

# EXCELSIOR.

## DUET.

WORDS BY  
LONCFELLOW.

MUSIC BY  
M. W. BALFE.

Molto moderato.

*p*

The shades of

Molto moderato.

PIANO.

*mf*

*stacc. dim. pp*

night were fall-ing fast, As thro' an Al-pine vil-lage pass'd,

*cres.*

A youth, who bore 'mid snow and ice    A ban - ner, with the strange device,

*cres.*

*f* > > > >    > > > >

Ex - cel - si - or,    Ex - cel - si - or!    His brow was sad, his eye, be -

*f* > > > >    > > > >

Ex - cel - si - or,    Ex - cel - si - or!

*f*    *Vento*    *p*    *pp*

*Velo.*

-neath, Flash'd like a faul - chion from its sheath,    And like a sil - ver

*marcato.*

clarion rung, The accents of that unknown tongue, *f* Ex.cel.si - or!  
 Ex.cel.si - or!

Excel - si - or!  
 Excel - si - or! In happy homes he saw the light Of household fires,gleam warm and

bright, Above the spectral glaciers shone,And from his lips es-cap'd a groan,

*cres.*  
"Ex - cel - si - or! Ex - cel - si - or!"

*cres.*  
"Ex - cel - si - or! Ex - cel - si - or!" "Try not the

pass," the old man said, "Dark low'rs the tem - pest o - ver

*cres.*

head, The roar - ing tor - rent is deep and wide, And loud that

*p*

*ff* *riten*

“Ex-cel-si-or! Ex-cel-si-

clar-ion voice re-plied, “Ex-cel-si-or! Ex-cel-si-

*cres.* *ff* *ff* *col canto*

-or!” “O stay, O stay,” the maiden said, “And

-or!”

*ff* *p* *pp*

rest thy weary head up - on this breast,” A tear stood in his bright blue eye, But

still... he answer'd with a sigh, "Ex-cel-si - or, Ex-cel - si -

"Ex-cel-si - or, Ex-cel - si -

*f*

*cres.*

*f*

- or!"

- or!" "Be-ware the pine - tree's wi - ther'd branch, Be -

*p*

-ware the aw - ful a - va-lanche," This was the pea-sant's

*ppp*

“Ex - cel - si -

last good night, A voice replied far up the height

*ppp*

*sempre pianissimo*

or, Ex - cel - si - or, Ex - cel - si -

*ppp*

“Ex - cel - si - or, Ex - cel - si - or,

*riten.*

- or, Ex - cel - si -

Ex - cel - si -

*colla parte*

- or!"

- or!"

*pp*

*pp ad lib.*

At break of day, as heavenward The

*pp ad lib.*

At break of day, as heavenward The

pi - ous monks of San Bernard Utter'd an oft repeated pray'r,

*cres.*

pi - ous monks of San Bernard Utter'd an oft repeated pray'r, A voice cried thro' the



*f* A voice cried thro' the startled air, "Ex-cel-si-or!" *ff*

startled air, A voice cried thro' the startled air, "Ex-cel-si-or!" *ff*

Ex-cel-si-or!" A trav'ler, by the faith-ful hound, Half

Ex-cel-si-or!" A trav'ler, by the faith-ful hound, Half

bu-ried in the snow was found, Still grasp-ing in his hand of ice *f*

bu-ried in the snow was found, Still grasp-ing in his hand of ice That

*f* That ban - ner with the strange device,  
*f* ban - ner with the strange device, That ban - ner with the strange device,

*ff* "Ex.cel.si - or! Ex - cel - si - or!" *riten.* *p* There, in the  
*ff* "Ex.cel.si - or! Ex.cel - si - or!" *riten.* *p* There, in the

twi - light cold... and grey, Life - less but  
 twi - light cold... and grey, Life - less but

beau - ti - ful . . . . he lay, And from the  
 beau - ti - ful . . . . he lay, And from the

sky se - vere . . . . and far, A voice fell  
 sky se - vere . . . . and far, A voice fell

*cres.*

like a fall - ing star, "Ex - cel - si -  
 like a fall - ing star,

*f*

First system of the musical score. It consists of three staves: a vocal line, a piano accompaniment line, and a grand staff. The vocal line has lyrics: ". or! Ex - cel - si - or! Ex - cel - si -". The piano accompaniment features a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes in the right hand and chords in the left hand. The grand staff shows the piano accompaniment in both hands.

Second system of the musical score. The vocal line continues with lyrics: "- or!... Ex - cel - si - or! Ex - cel - si -". The piano accompaniment continues with the same rhythmic pattern. The grand staff shows the piano accompaniment in both hands.

Third system of the musical score. The vocal line continues with lyrics: ". or! Ex - cel - si - or! Ex - cel - si -". The piano accompaniment continues with the same rhythmic pattern. The grand staff shows the piano accompaniment in both hands.

- or!.... Ex - cel - si - or! Ex - cel - si -  
.... Ex - cel - si - or! Ex - cel - si -

*ff*

This system contains the first two systems of music. It features two vocal staves and a piano accompaniment. The vocal parts have lyrics: "- or!.... Ex - cel - si - or! Ex - cel - si -" and ".... Ex - cel - si - or! Ex - cel - si -". The piano part includes a dynamic marking of *ff* (fortissimo).

- or! Ex - cel - si - or! Ex - cel - si -  
- or! Ex - cel - si - or! Ex - cel - si -

This system contains the third and fourth systems of music. The vocal parts continue with the lyrics: "- or! Ex - cel - si - or! Ex - cel - si -" and "- or! Ex - cel - si - or! Ex - cel - si -". The piano accompaniment continues with similar rhythmic patterns.

- or!.....  
- or!.....

This system contains the fifth and sixth systems of music. The vocal parts end with long horizontal lines and the lyrics "- or!.....". The piano accompaniment concludes with a final chord and a fermata.