

# Daily Globe.

SAINT PAUL, MINN., MARCH 31, 1893.

## THE STATE'S BANNER.

Both Houses Formally Adopt the Flag of the Commonwealth.

The Design of Mrs. Carter, of Minneapolis, is the Chosen One.

Description of the Flag, as Well as of the Other Prize Designs.

The One Selected by the Women's World's Fair Auxillary.

The flag designed by Mrs. Edward H. Center, which has been accepted by the woman's auxiliary to help decorate the woman's building at the world's fair, was formally ratified by the senate and

legislature yesterday morning as a state flag, and was greatly admired by those who saw it. It is a handsome piece of work, ingeniously conceived and gracefully executed. Not only does it skillfully combine the national colors and the state emblems, but it is also artistically done. The ground is of white silk, and the reverse side of blue silk bordered with bullion fringe. In the center is the state seal wreathed with white moccasin flowers on a blue ground. The red ribbon of the seal bearing the motto is continued through the wreath; entwining the blossoms and floating carelessly over the upper portion of the flag. It bears in gold the dates 1819, the time of the settlement of Minnesota, and 1893. Above, also in gold, is the date 1858, the time of the admission of Minnesota to the Union. Below the design in gold letters is wrought "Minnesota." Grouped around the seal are nineteen stars in the design of star points, with the North Star, significant of the North Star state, in a group of three at the top.

The choice of the number 19 is a peculiarly happy one, as Minnesota was the nineteenth state, after the original thirteen, to be admitted into the Union. Many of the other designs submitted to the examining board employed forty-four stars, suggesting the number of states in the Union, but the choice was not so well liked, as this had reference to a national and not a state matter, and would be subject to constant change. The use of thirty-two stars, suggesting

that the state was the thirty-second one admitted to the Union, was discarded by the designer, from the fact that the thirteen original states having been admitted together, the rank of Minnesota was more fairly shown by counting it as the nineteenth after the colonial states. The standard of the flag was surmounted by a golden gopher, and tied with a gold cord and tassel. The execution of the design is entirely in needlework.

The thorough and careful work of the designer is evident, and the auxiliary may well feel proud in its results. Mrs. Center was also the artist of the model of the auxiliary and the frieze of the state building.

### Other Designs.

The flag awarded the second prize of \$10 was designed by Frank B. Hickman, of Anoka. It has a white ground bearing a scarlet star, representing the North Star state, with the points outlined in gold and the state seal in the center surrounded by thirty-two stars on a blue ground. A wreath of wheat includes the points of the star. At either side are the dates "1680," the time when the state was first visited by the whites, and "1858."

The third prize was awarded to Miss Ada White, of Minneapolis. It was an especially dainty and artistic piece of work, but did not meet the requirements of the flag. It has, however, been adopted by the state commission for a cover for a book on the state exhibits. The front of the flag is of blue and the lower part of red. In the upper right hand corner is the state seal in the center of a star, and on the left side the figure of an Indian maiden, beautifully painted, standing on a spray of moccasin flowers and wheat.

The designs were called for at the request of the committee in charge of the woman's building. The purpose is to decorate the assembly hall with flags from all the states. Mrs. F. L. Greenleaf was chairman of the committee to secure designs, and her assistants were Mrs. A. A. White, of Moorhead, and Mrs. Edward Durant, of Stillwater. The committee arranged the details of the matter and called for designs, and in the interim between the call and the decision occupied the time in the study of the subject of flags. The profound research involved is not evident to the uninitiated, but became patent to the committee after weeks of patient research in private and public libraries. The designs came quick and fast, and when the woman's board met in St. Paul the last Tuesday in February, to examine them and make the amends it was found that there was almost a hundred. The decision was not an easy one to make. The women of the board were mostly present, as the men of the state committee were invited to take part. Mrs. Greenleaf, the chairman of the committee, was in the chair, and was thus deprived of both voice and vote in the matter.

### The Designer's Description.

The following is the description of the successful flag, as submitted to the board by Mrs. Center:

In looking at this design, I ask you to judge it as the frieze designs were judged, viz: Without regard to color, as the color of the flag would seem suf-

ficiently important to be voted upon by the board. I have looked at all the state flags. The majority of the states have no legal state flag. The choice of those remaining are about equally divided between white and blue, several states using stripes. Some states have honored the colors carried by regiments in battle, but these are the exceptions. My reason for suggesting white and blue would be that, as it floats, it would be effective at any height, and, so far as I know, unlike any other state flag. The star points in the design are to suggest the North Star state. The moccasin flower seems the necessary decoration, as it is the legal state flower. The arms are historic, being copied from the seal in use when the state was admitted, found in a manual of the legislature of 1891. I do not know of any other state emblem except the gopher. If that were required it could be used to replace the eagle commonly used at the top of the standard. In summing up points, I wish to emphasize the fact that if you choose for the flag a design with the moccasin flower, Minnesota will be represented by a flag that must and will be unlike any other flag that may be shown at the world's fair or at any other future time or place."

## THE SAINT PAUL DAILY GLOBE:

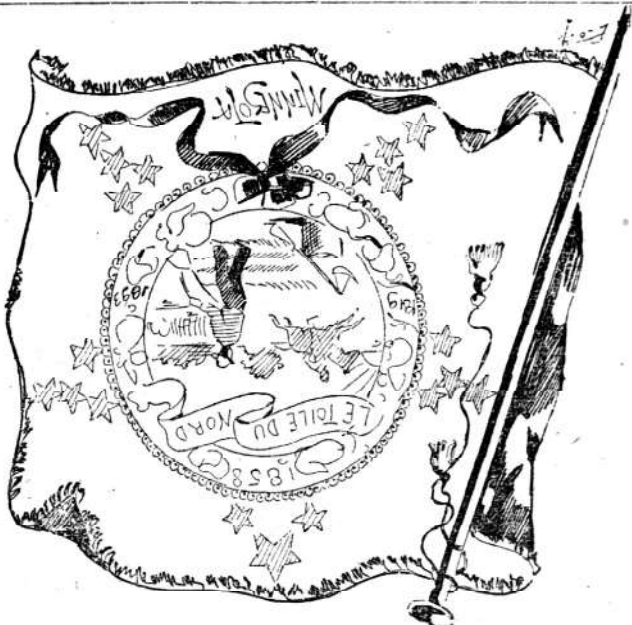
APRIL 2, 1893.

### MINNESOTA STATE FLAG.

#### Ladies of the Auxiliary Very Happy Over the Result.

The committee on decoration for the woman's building at the Columbian Exposition in Chicago sent to the woman's auxiliary board of each state requesting them to send a state flag to be placed in the assembly hall. The Minnesota board unanimously voted to grant their request, therefore appointed as flag committee Mrs. F. L. Greenleaf, Mrs. A. A. White and Mrs. E. W. Durant. Upon investigation they found that Minnesota had no state flag; they then advertised for designs, and from the 100 received the first prize was awarded to Mrs. E. H. Center by a unanimous vote of the auxiliary board; this design was submitted to Mrs. Candace Wheeler, who is considered authority in such matters for this country, who said it was "beyond criticism." The committee have placed the execution of this design in needle painting with the Fyilde sisters, and feel confident that all Minnesotians will have reason to feel proud of this flag when placed in comparison with those from other states. As this flag will be returned to the state after the world's fair and placed in the capitol, the following ladies, Mrs. F. L. Greenleaf, Mrs. H. F. Brown, Mrs. A. A. White, Mrs. A. F. Stebbins, petitioned the governor and legislature to make this flag our legal state flag, which was done under suspension of rules by a unanimous vote of both senate and house.

The ladies of the committee fully appreciate the governor's most generous approval and indorsement of the bill, also the great courtesy shown them by both bodies of the legislature.



THE OFFICIAL FLAG OF MINNESOTA.