National Emblem
by: E. E. Bagley

Original Copyright: 1906
By: Ernest S. Williams

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Edwin Eugene Bagley

DOB: May 29, 1857 (Craftsburg, Vermont)
DOD: January 29, 1922 (Keene, New Hampshire)

Edwin Eugene Bagley began his musical career at the age of nine as a vocalist and comedian with Leavitt's Bellringers, a company of touring entertainers. He began playing cornet and again took the road for six years with the Swiss Bellringers.

He later played both trombone and euphonium in a variety of New England ensembles, including Blaisdell's Orchestra (Concord, New Hampshire); The Park Theatre (Boston); Bostonians Opera Company; Germania Band (Boston); and, the Boston Symphony Orchestra.

He is best known for his march “National Emblem,” a theme from the march is popularly sung with the words “and the monkey wrapped his tail around the flagpole.”

It is also interesting to note that Bagley was completely self-taught. He was also an outstanding visual artist and could well have made a name for himself as a caricaturist.¹

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National Emblem (march) was copyrighted in 1906 by Ernest S. Williams and published by Walter Jacobs (Boston, MASS). The march is one of the most famous of all marches, yet many non-musicians may be hard-pressed to know its name. In whole or in part, the march has been used extensively as background music on radio and television, in addition to thousands of concert performances. The title is derived from Bagley’s overt (and to some controversial) use of “The Star Spangled Banner” in the first strain of the march. Reportedly, the forceful repeated figure in the trio was inspired by Bagley having seen herds of buffalo crossing the western prairies in the late 19th century.

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Program note researched by Marcus L. Neiman
Medina, Ohio

Additional information on either the composer or composition would be welcomed. Please send information to marcusneiman@zoominternet.net

¹ Rehig, William H., Bierley, Paul (editor). The encyclopedia of band music, Integrity Press, Westerville, OH. (2005), CD, used with permission.
March "National Emblem"

E. E. Bagley

Flutes 1 & 2

Originally published by Walter Jacobs, Boston, Mass.

Part transposed by Roger Cawkwell
Oboe

March "National Emblem."

E E. Haynes

Walter Jacobs, Boston, Mass.
Eb Clarinet

March "National Emblem."

E. E. Bagdew

Trio

Walter Jacobs, Boston, Mass.
1st B♭ Clarinet  March “National Emblem.”  E. E. Bagley.

Walter Jacobs, Boston, Mass.
March "National Emblem"

E. E. Bagley

Originally published by Walter Jacobs, Boston, Mass.

Part transposed by Roger Cawkwell
March "National Emblem"

E. E. Bagley.

Bassoon

Walter Jacobs, Boston, Mass.
Bb Soprano Saxophone

March "National Emblem"
Bb Tenor Saxophone

March "National Emblem"

E. E. Bagley

Trio

Walter Jacobs, Boston, Mass.
March "National Emblem."

2nd & 3rd B♭ Cornets

E. E. Bagley.
March "National Emblem"

E. E. Bagley

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Originally published by Walter Jacobs, Boston, Mass.
Part transposed by Roger Cawkwell
March "National Emblem."

1st & 2nd Trombones

Walter Jacobs, Boston, Mass.
3d Trombone March "National Emblem"  
(B♭ Bass)
BARITONE March "National Emblem"
BARITONE:

March “National Emblem”

K. K. Bagley
Eb Basses

March "National Emblem."

E. E. Bagley.
Drums

March "National Emblem."

E. E. Bagley.

Trio

Walter Jacobs, Boston, Mass.