2-11 "America"

Work for a long, six-measure phrase, giving a phrase release on "sing," if you can. Cut off and breathe with the singers. See Chapter Nine, Phrase and phrasing beat. Use dynamics to shape the phrases. Move the second phrase to the climax (m 13).

My country, 'tis of thee, Sweet land of liberty, Of thee I sing: Land where my fathers died, Land of the pilgrim's pride, From every mountain-side Let freedom ring!

2-12 "Chester"

Conduct the style and mood of the words (marcato?). Shape the four phrases and give clear phrase endings for expression and precision of final consonants; release and breathe with the singers. Build to the climax (m 12).

Let tyrants shake their iron rod, And Slavery clank her galling chains. We fear them not; we trust in God, New England's God for ever reigns.