

In the other picture a little girl has received the doll for a Christmas present.

We will call her Nellie. She looks very happy.

#### Third Grade.

Essay by Nathaniel Webb, class A, Seventh School:

##### SILK.

The length of the silk-worm is about two inches.

The color of it is light yellow. It feeds on mulberry leaves. Many silk-worms are put on a large shelf in a warm room and are fed as much as they can eat.

There is a fluid in his body. As soon as the fluid gets out into the air it becomes little threads. He weaves these threads together. He weaves two at a time and sticks them with some gum that is in his mouth. He keeps on till he is wrapped in a cocoon. The cocoon is as large as a pigeon's egg.

In a few weeks the worm turns into a moth.

The moth tries to bite the threads but it is not strong enough.

The men who cultivate the silk do not like it to do it so they take some of the cocoons and put them into a hot oven to kill the moths and then they take shell off and put them into a pot of boiling water.

This melts the gum and loosens the threads and the men winds it on reels.

#### Fourth Grade.

Essay by Irma Eberhardt, age nine years, class A, Twelfth School:

##### OUR FLAG.

The flag of our country is made up of stars and stripes. One stripe is red and the next is white. In one corner there is a blue square where the stars are placed.

There are forty-four stars in the United States flag, and each star represents a state.

There are thirteen stripes and they represent the thirteen original colonies.

The first United States flag was made in Philadelphia by some of the women. These were very glad to have the honor of making their own country's flag, so they worked very hard.

At the opening of the war a variety of flags had been used.

The first war-vessel carried the flag of Massachusetts, called the Pine-tree flag. It had a white ground with a pine-tree in the middle, and the motto is, "Appeal to Heaven." At this time the Americans still carried the British flag, for they considered themselves still a part of the British government. The first person to hoist the United States flag was Captain Paul Jones. I think the United States flag is the prettiest of all the flags.

#### Fifth Grade.

Essay by Jennie Williamson, class A, Washington School:

##### THE NEW ENGLAND STATES.

I came across from Liverpool to Portland in Maine, on the 20th day of October, 1893. Portland has a large foreign trade, and inland commerce. During the winter it is a terminus of the Canadian Trans-atlantic Steamship line. After staying in Portland for two days, I went to Boston in a steamer and on the way I was very sea-sick. I got to Boston on the 24th of October.

Boston is famous for its education

facilities; it has also a large foreign trade and is one of the chief places for manufacturing boots and shoes. After seeing some of the sights of Boston I got aboard the cars; landing at Manchester about five hours later.

A great quantity of cotton from the south is made into cloth at Manchester.

We went down the Merrimac river as far as Lowell and had another interesting day viewing the extensive cotton mills. A long ride on the railroad and coach brought me to the White Mountains where we enjoyed the invigorating air. We ascended the highest peak of Mt. Washington, which is more than 5000 feet above the level of the sea. There is a very beautiful hotel in the valley of Mt. Washington in which one thousand people stay every summer. We went to Vermont to see the maple sugar camps. They tap the tree and put in a spout and let it run into a trough, then they empty the troughs into big cans and put them over the fire to boil. After boiling for a little time, it gets crystallized. The gum exuding from the tree is collected and made into chewing gum. After being in Vermont for three days, I started down the Connecticut river, calling at Hartford, the capital, on the way. I then went on to New Haven. This city is the largest in the state, and has one of the largest and oldest universities in the United States, and is called Yale university. The city also has an excellent harbor. I there took passage on a steamer to Newport, Rhode Island. It is one of the capitals, and is a famous summer resort. I then took the steamer to New York to see the sights there.

#### Sixth Grade.

Essay by Mattie Turner, class B, Poplar Grove School.

##### BARBARA FREITCHIE'S LIFE.

Barbara Hauer was born in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, Dec. 3, 1766. She lived there a while, then she moved to Frederick, Maryland, and lived there the rest of her life. In 1806 she married a man by the name of Mr. Freitchie. Barbara lived among noted persons, therefore she loved her country. One time Washington stopped at Mrs. Kimball's tavern in 1791. Barbara got out her best china dishes she had, for Washington to eat on. Barbara would not use the dishes any more, because she thought they were too sacred to be used. She dressed in a black satin gown, with a white muslin tie around her neck and in front of her dress; on her head she wore a cap, tied under her chin. When Stonewall Jackson went through Frederick with his army and saw her, he cried "Halt! Fire!" They fired. When Barbara heard this she went in and pulled down her flag, then she put her head out of the window and said, "Shoot if you must this old gray head, but spare your country's flag." Jackson said the one who would touch a hair of her head, would die like a dog, then he told the army to march on. She put her flag in her Bible. Barbara died in 1862 at the age of 96 years and 15 days. Her folks kept for relics her clock, which is 200 years old, and her cane, two boxes, and the china dishes that Washington ate from.

#### Seventh Grade.

Essay by Laura Baysinger, Summer School:

##### AN INCIDENT.

One morning in the month of June,

two young men with whom I was intimately acquainted were to go across the river to invite a number of young ladies and gentlemen to attend a social which was to take place the following night at the home of the boys' parents.

The boys left home at 8 o'clock in the morning, and were to be back at 2 in the afternoon of the same day.

As they failed to return at the appointed hour (the parents knowing the ford so well), it became evident that they had been drowned in attempting to cross the river.

Search was immediately made by the family.

Neighbors from every direction soon joined in the search.

Tracks were found where they rode into the ford, then a slicker and a quilt were found on the bank, where they had evidently been thrown by one, as he prepared to go to the assistance of his brother.

It was thought that the eldest rode into the stream to try its depth, when the horse's feet were swept from under him, and the rider was soon washed into a thicket of brush where he was lodged.

By this time men in boats, with drag hooks and rakes, dragged the deeper places from the ford to the mouth.

And near the bank, where the current had carried them to one side into a still water, were found the bodies of the boys.

There was no possible way of getting out, the bank on one side being a perpendicular clay washed by the stream, and the other side lined with willows, too small to offer support, and yet large enough to hinder a man or horse from swimming.

Weighted down with clothing and realizing the difficult situation they were in, their courage at once fled, and locked in each other's arms they sank to rise no more.

Owing to the mad current it would have taken more than human strength to avert the sad end.

In death they were not separated, and in the grave they were joined together.

#### Eighth Grade.

Essay by Ralph Richards, Lowell School.

##### THE GREAT STONE FACE.

A mother with her little boy sat at their cottage door talking about the Great Stone Face which could be seen in the distance with its great countenance brightened by the setting sun.

The Great Stone Face is formed by gigantic rocks. It has a forehead one hundred feet high with a nose almost as big. Its mighty lips if they could have spoken could have been heard all over the valley where it was. When viewed at a proper distance it looks very much like the human face.

As the mother and her little boy (whose name was Ernest) were talking she referred to an old prophecy that a child was to be born, who in his manhood would look just like the Great Stone Face.

This prophecy was always in Ernest's mind. When the day's toil was over he would go apart and gaze at the Great Stone Face hours. Meanwhile he was growing into a mild, quiet boy.

One day news came to the valley that the man of prophecy had come. A long time ago a man went from the valley to settle at a distant seaport. His name was Mr. Gathergold. After some years.