

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."

The stars are bright in the sky tonight,
The air is cool and clear,
The skaters are out with a merry shout
That echoes far and near;
Away! away! we will not stay,
Away o'er the frozen track,
With laugh and song we will glide along,
'Till our comrades call us back.
O'er the ice and frozen snow, follow me, follow me.

Our skates keep time to the skater's rhyme,
As swiftly on we glide,
We laugh and sing 'till the echoes ring,
Thro' the blue dome far and wide,
O, swift we go o'er the ice below,
As the eagle leaves the air,
Our smiles are bright and our hearts are light,
And we know no thought of care.
O'er the ice and frozen snow, follow me, follow me.

## Song of the Skaters

S. Wesley Martin





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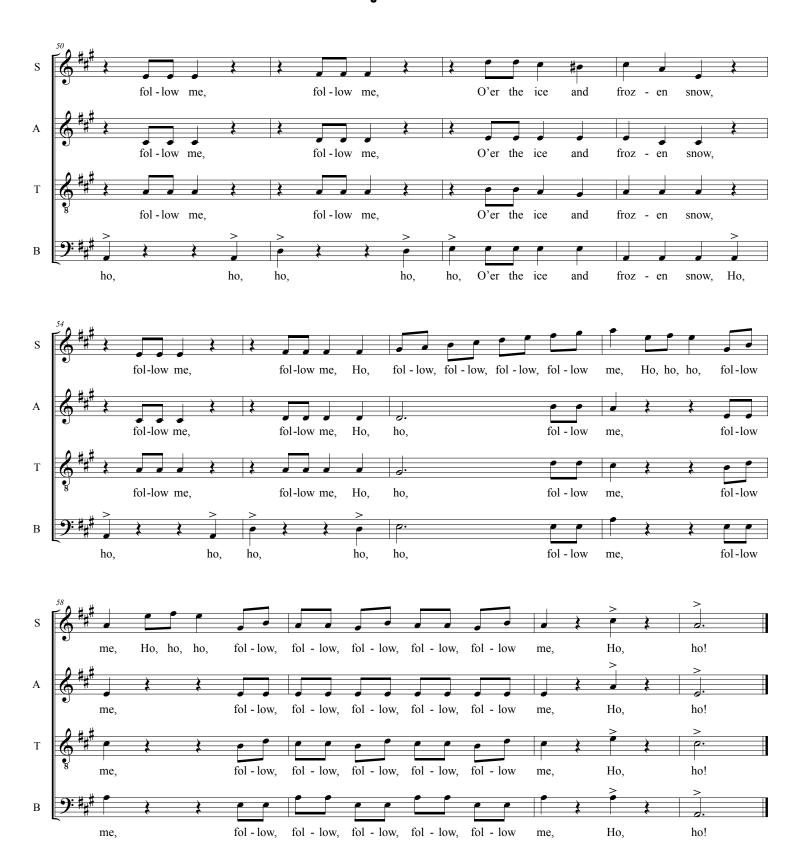
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light, And we know no thought of

bright and our hearts are



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