

FLAG HEROINE NOW PRONOUNCED A MYTH.



Betsy Ross never was fired with patriotic zeal in making an American flag and George Washington never leaned over her watching the nimble fingers sew the first stars and stripes. The chairman of the Philadelphia committee on marking historic places has so reported. The Betsy Ross house once contained a seamstress of that name, but, according to the Philadelphia committee, "she would have been fired with about the same amount of patriotic zeal in sewing Old Glory as she would have found in darning a pair of socks." The above picture, which has done duty for a century, is also called a fake.

TAFT'S HEADQUARTERS.

Will Hold Open Court at His Brother's Home in Cincinnati.

Secretary Taft will make his headquarters at the home of his half-brother, C. P. Taft, in Cincinnati. The latter is one of the wealthiest men in that city and was the unofficial manager of the Secretary's campaign for the presidential nomination. He has been prominent in Ohio Republican politics for many years and served his district in Congress. He is the owner of the Times-Star of Cincinnati, and is connected with many great enterprises.

Mr. Taft's home in Cincinnati is one of the most beautiful in the State and contains one of the finest art collections in the country. It will, while serving as headquarters of his brother, the Sec-

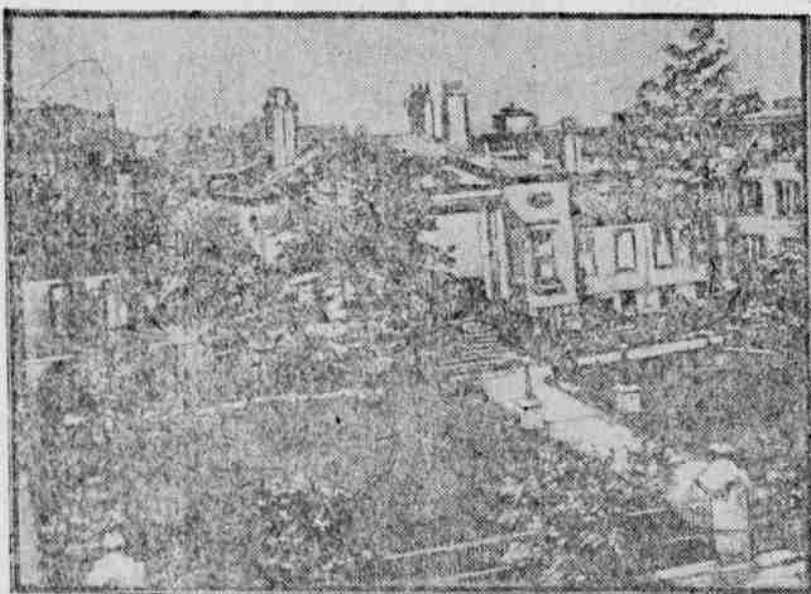
emblem of Liberty on the 1-cent coin is the goddess in an American Indian headdress, but the face shows no characteristics of the North American aborigine.

It is the face of a little girl, Sarah Longacre Keen, upon whose head was placed the feathered ornament of a Sioux Indian. Her father was an engraver and he placed his daughter's head on the coin.

Sarah Longacre Keen died in Philadelphia not long after having served thirty-five years as the secretary of her city's branch of the Methodist Women's Foreign Missionary Society.

Fish Ring the Bells.

A fisherman down at Ocean City has created a good deal of amusement by the ingenious contrivance by which he



SECRETARY TAFT'S POLITICAL HEADQUARTERS.

retary, be the Mecca of tens of thousands who will journey to Cincinnati.

COINS AND FACES ON THEM.

Features of Rulers Aboard, Here the Emblem of Liberty.

Coins of most of the nations bear upon them the faces of their rulers. In the United States each coin has an emblem of Liberty.

The first coins struck after the formation of the federal union bore the face of George Washington. General Washington disapproved of the custom and it was dropped. It has never been revived.

Portraits of prominent Americans appear upon postage stamps, internal revenue stamps and paper money, but never on coins. And it has been the custom to use no portraits of living men even on the currency and the stamps.

In England as soon as King Edward succeeded Queen Victoria the Queen's face gave way to that of Edward on all the coins and stamps in the British empire. The accession of a new ruler in most monarchies means an instant change in the designs of the coins.

But there is an exception to the rule of no portraits on American coins. The

makes the fish help him to catch them, says the New York Sun.

He always has at least six or eight lines out, at a pretty good distance from one another, too. Each line is tied firmly in the slot at the end of an old umbrella rib. The rib, in turn, is fastened at the other end to the rail of the pier. On each rib is a little bell such as are put on collars for pet animals.

When a line gets a bite the umbrella rib is bent, or at least twitched, and the little bell tinkles a summons to the fisherman. In this way the fish themselves give notice to their enemy.

Brilliant Idea.

"I can't understand," said the stranger, "since the monument is perfectly cylindrical in form, why they put in square railing around it."

"Perhaps," replied the native, "they didn't have enough railing to go round."—Philadelphia Press.

Raking Up the Past.

"Say, Boroughs," said Markley, "how about that \$10 you've owed me since last year?"

"Oh, come, old man," said Boroughs, "why can't you let bygones be bygones?"—Philadelphia Press.

HOW TO KILL DANDELIONS.

Spray of Iron Sulphate Said to Be Fatal to Weeds.

The North Dakota station has been experimenting in methods of destroying the dandelion in lawns, says the Detroit News Tribune. As a result of these experiments it is stated that this pest may be eradicated in blue grass lawns, in parks, in meadows and on roadsides without injury to the grass resulting from the use of the chemical employed in the work of destruction.

In order to keep the dandelions out it is necessary to spray at intervals of one month or six weeks throughout the growing period of the year. For ordinary lawn purposes the ideal spraying apparatus is the compressed air type of hand spraying machine. It is necessary that sufficient pressure be maintained by the pump to make a forceful spray of a fine form. If the liquid is thrown in large drops the grass will be more or less injured, as the very young grass roots beneath the soil have slight power of resisting the action of the chemical. The capacity of the tank should be approximately three to four gallons and it should be of such neat construction that one can readily carry it about. Necessarily, if it is properly air tight it will be free from leaks and chances to spill liquids.

The machine should be fitted with about three feet of compression hose and a three-foot extension rod, allowing one to readily swing the nozzle over the lawn. The nozzle should be of such a nature as to throw a rather wide, flaring funnel-shaped spray.

The most satisfactory substance for general work upon dandelions and miscellaneous roadside weeds is iron sulphate, used at the rate of approximately two pounds for each gallon of water. On lawns for dandelions alone where a hand machine is used the strength of one and one-third to one and one-half pounds per gallon will be found to give the desired results, though, if the dandelions are large and coarse and the grass hardy, two pounds for each gallon of water will give the best results.

On lawns do not spray until two or three days after cutting and do not mow the lawn until from two to three days after spraying. Spray on bright, sunny days. The lawn should be prepared for spraying by thorough watering preceding spraying. Select any day when it is not likely to rain within the next day or two, as heavy rain immediately following will destroy the weed-killing power.

MONUMENT TO PARNELL.



Work is progressing at Dublin, says William E. Curtis, in a letter published in the Chicago Record Herald, on the monument to Charles Stewart Parnell, which is to be erected at the head of O'Connell street. The monument was designed by the late Augustus St. Gaudens, and is considered to be one of his best works. The statue of the "uncrowned king" will stand at the base of an artistic shaft, bearing the Irish harp and an appropriate inscription. When John E. Redmond saw the design for the figure of Parnell in St. Gaudens' studio, he exclaimed: "I would not have you alter a line nor a crease in it, Mr. St. Gaudens. It is Parnell to the very life—his figure, his appearance, even his very gesture when under the influence of strong feeling or emotion. I congratulate you on your wonderful success; and I am satisfied that we shall have in Dublin, when this is finished, a monument not alone worthy of Parnell, but a work of art second to none in Europe."

The Next Meal.

"Can't you help me, sir?" asked the beggar on the street to the passerby; "I don't know where my next meal is coming from!"

"Neither do I," said the man addressed, passing on; "our girl left this morning, too!"—Yonkers Statesman.

A Proposal.

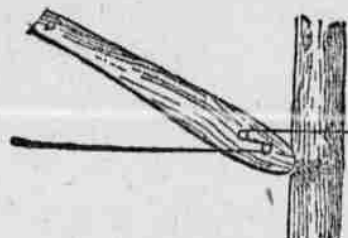
"Yes," he said, "I'm in love." "Huh!" she replied scornfully. "I wouldn't care to be you." "And I wouldn't like you to be. I'd rather you were mine."—Philadelphia Press.

One of the first indications that a woman is in love, is that she will begin to deny any suggestion that she ever cared for any one before.



Wire Fence Tightener.

Every farmer knows how hard it is to keep wire fences in good condition more than a year or two at a time. Cattle are bound to rub up against them, people will sag the wires in getting over the fence, and even the weight of snow has been known to break them. A wire fence looks all right as long as the wires are taut, but as soon as the strands begin to



WIRE-FENCE TIGHTENER.

sag and loop it is no longer attractive, nor is it a sure means of keeping stock within bounds. Many devices have been suggested and even patented for stretching wire, but here is a simple little contrivance that anyone can make in a few minutes that will do the work quickly and well. For short spans it can be made of wood, although for heavy wires or for long stretches it would be better to make it out of iron. This little contrivance is about two feet long, with two pins about three inches apart at one end. Place the wire between these pins and turn the stretcher around until the wire is drawn tight. By engaging the pin at the other end of the stretcher the tension can be maintained while the wire is being nailed fast. With an arrangement of this sort one man can do rapid work alone and fix up a sagging fence in short order.

Uncle Sam's Slim Land Reserve.

The time when a man might move westward and take up virgin soil at his pleasure has passed, and, in general, it may be said that the son of the farmer of to-day must look for his sole heritage in the land his father holds. It is now a barren boast that "Uncle Sam has a farm for every one of us." In 1906 we had less than 90,000,000 acres of unoccupied habitable land. What a slim reserve that is may be realized from the fact that one-fourth of it was disposed of in the following year. We cannot add to our agricultural areas except by irrigation and drainage, but we may, by intelligent selection of crops, by scientific cultivation and by careful treatment of land, make it produce three or four times as much as it does at present. And this is the direction in which our development should proceed, for we must find room within the next 30 years for a doubled population according to our undiscerning ideas. The American farmer of the future must be a man of broad mind and technical knowledge.

Put Humus in the Soil.

If your soil needs humus, plow under all the coarse manure you can get this fall. Every farmer realizes the necessity of having more manure, and one way to secure it is by providing an abundant supply of absorbing material. Even if there appears to be a large proportion of this material in the manure, making it strawy and coarse, it can be plowed under and will answer an excellent purpose. Every effort should be made to secure all the manure that is made on the farm, so that nothing shall be lost. This manure, properly applied on the meadows, should be worth \$1 per two-horse load in the extra amount of hay that will thus be secured from its use.

To Make a Good Cistern.

An absolutely water-tight cistern may be made as follows: In digging, the sides should be made smooth and true perpendicularly. For the bottom use five parts of clean, coarse, sharp sand (plasterers call it fine gravel) to one part of cement. It only requires to be damp enough to work well. It should be thoroughly mixed, all at one time, and be lowered into the cistern quickly and spread more rapidly with a shovel or hoe, and should be beat down hard and smooth. Upon this bottom foundation the cistern should be walled up with brick or stone in cement to at least 6 inches above the top of the ground, which will keep all surface water out. For finishing the bottom use one part cement to

one part sand; this is thoroughly mixed while dry, and then water should be added until it is like plastering mortar. Dump it on the bottom about 3 inches thick and smooth with a trowel. It will soon be hard as stone. For the sides of the cistern, which should be done before finishing the bottom, use equal parts of sand and cement and apply quickly as you would plaster a wall. It is not safe to use anything but the best Portland cement, which costs about \$3 a barrel.

Dear Meats in England.

The London Meat Trades Journal in an editorial says the retail prices of meats have made a substantial advance in that country. It is pointed out that the supply of native-bred stock has for some time past been short in numbers and deficient in weight and quality, and in the United States and Canada the supplies of live cattle, sheep and refrigerated beef were on a steady diminishing scale. Under such circumstances, says this authority, it is but natural to expect that prices all around should advance materially, but more particularly for the choicer grades. From these reports it seems that the United States is not alone in the matter of high-priced meats.

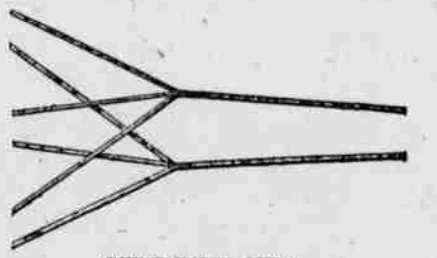
Argentina Animal Statistics.

Consul General Alban G. Snyder sends from Buenos Ayres a tabulated list from a report just issued by the minister of agriculture showing the numbers of live stock in Argentina. They total 114,842,440, divided as follows: Cattle, 25,844,800; sheep, 77,581,100; horses, 5,462,170; mules and donkeys, 545,870; goats, 2,566,800; pigs, 2,841,700.

The province of Buenos Ayres contains one-half of the live stock of the republic, having 7,000,000 cattle and 48,000,000 sheep. Entre Rios province has 9,000,300 animals, Corrientes 7,011,000, and Cordoba and Santa Fe each nearly 7,000,000.

Lines For Three Horses.

In using three horses try this way of arranging the lines: Take a pair of old single harness lines and make two cross lines a little longer than the reg-



ular ones. Fasten them to the inside bit rings of the outside horses. Let this run over the back of the middle horse and buckle into the regular buckle. It works fine and gives one full control of his team.

How to Cool Milk.

Practical experiments seem to prove that many, if not all, of the benefits of aerating milk were due more to cooling than to any other cause. Cooling to the same degree will accomplish substantially the same results, but without an aerator it may be difficult to reduce the temperature as rapidly, hence the aerator may be considered an advantage unless a patent cooler is used.

Fence 2,036 Miles Long.

After five years' work Australia's great transcontinental rabbit-proof fence has been completed. Its length is 2,036 miles, and the cost of its erection has been nearly \$1,250,000. It is furnished at intervals of five miles with systems of traps, in which hundreds of rabbits are captured and destroyed daily. Inside the barrier there appears as yet no trace of their presence.

Mange in Hogs.

Following is a recommended cure for mange in hogs: Creosote, 1 1/2 ounces; lard, 2 pounds. Mix well and apply to the affected parts of the body. Or, sulphur, one-half pound; lard, 2 pounds. Mix and apply as suggested above. Turpentine and sulphur at the rate of ten parts of the former to one of the latter is another effective remedy.

Practical Poultry Work.

To stop hens from eating eggs put a little vinegar or something sour in their food. Drop a piece of alum in the drinking water every two or three weeks; it will prevent throat and lung disease. For all cuts, wounds and ulcers use Isterine. Nothing is better for a comb injured in fighting or for any raw surface. If you have not already done so, cull out all surplus stock. Do not waste feed on birds that are of no value to you.