

The Consecration of the Banner

CANTATINA

for

Soprano and Contralto Solo and Chorus

WRITTEN BY LONGFELLOW

The Music by

J. F. H. READ.

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*The Orchestral Parts in manuscript may be
had of the Publishers.*

THE CONSECRATION OF THE BANNER.

When the dying flame of day
Through the chancel shot its ray,
Far the glimmering tapers shed
Faint light on the cowed head;
And the censer burning swung,
Where, before the altar, hung
The blood-red banner, that with prayer
Had been consecrated there.

And the nuns' sweet hymn was heard the while
Sung low in the dim, mysterious aisle.

"Take thy banner! May it wave
Proudly o'er the good and brave;
When the battle's distant wail
Breaks the Sabbath of our vale,
When the clarion's music thrills
To the hearts of these lone hills,
When the spear in conflict shakes,
And the strong lance shivering breaks.

"Take thy banner! and beneath
The battle-cloud's encircling wreath,
Guard it! till our homes are free!
Guard it! God will prosper thee!
In the dark and trying hour,
In the breaking forth of power,
In the rush of steeds and men,
His right hand will shield thee then.

"Take thy banner! But, when night
Closes round the ghastly fight,
If the vanquished warrior bow,
Spare him! By our holy vow,
By our prayers and many tears,
By the mercy that endears,
Spare him! he our love hath shared!
Spare him! as thou wouldst be spared!

"Take thy banner! and if e'er
Thou shouldst press the soldier's bier,
And the muffled drum should beat
To the tread of mournful feet,
Then this crimson flag shall be
Martial cloak and shroud for thee."

The warrior took that banner proud,
And it was his martial cloak and shroud!

THE CONSECRATION OF THE BANNER.

CANTATINA

for

SOPRANO, CONTRALTO SOLO AND CHORUS.

Solennemente. $\text{♩} = 40.$

J.F.H. Read.

Tenor.

Bass.

CHORUS.

Pianoforte.

Come Recit.

sa sempre

When the dy-ing flame of day through the chancel shot its ray, far the

When the dy-ing flame of day through the chancel shot its ray, far the

glim-mer-ing ta-pers shed faint light on the cowl-ed head, and the

glim-mer-ing ta-pers shed faint light on the cowl-ed head,

cen - ser burning swung, and the cen - ser burning swung,

Where, be fore the al tar, hung the blood red banner, hung the blood red banner.

Ten. I.

That with prayer, with prayer, that with prayer, that with prayer had been consecrated there. And the

Ten. II.

That with prayer, with prayer, with prayer, with prayer had been con - se - crated there. And the

Bass. I.

That with prayer, with prayer, with prayer, with prayer had been con - se - crated there. And the

Bass. II.

That with prayer, with prayer, with prayer, with prayer had been con - se - crated there. And the

senza accomp. p

nuns' sweet hymn was heard the while, sung

nuns' sweet hymn was heard the while, sung

low in the dim, mys - te - rious aisle, sweet

low in the dim, mys - te - rious aisle, sweet

hymn sung low.

hymn sung low.

pp

Adagio. $\text{♩} = 60$.

Soprano Solo.

p
Take thy ban - ner! May it wave

Soprano I.

Soprano II.

Contralto.

Tenor.

Bass.

pp
Take thy ban - - - - - ner!*pp*
Take thy ban - - - - - ner!

Pianoforte.

p
proud - ly o'er the good and brave;*p*
When, when the*p*
When, when the*pp*
When, when the*pp*
May it wave proud - - ly; when, when the battle's*pp*
May it wave proud - - ly; when, when the battle's

bat - tle's dis - tant wail — breaks the

bat - tle's dis - tant wail — breaks the

bat - tle's dis - tant wail breaks the

dis - tant wail breaks the Sab - bath of our vale, breaks the Sab - bath,

dis - tant wail breaks the Sab - bath of our vale, breaks the Sab - bath,

Sab - bath of our vale, *p* when the

Sab - bath of our vale, *p* when the

Sab - bath of our vale, when the cla - rion's music,

breaks the Sabbath of our vale, when the cla - rion's music,

breaks the Sabbath of our vale, when the cla - rion's music,

clarion's music thrills, when the clarion's music

clarion's music thrills, when the clarion's music

when the clarion's music

when the clarion's music

when the clarion's music

when the clarion's music

p *f* *p*

thrills to the hearts of these lone hills, when the

thrills — to the hearts of these lone hills, when the

thrills — to the hearts of these lone hills, when the

thrills to the hearts of these lone hills, when the

thrills — to the hearts of these lone hills, —

f *f* *f* *f*

spear in con-flict shakes, and the strong lance shiv'ring breaks, when the

spear in con-flict shakes, and the strong lance shiv'ring breaks, when the

spear in con-flict shakes, and the strong lance shiv'ring breaks, when the

spear in con-flict shakes, and the strong lance shiv'ring breaks,

when the spear in conflict shakes, and the strong lance

The piano accompaniment consists of a treble and bass staff. The treble staff features a melody with eighth and sixteenth notes, while the bass staff provides a harmonic foundation with chords and moving lines.

spear in con-flict shakes, and the strong lance shiv'ring, shiv'ring breaks,

spear in con-flict shakes, and the strong lance shiv'ring, shiv'ring breaks,

spear in con-flict shakes, and the strong lance shiv'ring, shiv'ring breaks,

and the strong lance shiv'ring breaks, the strong lance shiv'ring breaks,

breaks, and the strong lance shiv'ring breaks, the strong lance shiv'ring breaks,

The piano accompaniment continues with a similar texture, featuring a more active treble staff with frequent sixteenth-note patterns and a steady bass line.

and the strong lance shiv' - ring breaks. Take thy

and the strong lance shiv' - ring breaks. Take thy

and the strong lance shiv' - ring breaks. Take thy

and the strong lance shiv' - ring breaks. Take thy banner!

and the strong lance shiv' - ring breaks. Take thy banner!

pp

ff

ban - - ner! May it wave

ban - - ner! May it wave

ban - - ner! May it wave

May it wave proudly o'er the good and brave,

May it wave proudly o'er the good and brave,

proud - ly o'er the good and brave, —
 proud - ly o'er the good and brave,
 proud - - ly o'er the good and brave.
 take thy banner! May it wave proud - - - ly,
 take thy banner! May it wave proud - - - ly,

Take thy ban_ner! May it wave proudly o'er the good and
 Take thy ban_ner! May it wave proudly o'er the good and
 Take thy ban_ner! May it wave proud - ly o'er the good and
 Take thy ban_ner! May it wave proudly o'er the good and
 Take thy han - - ner! May it wave, may it wave, —

f trem.

brave, May it proudly wave o'er the good and brave, o'er the good — and

brave, May it proudly wave o'er the good and brave, o'er the good — and

brave, May it proudly wave o'er the good and brave, o'er the good — and

brave, May it proudly wave o'er the good and brave, o'er the good — and

— May it proudly wave o'er the good and brave, o'er the good and

brave.

brave.

brave.

brave.

brave.

p *p* *rall.*

Poco Allegretto. $\text{♩} = 112.$

Take thy ban-ner! and be - neath the batt-le - clouds en - cir - cling wreath,

mf

sta semp.

guard it! till our homes are free! guard it! God will pros - per thee!

f

In^a the dark and try - ing hour, in the breaking forth of pow - er,

p

in the rush of steeds and men, His right hand, His right hand,

p

His right hand shall shield thee then, his right hand shall shield, shield thee

rall.

rall.

then.

Soprano.

Alto.

Tenor.

Risoluto.

Bass.

f

In the rush of steeds and men, in the rush of

In the rush of steeds and men, in the rush of steeds and men, the rush, the rush of

In the rush of steeds and men,

In the rush of steeds and men, in the rush of steeds and men, the

steeds, in the rush of steeds and men, in the

steeds, in the rush of steeds and men,

in the rush of steeds, the rush of steeds and men, in the —
 rush of steeds and men, the rush of men, the rush of
 rush of steeds, in the rush of steeds and men, of
 in the rush of

f
f
sra

— rush of steeds and men, — in the rush of steeds and men, of
 steeds and men, of steeds and men — in the rush of steeds and men, of
 steeds and men, of steeds — and men, of steeds, of
 steeds and men, in the rush of steeds and men, in the rush of

f

steeds and men, His right hand, His right hand,

steeds and men, His right hand, His right hand,

steeds and men, His right hand, His right hand,

steeds and men, His right hand, His right hand,

His right hand, His right hand shall shield thee then, shall

His right hand, His right hand shall shield thee then, shall

His right hand, His right hand shall shield thee then, shall

His right hand, His right hand shall shield thee then, shall

shield thee, in the rush of steeds and men,

shield thee, in the rush of steeds and men,

shield thee, — in the rush of steeds and men,

shield thee, in the rush of steeds and men,

in the rush of steeds and men, in the rush of men,

in the rush of steeds and men, in the rush of men,

in the rush of steeds and men, in the rush of men,

in the rush of steeds and men, in the rush of men,

p in the rush of steeds and men, the rush of steeds and men,
p in the rush of steeds and men, the rush of steeds and men,
p in, in the rush of steeds, the rush of
p in the rush of

f

p in the rush of steeds and men, the rush of steeds and men.
p in the rush of steeds and men, the rush of steeds and men.
 men in the rush of men.
 steeds and men.

p

Piu lento. $\text{♩} = 96.$

Soprano Solo.

Take thy banner!

but, when night

closes round

Contralto Solo.

Take thy banner!

but, when night

closes round

Take thy banner!

but, when night

clo_ses

Take thy banner!

but, when night

clo_ses

Take thy banner!

but, when night

clo_ses

Take thy banner!

but, when night

clo_ses

the ghastly fight,

take thy banner!

but, when

the ghastly fight,

take thy banner!

but, when

round

the ghastly fight,

take thy banner!

round

the ghastly fight,

take thy banner!

round

the ghastly fight,

take thy banner!

round

the ghastly fight,

take thy banner!

p

night closes round, — closes round, — closes

night closes round, — closes round, — closes

but, when night closes round, closes round

but, when night closes round, closes round

but, when night closes round, closes round

but, when night closes round, closes round

p

rall.

round — the ghastly fight, *p* If the vanquished warrior bow,

round — the ghastly fight, *p* if the vanquished warrior bow,

the ghastly fight,

the ghastly fight,

p the ghastly fight,

the ghastly fight,

the ghastly fight,

rall.

p

spare him! spare him! if the vanquished warrior bow, spare him! spare him!
 spare him! spare him! if the vanquished warrior bow, spare him! spare him!
 spare him! spare him! spare him! spare him!
 spare him! spare him! spare him! spare him!
 spare him! spare him! spare him! spare him!
 spare him! spare him! spare him! spare him!

p

by our ho-ly vow, by our ho-ly vow, by our prayers and
 by our ho-ly vow, by our ho-ly vow, by our prayers and
 oh spare him! oh spare him!
 oh spare him! oh spare him!
 by our ho-ly vow, oh spare him! by our ho-ly vow oh spare him! by our prayers and
 oh spare him! oh spare him!

p

ma-ny tears, by our ho - - ly vow, spare him! spare him!

ma-ny tears, by our ho - - ly vow, spare him! spare him!

oh spare him! by the mer - cy that en-dears, — spare him! spare him!

oh spare him! by the mer - cy that en-dears, spare him! spare him!

tears, oh spare him! by the mer - cy that en-dears, spare him! spare him!

oh spare him! by the mer - cy that en-dears, spare him! spare him!

he our love hath shared! spare

he our love our love hath shared! spare

he our love, our love hath shared! spare

he our love, our love hath shared! spare

he our love hath shared! spare

he our love hath shared! spare

pp *rall.* *p*

him! spare! as thou wouldst be spared, spare him! as thou

him! spare! as thou wouldst be spared. spare him! as thou

him! spare him! spare him! as thou wouldst be spared, spare

him! spare him! spare him! as thou wouldst be spared, spare

him! spare him! spare him! as thou wouldst be spared, spare,

him! spare him! spare him! as thou wouldst be spared, oh spare him! spare!

p *rall.*

wouldst be spared, spare, spare him! spare

wouldst be spared, spare, spare him! spare him! as thou

him! spare him! spare him! spare him! as thou wouldst be spared,

him! spare him! spare him! spare him! as thou

spare him! as thou wouldst be spared spare him! as thou wouldst be spared,

spare him! as thou wouldst be spar - ed, spare him! as thou

spare him! spare!

decrease.

spare, spare him! spare him! spare him!

wouldst be spared, spare him! spare him!

wouldst be spared, spare him! spare him!

wouldst be spared, spare him! spare him!

wouldst be spared, spare him! spare him!

wouldst be spared, spare him! spare him! Oh take, him! spare him! spare him! Oh Oh

Oh take, oh take, oh take thy ban-ner.

Oh take, oh take, oh take thy ban-ner.

1 u. 2^d Sopr. take, oh take.

take, oh take.

take, oh take.

take, oh take.

take, oh take.

Take thy ban - ner! and if e'er thou shouldst

Take thy ban - ner! and if e'er thou shouldst

Take thy ban - ner! and if e'er thou shouldst

Take thy ban - ner! and if e'er thou shouldst

rall.
press the sol - dier's bier, — take thy ban - ner!

f
press the sol - dier's bier, — take thy ban - ner!

f
press the sol - dier's bier, — take thy ban - ner!

f
press the sol - dier's bier, — take thy ban - ner!

rall.
f

and if e'er — thou shouldst press the sol - dier's

and if e'er — thou shouldst press the sol - dier's

and if e'er — thou shouldst press the sol - dier's

and if e'er — thou shouldst press the sol - dier's

bier, — and, and, and the muffled drum should

bier, — and, and, and the muffled drum should

bier, — and the muf - fled drum should beat, and the muf - fled

bier, — and the muf - fled drum should beat, and the muf - fled

cresc.

p

beat _____ to the tread of mourn - ful feet,

beat _____ to the tread of mourn - ful feet,

drum should beat to the tread of mourn - ful feet,

drum should beat to the tread of mourn - ful feet,

then this crim - son flag shall be

then this crim - son flag shall be

then this flag _____ shall _____

then this flag _____ shall _____

mar - - tial cloak and shroud for thee,

mar - - tial cloak and shroud for thee,

— be shroud for thee,

— be shroud for thee,

The piano accompaniment consists of two staves. The right hand features a complex, flowing melody with many beamed sixteenth and thirty-second notes. The left hand provides a steady harmonic foundation with chords and moving lines. There are two measures marked with a double bar line and the number 827.

shroud for thee, shroud for thee.

shroud for thee, shroud for thee.

shroud for thee, shroud for thee.

shroud for thee, shroud for thee.

The piano accompaniment continues with similar complex textures. The right hand has more intricate melodic patterns, while the left hand maintains the harmonic support. The system concludes with a *rall.* (rallentando) marking over the final notes.

p Take thy banner! and if e'er thou shouldst press the soldier's bier, then this crimson

p Take thy banner! and if e'er thou shouldst press the soldier's bier, then this crimson

p Take thy banner! and if e'er thou shouldst press the soldier's bier, then this crimson

p Take thy banner! and if e'er thou shouldst press the soldier's bier, then this crimson

rall. *p* flag shall be martial cloak and shroud for thee, and the muffled drum should beat

p flag shall be martial cloak and shroud for thee, and the muffled drum should beat

p flag shall be martial cloak and shroud for thee, and the muffled drum should beat

flag shall be martial cloak and shroud for thee, _____ for

(drums) *8/7*

to the tread of mournful feet, then this crimson flag shall be martial cloak

to the tread of mournful feet, then this crimson flag shall be martial cloak

to the tread of mournful feet, then this flag shall be martial cloak

there, then this flag shall be martial cloak,

no temp.

martial cloak and shroud for thee, shroud for thee, shroud for

martial cloak and shroud for thee, shroud for thee, shroud for

martial cloak and shroud for thee, shroud for thee, shroud for

cloak and shroud for thee, shroud for thee, shroud for

rit

rall. *f*

thee. Take thy ban-ner! May it wave proudly o'er the good and

thee. Take thy ban-ner! May it wave proudly o'er the good, the

thee. Take thy ban-ner! May it wave proudly o'er the good, the

thee. Take thy ban-ner! May it wave proudly o'er the good, the

rall. *f*

rall.

brave, the good and brave, the good and brave, the good and brave, proud - ly o'er the good and

good and brave, the good and brave, the good and brave, the good, the good — and

good and brave, the good and brave, the good and brave, the good, the good — and

good and brave, the good and brave, the good and brave, the good, the good — and

rall.

Solennemente come prima.

brave. The war_r_i-or

brave. The war_r_i-or

brave. The war_r_i-or

brave. The war_r_i-or

f

seg

Detailed description: This block contains the first system of the musical score. It features four staves for voices (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) and a piano introduction. Each voice staff begins with a rest followed by the instruction 'brave.' and then the lyrics 'The war_r_i-or'. The piano introduction starts with a forte (*f*) dynamic and includes a 'seg' (segment) marking. The piano part consists of chords and moving lines in both hands.

took that ban_ner proud, took that ban - ner prond, and it was, and it was, and it

took that ban_ner proud, took that ban - ner prond, and it was, and it was, and it

took that ban_ner proud, took that ban - ner prond, and it was, and it was, and it

took that ban_ner proud, took that ban - ner prond, and it was, and it was, and it

f

p

seg

Detailed description: This block contains the second system of the musical score, featuring four staves for voices and piano accompaniment. Each voice staff has the lyrics 'took that ban_ner proud, took that ban - ner prond, and it was, and it was, and it'. The piano accompaniment includes a forte (*f*) dynamic marking and a piano (*p*) dynamic marking. A 'seg' (segment) marking is present at the bottom of the piano part. The piano part features chords and moving lines in both hands.

fz *p*

was his martial cloak, martial cloak, martial cloak, martial cloak, martial

p

was his martial cloak, martial cloak, martial cloak, martial cloak, martial

p

was his martial cloak, martial cloak, martial cloak, martial cloak, martial

p

was his martial cloak, martial cloak, martial cloak, martial cloak, martial

decrease. *pp*

cloak and shroud, and shroud, and shroud and shroud, and shroud. —

pp

cloak and shroud, and shroud, and shroud and shroud, and shroud. —

pp

cloak and shroud, and shroud, and shroud. —

pp

cloak and shroud, and shroud, and shroud, and shroud, and shroud. —

decrease. *pp*