



Bonny Boat

S. Wesley Martin
(1839-1926)

Samuel Wesley Martin (1839-1926) was born in Plainfield, Illinois, although some suggest he was born in England. He was organist and choirmaster at St. Chrysostom's Episcopal Church, Chicago, Illinois, and was Director of the Musical Conservatory of Wheaton College. He also taught music in the public schools in Clarinda, Iowa. He wrote hymns, sacred pieces, and secular songs. With W. H. Walter, he published "The Welcome Hour, for Use in Singing Schools, Choirs, Social Circles, Musical Conventions, Glee Clubs, Concerts, Etc." His most well-known song is "The Gospel Bells are Ringing."

Bonny boat, so smoothly flowing
O'er the lakelet's silver tide,
While the water's gentle music
On the air doth softly glide.
How we love t' enjoy thy pleasure,
As the evening's twilight ray
Lingers softly on the summit
Of the hills so far away.

As we ply our oars so nimbly,
To the measure of our song;
Oh, how gently, yet so swiftly,
Dost thou glide, our boat, along,
Nor 'till twilight soft hath faded
From our vision in the West,
Do we leave thee, home returning
To our hallowed place of rest.

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Gently, slowly, smoothly

S
A
T
B

Bon - ny boat, so smooth - ly flow - ing O'er the

Bon - ny boat, so smooth - ly flow - ing O'er the

Bon - ny boat, so smooth - ly flow - ing O'er the

Detailed description: This system contains the first four staves of the musical score. The Soprano staff (S) is mostly empty. The Alto (A), Tenor (T), and Bass (B) staves contain the melody and lyrics. The lyrics are: "Bon - ny boat, so smooth - ly flow - ing O'er the". The music is in 6/8 time with a key signature of two flats.

S
A
T
B

While the wa - ter's

lake - let's sil - ver tide, While the wa - ter's

lake - let's sil - ver tide, While the wa - ter's

lake - let's sil - ver tide, While the wa - ter's

Detailed description: This system contains the next four staves. The Soprano staff (S) has a measure of rest followed by the lyrics "While the wa - ter's". The Alto (A), Tenor (T), and Bass (B) staves continue the melody and lyrics: "lake - let's sil - ver tide, While the wa - ter's". A measure number "6" is written above the Soprano staff.

S
A
T
B

gen - tle mu - sic On the air doth soft - ly

gen - tle mu - sic On the air doth soft - ly

gen - tle mu - sic On the air doth soft - ly

gen - tle mu - sic On the air doth soft - ly

Detailed description: This system contains the final four staves. The Soprano staff (S) has a measure of rest followed by the lyrics "gen - tle mu - sic On the air doth soft - ly". The Alto (A), Tenor (T), and Bass (B) staves continue the melody and lyrics: "gen - tle mu - sic On the air doth soft - ly". A measure number "11" is written above the Soprano staff.

Bonny Boat

16

S glide. How we love t'en - joy thy pleas - ure,

A glide. How we love t'en - joy thy pleas - ure,

T glide. How we love t'en - joy thy pleas - ure,

B glide. How we love t'en - joy thy pleas - ure,

21

S As the ev' - ning's twi - light ray *rit.*

A As the ev' - ning's twi - light ray *rit.*

T As the ev' - ning's twi - light ray *rit.*

B As the ev' - ning's twi - light ray *rit.*

25 *a tempo*

S Lin - gers soft - ly on - the sum - mit

A *a tempo*
Lin - gers soft - ly on - the sum - mit

T *a tempo*
Lin - gers soft - ly on - the sum - mit

B *a tempo*
Lin - gers soft - ly on - the sum - mit

Bonny Boat

29

S Of _____ the hills _____ so far _____ a - way. _____

A Of _____ the hills _____ so far _____ a - way. _____

T 8 Of _____ the hills _____ so far _____ a - way. _____

B Of _____ the hills _____ so far _____ a - way. _____

33

S _____

A As _____ we ply _____ our oars _____ so nim - bly, To _____ the

T 8 As _____ we ply _____ our oars _____ so nim - bly, To _____ the

B As _____ we ply _____ our oars _____ so nim - bly, To _____ the

38

S _____ Oh, _____ how gent - ly,

A meas - ure of _____ our song; _____ Oh, _____ how gent - ly,

T 8 meas - ure of _____ our song; _____ Oh, _____ how gent - ly,

B meas - ure of _____ our song; _____ Oh, _____ how gent - ly,

Bonny Boat

43

S yet _____ so swift - ly, Dost _____ thou glide, _____ our boat, _____ a -

A yet _____ so swift - ly, Dost _____ thou glide, _____ our boat, _____ a -

T yet _____ so swift - ly, Dost _____ thou glide, _____ our boat, _____ a -

B yet _____ so swift - ly, Dost _____ thou glide, _____ our boat, _____ a -

48

S long, _____ Nor _____ 'till twi - light soft _____ hath fad - ed

A long, _____ Nor _____ 'till twi - light soft _____ hath fad - ed

T long, _____ Nor _____ 'till twi - light soft _____ hath fad - ed

B long, _____ Nor _____ 'till twi - light soft _____ hath fad - ed

53

S From _____ our vis - ion _____ in _____ the _____ West, *rit.*

A From _____ our vis - ion _____ in _____ the _____ West, *rit.*

T From _____ our vis - ion _____ in _____ the _____ West, *rit.*

B From _____ our vis - ion _____ in _____ the _____ West,

Bonny Boat

57 *a tempo*

S Do we leave thee, home re - turn - ing

A Do we leave thee, home re - turn - ing

T Do we leave thee, home re - turn - ing

B Do we leave thee, home re - turn - ing

61

S To our hal - - lowed place of rest.

A To our hal - - lowed place of rest.

T To our hal - - lowed place of rest.

B To our hal - - lowed place of rest.

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