



The Curfew

Oliver King
(1855-1923)

Oliver Arthur King (1855-1923) was born in London. He studied under Sir Joseph Barnaby as an articled pupil and under William Henry Holmes. He then studied piano at the Leipzig Conservatory 1874-77 and toured Germany as a concert pianist. Returning to England, he was appointed pianist to the Princess Louise and traveled to Canada in that capacity. He performed concert tours in the US, UK, and Holland. He was Choirmaster at St. Anne's Church, Soho, and later musical director at St. Mary's Marylebone. He composed a symphonic poem, concertos, a concert overture, several chamber works, cantatas, a *Te Deum*, many piano pieces and organ pieces, an album of duets for soprano and alto, songs and part-songs.

I.
Solemnly, mournfully,
Dealing its dole,
The Curfew Bell
Is beginning to toll.

Cover the embers,
And put out the light;
Toil comes with the morning,
And rest with the night.

Dark grow the windows,
And quenched is the fire;
Sound fades into silence,--
All footsteps retire.

No voice in the chambers,
No sound in the hall!
Sleep and oblivion
Reign over all!

II.
The book is completed,
And closed, like the day;
And the hand that has written it
Lays it away.

Dim grow its fancies;
Forgotten they lie;
Like coals in the ashes,
They darken and die.

Song sinks into silence,
The story is told,
The windows are darkened,
The hearth-stone is cold.

Darker and darker
The black shadows fall;
Sleep and oblivion
Reign over all.

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow (1807-1882)

The Curfew

with a monotonous swing ♩ = 63

Oliver King

S

A *pp* >

T *pp* >

B *pp*

So - lemn - ly, mourn - ful - ly deal - ing its dole, The cur - few bell is be -

So - lemn - ly, mourn - ful - ly deal - ing its dole, The cur - few bell is be -

So - lemn - ly, mourn - ful - ly deal - ing its

4

S *ben legato*
mp

A *sempre pp*

T *sempre pp*

B

So - lemn - ly, mourn - ful - ly

gin - ning to toll, So - lemn - ly, mourn - ful - ly deal - ing its dole, The

gin - ning to toll, So - lemn - ly, mourn - ful - ly deal - ing its dole, The

dole, The cur - few bell is be -

7

S *marcato*

A

T

B

deal - ing its dole, The cur - few

cur - few bell is be - gin - ning to toll, Cov - er the em - bers and

cur - few bell is be - gin - ning to toll, Cov - er the em - bers and

gin - ning to toll, Cov - er the

The Curfew

10

S bell is be - gin - ning to toll,

A *cresc.* put out the light, *dim.* Toil comes with morn - ing, and *molto dim.* rest with the night,

T *cresc.* put out the light, *dim.* Toil comes with morn - ing, and *molto dim.* rest with the night,

B em - bers and put out the light,

13

S *mf* Cov - er the em - bers and put

A *cresc.* Cov - er the em - bers and put out the light, *f* Toil comes with morn - ing and

T *cresc.* Cov - er the em - bers and put out the light, *espress.* Toil comes with morn - ing and

B *cresc.* Toil comes with morn - ing, and rest

16

S *dim. e rall.* out the light, *pp* Toil comes with morn - ing, and

A *dim. e rall.* rest with the night, *pp* Toil comes with morn - ing, and rest with the night, and

T *dim. e rall.* rest with the night, *pp* Toil comes with morn - ing, and rest with the night, and

B *dim. e rall.* with the night, *pp* Toil with morn - ing,

19

S rest with the night.

A rest with the night. *pp* Dark grow the win - dows, and

T rest with the night. *pp* Dark grow the win - dows, and

B rest with night. *pp* Dark grow the

22

S

A quenched is the fire, Sound fades in - to si - lence, all foot - steps re - tire,

T quenched is the fire, Sound fades in - to si - lence, all foot - steps re - tire,

B win - dows, and quenched is the fire, Sound

25

S Dark grow the win - dows, and quenched is the

A Dark grow the win - dows, and quenched is the fire, Sound fades in - to si - lence, all

T Dark grow the win - dows, and quenched is the fire, Sound fades in - to si - lence, all

B fades in - to si - lence, all foot - steps re -

28

S fire, *mf* Sound fades in - to si - lence,

A foot - steps re - tire, No voice in the cham - bers, no sound in the hall, _____

T foot - steps re - tire, No voice in the cham - bers, no sound in the hall, _____

B tire, _____ No voice in the cham - bers, no

31

S all foot - steps _____ re - tire, No voice in the

A Sleep and ob - li - vion _____ reign o - ver all, No voice in the cham - bers, no

T *espress.* Sleep and ob - li - vion reign o - ver all, No voice in the cham - bers, no

B sound _____ in _____ the hall, Sleep _____ and ob -

34

S cham - bers, no sound, no _____ sound in the hall, _____

A sound in the hall, Sleep and ob - li - vion reign o - ver all, _____

T sound in the hall, Sleep and ob - li - vion _____ reign o - ver all,

B li - vion reign o - ver all, _____

The Curfew

37 *pp*

S Sleep and ob - li - vion reign o - ver all.

A Sleep and ob - li - vion reign o - ver all, ——— reign o - ver all.

T Sleep and ob - li - vion reign o - ver all, ——— reign o - ver all.

B *pp*
reign, ——— reign o - ver all.

Novello's Part-Song No. 470
(1875-1890)

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