

Samuel Francis Smith (1808-1895)

America (My Country, 'Tis of Thee) (Song)

My country, 'tis¹ of thee²,

Sweet land of liberty,

Of thee I sing;

Land where my fathers died,

5 Land of the pilgrims' pride,

From ev'ry mountainside

Let freedom ring!

My native country, thee,

10 Land of the noble free,

Thy³ name I love;

I love thy rocks and rills⁴,

Thy woods and templed hills;

My heart with rapture⁵ thrills⁶,

15 Like that above.

Let music swell⁷ the breeze,

And ring from all the trees

Sweet freedom's song;

20 Let mortal tongues awake;

Let all that breathe partake⁸;

Let rocks their silence break,

The sound prolong.

25 Our fathers' God to Thee,

Author of liberty,

To Thee we sing.

Long may our land be bright,

With freedom's holy light,

30 Protect us by Thy might,

Great God our King.

(123 Wörter)

¹'tis it is – ²thee (old form) you – ³thy (old form) your – ⁴rill small river – ⁵rapture extreme pleasure and happiness – ⁶to thrill to make someone feel very excited and pleased – ⁷to swell here: to become louder – ⁸to partake to become involved with, to take part in sth. with other people