

A BI-CENTENNIAL REPRINT

The STORY OF "OLD GLORY"

By JNO. W. BARRY

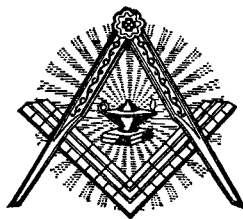


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By
Jno. W. Barry
of Iowa



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THE EVOLUTION OF THE AMERICAN FLAG

(To accompany article by Bro. Jno. W. Barry, Iowa.)

THE BUILDER, July, 1916

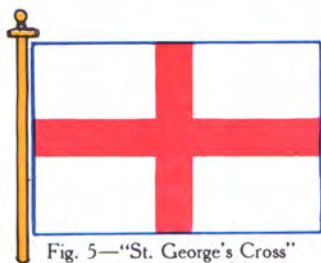


Fig. 5—"St. George's Cross"
The original English flag.



Fig. 6—"St. Andrew's Cross"
The flag of Scotland.



Fig. 7—The "King's Colors"
(Union of Nos. 5 and 6.)

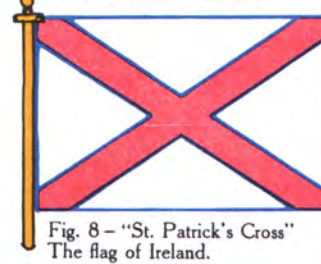


Fig. 8—"St. Patrick's Cross"
The flag of Ireland.

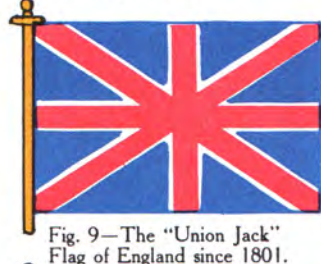


Fig. 9—The "Union Jack"
Flag of England since 1801.

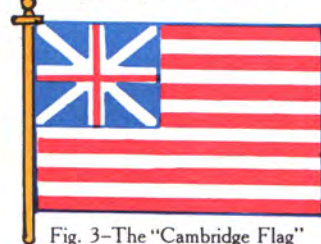
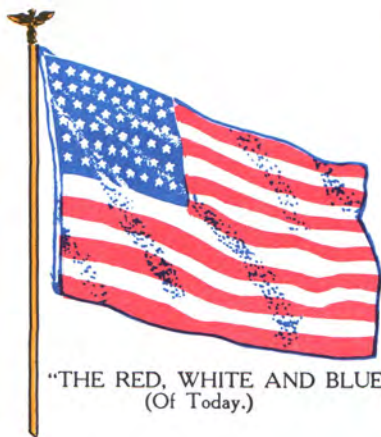


Fig. 3—The "Cambridge Flag"
This is the flag raised by Washington Jan. 1, 1776, and which gave the British so much joy because it was at that time the flag of loyal India.



Fig. 19—Washington's Coat of Arms.



"THE RED, WHITE AND BLUE"
(Of Today.)



Fig. 17—The Battle of Princeton
Painted by John Trumbull.

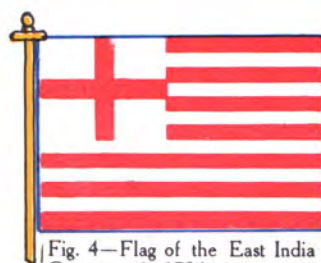


Fig. 4—Flag of the East India
Company, in 1704.

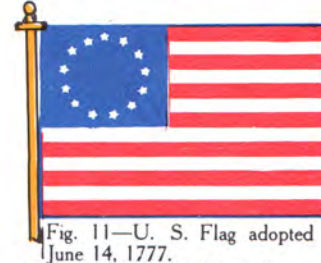


Fig. 11—U. S. Flag adopted
June 14, 1777.
"THE CIRCLE."



Fig. 20—U. S. Flag adopted
Jan. 13, 1794, effective May 1, 1795
"THE OBLONG SQUARE."



Fig. 22—U. S. Flag adopted Apr. 4,
1818, effective July 4, 1818.
"THE FIVE-POINTED STAR"



Fig. 31—Bro. John Paul Jones'
"OLD GLORY"



Fig. 32—"No. 1 OLD GLORY"
"THE
POINT WITHIN A CIRCLE."
This is the flag shown by Trumbull in his paintings, ordered by Washington to be made by Betsy Ross, the wife of a Master Mason. Still preserved in the State House at Annapolis.

The Story of "Old Glory"—The Oldest Flag

By
JNO. W. BARRY
of Iowa

Part I



WE Masons who teach so continuously and so much by symbols, point with a pride truly laudable to the part of Masonry in establishing the greatest symbol known among nations—the stars and stripes now so fondly called "Old Glory."

At its entrance it was received on the sharp points of many instruments, but being borne by those taught to yield their lives rather than their honor, it passed all obstructions and was finally raised and "in triumph it will wave o'er the land of the free so long as it is the home of the brave."

While most of the Masons were united in opposing their king's claim of "a divine right to govern wrong," yet some of them were on the king's side, but for the most part they moved to Canada, so that in general while every patriot was not a Mason, yet every Mason was a patriot. These Canadians from the States had long memories which served to promote and prolong a greater enmity toward us by Canada than had ever been evinced by England, greatly retarding the benign influence of the Masonic tie. Even to this day our Canadian brothers esteem it an honor that their ancestors refused to turn "traitor" and with us a Revolutionary ancestor is a birth mark of distinction—yet the mellowing of time has brought a kindlier note and "God save the King" and "America" are chanted to the same tune, and Old Glory is honored now by the descendants of its bitterest foes at its entrance in 1776.

THE ENTRANCE OF "OLD GLORY"

First will be given the story of the flag from the standpoint of the patriot—just as our fathers fought

to establish it. Then will follow some of the things done by those who met upon the level and fought on the square.

Truly our flag came from "darkness to light" and many facts about its earlier history can never be known. The patriot cause of 1776 was worked out in the very shadow of the firing squad and the gallows. It was no jest but a most serious remark of Franklin that if they did not hang together they most certainly would hang separately. In Congress, therefore, the secrecy of Masonry, in which so many of them were initiates, was strictly enjoined on every member.

THE SECRET PACT

The "Secret Pact" was a commandment in Congress to which every member was required to subscribe:

Resolved that every member of this Congress consider himself under the ties of virtue, honor and love of his country not to divulge directly or indirectly any matter or thing agitated or debated in Congress before the same shall have been determined, without leave of the Congress; nor any matter or thing determined in Congress which a majority shall order to be kept secret, and that if any member shall violate the agreement, he shall be expelled this Congress and deemed an enemy to the liberties of America and liable to be treated as such and that every member signify his consent to this agreement by signing the same.

The names include the leaders of the time—many of them the very makers of America. In keeping with the spirit of the famous "Pact," the secretary of Congress, Charles Thompson, made a record of only those doings requiring it. So the wonder is not that we have so few facts touching some matters but rather that we have any.

THE STORY OF "OLD GLORY"—THE OLDEST FLAG

Part II

JUST what suggested to Washington either the Cambridge flag or the stars and stripes can never be known because he never referred to the matter in any way. Yet several theories are advanced, each claimed to be the one. In No. 18-A, the flag of the Philadelphia Light Horse Troop is shown. Preble says:—¹⁴

"This is the first known instance of the use of stripes to represent the colonies." Abraham Markoe was captain of the Philadelphia Light Horse Troop. King Christian VII of Denmark, of which country Markoe was a citizen, forbade his subjects taking sides against England under pain of confiscation of all their property. Captain Markoe decided to resign and in doing so presented this flag, which the Troop used June 23, 1775, in escorting both Washington and Philip Schuyler as far as New York on their way to take command of the army at Cambridge. Whether this flag suggested the stripes to either Washington or Schuyler must be forever unknown. But because it is thought to have done so, the flag is carefully preserved between glass plates—the treasure of this famous troop organization is still as young and vigorous as when founded in 1774. The Light Horse has participated in nearly every presidential inauguration from Washington to Wilson and in other national functions—often under the banner given them by their first captain.

Another theory assigns Washington's arms (Fig. 19, Color Plate) as the real original of both the stars and stripes. However, Washington never in any connection referred to his arms as even remotely connected with the flag and did not use it until very late in life, and then for the most part only as a book mark. Still another theory is that the flag of Rhode Island was the real inspiration. However, this theory is seldom referred to because of other suggestions of an earlier date.

Finally there is a theory that John Adams took the idea of the stars from the constellation Lyra, which in the hands of Orpheus meant harmony—hence the wording of the resolution "representing a new constellation"—but John Adams never said so—and other record, there is none.

Preble after citing the Philadelphia Light Horse flag as suggesting the stripes, says¹⁵ that the first

known suggestion of stars appeared in the Massachusetts Spy for March 10, 1774, and was written for the anniversary of the Boston Massacre.

"A ray of bright glory now beams from afar,
The American ensign now sparkles a star
Which shortly shall flame wide through the skies."

But here again theory alone is the only basis for belief. Whether the flag of the English East India Company was known to Washington is as much a theory as any of the others, the presumption being in its favor only because it was an old and well known flag and almost the exact counterpart of the one Washington did raise at Cambridge "to the joy of the British" at Boston. But why look beyond Washington for eliminating the King's Colors and substituting the stars of an independent nation? Washington raised the Cambridge flag—it was his idea, no matter from what source suggested. Later, in Philadelphia with independence in sight, he knew the flag would have to be

changed and had his drawing of it. He asked George Ross who could do it, and was taken to the widow of his nephew, John Ross, a fellow patriot. The idea was Washington's as much as were the plans for the battle of Trenton or Princeton or Yorktown.

It is a striking coincidence that Columbus discovered America while looking for India and then the flag of the United States 300 years after should find its prototype in the flag of India.

PEACE—PEACE AND THERE WAS
NO PEACE

Peace was declared in 1783, but there was no peace in reality until

after the war of 1812. Not only were English troops maintained on American soil, but England refused to send a minister to the U. S. and John Adams, our minister to England, received unjust snubs at every turn as his only recognition and returned to the U. S. in utter disgust. Following England's lead, most of the nations also refused trade arrangements with us. Finally our condition became so bad that our surplus products rotted where they grew. Conditions became much worse than during the war, for owing to the policies pursued toward us by foreign countries, our manufacturers, small as they were, were utterly destroyed. The states not only declined to live up to the Confederation, but were at such enmity with each other as to actually resort to the use of arms, and blood-shed was but narrowly averted. A reign of



FIG. 18-A—A FLAG OF THE
PHILADELPHIA LIGHT
HORSE TROOP

REBEL RAGS

The King's speech had just been sent out and its stern tone was expected to overawe the rebels, whose many flags—several to each colony—were known and dubbed by the English, "rebel rags." Naturally they were all looked upon as the emblems of traitors but when the "Union flag" raised by Washington was seen, many of the English troops being fresh from India, it was at once recognized as the distinctive flag of a loyal English colony, and it gave them joy and an indication of "submission." Truly Washington might have signaled them thus:—"However natural this supposition may be to you, yet it is erroneous," for to the honor of those "embattled farmers" be it said that Washington then and there proceeded to give the most

is in a post-script of his letter under date of May 28, 1776, to Major General Putnam, as follows:

"P. S. I desire you'll speak to the several Col's and hurry them to get their colours done." The "colours" of a regiment may be very different from the flag of the country—and again might be the same.

There is no other mention of flags in anything official or semi-official until Saturday, June 14, 1777, almost a year after the Declaration of Independence when Congress without previous discussion, resolution or committee report, recorded the "entrance" of Old Glory.

ORIGINAL JOURNAL OF CONGRESS PHOTOGRAPHED

Page 243 of the original journal of Congress is shown in No. 10 reproduced from a photograph.⁷ That

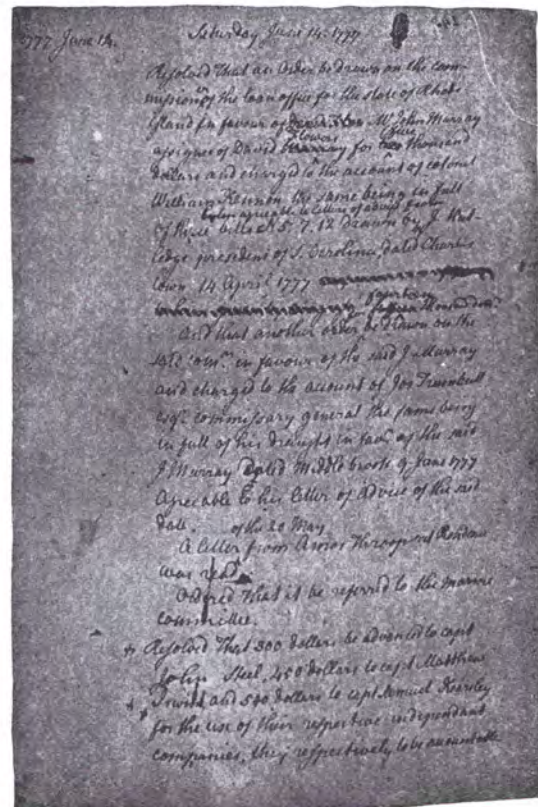
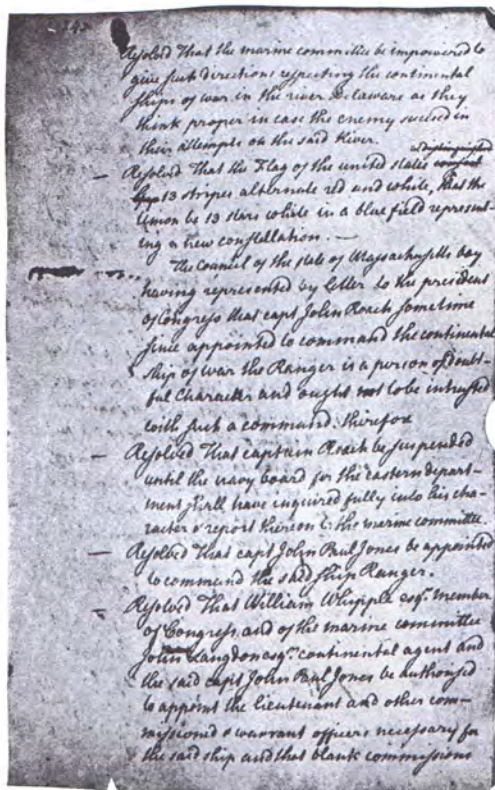


FIG. 10—PAGE 243 OF THE ORIGINAL JOURNAL OF CONGRESS

daring knockout blow in the annals of war. Truly that which he proposed, he performed, for without powder and under the very guns of the English fleet and army, he disbanded one army and organized another and on March 17, 1776, forced the British to evacuate Boston and flee in terror from that flag which scarce two months ago, they had hailed as a flag of submission. Verily, that "supposition was erroneous."

Following his success at Boston, Washington was called to Philadelphia to confer with Congress. He arrived on May 22 and returned to the Army on June 5, and was not again in Philadelphia until August 2, 1777. During the time Washington was in Philadelphia the only official mention yet discovered of flags of any kind

it may be the more easily read we reprint the flag resolution together with the John Paul Jones resolutions immediately following it, as if giving a reason for adopting the flag on this particular day. First the secretary, Charles Thompson, wrote, "Resolved, That the flag of the United States consist of." Then he erased "consist of" and wrote above "be distinguished," and changed "of" to "by." Finally he deleted the words "distinguished by," making the resolution read as follows:

"Resolved, That the Flag of the United States be 13 stripes alternate red and white, that the Union be 13 stars white in a blue field representing a new constellation."



FIG. 14—"BUNKER HILL," PAINTED BY TRUMBULL

about a year before the flag resolution. Washington was not in Philadelphia again until Aug. 2, 1777, almost two months after the resolution of June 14th. The event is based on the sworn testimony of the four daughters of Betsy Ross, who had helped her in the work and as before stated Clarissa carried on the business herself after the death of her mother.

As further corroboration, in the Pennsylvania Archives¹¹ is an order dated May 29, 1777, "paying Elizabeth Ross fourteen pounds twelve shillings two pence for making ships colours." If this payment was as slow as usual the chances are the work had been done long before. It is true that "ships colours" might not be stars and stripes, but it is also true that at this time there was no reason for making any other than our own Old Glory for "ship's colours." It is also suggested that "ships colours" might have been state flags but the fact is Pennsylvania had no state flag then and not until Oct. 9, 1799. So this record in fact does corroborate the Betsy Ross incident.

"OLD GLORY" JAN. 3, 1777—THE TESTIMONY OF WASHINGTON'S AID

Col. John Trumbull's reputation as an historical painter is world wide and rests on his FIDELITY to historic FACTS.

As he himself says, "Every minute article of dress, down to the buttons and spurs, were carefully painted from the different objects."¹² Col. Trumbull was present in command of his Company at Bunker Hill and he fought as Washington's aide at Trenton and Princeton, taking active part in the battles. He is therefore a competent witness. But before giving his testimony as to the early use of the stars and stripes, let us show a sample of his accuracy in related events.

In his "Bunker Hill," (Fig. 14) note the Pine Tree flag opposing the King's colors. Joseph Warren is down just below the gun of John Knowlton who is one who had just shot at Pitcairn seen falling into the arms of his son under the King's colors. At the extreme right is Sam Salem the negro who also has shot at Pitcairn. The Americans were particularly incensed at Pitcairn for many things and recently because in stirring a glass of grog with his finger had said that in that way he would stir the blood of the Yankees. But particular attention is called to the flags.¹³

Again in his "Burgoyne," (Fig. 15) the troops are arranged in accord with historic fact—Gates receiving the surrendered sword of Burgoyne and returning it in compliment to the bravery of a vanquished foe, and all is accurate "to the buttons on the coats."

In his "Yorktown," (Fig. 16) is again the accuracy of a camera—the French on the left with their flag of white silk, the Americans on the right, Washington at their head and the stars and stripes above him. Between the lines the English marched in new uniforms but with colors cased and drums beating an Old English march—"The World Turned Upside Down." In the

center General Lincoln receives from Gen. O'Hara the sword of Cornwallis in token of his surrender, and returns it to him in token of Washington's generosity.

No. 17 (Color Plate) is Trumbull's story of the battle of Princeton, being a direct photograph from the original. In his "Bunker Hill," "Burgoyne" and "Cornwallis," the scenes are everywhere admitted as correct and because of their correctness Congress paid

Trumbull \$32,000 for them. At Bunker Hill, Trumbull took an active part, and at Princeton was aide to Washington. Surely Trumbull should know what flag he was fighting under and he shows "Old Glory" and this on Jan. 3, 1777. This was six months before its official adoption by Congress. But in his "Bunker Hill," he



FIG. 15—TRUMBULL'S "BURGOYNE"



FIG. 16—TRUMBULL'S "YORKTOWN"

representative, to order the tea back to England. Long after dark his refusal was delivered by Rotch the messenger. At once Adams announced: "The meeting can do nothing more to save the Country."³⁰ When the church doors opened there were 40 to 50 men disguised as Indians, "and" says Avery, "in two or three hours 342 chests of tea valued at about 1800 pounds sterling were emptied into the sea." The smoothness of the performance suggests a master playwright and many rehearsals. When the work had been completed the crowd quietly dispersed, and before daybreak Paul Revere was riding fast to Philadelphia with the glorious news that "Boston had at last thrown down the gauntlet for the king to pick up."

WHENCE CAME THESE INDIANS?

The "Sons of Liberty" met at the Green Dragon Tavern where St. Andrew's Lodge also met regularly. This was the lodge of Paul Revere and Joseph Warren. It was a "North-End Lodge" whose secret meetings alternated with the "High Sons of Liberty," who controlled ALL the early Revolutionary movements. The men WERE the SAME in BOTH.³¹ The record of that lodge on Nov. 30, 1772, showed only seven members present and in the record is this statement: "N. B. Consignees of Tea took up the brethrens' time." On December 16, the night of the Ocean Tea Party, the secretary after noting that the lodge closed until the next night, makes the T entry thus:—"On account of the few members in attendance"³² and then fills up the page with the letter "T" made big. Gould says³³ this record is the only one of that now famous Ocean Tea Party at Boston.

A DIGNIFIED MASONIC EVENT

That Ocean Tea Party was as dignified a Masonic event as the laying of a Corner Stone—as indeed in very truth it was. Here is what that eminent authority John Fiske says of it:

"For the quiet sublimity of reasonable but dauntless moral purpose, the heroic annals of Greece and Rome can show no greater scene than that which the Old South-Meeting House witnessed on the day (night) when the tea was destroyed."³⁴

Avery says: "An authoritative answer to the oft asked question, 'Who emptied the tea'? has never yet been given."³⁵ But Bro. Paul Revere was well on his way to Philadelphia before morning."

But "Listen my brothers and you shall hear of another ride of Bro. Paul Revere." Grand Master Warren had sent Bro. Paul Revere to notify the Minute-Men at Lexington and Concord and to warn Bros. Hancock and Samuel Adams upon whose head the British had set a price. On that memorable April 19th, when the signals were displayed in Old North Church, Paul Revere was arrested just out of Lexington but William Daws and Dr. Prescott, a "High Son of Liberty," who had joined him, escaped and reached Concord in time to arouse the Minute Men and prevent the capture of the military stores there. Thus the members of St. Andrew's Lodge otherwise referred to as "High Sons of Liberty" or "North-End Mechanics,"

under the leadership of Paul Revere, later Grand Master, and Grand Master Warren had defeated the first effort of the English to enslave them. They had passed the "south and west gates."

"THE EAST GATE"

Preparations for "Bunker Hill" were at once begun. Profane history describes Deputy Grand Master Richard Gridley as a skillful engineer and artilleryman and he was chief engineer in planning the defenses on Bunker Hill and Dorchester Heights. Here, what England proposed, she was about to perform. The caviling at the "East Gate" was heard and Grand Master Warren soon fell a martyr in the cause of human liberty. But his death was as the blood of a martyr in stimulating thousands of his brothers to yield their lives rather than their honor even as he had done. A monument was erected by Charlestown Masons in 1794 "to commemorate his labors, his fidelity and his untimely death." It was replaced by Bunker Hill monument in 1857, inside of which a model of Warren's monument was placed.

ARMY LODGES

If the action of St. Andrew's Lodge were not merely typical of the generative force actuating patriots everywhere, then it would be but small evidence upon which to base Masonic claims in establishing Old Glory. But the fact is the leaders were nearly all Masons and so steps were at once taken to organize army traveling lodges. St. John's Regimental Lodge had already been organized in N. Y. but the first one in the Continental Army was American Union Lodge organized in the "Connecticut Line" but because working in Massachusetts, its warrant was issued and signed by Richard Gridley D. G. M. Feb. 15, 1776. This is the same Gridley who was chief engineer of the army at the time. Of the ten or more military lodges, the only one whose record has been preserved in anything approximating entirety is American Union. In 1859, the Grand Lodge of Connecticut published the American Union record almost in full from Feb. 15, 1776, to April 23, 1783,³⁸—its last meeting as a military lodge. These army lodges were primarily officers' lodges—if you please, Masters' lodges seeking to find the right. On page 16, is a list of the members to Oct. 11, 1779, of American Union Lodge. This list is an exception to every other list of names in the record in that the first name and title are given. Almost without exception they are all officers. So far then, here are the members of St. Andrew's Lodge and other Boston Masons assisted by Connecticut Masons, organizing an army lodge that together they may divide themselves in parties and go in quest of the Hessian ruffians. So by the record, Masonry was IN the struggle for liberty in the beginning.

FOR MORE THAN SEVEN YEARS THEY LABORED

The work of Masonry was sustained and dignified throughout the entire Revolutionary period. The army lodge was to the officers a confidential club and to the sick and wounded the "Red Cross" though under a different MARK. Scant as are the records of Amer-



FIG. 25—STARKEAN'S HALL AT WEST POINT

ton and other leading men and women of New York and other states to this the only really international celebration of St. John's Day on record. Here over 500 dined and after 13 toasts had been drunk, each announced by 13 guns, "Bro. John Brooks," later governor of Massachusetts, made an able address⁴⁴—and it wasn't devoted exclusively to Masonry either.

What a striking proof of Masonry's part in establishing Old Glory—not theory—not assertion—but the record of a joint meeting of military lodges acting as hosts not alone to the military officers but to civil officers as well in Masonically honoring France—all engaged in the same effort to establish the great symbol—Old Glory.

THE TEMPLE OF VIRTUE

In 1782, the military lodges were very active in Washington's Army at Newburgh, N. Y., and the need of a larger meeting place was apparent. On Christmas, 1782, Washington in public orders approved the plan of Israel Evans of American Union Lodge for a public building and Benjamin Trupper of Washington Lodge No. 10 was made superintendent of construction.

In No. 27⁴⁵ is the picture of the "Public Building" as it was called in official papers but known to the soldiers as "The Temple of Virtue." The full record of "The Temple" is in newspapers of the time now on file in The Newburgh Historical Society at Newburgh, N. Y.

"The Temple of Virtue" was the meeting house of Washington's camp at Newburgh in 1782-3. The original drawing is 7 feet long and 18 inches wide, showing the Temple of Virtue surrounded by the huts of the soldiers. The original sketch, now owned by Luther Tarbell of Boston, was made by William Tarbell of the Seventh Massachusetts Regiment. The late Major E. C. Boynton of the Newburgh Historical Society had a copy made which is now in the Washington's Headquarters

Building, Newburgh. The original is several sheets of foolscap pasted together and for ink, the juice of butternuts was used. "The Temple" is minutely described by Major General William Heath giving the capacity and other details.⁴⁶ In 1891 the Masons of Newburgh erected a monument there, shown in No. 28. It commemorates a Masonic service never exceeded. The Masons of Newburgh in 1891 joined with the Newburgh Revolutionary Association in erecting the above monument on the site of the "Temple of Virtue." The inscription on the granite tablet on the EAST side is as follows: "This tablet is inserted by the Masonic Fraternity of Newburgh in memory of Washington and his Masonic Compeers under whose direction and plan the "Temple" was constructed and in which communications of the Fraternity were held in 1783." On the "South" the tablet there reads:—

"On this ground was erected the "Temple" or new public building by the army of the Revolution 1782-83. The birthplace of the Republic."⁴⁷

This monument marks the last meeting place of American Union Lodge as an Army Lodge, but as a regular lodge it is today No. 1 on the register of Ohio. After the Revolution John Heart then its Master with Rufus Putnam and others of the members settled at Marietta, Ohio, and later revived this famous lodge and Rufus Putnam "made" in it became first Grand Master of Ohio.

ANOTHER "WEST GATE" SCENE

Above all, this monument commemorates the very Keystone of Masonic service in making Old Glory possible. The war had cost \$123 per capita, the exhausting effect of which will be better understood when compared with \$96 the cost per capita of the late Civil War.⁴⁸ So in 1783, Congress found itself in so poor and penniless a situation that it was utterly unable to pay the soldiers even the small amounts long due them. A hat cost \$400, a suit of clothes \$1600 and a year's pay of a captain would not buy a pair of shoes.⁴⁹ Most of the soldiers were waiting and many were exceedingly anxious to receive that which was due them and some of them were determined to wait no longer. Someone in Gate's command circulated unsigned letters among the officers urging that as the war was over—if ever they were going to get their pay it should be "NOW" before they

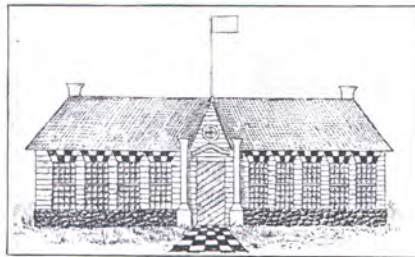


FIG. 27—"THE TEMPLE OF VIRTUE"

uation that it was utterly unable to pay the soldiers even the small amounts long due them. A hat cost \$400, a suit of clothes \$1600 and a year's pay of a captain would not buy a pair of shoes.⁴⁹ Most of the soldiers were waiting and many were exceedingly anxious to receive that which was due them and some of them were determined to wait no longer. Someone in Gate's command circulated unsigned letters among the officers urging that as the war was over—if ever they were going to get their pay it should be "NOW" before they

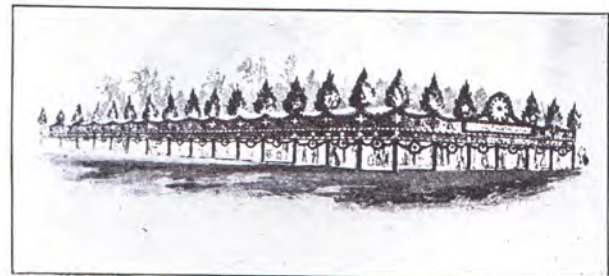


FIG. 26—THE "COLONNADE"

2. For the new states already admitted, one additional star for each.

3. For future states, one star for each to be inserted July 4th following its admission.

The sample flag was made by his wife, Mrs. Reid, and presented to Congress. 'Twas ever thus, enduring stars are made by women. Betsy Ross, the widow of a man killed in the services of his country, made the first starry flag and Mrs. Samuel C. Reid, the wife of a man who risked his life in one of the most daring battles in naval annals, made the last and they each used colors never known to run. So mote it ever be. Though the change did not become effective until July 4, 1818, yet Congress in compliment to Mrs. Reid hoisted the new flag over the Capitol April 13, 1818.

The flag Mrs. Reid made is shown in Fig. 22, (Color Plate) exactly as adopted. Though the wording of the new law provided for increasing the stars above 13, yet Congress made no provision then or since for the arrangement of the stars. The twenty stars in Mrs. Reid's flag were formed into "one great star," says Preble, "and such was the arrangement for many years by the Military Department whereas the Navy Department adhered to arranging the stars in parallel lines." Finally the Navy arrangement by agreement with the Military Department, has come to be the only one in use, and Old Glory today is an "oblong square" of stars six deep and eight wide.

THREE VARIANTS OF THE FLAG

In the great seal of the United States and in the great seals of many of the individual states a variant of the flag is used. This is also true in battle flags known as "company colors."

THE FLAG IN THE SEAL OF THE UNITED STATES

The seal or arms of the United States is, on one side, really a form of the flag and is held equally sacred. It is the emblem of authority on all documents of state. "As well might the Judas of treason endeavor To write his black name on the disk of the sun As try the bright star-wreath that binds us to sever, And blot the fair legend of 'many in one.' "

July 4, 1776, Dr. Franklin, John Adams and Thomas Jefferson were the first committee appointed to prepare a seal for the United States and finally after several other committees had worked on it, it was adopted June 20, 1782. Wm. Barton and Secretary Charles Thompson gave the designs the final touches and as a whole the seal is a composite—the work of many patriots. The all seeing eye in the triangle above the pyramid is from Dr. Franklin as also the words at the top meaning "God has favored the undertaking" and at the bottom "a new series of ages." Contrast the six years and the many pages of discussion to adopt this seal with the thirty word resolution of June 14, 1777, adopting the stars and stripes.

In state seals our own Iowa is the best example—using "Old Glory" unchanged.

THE FLAG IN THE SEAL AND COVENANT OF IOWA

Old Glory celebrated on the 4th of July, 1847, by adding a star of the first magnitude, representing Iowa

FIG. 23



SEAL OF IOWA

which on Dec. 20, 1846, had become a state. In token of her sincerity in this solemn engagement, Iowa took as her seal and covenant the beautiful design shown in Fig. 23—an eagle guarding the flag as her sons then did, do now and promise always to do. In it you see the citizen soldier, his right supporting Old Glory, the liberty cap resting thereon, his left grasping his gun, which is to signify That Old Glory will wave o'er the land of the free, Just so long as it is the home of the brave. Here in the "East" as a background is the Father of Waters with the good ship Iowa under way.

"Thou, too sail on O ship of State;
Sail on O Union strong and great,
Humanity with all its fears—
With all the hopes of future years
Is hanging breathless on thy fate."

Before referring to the third variant, it might be well to give the origin of the name "Old Glory."

"OLD GLORY"—WHENCE ORIGINATED THESE WORDS?

Often have you heard the name "Old Glory" and it is frequently asked "Whence originated these words?" If you should go to Essex Institute, Salem, Mass., you would see there carefully cared for the particular flag to which the name "Old Glory" was originally applied. You would see also the portrait of a sea captain with which is framed a letter, acknowledging an unusual service. The letter and picture are endorsed as follows:—

"My Ship, My Country, and My Flag, Old Glory,"

Signed—"William Driver."²¹

Until 1837, Captain Driver followed the sea, sailing out of Salem, Mass., where he was born. In 1831 while in command of the ship Charles Doggett he rendered an unusual service in the Southern Pacific, in recognition of which, he was given the beautiful flag which inspired the name "Old Glory." In 1837 he quit the sea and moved to Nashville, Tenn. On gala days "Old Glory" was always to be seen on his house. When the war begun in 1861, many efforts were made to capture this particular flag. In February, 1862, the Union troops under Gen. Nelson captured Nashville. Horace N. Fisher aid to General Nelson tells the story as a participant.²¹ He says:—

"Capt. Driver,—an honest-looking, blunt-speaking man,—was evidently a character; he carried on his arm a calico-covered bedquilt; and, when satisfied that Gen. Nelson was the officer in command, he pulled out his jackknife and began to rip open the bedquilt without another word. We were puzzled to think what his conduct meant. At last the bedquilt was safely delivered of a large American flag, which he handed to Gen. Nelson, saying, 'This is the flag I hope to see hoisted on that flagstaff in place of the d—d Confederate flag set there by that d—d rebel governor, Isham G. Harris. I

disarmed of that resentment which stimulates to undistinguished desolation; and however our political sentiments may impel us in the public dispute, we are still brethren and our professional duty apart ought to promote the happiness and advance the weal of each other.

"Accept, therefore at the hands of a brother the Constitution of the Lodge Unity No. 18, to be held in the Seventeenth British Regiment, which your late misfortunes have put in my power to return to you.

"I am. Your Brother and Obedient Servant.

Samuel H. Parsons.

To Master and Wardens of Lodge Unity No. 18 upon the Registry of England."⁵²

LOYAL PENNSYLVANIA WARRANTS AN ENGLISH LODGE

The astounding thing is not that Brother Masons returned the warrant but the resulting discovery that the warrant of Unity Lodge 18 had been issued by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania. It is only recently that such act could be explained as no record was ever made of it by the Grand Secretary. At the battle of Princeton Jan. 3, 1777, the warrant of this unity (169) 18 was captured and now and ever since has been in possession of Union Lodge No. 5 A. F. & A. M., Middletown, Delaware.⁵³ When the regiment occupied Philadelphia, the Provincial Grand Lodge fell under Tory dominion and a new warrant was issued to Unity Lodge, but changing from the original number of 169 to 18, under which it worked until 1786 when a warrant from Scotland was applied for, as evidenced by the long letter sent from Shelsburne Barracks, Nova Scotia, March 28, 1786, to the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania from which the following extracts are made:—

"Right Worshipful Brethren: We the Worshipful Master & Wardens of Lodge Unity No. 18 held in this Brittanick Majesty's 17th Reg. of Foot, & under Your Register—having heard a Report which is spread through this Province of Our Warrant being by you Cancelled & that one of the same Number has been granted to a Lodge in Pennsylvania. . . .

"We have taken this method of acquainting you that we have wrote to Our Mother Grand Lodge in Scotland, willing to obtain a Duplicate of Our Ancient Warrant No. 169 without as yet receiving any Answer, & we not Expecting that Our said Warrant No. 18 would have been Declared Void, till we might have Obtained the Duplicate of our said antient Warrant. . . .

"We have further to Request you should do us the honor of Communicating to our Worthy friend & Brother General Parsons, the high sense we have of His Unexampled Goodness, in restoring to us our Warrant which happy for us fell into his hands. . . . His Generous Sentiments shall ever be Remembered by every Brother of No. 18 with the Gratitude due to such benevolence of heart.

"Daniel Webb, Master."

"OLD GLORY" IN MASON'S CARE UPON THE SEA AS WELL AS ON THE LAND

When our brothers on Bunker Hill thrice repulsed the king's hardened regulars fresh from the campaigns

of Clive in India the world stood on tiptoe asking what kind of men those Americans were. But when in 1775 our "Navy" of 8 ships with 114 guns was sent to cope with England's 112 battleships with 714 guns, the world was too dazed for utterance.

It was a saying of Jones who first raised "Old Glory" on a ship of war, that "Men mean more than guns in the rating of ships."⁵⁴ Nor was the proof long in coming. Our "Navy" sailed in December, and in March, 1776, 8 ships with 150 cannons and 130 barrels of powder were captured. During the war, in 18 sea engagements, 17 were won by Old Glory. The closing record stood thus: captured 785 British ships, 15 war ships, 12500 prisoners—all by a force of only 3000 men.⁵⁵

The most famous was the Bon Homme Richard against the Seraphis—a victory of undying renown for Bro. John Paul Jones. In Fig. 31 (Color Plate) is shown the flag he then used, now revered as the only existing flag of Bro. Jones and that UNWHIPPED American navy.

When, in 1906 the body of Bro. Jones was brought from Paris to Annapolis for more decent interment, his Masonic petition was published as was also the action of his Paris Masonic Lodge, where he was so well known. This lodge after Jones' great victory had his bust made by Jean Antoine Houdon—the most famous sculptor of his time.

So when you read the entrancing story of our navy in the Revolution, remember Masonry's part in its planning and in its winning.

THE ONLY FLAG OF THE REVOLUTION KNOWN TO EXIST

In Fig. 32 (Color Plate) is a photograph of the only flag now in existence known to have been carried as a regimental flag during the Revolution. If you should enter the flag room of the State House at Annapolis, Maryland, you would see there this most treasured flag labeled as follows:—

"NO. 1—OLD GLORY"⁵⁶

This flag is cherished as THE flag of the Revolution. It is the flag shown by Trumbull in his "Princeton," in his "Burgoyne" and in his "Cornwallis," it is the flag shown by Charles Wilson Peale in his "Washington at Trenton." It is the flag ordered by Washington to be made by Betsy Ross, the wife of a Master Mason, of whom a bit of personal history is now in point.

IN IOWA—THE ORIGINAL MASONIC CERTIFICATE OF THE FLAG MAKER'S HUSBAND

Betsy Griscom married John Ross⁵⁷ a nephew of George Ross, signer of the Declaration of Independence. He lost his life in the service of his country, January, 1776, only a short time before Betsy made the first flag. Betsy married Captain Ashburn in 1777. He was soon captured and in a few years died a prisoner of war in Mill Prison, near Portsmouth, England. John Claypoole, a lineal descendant of Oliver Cromwell,⁵⁸ had been his friend and fellow prisoner. When released from

the team work was consistent and persistent. Further illustrating the fact, here in No. 47, is Grand Master Marshall, Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court. As a boy he followed his father in the Revolution and was fit inspiration for the well known picture, "The Spirit of '76." While he was Grand Master he laid corner stones with the lodge opened on the First Degree only.

IN CONGRESS THE PEN WROTE WHAT THE SWORD WROUGHT

Peyton Randolph, Grand Master of Virginia, was president of the first Congress in 1774, and from that date to the final victory Masonry continued to be a dominating influence at each and every session of Congress. The place of meeting was the old state house known as Independence Hall—Philadelphia.

There are many shrines of American liberty but perhaps none more revered. In No. 49 you see it as it appears today, with the Statue of Bro. Washington in front.

But if you could go back to 1776—and then around to the other or Walnut Street side of it, you would see it as shown in No. 50.

David Rittenhouse had erected the tower to observe the transit of Venus and it was used to herald the proclamation of Mars. Here hung the "Liberty Bell" to "proclaim liberty throughout the land to all the inhabitants thereof." The tower has been made higher—the clock taken from the end and placed in the tower, while the bell is carefully treasured in Independence room. Here Independence was declared. Here Congress sat during the Revolution and here a Massachusetts Mason, Bro. John Hancock, succeeded Peyton Randolph as president. But the crowning glory of the old building, erected in 1736, was the formation there of the Constitution of the United States under the guidance of Bro. Washington as chairman and Bro. Benjamin Franklin, a Grand Master of Pennsylvania.

Benjamin Franklin both at home and abroad did more by his wisdom and diplomatic skill than any other one Mason, Washington alone excepted, to place Old Glory high among the nations. He helped make both the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution and is a signer of both documents. In the treaty of peace in 1783, he secured such favorable concessions as to astound the nations of Europe and they were not slow to manifest their displeasure. It was a rare triumph of American diplomatic skill, seldom equaled and never exceeded even in our one hundred years of brilliant achievement. Well did he use the trowel.

THE MASTER'S CHAIR

The most historic furniture in America now in Independence Hall, Philadelphia, consists of the two pieces shown in No. 53. Elson says: "These two pieces of furniture were used for both the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution. On the chair a half sun is carved."⁶⁵ When the Constitution was being signed, Franklin said with a meaning well understood, referring to the half-sun emblazoned on the center of the back of the chair here shown, "Painters have found

it difficult to paint a sun near the horizon so as to tell whether it was a setting or rising sun, but," said he, "after the Constitution had been passed and the members were signing, I looked at the sun behind President Washington and I saw for the first time it was a rising sun."⁶⁶ In very truth may we not call this the Master's Chair? From this chair the pen wrote what the sword wrought. As the sun rises in the east to govern the day so rose the Constitution in the east to govern the nation with equal justice and regularity.

"SECOND TO NONE IN PRIVATE LIFE"

When the war was over, Washington returned to his farm but never for a moment did he cease to be actively true to that vow he made to his officers on that memorable day in the "Temple" when he faced the ruffians. From 1783 to 1789, when there was only the semblance of a government, Washington's course endeared him more and more to every true patriot. His character was so aptly described by Bro. Henry Lee in a single sentence known the world over. How often you have heard the first part of that renowned sentence—and alas, how seldom the second! Here is the full sentence:—"First in War, first in peace, and first in the hearts of his countrymen, HE WAS SECOND TO NONE IN THE HUMBLE AND ENDEARING SCENES OF PRIVATE LIFE." "Second to none in private life," in itself may not have made him president but it did give him the distinction of being the only one ever elected president of the United States by unanimous vote. Washington was inaugurated President at New York April 30, 1789. Grand Master Robert Livingston administered the oath of office to him using a Bible from St. John's Lodge. Well did he remember the vow he voluntarily made to his officers on that memorable 15th of March, 1783. Here is his first cabinet—all Masons but Jefferson. He appointed no one but those he considered best able to serve the country, but among the men he knew so well in other scenes, he found the right kind of nerve and loyalty to promote the best interest of all.

In the second office in power was an honored Mason of Philadelphia,⁶⁸ the Hon. F. A. Muhlenberg, Speaker of the House. Thus was "Old Glory" again sponsored by those taught to yield their lives rather than their honor.

FIRST NATIONAL CORNER STONE LAYING

September 18, 1793, the corner stone of the new capitol at Washington was laid by the Grand Lodge of Maryland, Washington using the trowel, which is a treasured relic of Alexandria Washington Lodge No. 22. In the description, two odd things occur as they appear to us now, first, the stone was laid in SOUTH-EAST corner and second, in the grand procession was a place for

1. Masons of the first degree
2. Masons of the second degree
3. Masons of the third degree."

The event is commemorated in one of the panels of the Crawford Bronze Doors, which open from the Sen-