



PATRIOTIC RECOLLECTIONS



A Tribute to the Flag^(a)

by

Watts Wells Hubbard, Civil War Veteran

94 years old, January 12, 1942

Minnesota Soldiers Home, Minneapolis, Minnesota

That's a beautiful flag. It's your flag and my flag. Our forefathers brought it home from the Revolutionary War, the War of 1812 and the Mexican War. Our sons brought it home from Porto Rico, the Phillippines and the First World War.

We "Boys in Blue" love that old flag. We followed it from '61 to '65. Sometimes it came out tattered and torn with shot and shell, but that flag has never gone down in defeat and never will, for it stands for freedom and justice.

I'd like to see our little lads stand up in school, face the flag and sing "My Country 'Tis of Thee." Teach them patriotism. I'm willing a foreigner should come to this country, but I want him to leave his former country at home and honor **THAT FLAG**.

Our motto is "One country, one language and one flag." And I love that old flag so that if I had the power, I'd take a brush and dip it in the colors of the rainbow, and high up in the Western sky I'd paint in gold, and when the morning sun arose in all its glory, the nations of the world could view that beautiful flag, the Red, White and Blue.

(a) Hubbard, W.W. 1942. A tribute to the flag, January 12, 1942. *IN Department Order #1, Series 1942-43*, August 8, 1942. Wisconsin Department, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War.

Submitted by:
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