

Overmountain Victory

National Historic Trail

A Royal Loyal Tune

t the time of the American Revolution, the world of ideas was also changing. Nobody knew about <u>democracy</u> in which the "consent of the governed" is the basis for all the power that the government has. "We the people" was an unknown concept. Only after the <u>Founding Fathers</u> of the United States of America hammered out the Constitution in 1789, some eight years after the American Revolution had ended, did the <u>Great Experiment</u> in democracy actually get under way.

In the British Empire, the Royal Crown ruled. In the 18th century "the divine right of kings" was not doubted or disputed in public. The leaders of the country, the royalty—the king or queen, was believed to have that **sovereign right** by the grace of a Supreme Being.

So uncomfortable to some was the concept of democracy, they wanted to make George Washington the king of the newly freed colonies. He wisely refused

In the United States today, a band may play "Hail to the Chief" to honor the President upon his arrival. In the days of King George III, the general public would sing a song of praise for their king. Sing this song now and think about how the words differ from the types of patriotic songs we sing in America today.

GOD SAVE THE KING

God save great George our King,
Long live our noble King,
God Save the King!
Send him victorious,
Happy and glorious,
Long to reign over us,
God Save the King.

O Lord, our God, arise,
Scatter his enemies,
And make them fall,
Confound their politics,
Frustrate their knavish tricks!
On him our hearts are fix't,
O save us all.

O grant him long to see
Friendship and unity,
Always increase:
May he his septre sway,
All loyal souls obey,
Join heart and voice, huzzah!
God save the King!

A Familiar Tune

The tune for My Country 'tis of Thee came from God Save the King.



My Country, 'tis of Thee

My country, 'tis of thee Sweet land of liberty Of thee I sing. Land where my fathers died, Land of the pilgrims' pride From every mountain side, Let freedom ring.



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