



RÍCH AND RARE WERE THE JEMS SHE WORE

AIR: THE SUMMER IS COMING

mícheál tuílliam Balfe
(1808-1870)

Moderato

Piano

f

The musical score is for a piano piece in 3/4 time, marked 'Moderato'. It begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The first staff contains a series of chords and a melodic line. The second staff contains a bass line with a steady eighth-note rhythm. A dynamic marking of 'f' (forte) is placed at the beginning of the bass line.



rich and rare were the gems she wore

5

S Rich and rare were the gems she wore, And a bright gold

A Rich and rare were the gems she wore, And a bright gold

T Rich and rare were the gems she wore, And a bright gold

B Rich and rare were the gems she wore, And a bright gold

Pno.

10

S ring on her wand she bore; But oh! her beau - ty was

A ring on her wand she bore; But oh! her beau - ty was

T ring on her wand she bore; But oh! her beau - ty was

B ring on her wand she bore; But oh! her beau - ty was

Pno.

rich and rare were the gems she wore

15 *cresc.*

S far _____ be - yond Her spar - kling gems, — or snow - white

A *cresc.*
far _____ be - yond Her spar - kling gems, or snow - white

T *cresc.*
far be - yond Her spar - kling gems, or snow - white

B *cresc.*
far _____ be - yond Her spar - kling _____ gems, or snow - white

Pno.

20

S wand; But oh! her beau - ty was far _____ be -

A wand; But oh! her beau - ty was far _____ be -

T wand; But oh! her beau - ty was far _____ be -

B wand; But oh! her beau - ty was far _____ be -

Pno.

rich and rare were the gems she wore

24

S yond Her spar - kling gems, or snow - white wand. *rall.*

A yond Her spar - kling gems, or snow - white wand. *rall.*

T yond Her spar - kling gems, or snow - white wand. *rall.*

B yond Her spar - kling gems, or snow - white wand. *rall.*

Pno. *rall.*

29

S "La - dy! dost thou not fear to stray, So lone and

A "La - dy! dost thou not fear to stray, So lone and

T "La - dy! dost thou not fear to stray, So lone and

B "La - dy! dost thou not fear to stray, So lone and

Pno.

rich and rare were the gems she wore

34

S love - ly thro' this bleak way? Are E - rin's sons so

A love - ly thro' this bleak way? Are E - rin's sons so

T love - ly thro' this bleak way? Are E - rin's sons so

B love - ly thro' this bleak way? Are E - rin's sons so

Pno.

39 *cresc.*

S good or so cold, As not to be tempt - ed by wom - an or

A *cresc.* good or so cold, As not to be tempt - ed by wom - an or

T *cresc.* good or so cold, As not to be tempt - ed by wom - an or

B *cresc.* good or so cold, As not to be tempt - ed by wom - an or

Pno.

rich and rare were the gems she wore

44

S gold? Are E - - - rin's sons so good or so

A gold? Are E - - - rin's sons so good or so

T gold? Are E - - - rin's sons so good or so

B gold? Are E - - - rin's sons so good or so

Pno.

48

S cold, As not to be tempt - ed by wom - an or gold?" "Sir

A cold, As not to be tempt - ed by wom - an or gold?" "Sir

T cold, As not to be tempt - ed by wom - an or gold?" "Sir

B cold, As not to be tempt - ed by wom - an or gold?" "Sir

Pno.

rall.

f

rich and rare were the gems she wore

53

S Knight! I feel not the least a - larm, No son of

A Knight! I feel not the least a - larm, No son of

T Knight! I feel not the least a - larm, No son of

B Knight! I feel not the least a - larm, No son of

Pno.

58

S E - rin will of - fer me harm:— For tho' they love wom - an and

A E - rin will of - fer me harm:— For tho' they love wom - an and

T E - rin will of - fer me harm:— For tho' they love wom - an and

B E - rin will of - fer me harm:— For tho' they love wom - an and

Pno.

rich and rare were the gems she wore

63 *cresc.*

S gold - en store, Sir Knight! they love hon - our and vir - tue

A *cresc.*
gold - en store, Sir Knight! they love hon - our and vir - tue

T *cresc.*
gold - en store, Sir Knight! they love hon - our and vir - tue

B *cresc.*
gold - en store, Sir Knight! they love hon - our and vir - tue

Pno.

68

S more! For tho' they love wom - an and gold - en store, Sir

A more! For tho' they love wom - an and gold - en store, Sir

T more! For tho' they love wom - an and gold - en store, Sir

B more! For tho' they love wom - an and gold - en store, Sir

Pno.

rich and rare were the gems she wore

73 *rall.*

S Knight! they love hon - our and vir - tue more!"

A Knight! they love hon - our and vir - tue more!"

T Knight! they love hon - our and vir - tue more!"

B Knight! they love hon - our and vir - tue more!"

Pno. *rall.*



77 *f*

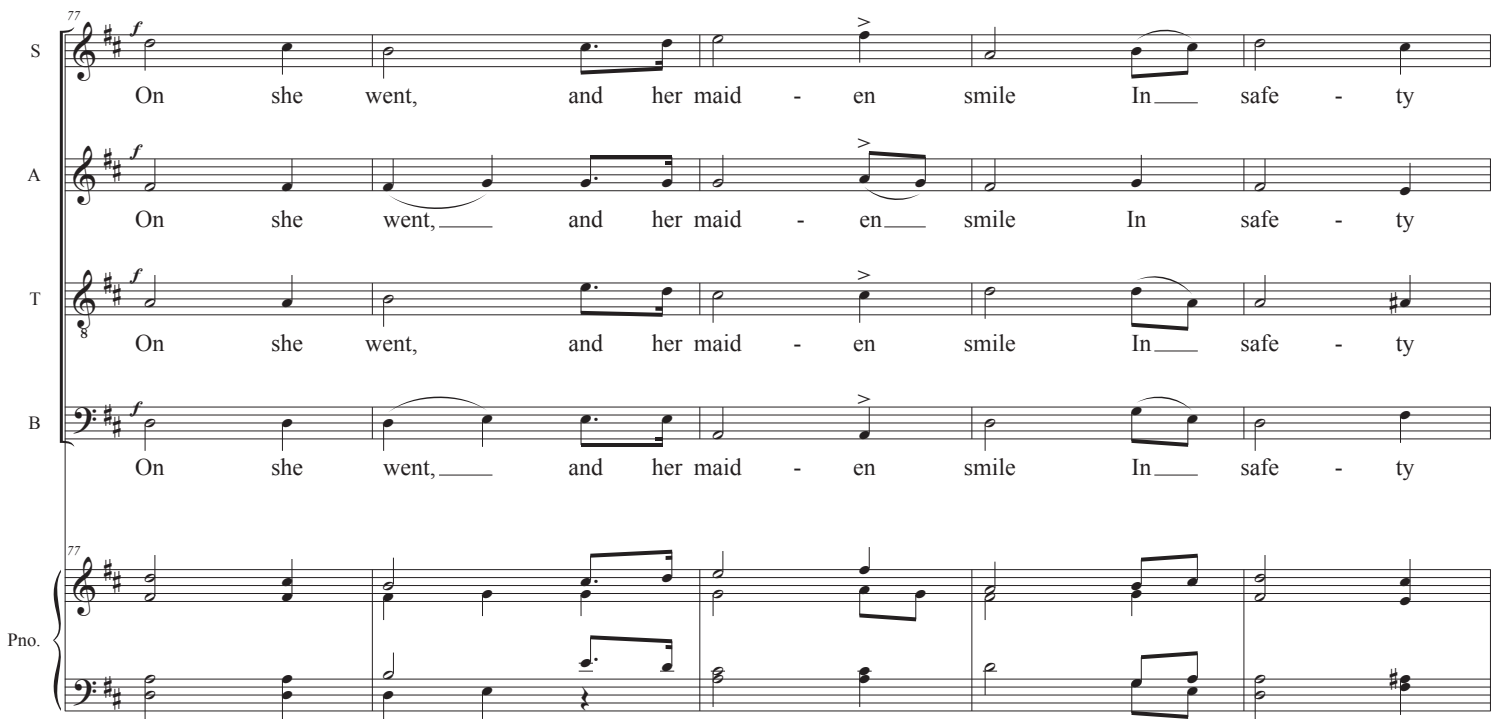
S On she went, and her maid - en smile In safe - ty

A On she went, and her maid - en smile In safe - ty

T On she went, and her maid - en smile In safe - ty

B On she went, and her maid - en smile In safe - ty

Pno. *f*



rich and rare were the gems she wore

82

S light - ed her round the green isle; And blest for ev - er is

A light - ed her round the green isle; And blest for ev - er is

T light - ed her round the green isle; And blest for ev - er is

B light - ed her round the green isle; And blest for ev - er is

Pno.

87 *cresc.*

S she who re - lied Up - on E - rin's hon - our and E - rin's

A *cresc.* she who re - lied Up - on E - rin's hon - our and E - rin's

T *cresc.* she who re - lied Up - on E - rin's hon - our and E - rin's

B *cresc.* she who re - lied Up - on E - rin's hon - our and E - rin's

Pno.

rich and rare were the gems she wore

92

S
pride; And blest for ev - er is she who re -

A
pride; And blest for ev - er is she who re -

T
pride; And blest for ev - er is she who re -

B
pride; And blest for ev - er is she who re -

Pno.

96

S
lied Up - on E - rin's hon - our and E - rin's pride. *rall.*

A
lied Up - on E - rin's hon - our and E - rin's pride. *rall.*

T
lied Up - on E - rin's hon - our and E - rin's pride. *rall.*

B
lied Up - on E - rin's hon - our and E - rin's pride. *rall.*

Pno.

Michael William Balfe (1808-1870) was born in Dublin, Ireland, and studied music in Ireland and London. At age 16, he became violinist in the Drury Lane orchestra and was celebrated as a singer throughout the region. His patron, Count Mazzara, took him to Italy, where he studied composition in Rome and Milan. His first dramatic piece was produced in Milan in 1826. He sang at the Paris Italian Opera and in Italian theaters until 1835, also producing several Italian operas, and sang in New York City in 1834. He returned to England and was a successful composer of English operas, at times residing in Paris and Vienna. He retired in 1864 and died in Rowney Abbey, Hertfordshire. His compositions include a number of operas, cantatas, glees, and part-songs.

Rich and rare were the gems she wore,
And a bright gold ring on her wand she bore;
But oh! her beauty was far beyond
Her sparkling gems, or snow-white wand.

“Lady! dost thou not fear to stray,
So lone and lovely through this bleak way?
Are Erin’s sons so good or so cold,
As not to be tempted by woman or gold?”

“Sir Knight! I feel not the least alarm,
No son of Erin will offer me harm:—
For though they love woman and golden store,
Sir Knight! they love honour and virtue more!”

On she went, and her maiden smile
In safety lighted her round the green isle;
And blest for ever is she who relied
Upon Erin’s honour and Erin’s pride.

Thomas Moore (1779–1852)

This ballad is founded upon the following anecdote:—“The people were inspired with such a spirit of honour, virtue, and religion, by the great example of Brien, and by his excellent administration, that, as a proof of it, we are informed that a young lady of great beauty, adorned with jewels and a costly dress, undertook a journey alone, from one end of the kingdom to the other, with a wand only in her band, at the top of which was a ring of exceeding great value; and such an impression had the laws and government of this monarch made on the minds of all the people, that no attempt was made upon her honour, nor was she robbed of her clothes or jewels.”—WARNER’S History of Ireland, vol. i., book x.

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