

NATIONAL HYMN FOR PATRIOTIC SERVICES

"MY COUNTRY 'TIS OF THEE"

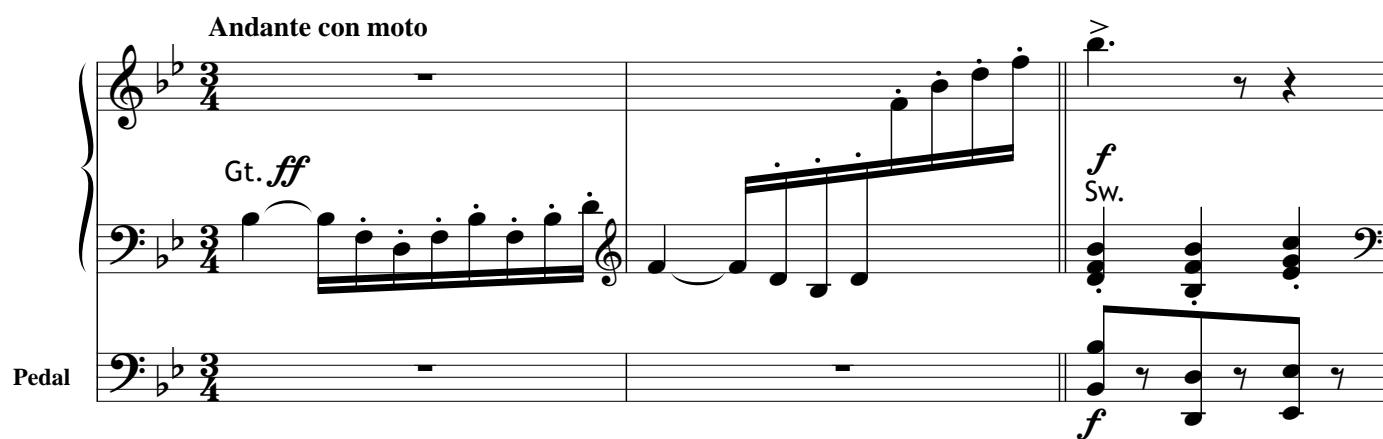
Arranged by William Thomas Best (1826-1897)

edited by
Maurizio Machella



SWELL: 8' 4' with reeds
GREAT: 8' 4' with Trumpet 8' Swell to Gt.
PEDAL: 16' 8' Sw. to Ped.

Andante con moto



Gt. *ff*

Pedal

f Sw.



3

Sw.

ten.

ff Gt.



8

Gt.

f Sw.

13

Reduce to 8' and 4' without reeds.

Gt. to Ped.

mf

17

Gt. *mf*

[sic!]

22

mf

26

add. full Swell and Gt. 8' and 4'

Ped. to Gt.

ff

3

Maestoso

31

Gt. *ff* la melodia ben sostenuta

[Double Pedal]

36

add. Trumpet

fff

Full Organ

39

ten.

43

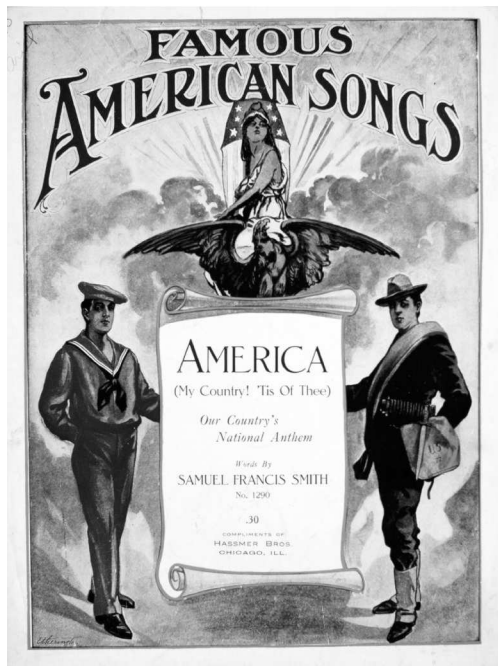
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"*America (My Country, 'Tis of Thee)*" is an American patriotic song, the lyrics of which were written by Samuel Francis Smith (1808-1895.) The melody used is the same as that of the national anthem of the United Kingdom, "God Save the Queen". The song served as one of the de facto national anthems of the United States (along with songs like "Hail, Columbia") before the adoption of "The Star-Spangled Banner" as the official U.S. national anthem in 1931.

History

Samuel Francis Smith wrote the lyrics to "America" in 1831 while a student at the Andover Theological Seminary in Andover, Massachusetts. The church-music composer Lowell Mason, a friend, had asked him to translate the lyrics in some German school songbooks into English, or to write new lyrics for the same tunes. The "God Save the Queen" melody in Muzio Clementi's Symphony No.3 (also called "The Great National", written as a tribute to Clementi's adopted country) caught Smith's attention at the time; rather than translating lyrics from the German, he wrote his own American patriotic hymn to the melody, completing the lyrics in thirty minutes.

Smith gave Mason the lyrics he had written, and the song was first performed in public on July 4, 1831, at a children's Independence Day celebration at Park Street Church in Boston. The first publication of "America" was in 1832. [Wikipedia source]



America
My Country! 'Tis Of Thee.

Words by SAMUEL FRANCIS SMITH.
Author of Music unknown.

Maestoso.

1 My country! 'tis of thee, Sweet land of lib-er-ty, Of thee I sing; Land where my
2 My na-tive coun-try, thee, Land of the no-ble free, Thy name I love; I love thy
3 Let mu-sic swell the breeze, And ring from all the trees Sweet freedom's song; Let mor-tal
4 Our fathers' God! to Thee, Au-thor of li-ber-ty, To Thee we sing; Long may our

fath-ers died, Land of the pil-grims' pride, From ev'-ry moun-tain side Let free dom ring!
rocks and rills, Thy woods and templed hills, My heart with rap-ture thrills Like that a-bove.
tongues a-wake, Let all that breathe partake; Let rocks their si-lence break, The sound prolong.
land be bright With freedom's ho-ly light! Pro-tect us with Thy might, Great God, our King!