# PANAMA PATCHWORK; POEMS

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Panama patchwork; poems by James Stanley Gilbert

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### JAMES STANLEY GILBERT

## PANAMA PATCHWORK; POEMS





Sollbath Die August, 1906

## PANAMA PATCHWORK

### POEMS

BY

JAMES STANLEY GILBERT

NINTH THOUSAND

NEW YORK
THE TROW PRESS
1911

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### HAIL, PANAMA!

(Rir, "Rmerica.")

Daughter of Oceans Twain,
Pearl Isles and Golden Main,
Hail, Panama!
Glorious thy history
Shall thro' the ages be,
Offspring of Liberty,
Hail, Panama!

Queen of the Summer Land
By hature's high command,
hall, Panama!
Peaceful as was thy birth,
Thy sons shall make thy worth
Known over all the earth,
hair, Panama!

Freedom is thine by Right,
In Honor lies thy Might,
Hail, Panama:
Justice and Verity,
Wisdom, Sincerity,
Bring thee prosperity,
Hail, Panama!



PS 3513 6374p 1911

### INTRODUCTION

#### TO THE SECOND EDITION.

In a foreword, written for an edition of Mr. Gilbert's poems, published in 1894, I said:

"Life on the Isthmus of Panama has some interesting and peculiar features. The geographical isolation being practically complete, except by sea, it follows that a narrow strip of country along the Panama Railroad is all that modern civilization can boast of having captured. Nor is there evidence that any astonishing advances have yet been made within even this limited zone. The jungle still holds sway and defies the schoolmaster.

"Among those who have from time to time held official positions in the different companies, or who have engaged in other business pursuits, there has now and then been one who has caught the spirit of the place and has had the surprising energy to write interestingly of his surroundings. That this has been the case with my friend, the writer of the following pages, is my own firm conviction, and it gives me pleasure to believe that the public will agree with me.

"These poems have been evolved from an inner consciousness, the visible and outward environment of which has been an active business life. "They have been penned while others slept or were engaged in some other engrossing tropical employment quite as intellectual. The somewhat limited local audience to which they were addressed has been greatly pleased, and it will give the numerous friends of their author much gratification to know that a wider public has endorsed their verdict."

Little more need be said at the present time. There will be a larger audience, owing to a greatly increased Isthmian population, and a wider acquaintance with the poems which the former editions, now out of print, has given. The maturing gift of the author will be recognized in the additional poems, nearly twenty in number, in the present volume; and it is my steadfast faith that, for "local color" as well as poetic form and completeness, nothing better has been written.

TRACY ROBINSON.

Colon, October, 1905.