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TROPHIES OF WAR

Captured Flags Carefully Preserved by Uncle Sam.

ON VIEW IN NAVAL ACADEMY

Restored by Special Process After Having Been in Tatters For Years, They Are a Living Proof of the Heroism of Our Soldiers and Sailors.

In the auditorium of the academic building at the United States Naval Academy at Annapolis are 15,000 square yards of flags, most of them trophy flags.

The capture of these tattered banners helped to make the stars and stripes respected by the nations of the earth and reflect undying glory on the men of the United States navy. They are living proofs of the heroism and courage of the soldiers and sailors who fought to maintain the flag when the nation was struggling for independence and later when it was fighting to establish firmly the foundations of the greatest republic of the world.

From 1847 to 1901 this collection of flags, which should be one of America's most highly prized treasures, was kept at the Naval Academy and exhibited in the old naval institute hall.

In 1901, when it was decided to tear down this building, the flags were packed in iron boxes and stored away. Being in a dilapidated condition when they were taken down to be packed, grave fears were entertained that they would be further damaged by moths.

During the ten years they remained in storage repeated efforts were made to have the government take some steps to put them in a permanent state of preservation, but without success. In 1912 congress appropriated \$30,000 for the work of preservation.

About three months later Mrs. Amelia Fowler, an expert on flag preservation, obtained the services of forty needlewomen, who began the arduous task of sewing over by hand every inch of the 15,000 square yards in the flags, as the natural decay of age as well as the almost hopeless ravages of moths made any ordinary method of preservation seem impossible.

A special process was originated by Mrs. Fowler, which is described as "spreading the tattered remnants of each flag upon a backing of heavy Irish linen of neutral color."

The delicate work was guided by the original measurement of the flag, by a knowledge of its design and by placing in vertical and horizontal line the warp and woof threads in the fragments of bunting.

What remained of the original flag was then sewed firmly to the linen backing by needlewomen under Mrs. Fowler's instruction and guidance.

Less than a year after the labor of repairing was begun, on May 16, 1913, the flags were completed and put on exhibition at the Naval Academy.

In the ceiling of the academic building is one of the most interesting of the trophy flags. It is a British royal standard taken from the parliament house at York, now Toronto, then the capital of upper Canada, when the place was taken by the squadron under Commodore Isaac Chauncey and a land force under General Zebulon Montgomery Pike, April 27, 1813.

The squadron, with about 1,700 soldiers aboard, effected a landing at York under cover of a fire of grape from the ships, cleared a way through the Indians and sharpshooters that the English had formed to oppose them and stormed the batteries. The capture of York resulted in the acquisition of the royal standard, the only British royal standard captured and held by any nation.

The flags captured by Admiral Dewey at Manila bay are in this auditorium, and some of them are exquisite. The one flown at the main of the Spanish cruiser Don Antonio de Ulloa is a reminder of the plucky captain of that cruiser, Enrique Robiou, who refused to surrender at the battle of Manila bay on May 1, 1898, so the Ulloa sank with its guns blazing defiance and all flags flying.—Boston Globe.

Imitation Damask. Imitation damask is made today by means of printing upon the surface, with a sort of transparent mullage, the designs. These designs appear to be woven into the cloth. By immersing a sample in boiling hot water and allowing it to boil for several minutes the design will disappear.—Washington Post.

Loet and Found. "Why are ye lukin' sae pleased wi' yersel?" asked McQuinton. "Weel, mon," replied Farguharson, "I dropped a saxpence i' the market place, an' I couldna find it." "That's naught to be lukin' sae gay about," said McQuinton.

"Aye, but ye dinna ken," explained Farguharson. "I found a shilling!"

Calling the Bluff. "I can stay minutes under water." "I knew a fellow who stayed ten minutes." "You're joking with me. How could he keep his breath?" "He didn't. That's why he stayed so long."—Baltimore American.

Movable Looks. Husband—And I thought that your crowning glory was your hair. Wife—And did you think that queens wore their crowns nights?—Town Topics.

We fight to great disadvantage when we fight with those who have nothing to lose.—Guicciardini.

MONSTER BLUE WHALES.

The Most Gigantic Creatures This World Has Ever Known.

It has been said that the first duty of a whale is to be large. The blue whale is then the most successful whale, for it is the largest creature which has ever existed on the earth or in its waters. Even those extinct giant reptiles, the dinosaurs, which splashed along the borders of the inland seas of Wyoming and Montana 8,000,000 years ago, could not approach a blue whale either in length or weight.

In 1903 a blue whale was weighed in sections at Newfoundland. The animal was seventy-eight feet long, thirty-five feet around the shoulders, the head was nineteen feet in length and the tail sixteen feet from tip to tip. The total weight was sixty-three tons. The flesh weighed forty tons, the blubber eight tons, the blood, viscera and baleen seven tons and the bones eight tons.

Exaggerated accounts of the size of blue whales are current even in reputable books on natural history, but the largest specimen which has yet been actually measured and recorded is 187 feet long, stranded a few years ago upon the coast of New Zealand. It must have weighed at least seventy-five tons.

Whales are able to attain such an enormous size because their bodies are supported by the water in which they live. A bird is limited to the weight which its wings can bear up in the air. A land animal if it becomes too large cannot hold its body off the ground or readily move about and is doomed to certain destruction. But a whale has to face none of these problems and can grow without restraint.

Because whales live in a supporting medium their young are of enormous size at birth. In some instances the calf being almost half the length of its mother. I once took a twenty-five foot baby, which weighed about eight tons, from an eighty-five foot blue whale.—Roy Chapman Andrews in New York Independent.

UPRUSH OF THE SAP.

Force It Exerts in Its Mysterious Flow Through the Plants.

Even now the causes which underlie the great upward flow of sap in the spring are not completely understood. That the movement is accompanied by considerable force has been demonstrated in a remarkable manner.

In the spring season, when the sap is rising with great vigor, the stem of a grapevine was cut right across. With as little loss of time as possible a piece of bladder was tied over the surface of the wounded part. As fixed the bladder was in a state of collapse, but it did not remain in this condition long. Within half an hour it was obvious that it contained a good deal of liquid.

As time went on the amount of fluid matter increased so much that the bladder was quite full. Two hours after fixing the bladder was so distended that it was lifted right up. An hour later the pressure had increased to such a degree that the bladder burst, being unable to stand the strain any longer.

In this connection it is interesting to recall the experiment of Dutrochet, also with a grapevine stem. In this case a bent tube containing mercury was affixed to the cut stem in such a manner that any fluid coming from the plant would have to lift the column of quicksilver. In one of his experiments it was shown that the sap raised the column of mercury to the height of thirty inches. Dutrochet calculated that in such a case the force exercised by the sap was five times greater than that of the blood in the crural artery of the horse. It requires no student of anatomy to appreciate the force of this statement.—Baltimore American.

A Habit Stanley Had. It was remarked of the late Sir H. M. Stanley during his last visit to New York that he stood all the time with his back to the wall during receptions instead of standing out where people would pass behind him.

Lady Stanley laughingly explained that this was an old habit contracted in Africa—that Stanley always stood with his back against a tree or a barricade of some sort when brought in contact with the savages, and it had become such a habit with him that he took that position no matter where he was.

Feminine Diplomacy. "I spoke a few words with Mrs. Dubwaite this morning," Mrs. Gadder said.

"And what did you say?" Mr. Gadder asked.

"Oh, I raved about her gown and told her how well she was looking."

"My?"

"If I am not invited to the old tramp's next reception it won't be my fault."—Birmingham Age-Herald.

Scarring the Turf. "I made a hole in five strokes this morning," announced the new golfer triumphantly.

"That's nothing," said the other golfer, who was even newer. "I invariably make a hole with every stroke. I can never hit the ground in the same place twice."—Boston Transcript.

Behind in the News. Teacher—What do you know about Washington crossing the Delaware? Boy—Nothing, ma'am! The boy skipped us on our paper this morning!—Boston Globe.

Force of Habit. "See Miss Annie driving that car? She told me she got it at half price." "At her old price, I see—still driving a bargain."—Boston American.

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