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MAY 12 1917

A Soldier Boy

Song

By

Minnie V. E. Williams

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Publishers: KUNKEL BROS. MUSIC CO. St. Louis.

M1646

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A Soldier Boy

Words and Music by
M. V. E. WILLIAMS

Martial.

The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#). It consists of three systems of music. The first system is an instrumental introduction for a bugle, marked *f* (forte) and labeled "Bugle" and "I.A.". The second system contains the first two lines of the vocal melody and piano accompaniment, marked *mf* (mezzo-forte). The third system contains the final two lines of the vocal melody and piano accompaniment. The piano accompaniment features a steady bass line and chords in the right hand.

1. Moth-er dear my coun-try's cal-ling, Won't you smile and bid me
2. Moth-er I must join the tram-ping, To my na-tive land be

1. go, Brave, great, loy-al men are fal-ling, Moth-er
2. true, On the bat-tle-field or camp-ing, I'll ask

1. why do you grieve so? When the cruel war is ov - er,
 2. God to care for you, *Bugle* Grant your boy his re - quest dear

1. moth_er, And with peace — our coun_try's blest I'll re -
 2. moth_er Let me go — our Land to save If I

1. turn to you dear moth_er, Moth_er dear whom I love best.
 2. per-ish as a sol_dier, I shall fill a he-ro's grave.

CHORUS

Mother, mother, hear the bu-gles call How they call I, I can-not

The first system of the chorus features a vocal line in G major and 2/4 time. The lyrics are "Mother, mother, hear the bu-gles call How they call I, I can-not". The piano accompaniment consists of chords in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand. The piece begins with a piano (*p*) dynamic and includes a mezzo-forte (*mf*) section.

stay *Bugle* Mother, mother, do not shed a tear

The second system continues the chorus with the lyrics "stay *Bugle* Mother, mother, do not shed a tear". The piano accompaniment includes a section marked *Bugle* with a melodic line in the right hand. The dynamics range from piano (*p*) to mezzo-forte (*mf*).

You'll re-joyce, re-joyce when you do hear How I fought to save the land we love so

The third system of the chorus has the lyrics "You'll re-joyce, re-joyce when you do hear How I fought to save the land we love so". The piano accompaniment features a more active bass line and includes a section with a melodic line in the right hand. The dynamics are primarily mezzo-forte (*mf*).

dear.

Bugle

The fourth system concludes the chorus with the word "dear." and a section labeled *Bugle*. This section features a complex, rhythmic piano accompaniment with many sixteenth notes in both hands. The dynamics are mezzo-forte (*mf*).

The Old Cloister Clock

BY

CHARLES KUNKEL

In the beginning of the 17th century there stood in Dordrecht (Holland) the stately cloister of "Maria Roepaan." Among their priceless collection of works of art, the nuns valued above all a wonderful clock, gift of Philip II. When it struck the hour, the statues of the Apostles would appear and the chimes would play a hymn, the processional march.

And whilst the little cloister bells called the nuns to prayer, the old clock ticked on its merry song, till, in high treble notes, the chimes reminded one of little cherubs at play.

But the times were troublesome and religious war was raging. Some high official, who long since had coveted this priceless clock, ordered the nuns to be driven out, the clock transferred to his estate, and the cloister burned. When the walls of the ill-fated building fell, the clock, now in sacrilegious hands, struck the hour. What then happened filled the inhabitants of Dordrecht with awe: the chimes of the clock, playing the Apostles hymn, rang out in wonderful harmonies, which were heard throughout the town; and all the church bells, swayed by an invisible hand, joined and rang out loudly, as if protesting against the sacrilege just committed.

Then all was silence, and since that time the clock was never heard to strike again.



NOTE.—Before playing this composition, make the listener acquainted with the story by reading it. This will add greatly to his enjoyment and appreciation of the piece.