



the minstrel boy

AIR: THE MOREEN

michael wílliam Balfe
(1808-1870)

the minstrel boy

M. W. Balfe

Andante mosso e brillante

Piano

The piano accompaniment for the first system is written in G major and 2/4 time. It begins with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic. The right hand features a melodic line with eighth-note patterns and a final half-note chord. The left hand provides a harmonic accompaniment with eighth-note chords and a final half-note chord. Dynamics include *mf*, *p*, and *pp*.

S
The Min - strel - boy_ to the war is gone, In the ranks of death_ you'll find_ him; His

A
The Min - strel - boy to the war is gone, In the ranks of death you'll find_ him; His

T
The Min - strel - boy_ to the war is gone, In the ranks of death you'll find_ him; His

B
The Min - strel - boy to the war is gone, In the ranks of death_ you'll find him; His

Pno.

The second system contains the vocal parts for Soprano (S), Alto (A), Tenor (T), and Bass (B), along with the piano accompaniment (Pno.). The lyrics are: "The Min - strel - boy_ to the war is gone, In the ranks of death_ you'll find_ him; His". The vocal parts are written in G major and 2/4 time, with dynamics starting at *p*. The piano accompaniment continues with a *p* dynamic. The system concludes with a double bar line.

The minstrel boy

11

S
fa - ther's sword he has gird - ed on, And his wild harp slung be - hind him-

A
fa - ther's sword he has gird - ed on, And his wild harp slung be - hind him-

T
fa - ther's sword he has gird - ed on, And his wild harp slung be - hind him-

B
fa - ther's sword he has gird - ed on, And his wild harp slung be - hind him-

Pno.

15

S
f > "Land of song!" said the war - rior - bard, "Tho' all the world be - trays thee, One *p* *riten.* *f* *dim.*

A
f > "Land of song!" said the war - rior - bard, "Tho' all the world be - trays thee, One *p* *riten.* *f* *dim.*

T
f > "Land of song!" said the war - rior - bard, "Tho' all the world be - trays thee, One *p* *riten.* *f* *dim.*

B
f > "Land of song!" said the war - rior - bard, "Tho' all the world be - trays thee, One *p* *riten.* *f* *dim.*

Pno.

The minstrel boy

19 *a tempo*

S sword, at least, thy rights shall guard, One faith - ful harp shall praise thee!"

A sword, at least, thy rights shall guard, One faith - ful harp shall praise thee!"

T sword, at least, thy rights shall guard, One faith - ful harp shall praise thee!"

B sword, at least, thy rights shall guard, One faith - ful harp shall praise thee!"

19 *a tempo*

Pno.

S

A

T

B

19 *mf*

Pno.

p

pp

The minstrel boy

29

S *p* The Min - strel fell!- but the foe - man's chain Could not bring his proud soul un - der; The

A *p* The Min - strel fell!- but the foe - man's chain Could not bring his proud soul un - der; The

T *p* The Min - strel fell!- but the foe - man's chain Could not bring his proud soul un - der; The

B *p* The Min - strel fell!- but the foe - man's chain Could not bring his proud soul un - der; The

Pno. *p*

34

S harp he lov'd ne'er spoke a - gain, For he tore its cords a - sun - der; And

A harp he lov'd ne'er spoke a - gain, For he tore its cords a - sun - der; And

T harp he lov'd ne'er spoke a - gain, For he tore its cords a - sun - der; And

B harp he lov'd ne'er spoke a - gain, For he tore its cords a - sun - der; And

Pno.

The minstrel boy

38 *f* *>* *>* *>* *p* *riten.*

S said, "No chains shall sul - ly thee, Thou soul of love and

A said, "No chains shall sul - ly thee, Thou soul of love and

T said, "No chains shall sul - ly thee, Thou soul of love and

B said, "No chains shall sul - ly thee, Thou soul of love and

Pno. *f* *>* *>* *>* *p* *riten.*

41 *f* *dim. a tempo*

S brav - er - y! Thy songs were made_ for the brave and free, They shall

A brav - er - y! Thy songs were made for the brave and free, They shall

T brav - er - y! Thy songs were made_ for the brave and free, They shall

B brav - er - y! Thy songs were made_ for the brave and free, They shall

Pno. *f* *dim. a tempo* *a tempo*

The Minstrel Boy

44

S
nev - er sound in slav - er - y!"

A
nev - er sound in slav - er - y!"

T
nev - er sound in slav - er - y!"

B
nev - er sound in slav - er - y!"

Pno.
riten.

Detailed description: This is a musical score for the song 'The Minstrel Boy'. It consists of five staves. The top four staves are for vocal parts: Soprano (S), Alto (A), Tenor (T), and Bass (B). Each vocal line begins with a measure number '44'. The lyrics for all parts are 'nev - er sound in slav - er - y!"'. The piano accompaniment (Pno.) is on the bottom staff, starting at measure 44. It features a melody in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand. The piece concludes with a 'riten.' (ritardando) marking.

J. Alfred Novello
(1859)

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.

The Minstrel-boy to the war is gone,
In the ranks of death you'll find him;
His father's sword he has girded on,
And his wild harp slung behind him—
“Land of song!” said the warrior-bard,
“Though all the world betrays thee,
One sword, at least, thy rights shall guard,
One faithful harp shall praise thee!”

The Minstrel fell!—but the foeman's chain
Could not bring his proud soul under;
The harp he loved ne'er spoke again,
For he tore its cords asunder;
And said, “No chains shall sully thee,
Thou soul of love and bravery!
Thy songs were made for the brave and free,
They shall never sound in slavery!”

Thomas Moore (1779–1852)

TERMS OF USE

These editions are available as a service to the choral community, offering inexpensive access to public domain literature. Choir resources can purchase other literature still under copyright, especially to support those creating and publishing new compositions and arrangements. These editions have been created using public domain sources under U. S. copyright law. Out of respect to the research, time and effort invested:

please print and issue an edition in its entirety, retaining notices, attributions, and logos.
please do not consider this edition a source for creating another edition.

If recorded, notification and attribution would be appropriate professional courtesies.

For a full description of these requests and more scores, visit:
www.shorchor.net

