

# STORY OF "AMERICA"

DR. SMITH TELLS HOW THE NATIONAL HYMN WAS WRITTEN.

On a Scrap of Waste Paper—First Sung on July 4, 1832, in Boston, and Since Then in All Parts of the World.

I DID not know that I had written a National hymn till the conviction was forced on me, writes Rev. S. F. Smith in the New York World.

While I was a student in the Theological Seminary in Andover, Mass., Mr. Lowell Mason, through whose efforts the study of music was introduced into the public schools of Boston and elsewhere in this country, brought me a number of singing books, which Mr. William C. Woodbridge, who had visited Germany to inspect the school system there, had brought home with him and put into Mr. Mason's hands.

Mr. Woodbridge had been much impressed with the German method of teaching music in the schools, and I was asked to look through the books and translate such of the songs as seemed to me appropriate to our American schools.

Turning over the leaves of one of the music books, I found one song of a patriotic nature set to the tune which England claims as hers because she has so long sung it to the words "God Save the Queen," but which the Danes claim as their, and which the Germans claim as original with them, and of the real origin of which I believe no one is certain.

The music impressed me by its sim-

*My country 'tis of thee,  
Sweet land of liberty  
Of thee I sing*  
S. F. Smith

FAC-SIMILE OF THE FIRST TWO LINES OF "AMERICA," AS WRITTEN BY THE AUTHOR.

licity and easy movement, and I was at once moved to write a patriotic hymn of my own, which American children could sing to this same tune, which I did on a scrap of waste paper, probably finishing it within half an hour.

That was in February, 1832. I gave the hymn to Mr. Mason with others—some translations, and others my own—and thought no more of it. The following Fourth of July I happened into Park Street Church in Boston, where Sunday-school children were enjoying a patriotic festival. It was at this children's Fourth of July celebration that "America" was first sung, the words of which I had written a few months before. Since then I have heard it sung all over the world.

### Dr. Smith's Career.

Dr. Smith was eighty-six years old last October, and he is one of the last of that famous class of Harvard '29 men which included, besides the late Dr. Holmes, the Rev. James Freeman Clarke, Prof. Benjamin Pierce, Judge Curtis, Judge Bigelow and a number of others well known in Massachusetts' annals and beyond them.

The data for the following sketch of his career were furnished to the World's correspondent by Dr. Smith, and he added the preceding account of the way in which he came to write the hymn.

Dr. Smith is a native of Boston, and his family at the time of his birth lived very near the historic old North Church, where Paul Revere ordered his friend to hang the lantern aloft. After being graduated from Harvard University, which he entered a Franklin medal pupil from the Boston Latin School, Dr. Smith studied for the ministry. His first charge was in Waterville, Me., where he presided over the Baptist parish for eight years, occupying at the same time the chair of modern languages in Colby University in that town.

From January, 1842, to July, 1854, he was pastor of the First Baptist Church in Newton Centre, Mass., being also for the first seven years of that period editor of the Christian Review, a quarterly published in Boston.

Dr. Smith then gave his time to foreign missionary work as Editorial Secretary of the Missionary Union for a period of fifteen years, during which time he also preached constantly as "stated supply," and kept up his literary work and teaching without interruption. From 1875 to 1878, he traveled in Europe, accompanied by his wife, who before her marriage was Miss Smith, a grand-daughter of Dr. Hezekiah Smith, of Haverhill, Mass., who was a chaplain in the Revolutionary Army and one of the founders of Brown University.

During the two years succeeding September, 1892, Dr. Smith again visited Europe and Asia, inspecting missionary stations of all denominations on both continents, including India, Burma, Sweden, Norway, Germany, France, Italy, Spain, Turkey and Greece.

As an author, Dr. Smith has published the "Life of Joseph Grafton," "Lyric Gems" (a title given by the publisher), "Book of Ages," "Missionary Sketches," "Rambles in Missionary Fields," "History of Newton," besides many articles for news-

papers, magazines and reviews. He has edited editions of many books and translated in full an entire volume of Conversations-Lexicon (German) for the "Cyclopaedia Americana."

He is an enthusiastic student of foreign tongues, speaking several fluently, and has a reading knowledge of fifteen languages. Dr. Smith is a natural versifier, having begun to write poems when he was but eight years old, and he has had more or less published each year since he was twelve or thirteen years old. He has written more than a hundred hymns, including several of a stirring patriotic character. "The Morning Light is Breaking" among others, all of which are to be found in the Psalms.

Dr. Smith still devotes himself to literary pursuits in his home in Newton Centre, a suburb of Boston, where he has lived in the house he still occupies for more than fifty-three years. It is an old-fashioned, gabled structure, low and brown, and in summer is picturesquely overgrown with climbing vines and shaded from the road by trees.

### Highest Decoration in Japan.

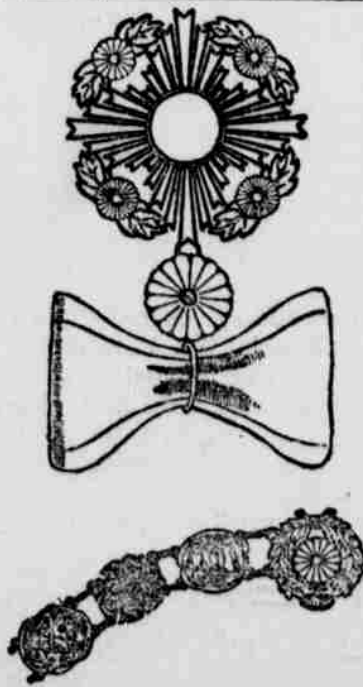
It is interesting to note that the relations subsisting between the rulers of Germany and Japan are of a distinctly friendly kind. A few weeks ago it was announced that the Mikado had bestowed the Grand Cross of the Imperial Chrysanthemum upon the Emperor of Germany, in recognition of the military and naval instruction given to the Japanese by German officers. This order, which was established by Emperor Matshito, on December 27, 1887, is the highest in Japan, and consists of a single class. It is bestowed upon none but sov-

ereigns, members of royal houses and the Presidents of Republics.

The Order of the Chrysanthemum has four emblems—the collar, the ribbon of the grand cross, the decoration itself and the star. The collar consists of four parts. The first shows a golden chrysanthemum blossom with a second blossom springing from its stem and surrounded by a green wreath, bound with a fringed band of gold. The second part of the collar consists of a device formed of golden palm branches. The third part is a gold chrysanthemum surrounded by a rich wreath of green leaves, and the fourth is an oval medallion of gold, similar to the second division of the collar, but consisting chiefly of Japanese characters.

The ribbon belonging to the cross is covered with chrysanthemum blossoms and leaves, and bears the word "Meiji" in ancient writing. In color it is dark red, with violet borders.

The general style of the decoration itself will be gathered from the accompanying illustration. The rays are white, with gold edges, and in the middle is a purple medallion, with gold borders. In each of the four corners there is a chrysanthemum flower surmounted by a blossom of the



ORDER OF THE CHRYSANTHEMUM.

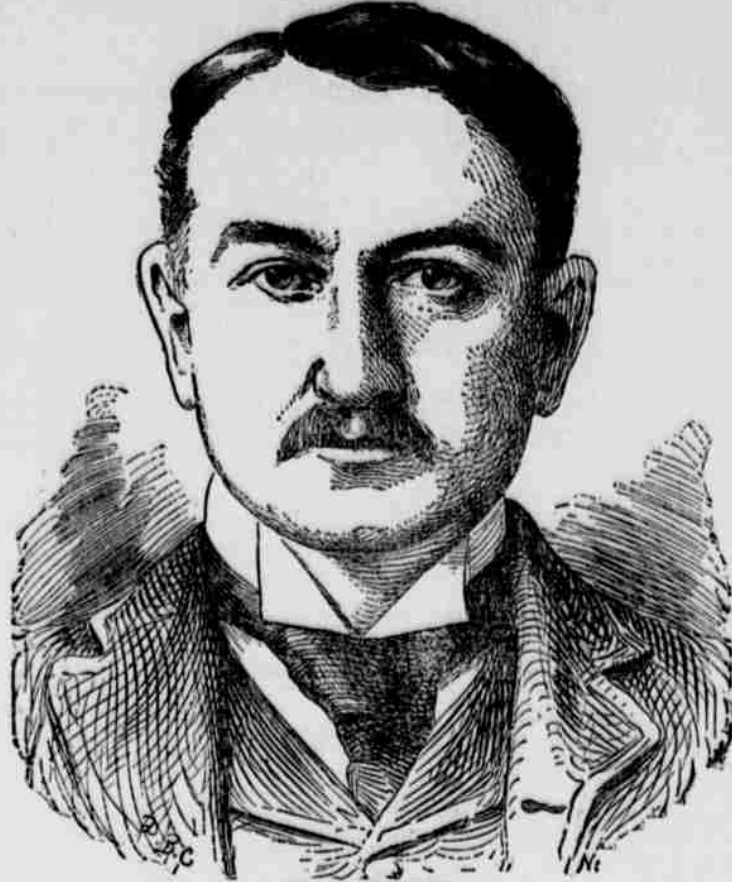
same kind. Both are of yellow enamel, while the leaves are green. The star is similar to the decoration, but is not surmounted by flowers. It is worn on the right breast. The ribbon, which is red, with violet borders, is worn from the right shoulder to the left hip.

It will be remembered that recently the German Emperor requested the courtesy extended to him by the Mikado by conferring upon the Japanese sovereign the collar of the Black Eagle.

### Growing Violets in France.

In the departments of the Maritimes Alps and Var the growing of violets, which is done in the open fields, has become an article of commerce, the value of which reaches into the hundreds of thousands annually.—United States Consular Reports.

## RULER OF AN AFRICAN EMPIRE.



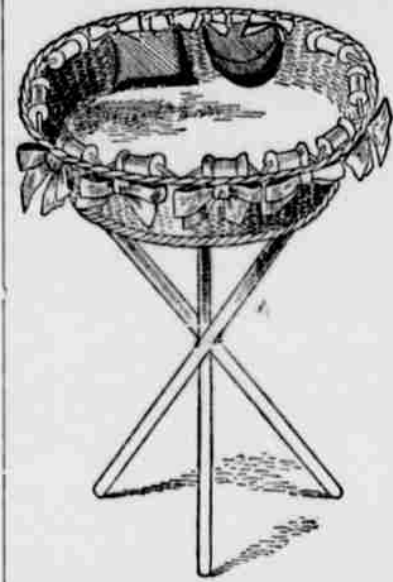
CECIL RHODES.

A speech was made by Cecil Rhodes, Prime Minister of Cape Colony and the enormously wealthy President of the company which owns the Kimberley diamond fields—in London to the shareholders of the British South Africa Company recently. Cecil Rhodes is a man of scanty speech; it is the aptitude of his view which commands respect. He spoke of the "very large piece of the world" possessed by the company—measuring 1200 by 500 miles. A few years ago this piece of the world was almost unknown and entirely barbarous. Now it has a

railway, 1400 miles of telegraphs, magistrates' courts from end to end, and a press. The natives are contented with a rule that is firm, and the shareholders are pleased with the prospect of a dividend that bids fair to be equally firm. The territory of the South Africa Company is managed like an estate; but it looks uncommonly like an empire, with Cecil Rhodes as its absolute ruler. During his recent visit to England he was received as if he were royalty itself, and dined with Queen Victoria by special invitation.

### A Handy Sewing Basket.

In the bottom of a light, round willow basket thirteen inches in diameter by three inches deep, is fitted a circle of pasteboard smoothly cov-



ered with lining silk over a thin layer of wadding. This is all the lining required. Around the upper part of the basket inside, nine spools, a pin-cushion and a shirred pocket, for thimbles are fastened all in a row. The nine spools (No. 20, 30, 50, B sewing silk and shoe thread, black; No. 20, 40, 60 and basting cotton, white) are each strung on a piece of ribbon half an inch wide by at least fourteen inches long. Each ribbon end is brought through to the outside of the basket just below the brim. The dainty pin-cushion, two inches square, and the thimble pocket of the same material, have ribbon ties tacked with tiny bows to their upper corners. These are also passed through to the outside where by tying the eleven pairs of ribbon ends into neat bows the trimming of the basket is completed.

Arranged in this way the threads cannot become tangled, an empty spool is easily replaced and there is plenty of room left for all the other necessary furnishings of our handy sewing basket.—American Agriculturist.

### Effective Way of Branding Animals.

The Arizona Indians have a peculiar and effective way of branding animals. The brand is made of steel, with a knife edge. It is fixed on the head of an arrow and shot with a bow at the animal to be branded with such force that it cuts the mark in the hide.—New York World.

### An Engagement in High Life.



—Life.

### Easter Lilies.

These exquisite flowers have become popular for winter blooming among florists, and their culture would be general among amateur cultivators if it were known that early planting is essential to success. Many persons get the bulbs in November or December, and because the plants do not come into bloom in January or February, they consider them a failure. Bear in mind that they should be started five months before you expect the plants to bloom. The bulbs start slowly, and the plants are not rapid in development, so that bulbs potted in August will not bloom till January, while those started in September will not bloom till in February. Get large bulbs. Give each lily a six-inch or seven-inch pot, and plant two inches under the surface, so as to accommodate with soil the annual footlets which come out along the stem just above the bulb. Firm the soil, water well and place in a dark closet to root. As soon as the top shows above the soil, bring the plant to the window where it is to bloom. A cool but frost-proof room suits the plant until the buds appear, when a sunny, warmer window may be given it. Water freely while the plant is growing and



blooming. The engraving is a fair representation of a blooming plant. As a rule the illustrations in catalogues are overdrawn.—Home Circle Magazine.

### An "Union Social."

Cattaraugus County belles and beaux have evolved a new game which is having a large run. It is called the "union social" and is played as follows: Six young women stand in a row, one of them bites a piece out of an onion, and the young men pay ten cents each to guess who bit it. The correct guessers kiss the other five girls, while the unsuccessful kiss the one who bit the onion.—New York World.

### Growing Violets.

Violet growing, so important an occupation in parts of this country and even more so in Southern France, has for two or three years been much hampered by reason of a disease that attacks the plants. The French growers spray the plants with a solution of copper, and thus save many thousands of diseased ones, but the process is laborious and expensive.—New York Sun.

## THE GETTYSBURG SPEECH. THE INDUSTRIAL OUTLOOK.

### SUBLIME AND IMMORTAL.

Few Words, but Well Chosen and Expressive of a Nation's Heart.

I stood close by and heard that speech delivered. It came upon us after the ponderous and elaborate rhetoric of Edward Everett like a blaze of real fire after a matchless picture of old, out of a chastened heart almost broken with the weight of conquest, but still dauntless in its American faith, and the man who spoke the words was for the moment transformed for us, and his furrowed face and gaunt form took on the light that never was on land or sea, so that he became the archetype of the people themselves, uttering better than he knew the great prayer of that fiercer and better humanity than our fathers and we believed was to come with liberty and equality out of storm and stress and an unshaken confidence in man.

But I don't think any of us then knew how masterful in the speech of the human heart when it comes through the furnace of these great occasions and plants its seed and sincerity by the side of mere scholarship and the grooved thunder of rhetoric. We had to live on a far quarter of a century and see that brief speech burning with unquenchable flame in our schoolbooks and standing out with modest majesty on our page of recorded history to comprehend how God can touch with a living coal the lips of a man just as he touched the lips of the tentmaker of Tarsus and lifted the untutored heart of the shoemaker, Bunyan, into communion with the immortals.

Turn it every way you can, the Gettysburg speech stands unique as a brief literary and patriotic composition. It is the noblest condensation into the fittest words of all the emotions, aspirations and sentiments that millions of mute people wanted at that moment to utter.

It was brought in that speech with the heart of the occasion, and so majestically does it sweep over into the time to come, that I should think all men everywhere would discern its intrinsic quality. But that is not the case.

I remember talking with Matthew Arnold when he was in this country about Abraham Lincoln—you will remember that he said of Lincoln that he had no "distinction"—and I called his attention to the Gettysburg speech. He said he never forgot the imperishable Saturday Review article with which he asked, "Ah, what is the Gettysburg speech?"

He had never heard of it. I believe when he went back he asked Professor Bryce what it was about and when it was hunted up in an American schoolbook and shown to him he read it hastily and put it away with commiserating reticence—ANDREW C. WEBSTER in New York Sun.

### LINCOLN'S SPEECH.

"Four score and seven years ago our fathers brought forth on this continent a new nation conceived in liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created free and equal. Now we are engaged in a great civil war, testing whether that nation, or any nation so conceived and so dedicated, can long endure. We are met on a great battlefield of that war. We have come to dedicate a portion of that field as a final resting place for those who here gave their lives that that nation might live. It is altogether fitting and proper that we should do this. But in a larger sense we cannot dedicate, we cannot consecrate, we cannot hallow, this ground. The brave men, living and dead, who struggled here, have consecrated it far above our power to add or detract. The world will be sure to long remember, what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here. It is for us, the living, rather to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they who fought here have thus far so nobly advanced. It is rather for us to be dedicated here to the great task remaining before us; that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave their last full measure of devotion; that we here highly resolve that those dead shall not have died in vain; that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom; and that the government of the people, by the people, and for the people, shall not perish from the earth."

Ever since the war closed Gen. William Shakespeare, of Kalamazoo, has been trying to find a lad who had taken care of him while he was wounded, but has not been successful until a few days ago. At Jackson, Miss., in 1863, the general was wounded seriously, and while lying on the field, was found by two drummer boys, who took care of him for some time. One of them was ordered to take him to Cincinnati, and did so, while the other rejoined his regiment and was killed shortly afterward. Although the boy attended him for weeks, Gen. Shakespeare never ascertained his name, and has since tried in vain to get some trace of him. It has turned up now, however, that William Gilbey, now of Port Huron, was the boy, and learning through the newspapers that Gen. Shakespeare was having trouble about his name, he wrote to him and offered his services as a witness in the matter in case they were required. The old man will call on the younger soon, and tender him in person his thanks for the services rendered thirty years ago.

"It" says "The Philadelphia Record," "that is an old soldier. He was in the famous battle of sixty battles, President George C. Platt, of the Survivor's Association of the 9th United States Cavalry, who owns up to that number, would like to meet him. Mr. Platt died on August 6, 1891, and though engaged in many fights, in fifteen of which he was disabled, he never received a scratch. Among the battles through which he passed unscathed were Malvern Hill, Fredericksburg, Brandy Station, the Wilderness, Spotsylvania and many others equally severe. He now pursues the peaceful avocation of a contractor."

The Department of New Jersey is more than fairly prosperous. The division has thirty-six strong camps scattered through seventeen counties and with an active membership of over 1,500. This can be easily doubled by a little earnest and well directed work, and now is the time for the old veterans to push their boys to the front and fill up the ranks of the Sons.

### The Knights Recede.

District A assembly No. 3, of the Knights of Labor after a very stormy delegate meeting decided to cut loose from the old organization and espouse the cause of the new independent Order of Knights of Labor.

The district is composed of the following assemblies: Brewers, Marble, Slate and Tile workers, Street Car employees, Teamsters, Boxmakers, Printers, Cooper, Sailsmen, Boiler makers, Painters, Cork workers, Theaters and stage employees, Basket makers, Cigar makers, Soap makers, Brick makers, Plate Glass workers, one assembly each in Pittsburgh, two mixed assemblies, and five assemblies of glass house employees, located at Bellefonte, Jeannette, New Kensington, New Castle and Nantuxide, Pittsburgh. All these assemblies are in good standing, and embrace a membership of more than 2,500.

### Evacuating Wei-Hai-Wei.

The Japanese are evacuating the advanced positions about Wei-Hai-Wei and they have abandoned Ning Hai. The greater part of Japanese army which has been operating on the Shan Tung peninsula has re-embarked on board transports bound for Tsingtao, Wai, north of Port Arthur, on the opposite of the Gulf of Pechili.

Cincinnati distillers have defied the trust by refusing to advance prices.

### WORK AND WAGES.

Plans for a Monster Bituminous Coal Association Unearthed.

The Pittsburg operators are organizing more than anything else to control the lake trade. It will be the effort of the Pittsburg operators to control that trade entirely. During the coming shipping season it is the intention to sell all the Pittsburg lake coal through one company. One of the reasons the Cleveland operators were so anxious to get the Pittsburg interests together is that Pittsburg coal is dragged far below the figures by the lake people and Cleveland buyers. When the local product went into the Cleveland market under the price cutting regime the Cleveland buyers would go from one local operator to another until they found one who could get Pittsburg coal. The product was demoralized, and that more than anything else was what made the Cleveland men so anxious.

The Hocking Valley operators are getting together and it is their intention to sell all the coal of the two Ohio valleys through the Hocking and Sand Creek companies of the valleys. The Hawkins and other Ohio districts are organizing, and the coal of each district, including the local coal, is to be made the "king" of the different markets, according to demand.

It is the intention, after all of the association have been formed in the different localities, to have committees of each of the associations meet and decide on the products for the different shipments and markets; also to arrange a basis, and selling price for each market. This is the scheme now on foot, and by it the operators hope to make the business a more harmonious and profitable one. The Hocking Valley operators already have an association, and have been selling their coal through the two above named companies. The report of the association shows \$50,000 was saved last year in the salaries of agents.

### AID MUST BE SUPPLIED.

2,200 Families Destitute in the Hocking Valley.

The Columbus, O., chamber of commerce commission, which investigated the miners' destitution in the Hocking Valley has reported as follows:

Throughout the entire region we have found the unemployed miners in the most extreme conditions of destitution, depending upon the weekly issue of the relief committee for their entire subsistence. In the past year the working time of these laborers varied from 42 days to three months. This has resulted in an average income to the miners of 27 cents per day during 1894. There are 2,500 families which must be supported, and it will require \$12,000.

We therefore request your Excellency to call upon the people of the state to contribute promptly the amount necessary to alleviate this suffering.

### TO INSURE MINERS.

The Ligonier coal company of Greensburg Pa., whose works are near Latrobe, has arranged with the Guarantors' liability and indemnity company of Philadelphia to insure their miners against death or accident without any cost whatever to the miners. In case of death the miner will get \$250, and in the event of accident one-half wages. This is the first move in this direction taken by operators in this county, and is bound to prove popular.

### TO GIVE PRINTERS WORK.

The West Side daily newspaper publishing company, of Chicago, has been incorporated. The capital stock is \$500,000, and the incorporators are James Griffin, president of the Chicago typographical union, and George W. Hart and James M. Hale, both members of the organization. The object is the establishment of a daily newspaper under the control of the typographical union. No type machines will be used.

### FORTY CENTS A TON IN ILLINOIS.

Officers of the Consolidated, Manson, Consumers and Crown coal companies, representing four-fifths of the mines in the Belleville district met in East St. Louis with the executive board, for the purpose of deciding upon a scale. It was unanimously agreed that 40 cents a ton should be paid for hand mining, this price to become effective on March 1 and remain in force six months.

### ENGLAND'S UNEMPLOYED.

Mr. Samuel Kier Hardie M. P., had a hearing before the house of commons committee which is considering plans for the relief of the unemployed. He admitted that the distress was so widespread that a sum of £5,000,000 would only tide over the needs of the unemployed throughout the country for six weeks.

At East Liverpool, O., a new electric light company, composed of city merchants, was granted the franchise by council to run their lines through the city. The company is to run in opposition to the East Liverpool Light Company.

The senate passed the bill authorizing the Pittsburgh Monongahela & Wheeling Railroad company to build a bridge across the Monongahela river at Monongahela.

### THE INCOME TAX LAW.

Amendments Making Exemptions in Certain Cases.

The bill has become a law by the president's signature amending the act of August 28 last, known as the Wilson tariff bill, and which included the provisions for the collection of an income tax. Under the original act income tax returns were required to be made before the first of March. The supplemental bill, which has just become a law, extends the time to April 15, but only as to the present year.

Another amendment made by the new law is that in computing income under the act the amounts received as dividends upon the stock of any corporation or association shall not be included in case such dividends are also liable to a tax of 2 per cent on the net profits of such corporation or association, although such tax may not have been actually paid by such company or association at the time of making return by the person receiving such dividends and returns.

An important amendment is that in computing incomes the amount necessarily paid for fire insurance premiums and for ordinary repairs shall be deducted. Many returns have already been made without these deductions, and it is presumed the secretary of the treasury will authorize all persons who have made such returns to amend them by inserting the deductions to be made on account of insurance or repairs. This will make considerable difference to many persons.

When the bill was under discussion in congress it was computed that not more than 80,000 persons in the whole Union would be amenable to the tax on incomes exceeding \$4,000 a year. But since then, and in the light of investigations made by collectors in a number of revenue districts, the estimate has been largely increased, and it is now are that something like 300,000 persons will be required to pay the income tax.

Salvation Booth has finished his tour of the United States and will sail for England, Wednesday.

Haight & Co., the great San Francisco commission firm, has assigned.