

GLEANNINGS FROM PORTLAND PUBLIC SCHOOLS

THE HISTORY OF OUR FLAG

American Flag Is Oldest of Western Flags and Has Varied History.

Our American flag originated from two flags. One was the banner of St. George, which was white charged with the red cross and was used in Sicily as early as the first part of the fourteenth century. The other was the banner of St. Andrew, which was blue charged with a white cross, in the form of the letter X, and was used in Scotland as early as the sixteenth century. On April 12, 1700, these two crosses, by a proclamation, were joined upon the banner forming the Union Jack from which our flag came.

The flag used at Bunker Hill had a blue ground with St. George's cross in red and a white cross in the center and in the upper and lower division. One favorite flag was of white with a green pine tree in the center and the words "An Appeal to Heaven" at the top. On February 8, 1776, Colonel Gadsden gave to congress a yellow flag with a rattlesnake coiled for an attack with 13 rattles to represent the 13 colonies. This was used only by the commander-in-chief of the American navy, and bore the words "Don't Tread on Me." The blue flag



The Flag's Changes—By Karl Reiner

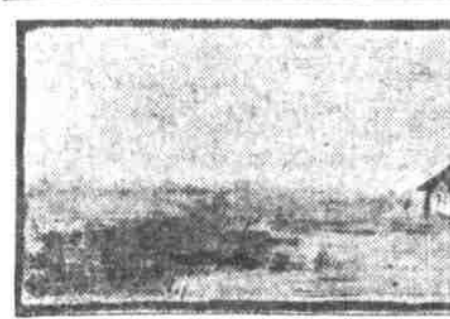
with a white crescent in the corner was mounted on the bastion on Fort Moultrie and fell outside the fort during the battle. Sergeant Jasper leaped the parapet, seized the flag and planted it back on the bastion. On June 14, 1777, congress adopted a United States flag. This flag was to have 13 stripes alternating red and white, the union to be 13 stars on a blue field.

The flag of Aunt Betsy Ross was given a sketch of the flag by Franklin, Colonel Ross a kinsman of Aunt Betsy, General Washington and Robert Morris, who were appointed a committee to call on her. She suggested that the stars be put in a circle to show the

never ending struggle for liberty, and also to have a five-pointed star instead of a six-pointed one as the English flag had. This new flag was first used by Washington at the battle of Brandywine, September 11.

No one knows when Aunt Betsy died or where she was buried. Her house was bought by the aid of school children and changed into a flag museum. It was dedicated in 1906 by President Roosevelt and called "The Old Flag House."

In 1795 two more stars and stripes were added to the flag to represent the admission of Kentucky and Vermont. This was the flag that inspired Francis Scott Key to write "The Star Spangled Banner." This flag of 15 stars and 13 stripes was used through the war of 1812. An act of congress of that date reduced the number of stripes to 13.



A Country Scene—Ruth Brown, Failing School.

for each of the original states and the number of stars were to equal the number of states. The arrangement of the stars on the field is not regulated by law, and it has not been uniform.

It is generally thought that our flag is a very young flag, but it is the oldest flag of all modern nations. After England and Ireland united in 1801 the cross of St. Patrick was added to the English flag. The French tricolor dates only from the Revolution, 1774-1851. The flag of Italy, from the establishment of the present kingdom in the sixties. The imperial flag of Germany dates from the Franco-Prussian war of 1870. So the flag of the United States is really the oldest banner among western nations dating from June 14, 1777.



A Border Design—By Raymond Staube, Davis School.

Flag Day, June 14.
These books are to be found in the children's department of the public library:

STORIES OF THE FLAG.
Beecher—Flag Restored. On Stepping Stones to Literature. v. 7, p. 225.
Bridwell—What the Stars and Stripes Mean. In St. Nicholas. v. 23, page 752-753.
Brooks—Flag of the Union; in his Century-Book for Young Americans. p. 177-179.
Dole—Our Flag; in his Young Citizen. p. 190-194.
Tullock—What the Flags Tell; in St. Nicholas. v. 22, p. 462-469.
Foot—Our Flag; in St. Nicholas. v. 5, p. 65-68.
Nicholson—Honors to the Flag; in St. Nicholas. v. 19, p. 138-141.
Higginson—Our Flag; in his Young



Yachting—By Clara Pond.

Folk's History of the United States. p. 193-201.
Meaning of the American Flag; in his Our Country's Flag and Flags of Foreign Countries. p. 56-62.
Folmy—Flags of the World; in his History, biography and association.
Jenkins—How Betsy Ross Made the First Pointed Star; in St. Nicholas. v. 13, page 712-714.
Jones—Flags, in his Ships, Sailors and the Sea. p. 77-86.
Mapes—Story of the Flag; in St. Nicholas. v. 19, p. 643-646.
Summer—National Flag; in Lights to Literature, book 5, revised, p. 323.
Turley—Salute to the Stars and Stripes; in St. Nicholas. v. 11, p. 66-71.
Wilson—Flag day; in her History Reader. Elementary Schools.
Wray—Stars and Stripes; in St. Nicholas. v. 20, p. 861-868.
Wray—Stars and Stripes; in Our Holidays.

FLAGS—POETRY.
Beecher—American Flag; in LeRow's Pieces for Every Occasion.
Bennett—The Flag; in Paget's Poem's of American Patriotism.
Bennett—Flag Goes By; in Stevenson's Days and Deeds.
Bunker—Salute to the Flag; in Paget's Poem's of American Patriotism.
Cawell—Inder the Stars and Stripes; in Paget's Poem's of American Patriotism.
Cheverton—Uncover to the Flag; in Paget's Poem's of American Patriotism.
Comrades Join the Flag of Glory; in Eggleston's American War Ballads.
Cummings—Song of the Union; in Carrington's Beacon Lights of Patriotism.
Cutter—E Pluribus Unum; in Stevenson's Days and Deeds.
Drake—Ode to the American Flag; in LeRow's Pieces for Every Occasion.
Eggleston—The Flag; in LeRow's Pieces for Every Occasion.
Gullerman—Call to the Colors; in Paget's Poem's of American Patriotism.
Holmes—Flower of Liberty; in Stevenson's Days and Deeds.
Holmes—God Save the Flag; in Waterman's Graded Memory Selections.
Hurrah for the Flag; in Lovejoy's Nature in Verse for Children.
Irving—Betsy's Battle Flag; in Stevenson's Days and Deeds.
Key—Star Spangled Banner; in Arnold & Gilbert's Stepping Stones to Literature. v. 2, p. 18-8.
Larson—The Flag; in Stevenson's Days and Deeds.
LeRow's—The Flag; in Paget's Poem's of American Patriotism.
Montgomery—Our Cherished Flag; in LeRow's Pieces for Every Occasion.
Nicholson—The Flag; in Paget's Poem's of American Patriotism.
Our Flag; in Lovejoy's Nature in Verse for Children.
Parker—Old Flag; in Stevenson's Days and Deeds.
Parker—Stripes and the Stars; in Eggleston's American War Ballads.
Raymond—Banner of the Stars; in Paget's Poem's of American Patriotism.
Riley—Name of Old Glory; in Wiggin & Smith's Golden Numbers.
Ross—Our Banner Unrent; Its Stars Unobscured; in Carrington's Beacon Lights of Patriotism.
Shaw—Red, White and Blue; in Arnold & Gilbert's Stepping Stones to Literature.
Stanton—Old Flag Forever; in Stevenson's Days and Deeds.
Stone—Rally Round the Flag; in LeRow's Pieces for Every Occasion.
Summer—National Flag; in Bellamy & Goodwin's Open Sesame. v. 2.
Whittier—Barbara Fritchie; in Eggleston's American War Ballads.
Whittier—Barbara Fritchie; in Mathe's Poem's of American Patriotism.
Wilder—Stand by the Flag; in Bellamy & Goodwin's Open Sesame. v. 2.
Winthrop—Flag of Our Country; in LeRow's Pieces for Every Occasion.
Winthrop—National Ensign; in Carrington's Beacon Lights of Patriotism.



A Difference.

A Difference.
From the Cleveland Leader.
The Plain Man (emphatically)—I hold that there is no difference between genius and insanity.
The Poet (sadly)—You're wrong. If a man can prove he's insane the state will provide him with board and clothes.



Portland's Pride—By Fay Shea.

DAVIS AND MISCELLANEOUS SCHOOLS

An Old Ballad on Miles Standish.

By Shirley Fisher Davis, Ninth B.
It has always been known that Longfellow's "The Courtship of Miles Standish" was based upon real history. Nearly 100 years before Longfellow wrote his poem, Moses Mullins had composed a ballad on the same subject.

It is thought that the author was a kinsman of Priscilla Mullins, the heroine of both the ballad and the poem. Mullins begins by telling that it was during the old December weather that Miles Standish came to the Mayflower to Plymouth Rock with the little Pilgrim band. Their hands were weak but their hearts were strong. The wind would blow furiously around those poorly built huts. The savage Indians molested the people, but Miles Standish, a champion brave, was ready to meet them.

Sickness fell upon his wife, whose name was Rose, and she was laid among the dead.

"His sorrow was not loud but deep,
For her he did bemoan,
And sighing long and wringing his heart,
He could not live alone.

"Then to John Alden he did speak:
"John Alden, was his friend,
And said, 'Friend John, unto my wish
I pray thee now attend.

"My heart is sad, 'tis very sad,
My poor wife Rose has gone;
And in this wild and savage land
I cannot live alone.

"To Mr. William Mullins, then
I wish you to report,
To see if he will give me leave
To wed his daughter fair."

John Alden, although he was in love with Priscilla himself, did as he was requested. He asked Mr. Mullins for the hand of Priscilla for Miles Standish.

"He told John Alden if his child
Should be inclined that way
And Captain Standish was her choice,
He had no more to say."

He then called his daughter and left the room so that she could speak more freely to John. Alden was handsome, his eyes were blue, and when speaking a pleasant look ran all over his features.

As she entered he rose courteously and asked her to marry Miles Standish.

"Warm blushes glowed upon the cheeks
Of that fair maiden then,
At first she turned away her eyes,
Then looked at John again.

"And then, with downcast, modest
And then, with trembling tone:
"Now prithee, John, why didst thou not
Speak for thyself alone?"

In about a month Priscilla was John Alden's loving wife.

The poem written by Longfellow is a great deal longer and more beautiful than that of Mullins, who does not tell how Miles Standish takes Priscilla's refusal or about the Indian fight or the marriage of Priscilla and John Alden.

The Fox and the Porcupine.

By Anna Grabhorn, Ainsworth, Seventh B.
One summer morning Uncle Harry



Portland's Pride—By Fay Shea.

was talking to his son, the smallest fox in the neighborhood.

"Son," said he, "the porcupine is a bad fellow, do not ever try to fight with him or you will feel it." He said this and went away.

His son, not hearing his father's remarks, sat down and began to think about what he was going to do that forenoon. He had not been pondering long, when he heard some one calling. The boy kept very still and listened; the sound seemed to come nearer and nearer.

"It is Joe, the porcupine. I will go and see what he is up to." He jumped up, ran out and hid behind a large berry bush. He did not know that Joe sat by a box at the other side of the bush.

The porcupine was approaching nearer the house and Small Fox, as he was called, had not been pondering long, when he heard some one calling. The boy kept very still and listened; the sound seemed to come nearer and nearer.

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Samuel Johnson and Oliver Goldsmith.

By Fred Strong, Davis, Ninth A.
Samuel Johnson and Oliver Goldsmith were two great writers who lived in the 18th century.

Dr. Johnson was very rude in his manners. He usually snubbed every one he thought was not so great as himself. Oliver Goldsmith did not mind this. He was very polite at all times.

Both Johnson and Goldsmith had many odd ways. When Johnson walked along the street, he would touch every lamppost he came to; and if he missed one, he would go back and touch it. Then he would stand there for some time.

When Samuel Johnson had grown to be an old man, he was once walking up a steep hill. He said, "I have not had a roll for a long time; so he lay down and over and over until he reached the bottom.

When Dr. Johnson was courting Mrs. Porter, he thought that he should tell her part of his family history. He told her plainly that he did not come of a great family, that he had no money and that one of his uncles had been hanged. She then told him that she did not have any more money than he, and that she would go back and touch the lampposts.

Oliver Goldsmith was very extravagant and was very fond of gay clothing. He was always in debt, and his creditors were after him most of the time.

Oliver Goldsmith was very kind to beggars. One winter day a poor woman came to him and told him that she had no food for her children. He gave her a piece of his bread and told her to go and buy some more.

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Ascent of Mount Hood.

By Floyd Hauflin, Mount Tabor.
We left one Saturday morning from our camp at the base of the mountain in the old government camp. We went to the store and bought some supplies and from there we were to begin the climb up the mountain.

We traveled about four miles of very steep trail with three or four rests. The

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The Magic Bag.

By Olive Zimmerman, Clinton Kelly, Eighth B.

In the good old times, when animals could talk, there lived on the edge of a great forest a poor boy called Hans.

One day Hans went through the forest to see a young woman called Gretchen. Hans loved Gretchen and wanted her to marry him, but Gretchen said she could not leave her mother. Hans told Gretchen her mother could live with them, but Gretchen would not hear of this. So Hans told Gretchen she did not love him and went off very angry. As he was wandering among the trees he met an old man who gave him a flour sack and told him if he would hold it in his hand at midnight he could have anything for which he wished.

That night Hans got up and tried to



A Nigger's Good Time—By Helen Dahl.

light a lamp, but the matches were wet and would not light, and Hans exclaimed angrily, "I wish Hans would not come to bed!" Immediately a lion came bounding in and the matches disappeared. Hans was surprised and put the sack carefully away.

One night Hans exclaimed, "Oh, I wish I were getting married!" In an instant the room became lighted up and the bridal party came in, and Hans and Gretchen were married. Hans told Gretchen about the sack and she said she wished for a beautiful house and they found themselves sitting in a beautiful mansion. Hans and Gretchen lived here for many years.

One day a Jew came to the house and wanted Gretchen to buy from him. Hans looked up and saw the Jew was tomorrow, I will buy from you." So the Jew came in, and he noticed the beautiful furniture, but he saw the Jew's common looking four sack. At midnight Gretchen wished for some money, and the Jew heard her.

The next day he asked Gretchen if she could stay another night. Gretchen said "Yes." At midnight the Jew got up and touched the sack and one night they wished they might die together.

One morning their servants found them dead. Gretchen held in her hand a common looking four sack. They could not loosen her grasp, so they buried the sack with her and the magic bag was lost forever.

Frank and the Dog.
By Mabel Johnson, Richmond, Sixth A.

One day Frank's father had sent him to the postoffice after a letter, but when he got there he saw a big dog sitting in the doorway.

Frank was afraid of the dog, so he looked up and down the street to see if anybody would come and help him. No one came, so he called Miss Evans, the clerk of the postoffice, but she did not hear him.

Frank had two pennies which his father had given him that morning. There was a butcher shop across the street and Frank was going to buy some meat for the dog.

When Frank had gotten the meat he held it up so the dog could see it. Then he threw it far into the street and the dog ran after it.

Then Frank went into the postoffice and got the letter.