



# Six Four-part Songs

Poetry by William Duthie

No. 4.

## Oh, welcome him

J. Lemmens  
(1823-1881)

**Jaak-Nicolaas (Jacques-Nicolas) Lemmens** (1823-1881) was born in Zoerle-Parwijs, Waterloo, Belgium. He studied organ in Belgium at the Royal Brussels Conservatoire then in Germany. In 1849 he was appointed organ teacher at the Royal Brussels Conservatoire. In 1857 he married the English soprano Helen Sherrington, who became a leading English concert and operatic singer. From his marriage on, he lived in England and at their castle Linter Ports Zemst. He focused on the study of Catholic church music, especially on a method for accompanying Gregorian chant. Lemmens gained international fame as an organ virtuoso, particularly through his performances of Bach. In 1878 he became the first director of the School of Religious Music (*École de musique religieuse*). He wrote many works for organ and a number of part-songs.

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Six Four-part Songs (SATB)  
By J. Lemmens  
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1. Drops of Rain
2. The Fairy Ring
3. The Light of Life
4. Oh, welcome him
5. Sunshine through the clouds
6. The Corn Field

There is much character in the first of these part-songs, the pattering of the rain-drops being admirably represented by staccato notes for the voices; and the cantabile melody for the upper three voices, whilst the bass obstinately maintains the "pit, pat," may be made very effective with a good choir. No. 2, "The Fairy Ring," commences with an agreeable, but peculiar melody, halting on the second beat of the bar in 3/4 rhythm. The voice parts throughout this Fairy song are uniformly well written; and there is a light and graceful character about the treatment of the words which will always please an audience. No. 3, "The Light of Life," is, in our opinion, the best of the set. The animated subject at the commencement peaks the words with remarkable fidelity; and throughout the composition there are several effective points of imitation, the concluding phrase of the verse being especially worthy of note. No. 4, "Oh, welcome him," is somewhat common-place, but effective in parts, especially where the bass takes the solo, in G minor, to the words, "The night was dark," and afterwards holds on the D as a dominant pedal. No. 5, "Sunshine through the clouds," has an appropriately tranquil theme, which is harmonized with care and judgment. The change to 2/4 rhythm has a good effect. No. 6, "The Corn Field," is a flowing melody, in 6/8 rhythm, in the treatment of which some happy contrapuntal effects occur. There is much interest in this song; and it will amply repay careful study. The whole of the compositions in this book are highly favourable specimens of the author's power to write effective and healthy part-music.

Oh, welcome him! greet him with song;  
Full and clear, loud and strong;  
From the burden of sadness  
Raise your voices in gladness,  
The perils of land and of ocean are past,  
We welcome the rover turn'd homeward at last.  
No longer we dream of that desolate shore;  
The waves shall divide us no more, no more!

The night was dark, the wind blew cold,  
Beneath our feet the gleaming sea rolled.  
Amid hazy light we marked the ship,  
While silence bound each quiv'ring lip.  
The strong waves woke a sorrowing sound,  
As loud they smote the echoing ground.  
Long ere arose the wak'ning day  
His bark had borne him far away!

Our jubilee, this shall be; welcome him home!  
From the sea, bright with foam;  
On the wings of the swallow,  
To the homestead we hallow.  
The tempest of life can endure but awhile;  
We'll lull it today with a song and a smile.  
Our parting we'll leave to the sorrowful past,  
Nor think that the heavens were e'er o'er-cast.

The morn was bright, the sunshine cold,  
The waves o'erspread with glittering gold.  
The wind was fresh, the sea was clear.  
The good ship drew more near and dear.  
With cry of joy, he bounded on land,  
Oh, kiss of lip!— oh, pressure of hand!  
Oh, joy that almost trembled in pain,  
We ne'er will part with him again!

William Duthie

# Oh, welcome him

J. Lemmens

Con spirito  $\text{♩} = 66$

S Oh, wel-come him, wel-come him! greet him with song; Full and clear,

A Oh, wel-come him, wel-come him! greet him with song; Full and clear,

T Oh, wel-come him, wel-come him! greet him with song; Full and clear,

B Oh, wel-come him, wel-come him! greet him with song; Full and clear,

8

S loud and strong; From the bur - den of sad - ness

A loud and strong; From the bur - den of sad - ness

T loud and strong; From the bur - den of sad - ness

B loud and strong; From the bur - den of sad - ness

14

S Raise your voi - ces in glad - ness, The pe - rils of land and of

A Raise your voi - ces in glad - ness, The pe - rils of land and of

T Raise your voi - ces in glad - ness, The pe - rils of land and of

B Raise your voi - ces in glad - ness, The pe - rils of land and of

## Oh, welcome him

20

S o - cean are past, We *sf* wel - come the *p* ro - ver turn'd home - ward at

A o - cean are past, We *sf* wel - come the *p* ro - ver turn'd home - ward at

T o - cean are past, We *sf* wel - come the *p* ro - ver turn'd home - ward at

B o - cean are past, We *sf* wel - come the *p* ro - ver turn'd home - ward at

25

S last. No lon - ger we dream of that shore; The waves shall di -

A last. No lon - ger we dream of that des - o - late shore; The waves shall di -

T last. No lon - ger we dream of that shore; The waves shall di -

B last. No lon - ger we dream of that shore; The waves shall di -

31

S vide us no more, no more!

A vide us no more, no more!

T vide us no more, no more!

B vide us no more, no more! *p* The night was dark, the wind blew

38

S Be - neath our feet the gleam - ing sea roll'd.

A Be - neath our feet the gleam - ing sea roll'd.

T Be - neath our feet the gleam - ing sea roll'd.

B cold, 'Mid ha - zy light we

45

S While si - lence bound each quiv - 'ring lip. The strong waves

A While si - lence bound each quiv - 'ring lip. The waves

T While si - lence bound each quiv - 'ring lip. The strong waves

B mark'd the ship, the ship,

52

S woke a sor - row - ing sound, Long

A woke a sor - row - ing sound, As loud they smote the e - cho - ing ground.

T woke a sor - row - ing sound, A sor - - - row - ing sound,

B As loud they smote the e - cho - ing ground.

59

S ere a - rose the wak - 'ning day Our

A Long ere the day His bark had borne him far a - way! Our

T Long ere the day His bark had borne him a - way! Our

B His bark had borne him a - way! Our

68

S ju - bi - lee, this shall be; wel - come him home! From the sea,

A ju - bi - lee, this shall be; wel - come him home! From the sea,

T ju - bi - lee, this shall be; wel - come him home! From the sea,

B ju - bi - lee, this shall be; wel - come him home! From the sea,

74

S bright with foam; On the wings of the swal - low,

A bright with foam; On the wings of the swal - low,

T bright with foam; On the wings of the swal - low,

B bright with foam; On the wings of the swal - low,

80

S To the home - stead we hal - low. The tem - pest of life can en -

A To the home - stead we hal - low. The tem - pest of life can en -

T To the home - stead we hal - low. The tem - pest of life can en -

B To the home - stead we hal - low. The tem - pest of life can en -

*fz* *fz* *pp* *fz* *fz* *pp*

86

S dure but a - while; We'll lull it to - day with a song and a smile. Our

A dure but a - while; We'll lull it to - day with a song and a smile. Our

T dure but a - while; We'll lull it to - day with a song and a smile. Our

B dure but a - while; We'll lull it to - day with a song and a smile. Our

*sf* *p* *sf* *p* *sf* *sf*

92

S part - ing we'll leave to the past, Nor think that the hea - vens were

A part - ing we'll leave to the sor - row-ful past, Nor think that the hea - vens were

T part - ing we'll leave to the past, Nor think that the hea - vens were

B part - ing we'll leave to the past, Nor think that the hea - vens were

*p* *p* *p* *p*

98

S e'er o'er - cast. The

A e'er o'er - cast. The

T e'er o'er - cast. The

B e'er o'er - cast. *p* The morn was bright, the sun - shine cold, \_\_\_\_\_

105

S waves o'er - spread with glit - ter - ing gold.

A waves o'er - spread with glit - ter - ing gold.

T waves o'er - spread with glit - ter - ing gold.

B \_\_\_\_\_ *p* The wind was fresh, the sea was

112

S *mp* The good ship drew more near and dear. With cry of joy, he

A *mp* The good ship drew more near and dear. With cry of joy, he

T *mp* The good ship drew more near and dear. With cry of joy, he

B *mp* clear, \_\_\_\_\_ was clear.



119

S bound - ed on land, Oh,

A bound - ed on land, Oh, kiss of lip!— oh, pres - sure of hand!

T bound - ed on land, he bound - - - - ed on land,

B Oh, kiss of lip!— oh, pres - sure of hand!

125

S joy that al - most trem - bled in pain,

A trem - bled in pain, We ne'er will

T trem - bled in pain, ne'er

B ne'er

130

S Our

A part with him a - gain! Our

T will part with him a - gain! Our

B will part with him a - gain! Our

134

S ju - bi - lee, this shall be; wel - come him home! From the sea,

A ju - bi - lee, this shall be; wel - come him home! From the sea,

T ju - bi - lee, this shall be; wel - come him home! From the sea,

B ju - bi - lee, this shall be; wel - come him home! From the sea,

140

S bright with foam; On the wings of the swal - low,

A bright with foam; On the wings of the swal - low,

T bright with foam; On the wings of the swal - low,

B bright with foam; On the wings of the swal - low,

146

S To the home - stead we hal - low. The tem - pest of life can en -

A To the home - stead we hal - low. The tem - pest of life can en -

T To the home - stead we hal - low. The tem - pest of life can en -

B To the home - stead we hal - low. The tem - pest of life can en -

*fz* *fz* *pp* *fz* *pp* *fz* *pp* *fz* *pp*

152

S  
 dure but a - while; We'll lull it to - day with a song and a smile, Our

A  
 dure but a - while; We'll lull it to - day with a song and a smile, Our

T  
 dure but a - while; We'll lull it to - day with a song and a smile, Our

B  
 dure but a - while; We'll lull it to - day with a song and a smile, Our

158

S  
 part - ing we'll leave to the past, To the home - stead we hal - low.

A  
 part - ing we'll leave to the past, To the home - stead we hal - low.

T  
 part - ing we'll leave to the past, To the home - stead we hal - low.

B  
 part - ing we'll leave to the past, To the home - stead we hal - low.

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