Address
Delivered at the
Presentation of Flags
to the
Public Brooklyn Schools of
Brooklyn

Note

Subject—
"The Republic" "The Flag"
Address
Delivered at—
Presentation of Flags
To the
Public School of Brooklyn
—?-—
1889

Subject
The Republic — The Flag
Dear Children:

"The U.S. Grant Post of the Grand Army of the Republic," is but a phrase, a part of a sentence; yet that phrase has much in it.

If one enter it, as the Railroads sometimes enter big cities. That is, by the back way, we meet first the word "The Republic."

What is a republic? It is a people without a Tsar, an Emperor or King, a people ruled by themselves. What is "The Republic?"

It is our own people, a people with a good conscience, good courts and a good President, a people.
Newspapers would only admit it, pretty well ruled. Next we find in our phrase, "Grand Army". What is that? It is a large host or body of men made up of "Oldish men". They number several hundred thousand souls, and they dwell in all parts of our land. They come together in little groups in cities, villages and towns, and each group or post takes to itself a patriotic name; sometimes the name of a distinguished man and sometimes the name of a memorable battlefield. The post here today has the name U. S. Grant. The U. S. stand for Ulysses Simpson. But as our "Oldish men"
Some folks call these terms always have good memories or bright imaginations. They see or hear the letters U.S. and immediately say "United States." These cheers for the glorious United States!

Others think of General Grant himself, who in the time of our great war for the preservation of our United States, often used a short speech, especially when hostile men proposed terms favorable to themselves. As they always did after a losing siege or battle. His little speech was: "I can consider nothing short of an "unconditional surrender."

Well, then, this U.S. Grant post of the Grand Army of the Republic.
which in itself represents our
glorious country, our gray-haired
veterans devoted veterans in a
group whose crowning name
is, M. S. Grant, offers to you
today an appropriate banner,
a banner which puts all their
history, patriotism, loyalty and
love into a unique sign. It
is the stars and stripes — an
emblem of everything that is
good and desirable for a
nation. Things to say, in
four great wars thousands upon
thousands of men have allowed
their blood to be shed to keep that
emblem in the air! My eyes
grow glad and my heart thrills
when I see it on our flag-staffs.
and it must head our
vessels. It would take ten
Barcofts and twenty Whethers
writing prose and poetry for a life-
time to tell you all the con-
erated words and acts that have
combined to produce that sacred Banner
of the free. A Lincoln, if alive,
might suggest something of its present
significance, of fetters broken, of
humiliation gone, of divisions healed,
and of hopes so bright and burning
that good men everywhere on the
whole earth are taking courage, and
many are shouting “Exelsior! Exelsior!”
at the sight.
Yes, children, this flag is an Emblem
to all faithful boldly men of
uprightness.
It is at all times to raise higher and higher the standard and to enwrap their
glorious words: “Righteousness exalteth a nation, but sin is a reproach
to any people.”

Accept the flag, my children, and let the sweet emblem—this
banner of love and devotion, this
guarantee of liberty regulated by law,
become more and more dear to your
loyal hearts while they beat their
warm pulsations in your breasts.

Keep it flying; and be sure to tell to
your children and your children’s
children how you saw the
old Grant veterans and received
Dear [Name],

I've been meaning to write for some time now and I'm glad to have this opportunity. I hope everything is well with you and your family. It's been a busy few months for me, but I wanted to check in and let you know that I'm thinking of you all the time.

I've been trying to keep up with my writing and I've made some good progress on my new novel. I think I've got a solid outline now and I'm excited to get started on the actual writing. It's been a long time since I've had so much to look forward to.

I miss you and the rest of the family so much. I wish we could all be together again. I hope that you and everyone is doing well and that we can see each other soon.

Take care and please give my love to [names].

Yours truly,

[Your Name]
from them. This 'Stars and Stripes' Banner whose mission is as wide as the world and whose uplifting power, we hope, is not bounded by the States.