



Sir Eglamore

Tune from *The Pleasant Musical Companion* (1687)
John Playford (1623-1686/7)

Henry Balfour Gardiner
(1877-1950)

Henry Balfour Gardiner (1877-1950) was born in London. He began learning piano at age five and was composing music by age nine. He attended the Charterhouse School and New College, Oxford. He was a piano student at the Hoch Conservatory in Frankfurt am Main and studied conducting at Sondershausen. Gardiner collected folk songs in Hampshire (1905-1906) and taught music briefly at Winchester College (1907). He had dreams of being a concert pianist but is mostly known as a composer. His works included compositions in a variety of genres, including two symphonies. Many of his scores are lost and only a very limited amount of his music survives. As a conductor, he promoted contemporary British and colonial composers; particularly Bax, Holst, Grainger, Quilter, and Scott. He financed these concerts himself and was generous with his personal fortune; he paid for a private benefit performance of *The Planets* for Gustav Holst in 1918 and purchased Frederick Delius's house at Grez-sur-Loing to enable him to continue living in it at the end of his life. He gave up composing in 1925: in part, from self-criticism and the belief that he could not flourish as a composer in the post-war culture. He was the great-uncle of the conductor Sir John Eliot Gardiner.

Sir Eglamore, that valiant knight,
He took up his sword and he went for to fight,
As he rode o'er hill and dale,
All armèd with a coat of mail,
There starts a huge dragon out of his den,
Which had killed I know not how many men,
But when he see Sir Eglamore,
If you'd but heard how that dragon did roar!

Fa la lanky down dilly.

This dragon had a plaguey hard hide,
Which could the strongest steel abide;
As the dragon yawning did fall,
He thrust his sword down, hilt and all,
The dragon laid him down and roared,
The knight was sorry for his sword;
The sword it was a right good blade,
As ever Turk or Spaniard made.

Fa la lanky down dilly.

When all was done, to the alehouse he went,
And presently his tuppence was spent;
He was so hot with fighting the dragon,
that nought could quench his thirst but a flagon.
Well, now let us pray for the King and the Queen,
And eke in London that may be seen,
As many knights and as many more,
And all as good as Eglamore.

Fa la lanky down dilly.

The Melancholy Knight (1615)
Samuel Rowlands (c. 1573–1630)

Sir Eglamore

H. Balfour Gardiner

Piano

f *dim.* *p*

The piano accompaniment for the first system is written in 6/8 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The right hand features a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes with accents, starting with a forte (*f*) dynamic and gradually diminishing (*dim.*) to a piano (*p*) dynamic. The left hand provides a steady accompaniment of eighth notes.

S
A
T
B

p *f* *f*

Fa la lank - y down dil - ly,
Fa la lank - y down dil - ly,
Sir Eg - la - more, that val - iant knight, He
Sir Eg - la - more, that val - iant knight, He

The vocal staves are arranged vertically. The Soprano (S) and Alto (A) parts begin at measure 8 with a piano (*p*) dynamic. The Tenor (T) and Bass (B) parts begin at measure 8 with a forte (*f*) dynamic. The lyrics are: "Fa la lank - y down dil - ly," for Soprano and Alto; "Sir Eg - la - more, that val - iant knight, He" for Tenor and Bass.

Pno.

f *p*

The piano accompaniment for the second system continues the piece. It features a mix of chords and melodic lines in both hands, with dynamics ranging from forte (*f*) to piano (*p*).

13

S
Fa la lank - y down dil - ly, And as he rode o'er

A
Fa la lank - y down dil - ly, As he rode o'er

T
took up his sword and he went for to fight, As he rode o'er

B
took up his sword and he went for to fight, As he rode o'er

Pno.
f *p*

18

S
hill and dale, All arm - èd with a coat of mail, Fa lank - y down, la lank - y down,

A
hill and dale, All arm - èd with a coat of mail, Fa la la la,

T
hill and dale, All arm - èd with a coat of mail, Fa la la la, Fa lank - y down, la lank - y down,

B
hill and dale, All arm - èd with a coat of mail, Fa la la la,

Pno.
f

23

S
fa la lank - y down dil - ly,

A
fa la lank - y down dil - ly,

T
Fa la lank - y dil - ly, There starts a huge drag - on out of his den,
fa la lank - y down dil - ly,

B
Fa la lank - y dil - ly, There starts a huge drag - on out of his den,

Pno.

28

S
p Fa la lank - y down dil - ly, *p* Fa la

A
p Fa la lank - y down dil - ly, *p* Fa la

T
f Which had killed I know not how ma - ny men,

B
f Which had killed I know not how ma - ny men,

Pno.

33

S
lank - y down dil - ly,

A
lank - y down dil - ly,

T
p *cresc.*
But when he see Sir Eg - la - more, If you'd but heard how that

B
mf *cresc.*
If you'd but heard how that

Pno.
cresc.
col pedale

37

S
Fa lank - y down la lank - y down, Fa la, _____

A
Fa la, fa la, fa _____ la,

T
drag-on did roar! Fa la, fa la, *ff* fa lank - y down, la lank - y down,
roar! lank - y down, la lank - y down,

B
drag-on did roar! Fa la, fa la, *ff* fa la, fa la,

Pno.

42

S
fa la lank - y down dil - ly.

A
fa la lank - y dil - ly.

T
fa la lank - y dil - ly.

B
fa la lank - y dil - ly.

Pno.

f dim.

48

S

A

T
This drag - on had_ a pla-guey hard hide,

B
This drag - on had_ a pla-guey hard hide,

Pno.

p

f

54

S *p* Fa la lank - y down dil - ly, *p* Fa la

A *p* Fa la lank - y down dil - ly, *p* Fa la

T *f* Which could the strong - est steel a - bide;

B *f* Which could the strong - est steel a - bide;

Pno. *p* *f* *p*

59

S lank - y down dil - ly, But as the drag - on yawn - ing did fall, He thrust his sword down,

A lank - y down dil - ly, As the drag - on yawn - ing did fall, He thrust his sword down,

T *p* As the drag - on yawn - ing did fall, He thrust his sword down,

B *p* As the drag - on yawn - ing did fall, He thrust his sword down,

Pno. *p*

63

S
hilt and all, *f* Fa lank - y down, la lank - y down, fa la lank - y down

A
hilt and all, *f* Fa la la la, fa la lank - y down

T
hilt and all, *f* Fa la lank - y down, la la lank - y down, fa la lank - y down

B
hilt and all, *f* Fa la la la, Fa la lank - y

Pno.

67

S
dil - ly, *p* Fa la

A
dil - ly, *p* Fa la

T
dil - ly, *f* The drag - on laid him down and roared,

B
dil - ly, *f* The drag - on laid him down and roared,

Pno.

72

S
lank - y down dil - ly, *p* Fa la

A
lank - y down dil - ly, *p* Fa la

T
f The knight was sor - ry for his sword;

B
f The knight was sor - ry for his sword;

Pno.
f *p*

76

S
lank - y down dil - ly,

A
lank - y down dil - ly,

T
p *cresc.* The sword it was a right good blade, As ev - er Turk or

B
mf *cresc.* As ev - er Turk or

Pno.
cresc.
col pedale

80

S Fa lank - y down, la lank - y down, Fa

A Fa la, fa la, fa

T Span - iard made. Fa la, fa la, Fa lank - y down,
made. Fa lank - y down,

B Span - iard made. Fa la, fa la, fa la

Pno.

84

S la, fa la lank - y down dil - ly,

A la, fa la lank - y dil - ly,

T la lank - y down, fa la lank - y dil - ly.
la lank - y down,

B la la, fa la lank - y dil - ly.

Pno.

FIRST HALF OR SOLO

ALL

89

S *p* When all was done, to the ale - house he went, *f* Fa ____ la ____

A - - - - - *f* Fa ____ la ____

T - - - - - *f* Fa ____ la ____

B - - - - -

Pno. *p*

FIRST HALF OR SOLO

ALL

93

S *p* lank - y down dil - ly, And pres - ent - ly his tup - pence was spent; *f* Fa ____ la ____

A lank - y down dil - ly, *f* Fa ____ la ____

T lank - y down dil - ly, *f* Fa ____ la ____

B - - - - -

Pno. *p*

FIRST HALF OR SOLO

97

S lank - ydown dil - ly, He was so hot with fight - ing the drag - on, that nought could quench his

A lank - ydown dil - ly,

T lank - ydown dil - ly,

B

Pno.

SECOND HALF

101

S thirst but a flag - on. Fa lank - ydown, la lank - ydown, Fa lank - ydown, **ALL** Fa

A Fa la, fa

T Fa la, fa

B Fa la, fa

Pno.

105

S
la, _____
la lank - y down, fa la lank - y dil - ly. Well, now let us pray for the

A
la, _____
fa la lank - y dil - ly. Well, now let us pray for the

T
la, _____
fa la lank - y down dil - ly. Well, now let us pray for the

B
la, _____
la la dil - ly. Well, now let us pray for the

Pno.

109

S
King and the Queen, Fa la lank - y down dil - ly, And eke in Lon - don that

A
King and the Queen, Fa la lank - y dil - ly, And eke in Lon - don that

T
King and the Queen, Fa la lank - y dil - ly, And eke in Lon - don that

B
King and the Queen, Fa la la la la la, And eke in Lon - don that

Pno.

113

S
may be seen, Fa la lank - y down dil - ly, As ma - ny knights and as

A
may be seen, Fa la lank - y dil - ly, As ma - ny knights and as

T
may be seen, Fa la lank - y dil - ly, As ma - ny knights and as
As ma - ny knights, as

B
may be seen, Fa la la la la la la, As ma - ny

Pno.

117

S
ma - ny more, And all as good as Sir Eg - la - more, — Fa lank - y down,

A
ma - ny more, And all as good as Sir Eg - la - more, — Fa la,

T
ma - ny more, And all as good as Eg - la - more, Fa la,

B
knights, And all as good as Eg - la - more, — Fa la,

Pno.

121

S
la lank - y down, Fa la, fa la lank - y down dil - ly,

A
fa la, Fa la, fa la lank - y dil - ly,

T
fa la, fa lank - y down, la lank - y down, fa la lank - y dil - ly,
Fa lank - y down, la lank - y down,

B
fa la, Fa la la, fa la lank - y dil - ly,

Pno.

dim.

126

S
Lank - y down down, lank - y down down,

A
Lank - y down down, lank - y down

T

B

Pno.

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