



Chime On, Sweet Bells

John R. Dunham
(1846-1936)

John R. Dunham (1846-1936) was born in Decatur, Ohio. After moving west, he taught music in Keota, Iowa, and in Illinois. He lived in Chicago for a time and published music while living there. He settled in Rutland, Illinois, and conducted singing schools and music conventions throughout the region. He died in Ottawa, Illinois. His compositions were small pedagogical works.

Mellow chimes whose silver sweetness
All the depths of memory wakes,
As upon the Sabbath stillness,
On the ear your music breaks;
I have heard you in my childhood,
Down through all the mist of years;
I can hear your soft chimes pealing,
Full of mingled smiles and tears.

*Chime on, chime on,
Chime on, sweet village bells,
Chime on, chime on,
Chime on, sweet village bells.*

Sounding through the verdant meadows,
Lingering in the quiet dells,
Till the hills the sounds reecho,
Make the chime of village bells;
You have rung in joy and sorrow,
Funeral toll and wedding chime,
Through the frosts and snows of winter,
Through the summer's golden time.

I have wandered o'er the ocean,
I have heard in other climes,
From cathedral tower and steeple,
Glorious peals and silver chimes;
But I love to listen later
To the tale the music tells;
To the thoughts of home and childhood,
That you wake, sweet village bells.

Chime On, Sweet Bells

J. R. Dunham

S Mel - low chimes whose sil - ver sweet - ness All the depths of mem - 'ry wakes, As up -

A Mel - low chimes whose sil - ver sweet - ness All the depths of mem - 'ry wakes, As up -

T Mel - low chimes whose sil - ver sweet - ness All the depths of mem - 'ry wakes, As up -

B Mel - low chimes whose sil - ver sweet - ness All the depths of mem - 'ry wakes, As up -

5
S on the Sab - bath still - ness, On the ear your mu - sic breaks; I have

A on the Sab - bath still - ness, On the ear your mu - sic breaks; I have

T on the Sab - bath still - ness, On the ear your mu - sic breaks; I have

B on the Sab - bath still - ness, On the ear your mu - sic breaks; I have

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9

S heard you in my child - hood, Down thro' all the mist of years; — I can

A heard you in my child - hood, Down thro' all the mist of years; I can

T heard you in my child - hood, Down thro' all the mist of years; — I can

B heard you in my child - hood, Down thro' all the mist of years; I can

13

S hear your soft chimes peal - ing, Full of min - gled smiles and tears.

A hear your soft chimes peal - ing, Full of min - gled smiles and tears.

T hear your soft chimes peal - ing, Full of min - gled smiles and tears.

B hear your soft chimes peal - ing, Full of min - gled smiles and tears.

CHORUS

S Chime on, chime on, Chime on, sweet vil - lage bells, Chime

A Chime on, chime on, Chime on, sweet vil - lage bells, Chime

T Chime on, chime on, chime on, chime on, Chime on, sweet vil - lage bells, chime on, Chime

B Chime on, chime on, chime on, chime on, Chime on, sweet vil - lage bells, chime on, Chime

Chime On, Sweet Bells

(The last four measures of the Chorus may be repeated as an Echo, by a Quartet, in an adjoining room.)

20

S on, chime on, Chime on, sweet vil - lage bells.

A on, chime on, chime on, chime on, Chime on, sweet vil - lage bells.

T on, chime on, Chime on, sweet vil - lage bells.

B on, chime on, Chime on, sweet vil - lage bells.

VERSE 2

24

S Sound - ing thro' the ver - dant mead - ows, Lin - g'ring in the qui - et dells, Till the

A Sound - ing thro' the ver - dant mead - ows, Lin - g'ring in the qui - et dells, Till the

T Sound - ing thro' the ver - dant mead - ows, Lin - g'ring in the qui - et dells, Till the

B Sound - ing thro' the ver - dant mead - ows, Lin - g'ring in the qui - et dells, Till the

29

S hills the sounds re - ech - o, Make the chime of vil - lage bells; You have

A hills the sounds re - ech - o, Make the chime of vil - lage bells; You have

T hills the sounds re - ech - o, Make the chime of vil - lage bells; You have

B hills the sounds re - ech - o, Make the chime of vil - lage bells; You have

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33

S rung in joy and sor - row, Fun - er'l toll and wed - ding chime, — Thro' the

A rung in joy and sor - row, Fun - er'l toll and wed - ding chime, Thro' the

T rung in joy and sor - row, Fun - er'l toll and wed - ding chime, — Thro' the

B rung in joy and sor - row, Fun - er'l toll and wed - ding chime, Thro' the

37

S frosts and snows of win - ter, Thro' the sum - mer's gold - en time.

A frosts and snows of win - ter, Thro' the sum - mer's gold - en time.

T frosts and snows of win - ter, Thro' the sum - mer's gold - en time.

B frosts and snows of win - ter, Thro' the sum - mer's gold - en time.

VERSE 3

S I have wan - der'd o'er the o - cean, I have heard in oth - er climes, From ca -

A I have wan - der'd o'er the o - cean, I have heard in oth - er climes, From ca -

T I have wan - der'd o'er the o - cean, I have heard in oth - er climes, From ca -

B I have wan - der'd o'er the o - cean, I have heard in oth - er climes, From ca -

Chime On, Sweet Bells

45

S the - dral tow'r and stee - ple, Glo - rious peals and sil - ver chimes; But I

A the - dral tow'r and stee - ple, Glo - rious peals and sil - ver chimes; But I

T the - dral tow'r and stee - ple, Glo - rious peals and sil - ver chimes; But I

B the - dral tow'r and stee - ple, Glo - rious peals and sil - ver chimes; But I

49

S love to lis - ten lat - er To the tale the mu - sic tells; To the

A love to lis - ten lat - er To the tale the mu - sic tells; To the

T love to lis - ten lat - er To the tale the mu - sic tells; To the

B love to lis - ten lat - er To the tale the mu - sic tells; To the

53

S thoughts of home and child - hood, That you wake, sweet vil - lage bells.

A thoughts of home and child - hood, That you wake, sweet vil - lage bells.

T thoughts of home and child - hood, That you wake, sweet vil - lage bells.

B thoughts of home and child - hood, That you wake, sweet vil - lage bells.

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