

# WHEN IS A WOMAN A PATRIOT?



Mrs. Russell Sage



Miss Anna Bartlett Warner

## The Different Activities of Those Who Have Sought to Help Their Country

MUSKETS cracked and bullets filled the air like hail. Volley after volley thundered over the battlefield. Clouds of smoke swept over the struggling masses of men, and melting into the air, showed the desperate battle lines and revealed the terrors of war.

In the midst of this bloody melee, this horror of warfare, a woman moved, a brave, courageous woman, who passed from man to man, lifting cups of water to their mouths, giving drink to the injured.

In the awful fray she moved fearlessly—this heroine of the Revolution—a woman whose name still rings like clarion notes in American history. And how Molly Pitcher, when her husband fell, leaped to the gun and fed the death-dealing fires is a story of womanly courage which remains a shining example to the young of the land.

There followed in the Civil War other heroines—women who fought in regiments, risked death as spies and nursed the sick and wounded. Since then womanly heroism has not died; indeed, women have proved themselves heroines in all ages.

In one age a Judith cut the head from Holofernes, in another a Cleopatra led her forces, although to defeat; a Queen Boadicea headed the Saxons, a Joan of Arc saved France; a Ranees of Jansee inspired fight in the languishing soldiers of India, and still later a Florence Nightingale, a Clara Barton have proved their patriotism by noble and unselfish work for humanity.



Mrs. Harriet Beecher Stowe, at the Beginning of Her Literary Fame



Lady Henry Somerset



Mrs. Humphrey Ward



Clara Barton



Florence Nightingale

Gould are the Brooklyn Navy Yard Y. M. C. A., which was erected and furnished at a cost of \$500,000; the Fort Leavenworth Y. M. C. A. building, which cost \$50,000, and the St. Louis Y. M. C. A. building, which cost \$250,000. Mrs. Russell Sage donated \$350,000 for an annex to the Brooklyn Navy Yard Y. M. C. A. and \$25,000 for a house at Fort McKinley, in the Philippines.

Another woman who has proved her patriotism—a world patriotism one may call it—is an American, Miss Clara Barton, founder of the Red Cross. Miss Barton

for several years has been living in retirement at Glen Echo, near Washington, D. C., but her work goes on.

Miss Barton is a typical American heroine. Born in a Massachusetts town, as a child she yearned to get into the world and devote herself to the service of mankind. Her decision to undertake the nursing of soldiers was formed while she was working in the Patent Office, in Washington, during the Civil War.

sent. Miss Barton went to the headquarters of General Butler and offered her services. Then began her career of service for the wounded—a career unparalleled save by that of Florence Nightingale, the noblest woman of England. During the war Clara Barton gave herself to the sick and injured. She stood by the bedside of the dying, nursed the ill, and was on the field during battles. In 1864 she was appointed head nurse of the hospitals in the Army of the James by General Butler. She nursed

wounded French soldiers later during the Franco-Prussian War, and then devoted all the energy of her ripened years to founding and building up the great Red Cross movement, which has been a blessing to humanity both in war and peace.

In England two stars shine bright in the horizon of patriotism—those of Florence Nightingale and Elizabeth Fry. Florence Nightingale, too, is a world patriot—one whose service was indeed broader than that to one country, which all mankind might claim.

This devoted woman was born in Florence, Italy. She was taken to Egypt when a girl, and there ministered to sick Arabs. Even as a child she imagined her dolls were sick and injured, and would nurse and bandage them. At 34 the call came for her life service. The world was thrilled with the horrors of the Crimean campaign—with the story of 18,000 men lying in the hospitals; the ground covered with snow.

How, with thirty-eight nurses, Florence Nightingale hurried to the relief is a story the world has long related to growing generations. Everywhere Florence Nightingale and her "angel band," as it was called, went. She worked day and night, and was so often along the trenches at night that she became known as "The Lady With the Lamp." Of those hardships she wrote to a friend: "Fancy working five nights out of seven in the trenches. Fancy being thirty-six hours in them at a stretch, as they were all December, lying down, or half lying down, after forty-eight hours, with no food but raw salt pork, sprinkled with sugar, rum and biscuit; nothing hot, because the exhausted soldier could not collect his own fuel, as he was expected to do."

England has boasted of many women who proved their patriotism. One reads with a thrill of the noble work of Elizabeth Fry among the outcasts and prisoners; of Grace Darling, the simple heroine of the Farne Islands—names that glitter like a crown upon England's brow.

England has not lost her galaxy of patriotic women. Patriotism necessarily need not be displayed on a field of battle—for there are other battles a nation must fight; and the work done by the famous novelist, Mrs. Humphrey Ward, in establishing playgrounds for the children of the poorer sections of London; of Lady Henry Somerset, who inaugurated the war for temperance, are of great importance.

Early in her life Lady Somerset, one of the richest heiresses in England, became convinced that drink was the national curse. She saw her work, she felt the call, and under her guidance the British Women's Temperance Association grew to a membership of 100,000. Lady Somerset took part in political campaigns; there was hardly a city or town in the whole of England that did not hear her plea for temperance.

### FOUNDED FARM COLONY

She founded an industrial farm colony at Duxhurst, where, under a band of teachers and sisters, hundreds of women who have been victims of drunkenness are reformed and restored to a normal healthy existence. In the summer the noble lady takes children from the slums of London to a section of the colony where they spend a holiday of a fortnight.

Mrs. Humphrey Ward has worked indefatigably in the founding of play centers in London. The centers had their origin in 1897, when the Passmore Edwards Settlement in Tavistock was started. The work began with a total attendance of 500; it has increased to 17,000. There are now twelve in London—noble tributes to the efforts of the famous novelist.

Patriotism exemplified by efforts for the uplifting of a race of poor and ignorant people has never, in a way, been more strikingly and effectively demonstrated than by an American novelist, now dead, Mrs. Harriet Beecher Stowe's book, it is generally acknowledged, had a great deal to do with the emancipation of slaves in America. The story of how "Uncle Tom's Cabin" was written is well known. How it was published in a Washington paper and the furor it caused are facts of history. Few books have had so far-reaching and tremendous effects. Mrs. Stowe was a patriot; she wrote her book from the heart while she rocked a cradle. It was a work of patriotism which kindled a nation.

Another woman by her pen aroused the fires of patriotism in thousands. This was Julia Ward Howe, who wrote the "Battle Hymn of the Republic" to the sound of which armies marched to fields of battle. And in the history of our own country there are innumerable cases of heroism on the part of women. The history of the Civil War abounds with deeds of intrepidity. Women served in the ranks, they acted as spies, they nursed the sick. There were Mrs. Fanny Ricketts, who went with her husband to the battlefield; Mary A. Brady, who led a corps of women through the war to attend the sick and wounded; Kady Brownell, who, with her husband, went to the front with the First Rhode Island Infantry and fought as well as any man; Bridget Divers, known as "Irish Biddy," who served with the First Michigan Cavalry as a standard-bearer, nurse, doctor, surgeon. One might recall the names of the women who have proved their patriotism ad infinitum.

## THE STIRRING PAST OF A TEXAS WOMAN.

A woman with a lamp shall stand in the great history of the land. A noble type of woman. Heroic womanhood—Longfellow.

AMONG the bravest and purest, while most dramatic, of heroines of battles the figure of Joan of Arc stands out resplendent—a figure of courage, high hope, honor and unselfish endeavor, which no man here has ever surpassed. Mark Twain wrote of this peerless heroine:

"As the years and decades drifted by, and the spectacle of the marvelous child's meteoric flight across the firmament of France and its extinction in the smoke clouds of the stake receded, deeper and deeper into the past and grew ever more strange and wonderful and divine and heroic, I came to comprehend and realize her at last for what she was—the most noble life that was ever born into this world save only one."

"Naturally the background of her life, the settings of battle and warfare make it heroic, cause it to stand out above the acts of other women for mankind. In the days of her need France had her heroine. And for all reward," wrote the gifted biographer, "the French king, whom she had crowned, stood supine and indifferent while others took the noble child, the most innocent, the most lovely, the most adorable the ages have produced, and burned her alive at the stake."

In all times, when there was a great need, who came valiantly to the service of men? Who has led armies of rescuers, nurses of the sick, noble hands of relief on battlefields, just as Joan led the French armies to victory? Who founded the greatest society for the alleviation of the sick and wounded in times of distress and trouble? Who, when an age needed such a movement, started a world-wide crusade against a traffic that was degrading and brutalizing nations? Who, when the time was at hand, wrote a book that was largely instrumental in freeing a race from slavery? In each time and each case a woman!

### HEROINES OF TODAY

We have our heroines today, women who are leading quiet and effective armies. A Jane Addams, who devotes her life making American citizens of foreigners; a Helen Gould, who gives her wealth for the care of sick soldiers during war and provides places of recreation for soldiers and sailors; a Mrs. Humphrey Ward, who devotes most of her time to the alleviation of the poor of London and the founding of playgrounds and places of recreation for the little ones—all have in them the same spirit which inspired Joan of Arc, Molly Pitcher and the intrepid women who fought during the Civil War.

In giving time, service and money, women have done much for their country. Among the more recent additions to the list are the names of Mrs. Russell Sage and Miss Anna Bartlett Warner, who presented to the United States government Constitution Island, in the Hudson river. On behalf of the nation, President Roosevelt accepted the island. It will be added to the United States military reservation at West Point.

Mrs. Sage bought the island and presented it to the country within five days after hearing that it was desired as part of the West Point reservation. Although it was worth considerably more, she paid \$150,000 for it, and because it was sold for the purpose at such a sacrifice, she named Miss Warner, the owner, as joint donor.



Mrs. Rebecca Q. Fisher



Captured by Indians



Gen. A. Johnston

who Rescued Mrs. Fisher

FEW women have passed through such thrilling adventures, or have lived under as many flags, as Mrs. Rebecca Q. Gilleland Fisher, president of the Daughters of the Republic of Texas and a native of Pennsylvania.

Mrs. Fisher is one of the most prominent women of Texas. She is a charter member of the Albert Sidney Johnston Chapter, Daughters of the Confederacy, of that state, and one of two women honored with membership of their own right in the Texas Veterans' Association.

Her life has been remarkable for stirring incidents. After leaving her Pennsylvania home she lived under four flags in Texas—those of Mexico, the Republic of Texas, the Confederacy and the Stars and Stripes of a united country. Her career in Texas began with the murder of her parents, her capture by Indians, her rescue and other stirring events that are seldom included in a woman's life history.

ports from Texas that they decided to join the excited Eldorado of the West. Hastily and at great sacrifice they disposed of their property, and set sail for Galveston with their three children.

"They were not prepared for the hardships and privations of frontier life. One of the children died in a short time. They were ill prepared for the trials which awaited them. Reaching Texas, they went to Refugio county, near Don Carlos' ranch. This proved to be their last earthly habitation.

"My father belonged to Captain Tomlinson's company of Texas troops for some months, and when not actively engaged in warfare was protecting his own and other families, removing them from place to place for safety. They frequently had to flee through blinding storms, wet and hungry, to escape Indians and Mexicans. Families were in constant danger, and had to be ready at any moment to flee for their lives.

"The day my parents were murdered was one of the days which youth and old age so much enjoy. It was in strange contrast with the tragedy at its close. We were only a few rods from the house. Suddenly the warwhoop of the Comanches burst upon our ears. Terror filled all hearts. My father in trying to reach the house for weapons was shot down. Near him, my mother, clinging to her children and praying God to spare them, was also murdered. As she pressed us to her heart, we were baptized in her blood.

"We were captured just as the sun was setting, and were rescued the next morning. During the few hours we were prisoners the Indians never stopped. Slowly and steadily they pushed their way through the settlement to avoid detection. Just as they halted for the first time, soldiers suddenly came upon them. Fire

ing commenced. As the battle raged the Indians were forced to take flight. Thereupon, they pierced my brother through the body, and, striking me with some sharp instrument on the side of the head, they left us for dead.

"We soon recovered, to find ourselves alone in the dark, dense forest, wounded and covered with blood. Having been taught to ask God for all things, we prayed our heavenly Father to take care of us. We asked that He direct us out of that lonely place. I lifted my wounded brother, so faint and weak, and soon we came to the edge of the prairie, when as far away as our swimming eyes could see we discovered a company of horsemen.

"Supposing them to be Indians, I rushed back with my brother into the woods and hid behind some thick brush. But those brave men, on the alert, dashing from place to place, at last discovered us. Soon we heard the thud of horses' hoofs and the voices of our rescuers calling us by name, assuring us they were our friends who had come to take care of us. Lifting the almost unconscious little soldier, I carried him out to them as best I could.

General Albert Sidney Johnston, later a noted Confederate leader, commanded the rescuing party, which was guided by Lieutenant A. B. Hannum, of the Matagorda Riflemen, of Texas.