



The shades of
night around
us steal

J. Varley Roberts
(1841-1920)

John Varley Roberts (1841-1920) was born in Stanningley, near Leeds, Yorkshire, England, and became the organist at St. John's Church, Farsley, at age 12. He received training at Christ Church, Oxford. He then held positions as organist at St. Bartholomew's, Armley, and organist and choirmaster at the Halifax Parish Church. In 1882, he was appointed organist and *magister choristarum* at Magdalen College, Oxford, a position held until 1919. He was also organist at St. Giles' Church, Oxford and he founded the University Madrigal and Glee Club at Oxford. He taught harmony and counterpoint at Oxford and was degree examiner. He was also a local choral and philharmonic conductor. He authored "Practical Method of Training Choristers" and was editor of "Parish Church Chant Book." His compositions include Psalm settings, hymn tunes, chants, numerous anthems, services, an oratorio, part-songs, songs, and organ voluntaries.

The shades of night around us steal,
The day now slumbers in the west,
The weary round of labour goes
Into the haven of its rest.

May blest repose our spirits seal,
And heaven's own peace be over all,
May guardian angels though unseen,
Be with us when life's shadows fall.

The sun's last ray has passed and died,
The hours of day have taken flight,
The curfew-bell calls eventide,
And calm and silent comes the night.

Oh sweet the night and happy they,
Who are with Nature's slumber blest,
And see in this calm close of day,
Sweet emblem of eternal rest.

Walter Delaplaine Scull (1863-1915)

The shades of night around us steal

J. Varley Roberts

Andantino

S *mp*
The shades of night a - round us steal, The day now slum - bers

A *mp*
The shades of night a - round us steal, The day now

T *mp*
The shades of night a - round us steal, The day now

B *mp*
The shades of night a - round us steal, The day now

S ⁴
in the west, The wea - ry round of la - bour goes In - to the ha - ven

A
slum - bers, The wea - ry round of la - bour goes In - to the ha - ven

T
slum - bers, The wea - ry round of la - bour goes In - to the ha - ven

B
slum - bers, The wea - ry round of la - bour goes In - to the ha - ven



Edition and "engraving" © 2014 SHORCHOR™. May be freely distributed, duplicated, performed and recorded under the TERMS OF USE described elsewhere in this publication. This edition is not a source for a secondary edition.

8

S of its rest. May blest re - pose our spi - rits seal, And

A of its rest. May blest re - pose our spi - rits seal, And

T of its rest. May blest re - pose our spi - rits seal, And

B of its rest. May blest re - pose our spi - rits seal, And

11

S heav'n's own peace be o - ver all, May guard - ian an - gels

A heav'n's own peace be o - ver all, May guard - ian an - gels

T heav'n's own peace be o - ver all, May guard - ian an - gels

B heav'n's own peace be o - ver all, May guard - ian an - gels

14

S though un - seen, Be with us when life's sha - dows fall.

A though un - seen, Be with us when life's sha - dows fall.

T though un - seen, Be with us when life's sha - dows fall.

B though un - seen, Be with us when life's sha - dows fall.

The shades of night around us steal

S *mp* The sun's last ray has pass'd and died, The hours of day have

A *mp* The sun's last ray has pass'd and died, The hours have

T *mp* The sun's last ray has pass'd and died, The hours have

B *mp* The sun's last ray has pass'd and died, The hours have

20 S ta - ken flight, The cur - few - bell calls e - ven - tide, And

A ta - ken flight, The cur - few - bell calls e - ven - tide, And

T ta - ken flight, The cur - few - bell calls e - ven - tide, And

B ta - ken flight, The cur - few - bell calls e - ven - tide, And

23 S calm and si - lent comes the night. Oh sweet the night and

A calm and si - lent comes the night. Oh sweet the night and

T calm and si - lent comes the night. Oh sweet the night and

B calm and si - lent comes the night. Oh sweet the night and

The shades of night around us steal

26

S hap - py they, Who are with Na - ture's slum - ber blest, And

A hap - py they, Who are with Na - ture's slum - ber blest, And

T hap - py they, Who are with Na - ture's slum - ber blest, And

B hap - py they, Who are with Na - ture's slum - ber blest, And

29

S see in this calm close of day, Sweet em - blem of e - ter - nal rest, And

A see in this calm close of day, Sweet em - blem of e - ter - nal rest, And

T see in this calm close of day, Sweet em - blem of e - ter - nal rest, And

B see in this calm close of day, Sweet em - blem of e - ter - nal rest, And

33

S see in this calm close of day, Sweet em - blem of e - ter - nal rest. *rall. e dim.*

A see in this calm close of day, Sweet em - blem of e - ter - nal rest. *rall. e dim.*

T see in this calm close of day, Sweet em - blem of e - ter - nal rest. *rall. e dim.*

B see in this calm close of day, Sweet em - blem of e - ter - nal rest. *rall. e dim.*

TERMS OF USE

These editions are available as a service to the choral community, offering inexpensive access to public domain literature. Choir resources can purchase other literature still under copyright, especially to support those creating and publishing new compositions and arrangements. These editions have been created using public domain sources under U. S. copyright law. Out of respect to the research, time and effort invested:

- please print and issue an edition in its entirety, retaining notices, attributions, and logos.
- please do not consider this edition a source for creating another edition.

If performed, sending a copy of the concert program would be a valuable affirmation. If recorded, notification and attribution would be appropriate professional courtesies and a copy of the recording would be greatly appreciated!

For a full description of these requests and more scores, visit:
www.shorchor.net

