



We watch'd her breathing

CHORALE

Leo Kerbusch
(1828-1904)

Grave

S *p* We watch'd her__ breath - ing thro' the night, Her breath - ing soft and low, _____ As

A *p* We watch'd her__ breath - ing thro' the night, Her breath - ing soft and low, _____ As

T *p* We watch'd her__ breath - ing thro' the night, Her breath - ing soft and low, _____ As

B *p* We watch'd her__ breath - ing thro' the night, Her breath - ing soft and low, _____ As

5
S *p* in her__ breast the wave of life Kept heav - ing to and fro.

A *p* in her__ breast the wave of life Kept heav - ing to and fro. *pp* So

T *p* in her__ breast the wave of life Kept heav - ing to and fro. *pp* So

B *p* in her__ breast the wave of life Kept heav - ing to and fro.

Our watch'd her breathing

9

S *pp* So si - lent - ly we seem'd to speak, So slow - ly, slow - ly

A si - lent - ly we seem'd to speak, So slow - ly, slow - ly mov'd a - bout, As

T si - lent - ly we seem'd to speak, So slow - ly, slow - ly mov'd a - bout,

B *pp* So si - lent - ly we seem'd to speak, So slow - ly, slow - ly

13

S mov'd a - bout, As we had lent her half our pow'rs To

A we had lent her half our pow'rs To

T As we had lent her half our pow'rs To

B mov'd a - bout, As we had lent her half our pow'rs To eke her liv - ing

18

S eke her liv - ing, liv - ing out. *mf* Our ver - y hopes be - lied our fears, Our

A eke her liv - ing, liv - ing out. *mf* Our ver - y hopes be - lied our fears, Our

T eke her liv - ing, liv - ing out. *mf* Our ver - y hopes be - lied our fears, Our

B out, her liv - ing out. *mf* Our ver - y hopes be - lied our fears, Our

We watch'd her breathing

23

S fears our hopes be - lied— We thought her— dy - ing when she slept, And—

A fears our hopes be - lied— We thought her— dy - ing when she slept, And—

T fears our hopes be - lied— We thought her— dy - ing when she slept, And

B fears our hopes be - lied— We thought her— dy - ing when she slept, And

27

S sleep - ing when she died. For when the morn came,

A sleep - ing when she died. For when the morn came, dim and sad, And

T sleep - ing when she died. For when the morn came, dim and sad, And

B sleep - ing when she died. For when the morn came,

31

S dim and sad, And chill with ear - ly show - ers, Her qui - et eye - lids clos - ed—

A chill with ear - ly show - ers, Her qui - et eye - lids clos - ed—

T chill with ear - ly show - ers, Her qui - et eye - lids clos - ed—

B dim and sad, And chill with ear - ly show - ers, Her qui - et eye - lids clos - ed— she

We watch'd her breathing

37

S she had An - oth - er morn than ours.

A she had An - oth - er morn than ours.

T she had An - oth - er morn than ours.

B had An - oth - er morn than ours.

pp *rit.*

Novello, Ewer and Co.
(1870)

Jacob Leo Kerbusch (1828-1904) was born near Düsseldorf, Germany. He studied under Louis Spohr and Ernst Friedrich E. Richter on the Continent, then went to Ireland and studied at Trinity College, Dublin. He settled in Belfast as organist, pianist, teacher, conductor, composer, and writer. He was an active recitalist, directed the Anacreontic Society, and established a choir of his own, "Concordia." He was an active composer in the Cecilian movement, for the reform of Catholic church music. He lived in Belfast most of his career before returning to Germany. He died in Rath-Erkelenz, Rhenish. His compositions includes church music, organ music, and piano music. Songs, glees, and choruses.

The Death-Bed

We watched her breathing through the night,
Her breathing soft and low,
As in her breast the wave of life
Kept heaving to and fro.

So silently we seemed to speak,
So slowly moved about,
As we had lent her half our powers
To eke her living out.

Our very hopes belied our fears,
Our fears our hopes belied—
We thought her dying when she slept,
And sleeping when she died.

For when the morn came, dim and sad,
And chill with early showers,
Her quiet eyelids closed—she had
Another morn than ours.

Thomas Hood (1799-1845)

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