

indignation which cleared the temple once will clear it again."

At Atlanta, Ga., recently, the president of the United States, pointing towards Manila, said: "Our flag is there; who will haul it down?" If Americans of today have not become degenerate sons of illustrious sires, but still love freedom and cherish the spirit that animated their forefathers at Independence Hall and Valley Forge, they will see to it that it is hauled down. The American flag was not unfurled to the world's admiration as the symbol of brute force, but as the emblem of deathless devotion to liberty and light.

"Flag of the free! flaunt not the creed
Of men who war for gain or greed;
For not the victor's symbol thou—
Before which subject races bow,
Thy stars still teach us to aspire."

"Oh flag! baptised through thronging years
In fire, in blood, in holy tears—
In freedom's name—for freedom's fame—
By the dear land we love to name—
Thy glory shall not be our shame."

WHAT THE BLIND CAN DO.

BY JOHN P. IRISH.

There is no more interesting subject connected with the lives and fortunes of the defective classes than the blind and the story of the effort to ameliorate the hardships of their condition. There are two perfectly distinct classes of the blind; one is composed of those whose blindness is congenital, or has occurred in infancy; the other, of those whose sight is lost after adult age.

The first class, having either had no sight at all, or having enjoyed vision but briefly, to a great degree overcome its lack. They have furnished numerous remarkable instances of substitution of the lost sense by those which remain. Hearing and touch, especially, extend themselves and assume the duties of sight.

In Boston a blind surgeon took his training in the dissecting-room, learned the anatomical structure of the body, by touch, and practiced successfully, performing many of the major surgical operations as skillfully as any member of his profession. One of the professors of mathematics at Harvard was a blind man, whose genius grasped the whole science of numbers and imparted it to his classes unaided by vision. In New York there is a blind sculptor, who modeled in clay what is regarded by critics as the best portrait bust ever made of Washington Irving. This sightless sculptor modeled and received the contract for one of the most elaborate monuments erected in that state to commemorate the soldiers of our civil war.

In Nebraska, Professor Bacon, the founder of several institutions for the blind, runs a large stock farm, and has made a competence by the breeding of neat cattle. No man is a keener judge of the points of live stock than he, and his

judgment is sought by others in the same business.

One of the great institutions for the blind in England was founded by a blind American who first attracted attention in Europe by making the ascent of Mount Blanc.

The greatest boat and yacht builder in the world is a blind man, Mr. Herreshoff of Rhode Island. He takes an order for a boat, with capacity and desired speed stated, forms its plans in his mind, and then dictates its dimensions, structure, sailing plan and most minute details to his secretary. When the lines of the craft are laid by his workmen he detects by touch the slightest deviation, and is noted among his mechanics as the most exact and exacting builder in the country and the readiest to note a fault or a change in his plan. This marine architect built the yacht which defended the America's cup in the last race with the British Yacht club. He arranged her sailing plan, the cloth she should carry in the various conditions of the wind she was likely to encounter on the racing waters of the lower bay at New York.

When the great race was sailed in the presence of tens of thousands, the blind builder of the fleet victor in the contest stood on the deck of a steamer by the side of his secretary, and, turning his face to the wind to judge its velocity, would note its changes and repeat the instructions of his sailing plan as to what sails should be spread and what furled to meet the changes in the breeze. Of the thousands whose feelings vibrated and thrilled as the fortunes of the white-winged racers waxed or waned, but few knew that the blind builder, standing in everlasting darkness, watched the race with sensibilities as keen as any and that his sense of proportion, aided only by touch, had brought into form the fleet winner in the greatest race ever sailed.

The persons who have become blind in infancy have proven to be the best benefactors of those whose sight goes out in adult age. The latter class feel the loss with a keenness that is pitiful. Long in the enjoyment of vision, sight gives facility to the use of foot and hand. It becomes a guide to the hearing and touch. When taken away, the loss is a pitiful abridgment of the use of the remaining senses. It takes power and facility away from the hand, and replaces the firm step with a timid and painful stumble. The juvenile blind train themselves to walk without a stick. They guide themselves by hearing and by something that has been believed to be a sixth sense, which is developed in substitution for sight. By this strange and highly sublimated sensibility they feel the presence of an object which they have not touched or heard. They know whether it is animate or inanimate. In like manner they feel the presence of a pit into which they might

fall or a cliff over which they might plunge. Their step is free and firm. They acquire a knowledge of locality and learn the streets of a city or country highways as readily as those who see. They acquire a knowledge of music, of mathematics and of certain handicrafts, as easily as those with all their senses. In the ends of their fingers touch becomes exquisitely sensitive. Under various systems books are printed for their use, either with raised letters or with points on the same plan as the first telegraphic printing. These books now make up a fairly complete library of literature and science. They learn to write to each other, using a stylus to impress the points upon the paper. They use the typewriter with facility, printing from dictation.

Those who become blind in infancy become the instructors of the adult blind. They live in an arm's-length world, bounded by what they can touch. That is their horizon. Sounds come to them from beyond its borders, but they are like sounds that might be heard below and beyond the horizon that is seen by the eye. In this narrow world of touch those who lost sight in infancy receive the unfortunate who lose it in age. They come stumbling, timid, and sorrowful, given to melancholy introspection, hopeless and pitiful. The seeing people around them can comfort them but little, for instinctively they handle them through the eye which they have not. The scene changes when they encounter their fellows who lost sight so young that they remember it but dimly, or not at all. They are in the world of darkness and touch now, in the hands of those who know it in an intimacy impossible to any who live in a world of sight and light. They are led through and around it by their finger tips. Their timidity grows less. Confidence takes the place of fear. It seems simple, but the first and most important lesson to be learned by the adult blind is to walk alone.

It is interesting to know that long after the juvenile blind had been taught, trained and equipped for an active place in the world, the adult blind were regarded as incapable of relief. The first attempt to temper their condition was made by the authorities of the Catholic church in France. From that beginning the effort extended, with but little substantial success, until those blind from infancy were brought into it as guides and instructors of their elder brethren in distress. From that point great progress has been made. It began a career for the juvenile blind, who as teachers and superintendents of institutions for the adult blind, found a most honorable and useful and expert occupation for their trained faculties, and in them the adult blind found their best instructors, friends and companions.

In the United States many of the leading institutions for the blind were