



Flow gently, sweet Afton

Scottish melody

**William Rhys-Herbert
(1868-1921)**

Andante cantabile

S *mf* Flow gen - tly, sweet Af - ton, a - mong thy green braes, Flow gen - tly, I'll

A *mf* Flow gen - tly, sweet Af - ton, a - mong thy green braes, Flow gen - tly, I'll

T *mf* Flow gen - tly, sweet Af - ton, a - mong thy green braes, Flow gen - tly, I'll

B *mf* Flow gen - tly, sweet Af - ton, a - mong thy green braes, Flow gen - tly, I'll



Flow gently, sweet Afton

6

S sing thee a song in thy praise; My Ma - ry's a - sleep by thy

A sing thee a song in thy praise; My Ma - ry's a - sleep by thy

T sing thee a song in thy praise; My Ma - ry's a - sleep by thy

B sing thee a song in thy praise; My Ma - ry's a - sleep by thy

mf

11

S mur - mur - ing stream, Flow gen - tly, sweet Af - ton, dis - turb not her dream. Thou *a tempo*

A mur - mur - ing stream, Flow gen - tly, sweet Af - ton, dis - turb not her dream. Thou *a tempo*

T mur - mur - ing stream, Flow gen - tly, sweet Af - ton, dis - turb not her dream. Thou *a tempo*

B mur - mur - ing stream, Flow gen - tly, sweet Af - ton, dis - turb not her dream. Thou *a tempo*

rit.

17

S stock - dove, whose ech - o re - sounds thro' the glen, Ye wild whis - tling

A stock - dove, whose ech - o re - sounds thro' the glen, Ye wild whis - tling

T stock - dove, whose ech - o re - sounds thro' the glen, Ye wild whis - tling

B stock - dove, whose ech - o re - sounds thro' the glen, Ye wild whis - tling

Flow gently, sweet Afton

22

rit. *f* *rit.*

S black - birds in yon thorn - y den, Thou green - crest - ed lap - wing, thy

A black - birds in yon thorn - y den, Thou green - crest - ed lap - wing, thy

T black - birds in yon thorn - y den, Thou green - crest - ed lap - wing, thy

B black - birds in yon thorn - y den, Thou green - crest - ed lap - wing, thy

27

a tempo *rit.*

S scream - ing for - bear, I charge you dis - turb not my slum - ber - ing fair.

A scream - ing for - bear, I charge you dis - turb not my slum - ber - ing fair.

T scream - ing for - bear, I charge you dis - turb not my slum - ber - ing fair.

B scream - ing for - bear, I charge you dis - turb not my slum - ber - ing fair.

mf

S How loft - y, sweet Af - ton, thy neigh - bour - ing hills, Far mark'd with the

A How loft - y, sweet Af - ton, thy neigh - bour - ing hills, Far mark'd with the

T How loft - y, sweet Af - ton, thy neigh - bour - ing hills, Far mark'd with the

B How loft - y, sweet Af - ton, thy neigh - bour - ing hills, Far mark'd with the

Flow gently, sweet Afton

38

S
cours - es of clear wind - ing rills; There dai - ly I wan - der as

A
cours - es of clear wind - ing rills; There dai - ly I wan - der as

T
cours - es of clear wind - ing rills; There dai - ly I wan - der as

B
cours - es of clear wind - ing rills; There dai - ly I wan - der as

mf

43

S
noon ris - es high, My flocks and my Ma - ry's sweet cot in my eye. How

A
noon ris - es high, My flocks and my Ma - ry's sweet cot in my eye. How

T
noon ris - es high, My flocks and my Ma - ry's sweet cot in my eye. How

B
noon ris - es high, My flocks and my Ma - ry's sweet cot in my eye. How

rit. *a tempo*

49

S
pleas - ant thy banks and green val - leys be - low, Where wild in the

A
pleas - ant thy banks and green val - leys be - low, Where wild in the

T
pleas - ant thy banks and green val - leys be - low, Where wild in the

B
pleas - ant thy banks and green val - leys be - low, Where wild in the

Flow gently, sweet Afton

54

rit. *f* *rit.*

S wood - lands the prim - ros - es blow; There oft, as mild Ev' - ning sweeps

A wood - lands the prim - ros - es blow; There oft, as mild Ev' - ning sweeps

T wood - lands the prim - ros - es blow; There oft, as mild Ev' - ning sweeps

B wood - lands the prim - ros - es blow; There oft, as mild Ev' - ning sweeps

59

a tempo *rit.*

S o - ver the lea, The sweet - scent - ed birk shades my Ma - ry and me.

A o - ver the lea, The sweet - scent - ed birk shades my Ma - ry and me.

T o - ver the lea, The sweet - scent - ed birk shades my Ma - ry and me.

B o - ver the lea, The sweet - scent - ed birk shades my Ma - ry and me.

mf

S Thy crys - tal stream, Af - ton, how love - ly it glides, And winds by the

A Thy crys - tal stream, Af - ton, how love - ly it glides, And winds by the

T Thy crys - tal stream, Af - ton, how love - ly it glides, And winds by the

B Thy crys - tal stream, Af - ton, how love - ly it glides, And winds by the

Flow gently, sweet Afton

70

S cot where my Ma - ry re - sides, How wan - ton thy wa - ters her

A cot where my Ma - ry re - sides, How wan - ton thy wa - ters her

T cot where my Ma - ry re - sides, How wan - ton thy wa - ters her

B cot where my Ma - ry re - sides, How wan - ton thy wa - ters her

mf

75

S snow - y feet lave, As gath - 'ring sweet flow'r - ets she stems thy clear wave. Flow *a tempo*

A snow - y feet lave, As gath - 'ring sweet flow'r - ets she stems thy clear wave. Flow *a tempo*

T snow - y feet lave, As gath - 'ring sweet flow'r - ets she stems thy clear wave. Flow *a tempo*

B snow - y feet lave, As gath - 'ring sweet flow'r - ets she stems thy clear wave. Flow

rit.

a tempo

81

S gen - tly, sweet Af - ton, a - mong thy green braes, Flow gen - tly, sweet

A gen - tly, sweet Af - ton, a - mong thy green braes, Flow gen - tly, sweet

T gen - tly, sweet Af - ton, a - mong thy green braes, Flow gen - tly, sweet

B gen - tly, sweet Af - ton, a - mong thy green braes, Flow gen - tly, sweet

Flow gently, sweet Afton

86

rit. *f* *rit.*

S riv - er, the theme of my lays; My Ma - ry's a - sleep by thy

A riv - er, the theme of my lays; My Ma - ry's a - sleep by thy

T riv - er, the theme of my lays; My Ma - ry's a - sleep by thy

B riv - er, the theme of my lays; My Ma - ry's a - sleep by thy

91

a tempo *rit.*

S mur - mur - ing stream, Flow gen - tly, sweet Af - ton, dis - turb not her dream.

A mur - mur - ing stream, Flow gen - tly, sweet Af - ton, dis - turb not her dream.

T mur - mur - ing stream, Flow gen - tly, sweet Af - ton, dis - turb not her dream.

B mur - mur - ing stream, Flow gen - tly, sweet Af - ton, dis - turb not her dream.

J. Fischer & Bro.
(1904)

William Rhys-Herbert (1868–1921) was born in Ffwrnas, South Wales. As a youth, he showed much musical talent and, saving his money, he bought a harmonium. He became the first organist at Jerusalem Chapel and studied with T. J. Davies of Swansea. He graduated from the London College of Music and went to Canada where he studied at Trinity University, Toronto. He emigrated to the U.S. and was appointed organist at Hennepin Avenue Methodist Church in Minneapolis, Minnesota, and then was organist and choir director at the Church of the Redeemer, Minneapolis. He directed the Elks Glee Club and was principal accompanist to the Apollo Club. He composed numerous operettas for school performance, cantatas, songs, and part-songs. He also wrote choral music and piano sheet music under the pseudonym “W. H. Rees.” He died in Chicago after a brief illness at age 53.

Flow gently, sweet Afton, among thy green braes,
Flow gently, I'll sing thee a song in thy praise;
My Mary's asleep by thy murmuring stream,
Flow gently, sweet Afton, disturb not her dream.

Thou stock-dove, whose echo resounds thro' the glen,
Ye wild whistling blackbirds in yon thorny den,
Thou green-crested lapwing, thy screaming forbear,
I charge you disturb not my slumbering fair.

How lofty, sweet Afton, thy neighbouring hills,
Far mark'd with the courses of clear winding rills;
There daily I wander as noon rises high,
My flocks and my Mary's sweet cot in my eye.

How pleasant thy banks and green valleys below,
Where wild in the woodlands the primroses blow;
There oft, as mild Ev'ning sweeps over the lea,
The sweet-scented birk shades my Mary and me.

Thy crystal stream, Afton, how lovely it glides,
And winds by the cot where my Mary resides,
How wanton thy waters her snowy feet lave,
As gathering sweet flow'rets she stems thy clear wave.

Flow gently, sweet Afton, among thy green braes,
Flow gently, sweet river, the theme of my lays;
My Mary's asleep by thy murmuring stream,
Flow gently, sweet Afton, disturb not her dream.

Robert Burns (1759–1796)

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