



North Country Folk Tunes
XII

Noble Squire Dacre

A DIRGE (Small-pipes tune)

arranged
W. G. Whittaker

William Gillies Whittaker (1876-1944) was born in Newcastle upon Tyne, England. He studied science at Armstrong College, University of Durham, and received training in organ and singing. He became a member of its faculty in 1898. Whittaker was Professor of Music at the University of Glasgow (1929-1938) and principal of the Royal Scottish Academy of Music in Glasgow (1929-1941). He was active as a choral conductor earning an excellent reputation as director of choirs at Armstrong College, the Newcastle and Gateshead Choral Union and the Newcastle Bach Choir. Whittaker was well known as a scholar of Bach and conductor Bach's works. He was editor of the series of Bach's cantatas with English texts by C. Sanford Terry, published by Oxford University Press. He also edited various instrumental works of the 17th and 18th centuries. He composed a number of larger choral works, piano pieces, songs, and choral arrangements. He is particularly known for his collections *North Countrie Folk Songs* and *North Countrie Ballads, Songs & Pipe-tunes*, along with his many choral arrangements of some of the songs.

Note by Whittaker in original publication:

Almost all the tunes associated with the Northumbrian or Small Pipes are gay in character. The sweet tone of the instrument is more suitable to the cheerful strains and to quick lively runs than to expressions of deep emotion. But the dirge here presented forms a notable exception. It was the traditional tune to which members of the house of Dacre were carried to the grave, the lament being intoned by the piper attached to the family. Sir Walter Scott in "The Lay of the Last Minstrel" refers to this tune as "Noble Lord Dacre, he dwells on the border."

Noble Squire Darre

arr. W. G. Whittaker

Slowly, with dignity and deep feeling ♩ = 80

Soprano (S): *mf* To "Laa" *cresc. poco rit.*

Alto (A): *mf* To "Laa" *cresc. poco rit.*

Tenor (T): *mf* To "Laa" *cresc. poco rit.*

Bass (B): *mf* To "Laa" *cresc. poco rit.*

5 *mf a tempo* *cresc. rit. f*

Soprano (S): *mf a tempo* *cresc. rit. f*

Alto (A): *mf a tempo* *cresc. rit. f*

Tenor (T): *mf a tempo* *cresc. rit. f*

Bass (B): *mf a tempo* *cresc. rit. f*

1st sopranos only
a tempo

S
A
T
B

12

cresc. poco rit. All sopranos
a tempo, grimly

S
A
T
B

15

cresc. rit. *mf a tempo*

cresc. rit. *mf a tempo* Altos prominent

cresc. rit. *mf a tempo* poco

cresc. rit. *mf a tempo* poco

S
A
T
B

Noble Squire Marche

18 *poco rit.*

Soprano (S), Alto (A), Tenor (T), Bass (B)

21 *a tempo*

Soprano (S), Alto (A), Tenor (T), Bass (B)

24 *ff* *dim.* *p* *a tempo*

Soprano (S), Alto (A), Tenor (T), Bass (B)

Moble Squire Harre

27 *cresc.* *rit.* *f* *a tempo*

S
A
T
B

30 *cresc.* *rit.* *ff* *ff*

S
A
T
B

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