My Country! 'Tis of Thee!

My country! 'tis of thee,
Sweet land of liberty,
Of thee I sing.
Land where my fathers died;
Land of the Pilgrim's pride;
From every mountain side
Let freedom ring.

My native country! thee,
Land of the noble free,
Thy name I love;
I love thy rocks and rills,
Thy woods and templed hills;
My heart with rapture thrills
Like that above.

Let music swell the breeze,
And ring among the trees
Sweet freedom's song.
Let mortal tongues awake,
Let all that breathe partake,
Let rocks their silence break,
The sound prolong.

Our father's God! to thee,
Author of liberty,
To thee we sing;
Long may our land be bright
With freedom's holy light,
Protect us by thy might,
Great God, our King!

WILLIAM.

BY EVELYN ORCHARD.

William Briggs was a youth of no particular distinction. He had had the misfortune at a very early stage in his career to disappointment the dearest expectation of his parents. He was their second child. The first-born, a little girl, had died at the sweetest of all ages—the toddling stage. And both had prayed for another child, with what earnestness can only be understood by those who have been similarly bereft. The baby girl had been an angel of beauty; the new baby, so eagerly expected, and for whom all his small sister's dainty belongings had been lovingly prepared, had no beauty. He was squat, featureless, vacuous, in expression from his infancy up. His mother cried when she beheld him, and his father turned away. Such had been their attitude towards William from his youth up. Other children followed in quick succession. William remained the outsider of the family. No pet abbreviation of his name was bestowed upon him; he remained as he had begun, plain William. The atmosphere by which he was environed in his childhood and youth had its due effect upon William. He became self contained, a playless child, a companionless lad, who wandered solitary, pursuing his own thoughts. There was not much money spent on his education, it being decided that he had no conspicuous ability. At an early age he was hustled into his father's office, a commercial office wherein he occupied the humblest stool. And there he remained quietly and apparently contented for two years. At the end of that time he went to his father, being more than 17 years of age.

'I want to go abroad,' he said, in that quiet, rather dull way of his. 'I cannot remain here any longer. My life is without meaning. Give me fifty pounds and let me go.'

Briggs senior stared. Never had William surprised him more.

'It is a cool request,' he grunted, 'I must talk it over with your mother.'

He went home to Streatham Common an hour earlier than usual for the purpose, with the result that the following week William said goodbye to his family, and left London. They gave him a good plain outfit, paid his passage to New York, and gave him a bank draft for fifty pounds.

'I will pay it all back,' he said quietly.

'You speak with great confidence,' observed his mother dryly. 'What if you don't get on? Those who don't get on here don't generally shine abroad.'

'I mean to get on,' he said quietly, and pretending he had forgotten something he went upstairs again. But it was only to kiss his sister Lucy again. They were passionately attached to one another, and Lucy believed in him.

So William disppeared, and for four years his family heard nothing of him. Then a letter came containing a cheque for fifty pounds, which indicated he had a banking account. The postmark was a small frontier town in Northern India. Quite evidently he had not remained in America. There was no address, however, so they could not write.

Four more years passed.

Colonel Frank Lemoine sat on the veranda of the dark bungalow smoking a very long cigar. A soda-water bottle and a glass stood suggestively on a bamboo table at his side, together with a pair of powerful field glasses, through which he had been examining, off and on for the last hour, the defile which led through the gorge, and so to the desert plains beyond. His brows were knit, his keen grey eyes were troubled, the strenuous face had aged in twenty-four hours beyond the telling. The thing that had aged him does not happily occur in many lifetimes, nor more than once in one. Suddenly he leaped to his feet. A horseman was in view in the bridle path which cut the defile in two, a few moments more and he saw the white folds of the turban on the rider's head. In less than half an hour the spent steed was at the veranda steps, and Lemoine conversing with the rider thereof. It was a colloquy both brief and unsatisfactory. Lemoine, having dismissed him, passed within.

'Are you there, Una?'

'Yes, papa.' She came to him as she spoke. A young girl, who bore herself well, as a soldier's daughter should, but whose womanly charm far surpassed her dignity.

'Ahmed is here and his report could not be worse.'

She leaned against a chair, and for a moment her face became white as the soft muslin of her gown.

'What does he say?'

'Only what we have feared. They are cut off at Ragoote, and nothing can save them.'

His face worked as he spoke these words. And small wonder. At the hill station of which he spoke were his wife, his youngest daughter, a handful of friends; and they were at the mercy, if not now in the hands of a hostile tribe, who in comparison with the slender garrison, were as the sands of the sea for multitude.

'And we are here!' she cried desperately. 'But Ahmed sometimes lies. I don't trust him. If we had had a trusty messenger Dalton's company would have got to Ragoote in time.

'A trusty messenger!' he retorted curtly. 'That is the curse of this cursed country. Outside of our own people there are none.'

She was silent a moment, and a faint flicker of color rose in her cheek.

'Papa, we have forgotten William Briggs.'

Then did the Colonel laugh in sheer disdain.

'Did we forget him, what's the odds? How could a little civilian, good chap though he is, work a miracle?'

'He has been gone three weeks,' she said.

'And dead two of them, I could swear,' he retorted. 'No, no, Una, there is nothing left but the mercy of God.'

He went back to his chair and his solitary, desperate musing, which was interrupted once more by the apparition of another horseman in the defile. He stood up and raised his glasses to his eyes, and his face began to work. He did not wait the arrival, but took the compound in a series of long steps, and went swiftly forward. A haggard man on a foam-covered and weary horse drew rein close to him, and bent from the saddle, after he had saluted.

'All's well at Ragoote, sir.'

The Colonel started.

'Briggs, you must have gone mad! The thing's impossible!'

'No, Sir Frank. I got to Del Pindi in time, and then rode on, because it was deserted, to Washmak. I caught up with Dalton in time, nine miles out, and he arrived at Ragoote five hours ahead of the enemy. I did not wait to hear the result, but I know by the outpost signs as I rode back that they had been beaten, and that probably the trouble is wholly over for the present.

The man spoke modestly, and his tired voice had a certain melodious sound. Also his face, though covered with the dust of the plains, seemed to shine.

The Colonel continued to stare. Relief and wonderment struggled for the mastery on his handsome face.

'Briggs, you're a hero; a hero, I tell you. I'm dumb. I don't know how it's been done. Would you mind telling me how as we go back? It's not been ten minutes since I told my daughter you'd been dead a fortnight. She was trusting to you.'

Briggs bent down under pretense of fastening a loose end of his puttees. They came to the bungalow at the moment; a servant took the horse, and the two men were alone together.

'I'm astonished, I tell you. When they hear in England it'll be the V. C. (Victoria Cross), Briggs, and Heaven knows what else. You take it very coolly. Personally, I owe you a debt which will never be repaid. You understand without my telling?'

'Yes, Sir Frank, I fully understand.'

'You'll get recognition, don't fear. Chaps like you are only born once or twice in a while, and we generally know what to do with them. But you are so quiet with it all, just as Una says. You have a champion in her, Briggs. You and she seem to understand one another.'

The Colonel's keen eyes on Briggs' face read his soul. It was a revelation to the old man, and for the moment a quenching of hope. For she was a very rare creature, concerning whom he had dreamed his dreams. But that unworthy moment passed, and he offered his hand.

'You have given me back all I prize in this world save her, and you have the right to speak. You will find her within.'

Three weeks later the story of the peril and the salvation of Ragoote was told in the home papers, and read at many breakfast tables. In a certain middle-class morning-room at Streatham Common, in the columns of the Daily Telegraph, William Briggs, senior, now grown portly and bald, read the brief despatch which conferred distinction on his son.

'Mother, read that,' he cried excitedly, and passed it over.

Some one leaned upon her shoulder and read with her the words with which all England was ringing.

It was Lucy. She burst into tears.
—British Weekly.

Mrs. Jane E. Kickham died at her residence, 3003 O Street northwest, Washington, D. C., Tuesday morning at the age of 100 years. She was the widow of William Kickham, and was one of the oldest residents of the District of Columbia.

The Western Maryland Railroad Company has let a contract for the erection of its shops at Hagerstown to W. A. Liller, of Keyser, W. Va. The contract price is said to be $50,000. Work is to begin at once on the buildings and be completed within three months.

After two weeks of married life Elmer Baublitz, 17 years old, of York, Pa., became weary of the struggle for existence and attempted suicide Tuesday afternoon with carbolic acid. Having no work, he became despondent.

Berlin has no slums, owing to the Governmental provisions for the poor.

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The Kind You Have Always Bought has borne the signature of Chas. H. Fletcher, and has been made under his personal supervision for over 30 years. Allow no one to deceive you in this. Counterfeits, Imitations and "Just-as-good" are but Experiments, and endanger the health of Children—Experience against Experiment.

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Significance of Christian Names.

Aaron, Hebrew, meaning a mountain.

Adam, Hebrew, meaning red earth.

Albert, Saxon, meaning bright.

Amos, Hebrew, meaning a burden.

Andrew, Greek, meaning courageous.

Arthur, British, meaning a strong man.

Augustus, Latin, meaning venerable.

Benjamin, Hebrew, meaning the son of the right hand.

Bertram, German, meaning fair, illustrious.

Brian, French, meaning a thundering voice.

Charles, German, meaning noble-spirited.

Clement, Latin, meaning mild-tempered.

David, Hebrew, meaning well-beloved.

Denis, Greek, meaning belonging to the god of wine.

Edwin, Edgar, Edward and Edmund, meaning happy conquerer or happy keeper.

Ernest, Greek, meaning serious, studious.

Eugene, Greek, meaning noble blood.

Francis, German, meaning free.

George, Greek, meaning a husbandman.

Henry, German, meaning a rich lord.

Hugh, Dutch, meaning high and lofty.

Isaac, Hebrew, meaning laughter.

James, Hebrew, meaning a beguiler.

John, Hebrew, meaning the grace of the Lord.

Martin, Latin, meaning martial.

Matthew, Hebrew, meaning a gift or present.

Morgan, British, meaning a mariner.

Neal, French, meaning somewhat black.

Oliver, Latin, meaning an olive.

Owen, British, meaning well decended.

Patrick, Latin, meaning a nobleman.

Paul, Latin, meaning small, little.

Thomas, Hebrew, meaning a twin.

Walter, German, meaning a woodmaster.

Not Disqualified.

From the Green Bag.

The Judge had his patience sorely tried by lawyers who wished to talk and by men who tried to evade jury service. Between hypothetical questions and excuses it seemed as if they never would get to the actual trial of the case. So when the puzzled little German who had been accepted by both sides jumped up the Judge was exasperated.

"Shudge!" cried the German.

"What is it?" demanded the Judge.

"I tink I like to go home to my wife," said the German.

"You can't," retorted the Judge. "Sit down."

"But, Shudge," persisted the German, "I don't tink I made a good shuror."

"You're the best in the box," said the Judge. "Sit down."

"What box?" said the German.

"Jury box," said the Judge.

"Oh, I thought it vas a bad box that peoples gets in somedimes."

"No," said the Judge, "the bad box is the prisoners' box."

"But, Shudge," persisted the little German, "I don't speak good English."

"You don't have to speak any at all," said the Judge. "Sit down."

The little German pointed at the lawyers to make his last desperate plea.

"Shudge," he said, "I can't make noddings of what these fellers say."

It was the Judge's chance to get even for the many annoyances.

"Neither can anyone else," he said. "Sit down."

With a sigh the little German sat down.

'What were those blood-curdling yells I heard last night?'

'That was Jamison trying to quiet his new baby. You see, he can't sing a note, and so he gives his college yells as a substitute.'

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DON'T FORGET TO WRITE.

In the dear old home they miss you,
Miss the sunshine of your face,
Miss your happy careless chatter;
No one else can fill your place.
They are thinking of you often,
When in distant paths you roam;
Don't forget to write a letter
To the dear ones left at home.

One can see they're sad without you
Though they smile and do their best;
Half life's music floated from them
When the birdlings left the nest.
How they love to get a letter
In your own familiar hand—
All the comfort it can give them
Only parents understand.

Do you know that since you've left her
In your mother's glossy hair
Threads of silver interwining
Tell of years of toil and care!
Just a bit the line has deepened
On your father's thoughtful brow,
Don't forget to write—write often,
For they miss you sadly now.

When they sit around the fireside
And the shadows gather near,
When they think of happy hours
When your presence brought them cheer,
Come sweet tender memories thronging,
When the stars shine in the blue,
And they breathe their heart's deep longing
In a silent prayer for you.

Write a letter to the dear ones
Who on you their hopes have staked;
They may seem a trifle childish
If your letter is delayed
For they miss you from the fireside,
Miss you more than words can say,
Then write promptly, don't neglect it,
Write a letter home to-day.
—Hallie Young in Newport Mercury.

Some Forms of Salutation.

The Chinese when saluting each other will say: 'How is your stomach? Have you eaten your rice?'

The Pole's greeting is 'How do you have yourself?'

The Russians meet on the street with 'How do you live on?'

The Persian's friendly recognition of a friend is 'May your shadow never grow less.'

The French gaily call out in passing acquaintances, 'How do you find yourself?'

The Italian's greeting is 'How do you stand?'

The Egyptian's greeting is 'How do you perspire?'

The Dutch say 'How do you fare?'

The Swedes cry out merrily, 'How can you to-day?'

The English and Americans nod quickly and in passing say 'Howdy-do?'

Rules for Success.

Be Truthful—No one but a coward lies.

Be Clean—If your body and character are clean and spotless nothing can shame you.

Be Careful—A heedless word or act may cause you a year's work, or a lifetime of sorrow.

Be Quick—You can use a minute but once, make the best use of it.

Be Honest—Run in debt only when absolutely necessary and not then unless you know you can pay.

Never Look Back—You can't help the mistakes you have made. Don't make any more. Don't think of what you have achieved, but of what you may accomplish.

Grow—If you can make pianos don't spend your life in making clothes-pins.—Ex.

Dont's for Business Girls.

Don't be late to your work and then expect consideration because you are a young lady.

Don't expect to be treated as if you were in society. You are probably doing the work that was done formerly by a man, and if in small ways you are not considered as much as you are at home, remember that you are in business.

Don't have your friends come in to see you during business hours.

Don't let your friends ring up at the office, even in the lunch hour.

Don't complain constantly about your work. If your work is not congenial to you make up your mind to get some other employment, but don't whine. That never helped anyone.

Women smoke in some few of the New York cafes.

A FACT
ABOUT THE "BLUES"

What is known as the "Blues" is seldom occasioned by actual existing external conditions, but in the great majority of cases by a disordered LIVER.

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which may be demonstrated by trying a course of

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HARNESS, FIELD AND GARDEN SEEDS. We are now prepared to offer to the public a complete line of
Fine Household Furniture
and we will not only give you the latest styles and finish, but at prices never before heard of. We invite all to call and examine our stock before purchasing, as we have bought direct from the largest manufacturers and we can and will give our customers the benefit of the low prices we bought at. Remember we are always glad to show our goods and keep our STORES OPEN AT NIGHT.
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Thanking my many friends for past favors I remain yours to serve,
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THE FOURTH OF JULY.

An American Party.

From McCall's Magazine.

Last Fourth of July I invited about twenty of my friends to an 'American Party.' We have a broad piazza at our house and this was hung with paper lanterns. Plenty of sofa cushions and round straw cushions were brought out to supplement the chairs, settee and hammock with which it was already supplied. Then in the corner of the front hall that was the nearest the door I placed, on a small table, a big punch bowl full of delicious fruit punch.

The guests arrived about eight o'clock, and after greeting them and indulging in a little preliminary conversation while waiting for the late comers, we all adjourned to the piazza. Then I asked two of the gentlemen present to be the captains and choose sides for the 'Patriotic Question Game.' This is played very much as the old-fashioned 'Camps' or 'Clumps,' that years ago used to be so popular.

The members of each side or 'encampment,' as it is called, draw a little way apart so that they cannot overhear what their opponents say. If the piazza is not large, one of the encampments should be held in the parlor. Then some well-known event in American history or some historical object or person is selected by each side and a delegate appointed to go to the opposing encampment, the members of which try by questions to guess what object or event has been selected. To these questions the delegate is only allowed to answer 'Yes,' 'No,' or 'I don't know.' The side that first discovers what the object is is allowed to keep the delegate. Another delegate is then chosen from each side, something new in American history selected, and the game goes merrily on for an hour, when the side that has the most members is declared the winner and a prize awarded. As the prize is won by all the people composing the winning encampment it should be something that a good many can enjoy. Little flags of crepe paper mounted on small sticks are very pretty and inexpensive. Of course you cannot tell how many of these you will need, so it is a good plan to purchase one for each of the guests, but, of course, do not give them to the guests in the defeated encampment, as they are supposed to be only for the winners. The flags that remain can, if desired, be given as souvenirs to the defeated guests on departing.

It is a good plan to bring in the flags piled up on a tray on which has been placed a box of candy. The winners help themselves to the flags which completely hide the box. When this is brought to light it bears a card on which is written 'To the Head Boy of the First Class in American History.' This is presented to the captain with the intimation that his class needs refreshment.

Now, while the candy is being circulated, comes a short intermission and the gentlemen regale the ladies with glasses of fruit punch or lemonade.

Then when the guests had all gathered on the piazza again, I told them that there was more work in store for their wits. This time it was a guessing contest. Pencils and paper were passed to all and a numbered list of famous sayings of well-known Americans was read and the guests wrote the name of the man who first made the historical remark. It was astonishing to find what confused ideas even some of the best informed had as to the authors of such remarks as the following: 'Give me liberty or give me death'; 'We have met the enemy and they are ours,' etc., sayings familiar to every schoolboy. To the lady who wrote the list that was most nearly correct was given a bureau sachet made out of a little silk flag, while the lucky, or, I should rather say, best informed gentleman got a cheap reproduction of one of the famous pictures of Washington prettily framed.

Then there was another guessing contest; this time each one was obliged to give the names of all the States and their capitals. The prizes were in each case the little leather traveling tags for bag or trunk in which a visiting card can be slipped.

When this was concluded ice-cream, cake and dainty sandwiches were served, and the rest of the evening spent in pleasant chat, but just before the party broke up someone went to the piano and we all sang 'My Country, 'Tis of Thee,' and 'The Star-Spangled Banner.'

Orphans' Court.

Monday, June 18th, 1906.—Charles E. Clark and Edward O. Weant, administrators of Adam G. Clark, deceased, returned inventory of personal property, and received order of court to sell same.

Mary Anna Awalt, executrix of Christian Awalt, deceased, received order to sell real estate.

Jesse F. Shreeve, administrator of Jeremiah Yingling, deceased, received order of court to transfer mortgages.

Charles L. Brauning and Rebecca Brauning, administrators of Charles F. Brauning, deceased, received order of court to transfer mortgage.

J. Wesley Biggs and Theodore H. Biggs, executors of Mary C. Reigal, deceased, returned additional inventory of money, and settled their third and final account.

Tuesday, June 19.—Denton S. Gehr, executor of Frances S. Starr, deceased, returned inventories of personal property and money.

Charles R. Foutz, executor of Maria J. Stoner, deceased, returned report of sale of stock and additional inventory of money, and settled his first account.

Mary Anna Awalt, executrix of Christian Awalt, deceased, filed report of sale of real estate, and received order ni si thereon.

Elizabeth H. Brown, administratrix of Augustus Brown, deceased, received order to day to transfer to Waldo W. Brown the amount deposited to the name in the Westminster Deposit and Trust Co.

A number of farmers in Talbot county commenced cutting wheat last Friday. The general opinion is that the yield will be small, as the heads are poorly filled, and it is said that the straw will be in poor condition owing to heavy rains.

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