

The Star-Spangled Banner

The "Star-Spangled Banner" was composed under the following circumstances:

It was on the evening of September 13, 1814, during the War of 1812, that a British fleet was anchored in Chesapeake Bay. A Dr. Beanes, an old resident of Upper Marlborough, Maryland, had been captured by the British and sent as a prisoner to Admiral Cochrane's flagship.

Francis Scott Key, a young lawyer of Baltimore, hearing of the misfortune of Dr. Beanes, who was his personal friend, hastened to the British commander to endeavor to have his friend released. The enemy was about to attack Fort McHenry, so refused to allow Mr. Key and Dr. Beanes to return until after the fort was captured.

All through the night of September 13th, the bombardment was kept up, and in the light of the "rockets red glare, the bombs bursting in air" they could see the American flag still waving over the old fort. And when, in the first rays of dawn of September 14th, he still beheld the same glorious banner waving from its accustomed place, Francis Scott Key wrote the words of that wonderful song "The Star Spangled Banner"

The next day Key went ashore, and, after copying his poem, showed it to a friend and relative, Judge Nicholson, who saw its worth and at his suggestion it was printed. Soon after it was adapted to an old English air known as "To Anacreon in Heaven," the composition of which is credited to John Stafford Smith, who is supposed to have written the music some time between 1770 and 1775. "The Star-Spangled Banner" was first sung in public by Ferdinand Durang, an actor, in a tavern near the Holiday Street Theatre in Baltimore, Md.

Francis Scott Key was the son of John Ross Key, an officer of the Revolutionary Army. He was born August 1, 1779, and died January 11, 1843, leaving "The Star-Spangled Banner" as a monument to his patriotic spirit, and an inspiration to his countrymen.

FRANCIS SCOTT KEY

JOHN STAFFORD SMITH



1. Oh say! can you see, by the dawn's early light, What so proud-ly we hailed at the
2. On the shore, dimly seen thro' the mists of the deep, Where the foe's haughty host in dread
3. Oh, thus be it ev-er when free men shall stand Be tween their lov'd homes and the



twi-light's last gleaming? Whose broad stripes and bright stars, thro' the perilous fight, O'er the
silence re - pos-es, What is that which the breeze, o'er the tow-er-ing steep, As it
war's de - so - la-tion! Blest with vic-t'ry and peace, may the heav'n-rescued-land Praise the



ram-parts we watch'd, were so gal-lant-ly streaming? And the rockets' red glare, the bombs
fit - ful-ly blows, half con-ceals, half dis-clo-ses? Now it catch-es the gleam of the
Pow'r that hath made and pre-served us a na-tion! Then con-quer we must, when our



The Star-Spangled Banner—Continued

CHORUS

bursting in air, Gave proof thro' the night that our flag was still there. Oh, say, does that morning's first beam, In full glory re-lect-ed now shines on the stream; 'Tis the Star-spangled cause it is just, And this be our mot-to: "In God is our trust!" And the Star-spangled

Star-spangled Banner yet wave O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave? Ban-ner, oh, long may it wave O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave! Ban-ner in triumph shall wave O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave!

Flag Of The Free

UNKNOWN

ARR. FROM WAGNER

Brisk march time

1. Flag of the free, fair-est to see, Borne thro' the strife and the thunder of war;
2. Flag of the brave, long may it wave, Chos-en of God while His might we adore; In

Fine.

Ban-ner so bright with star-ry light, Float ev-er proud-ly from mountain to shore.
Lib-er-ty's van, for man-hood of man, Sym-bol of Right thro' the years passing o'er

D.S. While thro the sky loud rings the cry, Un-ion and Lib-er-ty! one ev-er-more!

D.S.

Emblem of Freedom, hope to the slave, Spread thy fair folds but to shield and to save,
Pride of our country, honored a -far, Scat-ter each cloud that would darken a star,