



A Ryghte Merrie Geste

W. W. Pearson
(1839-1913)

Itte was the tyme when fatte folke blowe,
 And gape and pante for lackke of aire,
 Some frendes didde mete in a farmyarde swete,
 Al to view a calfe of beautie rare.
 Itts ownere hight was Symkynne Tyghte,
 Proude manne was hee al for the nones;
 One enuiouse frende was Tummas Wende,
 And eke anothere, Wattkynne Jones.
 'Tis a fine calfe,
 Butte mee no buttes,
 Too fatte bye halfe.
 Ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha,
 'Tis goode, 'tis goode to laugghe.

Now Tummas lovedde a merrie joake,
 And so to Wattkynne homeward bente,
 "Give mee goode hede," 'twas thus hee spoke,
 "For to playye a trickke is my intende.
 In a week, you knowe, the cattel showe,
 And Tyghte dothe wel consider thatte
 A pryze hee'll gayne, withouten payne,
 For thys hys calfe so wondrousse fatte."
 'Tis a fine calfe,
 Butte mee no buttes,
 Too fatte bye halfe.
 Ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha,
 'Tis goode, 'tis goode to laugghe.

"Now craftillie together wee
 Muste steale thys calfe the nighte before;
 Then come wyth mee to yon hostelrie,
 And there wee'll talke thys mattere o'ere."
 And o'ere a cuppe of Malvoisie
 They 'rang'd the geste ful wel and ryghte;
 Butte they wotte notte that nere the spotte
 To overheare was Symkynne Tyghte.
 'Tis a fine calfe,
 Butte mee no buttes,
 Too fatte bye halfe.
 Ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha,
 'Tis goode, 'tis goode to laugghe.

The nighte was darke for thys smal larke,
 They softlie crepte into the stalle;
 Then, unseene, Tyghte, wyth muche delyghte,
 Ryghte defflie lockk'dde the doore on alle.
 Now, fore the calfe, wyth chucklynge laugghe,
 Hee'd plac'dde inside a myghtie goate—
 Boathe ferce and stronge, wyth hornes ful longe,
 And sooth for buttyng hadde greate noate.
 Then Tummas oped hys darke lanterne,
 Atte hym the goate doth charge ful tylte,
 Wyth wrathe and rage the goate dothe burne,
 And Tummas yell'dde, "Certes I'm kilt!"
 Butte, butte, butte, butte,—
 Too stronge bye halfe.

"Oh stryke a lyghte! an eville spryte
 Hath gotte inside thys seely calfe!"
 Wyth deadlie feare outdide they heare
 The echo of a mockkyng laugghe.

When Wattkynne litte the lampe anon,
 The lustie goate dothe atte hym flye;
 In hys stommackke hee butteth smackke,
 Hee groaneth more and downe dothe lye.

They trye the doore, butte alle in vaine,
 Yet notte in vaine the goate doth butte,
 "Oh woeful geste!" they shriek amaine
 "Some demonne sure keepeth it shutte."
 Butte, butte, butte, butte,—
 Too stronge bye halfe.

Anon a hushe,— anon a rushe,
 A howle, a yelle, "My arme!" "my syde"
 "my backke!" "my hedde" 'til, almoste dedde
 Wyth laughtere, Symkynne fairlie cry'dde.
 When hee judgg'dde theyre strengthe was nearlie spente,
 He sette them free in parlouse payne;
 "Oh frendes," quothe hee, "what do I see?
 'Stead of one calfe, why heare bee twayne.
 Ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha,
 'Tis goode, 'tis goode to laugghe.

James Lewton-Brain (1854-1922)

A Ryghte Merrie Geste

W. W. Pearson

Allegretto

S *mf*
Itte was the tyme when fatte folke blowe, And gape and pante for lackke of aire, Some

A *mf*
Itte was the tyme when fatte folke blowe, And gape and pante for lackke of aire, Some

T *mf*
Itte was the tyme when fatte folke blowe, And gape and pante for lackke of aire, Some

B *mf*
Itte was the tyme when fatte folke blowe, And gape and pante for lackke of aire, Some

Allegretto

Piano *mf*

A Ryghte Merrie Geste

5

S
frendes didde mete in a farm - yarde swete, Al to view a calfe of beau - tie rare. Itts

A
frendes didde mete in a farm - yarde swete, Al to view a calfe of beau - tie rare. Itts

T
frendes didde mete in a farm - yarde swete, Al to view a calfe of beau - tie rare. Itts

B
frendes didde mete in a farm - yarde swete, Al to view a calfe of beau - tie rare. Itts

Pno.

9

S
ow - nere hight was Sym - kynne Tyghte, Proude manne was hee al for the nones; One

A
ow - nere hight was Sym - kynne Tyghte, Proude manne was hee al for the nones; One

T
ow - nere hight was Sym - kynne Tyghte, Proude manne was hee al for the nones; One

B
ow - nere hight was Sym - kynne Tyghte, Proude manne was hee al for the nones; One

Pno.

A Ryghte Merrie Geste

13

S en - viouse frende was Tum - mas Wende, And eke an - oth - ere, Watt - kynne Jones.

A en - viouse frende was Tum - mas Wende, And eke an - oth - ere, Watt - kynne Jones.

T en - viouse frende was Tum - mas Wende, And eke an - oth - ere, Watt - kynne Jones.

B en - viouse frende was Tum - mas Wende, And eke an - oth - ere, Watt - kynne Jones. *f* 'Tis a

Pno.

17

S *mp* Butte, butte, butte, butte,— *ff* Too fatte bye halfe. *pp* Ha

A *mp* Butte, butte, butte, butte,— *ff* Too fatte bye halfe. *pp* Ha

T *mp* Butte, butte, butte, butte,— *ff* Too fatte bye halfe. *pp* Ha

B fine calfe, *ff* Butte mee no buttes, 'tis a fine calfe. *pp* Ha

Pno.

A Ryghte Merrie Geste

21

S
ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha, 'Tis goode, 'tis goode to laugghe.

A
ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha, 'Tis goode, 'tis goode to laugghe.

T
ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha, 'Tis goode, 'tis goode to laugghe.

B
ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha, 'Tis goode, 'tis goode to laugghe.

Pno.

S
Now Tum - mas lovedde a mer - rie joake, And so to Watt - kynne home - ward bente, "Give

A
Now Tum - mas lovedde a mer - rie joake, And so to Watt - kynne home - ward bente, "Give

T
Now Tum - mas lovedde a mer - rie joake, And so to Watt - kynne home - ward bente, "Give

B
Now Tum - mas lovedde a mer - rie joake, And so to Watt - kynne home - ward bente, "Give

Pno.

A Ryghte Merrie Geste

29

S
mee goode hede," 'twas thus hee spoke, "For to playye a___ trickke is___ my in - tente. In a *f*

A
mee goode hede," 'twas thus hee spoke, "For to playye a___ trickke is my in - tente. In a *f*

T
mee goode hede," 'twas thus hee spoke, "For to playye a___ trickke is my in - tente. In a *f*

B
mee goode hede," 'twas thus hee spoke, "For to playye a trickke is my in - tente. In a *f*

Pno.

33

S
week, you knowe, the___ cat - tel showe, And Tyghte dothe wel con - sid - er___ thatte A *mf*

A
week, you knowe, the___ cat - tel showe, And Tyghte dothe wel con - sid - er thatte A *mf*

T
week, you knowe, the cat - tel showe, And Tyghte dothe wel con - sid - er thatte A *mf*

B
week, you knowe, the___ cat - tel showe, And Tyghte dothe wel con - sid - er thatte A *mf*

Pno.

A Ryghte Merrie Geste

37

S pryze hee'll gayne, with - out - en__ payne, For thys hys calfe so won - drouse fatte."

A pryze hee'll gayne, with - out - en payne, For thys hys calfe so won - drouse fatte."

T pryze hee'll gayne, with - out - en__ payne, For thys hys calfe so won - drouse fatte."

B pryze hee'll gayne, with - out - en payne, For thys hys calfe so won - drouse fatte." 'Tis a

Pno.

41

S Butte, butte, butte, butte,— Too fatte bye halfe. Ha

A Butte, butte, butte, butte,— Too fatte bye halfe. Ha

T Butte, butte, butte, butte,— Too fatte bye halfe. Ha

B fine calfe, Butte mee no buttes, 'tis a fine__ calfe. Ha

Pno.

A Ryghte Merrie Geste

45

S ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha, 'Tis goode, 'tis goode to laugghe.

A ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha, 'Tis goode, 'tis goode to laugghe.

T ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha, 'Tis goode, 'tis goode to laugghe.

B ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha, 'Tis goode, 'tis goode to laugghe.

Pno.

49

S "Now craf - til - lie to - geth - ere_ wee Muste steale thys calfe the_ nighte be - fore; Then

A "Now craf - til - lie to - geth - ere_ wee Muste steale thys calfe the nighte be - fore; Then

T "Now craf - til - lie to - geth - ere_ wee Muste steale thys calfe the nighte be - fore; Then

B "Now craf - til - lie to - geth - ere_ wee Muste steale thys calfe the_ nighte be - fore; Then

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A Ryghte Merrie Geste

54

S come wyth mee_ to yon hos - tel - rie, And there wee'll talke thys mat - tere o'ere." And_

A come wyth mee to yon hos - tel - rie, And there wee'll talke thys mat - tere o'ere." And

T come wyth mee to yon hos - tel - rie, And there wee'll talke thys mat - tere o'ere." And_

B come wyth mee to yon hos - tel - rie, And there wee'll talke thys mat - tere o'ere." And

Pno.

58

S o'ere a cuppe of_ Mal - voi - sie They 'rang'd the geste ful_ wel_ and_ ryghte; Butte

A o'ere a cuppe of_ Mal - voi - sie They 'rang'd the geste ful_ wel_ and_ ryghte; Butte

T o'ere a cuppe of_ Mal - voi - sie They 'rang'd the geste ful_ wel_ and_ ryghte; Butte

B o'ere a_ cuppe of_ Mal - voi - sie They 'rang'd the_ geste ful_ wel_ and_ ryghte; Butte

Pno.

A Ryghte Merrie Geste

62

S they wotte notte that nere the spotte To o - ver - heare was Sym - kynne Tyghte.

A they wotte notte that nere the spotte To o - ver - heare was Sym - kynne Tyghte.

T they wotte notte that nere the spotte To o - ver - heare was Sym - kynne Tyghte.

B they wotte notte that nere the spotte To o - ver - heare was Sym - kynne Tyghte. 'Tis a

Pno.

66

S Butte, butte, butte, butte,— Too fatte bye halfe. Ha

A Butte, butte, butte, butte,— Too fatte bye halfe. Ha

T Butte, butte, butte, butte,— Too fatte bye halfe. Ha

B fine calfe, Butte mee nobuttes, 'tis a fine calfe. Ha

Pno.

A Ryghte Merrie Geste

70

S
ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha, 'Tis goode, 'tis goode to laugghe.

A
ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha, 'Tis goode, 'tis goode to laugghe.

T
ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha, 'Tis goode, 'tis goode to laugghe.

B
ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha, 'Tis goode, 'tis goode to laugghe.

Pno.

Andante

74

S
The nighte was darke for thys smal larke, They soft - lie

A
The nighte was darke for thys smal larke, They soft - lie

T
The nighte was darke for thys smal larke, They soft - lie

B
The nighte was darke for thys smal larke, They soft - lie

Pno.

Andante

A Ryghte Merrie Geste

79

S
crepte in - to the stalle; Then, un - seene, Tyghte, wyth muche de - lyghte, Ryghte deft - lie

A
crepte in - to the stalle; Then, un - seene, Tyghte, wyth muche de - lyghte, Ryghte deft - lie

T
crepte in - to the stalle; Then, un - seene, Tyghte, wyth muche de - lyghte, Ryghte deft - lie

B
crepte in - to the stalle; Then, un - seene, Tyghte, wyth muche de - lyghte, Ryghte deft - lie

Pno.

83 *poco rit.* *a tempo*

S
lockk'dde the doore on alle. Ha ha!

A
lockk'dde the doore on alle. Ha ha!

T
lockk'dde the doore on alle. *mf* *a tempo* Now, fore the calfe, wyth chuck - lynge

B
lockk'dde the doore on alle. Ha ha!

Pno.

poco rit. *a tempo* *p*

A Ryghte Merrie Geste

86

S ha ha! ha ha! ha ha!

A ha ha! ha ha! ha ha!

T laugghe, Hee'd plac'dde in - side a myght - ie goate— Boathe ferce and

B ha ha! ha ha! ha ha!

Pno.

89

S ha ha! ha ha! ha ha ha ha ha ha!

A ha ha! ha ha! ha ha ha ha ha ha!

T stronge, wyth hornes ful longe, And sooth for butt - ynge — hadde greate noate.

B ha ha! ha ha! ha ha ha ha ha ha!

Pno.

A Ryghte Merrie Geste

Tempo 1

S *mf*
Then Tum - mas oped hys darke lan - terne, Atte hym the goate doth charge ful — tylte, Wyth

A *mf*
Then Tum - mas oped hys darke lan - terne, Atte hym the goate doth charge ful — tylte, Wyth

T *mf*
Then Tum - mas oped hys darke lan - terne, Atte hym the goate doth charge ful — tylte, Wyth

B *mf*
Then Tum - mas oped hys darke lan - terne, Atte hym the goate doth charge ful tylte, Wyth

Pno. *mf*

Tempo 1

S *ff*
wrathe and rage the goate dothe burne, And Tum - mas yell'dde, "Cer - tes I'm kilt!"

A *ff*
wrathe and rage the goate dothe burne, And Tum - mas yell'dde, "Cer - tes I'm kilt!"

T *ff*
wrathe and rage the goate dothe burne, And Tum - mas yell'dde, "Cer - tes I'm kilt!"

B *ff* *f*
wrathe and rage the goate dothe burne, And Tum - mas yell'dde, "Cer - tes I'm kilt!" 'Tis a

Pno. *ff*

A Ryntht Merrie Geste

101

S *mp* Butte, butte, butte, butte,— *f* Too stronge bye halfe.

A *mp* Butte, butte, butte, butte,— *f* Too stronge bye halfe.

T *mp* Butte, butte, butte, butte,— *f* Too stronge bye halfe.

B fine calfe, *f* Butte mee no buttes, 'tis a fine — calfe.

Pno. *mp* *f*

Andante

S *p* "Oh stryke a lyghte! an e - ville spryte Hath gotte in -

A *p* "Oh stryke a lyghte! an e - ville spryte Hath gotte in -

T *p* "Oh stryke a lyghte! an e - ville spryte Hath gotte in -

B *p* "Oh stryke a lyghte! an e - ville spryte Hath gotte in -

Andante

Pno. *mf* *p*

S
side thys see - ly calfe!" Wyth dead - lie feare out - dide they

A
side thys see - ly calfe!" Wyth dead - lie feare out - dide they

T
side thys see - ly calfe!" Wyth dead - lie feare out - dide they

B
side thys see - ly calfe!" Wyth dead - lie feare out - dide they

Pno.

S
heare The ech - o of *poco rit.* a mockk - ynge laugghe. *a tempo*

A
heare The ech - o of *poco rit.* a mockk - ynge laugghe. *a tempo*

T
heare The ech - o of *poco rit.* a mockk - ynge laugghe. *mf a tempo* When Watt - kynne

B
heare The ech - o of *poco rit.* a mockk - ynge laugghe. *a tempo*

Pno.

poco rit. *a tempo*

A Ryghte Merrie Geste

S
Ha ha! ha ha! ha ha! ha ha!

A
Ha ha! ha ha! ha ha! ha ha!

T
litte the lampe a - non, The lus - tie goate dothe atte hym flye; In hys stom -

B
Ha ha! ha ha! ha ha! ha ha!

Pno.
p

S
ha ha! ha ha! ha ha ha ha ha ha!

A
ha ha! ha ha! ha ha ha ha ha ha!

T
mackke hee butt - eth smackke, Hee groan - eth more _____ and downe dothe lye.

B
ha ha! ha ha! ha ha ha ha ha ha!

Pno.

A Ryghte Merrie Geste

Tempo 1

S *mf* They trye the doore, butte alle in vaine, Yet notte in vaine the goate doth butte, "Oh

A *mf* They trye the doore, butte alle in vaine, Yet notte in vaine the goate doth butte, "Oh

T *mf* They trye the doore, butte alle in vaine, Yet notte in vaine the goate doth butte, "Oh

B *mf* They trye the doore, butte alle in vaine, Yet notte in vaine the goate doth butte, "Oh

Pno. *mf*

Tempo 1

S woe - ful geste!" they shrieke a - maine "Some de - monne sure keep-eth it shutte."

A woe - ful geste!" they shrieke a - maine "Some de - monne sure keep-eth it shutte."

T woe - ful geste!" they shrieke a - maine "Some de - monne sure keep-eth it shutte."

B woe - ful geste!" they shrieke a - maine "Some de - monne sure keep-eth it shutte." 'Tis a

Pno. *ff*

A Ryghte Merrie Geste

S
A
T
B

mp Butte, butte, butte, butte,— *f* Too stronge bye halfe.

mp Butte, butte, butte, butte,— *f* Too stronge bye halfe.

mp Butte, butte, butte, butte,— *f* Too stronge bye halfe.

mp fine calfe, *f* Butte mee no buttes, 'tis a fine — calfe.

Pno.

Andante

S
A
T
B

pp *tempo rubato* *ff*
A - non a hushe,— a - non a

pp *tempo rubato* *ff*
A - non a hushe,— a - non a

pp *tempo rubato* *ff*
A - non a hushe,— a - non a

pp *tempo rubato* *ff*
A - non a hushe,— a - non a

Andante *tempo rubato*

Pno.

108

S rushe, a yelle, "My arme! "my backke!"

A rushe, a yelle, "My arme! "my backke!"

T rushe, a yelle, "My syde!" "my

B rushe, A howle, a yelle, "My syde! "my

Pno.

111

S 'til, al - moste dedde Wyth laugh - tere, Sym - kynne fair - lie cry'dde.

A 'til, al - moste dedde Wyth laugh - tere, Sym - kynne fair - lie cry'dde.

T hedde!" 'til, al - moste dedde Wyth laugh - tere, Sym - kynne fair - lie cry'dde.

B hedde!" 'til, al - moste dedde Wyth laugh - tere, Sym - kynne fair - lie cry'dde.

Pno.

A Ryghte Merrie Geste

Tempo 1

S
When hee judgg'dde theyre strengthe was near - lie__spente, He sette them free in__ par - louse payne; "Oh

A
When hee judgg'dde theyre strengthe was near - lie spente, He sette them free in par - louse payne; "Oh

T
When hee judgg'dde theyre strengthe was near - lie__spente, He sette them free in par - louse payne; "Oh

B
When hee judgg'dde theyre strengthe was near - lie spente, He sette them free in__ par - louse payne; "Oh

Tempo 1

Pno.
mf *f*

119

S
frendes," quothe hee, "what do I see? 'Stead of *one* calfe, why heare bee *twayne*. Ha

A
frendes," quothe hee, "what do I see? 'Stead of *one* calfe, why heare bee *twayne*. Ha

T
frendes," quothe hee, "what do I see? 'Stead of *one* calfe, why heare bee *twayne*. Ha

B
frendes," quothe hee, "what do I see? 'Stead of *one* calfe, why heare bee *twayne*. Ha

119

Pno.
ff *pp*

123

S
ha ha ha ha ha ha ha, Ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha! 'Tis goode, 'tis goode to laugghe.

A
ha ha ha ha ha ha ha, Ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha! 'Tis goode, 'tis goode to laugghe.

T
8
ha ha ha ha ha ha ha, Ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha! 'Tis goode, 'tis goode to laugghe.

B
ha ha ha ha ha ha ha, Ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha! 'Tis goode, 'tis goode to laugghe.

123

Pno.

Novello, Ewer and Co.
(1884)

William Webster Pearson (1839-1913) was born at Bishop Auckland, Durham, England. He was a chorister of York Minster, but was mainly a self-taught musician. He served as organist and choirmaster of Elmhurst Parish Church, Norfolk; was violinist with a quintet at East Dereham; taught violin at Norfolk County School, Dereham; served as master of music and art at Watts' Naval College, North Elmham; was conductor of numerous bands; and a teacher of violin, organ, and piano. He invented a system of sight-singing called "Substitution of Pitch" or "Staff Tonic Sol-Fa" and developed a staff modulator to aid the learning of sight-singing. His compositions include anthems, organ works, piano pieces, songs, dance music, a cantata for female voices, and part songs. A number of his part songs were very popular. He was also a skilled amateur artist, painting in oil and watercolor. He died at South Walsham, Norfolk.

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