



# The bells of St. Michael's tower

A glee for five voices  
The subject from Knyvett's glee for three voices,  
But re-written with an introduction

Robert P. Stewart  
(1825-1894)

The bells of St. Michael's tower  
A glee for three voices

William Knyvett (1779-1856)

**Sir Robert Prescott Stewart** (1825-1894) was born in Dublin and trained as chorister at the Cathedral School of Christ Church Cathedral. In 1844, he was appointed organist at Christ Church and, later, at St. Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin. Stewart became Professor of Music at the University of Dublin in 1862 where Sir Charles V. Stanford was his pupil. He was also a teacher of piano and harmony and composition at Royal Irish Academy of Music. He was conductor of the University of Dublin Choral Society and the Bray Philharmonic Society. Stewart was editor of the 1876 Irish Church Hymnal. His multifaceted career was held in high regard and he was viewed as the 'figurehead' of music in Ireland by his English contemporaries.

**William Knyvett** (1779–1856) was probably born in London and was educated by his father Charles Knyvett (1752–1822), organist and composer of the Chapel Royal, and by the glee composer Samuel Webbe. The songs he wrote became very popular. They included "There is a flower", "My love is like the red, red rose", 1803; "The Bells of St. Michael's Tower", 1810; "The Boatie Rows", 1810; "The Midge's Dance", and "As it fell upon a day", 1812. He also wrote "When the fair rose", a glee for which he was awarded a prize at the Harmonic Society in 1800, presented to him by his patron, the Prince of Wales. More than thirty-five of his compositions were printed.

When Richard Penlake,  
And Rebecca his wife,  
Arriv'd at the church door,  
Merrily rung the bells of Saint Michael's tow'r.

Richard Penlake was a cheerful man,  
Cheerful and frank and free,  
But he led a sad life  
With Rebecca his wife,  
For a terrible shrew was she.

Richard Penlake  
A scolding would take,  
Till patience availed no longer.  
Then Richard Penlake  
A crabstick would take,  
And show her that he was the stronger.

# The bells of St. Michael's tower

R. P. Stewart

Allegro deciso ♩ = 126

S  
A  
T  
B 1  
B 2

Ding ding ding ding ding dong bell, ding ding ding ding ding dong

Ding ding ding ding ding dong bell,

S  
A  
T  
B 1  
B 2

Ding ding ding ding ding dong

bell, ding ding ding ding ding dong bell, ding ding ding ding ding dong

ding ding ding ding ding dong bell, ding ding ding ding ding dong

# The bells of St. Michael's tower

7

S *f* Ding ding ding ding ding ding dong

A *f* Ding ding ding ding ding ding dong bell, *f* ding ding ding ding ding dong

T bell, ding ding ding ding ding dong bell, *f* ding ding ding ding ding ding dong

B 1 ding ding ding ding ding ding dong bell, *f* ding dong, *f* ding ding dong

B 2 bell, \_\_\_\_\_ dong bell,

9

S *p* bell, ding ding ding ding ding dong bell, *f* ding ding ding ding ding ding dong

A *p* bell, ding ding ding ding ding dong bell, *f* ding dong bell,

T *p* bell, ding ding ding ding ding dong bell, *f* ding dong bell, \_\_\_\_\_

B 1 *p* bell, ding \_\_\_\_\_ *f* ding ding ding ding dong bell,

B 2 *p* \_\_\_\_\_ *f* dong, \_\_\_\_\_ ding dong bell, \_\_\_\_\_

11

S *p* bell, ding ding ding ding ding dong bell, *sf* boime, boime, boime, bell - oom, \_\_\_\_\_

A *p* \_\_\_\_\_ *sf* \_\_\_\_\_ *sf* \_\_\_\_\_ *sf* \_\_\_\_\_ bell - oom, \_\_\_\_\_

T *p* \_\_\_\_\_ *sf* \_\_\_\_\_ *sf* \_\_\_\_\_ *sf* \_\_\_\_\_ bell - oom, \_\_\_\_\_

B 1 *p* \_\_\_\_\_ *sf* \_\_\_\_\_ *sf* \_\_\_\_\_ *sf* \_\_\_\_\_ bell - oom, \_\_\_\_\_

B 2 *p* \_\_\_\_\_ *sf* \_\_\_\_\_ *sf* \_\_\_\_\_ *sf* \_\_\_\_\_ bell - boom, \_\_\_\_\_

## The bells of St. Michael's tower

15 *pesante* *a tempo*

S — ding ding dong, Mer - ri - ly, mer - ri - ly rung the bells, the

A — ding ding dong, Mer - ri - ly, mer - ri - ly rung the bells, the

T — ding ding dong, Mer - ri - ly, mer - ri - ly rung the bells, the

B 1 — ding ding dong, Mer - ri - ly, mer - ri - ly rung the bells, the

B 2 — ding ding dong, Mer - ri - ly, mer - ri - ly rung the bells, the

18

S bells of Saint Mi - chael's tow'r, When Rich - ard Pen - lake and Re -

A bells of Saint Mi - chael's tow'r, When Rich - ard Pen - lake, and Re -

T bells of Saint Mi - chael's tow'r, Ding ding dong bell, ding dong

B 1 bells of Saint Mi - chael's tow'r, Ding ding dong bell, ding dong

B 2 bells of Saint Mi - chael's tow'r, Ding ding dong bell, ding dong

21

S bec - ca his wife, Ar - riv'd at the church door,

A bec - ca his wife, Ar - riv'd at the church door,

T bell, Ar - riv'd at the church door,

B 1 bell, Ar - riv'd at the church door,

B 2 bell, Ar - riv'd at the church door,

# The bells of St. Michael's tower

24 *pp*

S Mer - ri - ly, mer - ri - ly rung the bells, the bells of Saint Mi - chael's tow'r, When

A Mer - ri - ly, mer - ri - ly rung the bells, the bells of Saint Mi - chael's tow'r, When

T Mer - ri - ly, mer - ri - ly rung the bells, the bells of Saint Mi - chael's tow'r, Ding ding dong

B 1 Mer - ri - ly, mer - ri - ly rung the bells, the bells of Saint Mi - chael's tow'r, Ding ding dong

B 2 Mer - ri - ly, mer - ri - ly rung the bells, the bells of Saint Mi - chael's tow'r, Ding ding dong

28

S Rich - ard Pen - lake and Re - bec - ca his wife, Ar - riv'd at the church\_\_\_\_\_

A Rich - ard Pen - lake, and Re - bec - ca his wife, Ar - riv'd at the church\_\_\_\_\_

T bell, ding dong bell, Ar - riv'd at the church\_\_\_\_\_

B 1 bell, ding dong bell, Ar - riv'd at the church\_\_\_\_\_

B 2 bell, ding dong bell, Ar - riv'd at the church\_\_\_\_\_

31 *p*

S door, \_\_\_\_\_ mer - ri - ly, mer - ri - ly rung \_\_\_\_\_ the bells, \_\_\_\_\_ the

A door, \_\_\_\_\_ mer - ri - ly, mer - ri - ly, rung \_\_\_\_\_ the bells, \_\_\_\_\_ the

T door, \_\_\_\_\_

B 1 door, \_\_\_\_\_ ding dong, \_\_\_\_\_ ding dong, \_\_\_\_\_ ding

B 2 door, \_\_\_\_\_ ding dong, \_\_\_\_\_ ding dong, \_\_\_\_\_ ding

## The bells of St. Michael's tower

34 *cresc.*

S bells of Saint Mi - chael's tow'r. *f* mer - ri - ly, mer - ri - ly

A *cresc.*  
bells of Saint Mi - chael's tow'r,

T the bells of Saint Mi - chael's

B 1 dong, the bells of Saint Mi - chael's tow'r, *f*

B 2 dong, ding dong bell, the bells of Saint Mi - chael's

37

S chim'd the bells, the bells of Saint Mi - chael's tow'r.

A *f*  
the bells of Saint Mi - chael's tow'r.

T tow'r, the bells of Saint Mi - chael's tow'r.

B 1 of Saint Mi - chael's tow'r.

B 2 tow'r, the bells of Saint Mi - chael's tow'r.

40 *mf*

S Rich - ard Pen - lake was a cheer - ful man, Cheer - ful and frank and

A *mf*  
Rich - ard Pen - lake was a cheer - ful man, Cheer - ful and frank and

T *fp*  
Cheer - ful and frank and

B 1

B 2



# The bells of St. Michael's tower

43

S free, But he *fp*

A free, But he led a sad life with Re -

T free, But he led a sad life, a sad life, *fp*

B 1 But he led a sad

B 2 *fp* But he led a sad life with Re - bec - ca his wife,

46

S led a sad life with Re - bec - ca his wife, For a ter - ri - ble shrew was *cresc.* *f*

A bec - ca his wife, his wife, For a ter - ri - ble shrew was *cresc.* *f*

T But he led a sad life, for a shrew was *f*

B 1 life, but he led a sad life, For a ter - ri - ble shrew was *cresc.* *f*

B 2 but he led a sad life with his wife, For a ter - ri - ble shrew was *cresc.* *f*

49

S she, Mer - ri - ly, mer - ri - ly rung the bells, the *rit.* *a tempo* *p* *cresc.*

A she, Mer - ri - ly, mer - ri - ly, rung the bells, the *rit.* *a tempo* *p* *cresc.*

T she,

B 1 she, ding dong! ding dong, *rit.* *a tempo* *p* *cresc.*

B 2 she, ding dong, ding dong, ding *rit.* *a tempo* *p* *cresc.*

## The bells of St. Michael's tower

52

S bells of Saint Mi - chael's tow'r.

A bells of Saint Mi - chael's tow'r.

T

B 1 ding dong, ding dong, ding dong bell,

B 2 dong, ding dong, ding dong, ding dong, ding dong bell,

54

S mer - ri-ly rung the bells, the bells of Saint Mi - chael's tow'r.

A mer - ri-ly rung the bells, the bells of Saint Mi - chael's tow'r.

T mer - ri-ly, mer - ri-ly rung the bells, the bells of Saint Mi - chael's tow'r.

B 1 mer - ri-ly, mer - ri-ly rung the bells, the bells of Saint Mi - chael's tow'r.

B 2 mer - ri-ly, mer - ri-ly rung the bells, the bells of Saint Mi - chael's tow'r.

58

S Rich - ard Pen - lake a scold - ing would take till pa - tience a - vailed no

A Rich - ard Pen - lake a scold - ing would take, till he could no

T

B 1

B 2

The bells of St. Michael's tower

61

S lon - ger.

A lon - ger.

T *p* Then *cresc.* Rich - ard Pen - lake *fp* a crab - stick would take, And

B 1 *p* Then *cresc.* Rich - ard Pen - lake *fp* a crab - stick would take, And

B 2 *p* Then *cresc.* Rich - ard Pen - lake *fp* a crab - stick would take, And

64

S

A

T show\_ her that he\_ was the stron - ger, and\_ show her that he was the

B 1 show\_ her that he\_ was the stron - ger, and\_ show her that he was the

B 2 show\_ her that he\_ was the stron - ger, and\_ show her that he was the

67

S

A *f* Ding ding ding ding ding dong bell, *p* mer - ri - ly,

T *p* stron - ger. *p cresc.* Mer - ri - ly, mer - ri - ly,

B 1 *p* stron - ger. *p* Mer - ri - ly, mer - ri - ly, mer - ri - ly,

B 2 *p* stron - ger. *p* Mer - ri - ly, mer - ri - ly, mer - ri - ly, mer - ri - ly,

## The bells of St. Michael's tower

70 *p*

S  
mer - ri - ly, mer - ri - ly rung the bells, the bells of Saint Mi - chael's

A  
mer - ri - ly, mer - ri - ly rung the bells, the bells of Saint Mi - chael's

T  
ding dong, ding dong, ding dong, ding, the bells of Saint Mi - chael's

B 1  
ding dong, ding dong, ding dong, ding, the bells of Saint Mi - chael's

B 2  
ding dong, ding dong, ding dong, ding, the bells of Saint Mi - chael's

73 *f* *ff*

S  
tow'r, mer - ri - ly, mer - ri - ly rung the bells, the

A  
tow'r, mer - ri - ly, mer - ri - ly rung the bells, the

T  
tow'r, mer - ri - ly, mer - ri - ly rung the bells, the

B 1  
tow'r, mer - ri - ly, mer - ri - ly rung the bells, the

B 2  
tow'r, mer - ri - ly, mer - ri - ly rung the bells, the

76

S  
bells of Saint Mi - - chael's tow'r.

A  
bells of Saint Mi - - chael's tow'r.

T  
bells of Saint Mi - - chael's tow'r.

B 1  
bells of Saint Mi - - chael's tow'r.

B 2  
bells of Saint Mi - - chael's tow'r.

# The bells of St. Michael's tower

William Knyvett

Mer - ri - ly, mer - ri - ly rung the bells, the bells of Saint Mi - chael's

tow'r, When Rich - ard Pen - lake and Re - bec - ca his wife Ar -

riv'd at the church door, Mer - ri - ly, mer - ri - ly rung the bells, the

*p* *cresc.*

bells of Saint Mi - chael's tow'r. Mer - ri - ly, mer - ri - ly rung the bells, the

*f* *p*

## The bells of St. Michael's tower

15

bells of Saint Mi - chael's tow'r. Rich - ard Pen - lake was a cheer - ful man,

19

Cheer - ful and frank and free, But he led a sad life with Re - bec - ca his wife, For a

23

ter - ri - ble shrew was she. Mer - ri - ly, mer - ri - ly rung the bells, the

27

bells of Saint Mi - chael's tow'r, Mer - ri - ly, mer - ri - ly rung the bells, the

31

bells of Saint Mi - chael's tow'r. Rich - ard Pen - lake a

The bells of St. Michael's tower

34  
 scold - ing would take, Till pa - tience a - vail'd no lon - ger, Then

37  
 Rich - ard Pen - lake a crab - stick would take, And show her that she was the

40 *lento*  
 stron - ger, and show her that he was the stron - ger.

43 *a tempo* *cresc.* *f* *dim.*  
 Mer - ri - ly, mer - ri - ly rung the bells, the bells of Saint Mi - chael's

46 *f*  
 tow'r, Mer - ri-ly, mer - ri-ly rung the bells, the bells of Saint Mi - chael's tow'r.

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