

ADDENDUM — Flag Quotes



A thoughtful mind, when it sees a Nation's flag, sees not the flag only, but the Nation itself; and whatever may be its symbols, its insignia. He reads chiefly in the flag the Government, the principles, the truths and the history which belongs to the Nation that sets it forth.
~ Henry Ward Beecher (1813 - 1887)

The emblem of equal rights. It means free hands, free lips, self-government, and the sovereignty of the individual.
~ R. Ingersoll (1859-1928)



One flag,
one land,
one heart,
one hand,
one Nation, evermore!
~ Oliver Wendell Holmes
(1809 - 1894)

The whole inspiration of our life as a nation flows out from the waving folds of this banner.
~Anon.



The soldiers should make it an article of faith never to abandon their standard. It should be sacred to them; it should be respected; and every type of ceremony should be used to make it respected and precious.
~ Maurice de Saxe (1696 - 1750)
Reveries Upon the Art of War (1757)



The flag of the United States has not been created by rhetorical sentences in declarations of independence and in bills of rights. It has been created by the experience of a great people, and nothing is written upon it that has not been written by their life. It is the embodiment, not of a sentiment, but of a history.
~ Woodrow Wilson (1856 - 1924) 28th president of the United States

If you are ashamed to stand by your colors, you had better seek another flag. ~ Anon.

It is the soldier, not the reporter who has given us the freedom of the press.
It is the soldier, not the poet, who has given us the freedom of speech.
It is the soldier, not the protester, who gives us the freedom to demonstrate.
It is the soldier, not the lawyer, who has given us the right to a fair trial.
It is the soldier who salutes the flag, who serves under the flag, and whose coffin is draped by the flag, who allows the protester to burn the flag.
~ Charles M. Province

My men, yonder are the Hessians. They were bought for seven pounds and ten pence a man.



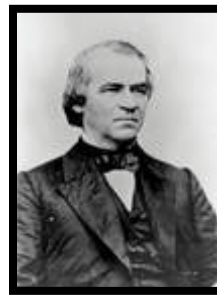
Are you worth more? Prove it. Tonight, the American flag floats from yonder hill or Molly Stark sleeps a widow!
~ General John Stark (1728 - 1822)

Battle of Bennington, Vermont
Historians believe that the Battle of Bennington, on August 16, 1777, was the first land fighting to involve the new Stars and Stripes flag. Incidentally, by nightfall, the American flag was floating from the hill, Molly Stark was no widow, and the British forces were defeated.



The Flag and I are Twins;
born the same day and the
same hour...We cannot be
parted in life or in death...
So long as we can float,
we shall float together.
If we must sink, we shall go
down as one!

~ Captain John Paul Jones (1747 - 1792)
John Paul Jones received his first command
— the man-of-war *Ranger*, on June 14, 1777,
the same day that Congress passed the Flag
Resolution. He considered this significant,
and felt his life was linked in some strange
way with the Stars and Stripes. When the
Ranger finally sailed on November 1, 1777,
a large Stars and Stripes flew from her
mainmast — the first appearance of the new
flag on the Atlantic Ocean.



When I die, I desire no
better winding-sheet* than
the Stars and Stripes, and no
softer pillow than the
constitution of my country.
~ Andrew Johnson
(1808 - 1875) 17th president
of the United States

*a sheet in which a corpse is
wrapped; a shroud; *Webster's Dictionary*

The stars of the flag represent a new
constellation rising in the West. The idea is
taken from the great constellation Lyra, which
in the hands of Orpheus, signifies harmony.
The blue in the field is taken from the edge of
the Covenanters Banner of Scotland,
significant of the covenant of the United States
against oppression. The stars are disposed in a
circle, symbolizing the perpetuity of the
Union, the ring signifying eternity. The
thirteen stars show the number of the united
colonies and denote subordination of the States
of the Union as well as equality among
themselves. The red, the color which in the
Roman days was a symbol of defiance,
denotes daring, and the white purity.
~ Report of a special committee appointed by
the Continental Congress to suggest a design
for the flag.



Sure I wave the American
flag. Do you know a better
flag to wave? Sure I love my
country with all her faults.
I'm not ashamed of that,
never have been, never will
be.
~ John Wayne (1907 - 1979)
“America Why I Love Her”

Our flag is our national ensign, pure
and simple, behold it! Listen to it! Every star
has a tongue, every stripe is articulate.
~ R. Winthrop



And our flag--another pride
of ours, our chiefest! When
we have seen it in far lands--
glimpsing it unexpectedly in
that strange sky, waving its
welcome and benediction to
us--we have caught our
breaths, and uncovered our
heads, and couldn't speak, for
a moment, for the thought of what it was to us
and the great ideals it stood for.
~ Mark Twain (1835 - 1910)



I have seen the glories of art
and architecture and of river
and mountain. I have seen
the sunset on the Jungfrau
and the moon rise over
Mont Blanc. But the fairest
vision on which these eyes
ever rested was the flag of
my country in a foreign port. Beautiful as a
flower to those who love it, terrible as a
meteor to those who hate, it is the symbol of
the power and the glory and the honor of fifty
millions of Americans.
~ Senator George F. Hoar (1826-1904)