

Sweet the merry Bells ring round.

Stanzas

Written by John Clare,

The Northamptonshire Peasant.

Humbly Dedicated to the Right Honorable

"The Viscountess Milton".

THE MUSIC

Composed by

F. W. Crouch.

Ent. Str. Hall.

Price 2^s/-

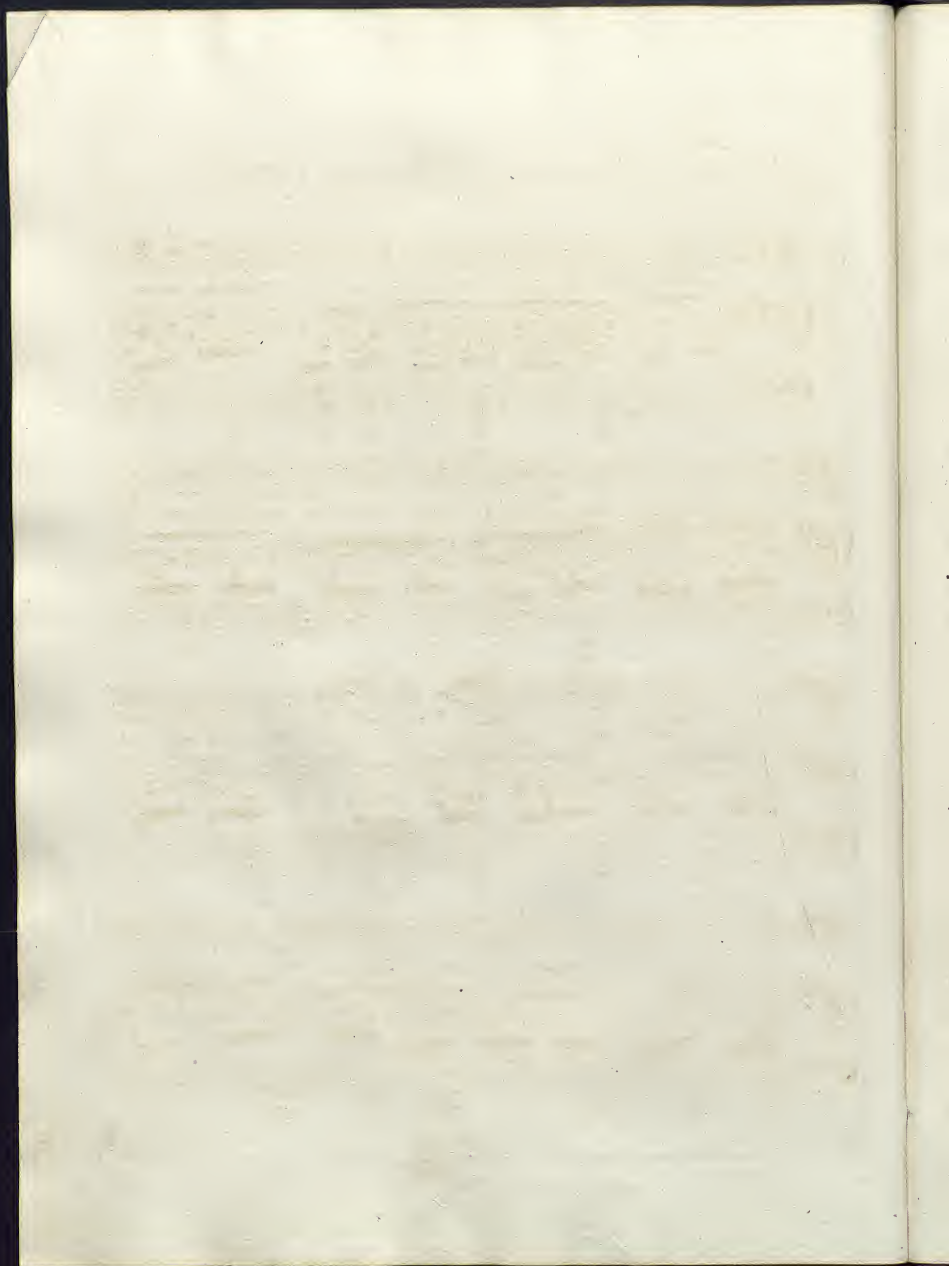
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Sweet the merry bells ring round.

PIU ALLEGRETTO.

Sweet the merry
bells ring round On evening zephyr's dying swells, The sweetest chords the
harp can sound Sound not so sweet as Evening Bells Swinging falls and
melt=ing rise, On viewless e=cho how it swells, 'Tis but the music

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It consists of four systems of music. Each system includes a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The piano part features a rhythmic pattern of eighth and sixteenth notes in the right hand, and chords in the left hand. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 2/4. The tempo is marked 'PIU ALLEGRETTO'. The lyrics are written below the vocal line.

of the skies Can breathe so sweet as Evening Bells, O merry merry chiming bells,

The first system of music features a vocal line in the upper staff and a piano accompaniment in the lower staff. The key signature has two sharps (F# and C#), and the time signature is 4/4. The vocal line begins with a treble clef and contains the lyrics: "of the skies Can breathe so sweet as Evening Bells, O merry merry chiming bells,". The piano accompaniment consists of a right hand with a flowing eighth-note melody and a left hand with a steady bass line of quarter notes.

O merry merry chiming bells.

The second system continues the music. The vocal line has a treble clef and contains the lyrics: "O merry merry chiming bells." The piano accompaniment continues with the same melodic and harmonic patterns as the first system.

Fainter fainter now they fall, Humming through the lonely dells, No

pp

The third system shows a change in dynamics. The vocal line has a treble clef and contains the lyrics: "Fainter fainter now they fall, Humming through the lonely dells, No". The piano accompaniment is marked with a piano piano (*pp*) dynamic. The melody in the right hand becomes more sparse, reflecting the "fainter" quality of the lyrics.

sounds that charm this earthly ball Can charm so sweet as Evening Bells;

The fourth system concludes the piece. The vocal line has a treble clef and contains the lyrics: "sounds that charm this earthly ball Can charm so sweet as Evening Bells;". The piano accompaniment features a final melodic flourish in the right hand and a sustained bass line in the left hand.

Zephyrs breathing once a-gain, Once a-gain the mu-sic swells;

And I pause up = on the plain Entranced to hear the Ev'ning Bells.

O merry merry Ev'ning Bells O merry merry Ev'ning Bells.

Cres. *dim*

