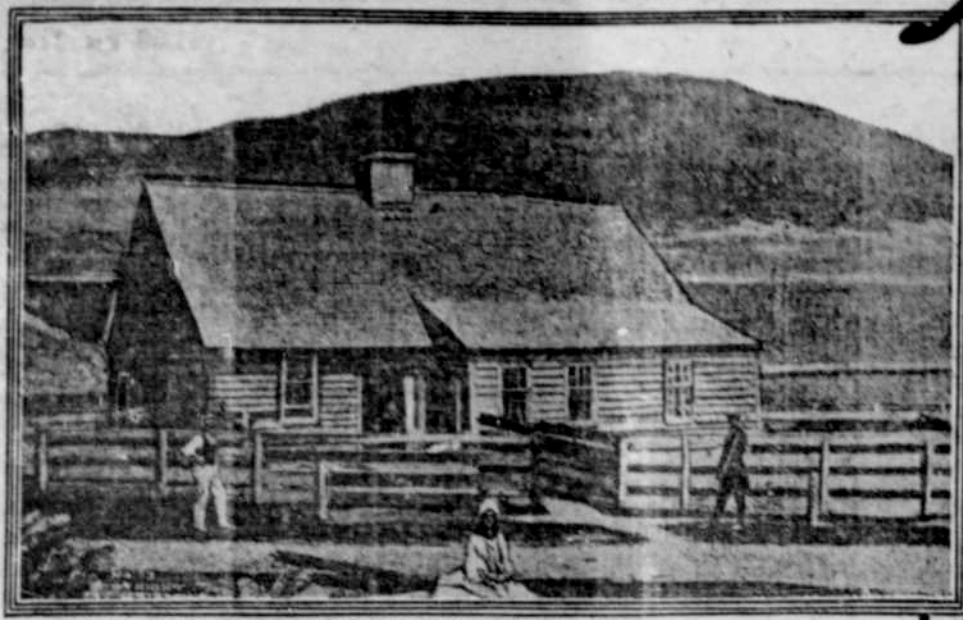


John Stark and the Green Mountain Boys



HOUSE WHERE COL. BAILE DIED



GENERAL JOHN STARK



VERMONT SESQUICENTENNIAL COMMISSION

BY ELMO SCOTT WATSON

Among the many sequentennial celebrations which have already been observed or which are yet to take place there is none more interesting than the one which will be held at Bennington, Vermont, on August 16 of this year. It commemorates the victory of Gen. John Stark and his force of patriots over the British troops commanded by Colonel Baum, which had been sent by General Burgoyne to capture the large stores of supplies that had been placed in this little Vermont village. The sequentennial celebration of this American victory is of particular interest for more reasons than one. It is a high spot in the history of the Green Mountain state but its historical importance is far greater than that of an event in the history of one state, or of the three states, Vermont, New Hampshire and Massachusetts, all of which have a share in the glory of that victory.

For one thing, Bennington was an important event in the campaign which proved to be the turning point of the American Revolution. The defeat of Baum and the failure to capture the supplies which Burgoyne so sorely needed was the second blow that had been struck at the ambitious plan of this British general to split the colonies by cutting off "the head" of the rebellion, New England, from the rest. The first blow had been struck ten days earlier when the expedition of Col. Barry St. Leger failed before Ft. Schuyler in western New York. Sequentennial celebrations of this part of the campaign—the Battle of Oriskany and the successful defense of Ft. Schuyler—will also be held this summer. These celebrations and the one at Bennington are a preliminary to the one which will be held in October at Saratoga where was fought one of the Fifteen Decisive Battles of the World, and where the final downfall of Burgoyne took place. Since Bennington was one of the steps which led to Saratoga, the celebration there this summer has nationwide significance.

In recognition of that fact there was formed some time ago a United States-Vermont sequentennial commission of which President Coolidge is a member and this commission, co-operating with the Vermont State Sequentennial commission, headed by John Spargo, who is also president of the Vermont Historical society and of the Bennington Battle Monument and Historical association, will have charge of the dual sequentennial anniversary: that of the independence of Vermont, and of the Battle of Bennington. In honor of these events the United States government has issued a commemorative half dollar and early in August will issue a commemorative postage stamp.

In addition to these, the local association has issued another medal, designed by Charles Keck, reproductions of which are shown above. Five hundred of these medals in bronze have been struck off and they have already taken a high place among the rarities and are much sought after by numismatists.

On the medal shown above appears Fay's Tavern, which was the headquarters of the Council of Safety at the time of the battle, and there General Stark held his most important councils of war. The victory wreath of laurel surrounding the Tavern bears the names of some of the patriots prominently identified with the battle. Three names are especially notable since they represent the states of New Hampshire, Vermont and Massachusetts. New Hampshire is represented by the name of General Stark since that state had given him the rank of general and placed him in command of its militia. Vermont is represented by Col. Seth Warner, commander of the Vermont forces and said to be the real victor at the battle. The name Allen at the bottom in the center, stands for Parson Allen of Massachusetts. The other names are those of the captains of the local companies of militia and the local victims who perished on the field. On the reverse side of the medal is a Green Mountain Boy with his firelock poised, guarding the Stars and Stripes.

The appearance of the Stars and Stripes on this

medal is of particular importance because it represents some unknown history which has come to light during the preparations for the celebration of this anniversary. As a result of the investigations of John Spargo, whose qualifications as a historian are indicated by the positions which he holds, some of the history of the United States flag may have to be rewritten. According to the popular belief, the first American flag, composed of alternate red and white stripes and a field of blue with white stars upon it, to fly in the face of the enemy, was that which was raised over Ft. Schuyler on August 3, 1777. Historians generally have accepted this fact, even though the evidence was not absolutely conclusive. The researches of Mr. Spargo have developed the fact that the honor claimed for Ft. Schuyler in reality belongs to Bennington.

In an address on "Vermont and the Stars and Stripes in 1777" made before the Vermont Society of the Sons of the American Revolution a short time ago he presented the results of his investigations which demolished the tradition of the raising of a Stars and Stripes flag at Ft. Schuyler, at least, so far as the stars in the blue field are concerned. In the Bennington Battle museum visitors at the celebration this summer will see the flag which was raised by Stark's forces, 150 years ago, which so far as is now known, is the oldest Stars and Stripes flag in existence and which it is believed, as a result of Mr. Spargo's researches, was the first flag of its kind to fly in the face of the enemy and therefore taking the honor from the Ft. Schuyler banner. It is this flag which is shown on the medal reproduced above. This flag is of unique design, the stripes being in the reverse order, that is, the white stripes on top. The stars are seven-pointed and arranged in the form of a Masonic arch.

This Bennington battle flag has a romantic history. It is believed to have been present at the Battle of Saratoga and the surrender of Burgoyne and eventually came into the possession of Nathaniel Fillmore, grandfather of Millard Fillmore, President of the United States, who preserved it and handed it down to his descendants. For many years it was in the possession of members of his family who lived in Illinois, but eventually it was turned over to the Bennington Battle Monument and Historical association. Among the names on the victory wreath shown on the medal is that of Fillmore, which stands for Nathaniel Fillmore, who preserved for posterity this historic relic.

Just as Mr. Spargo, in connection with the plans for the Bennington sequentennial, has corrected some of the erroneous ideas about the first Stars and Stripes to be carried into battle, it is appropriate that some popular misconceptions about the battle itself be corrected. In the first place the battle itself was not fought at Bennington in the state of Vermont but at Walloomsac in the state of New York. Bennington was the headquarters of General Stark and so the battle has come down to us named after that town, even though it was fought six miles away. According to the popular idea the victory was won by "General Stark and his Green Mountain Boys," thus implying that Stark was a Vermonters. He was not. He was a native of Manchester, New Hampshire, and had served with distinction as a colonel at the Battle of Bunker Hill and under Washington at Trenton and Princeton. He had resigned from the Continental army because he had been passed over in the making of promotions and the people of New Hampshire felt that he had been discriminated against because he was a plain man of the people.

When Burgoyne's army captured Ticonderoga in July, 1777, consternation spread throughout Vermont and New Hampshire. Vermont had but a short time previously declared its independence as a state and it was felt that the capture of "Old

Ti" had laid the new commonwealth open to any punishment which Burgoyne might wish to inflict upon its people. Vermont called upon New Hampshire for assistance in repelling the invaders and urged that such forces as that state could raise be placed under an independent command instead of the regular officers of the Continental army, in whom they had no confidence. New Hampshire raised a force of militia and placed Stark in command with the rank of general. Officers of the Continental army resented this action by New Hampshire and congress on August 19 passed a vote of censure, three days after the victory at Bennington had been won and just a day before the news of the battle reached that august body.

General Stark marched his troops to Manchester, Vermont, on August 7, and was met by General Lincoln with orders from General Schuyler to join him at Stillwater, New York. He was also met by the Vermont Council of Safety which urged him to disobey Schuyler's orders. The state government of New Hampshire upheld Stark and instead of going to Stillwater, he marched to Bennington, planning to strike Burgoyne on his left wing. On August 13, Stark received word of the approach of a force of British and Hessians under Colonel Baum. On the morning of August 14, Stark and his men, accompanied by Colonel Warner, Herick, Brush and Williams, marched out to meet Baum. At the same time he sent messengers to Manchester to summon Warner's regiment of Continentals which had been left there in charge of Lieutenant-Colonel Safford, and to rally the militia. He then set forth to meet the enemy, drew up his forces in battle array and awaited Baum's attack. Baum, however, took up a strong position and halted. So Stark drew back about a mile, and pitched his camp for the night within the present town of Bennington. That night a body of troops, commanded by the rebellious "fighting parson," the Rev. Thomas Allen of Pittsfield, arrived from Massachusetts. The next morning, although it was raining in torrents and Warner had not yet arrived, Stark decided to attack. For an hour and a half Stark could make little headway against the entrenched enemy but at last about four-thirty in the afternoon, his men gained the crest of the hill and after a half hour of desperate hand-to-hand fighting, the enemy retreated, leaving in the hands of the victors their mortally wounded commander. The house in which Baum died a short time later is still standing.

After the flight of the British, Stark's undisciplined forces scattered over the field collecting the plunder. Suddenly another force of 500 British, commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Breyman, who had been marching to reinforce Baum, appeared. Stark's men were taken by surprise and fell into line in the greatest disorder. At a critical moment Warner's forces appeared and Breyman was defeated. Stark's army was approximately 2,500 men, composed mostly of militia and volunteers. It outnumbered the enemy. It is true, but that enemy was composed of 1,400 disciplined and well-trained troops, among them the flower of the British army and their allies, the Hessians. In one day Stark's men fought two stubborn engagements with a loss of 30 killed and 40 wounded. The enemy suffered a loss of more than 200 killed, 700 prisoners, 4 cannon and 900 muskets, swords and pistols. The victory at Bennington did more than strike a blow at Burgoyne's plans. More important was the fact that it raised the morale of the patriots after a long, unbroken chain of discouraging events. The bells of Boston pealed forth in rejoicing when the news became known. The congress, which on August 19 had passed the resolution of censure, on October 4 voted its thanks to Stark and his men and made him a brigadier general in the United States army.

him by the French was the one where, as the apostle of liberty, he was honored by having the most beautiful of 300 women designated to place a wreath on his head and to give him two kisses.—Kansas City Times.

Climbing

His first surprise was to find the sky, not as he expected, within his reach, but still as far off as before; his amazement increased when he saw a wide extended region lying on the opposite side of the mountain; but it

Blood in Human Body

Experiments have shown that the total blood volume of a series of healthy men averaged 4.9 per cent, or approximately one-twentieth of the body weight. There were individual variations of from 4.2 per cent to 5.5 per cent.

"Lost Dauphin" Bobs Up Again

Libel Suit in Paris Court Revives Mystery of French Heir.

Paris.—Once more across the scene in France there moves the tragic figure of the "Lost Dauphin," the pathetic uncrowned Louis XVII, who died a prisoner in the Temple and around whose personality a score of legends have been woven. Still the tale persists that the unfortunate prince escaped; still recollections are brought forth of the dozens of pretenders who have claimed that they were the authentic heir to the Bourbon throne of France. Only the other day in a Paris court there was enacted an echo of the famous Naudorf case when Louis Charles Jean Philippe de Bourbon, calling himself the rightful king of France, brought an unsuccessful action for libel on account of statements published about Naudorf, his grandfather, says the New York Times.

Was the ten-year-old Dauphin rescued from his prison tower by royalists and taken to England? Did he make his way to America and end a long life there, as some have asserted? Eminent historians have busied themselves for years producing proofs of the prince's death and dismissing the reports that he was seen in other countries long after the date of his burial.

No less than 25 "lost Dauphins"—the foremost of them Naudorf—have appeared before French courts to press their claims. Hergault, Fruchard, Marassin, Mathurin Bruneau, Dufresne, Persat, Auguste Meves, Fontolne, Richemont—these are only a few of the "missing princes" who each in his day collected enthusiastic partisans and disturbed the government of France.

The little Louis XVII who saw his royal father and Marie Antoinette, his mother, go from the Temple to the guillotine had not been dead five years before there were signs that the tale that he was still alive was finding its sympathetic audience. In a work by a certain Regnault-Warlin it was detailed how the Dauphin was smuggled from the Temple tower in a wooden hobbyshe and a dumb and sickly child left in his place. This was the child, it was asserted, that died in the prison. The Dauphin himself, according to the romance, was hailed as king at Fontenoy and later put aboard a ship for America. The ship was seized by a republican frigate and the Dauphin died between its decks.

Wide Variety of Claimants.

The Regnault-Warlin volume inspired many claimants to the throne. Startlingly alike are the tales narrated by the various "Dauphins" as they were brought before the court. Hergault, the son of a tailor, sprang into instant fame as the first claimant, gathering a small court about him and declaring that the elder Hergault had provided the substitute in the tower, while he himself was the real prince. Hailed for a time in Spain as the authentic Dauphin, Hergault was arrested on his return to France and sent to prison for four years. But no sooner was he free than he collected once more his circle of followers and resumed his pose.

For a second time he faced the court, which sent him to Blois, where he died, still proclaiming that he was the Dauphin.

A drummer boy tried it next. He confessed eventually that he was the son of a clockmaker. A third contestant pointed to the mark of a fleur-de-lis and crown and the Bourbon initials on his thigh as proof that he was the prisoner of the Temple. Both found adherents who were loyal to them.

The popular mind refuses to believe that romantic figures pass away. So firmly had the tale of the substitute child gripped the public that it became the foundation of every "missing Dauphin" claim that appeared. Mathurin Bruneau, the son of a shoemaker, returned to France from America to press his claim to the throne. He went further than his fellow-claimants, issuing a series of proclamations in the name of the king of France which promptly landed him behind prison bars.

Up to the time of the fall of the Bourbons the "missing Dauphins" had uniformly been persons from the lower ranks of society; but now a totally different type of claimant—an individual of natural gifts with the ability to convince influential circles—was about to appear. In this classification are listed Naudorf and Richemont, the two men who gave the government of France the most to think about in connection with their representations.

It was in 1831 that Richemont made his bow with the publication of the "Memoirs of the Duke of Nemours, Son of Louis XVI." The work was an imposing, seemingly well-authenticated claim, backed by many documents and statements from important persons.

Fate of Richemont.

Unfortunately for Richemont, however, he seems to have been possessed of a natural liking for intrigue of all varieties. Following up his memoirs with a volley of pamphlets and mixing enthusiastically in a host of political intrigues, he rapidly became such a thorn in the side of the government that the police made a descent on his lodgings, where they unearthed papers of a treasonable character. One more "Dauphin" went on trial, this time charged with conspiracy against the life of the king and the safety of the state.

He created a sensation by declaring that he had disclosed his identity as the Dauphin to Louis XVIII, but had refused to press his claim to the throne at the time, fearing that it would precipitate a civil war. He told a tale of being rescued from the Temple in a basket of laundry and of travel in Italy, America and Brazil.

Twelve years' imprisonment was the penalty he received, but he escaped and returned to the publication of further "Memoirs of the Dauphin." With the Revolution of 1848 the public interest in missing princes had waned a good deal, and Richemont found himself unable to impress the public with his declarations. He died in 1853.

Naudorf's tale was the most remarkable of all. He arrived in Paris in 1833, even dispatching an emissary to Richemont's trial to protest "in the name of Naudorf" against the claimant. His first act on opening his cam-

"Very Touched" French
Arrival of 'Delighted'
Paris.—"Very touched" is President Doumergue's equivalent for "T. R. W." "Delighted!" Every time any visiting sovereign, statesman or delegation pays a tribute to his nation or himself, the French President counters with that phrase. Sometimes he declares himself "infinitely touched" by the compliment, sometimes only "very," and again "profoundly" when the occasion warrants it. But always there is that word "touched"—"touche"—as M. Doumergue pronounces it with his inimitable lingering, caressing Southern accent.

paign was to send a letter to the Duchesse d'Angoulême, calling upon her to appear in court to record his recognition as her brother, the missing prince. The result was an immediate opportunity for Naudorf to recount his story on the stand.

Rallied to His Call.

Here, there and everywhere sprang up the "Naudorfites" to rally at his call. With a full 200 documents in support of his representations, Naudorf was marshaling by far the most important mass of evidence yet adduced by a claimant to the throne. The court heard the evidence and banished him from France.

After a further effort to continue his campaign from England, Naudorf turned his interest to inventions and while on a visit to Holland in connection with a "discovery" was permitted by the Dutch government to reside in Delft. Stricken by a sudden illness, he died just after his wife and daughter had been summoned from England. To "Naudorf," the inventor, who had brought Napoleon, Josephine and a legion of other historic figures into his testimony and who had told of imprisonments, persecutions, rescues and wild adventures as the lost prince, the Dutch government accorded a great funeral. Soldiers bore the bier and public men followed it to the grave.

The most picturesque and important claimant had passed on. It was Naudorf who asserted that as the Dauphin he had been carried to the top of the tower and hidden there by friends while another child was put in his place. When the substitute died, his tale ran, the body was removed from the coffin and, drugged with opium, he was smuggled into it. On the way to the cemetery in a carriage he was removed and the empty coffin was buried.

Among the theories advanced and given wide credit in connection with the death of the Dauphin is the one that states that the unfortunate prince was murdered in the Temple in January, 1794, and that a feeble child was substituted in his cell. When this child in the course of time succumbed, it was given out that the Dauphin had died a natural death and the substitute was interred as Louis XVII. Not even the tale of L'Aiglon, France's other pathetic prince, can compare with that of the Dauphin in its hold on the imagination. Many throne pretenders have sprung up in history, but never in such numbers as those who have aspired to be hailed as Louis XVII.

Floating Girls' School
New York.—A floating Adamsness Eden is being arranged. A girls' floating university is to start next fall on a six months' trip around the world.

Chicago Has Only Women's Flying Club



Charter members of the first women's flying club in the world receiving group instruction at the field of the Chicago Flying Club. Left to right they are: Mrs. Irwin F. Skoedopole, Mrs. E. Gorney, Instructor I. F. Skoedopole, Mrs. E. L. Campbell and Mrs. A. L. Tourville.

GOVERNMENT COSTS PEOPLE 11 BILLION DOLLARS YEARLY

Figures Represent the Aggregate Expenditures of Federal, State and Local Governments.

Washington.—The total cost of government in the United States for the fiscal year 1925 was \$11,124,000,000, compared to \$10,983,000,000 for 1924 and \$2,919,000,000 for 1913, according to the national industrial conference board, as announced recently. These figures are the aggregate expenditures of federal, state and local governments, and include capital outlays and debt requirements.

The increase over 1924 was despite a \$205,000,000 decrease in the federal government's disbursements. Federal expenses increased again in 1925, however.

"Although the federal government in 1925 succeeded in checking the rising tendency of its expenditures through a constant policy of econ-

omy and judicious debt retirement there is little hope that departmental expenses can be much further reduced owing to the increasing demand for necessary public service of all kinds," said Magnus W. Alexander, president of the conference board. "State and local governments have generally followed exactly the opposite policy, spending more and more from year to year and borrowing whatever they needed to make up the discrepancy between tax collections and expenditures."

Local agencies in 1925 expended \$5,820,000,000, according to the board's figures, as against \$5,421,000,000 in 1924 and \$5,136,000,000 in 1923. State governments spent \$1,530,000,000 in 1925, \$1,441,000,000 in 1924 and \$1,244,000,000 in 1923. Federal expenditures for the fiscal year 1925 were \$3,765,000,000; for the two preceding years, \$4,121,000,000 and \$3,885,000,000.

000. In 1926 they increased to \$3,036,000,000.

The increase in population has been more rapid than that of expenditures, however, so the per capita cost of government decreased slightly in 1925. The per capita expenditures in 1925, according to the board's computation, were \$93.14; for 1924, \$89.58; for 1923, \$91.50; for 1913, \$30.24.

Hoboes Fatten on Good Nature of Housewives

New Britain, Conn.—Any good hobo with a hard-luck story can make from \$12 to \$15 a day, in the opinion of Prof. W. B. Bailey, formerly of Yale, who lived the life of a tramp three summers and then for ten years conducted a hobo's lodging-house. "Thanks to the American housewife, the easiest thing a tramp does is to eat," he said in telling of his experiences at a Rotary club's dinner. "The only objection he has to the American housewife is that she insists on feeding him cake and pie when what he wants is a slice of meat between two pieces of bread."

One Form of Salute That Franklin Liked

"It was charming to see the embraces of Solon and Sophocles," wrote John Adams, present when Benjamin Franklin and Voltaire were introduced to each other at the French Academy of Sciences. After they were introduced they bowed and spoke, but there was no satisfaction among the audience; it expected something more, Adams wrote. Neither of the philosophers seemed to divine what was

wished or expected, but they took each other by the hand awkwardly and stood there. But this was not enough; the clamor continued until the explanation came out—they were expected to embrace after the French fashion. The two thereupon embraced each other and kissed each other's cheeks and then the tumult subsided. Franklin, however, once said that the only really enjoyable fete tendered

him by the French was the one where, as the apostle of liberty, he was honored by having the most beautiful of 300 women designated to place a wreath on his head and to give him two kisses.—Kansas City Times.