



POEMS EVERYBODY SHOULD KNOW.

THE STAR SPANGLED BANNER.

(Original Version)

By Francis Scott Key.

Francis Scott Key, born in 1779, died in 1843, was a native of Maryland. During the war of 1812 he went under a flag of truce to the British fleet in Chesapeake bay to ask the release of a friend. The admiral detained him with the fleet for two days to prevent his carrying ashore information. The British admiral had declared that he would soon compel the Americans to hand down the flag of Fort McHenry. During the night Key watched the flag anxiously until the bombardment ceased, some time before daylight. When he saw that our flag was "still there," his joy found vent in some hastily scribbled notes on the back of an old letter. He put them into verse while returning to Baltimore.

Oh, say can you see, by the dawn's early light,

What so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last gleaming?

Whose broad stripes and bright stars through the perils we fought;

O'er the ramparts we watched were so gallantly streaming;

And the rockets' red glare, the bombs bursting in air,

Gave proof through the night that our flag was still there;

On, say does that star spangled banner yet wave

O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?

On that shore dimly seen through the mists 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, now conceals, now discloses?

Now it catches the gleam of the morning's first beam,

Full glory reflected now shines in the stream;

Tis the star spangled banner still, long may it波ave

O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave!

And where is that band who so vauntingly swore

Mid the huzzas 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 pollution;

No refuge could save the hating and slaves

From the terror of flight or the gloom of the grave,

And the star spangled banner in triumph doth wave

Over the land of the free and the home of the brave!

Oh, thus be it ever when freemen shall stand

Between their loved homes and the war's desolation;

Blest with victory and peace, may the heav'n-revued land

Praise the Power that hath made and preserved us a nation!

Then conquer we must, when our cause is just,

And this be our motto, "In God is our trust!"

And the star spangled banner in triumph shall wave

O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave!

Notes.

The corporation which for upwards of half a century has been so universally identified with illustrated periodical literature under the name of Frank Leslie Publishing house has changed its name to Clover Publishing House. The personnel of the corporation, which includes the names of the president, Mr. Fredrick A. Clover, who has been associated with the house for a score of years, remains unchanged. The new name of the corporation seems appropriate to the character of the magazine, which during the past four years has been absolutely revolutionized by the press management. Mr. Elmer Stedwick will continue to be editor.

Mr. Voynich, a bookseller of London, well known for his learned catalogues, and more for his success in discovering unknown or lost editions, of which he published an interesting catalogue about a year ago, has now made another discovery, which is to the effect of great value to the bibliophilic world, and to the English particularly. It is a small edition of the Moral Characters of Theophrastus, all printed in Greek, and issued from the Oxford Press of Joseph Barnes in 1694. Mr. W. Roberts has published a few notes upon this interesting book in the London Athenaeum, and, according to the editor, it is the best Greek text since printed in England. It was supposed formerly that the first was printed only in 1799. Mr. Roberts has made a careful search, trying to find some previous records of its existence, but he has failed in this, and he thinks that this edition was probably never published, but merely privately printed at the expense of the classical library of Oxford. His states, also, that Voynich consulted the Bodleian MS., for his edition of Theophrastus, and that this corresponds with the MS. of the Bodleian library printed for the express purpose of sending it to him.

James M. Flagg, whose book of verse and illustrations, entitled, "Tomfoolery," was one of last year's laughing successes, is about to publish through Life Publishing company, another, said to be even funnier volume, called "Hi! a Guide to Bad Manners."

"The Poet in Politics" may be Tom Mason's next book of general verse. His first attempt was entitled, "In Merry Measure," but it was written before he was elected a school trustee in Glen Head, New Jersey.

The many readers and admirers of John A. Mitchell's "Athenas Judd," "Pines of Love," and "The Villa Claudio," will be glad to know that another story from his pen will be issued by Life Publishing company some time during the coming autumn.

The novel of business and politics, the story of corrupt rings and graft, is the most popular of the day. In Europe it is said that stories as well as plays that deal with business and importance, because the business man has enough of traps and finance during the day, and longs to escape from it in his hours of ease. But the American is different. To him the work of trade appears to have a perennial interest; of its many phases he never seems to grow tired. Hence it is that both plays and stories that deal with politics and business, if the plot is simple and clearly drawn, are sure of a large audience. That original book, "The Letters of a Self-Made Man to His Son," furnishes an excellent illustration. The old Chicago pork-packer's view of life is very narrow, but his philosophy is sound and wholesome, this, with caustic wit and broad humor, makes him both eminently readable and commendable. It is with audience as with any one who can read English is able to understand all the points made by old Gorgon Graham. Equally clear are the stories of David Graham Phillips that deal with politics and high finance, such as "The Master Rogue" and "The Plum Tree." There are transcripts of phases of real corruption, told with a certain straightforward frankness that impresses the bitterness of their apparently unconscious sarcasm.

Prof. U. H. Thurber, while connected with the University of Chicago, investigated the subject of children's likes and dislikes in reading in the Chicago schools. Children from nine to 15 years wrote answers to the following questions:

1. What books have you read since summer began last September?
2. Which of these did you like best?
3. Why do you like that book?
4. What book have you ever read that you liked better?
5. What book have you ever read that you did not like?
6. Why did you not like it?
7. If you were given money to buy a book, what never read, what book would you buy?

Answers from about 4,000 children were tabulated, and the results are worthy of attention. The list given on the other side of the 100 "best books" as indicated by the answers of the children to the second question.

The total number of books read was 16,735, the average of about one per month for each one.

It will be noticed that Fiske's History of the United States for Schools stands No. 15 on the list, up among the story books, and that no other his-

tory of the United States is higher up on the list than No. 81. This fact is a high tribute on the part of 4,000 children reading from the 15 years of age to the 18th, and interesting to any who writes history. The secret of his success as a writer is due to his use of simple, forcible English, and to his habit of tracing the relationship between cause and effect in such a manner as to give to history the interest of a story.

Dr. S. Weir Mitchell denies the authorship of "The House of Carolean," recent story of Philadelphia life, which had been attributed to him by several of the leading papers. The book has also been attributed to another distinguished Philadelphian, Mr. Owen Wister.

One bookseller in this city has ordered from the publisher an average of 10 copies of "The Man on the Box" every day this year.

"The Millionaire Lady," by Anna Katherine Green, was one of the six best selling in England during May—the only book by an American to be so successful.

BOOKS.

"The Beautiful Lady," by Booth Tarkington, is another contribution to the list of delightful stories with which the author has so far shown a fine hand in writing. The book is a picture of society in a certain shade of gray.

"A Woman's Confession" is a unique little book in its makeup being printed throughout in purple ink, the cover a light blue, and the title page in white paper and this innovation in life publishing company, which issues "A Woman's Confession," may be the other combinations of colors which will give us not only novelty but also added value from the standpoint of view.

"Guy Thorne," by Guy Thorne.

"The Devil's Toy," by Guy Thorne.

"When It Was Dark," by Guy Thorne.

"The Devil's Toy," by Guy Th