



NIGHTS OF MUSIC

PART SONG

POEM BY
Thomas Moore

MUSIC BY
Charles Wood

VOCAL SCORE

COVER IMAGE

“Romeo & Juliet” - Frank Bernard Dicksee, 1884



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ENGLISH HERITAGE

MUSIC SERIES

The “renaissance” in English music is generally agreed to have started in the late Victorian period, beginning roughly in 1880. Public demand for major works in support of the annual choral festivals held throughout England at that time was considerable which led to the creation of many large scale works for orchestra with soloists and chorus.

Although a number of those works were engraved, printed and are regularly performed today, performance scores for a considerable number of compositions, both large-scale and more intimate works, are not available. These works were either never engraved or were engraved and printed but are no longer available in the publishers’ catalogues. While the existence of these works is documented in biographies of the composers, the ability to study and, most importantly, to perform these compositions is not possible.

Changes in the International copyright laws, coupled with changing musical tastes, played a pivotal role in creating this void. As a result, music publishers lost the ability to generate revenue from the sale/rental of such music. In 1964, holograph and copyist scores from both Novello and from publishers it represented were offered to the British Library and the Royal College of Music Library (see The RCM Novello Library – The Musical Times, Feb. 1983 by Jeremy Dibble).

These autograph full score manuscripts along with copies of engraved vocal scores, widely available through various online library sources, are now the only resources available for studying and performing these works.

The English Heritage Music Series has been created to ensure that these compositions are preserved, are accessible for scholarly research and, most importantly, are available for performance by future generations. Its mission is to:

- Source non-engraved/out-of-print English composer compositions that are in the U.S. public domain
- Preserve these compositions through the preparation of performance scores using notation software
- Provide open Internet access to the scores to facilitate study, performance and sharing of performance material (program notes, audio, reviews, etc.)

In preparing the English Heritage Music Series editions, every effort has been made to adhere strictly to the notation contained in the manuscripts. Because of the passage of time and its effect on the condition of the manuscript, the absence of clear information often times by the composer in notating divided instruments, and with emendations in the composer and other hands resulting from use of the manuscript in performance, there were numerous circumstances which required interpretation and decisions for notes, accidentals, dynamics, articulations and tempi. Should questions arise in the use of these editions, the composers’ autograph manuscripts and the Novello vocal scores should be consulted for clarification.

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Source Information

Full Score Manuscript	n.a
Vocal Score	Novello and Company, Ltd. - The Musical Times, no. 691, © 1900
Manuscript Transcription & Score Engraving	David Fielding - dhcfielding@charter.net

Reference Material and Software

Notation Software: Dorico Pro Version 5.1.81.2225 Audio Software: NotePerformer 4 Graphic Software: Affinity Serif Photo 2
Document Software: Affinity Serif Publisher 2 Music Notation Reference: [Behind Bars](#) by Elaine Gould, Faber Music © 2011



Charles Wood (15 June 1866 – 12 July 1926) was an Irish composer and teacher; his students included Ralph Vaughan Williams at Cambridge and Herbert Howells at the Royal College of Music. He is primarily remembered and performed as an Anglican church music composer, but he also wrote songs and chamber music, particularly for string quartet.

Born in Vicars' Hill in the Cathedral precincts of Armagh, Ireland, Charles was the fifth child and third son of Charles Wood Sr. and Jemima Wood. The boy was a treble chorister in the choir of the nearby St. Patrick's Cathedral (Church of Ireland). His father sang tenor as a stipendiary 'Gentleman' or 'Lay Vicar Choral' in the Cathedral choir and was also the Diocesan Registrar of the church. He was a cousin of Irish composer Ina Boyle.

Wood received his early education at the Cathedral Choir School and also studied organ with two organists and masters of the Boys of Armagh Cathedral, Robert Turle and his successor Dr Thomas Marks. In 1883 he became one of fifty inaugural class members of the Royal College of Music, studying composition with Charles Villiers Stanford and Charles Hubert Hastings Parry primarily, and horn and piano secondarily. Following four years of training, he continued his studies at Selwyn College, Cambridge until 1889, where he began teaching harmony and counterpoint. In 1889 he attained a teaching position at Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge, first as organ scholar and then as fellow in 1894, becoming their first director of music and organist. He was instrumental in the reflowering of music at the college, though more as a teacher and organiser of musical events than as composer. After Stanford died in 1924, Wood assumed his mentor's vacant role as Professor of Music at the University of Cambridge.

According to his successor at Cambridge, Edward J Dent, as a teacher of composition, Wood "was surpassed only by Stanford himself [and] as a teacher of counterpoint and fugue he was unequalled". His pupils at Cambridge included Ralph Vaughan Williams, Nicholas Gatty, Arthur Bliss, Cecil Armstrong Gibbs and W Denis Browne. Dent says that, because Stanford did not reside in Cambridge, Wood took on the real burden of teaching for many years before his own election as Professor of Music, by which time his health was already undermined. He died in July 1926 after only two years in the post.

Like his better-known colleague Stanford, Wood is chiefly remembered for his Anglican church music: there are over 250 sacred works and many hymn tunes. As well as his Communion Service in the Phrygian Mode, his settings of the Magnificat and Nunc dimittis are still popular with cathedral and parish church choirs, particularly the services in F, D, and G, and the two settings in E flat. During Passiontide his St Mark Passion, written in 1920 for Eric Milner-White, the then Dean of King's College, Cambridge, is sometimes performed. It demonstrates Wood's interest in modal composition, in contrast to the late romantic harmonic style he more usually employs.

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Charles_Wood_\(composer\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Charles_Wood_(composer))

NIGHTS OF MUSIC

Thomas Moore

Nights of music, nights of loving,
Lost too soon, remembered long.
When we went by moonlight roving,
Hearts all love and lips all song.
When this faithful lute recorded
All my spirit felt to thee;
And that smile the song rewarded--
Worth Whole years of fame to me!

Nights of song, and nights of splendor,
Filled with joys too sweet to last--
Joys that, like the star-light, tender,
While they shone no shadow cast.
Tho' all other happy hours
From my fading memory fly,
Of, that starlight, of those bowers,
Not a beam, a leaf may die!

Nights of Music

Words by Thomas Moore

PART-SONG

Music by Charles Wood

Andante sostenuto.
p

Soprano
Nights of mu - sic, nights of lov - ing Lost too

Alto
pp
Nights of mu - sic, of lov - ing

Tenor
pp
Nights of mu - sic, of lov - ing

Bass
pp
Nights of mu - sic, of lov - ing

Andante sostenuto.
pp

Piano
(For Practice Only)

6

p soon, re - mem - ber'd long, *p* When we went by moon - light

p Lost too soon, re - mem - ber'd long, *mp* When we went by moon - light

p Lost too soon, re - mem - ber'd long, *p* When we went by moon - light lov - ing,

Lost too soon, re - mem - ber'd long, When we went by moon - light

mp

12

rov - ing, Hearts all love and lips all song, When this faith - ful

rov - ing, Hearts all love and lips all song, When this faith - ful lute re -

Hearts all love and lips and song, When this faith - ful

rov - ing, Hearts all love and lips all song, When this faith - ful

f *mf* *p*

f *mf*

f *mf*

f *mf*

f *mf*

18

lute re - cord - ed All my spi - rit felt to thee: And that

- cord - ed All my spi - rit felt to thee; And

lute re - cord - ed, All my spi - rit felt to thee; And

lute re - cord - ed, All my spi - rit felt to thee; And

mf *dim.* *p cresc.*

mf *dim.* *p cresc.*

mf *dim.* *p cresc.*

mf *dim.* *p cresc.*

mf *dim.* *pp* *cresc.*

25

smile the song re - ward - ed, Worth whole years of
 that smile re - ward - ed, Worth whoe years of
 that smile re - ward - ed, Worth whole years of
 that smile re - ward - ed, Worth whole years of

f *dim.* *f* *dim.* *f* *dim.* *f* *dim.*

31

fame to me! Nights of song and nights of splen-dour, Fill'd with
 fame to me! Nights of song, and splen-dour,
 fame to me! Nights of song, and splen - dour
 fame to me! Nights of song, and splen - dour,

p *pp* *p* *pp* *p* *pp* *pp*

38

joys too sweet to last, Joys that, like the star - light,
p *p*

Fill'd with joys too sweet to last, Joys that, like the star - light,
p *mp*

Fill'd with joys too sweet to last, Joys that, like the star - light, ten - der,
p *p*

Fill'd with joys too sweet to last, Joys that, like the star - light,
p

ten - der, While they shone, no sha - dow cast. Though all o - ther hap - py -

mp

44

ten - der, While they shone, no sha - dow cast. Though all o - ther hap - py -
f *p*

ten - der, While they shone, no sha - dow cast. Though all o - ther hap - py -
f *mf*

While they shone, no sha - dow cast. Though all o - ther hap - py -
f *p*

ten - der, While they shone, no sha - dow cast. Though all o - ther hap - py -
f *p*

While they shone, no sha - dow cast. Though all o - ther hap - py -
f *mf*

50

mf *dim.*

hap - py hours From my fad - ing mem - 'ry uy, *dim.*

hours From my fad - - - ing mem - 'ry uy, *dim.*

mf *dim.*

hap - py hours From my fad - ing mem - 'ry uy, *dim.*

mf *dim.*

hap - py hours From my fad - ing mem - 'ry uy,

56

cresc. *f*

Of that star - light, of those bow - ers, Not a

pp cresc.

Of that star - light, of those bow - ers,

pp cresc.

Of that star - light, of those bow - ers,

pp cresc.

Of that star - light, of those bow - ers,

61 *pp*

beam, a leaf shall die!

f *dim.* *pp*

Not a beam, a leaf shall die!

f *dim.* *pp*

Not a beam, a leaf shall die!

f *dim.* *pp*

Not a beam, a leaf shall die!

f *dim.* *pp*

Not a beam, a leaf shall die!

f *dim.* *pp*



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