

Oh! the Roast Beef of England

Original ballad from *The Grub Street Opera* (1731) Henry Fielding (1707-1754)

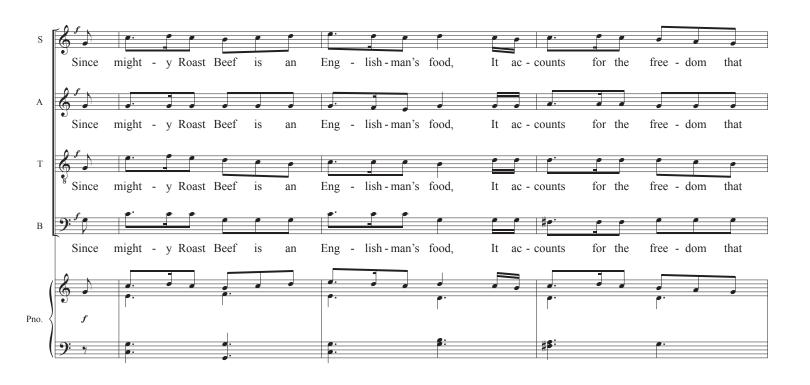
arranged

Josiah Pittman (1816-1886)

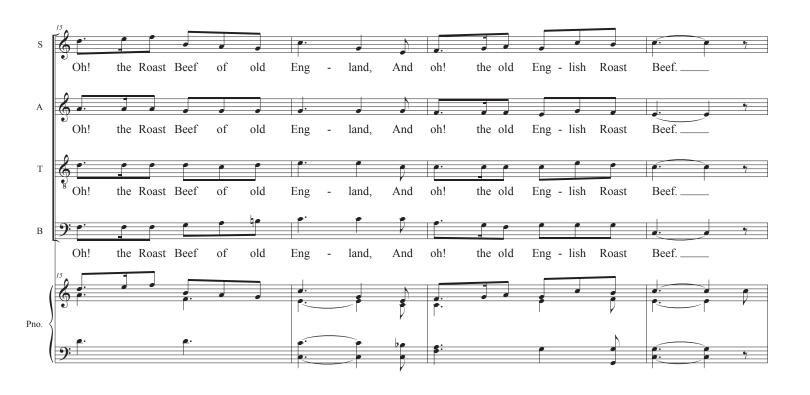




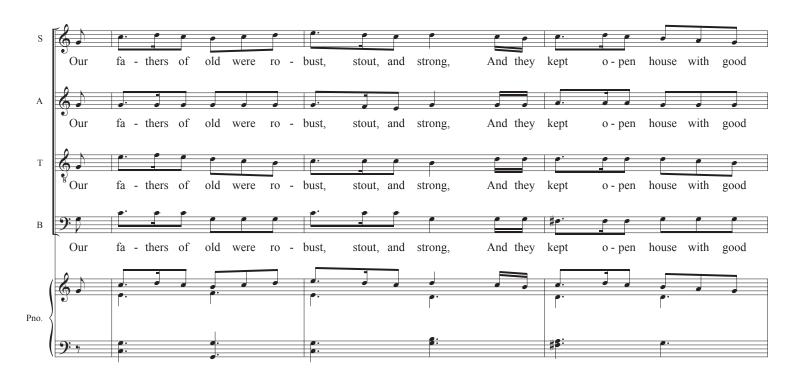


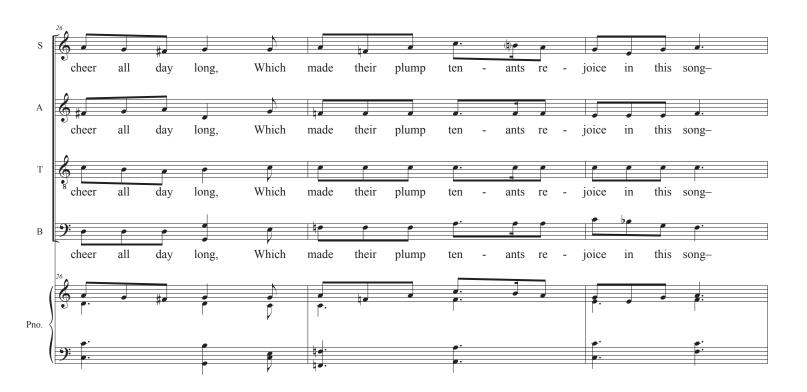


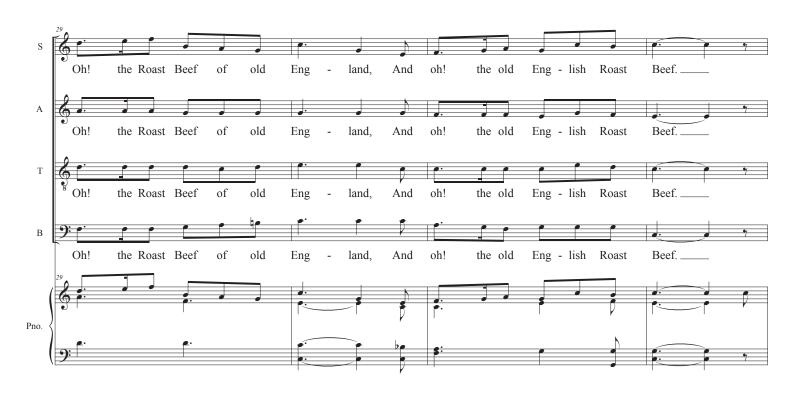




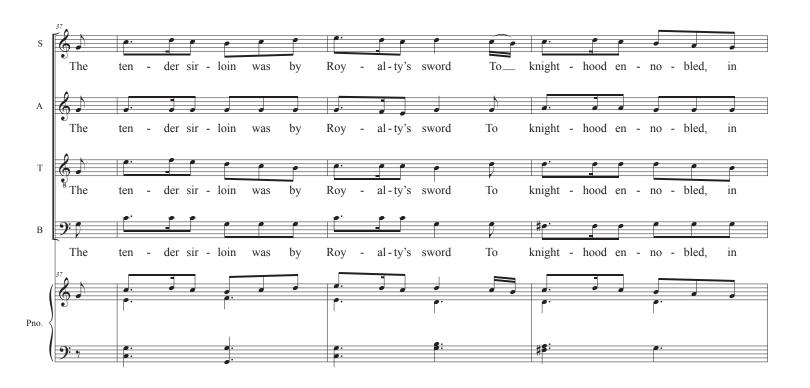


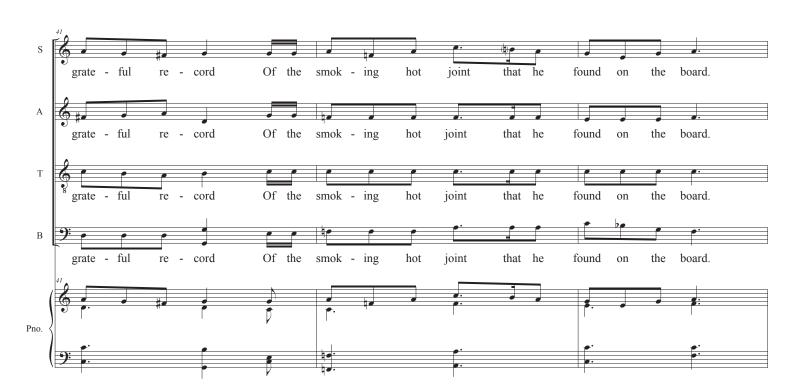


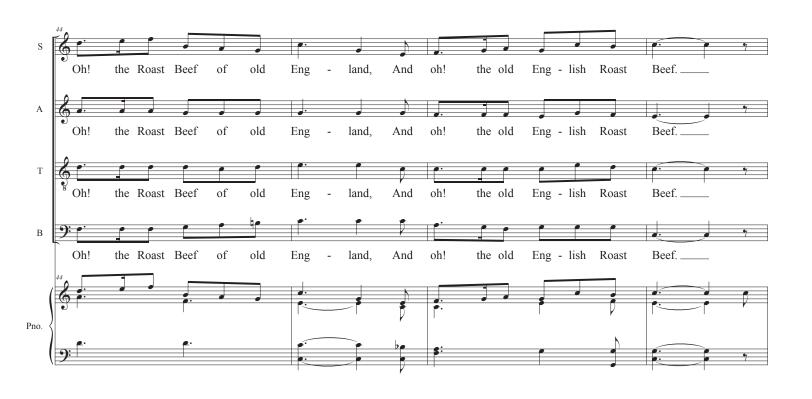




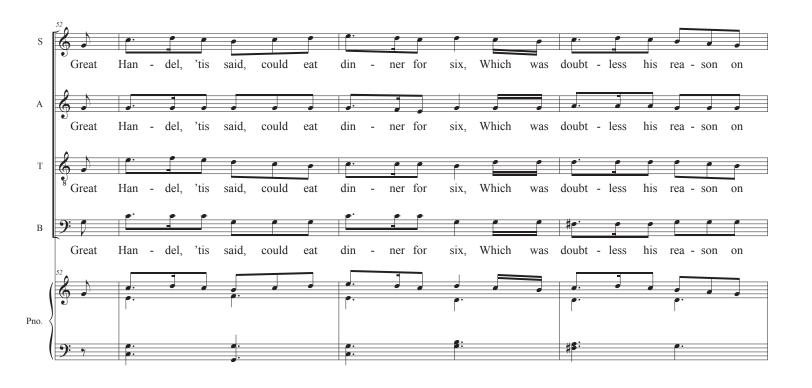


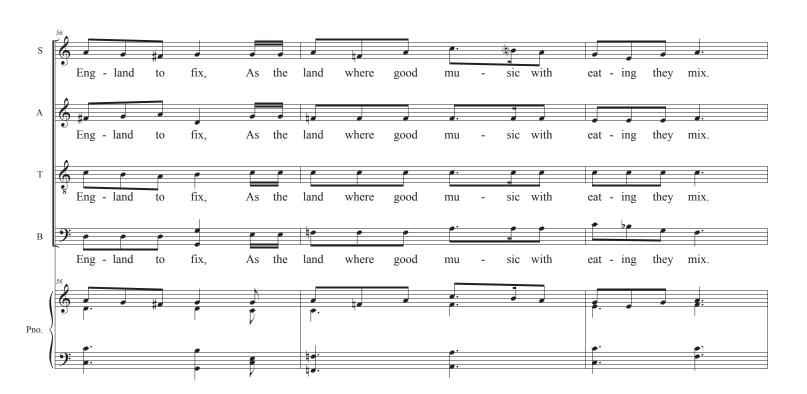


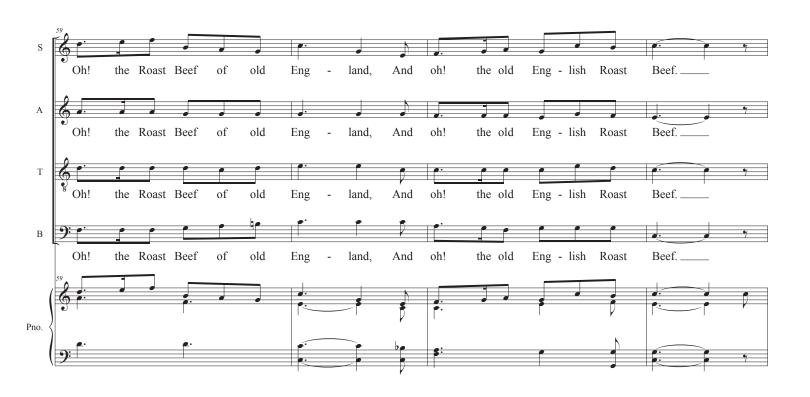




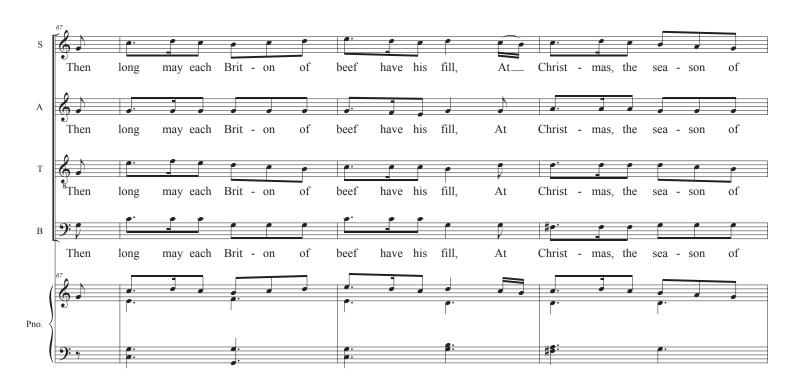


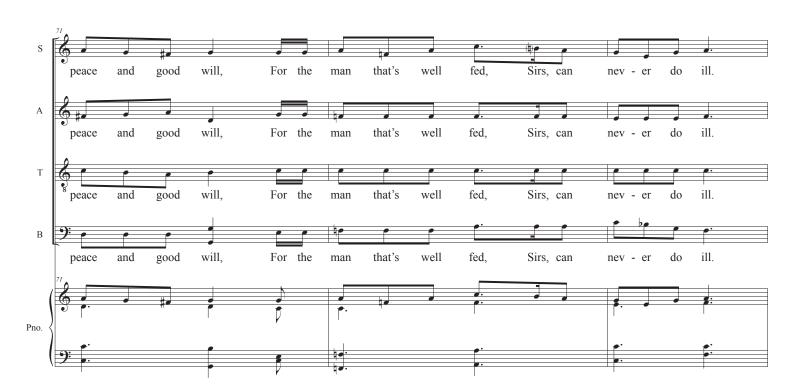


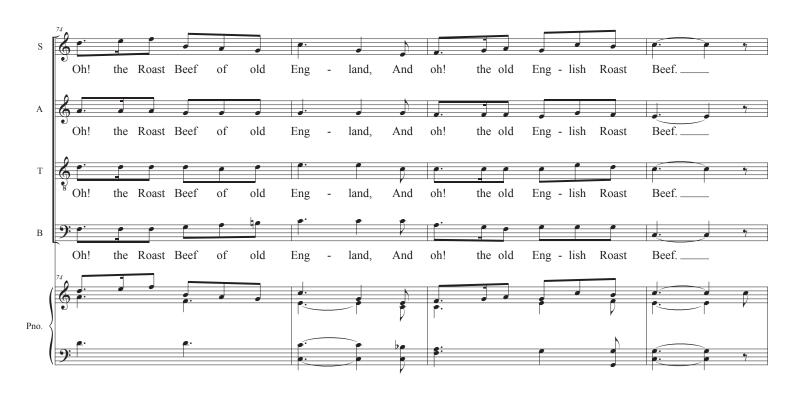














Novello, Ewer and Co. (1851)

Josiah Pittman (1816-1886) was born in London, England. He studied under a number of notable musicians, including S. S. Wesley, and became an established composer, author, and organist. He held organist positions at Sydenham, Spitalfields, and Lincoln's Inn. He was accompanist at Her Majesty's Theatre and at the Royal Italian Opera, Covent Garden. He died in London. He authored The People in the Church, their Rights and Duties in connection with the Poetry and Music of the Book of Common Prayer and People of the Cathedral. He edited or arranged many vocal works including Songs of Scotland, and Songs from the Operas. He edited Callcott's Grammar of Music and with Sir Arthur Sullivan, edited the Royal Edition of Operas. His compositions include service music, anthems and songs.

Since mighty Roast Beef is an Englishman's food, It accounts for the freedom that runs in his blood, For generous living's the step to all good. Oh! the Roast Beef of old England, And oh! the old English Roast Beef.

Our fathers of old were robust, stout, and strong, And they kept open house with good cheer all day long, Which made their plump tenants rejoice in this song— Oh! the Roast Beef of old England, And oh! the old English Roast Beef.

The tender sirloin was by Royalty's sword To knighthood ennobled, in grateful record Of the smoking hot joint that he found on the board. Oh! the Roast Beef of old England, And oh! the old English Roast Beef.

Great Handel, 'tis said, could eat dinner for six, Which was doubtless his reason on England to fix, As the land where good music with eating they mix. Oh! the Roast Beef of old England, And oh! the old English Roast Beef.

Then long may each Briton of beef have his fill, At Christmas, the season of peace and good will, For the man that's well fed, Sirs, can never do ill. Oh! the Roast Beef of old England, And oh! the old English Roast Beef.

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