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## **Irish melodies**

**Stevenson, John A.**

**Dublin, 1859**

Dear Harp Of My Country.

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## DEAR HARP OF MY COUNTRY.

(AIR—NEW LANGOLEE.)

(THE FAREWELL TO MY HARP.)

*In moderate time, with much warmth of expression.*

The first system of musical notation consists of a treble and bass staff. The treble staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a 6/8 time signature. The melody starts with a quarter note G4, followed by eighth notes A4-B4-C5, and continues with a series of eighth and sixteenth notes. The bass staff begins with a bass clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#), providing a harmonic accompaniment with quarter and eighth notes.

The second system of musical notation continues the melody and accompaniment from the first system. The treble staff features a more active melodic line with many sixteenth notes, while the bass staff continues with a steady accompaniment.

The third system of musical notation includes the first line of lyrics. The treble staff has a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a 6/8 time signature. The lyrics are: \* Dear Harp of my Coun-try! in dark-ness I found thee, The cold chain of silence had

The fourth system of musical notation includes the second line of lyrics. The treble staff has a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a 6/8 time signature. The lyrics are: hung o'er thee long, When proud - ly my own Is - land Harp! I un-bound thee, And

\* In that rebellious but beautiful song, "When Erin first arose," there is, if I recollect right, the following line:—

"The dark chain of Silence was thrown o'er the deep."

The chain of Silence was a sort of practical figure of rhetoric among the ancient Irish. Walker tells us of "a celebrated contention for precedence between Finn and Gaul, near Finn's palace, at Almhairm, where the attending Bards, anxious, if possible, to produce a cessation of hostilities, shook the chain of Silence, and flung themselves among the ranks." See also the *Ode to Gaul, the Son of Morni*, in Miss Brooke's *Relics of Irish Poetry*.

gave all thy chords to light, free - dom, and song! The warm lay of love and the

The first system of the musical score consists of three staves. The top staff is the vocal line in G major, with lyrics underneath. The middle and bottom staves are the piano accompaniment, with the right hand playing chords and the left hand playing a simple bass line.

light note of glad - ness Have wa - ken'd thy fond - est, thy live - li - est thrill, But so

The second system continues the melody and accompaniment. The piano accompaniment features a steady rhythm of chords in the right hand and a walking bass line in the left hand.

oft hast thou e - cho'd the deep sigh of sad - ness, That ev'n in thy mirth it will

The third system continues the piece. The piano accompaniment includes some more complex rhythmic patterns in the right hand, such as eighth-note runs.

steal from thee still.

The fourth system concludes the first verse. The piano accompaniment features a final flourish in the right hand and a sustained bass note in the left hand.

## SECOND VERSE.

Dear Harp of my Country! fare-well to thy slumbers, This sweet wreath of song is the

The second verse begins with a new melody. The piano accompaniment is simpler, with a clear bass line in the left hand and chords in the right hand.

last we shall twine; Go, sleep with the sun-shine of fame on thy slum-bers, Till

The first system of music features a vocal line in the treble clef and a piano accompaniment in the grand staff (treble and bass clefs). The key signature has one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 3/4. The lyrics are: "last we shall twine; Go, sleep with the sun-shine of fame on thy slum-bers, Till".

touch'd by some hand less un - wor - thy than mine. If the pulse of the Pa - tri - ot,

The second system continues the melody and accompaniment. The lyrics are: "touch'd by some hand less un - wor - thy than mine. If the pulse of the Pa - tri - ot,".

Sol - dier, or Lo-ver, Have throbb'd at our lay, 'tis thy glo - ry a-lone; I was

The third system continues the melody and accompaniment. The lyrics are: "Sol - dier, or Lo-ver, Have throbb'd at our lay, 'tis thy glo - ry a-lone; I was".

but as the wind, pass-ing heed - less-ly o - ver, And all the wild sweetness I

The fourth system continues the melody and accompaniment. The lyrics are: "but as the wind, pass-ing heed - less-ly o - ver, And all the wild sweetness I".

wak'd was thine own!

The fifth system concludes the melody and accompaniment. The lyrics are: "wak'd was thine own!".