Rule Britannia

Thomas Arne, set by the composer Copied from this picture, found on the internet and transposed to C as in the original







1 When Britain first, at Heaven's command Arose from out the azure main; This was the charter of the land, And guardian angels sang this strain:

"Rule, Britannia! rule the waves:
"Britons never will be slaves."

- 2 The nations, not so blest as thee,Must, in their turns, to tyrants fall;While thou shalt flourish great and free,The dread and envy of them all.
- 3 Still more majestic shalt thou rise, More dreadful, from each foreign stroke; As the loud blast that tears the skies, Serves but to root thy native oak.
- 4 Thee haughty tyrants ne'er shall tame: All their attempts to bend thee down, Will but arouse thy generous flame; But work their woe, and thy renown.
- 5 To thee belongs the rural reign;Thy cities shall with commerce shine:All thine shall be the subject main,And every shore it circles thine.
- 6 The Muses, still with freedom found, Shall to thy happy coast repair; Blest Isle! With matchless beauty crown'd, And manly hearts to guard the fair.

"Rule, Britannia! rule the waves: "Britons never will be slaves."

