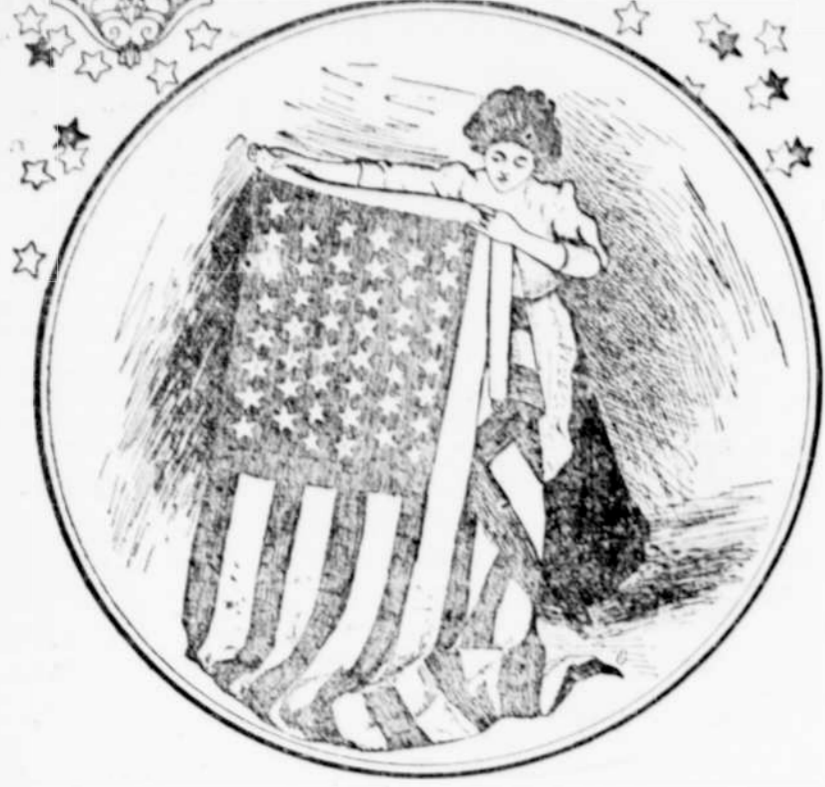


# CHANGING the STARS on "OLD GLORY"



The admission of Oklahoma into the Union has necessitated the rearrangement of the stars on the flag to admit the symbol of the new State, and it has been a big task to rearrange the stars on all the military flags of the country.

Various ideas have been advanced for the simplification of the field of stars on Old Glory. The difficulty in adding new stars is that the rows are necessarily made up of uneven numbers, and

this makes it impossible to arrange a field of stars that is perfectly balanced. In order to obviate this difficulty it has been suggested that the stars be placed in a circle, so that no matter how many new States and stars are destined to apply for a place in the future they could all be provided for by the simple expedient of adding constellations to the end on the circular line. This is a radical departure that has found some favor with the government officials

intrusted with the work of rearranging the flag, but it has not been thought expedient to adopt the idea without appeal to Congress and through Congress to the nation, for it is felt that such an important matter as the re-designing of Old Glory is a matter of full national consideration.

Far seeing citizens have pointed out that in time the addition of new States and the unavoidable division of single States into double or treble commonwealths will so crowd the field of stars as at present arranged that it will look unartistic and unsatisfactory. The greater the number of stars the smaller will be the symbols, for the comparative size of the field cannot be changed without spoiling the flag and destroying the appearance of the finest banner on earth or sea. This problem is being discussed by patriotic persons who take an interest in national matters, and a number of designs are on file at the war office that aim to provide an artistic and striking arrangement of stars that, like that suggested by the circular array, will permit of the addition of a great number of constellations without making the flag look at a little distance like a striped banner with a jack of pure white, as would be the case were the blue field crowded with stars.—Williamsport (Pa.) Grit.

## AFTER LONG YEARS.

Dear, whom I would not know  
If I passed you on the street,  
So long and long and long ago  
Are the days when we used to meet,  
You may be glad to hear  
That somewhere out of the blue  
Come vague sweet dreams that bring you near,  
That I often think of you:  
That now and then I thrill  
At a rustle in the dark;  
That I start as the wind sweeps over the hill,  
As I see the fire-fly's spark.  
Somebody stepped on my grave?  
Or somebody slipped out of yours?  
I cannot tell! There are ghosts that crave  
A bit of the love that endures.  
—Harper's Magazine.

## AUNT HANNAH'S PARTY

"Dear me, Ezra!" said good Aunt Hannah, "I do wish something would happen! Land o' liberty! I get so awful tired of this monotonous life—not a single neighbor less than a mile away as not a chick or child at home, I ought to be ashamed to complain, and I am! But I do wish something would happen right here in front of our house; something to look at!"

Aunt Hannah, good soul, little dreamed that before three hours had passed something would happen.

The one great event in her monotonous life was the daily passing of the overland passenger trains, which brought their eager tourists to California or carried home returning wanderers back toward the rising sun.

In Aunt Hannah's daily life this simple passing of the trains grew to be an event of importance. She could catch tantalizing glimpses of women's fair faces and the laughing eyes of little children as the Overland flashed by, not three rods from her own front door.

Sometimes she waved a snowy dish towel at them as they rushed past, and looked wistfully after them till the long cut hid the curving train.

But on this particular day Aunt Hannah's heart almost stood still in her ample bosom. For the Overland came into sight, running more and more slowly, and finally coming to a laboring, clanking stop almost at her very door.

Such a thing had never happened before, and Aunt Hannah was filled with wordless excitement. Something had happened at last! Uncle Ezra was stirring around near the house, keeping a watchful eye upon old Dobbin, the white horse, which was patiently walking never-ending miles in the treadmill which pumped water for the house and garden and the neighboring orchard of young orange trees.

Aunt Hannah speedily informed him of the great event, and Uncle Ezra, as wonder-filled as she, walked down to the railroad track to see what might be wrong.

Aunt Hannah, from the porch, heard him say hospitably to the conductor: "Why, yes, we've got a telephone. Come right in and use it."

"I DO WISH SOMETHING WOULD HAPPEN."

fire and set things going in her usual capable way. "Land!" she said, "it's a long time since I had such a run of company! Of course, they could get their dinner on the train, but maybe good home cooking 'll taste good to 'em! Anyway, it wouldn't look right for me an' Ezra to set down and eat an' not ask 'em!"

The young lady from Boston tied on Aunt Hannah's very best white apron, beautifully ironed and smelling of old-fashioned lavender, and carried plates and cups and forks and spoons out to the waiting travelers under the great pepper tree.

And when Aunt Hannah's famous coffee began to send forth its enticing fragrance, one by one the men came, too, standing around looking sheepishly expectant.

They sat on the porch steps and waited patiently for empty cups. Then the big pan of doughnuts went around, and generous slices of Aunt Hannah's fresh bread and golden butter and delicious dabs of Aunt Hannah's finest jellies and preserves.

The two dozen eggs did not last long, but Aunt Hannah helped out with crisp slices of home-cured bacon, which, as the blue-uniformed conductor said, went right to the spot.

The white-capped waiters served a few select souls in the dining car of the Overland, but Aunt Hannah's was by far the more popular lunch. She bustled about, flushed and happy. It was like a great beautiful party—a surprise party! Something had happened at last.

Out of the abundance of her generous heart Aunt Hannah had fed the multitude, but the multitude was not content to have it so. The brass-buttoned conductor himself (who had set a very bad example by eating of Aunt



Hannah's cooking instead of the colored chef's) passed his official cap and gathered in a shining shower of silver, which he presented with a neat little speech to Aunt Hannah.

Then the ever-present tourist cameras came into action, and Aunt Hannah was taken with her big white apron on by at least a dozen amateurs. Then there were other snapshots, too—Uncle Ezra in his overalls, the great pepper tree, the disabled engine, the peering conductor, and even old Dobbin himself.

The old lady from Iowa and the young lady from Boston insisted upon helping with the dishes, and there ensued a merry clatter from the kitchen. Some of the young folks gathered around Aunt Hannah's parlor organ and sang old Gospel hymns, or looked over Aunt Hannah's plush-covered photograph album on the marble-topped center table.

At last the conductor wiped his streaming brow and shouted "All aboard!" and Aunt Hannah's beautiful party was over. There were hurried handshakes, and one or two impulsive hugs and kisses for Aunt Hannah, many cheery words of thanks and appreciation, and then they all ran toward the cars and scrambled aboard.

Aunt Hannah, looking and feeling twenty years younger, stood on the porch and watched the long train as it got into motion and slowly pulled out, waving her white apron in response to a score of waving handkerchiefs, and could scarcely see them for the tears which dimmed her kind eyes.

And thus she stood as the long train entered the cut and slowly disappeared from view.

She and Ezra began to carry the chairs into the house. Aunt Hannah was a little tremulous from excitement.

"Ezra," she said, "when I wished this mornin' that something would happen I didn't really want the Overland should break down, but I'm awful glad it did!"

"My! My! I don't know when I ever did have such a good time! And, Ezra, here's \$27 that conductor took up in his cap. What in mercy's name, can I do with so much money? Oh, I know! I know! I'll pay Ella's fare out here—Ella's and the baby's! Seems like I ought to use it some way like that, seeing my opposition restaurant took a lot of customers away from the dining car on the Overland!"—New Orleans Times Democrat.

**Art in Spanish Bank Notes.**  
To baffle the counterfeiters who are both numerous and cunning in Madrid, the Bank of Spain has pursued the policy of changing its notes with great frequency and retiring each issue as fast as possible, says the New York Sun.

The bank has now determined on a new plan. It has placed an order for a series of notes with an English concern and it will rely for safety upon a special color process. In addition the notes are to present pictures of well known buildings in Spain, executed with a perfection that will defy counterfeiting.

"The pictures are to be so beautiful that amateurs will be tempted to frame them," says one Spanish newspaper. "Hardly," rejoins another, "the cost of the set will be 1,675 pesetas, you see." To the Spanish mind \$338.50 is a great deal of money.

**Then the Quarrel Ceased.**  
They were having the usual family quarrel. As was usual, she could not convince him that she knew where-of she argued.

"Didn't I go to school, stupid?" she screamed.

"Yes, dear, you did," he replied calmly. "And you came back stupid."—The Bohemian.

Make your services so useful that employers will hunt you in the day-time with a lantern.



## A Gate for the Barn Doorway.

When the horse stable opens into the buggy room and it is necessary to keep the door open for ventilation, I find that a small gate constructed of light material is an excellent protection against horses getting loose and injuring the buggies. The cut here-with shows a light gate we have in use in our horse barn. It is very simple in construction, but serves a very important purpose. Were it not for this light gate we would find it necessary to keep the door closed between the horse stable and buggy room, thus shutting off ventilation.

The gate is hinged onto the rolling door with light strap hinges explains a writer in the Prairie Farmer, so that when the gate is not in use it swings

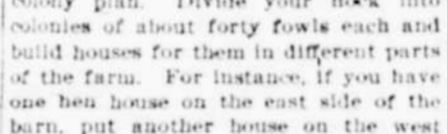


SLAT STABLE DOOR.

around and fastens to the large door out of the way. For material in making the gate we use inch strips of good pine for the horizontal pieces. The upright pieces are light strips gotten out for fence pickets. I find a light gate of this character a good thing to keep poultry out of the barn during the summer months.

**The Colony Plan.**  
If you want vigorous chickens and hens that lay do not overfeed them. Forty or fifty in one flock are sufficient. If you have more than this number by all means make a change, for your chickens are probably costing you more than they are worth. If you do not care to sell any of your birds then start into the chicken business on the colony plan. Divide your flock into colonies of about forty fowls each and build houses for them in different parts of the farm. For instance, if you have one hen house on the east side of the barn, put another house on the west side. Then if you have enough birds put another house down by the calf lot and another to the farther end of the barn yard. A dozen different places will suggest themselves if you look for locations on your farm. If you have made a failure in raising chickens or your hens "don't amount to much," try this method. It will surprise and please you. Your hens will be healthier, lay better and will require less feed. The reason for this will be easily seen when you have once tried it. Chickens, or anything else for that matter, cannot stand crowding. Also the colony plan gives the fowls wider range and encourages the birds to hunt for their living.—Exchange.

**Bracing Corner Posts.**  
This method, while cheaply devised, is used very effectively in bracing corner posts. Use as a brace a pole nine or ten feet long, four or five inches in diameter and square at both ends. Fit one end of pole to the post half way between its middle and top and place other end of brace on a flat stone. Secure one end of a wire around bottom of post, then take it to outer end of brace and back to post again, fastening securely. With a short stout stick twist wires together until very tight



METHOD OF BRACING.

and your brace is complete, says Farmers' Review. This brace comes in line with your fence and by fastening your wire or boards to it prevents it from slipping sideways.

**Hogs for Cuba and Mexico.**  
Some of the coast country farmers while visiting Galveston saw that many hogs from distant points in Texas and Oklahoma were being shipped to Cuba and Mexico and returned home impressed with the idea that if it paid the North Texas and Oklahoma farmers to raise hogs for the Cuban and Mexican markets, it would pay the coast country farmers to do the same thing.—Galveston News.

**If You Doubt It, Try It.**  
A man once backed himself for a large amount, which he subsequently lost, to move an ordinary brick attached to two miles of cord along a level road outside Chichester. He failed to move the brick, and it may be roughly estimated that the friction of the cord on the road increased the weight of the brick (about seven pounds) and cord to a dead weight of not far short of a ton.—Fry's Magazine.

## What Beef Men Think of Silage.

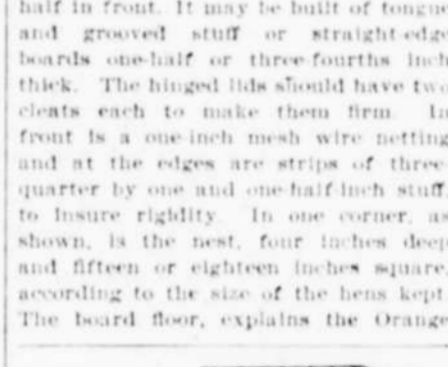
The success attending the use of silage in the dairy business has created much interest among beef cattle men. Silage furnishes a succulent food, which is quite essential to the dairy sow in keeping her digestive system in good condition. The same will be found true for the beef animal. Twenty pounds of silage per day will supply all the bulk and water needed in a fattening ration. The other roughage may consist of either long fodder or mixed hay. The economy of using silage for fattening purposes is well brought out by Prof. A. M. Soule of the Virginia station, who has stated the following conclusions:

"There was a difference of from 3 to 5 of a pound of gain per head per day in favor of the silaged cattle. They also finished out better and in any discriminating market would certainly bring a better price than the dry-fed cattle.

"Of the three forms of roughage fed, the silage was eaten with the greatest relish, and there was absolutely no loss, whereas with the stover the loss amounted to 13.5 per cent and with hay 4.6 per cent. Where a large number of animals are fed this would make a considerable difference in the cost of ration, except that the shredded stover can be utilized to advantage for bedding."

Silage as it is put up to-day is better than when the practice was first started. Good silage of corn is made when the grain has passed the milk stage and has commenced to glaze a little. Silage is made also from sorghum, corn and cowpeas and pea vines.

**Double Brooding Coop.**  
The double brooding coop shown in the drawing is four feet square and three feet high at rear, two and one-half in front. It may be built of tongue and grooved stuff or straight-inch boards one-half or three-fourths inch thick. The hinged lids should have two cleats each to make them firm. In front is a one-inch mesh wire netting and at the edges are strips of three-quarter by one and one-half inch stuff, to insure rigidity. In one corner, as shown, is the nest, four inches deep and fifteen or eighteen inches square, according to the size of the hens kept. The board floor, explains the Orange



DOUBLE BROOD COOP.

Judd Farmer, is covered with sawdust or sand. Food and drink are more readily supplied through the door, which preferably lifts in front, as shown.

**Corn Leading Western Crop.**  
The statistical bureau of the Union Pacific passenger department issues a statement compiled from government reports showing the value of farm products in seventeen States west of the Mississippi in 1907 to have been \$1,091,000,000. Corn leads in production, being valued at nearly half a billion dollars. Winter wheat is next, valued at \$200,000,000, and domestic hay was valued at only \$2,000,000 less. Rye, oats, barley and potatoes follow in order. The report also shows an increase in live stock of 250 per cent since 1870.

**Color of Eggs.**  
There is no difference in the color of the yolk of the eggs laid by different breeds, nor individually. But the color of the shell is a matter of breed and mating, and the color of the yolk is governed by the food given. The average length of a hen's egg is 2.27 inches; diameter at the broad end, 1.72 inches; weight, about one-eighth of a pound.

**Farm Notes.**  
Alfalfa seed is now selling in many parts of the West for 16 to 12 cents a pound.

Egyptian cotton land produces nearly four times as much per acre as that of this country.

In four years a pair of rabbits could secure a progeny of nearly 1,500,000. A doe rabbit produces as many as seven families a year.

Many important drainage projects are under way in the marsh land in Louisiana, which will ultimately make it a great agricultural country.

A dairy train which recently went out from Lafayette, Ind., covered 500 miles on the Monon route, and 4,000 people heard the lectures which were delivered from the cars.

The Sacramento Valley, in California, shipped over \$3,000,000 worth of oranges last year, and the growers of that section estimate that the new crop will be worth \$1,000,000 more.

It is estimated that if the cattle shippers of Iowa succeed in establishing their claims against the railroads for excessive shipping charges in Chicago they will get back fully a half million dollars.

Great Britain now imports every year about 5,000,000 bushels of apples, one-half of which come from the United States. Canada sends over about 3,000,000 bushels and Australia nearly all the rest.

An effort is being made to establish in the Ozark region of Missouri an extensive breeding station for farm animals. The project has the approval of Secretary Wilson and Dr. Melvin, of the Bureau of Animal Industry.

## THE WEEKLY HISTORIAN



1598—Henry IV. of France promulgated the Edict of Nantes.

1628—English settlers arrived at New Haven, Conn.

1746—The English under the Duke of Cumberland defeated the Scottish rebels headed by the young Pretender at the battle of Culloden, near Inverness.

1749—British warship Pembroke wrecked near Porto Novo, with loss of 300 of her crew.

1755—Dr. Samuel Johnson's "Dictionary of the English Language" published.

1793—First newspaper in what is now the Province of Ontario issued at Newark (Niagara).

1803—The Bank of France established.

1815—Commodore Decatur of the United States navy captured two Algerian vessels and 600 prisoners.

1829—British Parliament passed the Roman Catholic relief bill.

1835—Emperor and Empress of the French arrived in England to visit Queen Victoria.

1838—Dr. Simon Bernard acquitted of conspiracy against the life of Louis Napoleon.

1861—Confederates seized Harper's Ferry.

1862—France declared war against the Mexican government.

1865—Battle of Columbus, last conflict of the Civil War, fought east of the Mississippi river. Union flag replaced on Fort Sumter.

1868—British troops under Sir Robert Napier took Magdala, a strongly fortified place in Abyssinia.

1874—Body of Livingstone, the explorer, interred in Westminster Abbey.

1891—Treaty for the delimitation of the British and Italian spheres of influence in East Africa signed at Rome.

1900—Troops sent to Cornell Dam, Westchester county, N. Y., to quell a strike of Italian laborers. Paris International Exposition opened.

1904—Attempted assassination of Premier Maura of Spain.

1905—Morocco rejected the French reform demand.

1907—National Arbitration and Peace Congress opened in New York. An earthquake destroyed Chignapaningo and Chilapa, towns of Mexico, with great loss of life.

The explosion of a powder magazine at the Minnesota university shattered glass to the value of \$250 in the university buildings and gave the neighbors a great fright.

The faculty of Clemson college, Clemson, S. C., has expelled 305 students because of an all-fools' day prank; they remained away from drill and classes on April 1.

By the will of Dr. John O'Donnahy the sum of \$200,000 is left to aid retired members of the Dartmouth college faculty. The rest of his estate is distributed among various charities.

The regents of the Minnesota university have given the professors authority to use their discretion in regard to the importation of rare books, charts and other aids to school work.

Prof. O'Shea of the Wisconsin State university, in an address to the teachers of Lawrence county, S. D., told them that no education at all is far better than the mechanical training so frequently found today in the schools of the country. The latter, he claims, unfit a child for the problems of life and robs it of any individuality it may otherwise possess.

The Virginia high school debating team has challenged the North Side high school team of Minneapolis to another joint debate, the teams to change sides, to employ the same judges and Minneapolis to select the time and place. In the recent debate the judges voted two to one in favor of Virginia, but the directors of the State Debating League set aside the verdict.

The Carnegie Foundation has responded to the appeal of the State universities for admission of their professors to the pension fund with the announcement that Mr. Carnegie has increased the fund by \$5,000,000, making the total for this purpose \$15,000,000. In his letter making known this gift Carnegie says: "Most grateful am I to be privileged, as trustee of this wealth, to devote it to such use." There are 100 colleges now on the pension list.

Norman W. Harris, a Chicago banker, who was born in the village of Becket, Mass., has offered to pay the expenses to the amount of \$5 a week to every native-born boy of the place who will attend the local high school or go to college.

One of the members of Columbia's team in the debating contest with Cornell at Ithaca was a full-blooded Chinaman, Y. K. W. Koo, a junior in the college. Koo has won fame as a public speaker, and is also prominent in literary life among the undergraduates. He is a managing editor of the Columbia Spectator and an editor of the Columbia Literary Monthly.

## SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES