

it at once became popular, and has long been officially recognized as the national anthem of the United States.

Perhaps the stirring "Battle Hymn of the Republic" more nearly approaches the standard of a national song. Its words were written by Julia Ward Howe in Civil War days, to the air of "John Brown's Body," which was then the universal favourite with Northern soldiers. This tune is said to have been composed by William Steffe, a Southern composer. "Dixie" originated in the North as a negro minstrel song, in 1859. Its composer was D. D. Emmett.

The Origin of "Yankee Doodle"

The earliest of American airs was "Yankee Doodle," which comes from an old English song applied in derision to the American colonists at the time of the Revolution. "Hail Columbia" was written in 1798 by Joseph Hopkinson, to a tune called "The President's March," composed by a Philadelphia band director named Fyles in honour of President Washington. It is often used as a national song, as is also the case with "Columbia, the Gem of the Ocean."

Belgium has the stirring "Brabançonne," the music of which, by François van Campenhout, was written during the rising of 1830, which

gave Belgium independence from Dutch rule. Italy's official national air is the "Royal Italian March," by G. Gabetti; though equally popular is the famous "Garibaldi Hymn," by the poet Luigi Mercantini and the bandmaster Oliviere. The former Austrian Empire had a dignified and inspiring national hymn, "God Preserve the Emperor," the music of which was written by Joseph Haydn. Before the great upheaval of the World War Germany's rich store of national songs supplied her people with music for all occasions. Of these "Deutschland über Alles" ("Germany over All") and "Die Wacht am Rhein" ("The Watch on the Rhine") were popular expressions of patriotism.

The Hymn of Old Russia

All Slavic peoples have a wealth of folk-music. Bohemia's two well-known national songs, "War-Song of the Hussites" and "My Fatherland," date back centuries. Serbia has two national songs, "Rise, O Serbia," and "God in His Goodness." The hymn of old Russia was "God Protect the Czar," and dates from 1830. The Greek national song, "Sons of Greece, Arise!" dates from the Greek war of independence of 1821-29.

ROUGET DE LISLE SINGING THE "MARSEILLAISE"



The "Marseillaise," the most famous of all battle hymns, was first sung by its author to a group of friends. Imagine you hear him just beginning, his audience listening to the stirring words with rapt attention.

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