THE

AMERICAN FLAG

CANTATA

FOR

BASS AND TENOR SOLI

CHORUS

AND

ORCHESTRA

WORDS BY

JOSEPH RODMAN DRAKE (A. D. 1815)

MUSIC

BY

ANTONIN DVORÁK

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The American Flag.

When Freedom from her mountain-height
Unfurled her standard to the air,
She tore the azure robe of Night
And set the stars of glory there!
She mingled, with its gorgeous dyes,
The milky baldric of the skies,
And striped its pure, celestial white
With streakings of the morning light.
Then, from his mansion in the sun,
She called her eagle-bearer down,
And gave into his mighty hand
The symbol of her chosen land.

Each soldier-eye shall brightly turn
To where thy sky-born glories burn,
And, as his springing steps advance,
Catch war and vengeance from the glance.
And, when the cannon-mouthings loud
Heave in wild wreaths the battle-shroud,
And gory sabres rise and fall
Like shoots of flame on midnight’s pall:
There shall thy victor-glances glow,
And cow’ring foes shall shrink beneath
Each gallant arm that strikes below
That lovely messenger of death!

Majestic Monarch of the cloud!
Who rear’st aloft thy regal form
To hear the tempest-trumplings loud
And see the lightning-lances driven
When strides the warrior of the storm,
And rolls the thunder-drum of heaven:
Child of the sun! to thee ’tis given
To guard the banner of the free;
To hover in the sulphur-smoke,
To ward away the battle-stroke,
And bid its blendings shine afar
Like rainbows on the cloud of war,
The harbingers of victory.

Flag of the seas! on ocean-wave
Thy stars shall glitter o’er the brave,
When Death, careering on the gale,
Sweeps darkly round the belled sail,
And frightened waves rush madly back
Before the broadside’s reeling rack:
The dying wand’rer of the sea
Shall look alone to heaven and thee,
And smile to see thy splendors fly
In triumph o’er his closing eye.

Flag of the brave! thy folds shall fly,
The sign of hope and triumph high,
When speaks the signal trumpet-tone,
And the long line comes gleaming on.
Ere yet the lifeblood, warm and wet,
Has dimmed the glist’ning bayonet,

Flag of the free heart’s hope and home,
By angel-hands to valor given,
Thy stars have lit the welkin dome,
And all thy hues were born in heaven!
And, fixed as yonder orb divine
That saw thy banded blaze unfurled,
Shall thy proud stars resplendent shine,
The guard and glory of the world!
The American Flag.

No. 1. Chorus.
(Colors of Flag.)

Piano.

Lento maestoso.

Alto Solo. (4 voices only, if sung by Chorus.)

When Freedom from her mountain-height Un-
robe of night And set the stars of glory there!

She mingled with its gorgeous dyes The milky baldric of the skies, And

striped its pure, celestial white With streakings of the morning

Chorus.

ALTO TUTTI

When

TENOR TUTTI

When

BASS TUTTI
Freedom from her mountain-height, Unfurl her standard.

At the air, She tore the azure robe of night. And

Set the stars of glory there!

12267
Solo. (or 4 voices, if sung by Chorus.)

Then, from his mansion in the sun, She call'd her eagle-bearer

poco a poco
down, And gave into his mighty

poco a poco

accel. biu. f.

hand The symbol of her

accel. mf
cresc.
symbol of her chosen land.

symbol of her chosen land.
No. 2. Bass Solo and Chorus.
1st Apostrophe to the Eagle.

Allegro vivace.

Bass Solo.

Ma-jes-tic monarch of the cloud!

Piano.

Maj-

jes-tic mon-arch of the cloud, Who rear'st a-loft thy
SOPRANO.
Majestic monarch of the cloud, Who

ALTO.
reign form

TENOR.
Majestic monarch of the cloud, Who

BASS.

To hear the tempest

rearst aloft thy regal form

rearst aloft thy regal form
trumpings loud, And see the lightning-lances driven,

to

cresc.

hear the tempest-trumpings loud, And see the lightning-

hear the tempest-trumpings loud, And see the lightning-

12267
When strides the warrior of the storm

And lances driven,

lances driven,

rolls the thunder-drum of heaven:

When strides the warrior

When strides the warrior

12867
And
of the storm And rolls the thunder-drum of heaven, And
of the storm And rolls the thunder-drum of heaven, And
rolls the thunder-drum of heaven, And rolls the thunder-drum of
rolls the thunder-drum of heaven, And rolls the thunder-drum of
rolls the thunder-drum of heaven, And rolls the thunder-drum of
2d Apostrophe to the Eagle.

Child of the sun!

Child of the sun! to thee 'tis given To guard the banner
of the free;
Child of the sun! to thee 'tis given To
Child of the sun! to thee 'tis given To
f marc.
To hover in the

guard the banner of the free;
guard the banner of the free;
sulphur-smoke, To ward away the battle-stroke,

hover in the sulphur-smoke, To ward away the
And bid its blend-ings shine a-far, Like

battle-stroke,

And bid its blend-ings

rain-bows on the cloud of war,
No. 3. Tenor & Bass Soli and Chorus.

Allegro giusto, alla Marcia.

Piano.
Un poco meno mosso.

**Tenor Solo.**

Flag of the brave! Thy folds shall fly.

The sign of hope and triumph high!

**Tempo I.**

When speaks the signal trumpet tone, And the long line comes gleaming on.

Ere yet the life-blood, warm and wet, Has dimm’d the
glist'ning bay - o - net, Each sol - dier

eye shall bright - ly turn To where thy sky - born

glo - ries born; And, as his spring - ing steps ad-

vance, Catch war and ven - geance from the glance.

Each sol - dier -
eye shall brightly turn To where thy sky-born

glories burn, And, as his springing steps odder.
Bass Solo.

And when the cannon mouthings loud,

Heave in wild wreaths the battle shroud, And gory sabres rise and fall Like shoots of flame on midnight's pall:

when the cannon mouthings loud Heave in wild
wreaths the battle shroud,
And gory sabres rise and fall
Like shoots of flame on mid
night's pall:
Bass Solo.  
mournfully p

There

midnight's pall:

shall thy victor-glances glow, And covering

foes shall shrink beneath. Each gallant arm that strikes be-

low. That lovely messenger of death!

12267
There shall thy victor glances glow,

And cow'ring foes shall shrink beneath Each
gallant arm that strikes below

That lovely
3rd Apostrophe to the Flag.

(The Sailor.)

Flag of the seas! on ocean.

wave Thy stars shall glitter

Flag of the seas! on

over the brave.

Flag of the seas! on
ocean wave Thy stars shall glitter

ocean wave Thy stars shall glitter

o'er the brave: Flag of the seas! on

o'er the brave:

ocean wave Thy stars shall
Thy stars shall glitter over the brave Flag of the seas! on ocean wave. Thy
stars shall glitter, shall glitter o'er the

Flag of the seas! on

brave;

Flag of the seas! on

ocean-wave. Thy stars, thy

ocean-wave. Thy stars, thy
When stars shall glitter over the brave.

When Death, carreering on the gale.

Sweeps darkly round the belled on the gale.
When Death, ca-ree-ring on the gale,

dark-ly round the bel-lied sail,

Sweeps dark-ly round the bel-lied sail,
belied sail, And frightened waves

belied sail, And frightened waves

belied sail, And frightened waves

rush madly back Before the broad-sides reeling rack,

rush madly back Before the broad-sides reeling rack,

rush madly back Before the broad-sides reeling rack,

Bass Solo.

The dying wanderer of the sea

The dying
Shall

wanderer of the sea

look at once to heaven and thee,

shall look at once to heaven and thee,
And smile to see thy splendors fly
In triumph over his
clos

In triumph

PP

In triumph o

PP

ing eye.

o

ver his clos

ing eye.

ver his clos

ing eye
Finale.
(Prophetic.)

Piano.

Lento maestoso.

Bass Solo.

Flag of the free hearts hope and home,
By angel-hands to val-or
given,
Thy stars have lit the wel-kin
dome,
And all thy hues were born in
heaven!
And all thy hues were born in
And, fixed as yon-der orb di-vine
That
heaven!
And, fixed as yon-der orb di-vine
That
guard and glory of the

world!

Tempo I.

world!

Tempo I.