housekeeper.

BANBURY CAKES.—Work one pound of butter into the same weight of dough, made for white bread, as in making puff paste, then roll it out very thin, and cut it into oval pieces, or as the cakes are wanted. Mix some good moist sugar with an equal weight of currants, and wet them evenly with brandy; then put a little upon each piece of paste; close them on a tin, with the closed side downwards, and bake them.—Flavor some powdered sugar with candied peel, grated, or essence of lemon, sift a little over the cakes as soon as they come out of the oven.

LEMON BISCUITS.—One pound and a quarter of loaf sugar, six ounces of fresh butter, four eggs well beaten, one ounce lemon peel cut very fine, one desert spoonful of lemon juice. N. B.—These biscuits keep perfectly good for several months in a dry place.

BIRD'S NEST PUDDING.—Pare and quarter tart apples and place them in a buttered square tin; then make a batter of three eggs, one cup of cream, half cup of sour milk, one and a half teaspoonful of saleratus, and a little salt.—Pour the batter over the apples, and bake thirty five minutes.

TO WHITEN LINES WHEN YELLOW.—Cut up a pound of fine white soap into a gallon of milk, and hang it over the fire in a wash-kettle.—When the soap has entirely melted, put in the linen, and boil it half an hour. Then take it out; have ready a lather of soap and warm water; wash the linen in it, and then rinse it through two cold waters, with a very little blue in the last.

TO MAKE GRIDDLE CAKES.—These cakes are best made with milk altogether instead of water; two eggs, yellow and white, to a pint of corn meal, the milk to be warmed, and the whole to be well beaten up with a spoon or ladle. The quantity of milk used must be sufficient to render the mass so liquid that it can be poured with facility from the pan upon the griddle—one spoonful of lard or good butter, and one of fine flour. The griddle should not be made very hot, and be thoroughly cleansed and greased while warm, to facilitate the turning of the cakes that they may be "done brown," without burning, on both sides. The batter or dough should be prepared immediately before cooking.

EGG PONE.—Take three fresh eggs to one quart of meal, and mix with milk and add one tablespoonful of butter; mix all well together, and make up of a consistency somewhat thicker than the cakes, or so thick that it will not pour out; bake in a tin pan set in a Dutch oven, not too hot at first, but by a gradual augmentation of the heat till done. The object of this is to secure the baking of the bottom first, which will secure the rising of the cake, cause it to become beautifully brown on top, and when placed on the table and cut, to resemble "pound cake."