

Shamrocks

Dear little shamrocks, so lovingly sent
Across the wide sea
From Erin Machree,
Land of my birth, where my childhood was spent.
Gazing on them, my thoughts fondly stray
To emerald dells,
Where fairies weave spells
From fall of the night till dawning of day.



A light-hearted youth through meadows I rove,
When I see sweet and clear
There falls on my ear
The song of the blackbird warbling its love.
Dear little shamrocks! You fall at my feet,
I lift and replace,
With gentle embrace,
Breathing sad sighs o'er a dreaming so sweet.

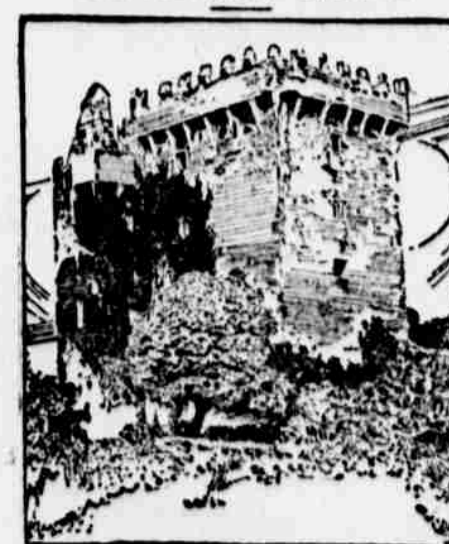
ST. PATRICK WON HEARTS BY LOVE

It is remarked by historians that Ireland—the virgin island on which Roman proconsul never set foot—was the only country in western Europe where the Gospel was planted without a previous conquest of arms. What followed, as a result of the great work of Saint Patrick in Ireland is one of the salient facts in the history of civilization—the uplifting influence of the Irish in the pagan and semi-Christian nations of the north and west of Europe during several centuries succeeding his beneficent career.

During the centuries in which Ireland was the lighthouse of religion and humanity she sheltered learning, and art flourished within her borders. It was Irish illuminators who engraved the Book of Kells, a transcript of the Gospels still famous among connoisseurs as the most beautiful book in the world. As late as King Alfred's time—the ninth century—scholars from Ireland were welcomed by the monks of the famous English abbey of Croiland as instructors in the art of illuminating missals and breviaries. That century was a rude age in England, but an age of culture in the Green Isle.

Civilizations rise and fall. The time came, after centuries of enlightenment and peace, when Ireland fell a prey to foreign conquest, the result of strife among her native chiefs. It was in the latter half of the twelfth century that Dermot MacMurrough of Leinster, deposed for his tyranny, negotiated with Henry II, and invited Norman-English mercenaries to help him in the recovery of his kingdom. From that time dated Ireland's evil days. But her people under every stress of misfortune retained their love of liberty and the morality which has made them singular among the nations. Idealists and enthusiasts—the stuff of which martyrs are made—they remained true amid all vicissitudes to their religious faith. There are other instances in human history which demonstrate that it is moral qualities that win the end, but no example of this truth is more conspicuous and resplendent than that which is deducible from the history of the Irish people.

OLD BLARNEY CASTLE



Spot beloved of Irishmen and sweet in the memory of every visitor to the Emerald Isle.

BACK YARD FARMER

Interesting Pointers on Gardening for the City Man or Suburbanite.

WHAT TO PLANT AND WHEN

Advice by an Expert on Agricultural Matters—When to Plant Vegetables—Raising Tomatoes—How to Grow Asparagus.

By PROF. JOHN WILLARD BOLTE.

ASPARAGUS—Put in the plants as early as possible, trenching deeply with well-rotted manure, covered with rich soil. Plant four inches deep, one foot apart, rows three feet apart.

BEANS—STRING BEANS can go into the ground about May 1st, or with the coming of settled weather. Light, dry, warm soil. Plant 3/4 inches apart, 1/2 inch deep, rows 18 inches.

WAX BEANS may be planted in the same way and about ten days later. Make successive plantings of both at intervals of ten days.

POLE AND LIMA BEANS—Plant four feet apart, rows four feet apart, 1/2 inch deep. Plant same in the latter part of May.

BEETS—Early varieties may be planted before April 15th, if soil is ready, three to six inches apart, 1/2 inch deep, rows eighteen inches. Thin out later on. Plant every two weeks for four plantings. Plant early crops thicker than later ones, to overcome poor germination.

CABBAGE—Early cabbage about the middle of April to the 1st of May. Late cabbage the last part of May. Cut back leaves of late cabbage when transplanting. Set plants in rich earth, 1 1/2 feet apart, rows 2 feet part.

CARROTS—Start as soon as soil is ready, make very fine seed bed, sow two inches apart, 1/2 inch deep, rows 15 inches apart.

CAULIFLOWER—Set out when warm weather is assured, making three plantings at two week intervals, the last one a good fall variety like "Dry Weather." Plant two feet part, rows two feet part.

CELERY—Plant in seed bed early. Thin out and transplant to trenches when six inches high. Plant seed two inches apart, 1/2-inch deep, rows one foot apart.

CORN—Three planting at ten day intervals from May 1st to June 1st. Plant in 3-foot hills, 5 seeds to the hill, about 2 inches deep. Place the earliest planting in a warm, protected location. Plant later seeds 4 inches deep. Thin to 3 plants to a hill and cultivate thoroughly.

CUCUMBERS—May 1st to 15th, in well fertilized and drained hills; 10 seeds to the hill, 1 inch deep. Hills 4 feet apart. Thin out after danger of bugs is past.

EGG PLANT—In late May or early June. Very rich ground, water in dry weather. Set plants two feet apart.

HEAD LETTUCE—May be set out at the same time, about a foot apart, but must be protected for a few days. Shade late plantings in hot, dry weather.

LETTUCE—Plant as soon as the ground is ready; plant in short rows and at intervals of ten days thereafter to get a constant supply. Sow thickly in very fine seed bed, 1/4-inch deep, rows 15 inches apart.

MUSK AND WATER MELONS—Plant late in May in rich, light hills, well drained and well fertilized; 10 seeds to the hill, 1 inch deep, hills 6 feet apart. Protect from bugs and thin out when safe. Do not plant near cucumbers, squashes or any other vines.

ONION—Plant onion seeds as early as possible and thin out when necessary two inches apart, 1/2 inch deep, rows 15 inches apart. Plant onion plants about 4 inches apart about May 1st. Cut tops back 1-3 and roots back 2-3 when setting out.

PARSLEY—Plant early, soaking the seed for several hours in lukewarm water. Seed 4 inches apart, 1/4 inch deep, rows 1 foot apart.

PEAS—First planting an early smooth variety, as soon as ground is ready; follow with wrinkled varieties at 10 day intervals until four or five plantings have been made. Plant in double rows, 8 inches between rows, and set brush or other supports between them. Plant 4 inches apart, 3 inches deep with 2 feet between outside rows.

PEPPER—Set out about June 1st, in very rich ground. Water during dry weather. Set plants 2 feet apart.

POTATOES—Plant early potatoes about May 1st. Late potatoes about June 1st. The early seed should be sprouted two weeks, then cut into pieces with two sprouts or eyes to each piece. Sow four inches deep, 1 foot by 2 feet apart. Late potatoes need not be sprouted. Have seed bed and bottom of furrow fine and loose. Do not let fresh manure touch the seed potatoes.

PUMPKIN—Middle of May. Handle as for cucumbers. Hills 6 feet apart, seed 1 inch deep.

RADISH—Sow early and at 10 day intervals up to May 15th. Globe radishes at first, working into long varieties later. Seeds 2 inches part, 1/2 inch deep, 1 foot apart.

SPINACH—One planting early will furnish a continuous crop of

"greens." Use "New Zealand" and plant 8 inches apart, 1 inch deep, and rows 18 inches apart.

SQUASH—Summer squash is planted about the middle of May and should be treated like cucumbers. Winter squash (Hubbard) should be planted about June 1st and handled in the same way.

SWISS CHARD—Handle like spinach, planting about May 1st. Do not cut leaves too close in harvesting.

TOMATO—Set out the latter part of May, using good strong plants. Protect from frost and stake up as soon as necessary. Keep suckers trimmed off. Set plants four feet apart in a sunny spot.

Growing Tomatoes.

The middle of May finds most of the tomato plants in the garden. The man who was wise enough to grow his own plants in a hot bed will have ripe fruit quite a long while before his neighbor, who has to depend upon half-dried, discouraged seedlings from a department store.

Still, by insisting upon getting the best plants you can buy, big sturdy fellows, with lots of leaves and roots full of water, you can do very well with purchased tomato plants. Do not secure them until you are all ready to plant and get them in the ground as soon as possible.

As usually handled, the amateur gardener gets a double crop of foliage and a half crop of ripe tomatoes. The fruit splits, rots at the ends and a large part of it fails to color up and ripen before frost catches it.

The purpose of this article is to tell how to avoid these troubles and secure twice as much ripe, sound fruit with no more trouble. It is a simple secret, but few seem to know it.

Tomatoes need a rich, deep, rather heavy soil, well fertilized. Muriate of potash is an excellent fertilizer, as is also steamed ground bone. Use a handful to each plant.

Spade and cultivate as for garden crop and drive in strong stakes about five feet long, placing them two feet by four feet. Set one plant four inches from the south side of each stake, covering the roots firmly and soaking the soil with water after setting.

Allow only three branches to grow on each plant, and tie them to the stake with strips of cloth. When they reach the top of the stake, prune them back. If a smaller quantity of the very finest and largest tomatoes are preferred, allow but one main stem to develop. Keep the branch ends clipped as soon as the plant has attained good size, and all of its energy will then go into making tomatoes.

Now comes the secret! Where a side branch leaves the main stem is a fork in which the fruit develops. In same place little shoots appear. Pinch out these shoots as fast as they grow and you cannot fail to get magnificent tomatoes. Do not plant one of the tree varieties, but select a smooth, even, meaty type like Matchless, Stone, and many others of their kind.

Making an Asparagus Bed.

If you have a suitable patch of ground about 12 feet long by 6 or 8 feet wide, you can grow enough asparagus on it to supply a large family during the spring. This does not mean one or two messes that cost so much they taste like money, either. It means all you want to eat of one of the most delicious and healthful vegetables. Plant a bed this year and you can cut an excellent crop next spring. Of course you could get some this year, but it is safer to let it alone for a year so that the plants may get a good start.

Well drained, mellow, sandy loam is best for asparagus. It must be warm, rich and well drained. Heavy clay will not do. If your soil is heavy, your best plan will be to excavate your bed to a depth of 18 inches and fill in with loamy soil or a mixture of loam and sand.

Land that has been used for a garden is better than fresh soil. It must be spaded as deep as possible, preferably from 12 to 18 inches. Make the soil fine, but not necessarily as fine as a seed bed, except right around the roots. Do this the latter part of April or the first of May.

Next dig trenches or hills deep enough to bring the crown of the plants eight inches below the surface of the ground. Have these rows 12 to 18 inches apart and set the plants 12 inches apart in the rows. Cover them with a few inches of well packed earth and then put on stable manure until just the tip of the stalk is visible. Keep the patch hoed and fill the trenches in as the plant grows until the whole bed is level. Do not put manure directly about the roots.

Losses in the Manure.

One of the big leaks on many farms which are liable to be short from the standpoint of both soil humus and fertility is in the loss of a large per cent of the value of the liquid manures through careless handling.

The straw should be returned to the land that produced it, and there is no way of doing this that is so good as in the shape of bedding used generously for the definite purpose of absorbing the liquid manures. The soil is in great need of these two by-products and the good farm manager will see to it that both are returned to it with as little loss as possible.

Spreading the Droppings.

The droppings from the cattle will benefit the pasture more if they are spread or broken up with a spike tooth harrow with the teeth set well apart. This prevents the grass from being killed out and the weeds coming in where the droppings have laid.

Ireland's Flag

There has been much diversity of opinion and traditional quotation regarding the original color of the Irish flag. The first flag of Ireland was blazoned with the sunburst, and as the peoples of remote ages took their colors from the most striking colors of the earth, sea and sky, it is quite possible, as some assert, that the first Irish banner was blue—the color of the sky or the blue waters from which the sun seems to rise or sink.



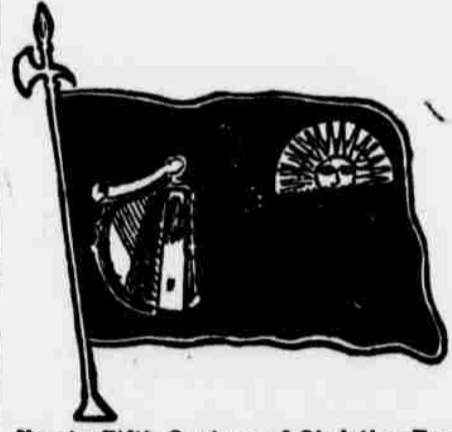
Flag of St. Patrick raised on Tara Hill in 432.

It is more likely, however, to have been green, emblematic of the Green Isle, with sunburst added as the colors of the illustrious people who subdued the original tribes and raised the first flag on Erin's soil, showing their Asiatic origin and their emblem of worship, they being followers of Zoroaster, or fire worshippers.

But although the Celts became the rulers of the soil they had no characteristic banner, each tribe having its own emblem, until the arrival of the Milesian colony from the grand city Miletus, in Asia Minor. Their flag was then accepted by the Celts, and it is generally conceded that all the different kings and princes that afterward reigned and warred with each other clung to the green flag down through the centuries of wars and tumult, leaving Erin's flag, if possible, greener than ever.

During the first year of the Christian era the Irish flag was ornamented with an ancient harp of gold. And as many of the people remained unconvinced to Christianity, half of the sunburst was blazoned on the flag. The harp seems to have been heard for the first time in Ireland during the first year of the Christian era. It was introduced by the famous Timotheus, a celebrated musician and poet, a descendant of Timotheus of Miletus. The people of Ireland were thrown into a state of such ecstasy by the sweet strains of the harp that they resolved to use it on the flag. And during the first Christian year, when the Psalms of David were being sung with great pomp, tradition points to the fact that the lost harp of King David went to Ireland.

The harp became the music of all classes, while the God of David was generally accepted, and the Christians soon outnumbered the Fire Worshipers, who disappeared altogether after two centuries. And it is hard for the people of the present time to believe that there were ever tribes of fire worshippers in the Emerald Isle. There is no place in Ireland that is so hallowed as Tara, where on Easter Sunday of the Christian era in about



Flag in Fifth Century of Christian Era.

the year 432 St. Patrick, or Patricius, was requested to deliver a sermon before King Laoghaire, prince, and lords at Tara Hill. St. Patrick attempted to define the Blessed Trinity to that memorable assembly, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, Three in One, in vain. He picked up a sprig of shamrock and showed the assembly three leaves on one stem, and they believed the sacred mystery, and unanimously erased the sun, the fast emblem of pagan Ireland, from their flag in honor of St. Patrick. And as a matter of history the flag, with a green ground, white shamrock and harp, remained unchanged till the tenth century.

On Good Friday there was a great battle to be fought. It was the tenth century. Brian Borohme was the sovereign of all Ireland. The Danes were gaining great power in Ireland. They had crowned their Citric king of Dublin. The majority of the Irish people under the leadership of King Brian determined to drive the Danes from the soil.

One of the daughters of the king had designed and embroidered in tapestry with yellow silk a beautiful banner, and under that precious gift on the following day the forces of King Brian were led to victory.

The flag remained with green ground golden black and shamrock until January 1, 1800, when the union with England was consummated. At 12 o'clock the royal standard of Great Britain and Ireland was hoisted on Dublin castle, a royal salute was fired from the battery in Phoenix park that announced to Ireland that her independence was over. Thus ended what is called Henry Grattan's parliament, the restoration of which has been a source of Irish agitation to the Union with Great Britain in 1801.

The Flag Previous of the Union with Great Britain in 1801. The condition of the British dominions for the last 110 years.



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RECALLS LITERARY MYSTERY

Rev. Mr. Wolfe, Author of "Burial of Sir John Moore," Buried at Queenstown.

A literary mystery of a hundred years ago is recalled by the special centenary number, recently issued, of the Newry Telegraph, an Ulster tri-weekly. In its pages April 19, 1817, under the simple head of "Poetry," appeared what Byron called "the most perfect ode in the language"—"The Burial of Sir John Moore." Byron or Campbell or any of the others to whom this poem was variously ascribed would doubtless have been proud to claim it. But the author was the obscure curate of Ballyclog, in Tyrone, Rev. Charles Wolfe, and the fame of the piece was but a posthumous fame for him. Not until his death, of consumption, in 1823, at the early age of thirty-two, did the authorship become known to the world. And Wolfe, who wrote much other verse of merit, is remembered only by that one poem which sprang from the columns of a provincial newspaper to universal recognition in the big world.

Superfluous Labor Counts.

The men who have achieved success are the men who have worked, read, thought more than was absolutely necessary, who have not been content with knowledge sufficient for the present need, but who have sought additional knowledge and stored it away for the emergency reserve. It is the superfluous labor that equips a man for everything that counts in life.

STRENGTH Without Overloading The Stomach.

The business man, especially, needs food in the morning that will not overload the stomach, but give mental vigor for the day.

Much depends on the start a man gets each day, as to how he may expect to accomplish the work on hand. He can't be alert, with a heavy, fried-meat-and-potatoes breakfast requiring a lot of vital energy in digesting it.

A Calif. business man tried to find some food combination that would not overload the stomach in the morning, but that would produce energy.

He writes: "For years I was unable to find a breakfast food that had nutrition enough to sustain a business man without overloading his stomach, causing indigestion and kindred ailments.

"Being a very busy and also a very nervous man, I decided to give up breakfast altogether. But luckily I was induced to try Grape-Nuts.

"Since that morning I have been a new man; can work without tiring, my head is clear and my nerves strong and quiet.

"I find four teaspoonfuls of Grape-Nuts with one of sugar and a small quantity of cold milk, is delicious as the cereal part of the morning meal, and invigorates me for the day's business." Name given by Postum Co., Battle Creek, Mich. Read the little book, "The Road to Wellville," in pigs. "There's a Reason."

Ever read the above letter? A new one appears from time to time. They are genuine, true, and full of human interest. Adv.

AN EXPENSIVE DISEASE.



"The doctors thought he had appendicitis until he went into bankruptcy, and then—"
"Continue."
"They diagnosed his case a pain in the stomach."

Boosting a Mine.
"How's the sale of stock coming on?" inquired the first promoter.
"Sold 9,000 shares this morning," said the second promoter.
"That must mean a good deal of money."
"Almost \$6. Come on, and I'll blow you to lunch."

WHEN RUBBERS BECOME NECESSARY
And your shoes pinch, Allen's Foot-Powder, the Antiseptic powder to be shaken into the shoes, is just the thing to use. Try it for breaking in New Shoes. Sold Everywhere. Sample FREE. Address: A. B. Crockett, LeRoy, N. Y. Don't accept any substitute. Adv.

One Difference.
One difference between a good bank teller and a spendthrift is that the teller may earn an honest living by letting money slip through his fingers.

Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup for Children teething, softens the gums, reduces inflammation, always cures wind colic, 25c a bottle.

It's easy to keep in touch with society if you have money to lend.

BUY FOLEY'S HONEY AND TAR COMPOUND STOPS COUGHS - CURES COLDS

The Wretchedness of Constipation

Can quickly be overcome by CARTER'S LITTLE LIVER PILLS. Purely vegetable—act surely and gently on the liver. Cure Biliousness, Headache, Dizziness, and Indigestion. They do their duty. SMALL PILL, SMALL DOSE, SMALL PRICE. Genuine must bear Signature

Acute Food
OVER 100 YEARS OLD Pettit's Eye Salve