Address,
to a ladies society.

No.25 Volume 9.

Subject:
THE FLAG.
Address
for a lecture society
No. 22 Volume 2

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size 3

ADDRESS ON THE FLAG.

General O. O. Howard.
Ladies:

When asked to speak to you concerning the origin and history of our American ensign I thought it would be an easy subject for a discourse, but as soon as one begins to study what has been said and written concerning the flag, he finds it hard to discriminate at this time, after more than a century has elapsed since its origin, between the different claims and the true story.

It was the 14th of June, 1777, the last day of the week when congress was assembled in Philadelphia, that the subject of a standard for Columbia was brought to a conclusion. The resolution passed reads as follows:

"Resolved: That the flag of the thirteen United States be thirteen stripes alternate red and white; that the union be thirteen stars, white on a blue field, representing a new constellation."

Whatever had preceded this Act of Congress in colors used on the land or the sea, this legislation is the real foundation. That resolution was confirmed and promulgated
Letter:

When asked to speak to you concerning the origin and history of our American nation, I thought it would be an easy subject for a historian, but as soon as one begins to study what has been said and written on the topic, the time and place for a democracy in this country, after more than a century and a half ago, are to be found between the different states and the United States. If we look back at the year 1776, the last day of the week when Congress was assembled at Philadelphia, for a new Constitution. The resolution passed reads as follows:

"Resolved: That the time for the establishment of a new Constitution, a new power or government, is at hand, and we shall see the union of thirteen states, write on a plane white sheet of parchment a new constitution."

Whichever had been the first Act of Congress in October

The resolution was confirmed and proclaimed.
by one who was called the Secretary of Congress, but not until the 3rd day of September, 1777.

I can find very little authentic account as to the man or the woman or both who were instrumental in getting up the original design and color of our flag. It is, however, often attributed to General Washington that he had in mind a general design which he communicated to several close and intimate friends.

In the little book entitled "Betsy Ross", in the parlor of a small shop on Arch street, Philadelphia, an interview is claimed between His Excellency, George Washington, and two ladies, one of whom was Betsy Ross. The story represents that a committee of Congress came with Washington to this interview and that one of the committee was the Hon. John Ross, the uncle of Mrs. Ross' husband, and that it was through him that the conference took place.

It appears that Mrs. Betsy Ross, the young widow, had before this constructed what was regarded as "the most marvelously wrought flag in the army, but too ornate for a national standard." Washington asked Mrs. Ross if she
In the little book entitled "Heady Years" in the
private library of a small shop on a street in Philadelphia,

an interview is obtained between the Secretary, George
Washington, and two females, one of whom was Betsy Ross.
The story relates how a committee of congress came with
Washington to give interviews and chose one of the committee
members, Mr. Rose or Mr. Ross, hunting.

It appeas the first Mrs. Betsy Ross, the young widow.

In another story, Mr. Betsy Ross, the young widow,

Washington gives Mr. Ross a rose in the

nearly to the Secretary  Washington near the farm. I was the

notary to the Secretary Washington near the farm. I was the

in the Secretary of Congress, and not.

until the 24th day of September, 1777.

I can find very little authentic account as to
the man of the money or part who were instrumental in
left in the original letter and copied on our file. It is,
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thought she could fashion a flag from the design that the committee brought. As Betsy answered that she could try, Washington laid a paper upon the table before her and said, "See, here is the rough draft I have made. You will perceive there are thirteen stripes alternating red and white; the canton will be blue with thirteen stars."

After some words between them, Betsy said, "I see your stripes are white at top and bottom. Do you not think red better to begin and end with?"

"Possibly", said Washington.

"And your stars are six pointed", she continued, "would not a five pointed star be better?"

She quickly seized a sheet of paper and clipped out a five pointed star. The decision was made in her favor both with regard to the stripes and the character of the stars.

Before leaving them Washington remarked, "This design of the flag you are requested to make has already been accepted by the Continental Congress . . . . but congress must see the completed flag to pronounce it
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official." He added a few words kindly, for example, "Other wars and other generals may come and go, but to you will always remain the sole honor of having made the first flag of the United States, a flag which may float for centuries."

"God grant it!" said Betsy Ross, "It remains for Your Excellency to make it possible."

We have to-day the Betsy Ross society and every possible record concerning her well preserved.

The first appearance of the flag of the stars and stripes was probably at Fort Stanwicks on the investment of that fort by General St. Clair with an army of Great Britain and Indians combined, in August 1777. The garrison had previously heard of the Act of the Continental Congress and before its promulgation by the Hon. Secretary, and having a strong desire to display some national emblem to the view of the investing host, they are said to have torn up shirts and other garments to construct a flag as nearly as was possible like that intended by the resolution of congress. The flag was made and unfurled to the breezes
officially. "He shed a few words kindly. For example,"

"Other wars and other generals may come and go, but to you
will always remain the sole honor of having made the first
of the United States' a flag worth my eternal praises.

"God grant it!" said Belch Rose. "I assume for
Your Excellency to make it possible.

We have to remember the great hero société and every
possibility leading concerning the war. In any case
The threat to the British of the landing of the armed
forces in the proposed area. England clone with a view to great
Britain and Ireland combined in November 1916. The resolution
and before the proclamation of the Hon. Secretary, and
no witness and after the war, to continue a flag as usual
as was possible. Like that intended by the resolution of
the Congress. The flag was made any influence to the pleasure
at that fort which was successful in holding at bay and defending itself against every attack made by the army of St. Clair. The victory of General Herkimer and the approach of General Arnold and his force defeated and finally scattered the hosts of the enemy to the four winds.

Historic research appears to confirm the statement that Paul Jones took the stars and stripes to sea with him on the Ranger June, 1777. This, of course, was before the bill establishing the ensign was passed by congress, but it was not before it had been introduced. He reports that at Quiberon Bay, February 14, 1778, this flag was saluted by the French admiral with the number of guns usually given to an admiral of any other nation. His report further alleges that this salute was equivalent to a recognition of the independence of the United States.

Indeed this was the first salute of our flag by a foreign power.

In conformity with the Act of the Continental Congress, as published, many flags were constructed. The thirteen stars were usually arranged on the blue background
et Fleet for which was necessary in fighting of our and
get England. Fleet received every attack made on the shore of
et el Crisis. The victory of General Kiermer and the ep-
thresh the forces of the enemy to the front midway
Historic reservoar appears to continue the settlement
last part. This took place as far as this is able to see with him
on the River June 1779. This of course was beside the
and with satisfaction the enemy was pressed by congresses and
report of the fleet ofighting here. Hereby early 1778 the fleet was
estimated on the River as a result to the number of nine
repeated given to an amount of other nation. Here is a
point further. Otherwise these staples were advantageous to a
recognition of the independence of the United States.
Indeed this was the clear evidence of our fleet on a

10,000 power.

In conformity with the Act of the Continental
Congress, as implemented, many places were constructed.
The first few were mainly established on the Ohio backwater
in a circular form. Some flags had twelve stars placed along the edges of the field with one in the center.

It will be remembered that Paul Jones on the Ranger fought against Admiral Drake on the 24th of April, 1778. This was the first naval engagement in which our flag was displayed.

It is alleged that the first product of Betsy Ross' genius appeared above a public building in Philadelphia. But beyond a doubt the stars and stripes of thirteen each were unfurled at the disastrous battle of Brandywine, not far south of Philadelphia, on September 11th, 1777. This was eight days after the signing and publication of the resolution which made them the flag of the United States.

Lately, at the last anniversary, I was at Schuyler-ville, which was the old Saratoga, and saw the place where Burgoyne surrendered October 17, 1777. I gave the address in view of the grand monument over which our beautiful flag is floating to-day. That same flag was present when Burgoyne surrendered to General Gates, one hundred and twenty-seven years ago. It is said that the sight of this
In a circular form, same lines had written after放假

as one of the eldest with one in the center.

It will always be remembered that Beny Jones on the Ranger

lost several vital points of the score of April 17th.

This was the first novel engagement in which our flag was

displayed.

It is alleged that the first line of sight of July 4th

refers SPEAVER above a namecalling to Philadelphia,

but beyond a point, the colors may reverse of Philadelphia

were included in the present calling battle of Beaconville,

the latter south Philadelphia on September 2nd, 1777.

This was August 4th after the signing and publication of the

resolution which made them the flag of the United States.

I have the impression that I saw the September

I have the emulsion of October 2nd, 1777. I have the emulsion

the place where

some lines were present.

I am lost in thought. That these lines were present when

Burroughs spelled to Governor General, one hundred and

twenty-seven letters etc. It is easy said the sight of the
new constellation cheered the patriots of our army amid their prolonged sufferings around the camp fires at Valley Forge the ensuing winter. I know that it was waving triumphantly at the last surrender, namely that of Cornwallis to Washington in Yorktown, Va., October 19, 1781.

Looking abroad we notice that on January 28, 1778, John Rathburne, commanding the sloop of war Providence, raised the stars and stripes over the captured fort of Nassau on the island of New Providence, Bahama Islands. This was the first time the stars and stripes had floated over captured foreign territory.

The honor of hoisting our beautiful flag, after the treaty of peace with Great Britain, in a British port has been claimed by several vessels. The weight of evidence is with the ship Bedford, Captain William Moores, a ship that sailed out of Nantucket. The Bedford entered the port of London February 3, 1783, proudly displaying the stars and stripes. She was laden with a cargo of whale oil. At first she was not allowed to enter the port until much consultation had taken place between the Commissioners
new coordination offered the participants of our recent annual meeting profound surprises among the camp fires of the valley.

I know that if we waiting would mean the ceremonial, the last survivor, nature, part of God.

Newfoundland in Yarmouth, Nov. 17, 1928.

Looking then we notice that on January 28, 1928.

John Kierpinski, commanding the 100th of wes Providence.

Let us now thank our enemies for the service of wes Providence, Eastern Entente.

This was the first time the entire area and stripes had looked over the conflict for the first time.

The honor of protecting our territory lies after.

The treaty of peace with Great Britain in a British port has been completed by several agreements. The weight of an area with the ship Herbert, Captain William Moore, with first victory and of Knepper's:

The battle of London began the 8th, roughly speaking the battle of stripes, the start of the war.

At this point we were not allowed to enter the port until

many conversations had taken place between the commissioners.
of the Customs and the Lords in council. The delay was occasioned on account of several Acts of Parliament still in force against the rebels of America. But at last, as the Captain was furnished with a pass for his ship from Admiral Digby of the English service, she was allowed to enter and unload.

Quite early in 1794, in consequence of the admission of Vermont, which had taken place in 1791, and of Kentucky, 1792, into the sisterhood of states, a bill was introduced and finally passed to increase the stars and stripes on the flag to fifteen, this act to take effect May, 1795. This resolution originated in the senate. When presented to the house there was much opposition manifested in the debate. The principal objection alleged was with regard to the time of the change. It will be noticed that the time finally fixed upon for the change in the flag was the 4th of July.

It was this design embracing the fifteen stripes and stars which is found in the flag presented by James Monroe, then our minister to France, to the French national
The heels were not the custom and the force in council. The gesture was accompanied by a report of several cases of perjury. As a result, it was found that the report of America, of the past, was not to be taken seriously.

Amherst, mighty Allegheny service, were allowed to enter my opinion:

In the early 1790s, in consequence of the censure

of the Vermont town, which had taken place in 1795, and of the action, that was taken in the state of New York, there was an instance of increase of the area and major influence on the fate of the Senate. The resolution of the Senate is very important when presented to the House of representatives.

The principle of representation was established. It will be noticed that the time finally fixed can not be altered in any manner.
convention. It was given as a pledge of the pleasure and ardor with which the American people seized every opportunity of cementing and consolidating the union and the good understanding between France and the United States.

In return for this marked courtesy, on the 1st of January, 1796, the minister of the French Republic to the United States presented the colors of France to us with appropriate remarks.

The flag of fifteen stars and stripes floated above the old Constitution before Tripoli; also by the Constellation in her action with The L'Insurgente and La Vengeance. Again, it was the flag of Lake Erie, of Fort McHenry at New Orleans. The flag of the Enterprise in her action with the British brig Boxer had the 15 stars in parallels, five in each horizontal line.

The admission of Tennessee, Ohio, Louisiana and Indiana made some changes in the flag desirable. On April 4, 1818, and Act to Establish the Flag of the United States was approved. The first section reads as follows:

Be it enacted, etc. that from and after the 4th
convention. It was given as a pledge of the pleasure and
satisfaction which the American people received every oppor-
tunity of cementing and consolidating the nation and the
body of the American people elected the United States.

In return for this marked confidence, on the part of
the Government of the French Republic to the
United States, we present the colors of France to us with
appropriately revised.

The idea of fifteen stars and a strip of crimson

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The idea of fifteen stars and a strip of crimson
day of July next the flag of the United States be thirteen horizontal stripes alternate red and white; that the union have twenty stars, white in a blue field.

Section 2d. And that it be further enacted that on the admission of every new state into the Union one star be added to the union of the flag on the 4th of July succeeding such admission. It is a little odd that no arrangement of the stars in the flag was directed and that this has resulted in different combinations. There is one set of flags with the twenty stars outlining a star; one in the form of U S; others with the twenty stars strewn over the field irregularly; but mostly in horizontal rows.

On the 4th day of July, 1857, a gentleman amused himself by collating the various designs displayed on vessels, hotels and public buildings in and near New York. He found that there were nine different designs.

Today our flag contains the thirteen stripes and forty-six stars.

There are various hymns and songs of a patriotic
To

get a grip now that the time of the United States of nineteen
potentiometric Arrows to move red and white; that the union
have twenty states, white in a plane field.

Section 28. And that it be further enacted that
on the admission of every new state into the Union one
after be added to the union of the free on the 4th of July
after being added to the union of the State in the field and that
enlargement of the area in the field was located and that
there is
the pen less writing in different combinations. There is
one set of these with the twenty states outlining a star;
and one in the form of U & with the twenty states
stream across the field integrally and mostly in portrait.

of home.

In the year of our Lord 1869, a conference selected
himself in collecting the various gestures displayed on
presence, posture and mimicry participations in my near New York.

He found that there were nine different gestures.
Today our faces continue the fourteen articles and
Yorly six years.

There are fourteen faces and bones of a particular
nature touching our glorious flag. The one that excites
the most reverence is what we usually call "The Star Span-
gled Banner". Francis Key had been a prisoner on board
a British ship and he feared that the battle near Baltimore
had gone against us. Inspired by his fears on that oc-
casion and the joy which he felt when he found that the flag
still waved, he gave us our national banner song, "The
Star Spangled Banner."

Oh! say, can you see by the dawn's early light,
What so proudly we hail'd at the twilight's last
gleaming,
Whose stripes and bright stars thro' the perilous
fight,
Ore the ramparts we watched, were so gallantly
streaming;
And the rocket's red glare, the bombs bursting in
air,
Gave proof through the night that our flag was
still there.

On the shore dimly seen thro' the mist of the deep,
Where the foe's haughty host in dread silence
reposes,
What is that which the breeze, o'er the towering
steep,
As it fitfully blows, half conceals, half discloses?
Now it catches the gleam of the morning's first beam,
In full glory reflected now shines in the stream:
II

The one that excites

The poem: "The Eternally Grown" by Birdie Bennett. The title suggests a journey into eternity.

The poem begins with a description of a boat, symbolizing the journey of life.

"The Eternally Grown" is a reflection on the passage of time and the inevitability of growth.

The poem ends with a call to action, urging readers to make the most of their journey.

"The Eternally Grown" is a beautiful reflection on the cycle of life and the importance of living in the present moment.

It encourages readers to embrace the challenges of life and to grow from them.

The poem is a powerful reminder that life is a journey, and that we must make the most of it.
And where is that band who so vauntingly swore,
'Mid the havoc of war and the battle's confusion,
A home and a country they'd leave us no more!
Their blood has washed out their foul footstep's polution;
No refuge could save the hireling and slave
From the terror of flight or the gloom of the grave,

Oh thus be it ever when free men shall stand
Between their loved home and the war's desolation;
Blest with vict'ry and peace, may the heav'n rescued land
Praise the Power that hath made and preserved us a nation.
Then conquer we must, for our cause it is just,
And this be our motto, "In God is our trust."
And where is that land we so pantingly score,
And where is that peace of war and the battle's contention
In the peace of war, and the battle's contention
A home and a country, they're the same as no more.
Their food and weapons and their iron footstep's position
No longer can we the perilous and steep
Now the terror of light to the home of the grave,
Of time and ever when life men still enjoy
Between their loved home and the war's association
Peace with activity and peace, may the green's lesson find
Practice the lesson that pèrhaps make and preserve us a nation
Then consider we must, for our cause it is just,
And live by our motto, "In God is our trust."