

# The Fort and the Flag

Baritone Solo and SATB Choir

With Optional Accompaniment

Quoting from the Official Report regarding The Attack on Fort McHenry  
by Major George Armistead, abr.; September, 1814  
The Text of the Anthem is by Francis Scott Key

Quoting the Anacreontic Melody by  
John Stafford Smith  
New Music and Harmonization by John C. Reim

Quarter Note = c. 86

Baritone

Choir\*

*f* can you see, Say, can you see by the dawn's ear - ly light?  
O say, say can you see by the dawn's ear - ly light?  
can you see, say, by dawn's ear - ly light?  
O say, can you see by dawn's ear - ly light?

6 *Freely* *mf* Ma - jor Ar - mi - stead, to the se - cre - ta - ry of war, James Mon - roe:

7 Quarter Note = c. 66 *mf* Ah

*\*Ideally, the choir sings a cappella. The choral parts may be doubled by instruments, however, to add support. Another option is to use only instruments to accompany the solo in mss. 7-24, with the choir singing only mss. 1-5 and 25-61. In the recitative sections notated with a single long note, the soloist is free to use whatever rhythmic pattern is deemed suitable for the text.*

9

hea - vy fri-gates, and bomb ves - sels, a - mounting in the whole to the thir - ty

Ah

11

sail, appeared at the mouth of the river Pa - tap - sco,

12

with every indication of an attempt on the ci - ty of Bal - timore...

Ah

13 \*

*mf* On Tuesday morning about sunrise the enemy commenced the attack from his five bomb

*mf* Ah

\* As the narrative of the actual assault begins, sound effects may be added. Possibilities include the vocal simulation of bombs exploding and the sound of rain hitting the fort (generated by members of the choir rapidly snapping their fingers).

14 *ff*

*f* vessels, at the distance a - bout two miles, when finding that his shells reached us

*f* Ah *ff*

15 *f* he an - chored and kept an in - ces - sant and well di - rect - ed bom - bard - ment.

*f* Ah *ff*

16 *accel.*

*f* We im - me - diate - ly o - pened our bat - teries and kept a brisk fire from our guns... *ff*

*f* Ah *ff*

17 *mf* but un - for - tu - nate - ly our shot and shells all fell con - si - der - a - bly short of him. *rit.*

*mf* Ah

*mf* This was to me a most distressing circumstance, as it left us exposed to constant and tremendous

*mf* Ah

*f* sho - wer of shells with - out the remote possibility of our do - ing him the slight - est injury... The

*f* Ah

enemy continued throwing shells with one or two slight intermissions, till one o' - clock in the

Ah

morn - ing of Wednes-day... *f* The on - ly means we had of di - rect - ing our guns

*accel.*

Ah

22

*ff* was by the blaze of their rock - ets and the flash - es of their guns...

*ff* Ah

23

The bom-bard - ment con - tin - ued on the part of the en - e-my un - til

Ah

24

sev - en o' - clock on Wednes - day morn - ing, when it ceased;

Ah

\*\*

\*\* The sound effects of explosions and rain stop on the word "ceased".

25 *mf* and a-bout nine, their ships got un-der weigh and stood down the

*mf* Ah

29 ri - ver. Dur - ing the bom - bard - ment which last - ed

Ah

31 twen - ty five hours... from the best cal - cu - la - tions I can make,

Ah

34 from fif - teen to eigh - teen hun - dred shells were thrown by the

Ah

37 5

e - ne-my... *f* Were I to name an - y in - di - vi - du - al who

Ah *f*

37

39 3 3

sig - na - lized them - selves, it would be do - ing in - jus - tice to the oth - ers.

Ah

39

42

Su - fice <sup>3</sup> it to say, that eve - ry of - fi - cer and sol - dier

Ah

42

45

un - der my com - mand did their du - ty to my en - tire sa - tis -

Ah

45

fac - tion.

49 *f* O say, does that star - span - gled ban - ner yet

wave O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave? The

53 wave O'er the land, the land of the free and the home, the home of the brave? The

53 wave O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave? The

ban - ner in tri - - - umph doth wave, doth wave! *rit.* in tri-umph doth wave!

58 ban - ner in tri - umph, in tri - umph doth wave, doth wave, doth wave!

ban - ner, ban - ner in tri - umph, in tri - umph doth wave, in tri-umph doth wave! *rit.*

58 ban - ner, the ban - ner in tri - umph, in tri - umph doth wave, doth wave!