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WILLIAM F. BROENING  
MAYOR

July 20, 1928.

Dr. James D. Iglehart  
Star Spangled Banner Flag House Ass'n.,  
Baltimore, Md.

My dear Dr. Iglehart:-

Some weeks ago a Committee from the Maryland Society of the War of 1812 called on me suggesting that some sort of ceremony be held in connection with formally dedicating Fort McHenry as a National Shrine.

The Committee thought it would be a splendid idea if this could be arranged for the twelfth of September, as at that time the Bi-ennial Congress of the National Society of the War of 1812 will be held in this City.

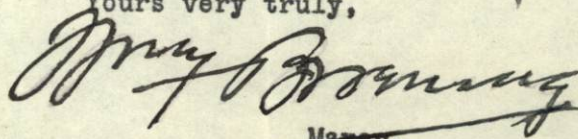
I assured the Committee that I would be glad to cooperate with them and in company with General Clinton L. Riggs, who is the President of the Maryland Society of the War of 1812, we called on the Secretary of War, urging upon him that some ceremony under the auspices of the National Government be held in connection with the dedication of Fort McHenry as a National Shrine. Complying with his suggestion we wrote him about the matter, and I personally assured him that the City of Baltimore would be glad to co-operate in any ceremony that the National Government would undertake.

With this in view I have selected as a Committee the executive officers of the various patriotic, military and ex-service organizations in our City and have appointed Mr. Charles H. Linville, a member of the Maryland Society of the War of 1812, as Chairman.

I should be happy to have you accept service on this Committee and trust that your engagements may be such as to enable you to attend the meeting when called by the Chairman.

With assurances of my great respect, believe me

Yours very truly,

  
Mayor.

North Haven. Maine.

July 23.1928.

Mr.Charles H.Linville.

Chairman.  
404 West Baltimore Street. Baltimore.

My dear Mr Linville,

There has been forwarded from my office a letter in which the Mayor has been kind enough to invite me as "an executive officer" of The Maryland Society, Sons of the American Revolution, to serve on the Committee he has formed for the proposed dedication of Fort Mchenry as a National Shrine.

I am not a member of the Sons of the American Revolution, but it would afford me pleasure to serve upon the Mayor's Committee as President of The Maryland Historical Society,- Member of The Society of Sons of the Revolution in the State of Maryland,- Member of The Maryland Society of the War of 1812,- or as a Citizen of Baltimore, deeply interested in all the efforts which have been directed to the rescue of Fort Mchenry and its preservation as a National Shrine.

Yours very truly,



7-28-28  
306/118

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7/25/28  
same

WILLIAM F. BROENING  
MAYOR

July 24, 1928.

Mr. Wm. Hall Harris,  
Maryland Society, Sons of America Revolution,  
Baltimore, Md.

Dear Sir:-

By appointment of Mayor William F. Broening you are a member of the Committee having in charge the ceremony of the dedication of Fort McHenry as a national shrine by our Government on September 12th next.

As chairman of said committee I am calling a meeting on Thursday, July 26th at 3 P. M., in the Boardroom of the City Hall. Your cooperation towards making the celebration a success is earnestly desired. Kindly arrange to attend the meeting.

Very truly yours,

*Charles H. Linville*

Charles H. Linville,  
Chairman.



WILLIAM F. BROENING  
MAYOR

July 24, 1928.

Dr. James D. Iglehart,  
Star Spangled Banner Flag House Ass'n,  
Baltimore, Md.

Dear Sir:-

By appointment of Mayor William F. Broening you are a member of the Committee having in charge the ceremony of the dedication of Fort McHenry as a national shrine by our Government on September 12th next.

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Very truly yours,

*Charles H. Linville*

Charles H. Linville,  
Chairman.

7.28.28  
30 174 W. 956

July 25, 1928

Charles H. Linville, Esquire, Chairman,  
404 West Baltimore Street,  
Baltimore.

My dear Sir:

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 24th instant to Mr. Harris who regrets that he will be out of the City on the 26th instant, and therefore cannot attend the meeting which you have called.

I wrote to Mayor Broening that Mr. Harris could not represent the Sons of the American Revolution as he is not a member of that Society, but suppose his letter was intended for him as a member of the Sons of the Revolution. I shall be obliged if you will make this change on your records.

Yours truly,

*General Secretary*

PRESIDENT  
GEN. CLINTON L. RIGGS  
LATROBE APTS.

TREASURER  
IRA H. HOUGHTON  
211 N. CALVERT ST.



SECRETARY  
RICHARD CONSTABLE BERNARD  
802 MARYLAND TRUST BUILDING

REGISTRAR  
FRANCIS B. CULVER  
1227 16TH ST., N. W.  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

*Society of the War of 1812*  
in Maryland

BALTIMORE, MD.

August 7, 1928.

Dear Compatriot:-

The dedication of Fort McHenry as a National Shrine on September 12th, next, should appeal to every member of the Society of the War of 1812 in Maryland. It will be a day of great interest for Baltimore and it is hoped that every one will assist in making the event a memorable one for this Society.

Congress has appropriated the necessary money and we are assured that Fort McHenry - the Birthplace of the Star Spangled Banner - will be sufficiently restored for the dedication. President Coolidge, the Secretary of War and the Secretary of the Navy are expected to be present. Mayor Broening has offered every co-operation of the City of Baltimore to make the day a success and there will be a Military parade and elaborate fireworks.

The National Society of the War of 1812 will hold its Bi-Annual Congress in Baltimore and be the guest of our Society. The members of our Society are expected to contribute to the expenses of the banquet which will be given that evening to our delegates and other distinguished guests and every member of this Society who subscribes \$10.00 will be given a ticket to the banquet.

Our members and members of other patriotic Societies are privileged to bring their wives and other guests, on the same terms, and we anticipate that our great concern will be to hold the number of applications within the seating limit. A quick response is urged to insure your reservations for the banquet.

Please be prompt in your acknowledgment, because the time is short. All contributions should be mailed to Ira H. Houghton, Treasurer, 211 N. Calvert Street, stating the number of reservations that you desire for the banquet.

Very truly yours,

JAMES E. HANCOCK

Chairman of Committee of Arrangements.

956  
8/16/1928

The  
FORT McHENRY DEDICATION COMMITTEE  
227 CITY HALL    ::    ::    ::    BALTIMORE

CHARLES H. LINVILLE,  
*Chairman*  
THEODORE R. MCKELDIN,  
*Secretary*



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Jamm

JAMES E. HANCOCK,  
*Arrangements  
Chairman*  
GEN. MILTON A. RECORD  
*Military Chairman*  
ROBERT IRVIN,  
*Publicity Chairman*  
GEN. CLINTON L. RIGGS  
*Reception Chairman*

August 14, 1928.

Mr. W. Hall Harris,  
Title Building.  
Baltimore, Md.

Dear Mr. Harris:-

Pardon delay in not replying earlier to your favor of July 23rd as I have been absent from the City.

I note in your letter that you will serve on one of our committees as President of the Maryland Historical Society. Inasmuch as we do not know when you expect to return to the city we are at a loss as to just upon which committee you will be most available. If you are returning within the next week or two we would very much like to have you act as one of the committee of arrangements otherwise we will place you on the reception committee where the work will not be taken up until just prior to the dedication ceremonies.

Very truly yours,

*Charles H. Linville*  
Charles H. Linville, Chairman.

North Haven. Maine.

August 19.1928.

My dear Mr.Hancock,

Acknowledging the receipt of your circular letter of seventh instant,which made but a leisurely progress to me,I am enclosing check for ten dollars, although it is not probable I shall have reached Baltimore by September twelfth.

If the Historical Society has been invited to take any part in this celebration,will you be good enough to see that it is properly represented by a Vice President? The understanding always has been that there is no seniority among these Officers,but Mr.Thom has been longest in office and perhaps General Riggs may be occupied with duties pertaining to the 1812 Society.

Yours very truly,

Mr.James E.Hancock.

Baltimore.

North Haven, Maine.  
August 20.1928.

Mr. Charles H. Linville,  
Chairman.  
Baltimore.

My dear Mr. Linville,

I have your letter of 14th. instant.

Unfortunately, for me, my arrangements have now been so modified that I cannot render the slightest service in connection with the celebration on September twelfth, for it will not be until after that date I reach Baltimore.

The Corresponding Secretary of the Historical Society, Mr. James E. Hancock, will arrange that one of the Vice Presidents represent it, which he will do far more efficiently than I could have done.

Yours very truly,

National Society  
Daughters of Founders and Patriots of America

PRESIDENT

MRS. JOHN LAIDLAW BUEL  
LITCHFIELD, CONN.

VICE-PRESIDENT

MRS. THADDEUS M. JONES  
1828 I STREET N. W. WASHINGTON, D. C.

RECORDING SECRETARY

MRS. MARGARET SCRUGGS CARRUTH  
2718 TURTLE CREEK BLVD. DALLAS, TEXAS

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

MISS ELLA WHILLDIN  
209 TEE STREET N. E. WASHINGTON, D. C.

ORGANIZING SECRETARY

MRS. ROBERT JOHNSTON  
HUMBOLDT, IOWA



REGISTRAR

MRS. ALBERT F. OLSON  
3838 KESWICK ROAD BALTIMORE, MD.

TREASURER

MRS. WILLIAM M. HANNAY  
207 EYE STREET N. W. WASHINGTON, D. C.

HISTORIAN

MRS. HENRY B. JOY  
301 LAKE SHORE RD. GROSSE PT. FARMS, MICH.

COLOR BEARER

MRS. ALBERT N. BAGGS  
2324 ASHMEAD PLACE WASHINGTON, D. C.

CHAPLAIN

MISS KATHERINE M. GREEN  
2801 R STREET LINCOLN, NEBRASKA

Baltimore, Maryland.  
September 19, 1928.

General Clinton L. Riggs, President,  
Society of the War of 1812 in Maryland,  
Latrobe Apartments,  
Charles and Read Strs.,  
Baltimore, Md.

My dear General Riggs:

September twelfth was indeed a red letter day for those fortunate in attending the brilliant dedication exercises of Ft. McHenry.

The Nation is greatly indebted to you and the members of the Maryland Society of the Sons of 1812, Hon. J. Charles Linthicum, Hon. William F. Broening and your most efficient chairman, Mr. Charles H. Linville for the indefatigable effort put forth in securing the appropriation and support of the Government to make this a National Park. I am grateful this park is to become a patriotic shrine and will not be lost in oblivion of passing years.

As I watched Old Glory waving over the Fort I felt as if the spirit of Francis Scott Key was hovering over us.

I congratulate you upon your great achievement and thank you for the privilege of being invited to represent our wonderful organization.

Sincerely yours,

*Lucella Sinclair Olson*

Registrar,

National Society Daughters of Founders and Patriots  
of America.

until Sept-5.

39 Colbert Road East-  
West-Newton Mass

Gen Andrew S Riggs. Pres  
Society War of 1812  
Charles S Reed St-  
Balto. Md

My dear Gen Riggs  
As the time ap-  
proaches for the Rededication of  
Fort Mifflin Sept-12-1925 I thought  
possibly it would be of interest to  
your 1812 Society to have a copy  
of the story & efforts during the  
last ten years to protect our  
National Anthem "The Star  
Spangled Banner." to place in  
your files for future reference. The  
splendid interest and sup-  
port of the Sons of 1812 has  
been most helpful and

encouraging to one who has  
spent many hours in the  
past-ten year. My dutiful  
interest- has been entering  
& even tho <sup>the</sup> time has seemed  
long, now as the monument  
has been realized - The Fort-

made a sacred Shrine we will  
work and hope for a favorable  
report during the coming  
session of Congress on this Bill

I crave your continued  
interest and support in this  
patriotic work

Just 59 years ago  
Sept-12 1839 by Grandfather  
Jacob Houck presented "Houcks  
acre" to the State of Ind. - to mark  
the spot where the Battle of  
Fort Point was fought -

Patriotically & Sincerely  
Aug 24/1928 (Mrs Ruth Ross) Clara J. Stalman

## WAR DEPARTMENT

I M M E D I A T E

R E L E A S E

ADDRESS DELIVERED BY ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF WAR, HONORABLE F. TRUBEE DAVISON, ON THE OCCASION OF THE DEDICATION OF FORT McHENRY, MARYLAND, AS A NATIONAL MEMORIAL, SEPTEMBER 12, 1928.

We have gathered on this momentous occasion to dedicate Fort McHenry as a national park. On this historic site there will be restored the Fort McHenry of 114 years ago at the peak of whose tall flagstaff flew the Star Spangled Banner 'mid a rain of shot and shell in a sky red with the glare of rockets. This national park is destined to become a shrine of national patriotism

There have been more momentous battles in the nation's history waged around our sea coast fortifications. Greater guns have hammered upon mightier defenders than those of old Fort McHenry. Larger American Armies have clashed on the field of battle than the total forces engaged in the War of 1812. But, instead of being lost in the oblivion of passing years, the move for the restoration of this fortification has continued to gain impulse. Today the efforts of those organizations and those citizens who have striven for the restoration of the walls of old Fort McHenry are justly rewarded.

Fort McHenry was heroic in itself. Its grim walls, upon which crashed the shells of naval guns, glared back a national defiance. Its guns repelled an invader and in repelling prevented another national catastrophe such as that which had occurred at Washington after the fiasco of Bladensburg. Its defenders, comparatively few as they may have been in numbers, were so much the more heroic in deed and action.

But of even greater import to ensuing generations of Americans down to our own day than old Fort McHenry itself, is the fact that from its flagstaff flew the flag which was the inspiration of Francis Scott Key when he wrote the Star Spangled Banner.

Born in Frederick County in this state, a graduate of St. Johns College at Annapolis, and for a time a practicing lawyer in Frederick, Francis Scott Key later made his home in the city of Washington not far from the memorial bridge named in his honor. Son of a soldier of the American Revolution, he was intimately known and deeply respected by the highest officials of our Government. He played an active part in the arrangements for the futile defense of the capital city against the attacks of the enemy raiding forces. He was present at Bladensburg. Sent later to the enemy fleet under a flag of truce, he was detained on a British man-of-war by officers who did not wish to have divulged their projected activities against Baltimore.

He heard the opening gun against Fort McHenry. He saw the crash of bombs over its walls. Throughout a long night, the fitful light of the rocket told him that the flag still flew; that Fort McHenry still constituted the defense of the city of Baltimore. And the dawn's early light disclosed a banner, rent and torn, but still flying - heroic symbol of the fact that his liberty-loving countrymen, banded together under the constitution to provide for the common defense, had repelled the invader.

In verse he perpetuated the thoughts, the fears, and the anxieties of a long night of war and of the glorious dawn of day when the invading fleet saw fit to withdraw leaving Baltimore in peace.

The Star Spangled Banner is our national anthem, not by congressional action, but by public recognition. It has been criticized from time to time for varied reasons. But to those half million who ten years ago today were crashing through the once impregnable St. Mibiel salient there can be but one and there will remain but one national anthem. They too saw a sky red with rockets and shells bursting in air. When their victorious efforts finally were rewarded by a return to the back areas and they assembled at the evening parade, the playing of the Star Spangled Banner signalized their security and brought home a realization of the significance of their efforts and sacrifices. The answer is that the American people have, over a long period of years, taken the Star Spangled Banner for their own. It now constitutes a heritage in the national heart which can never be taken away from us. It stands secure on the foundation of sacrifices.

END

WAR DEPARTMENT - IMMEDIATE - 9/12/28.

*F. Trubee Davison*

Katherine Lewis,  
Publicity Representative,  
Women's Patriotic Conference on National Defense.

ADDRESS of Mrs. Reuben Ross Holloway of Baltimore, Maryland, Chairman Correct Use of the Flag and Star Spangled Banner, N. S. U. S. D. 1812, on the Star Spangled Banner, before the Women's Patriotic Conference on National Defense, Thursday afternoon, February 10, 1927, in Memorial Continental Hall, Washington, D. C.

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Every custom and law held sacred by the American people is being attacked in some form by un-American Americans. Including, of course, our national anthem, "The Star Spangled Banner", that immortal poem written by Francis Scott Key.

I shall not make an effort, Madam President, to present my own thoughts and words, but shall quote from the remarkable and masterly address which lingers in the hearts of those who were privileged to hear it, made by our late President, Warren G. Harding, at the dedication of the Francis Scott Key Memorial at Fort McHenry, Baltimore, Maryland, June 14, 1922.

"Francis Scott Key, though he produced some splendid lines, which are less familiar than they deserve, was not a great poet. He was less, but he was also more, than a great poet. He was possessor of a patriotism which in a supreme moment could make words and meters its creatures and servitors; and so modest a genius was raised in the flaming hour to a place among the immortals. That the song became instantly popular, and that when set to music it was immediately adopted as the anthem of militant Americanism, testifies that already more than a century ago the conviction of a great nationalism and a great destiny had taken hold upon the American people. To give ringing voice to such conviction, to such an aspiration, was one of the greatest services which any man could do for the young Republic. That was the service of Francis Scott Key. It was not the production of soul-stirring lines with martial appeal; it was in the contribution of his great hymn toward creating that sense of national pride and that realization of responsibility for a great adventure in behalf of humanity which became at last the inspiration of union preserved and of nationalism established....."

"The World War produced a really remarkable group of songs of inspiration and patriotism. It seems only yesterday that we were singing them. There were many and they served well; but none has, even for a moment, threatened the throne which "The Star Spangled Banner" occupies as the royal anthem of American patriotism."

March 1918 a special Board Meeting was called by the Maryland State President of the National Society U. S. Daughters of 1812, to discuss the advisability of asking protection for our National Anthem, the "Star Spangled Banner"; with unanimous consent the Secretary was instructed to write to the Hon. J. Charles Linthicum, asking him to introduce such a Bill. April 1918, Mr. Linthicum introduced the Bill, 11,365. We had hoped it would be immediately passed at this session of Congress. Owing to after-war conditions it was not passed. A letter was at once written Mr. Linthicum requesting him to re-introduce the Bill which he did April 21, 1921, Bill 4391. Attacks were again and again made upon the Anthem. Mrs. Augusta Stetson spent thousands of dollars attacking the Anthem. July 1, 1923,

articles appeared in the New York Tribune, the New York World and the Boston Post, and July 3, 1922, in the New York Globe and the Baltimore American (the home of the Star Spangled Banner), July 5, 1922, in the New York Daily News, the New York Evening Mail and the Chicago Tribune. One June 14, 1922, President Harding had dedicated the Francis Scott Key Memorial at Fort McHenry. A letter was received from Buffalo, N. Y., written upon stationery of the Association of the Collegiate Alumnae Committee of Educational Legislation of New York. The writer stated that her message was from individual members of the collegiate alumnae and not from the national organization, and it was to call attention to what she regarded as flaws Literary and Musical. A made-to-order anthem was suggested.

ANTHEMS ARE INSPIRED -- NOT MADE TO ORDER!!!!

The third Bill, 6429, introduced January 30, 1923, and in March 1924, we were called to a hearing before the Judiciary Committee in Washington, where many enthusiastic Americans, representing thousands of loyal Americans were gathered. Letters had been received and telegrams innumerable from all over the States, commanding the passage of the Bill. This Bill died, with the closing of the 68th Congress. During this session, Mr. McFadden and Mr. Swope of Pennsylvania, had introduced Bills. Mr. Fairchild of New York and Mr. Cellar of New York, for the American Legion - all Bills were considered at the hearing before the Judiciary.

December 7, 1925, Mr. Linthicum introduced, for the fourth time in the 69th Congress, HR Bill 195, other Bills also having been reintroduced. I find no other record of Bills introduced except one by a former President many years previous -- I mean a President of the National Society Sons of the War of 1812, which died shortly after presentation.

Of course, you are aware of the ever-scurrilous attacks upon our Anthem. Conductor Harry Bernhart of the Summer Community songs, Central Park, refused flatly to submit to the Park Department of New York orders to open with our anthem. As a result of his refusal, Park Commissioner Gallatin cancelled the concert schedule for August 23, 1923, and said: "If the anthem is good enough for our soldiers, it is good enough for Central Park Singers."

Mrs. Scarborough of the Port Society of New York decided she would not have the Anthem sung at a called meeting but others decided the question for her. A group of Wilmington women tried to silence the National Anthem, November 11, 1923, and as a result the bands dropped out of line.

And now we are invited to join the Hymn Society of America, of which Carl Fowler Price is President, and a committee composed of James Pratt of New York, Bishop Barnes of ~~Min~~ingham, Mass., and Dr. Reginald McAll of Massachusetts, of the National Association of Organists, to support a bill to be drawn up and presented to Congress to ask that "America the Beautiful", written by Catherine Lee Bates, of Wellesley College, Massachusetts, be made the national anthem and this, a fairly good Harvest Home Song, to supplant "The Star Spangled Banner."

A new idea is being thrust upon our younger people. I quote from the book before me "Song and Worship Book for Young People's Conferences" p.4, see The New Patriotism, nine supposedly patriotic songs. I quote from Mr. Sidney ~~Hy~~song in the paper entitled "Unity", Sept. 6, 1926, which tells of the propeganda being put forward by summer camps promoted by the Y. M. C. A. and the Y. W. C. A. and the churches -- he tells of how one speaker at an Epworth League Institution referring to the Ponsby Plan for Peace was greeted with cheers and calls attention to a song worship book edited by Sidney A. Weston, of the Congregational Publishing Society, 14 Beacon

STRONG

Street, Boston, Mass., who is trying to bring our young people to the newer type of patriotism. "Mr. Strong, to recommend this newer type of patriotism, states that the editor has left out the Star Spangled Banner" and calls attention to the fact, as he puts it, "America" is omitted, and in its place a fine hymn by Mr. William G. Ballantyne, and after quoting two stanzas of the hymn, he writes: "These words will be sung by increasing thousands of America's young people, to the tune of the Russian hymn."

"The Star Spangled Banner" National Peace Chimes <sup>EACH DAY</sup> at the sunset hour, throughout the hills and dales of our sacred Valley Forge, will ring with the inspiring music of our real National Anthem, "The Star Spangled Banner."

1889 the Navy Department prescribed that the Star Spangled Banner should be played at both morning and evening Colors. The anthem for the service must be the anthem for the people. I ask the combined support of the representatives of all Societies here to support the petition to be presented to Congress. Attacks on our National Anthem "The Star Spangled Banner" are insults to the Flag that inspired it.

"An American citizenship of the high and simple faith of Francis Scott Key, aflame for defense, and no less devoted in meeting the problems of peace will add to the lustre of the banner he so proudly acclaimed. Every glittering star is fixed, every worth-while procession is the more impressive for its bearing, every passion for country is refined by its unfolding. On ships of mercy or vessels of war, in the armed camp or at the memorials of peace, in rejoicing procession or flying from the staff over the simple temples of the schooling youth of America -- everywhere it pleases the eye, and reassures the heart and stirs the soul, until we sing in all confidence with the post-patriot -- "

"The Star Spangled Banner in triumph shall wave  
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave."

ADDENDUM

December 5, 1927, a Bill, HR #306, "to protect the Star Spangled Banner of the United States of America, for all times", was introduced for the 5th time, by the Hon. J. Charles Linthicum.

Why did the Government erect and dedicate a monument at Fort McHenry, June 14, 1922? To mark the spot from whence flew The Flag inspiring Francis Scott Key to write our National Anthem, "The Star Spangled Banner".

Why has the Government made Fort McHenry a National Shrine and with ceremony, co-operating with the State and City, will formally dedicate it Sept. 12, 1928?

Because on this sacred spot all true Americans will visit, bow their heads and pay tribute to the courageous men who kept our Flag flying through the din and stress of Battle, which inspired Francis Scott Key to write the "Star Spangled Banner", our National Anthem. And from Fort McHenry an answer was sent back to Lexington, Mass. Maryland had spoken the last words of the Revolutionary Wars and by her deeds and action had established the freedom of the Seas, and our Complete Independence.

Again the attacks appear. Now a Mrs. Florence Brooks-Aten, of New York, rather imagine of the same family as Mrs. Augustus Stitson, Mrs. Scarborough of the Port Society Hymn Society "and others or possibly members of the ever-alert Pacifist Societies who cry: "Peace, Peace," at the same time claiming protection of the American Flag, which they insult each time they attack The Star Spangled Banner, for our Flag inspired the Author.

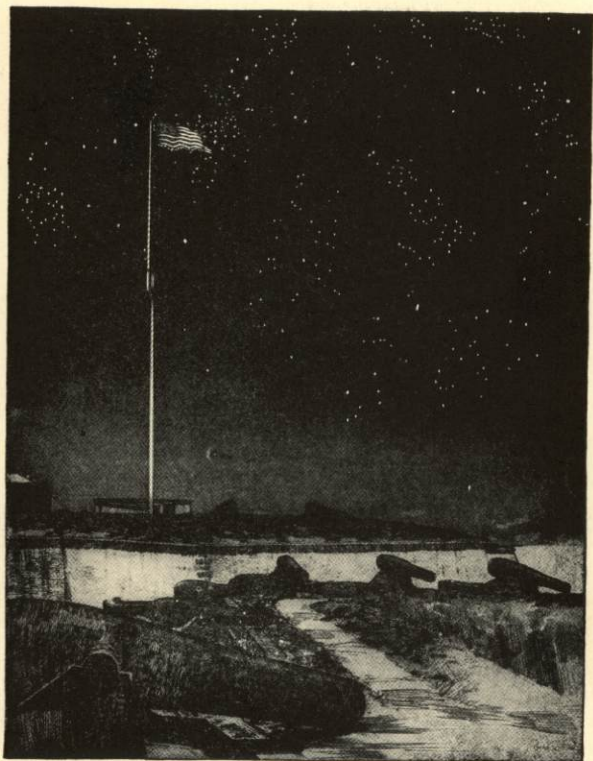
Throughout all the world our Star Spangled Banner is recognized and played at all Diplomatic Ceremonies of Nations, and in death, I quote, as the body of Capt. Emilio Carranza, the courageous Mexican aviator of Good Will was being placed in the *Care of* Home Officials and his Countrymen, "our National Anthem, The Star Spangled Banner was softly played and appreciatively recognized by the great crowd." Our Anthem was followed by the Mexican Anthem.

How can an American ever consider a change?

The first verse is a question: asking if our Flag is still there. This is the verse we sing as the Anthem of the U. S. A., not one note is repeated. I quote "The Star Spangled Banner should be played throughout, without repetition of any part not required to be repeated to make it complete." Flag Circular, War Department, Feb. 15, 1923.

"The Star Spangled Banner shall wave,  
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave."

July 25, 1928.



*“ . . . that our flag was still there.”*

A SOUVENIR OF THE DEDICATION  
OF FORT M'HENRY AS A NATIONAL SHRINE  
*Birthplace of the Star-Spangled Banner*



SOCIETY OF THE WAR OF 1812 IN MARYLAND  
*September 12, 1928*

# THE STAR-SPANGLED BANNER

O say can you see ~~through~~ by the dawn's early light  
What so proudly we hail'd at the twilight's last gleaming,  
Whose broad stripes & bright stars through the perilous fight  
O'er the ramparts we watch'd were so gallantly streaming?  
And the rocket's red glare, the bomb bursting in air,  
Gave proof through the night that our flag was still there,  
O say does that star-spangled banner yet wave  
O'er the land of the free & the home of the brave?

On the 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, half conceals half discloses?  
Now it catches the gleam of the morning's first beam,  
In full glory reflected now shines in the stream,  
'Tis the star-spangled banner — O long may it wave  
O'er the land of the free & the home of the brave!

And where is that band who so vauntingly swore,  
That the havoc of war & the battle's confusion  
A home & a Country should leave us no more?  
~~They~~  
Their blood has wash'd out their foul footsteps' pollution  
No refuge could save the hireling & slave  
From the terror of flight or the gloom of the grave,  
And the star-spangled banner in triumph doth wave  
O'er the land of the free & the home of the brave.

O thus be it ever when freeman shall stand  
Between their lov'd home & the war's desolation,  
Blest with vict'ry & peace may the heav'n rescued land  
Praise the power that hath made & preserved us a nation!  
Then conquer we must, when our cause it 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 & the home of the brave.

1814



1928

*September 12*

Peace and calm in the town today  
Where each of us quietly goes his way.  
But there was a time when the town was  
    stirred,  
When thunder of distant guns was heard  
And here and there in excited groups  
Citizens told of advancing troops.

★ ★ ★

Peace and calm in the town today,  
Unperturbed we work and we play.  
But there was a time when the crash and roar  
Of British guns spoke of bloody war,  
When hopes ebbed low through a horrid  
    night  
And women prayed for the dawn's gray light.

★ ★ ★

Peace and calm in the town today  
With banners flung in a proud display.  
But there was a time when the call rang out  
For men to rally and put to rout  
Invading hosts on pillage bent,  
And rally they did and forth they went,  
And love of country and freedom glowed  
That day, long ago, on the North Point road.

—Clark S. Hobbs



THE SOCIETY OF THE WAR OF 1812  
IN THE STATE OF MARYLAND

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

J. CUSTIS HANDY, SECRETARY

10 SOUTH STREET,

BALTIMORE, MD.

Dear Sir and Compatriot:—

The committees in charge of the arrangements for the entertainment of the National Congress of the General Society of the War of 1812, have submitted their reports to a general meeting of the Society, and the Secretary was instructed to advise the members as follows:

(1) The Registration Committee will meet on Friday, September 11th, at four o'clock, P. M., in the parlor of the Belvedere, and be in session till seven o'clock to receive visiting delegates and guests, furnish credentials, issue invitations, &c. This committee will consist of the following: J. Custis Handy, Thomas Hildt, Howard H. M. Lee, Edward Ferguson Arthurs, John H. Miller.

(2) The Society is invited to attend a reception given by the United States Daughters of 1812 to the Congress, visiting guests and members of this Society, which will be given in the Banquet room of the Belvedere on Friday at eight o'clock <sup>P.</sup>A. M. Each member of the Society is expected to be present in full evening dress, and be a member of the reception committee. Each subscriber to the Banquet and expense fund is privileged to invite a lady to this reception. There will be no formal invitations extended.

(3) At or about eleven o'clock of Friday the eleventh, the visiting delegates and alternates will be the guests of the Star Spangled Banner Committee at the Military Ball at the Fifth Regiment Armory. Our members are not invited to this Ball, but each may secure a ticket at two dollars and fifty cents per person at Albaugh's. It is important that as many of our members as possible subscribe to this Ball, so we may form a proper escort to our delegates and alternates.

(4) At 9.30 o'clock A. M., on Saturday the 12th, the Congress will convene at the Belvedere, and be in session until 11.30 A. M. At 11.30 the Congress will adjourn to go to Fort McHenry, where it is expected the exercises of unveiling the Armistead Monument will be concluded by two o'clock, when the Congress will return to the Belvedere, where a luncheon will be served. Immediately after luncheon the Congress will reconvene, remaining in session until the business of the Congress is concluded.

The visiting delegates will be invited to the Reception given by his Honor, Mayor Preston at his residence, Charles and Read Streets, from four to six o'clock on this same afternoon.

(5) At seven o'clock the Banquet will be held in the Belvedere, the men being banqueted in the Ball room and the ladies in the Banquet room. Each subscriber is expected to appear in full evening dress.

It was decided that admission to the banquet should be by non-transferable cards, that these cards of admission would be sent only to such of our members who had subscribed and paid their subscriptions.

Subscriptions from members who have not subscribed will be received up to September 9th, and each member who has not subscribed is urged to do so before that date. The tickets are ten dollars per person. Subscribers who desire additional tickets, please notify the Secretary at once.

At the Banquet, acceptances so far indicate that we will have a most representative gathering with speakers of National reputation.

Each member is expected to attend the Congress whether he has been appointed a delegate or not.

You are urgently requested to attend each of these functions, at the hours fixed. The program is so varied that absolute promptness is necessary.

Each member is urged to secure, if possible, the service of an automobile for Saturday morning and Friday evening.

Very sincerely yours.

J. CUSTIS HANDY,  
Secretary.

The Committee on Fort McHenry is pleased to congratulate the Society of the War of 1812 in Maryland upon the successful attainment of its greatest desire.

The recent session of Congress appropriated the money that was necessary to restore the premises and Fort McHenry was dedicated as a National Shrine on September 12th, 1928.

This happy culmination of a project that was started in this Society over forty years ago contains so much that is of historic interest to ~~the nation and especially to Baltimore~~, that it might be advisable to tell the story by starting at the beginning.

Previous to the Revolutionery War, Baltimore was an inconspicuous town that was <sup>just</sup> beginning to take on a commercial aspect. The rich soil of the country provided good grain for its mills, and Maryland flour and Maryland tobacco were developing an increasing trade from this port with the West Indies and with Europe. The war interrupting this growing foreign trade, many of our people turned privateers, and the town soon grew rich with the spoils of British commerce.

In March, 1776, the people of Baltimore were alarmed by the news that the British warship "Otter" accompanied by two tenders and several prizes, was in the Chesapeake Bay. Earthworks were thrown up and 18 cannon were mounted at Whetstone Point. This fortification which was the beginning of Fort McHenry, was put under the command of Capt. N. Smith. A large force of men were employed to erect a boom between Whetstone Point and the Lazaretto and a chain was stretched across the neck of the harbor supported by 21 sunken schooners to prevent the expected attack by the British. Meanwhile, the Maryland ship "Defence" was lying in the harbor nearly completed, and when volunteers from Smallwood's Battalion offered to serve on board of her as marines, her commander, Capt. James

Nicholson rushed the work and sailed out to attack the British, who fled and left their prizes behind.

The population of Baltimore had doubled during the Revolutionary War because of the activity of the port, and in the decade that followed, it was doubled again. In 1794, it looked as if we would ~~become~~ be drawn in- to another war, because of the conflict between France and Great Britain and it was decided to enlarge the defenses at Whetstone Point. Major J. J. Ulrich Rivardi, a french artillery engineer who had come to this country during the Revolution, was employed to make the plans, which included the present star bastion fort, with upper and lower batteries, and it was also deemed advisable to place this improved fortification under the control of the Federal Government. In 1798, Major Tousard was ordered to examine the defenses and report upon them to the war department, and this fortification was named for James McHenry of Baltimore, who was appointed the Secretary of War in 1798, and who had previously served as Secretary to General Washington during the Revolution.

By the year 1800, the population of Baltimore had again doubled over what it was in 1794, and by 1810, it had doubled over what it was in 1800. We had become the third city of commercial importance in the Union, and when the War of 1812 was declared, and the Chesapeake was blockaded by the British, our shipping was interrupted and we again turned to privateering as we had done during the Revolution. This marked us with Britain's *particular* disfavor, and after Washington had been sacked and burned, they turned their attack on Baltimore. The British land forces were stopped at North Point and their fleet was repulsed by Fort McHenry which (withstood) a terrific bombardment for a day and a night, during which Francis Scott Key was inspired to write what has become by acclamation our National Air - The Star Spangled Banner.

The first deed of transfer of property for this fortification was from Alexander Furnival, who on July 20th, 1795, conveyed to the United States Government, seven acres and fifty-eight perches. This was followed by two deeds from William Goodman, for a similar purpose, dated November 6th, 1798 and August 26th, 1800, conveying thirteen acres three rods and twenty-five perches, and another from William O'Donnell, dated January 4, 1804, conveying five acres. This fort <sup>grounds</sup> contained twenty-six and one-quarter acres at the time of the War of 1812.

Jurisdiction over this reservation was ceded to the United States Government by the act of the Maryland Legislature, January 30th, 1816. Between September 10th, 1836 and November 16th, 1838, six other deeds were recorded, conveying an additional twenty-six and one-half acres, making fifty-two and three-quarters acres in the enlarged reservation; and jurisdiction over this was assumed by the Government under a similar act of the Maryland Legislature passed March 28th, 1834

*the day after the bombardment,*  
On September 15th, 1814, the Defenders Society of Baltimore was formed to perpetuate the heroic deeds and to memorialize the men who had been engaged in the three day fight around Baltimore. The Society of the War of 1812 in Maryland, composed of the descendants of these men is the <sup>worthy</sup> ~~sequant~~ successor of that object and when General Peter Leary, who was a captain of artillery at Fort McHenry and afterwards the President of this Society, reported in 1893 that the Government was planning to abandon Fort McHenry because it had outlived its usefulness as a fortification, <sup>this</sup> ~~our~~ Society began to take steps for the preservation of this historic landmark which had been created when the nation began, and had played such an interesting part throughout ~~our~~ <sup>our</sup> ~~life~~ <sup>history</sup>.

Under the leadership of General Leary, our Society was able to prevent the <sup>assertion</sup> ~~desertion~~ of the Fort. <sup>for military purposes while after</sup> ~~During~~ the Spanish-American War, ~~all plans of transfer were abandoned by the Government until~~ In 1906, it was planned by

the War Department to give Fort McHenry to the Department of the Interior as a cattle quarantine station. Again we were fortunate in having a member and a past president of our Society, Edwin Warfield, Governor of the State of Maryland and General Clinton L. Riggs, the present president of our Society, as Adjutant General of Maryland, and at the last moment General Riggs was successful in preventing the proposed transfer by taking over the premises as a drill ground for the Maryland National Guard at a nominal rental.

In 1911, ~~executive was~~ <sup>appointed</sup> General Clinton L. Riggs was made Chairman of a Commission of forty, by General Crowthers "to persuade the government to convert this fort into a national park" and bills were introduced in Congress by Senator Raynor and by Representator Linthicum for the preservation of Fort McHenry and the grounds connected therewith as a government reservation, under the control of the Secretary of War. These bills did not pass and on August 13th, 1913, Representator Linthicum introduced another bill "to place the supervision and control of Fort McHenry and the grounds connected therewith under the City of Baltimore". This bill was defeated, but a new bill was introduced by Mr. Linthicum in 1914 and was passed "granting permission to the Mayor and the City Council of Baltimore to occupy the reservation as a city park."

The preservation of Fort McHenry as a national shrine ~~and a~~  
~~monument to the American flag~~ is an accomplishment that marks the  
perseverance of a group of Baltimoreans who have been faithful to the  
traditions of their city and who have wished to see them properly  
placed in the history of the American people. *This historic fort.*  
*As a result of the American*  
*Revolution.*

When the news of the Battle of Lexington was received in Maryland,  
the provincial council expressed its support of the revolutionary cause  
by enacting laws to raise troops and prepare fortifications for defense.  
A battery of artillery was raised in Baltimore and in the spring of  
1776, when the British were operating in the Chesapeake, 250 negroes  
were employed to cut logs and timber for a boom that was stretched  
between Whetstone Point and the Lazaretto to keep their ships out of  
our harbor. Earthworks were thrown up and 18 guns were mounted at  
Whetstone Point to defend the town and this fortification, which was  
the beginning of Fort McHenry, was commanded by Captain N. Smith. The  
Maryland ship "Defense" was rapidly completed and manned and placed  
under the command of Captain James Nicholson, who went out and drove  
the British from the bay and recaptured their prizes; and in June  
following, Captain Nicholson was commissioned by the newly created  
government to rank as the first officer in the United States Navy.

~~During our colonial period the American provinces had developed~~  
~~considerable trade with the West Indies, and Baltimore was growing~~  
~~rapidly as a shipping point to the islands.~~ When the Revolutionary  
War was over, <sup>it</sup> however, the United States found that, although they  
had gained <sup>it</sup> their political independence from Great Britain, <sup>its</sup> their  
commercial rights were limited by the terms of the Treaty of Paris to  
the thinly settled territory south of the St. Lawrence, east of the  
Mississippi and north of Florida. Suddenly the French Revolution  
broke out and when the demands came for our excess wheat, corn, flour  
and timber from our old trade in the West Indies, we found that Great

*a National Shrine and*

The preservation of Fort McHenry as a monument to the American flag is an accomplishment that marks the perservance of a group of Baltimoreans who have been faithful to the traditions of their city and who have wished to see them properly placed in the history of the American people.

When the news of the Battle of Lexington was received in Maryland, the provincial council expressed its support of the revolutionary cause by enacting laws to raise troops and prepare fortifications for defense. A battery of artillery was raised in Baltimore and in March 1776, when our citizens heard that the British were in the Chesapeake, they employed 250 negroes to cut timber and logs for a boom that was placed between Whetstone Point and the Lazaretto and earthworks were thrown up and a battery of 18 guns were mounted at Whetstone Point to defend the town. This battery which was the beginning of Fort McHenry was commanded by Captain N. Smith and the Maryland ship "Defense" was rapidly completed and <sup>named</sup> placed under the command of Captain James Nicholson and sent out to meet the enemy. <sup>D</sup> After driving the British from the bay and recapturing their prizes, Captain Nicholson was <sup>afterwards</sup> commissioned by the newly created government to rank as the first officer of the United States Navy.

During the later part of our colonial period, considerable trade <sup>been</sup> had developed <sup>into</sup> between the American provinces and the West Indies, and Baltimore was <sup>growing</sup> developing rapidly as a shipping point, <sup>to the islands</sup> but when the Revolutionary War was over, <sup>they</sup> the United States found that, while they had gained their political independence from Great Britain, their commercial rights were limited by the terms of the Treaty of Paris to the thinly settled territory south of the St. Lawrence, east of the Mississippi and north of Florida. [ Great Britain still asserted her navigation acts, which were the primary cause of the Revolution, and would not permit the Americans to trade with their customary outlets in the West Indies, and as the demand for foodstuffs and other merchandise that had been stimulated by the needs of the army during the war fell off, the excess wheat, corn, flour, timber or other items, which had previously been a profitable export to the islands,

could not be absorbed by the colonies. We were <sup>then</sup> forced to realize that we had not gained that liberty which the Revolution promised, and Washington truthfully expressed this hopeless condition by saying: "We are fast verging to anarchy and confusion". Jay was sent abroad to make a treaty with England, but the terms of the submitted treaty made no concessions to the United States, and when this became known the feeling of resentment became acute <sup>until in</sup> ~~and in~~ 1794, President Washington recommended offensive and defensive plans for another war against Great Britain.

The people of Baltimore decided to enlarge the defenses at Whetstone Point, at their own expense, and employed Major J. J. Ulrich Rivardi, a French artillery engineer, who had come to this country during the Revolution, to plan the present star bastion fort, with upper and lower batteries. When completed this enlarged fortification was named for James McHenry, a Baltimorean who had served on Washington's personal staff during the Revolution and was Secretary of War 1796-1800, and Major Tousard was ordered to examine and report upon these defenses to the War Department in 1798 so that Fort McHenry might be placed under the control of the national government. Although federal jurisdiction was not assumed until the Maryland Legislature ceded this reservation of twenty six and one half acres to the United States Government, January 30th, 1816, Fort McHenry was garrisoned by regular troops in 1799, and the area of the reservation was later increased to fifty two and three quarter acres by similar Act of the Maryland Legislature dated May 28th, 1834.

( Finding themselves restricted in <sup>circumstances</sup> developing that liberty which they had hoped to gain by breaking away from Great Britain, the American people were trying to adapt themselves to these commercial limitations when suddenly the French Revolution broke out in Europe. ) This was followed by the persistent warfare that the successive European coalitions waged against Napoleon in their efforts to maintain their old monarchical systems,

and the demand for foodstuffs and other materials abroad relieved our commercial depression. In the early years of the nineteenth century <sup>America</sup> our shipyards were busy turning out ships which were loaded with the needed supplies that were ordered by the contending powers in Europe, and England saw that if this condition continued <sup>will bring us over the</sup> it would make the United States her greatest commercial rival ~~when the war was over~~. Determined to prevent this she adopted more drastic methods of trade oppression by insisting upon her right to search American vessels for contraband. For several centuries Great Britain had dominated the commerce of the world and the sudden prosperity and growth of American shipping was disappointing to those British interests that had hoped to force the United States into the war as their ally. The British navy <sup>blockaded</sup> lay off our coast in their efforts to rigidly enforce her navigation acts and our commerce was so restricted by British Orders of Council and French Imperial Decrees that we were practically forbidden by either nation to trade with the other and her allies.

France had ceded Louisiana to Spain during the French and Indian Wars to keep it from falling into the hands of England, and in 1800, Napoleon persuaded the King of Spain to secretly give it back to France and order New Orleans closed to foreign navigation. This not only closed the outlet of a large section of the territory of the United States and abrogated our treaty of 1795, but it so disturbed the section west of the Alleghanies that talk of secession from the Union became widespread, and everyone realized that if England should take New Orleans from France during the war that was going on, the United States would be surrounded by an intolerable band of British trade regulations, which would prevent our natural expansion in the west. Jefferson's pacific policies proved worthless and in his efforts to avoid a war with France, he sent a commission to negotiate the Louisiana question with Napoleon, who was preparing a expedition to take possession of Louisiana at the time.

Napoleon, however, was soon convinced that if French troops were landed on American soil it would cause the United States to side with Great Britain, and he concluded to sell Louisiana and said when the sale was ratified: "This accession of territory by the United States establishes forever the power of the United States and gives to England a maritime rival destined to humble her pride".

Great Britian promoted sectional discord between the States by courting the trade of New England for herself while she blockaded the more southerly coast and seized its shipping in her efforts to prevent their commerce with France and the West Indies. Continuing the practice that she had established during our Revolution, her officers boarded our vessels and impressed American seamen into the British navy or put them in prison if they refused to serve, until the American people became incensed over her unjust measures. This activity was, at first, confined against merchant ships, but on November 17th, 1797, they boarded the United States sloop-of-war "Baltimore", and took off fifty five men for examination and impressed five of them into the British service. Although the British government apologized for this particular act, the arrogance of her navy after Nelson's victory at Trafalgar, became so unrestrained that they in 1807 made an unwarranted and cowardly attack upon the United States' frigate "Chesapeake" in American waters off the capes of our Bay. President Jefferson imposed the Embargo Act in his efforts to avoid a war, but its restrictions were so contrary to human nature that it was openly broken, and, after fourteen months of hardship to American interests, it was repealed. Jefferson's policy of non-aggression not only proved a failure, but it encouraged England to further deny American rights, until, June 18th, 1812, the United States, with an empty treasury and with seven frigates in its navy and about 5000 men in its army, was compelled to declare war upon Great Britain, the richest nation in the world, that had at its disposal more than 1000 warships and corps of trained soldiers.

An abundance of easily worked and high grade iron ore from which to make the necessary tools and implements for shipbuilding, and several swift waterways upon which were built mills to grind the grain that profusely grew in the rich soil around the town, had determined the commercial importance of early Baltimore, and the reputation of Maryland flour, grain, and tobacco, rapidly developed the colonial trade of this port with Europe and the West Indies. When the Revolutionary War interrupted this increasing traffic, many of our ship owners and merchants turned to privateering, and during the war, two hundred and forty eight privateers and letters of marque sailed from Baltimore. These privateersmen were the nursery of our infant navy, and while the town grew rich with spoils of British commerce, the population of Baltimore doubled because of the activity of the port. The population of the city was progressively doubled in each of the several decades that followed and its commerce grew by leaps and bounds until, in 1812, Baltimore had become the third city of commercial importance in the Union; and when the Chesapeake Bay was again blockaded by the British, its shipping turned to privateering as it had done during the Revolution, and played havoc with the British.

Baltimore sent more privateers to sea than any other city and her activities during the first year of the War of 1812 marked her with England's particular hatred. Modeled for speed and equipped with a pivot gun amidship, besides broadside armament proportionate to their size, these privateers amazed the British. Their captains, with no other training than they had gotten in merchant service, proved themselves equal in strategy to the famed commanders of the British. Not only did they take nearly all of the prizes that were captured in 1814, while the British blockade kept the American warships in port, but the boldness of these privateers was so aggravating that the British Naval Register complained that, with a thousand ships in their navy and at peace with the rest of Europe "it was not safe for a vessel to sail without convoy from one part of the English and Irish Channel to another".

Early in the war, when the British established headquarters at Tangier Island in their efforts to blockade the Chesapeake and close the port of Baltimore, the city authorities had arranged with Captain Ridgely to display a flag from the cupola of his residence at "Steeplehouse Farm" near North Point, whenever the British were seen in this part of the bay. Our privateers, however, continued to slip past the British, and on April 16th, 1813, this signal was relayed by a barge which was sent down the river for that purpose. Fort McHenry was strengthened by a new battery of twenty large guns which were taken from a French frigate that was laying at Despeaux's shipyard, and the militia was called out. As no money was available from the <sup>state</sup> government, the City Council of Baltimore, under the direction of Mayor Edward Johnson, appropriated twenty thousand dollars, for constructing the defenses around the town, <sup>but</sup> Ward Committees were appointed and every able-bodied citizen who was not under arms was ordered to report with pick-axes, shovels, wheelbarrows, etc., for duty in constructing earthworks which were thrown up around the city.

The British advanced a flag of truce to one of the Baltimore barges about four miles from the city, under pretext of forwarding a letter to the Secretary of War, and while their truce officer was detained, he had ample opportunity to observe the new defenses and learn that Fort McHenry had been strengthened by long range guns. His report evidently persuaded Admiral Cockburn to change his plans for an immediate attack, because the fleet sailed up the Chesapeake, taking Havre de Grace, Fredericktown and Georgetown, and occupied Spesutia Island. The British stayed in the upper part of the bay all summer, sacking several towns on the Eastern Shore and menacing Annapolis; and, from another encampment near Point Lookout, they patrolled the Potomac and the Patuxent sections until the Chesapeake Bay was under their control.

On August 8th, fifteen of their vessels again moved up in sight of Baltimore prepared for an attack, but when they saw that the fortifications around the city were promptly manned, they withdrew, and in a few days the

fleet moved off and occupied Kent Island, from which place they marauded the Eastern Shore and Anne Arundel County. In November most of this fleet left for Bermuda to be repaired, returning in the spring of 1814 with reinforcements.

Although the British fleets had been blockading the Chesapeake and ravaging its shores almost within sight of the City of Washington for over a year, there were on June 1st, 1814, but 2,208 soldiers of the regular army in the whole district from Norfolk to Baltimore. On July 2nd, the Tenth Military district was formed, consisting of the State of Maryland, the District of Columbia, and that part of Virginia lying between the Rappahannock and the Potomac. On July 9th, General Winder, commanding that district, whose entire force of regular troops was between 700 and 800 men, suggested that 4,000 militia should be called out, 2,000 of whom should be stationed between the South River and Washington, and 2,000 in the vicinity of Baltimore.

On August 20th, General Winder's suggestion was approved, and on that same day the British fleet, accompanied by a corp of Wellington's Invincibles which had been released from the French War, ascended the Patuxent River and forced Barney to burn his fleet of gunboats, which had been furnished by the people of Baltimore. Disembarking at Pig Point the British army marched to Upper Marlborough, and at daylight on August 24th, General Ross began his advance on Bladensburg, where the Washington troops were joined by 2,000 volunteers from Baltimore.

The morning report of this recently organized American army consisted of 400 regular troops, 500 marines, and 4,000 militia, and when the fight occurred the Americans were routed in the presence of the President and his Cabinet. The Battle of Bladensburg decided the fate of the City of Washington, which President Madison was forced to evacuate, while the British wantonly burned the Capitol, the Navy Yard, the White House, and other public buildings. Emboldened by their success, the British returned to their ships and within several days sailed for Baltimore.

Early Sunday morning, September 11th, 1814, the flag signal at "Steeplehouse Farm" was again observed to be flying, and when this was verified by the appearance of the enemy, three cannon were fired on the Courthouse Green in Baltimore to summon the militia to their appointed places. Evidently intending to attack Baltimore from the south and the rear because of the strengthened defenses at Fort McHenry and along the eastern side of the city, the British first attempted to make a landing on the Bodkin Peninsula, but the shoal water prevented a close approach of their ships to the shore, and when their landing boats were fired upon by a company of the Twenty Second Regiment (Anne Arundel County) which was posted behind the trees on the bluff, they withdrew and crossed over to North Point, on the opposite side of the river.

That afternoon General Stricker, commanding a militia brigade, composed of the Fifth, Sixth, Twenty-seventh, Thirty-ninth and Fifty-first Regiments of infantry, 150 riflemen, 140 cavalry, and 75 artillerymen with six four-pound guns, went down the Philadelphia Road and turning to the right at Long Log Lane (now the North Point Road) marched to the Old Trappe Road, where the main body spent the night. The cavalry was sent forward about three miles to Poplar Heights and the riflemen were posted in the tall grass and behind trees about one mile to the rear of the cavalry, to act as supports if they should be attacked.

The British fleet of more than fifty sail anchored in Old Roads Bay inside the mouth of the river, and at three o'clock on the morning of September 12th, they began to land their troops from the transports on the low shores inside of North Point, above what is now Fort Howard. This force of 9000, comprising 5000 veterans of Wellington's Invincibles, 2000 marines and 2000 sailors, were landed by seven o'clock, and the frigates and bombing vessels moved up the river and took their positions in a large crescent line in front of Fort McHenry and the Lazaretto.

Planning a joint attack against Baltimore by land and water, the British army, under the command of General Sir Robert Ross, deployed over the surrounding country and began its advance by way of the North Point Road to Poplar Heights, where General Ross took breakfast at the house of Joshua Gorsuch, on the farm that had been occupied by the American cavalry the night before. About noon, the main body of the British having arrived, General Ross continued his advance up the North Point Road, and shortly before 1 P. M. suddenly came in contact with an advance party of 150 infantry, seventy riflemen and ten artillerymen with one four-pound gun, under the command of Major Richard K. Heath, of the Fifth Maryland Regiment, who had been ordered forward to reconnoiter. As he emerged from the woods, General Ross was killed; and Major Heath, seeing that he had a superior force to contend with, ordered his men to fall back upon the American battle line, which was posted in advance of the juncture of the Old Trappe Road and the North Point Road. The Fifth Regiment, with its right resting on Bear Creek, extended its left across the North Point Road. At its left were the Twenty-seventh and the Thirty-ninth, facing a marsh and Back River in anticipation of a flank attack which the British actually attempted, while the Sixth Regiment was posted in the rear to act as a reserve.

The fight at this point lasted about an hour and a half, when Stricker, realizing that he was opposing the main body of the British with a force only about one third as strong, retreated to the Philadelphia Road, where he would have better protection during the night at Worthington's Mill, where Herring Run crosses that road. Next morning he fell back to the entrenchment of Roger's Bastion, the remains of which may still be seen in Patterson Park, where the original breastworks have been marked by the Society of the War of 1812 in Maryland, with a parking of old cannon that were used in the conflict.

The British next morning advanced as far as Orangeville on the Philadelphia Road, extending their right nearly to what is now Clifton Park. Here they carefully studied the vast earthworks which had been thrown up from the waterfront, beginning near the old Sugar House at Canton and running along the face of Hampstead Hill to the west of Broadway, with other detached emplacements, stretching to a hill just south of what is now Greenmount Cemetery.

This large display of defense disconcerted the enemy, who were already demoralized by the death of their commander, and hearing that their fleet had been unable to pass Fort McHenry, they decided to retreat. About three o'clock on the morning of September 14th, they made their departure, so noiselessly that the Americans did not discover it until after daylight.

Heavy iron chains supported by a number of boats which had been sunk in the channel to prevent the British from entering the harbor, had been stretched between the Lazaretto and Fort McHenry, and a line of hulks had been sunk in the channel of the Ferry Bar Branch to prevent their ships from getting behind the Fort. At daylight on the morning of September 13th, the British fleet opened fire on Fort McHenry, which was bombarded until seven o'clock on the morning of September 14th. Besides round shot and rockets, more than 1500 bombs, weighing nearly 250 pounds a piece, were fired at Fort McHenry and the Lazaretto, but the British were unable to take a single position, while the recoil from the heavy discharge of their own guns so weakened their ships that they were compelled to stop firing and withdraw.

Fort McHenry was defended by 1000 men, commanded by Major George Armistead and distributed as follows: One company U. S. artillery under Captain Frederick Evans, and one company Baltimore Fencibles under Captain J. H. Nicholson manned the bastions of the Star Fort. One company Baltimore Independent artillerists--Captain Charles Pennington, one company Washington artillerists--Captain John Berry, two companies Sea

Fencibles--Captain M. S. Bunbury and William H. Addison and a detachment from Barney's Flotilla under Lieutenant Rodman manned the upper and lower batteries, while 600 infantry--detachments from the Twelfth, Fourteenth, Thirty-sixth and Thirty-eighth Regiments under the command of Lieutenant Col. Stewart and Major Lane--were stationed in the moat between the walls of the fort and the outer batteries to oppose any landing that the enemy might attempt to make. Many of the artillerymen had seen service on privateers out of Baltimore and were efficient in operating the twenty-four pounders on the bastions and the 42's that were in the water battery.

Before dawn on the morning of September 14th, the enemy attempted a surprise attack from the rear by sending a regiment of 1200 men with scaling ladders in small boats up the main branch of the Patapsco between Fort McHenry and Cromwell's (now Wagner's) Point, but Captain Hancock's company of the Twenty-second Regiment, which was patrolling that position, heard their muffled oars and lighted a hayrick on the shore. This threw them in full view of the six-gun battery and Fort Covington further up the river, and the terrible crossfire from these batteries and Fort McHenry soon forced them to return to their ships.

When the British army was encamped at Upper Marlboro preparing for its attack on Washington, Admiral Cockburn had made his headquarters at the house of Dr. Beanes, the leading physician of that town, under agreeable conditions of mutual courtesy, but when they were returned to their ships from the pillage of Washington, small groups of stragglers followed the main body plundering the homes that they passed. Dr. Beanes put himself at the head of a small body of citizens, who pursued and arrested some of them, and when the British commander heard of this he sent back a detachment to release the prisoners and arrest Dr. Beanes. Francis Scott Key, a personal friend of Dr. Beanes, hearing of this outrage, obtained permission from President Madison to intercede for his friend.

Key was instructed to go the Baltimore and report to Col. John S. Skinner, the Government agent for flags of truce, who was ordered to accompany Key. Sailing down the bay on one of the swift moving dispatch pilot boats that had been evolved in this section, they found the British fleet off the mouth of the Potomac River preparing for the expedition against Baltimore. Explaining his mission, ~~Key~~<sup>Key</sup> made a strong plea for Dr. Beanes and spoke of the care and attention that had been given to the British wounded, until the British commander relented and promised that Dr. Beanes would be released after the attack on Baltimore; but that in the meantime, neither he nor Key would be permitted to leave the fleet. Key was quartered on the frigate "Surprise", which was commanded by Sir Thomas Cockrane, a son of the fleet commander, and when the British arrived at the mouth of the Patapsco, Admiral Cockrane shifted his flag to the "Surprise" and moved up the river to superintend the attack on Fort McHenry, while Key and Dr. Beanes were sent back on board the American vessel accompanied by a guard of marines to keep them from landing.

Anchored amid the enemy transports in Old Roads Bay, below Sparrow's Point, they were fortunately so placed that they could see the whole bombardment and Key watched every shell that fell. Hearing the cannon of Fort Covington and the City Battery, who fired on the British soldiers when they attempted to get behind Fort McHenry, and ~~sensing~~<sup>sensing</sup> the lull which followed as their boats were escaping, Key wondered if Baltimore had fallen. Pacing the deck as dawn broke, and observing the British troops as they returned to their transport, he was relieved to see that "Our flag was still there". In the exultation of that moment, Key wrote the "Star Spangled Banner" which by popular acclaim is conceded to be our national anthem, and when the British withdrew and they were permitted to return to Baltimore, the ~~words~~<sup>words</sup> were immediately set to music.

Although the American army had been on the defensive for over two

years, and its several campaigns against Canada had been dismal failures, our small navy, with the wonderful assistance of the privateers, had captured fifty six British warships, over two thousand armed merchantment and millions of dollars worth of materials, several thousand cannon, and thousands of prisoners. England's boast that Britannia ruled the waves was humiliated and, following her defeat at North Point and Fort McHenry, she consented to the treaty of peace which was signed at Ghent on December 24th, 1814.

The War of 1812--Our Second War of Independence from Great Britain--has been called by some a needless war. It is true that it might have been prevented if the United States had submitted to England's demands, but when one counts the attainments, few things in our nation's history have produced greater results. It completed our Revolution by winning that independence which we had hoped to attain, and, by breaking the States away from those influences of our old colonial life which were holding back our proper development, it established a national spirit for our Union. It freed American politics and policies from European standards and gained a respect for the United States among the governments of the world which permitted us to work out our own system for the betterment of the country.

The experience of our privateersmen and of our citizen soldiers in their sturdy defense of Baltimore encouraged a healthy spirit in the young men of our city, many of whom, stimulated by the successes that we had won by the war, entered the merchant marine service and carried the name of Baltimore to all parts of the world. The Baltimore "Clipper" became the standard of swift sailing ships in the seven sea, and the period which followed was the day of Peabody, of Johns Hopkins and other merchants who helped to develop the prestige of Baltimore as one of the leading seaports of the world.

Fort McHenry was continuously used as a garrison post until 1914, when the art of war had become so changed by modern guns and high power explosives that its usefulness as a fortification had passed. During the World War one of the largest military hospitals in the country was built on its reservation and was maintained for several years thereafter, caring for thousands of wounded and otherwise disabled soldiers, until it was finally evacuated. By Act of Congress, Fort McHenry has been made a national shrine--the birthplace of the Star Spangled Banner--; and, restored as restored as it was during the War of 1812, its glory will still live as the real monument to the American Flag and to the gallant defense of Baltimore, the only large city on our Atlantic coast over which an enemy flag has never flown.

The preservation of Fort McHenry as a national shrine is an accomplishment that marks the perseverance of a group of Baltimoreans who have been faithful to the traditions of their city and who have wished to see this historic fort properly placed in the history of the American people as a real monument to the American flag.

When the news of the Battle of Lexington was received in Maryland, the provincial council expressed its support of the revolutionary cause by enacting laws to raise troops and prepare fortifications for defense. A battery of artillery was raised in Baltimore and in the spring of 1776, when the British were operating in the Chesapeake, 250 negroes were employed to cut logs and timber for a boom that was stretched between Whetstone Point and the Lazaretto, to keep their ships out of our harbor. Earthworks were thrown up and 18 guns were mounted at Whetstone Point to defend the town and this fortification, which was the beginning of Fort McHenry, was commanded by Captain N. Smith. The Maryland ship "Defense" was rapidly completed and manned and placed under the command of Captain James Nicholson, who went out and drove the British from the bay and recaptured their prizes; and in June following, Captain Nicholson was commissioned by the newly created government to rank as the first officer in the United States Navy.

During our colonial period the American provinces had developed considerable trade with the West Indies, and Baltimore was growing rapidly as a shipping point to the islands because of the excellence of Maryland flour and grain. An abundance of easily worked iron ore and the necessary timber from the surrounding forests enabled our people to quickly build their own ships as needed, without depending on outside sources for materials, and when the Revolutionary War interrupted Baltimore's expanding commerce, many of her shipowners and merchants turned to privateering and the town grew rich with the spoils of British commerce. The American privateers were the nursery

of our infant navy and because of the activity of its shipbuilding the population of Baltimore doubled during the revolutionary period, and was progressively doubled again for each of the several decades that followed until, in 1812, Baltimore had become the third city of commercial importance in the Union--a relative position that it still retains.

When the Revolutionary War was over however, we found that, although the United States had gained its political independence from Great Britain, its commercial rights were limited by the terms of the Treaty of Paris to the thinly settled territory south of the St. Lawrence, east of the Mississippi and north of Florida. The French Revolution, succeeded by the persistent warfare in Europe that was waged by the old monarchial systems against Napoleon, isolated the West Indies and created a demand for our excess grain, flour, tobacco and timber from abroad that would have relieved our commercial depression; but Great Britain asserted the power of her Navigation Acts, which had been the primary cause of our revolt, more seriously than ever and forbade us to trade with any other people, except through her permission, and we were made to realize that we had not gained the full liberty that our Revolution had promised. Jay was sent to England to negotiate a new treaty but the terms submitted were unsatisfactory and the resentment became so acute that President Washington, in 1794, recommended plans for another war against Great Britain.

In this emergency the people of Baltimore decided to strengthen the defenses of this <sup>city</sup> at their own expense and employed Major J. J. Ulrich Rivardi to build the present star bastion fort, with upper and lower batteries; and when completed the enlarged fortification was named for James McHenry, a Baltimorean who had served on Washington's staff during the Revolution and was Secretary of War 1796-1800. Major

Toussard was ordered to examine and report upon the defenses by the War Department so that Fort McHenry might be placed under the control of the Federal Government. Fort McHenry was garrisoned by regular troops in 1799, although federal jurisdiction was not assumed until the Maryland Legislature ceded this reservation of twenty six and one half acres to the United States Government, January 30th, 1816, which area was later increased to fifty two and three quarter acres by similar Act of the Maryland Legislature dated May 28th, 1834.

In the early years of the nineteenth century American shipyards were busy turning out ships which were loaded with the needed supplies that were ordered by the contending powers in Europe, and England saw that if this condition continued until the war was over that it would <sup>K</sup> ~~make~~ the United States her great commercial rival. For several centuries Great Britain had dominated the commerce of the world and our increasing prosperity was disappointing to those British interests who hoped to force the United States into the war as her ally, and she determined to break down this <sup>sudden</sup> growth of American shipping. Insisting upon her right to search all vessels for contraband, the British Navy <sup>patrol</sup> ~~lay off~~ our coast in their efforts to enforce their Navigation Acts and our commerce was so restricted by British Orders of Council and French Imperial Decrees that we were practically forbidden by either nation to trade with the other and her allies.

command of Captain James Nicholson. Manned by a force from Smallwood's battalion who volunteered to serve as marines, Nicholson drove the British from the bay and recaptured their prizes, and on June 5th, following, he was commissioned Commodore by the United States Government, to rank as the first officer of the newly organized navy.

In 1794, when it seemed that the United States would be forced into another war with Great Britain, it was decided to enlarge the defenses at Whetstone Point, and Major J. J. Ulrich Rivardi, a French artillery engineer, who had come to this country during the Revolution, was employed to plan the present star bastion fort, with upper and lower batteries. This enlarged fortification was named for James McHenry, a Baltimorean who had served on Washington's personal staff during the Revolution and was Secretary of War 1796-1800, and Major Tousard was ordered to examine and report upon these defenses to the War Department in 1798 so that Fort McHenry might be placed under the control of the national government. Fort McHenry was garrisoned by regular troops in 1799, although federal jurisdiction was not assumed until the Maryland Legislature ceded this reservation of twenty six and one half acres to the United States Government, January 30th, 1816. This area was later increased to fifty-two and three quarter acres by similar Act of the Maryland Legislature dated May 28th, 1834.

It was an unusual period in the world's affairs. The American people finding themselves deprived of those advantages which they had hoped to win by breaking away from Great Britain, were trying to adapt themselves to the new conditions of their Federal Constitution, when suddenly the French Revolution broke out across the Atlantic and Europe was aflame with war. Following the French Revolution, successive coalitions of European powers waged persistent warfare against Napoleon in their efforts to maintain their old monarchical systems, and the demand for foodstuffs and materials from abroad relieved our commercial

Spanish-American War. In 1906, it was planned by the War Department to give Fort McHenry to the Department of the Interior as a cattle quarantine station. Again we were fortunate in having a member and a past president of our Society, Edwin Warfield, Governor of the State of Maryland and General Clinton E. Riggs, the present president of our Society, as Adjutant General of Maryland, and at the last moment General Riggs was successful in preventing the proposed transfer by taking over the premises as a drill ground for the Maryland National Guard at a nominal rental.

In 1911, General Clinton E. Riggs was appointed Chairman of a Commission of forty, by General Crewthers, "to persuade the government to convert this fort into a national park" and bills were introduced in Congress by Senator Raynor and by Representator Linthicum for the preservation of Fort McHenry and the grounds connected therewith as a government reservation, under the control of the Secretary of War. These bills did not pass and on August 13th, Representator Linthicum introduced another bill "to place the supervision and control of Fort McHenry and the grounds connected therewith under the City of Baltimore". This bill was defeated but a new bill was introduced by Mr. Linthicum in 1914 and was passed "granting permission to the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore to occupy the reservation as a city park".

Expressing the greetings of the Society of the War of 1812 in Maryland, on this occasion, I am going to take the opportunity to remind you that one of the chief functions of patriotic societies is to establish memorials of the period that they represent. Such is our duty today and you will recall that on September 12th, 1928, Fort McHenry was dedicated as a National Shrine for the service that was rendered at that hallowed spot not only as the Brithplace of the Star Spangled Banner, but as the savior of our nation in the Second War of Independence. The original survey that was made by the War Department called for \$250,000 expenditure, but the Bureau of Budgets at that time, objected to this appropriation and rather than have the bill thrown out I suggested that the appropriation be cut to the \$91,000 that was required to restore the Fort proper and depend upon the government to make other appropriations that were necessary for the grounds at some futue time. The Commissioner agreed to this and this appropriation and the \$28,000 salvage money for the old buildings was finally exhausted in March 1929. We then made arrangements with the War Department to allow \$6,000 for landscaping the grounds last year with the promise of \$10,000 per year for the next five years to complete the work.

Unfortunately the draught came on and the grounds were burned as dry and as sere as the other parks around Baltimore, and this led to considerable criticism. Well it is easy for those who do not know facts to criticise and unfortunately these who do criticise rarely have plans of their own, and we asked for a new survey from the War Department. The War Department is not only interested in the proper setting for Fort McHenry but they always proposed making it one of the most attractive National Parks in America, and by the combined support of other patriotic organizations we have been able to include a new appropriation \$80,000 in the Budget for Fort McHenry but it is very probable that most of this work will be finished before summer. I

am very grateful for the help that we have gotten from the various patriotic societies and would mention in particular the support that has been given by the D. A. R. from more than 20 of whose Chapters we have received resolutions of support, from the Daughters of the Revolution, The Sons of the American Revolution, and the Spanish American War Veterans and others, and also for the hearty cooperation of the Baltimore Association of Commerce and other civic bodies. Resolutions from about 50 different societies have been forwarded to the Secretary of War and have helped us wonderfully in our fight for Fort McHenry.

We are now preparing to place a museum of the War of 1812 at Fort McHenry and my society has asked me to publish a small booklet on the fight around Baltimore, as a souvenir for visitors at the Fort over 40,000 of whom came to Fort McHenry last year, and Miss Marine has asked me to read this proposed sketch as part of the days exercises.