

107109
LAUREL EDITION

THE ANSWER OF THE STARS

IN HONOR
TO AMERICAN SOLDIERS AND SAILORS
OF THE GREAT WAR

THE POEM BY
M. A. DEWOLFE HOWE

THE MUSIC BY
FREDERICK S. CONVERSE

FOR CHORUS OF MIXED VOICES
SOPRANO SOLO AND ORCHESTRA

1533
C75
.25 List

C. C. BIRCHARD & CO.
BOSTON

The Answer of the Stars

By M.A. DeWOLFE HOWE

(In Honor to American Soldiers and Sailors of the Great War)

Stars that are vigilant eyes of the flags returning
Home from the crimsoned fields where the fight was won,
What have ye looked upon there, what vision burning
Stands uneffaced when the march and the charge are done?

*Youth we have seen in the ardors of consecration,
Youth with its generous hands o'erbrimmed with gold,
Counting the coin of life but a poor oblation
Borne to the shrine of a faith that grows not old.*

*Death we have seen in the bleakest and noblest guises,
Death for the cause whereby mankind shall live;
Life we have seen, like a steadfast tide that rises
Flooding the shoals of self, while the deep calls, Give!*

*Offering all for the last, supreme decision,
Paying the uttermost farthing in blood and tears—
Yea, it was giving and giving that flashed the vision
Bright in the eyes of your flags through the war-torn years!*

Stars that are vigilant eyes of the flags returning
Home from the crimsoned fields where the fight was won,
This that ye saw—let it shine as the goal of our yearning,
Charter and rock of our faith for the years begun!

The Answer of the Stars*

Poem by
M. A. DeWOLFE HOWE

F. S. CONVERSE

Molto Largamente $\text{♩} = 42$

SOPRANO SOLO

PIANO

Stars that are vig - i - lant eyes of the flags re - turn - ing

Home from the crim - soned fields where the fight was

won,

* Written for Commencement Day Exercises
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Cambridge, June 19, 1919
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ritard. *fff* *ffff* *a tempo*

fight was won,

f cresc. molto

where the fight was won,

ritard. *fff* *ffff*

fight was won,

fields where the fight was won,

fight was won,

fields where the fight was won,

ritard. *fff* *ffff* *a tempo* *mf*

1 *Agitato* *mf* *f*

What have ye looked up-on there,

mf *f*

What have ye looked up-on there,

mf *f*

What have ye looked up-on there, What have ye looked up-on there,

mf *f*

Agitato *mf* *f*

mf *f* *mf* *ff*
 what vi - sion burn - ing, what vi - sion burn - ing
mf *f* *mf* *ff*
 what vi - sion burn - ing, what vi - sion burn - ing
mf *f* *mf* *ff*
 what vi - sion burn - ing, what vi - sion burn - ing
mf *f* *mf* *ff*
 what vi - sion burn - ing, what vi - sion burn - ing
sfz *mf* *sfz* *sffz* *f*

Più sostenuto e cantabile

f
 Stands un - ef - faced when the march and the charge are done? —
f
 Stands un - ef - faced when the march and the charge are done? —
f
 Stands un - ef - faced when the march and the charge are done? —
f

Più sostenuto e cantabile

f

ff ritardando *fff* *a tempo* 5

Stands un - ef - faced when the march and the charge are done?

ff ritardando *fff* *a tempo*

Stands un - ef - faced when the march and the charge are done?

ff ritardando *fff* *a tempo*

Stands un - ef - faced when the march and the charge are done?

2 *Piu mosso e agitato*

mf *sfz* *sfz*

sfz *sfz*

molto rit. e cresc.

3 Molto Largamente e sostenuto

Youth we have seen in the ar-dors of con - se - cra - tion,
 Youth we have seen in the ar-dors of con - se - cra - tion,

Molto Largamente e sostenuto

ff
f *sfz*

Youth with its gen' - rous hands o'er-brimmed with gold,
 Youth with its gen' - rous hands o'er-brimmed with gold, with gold,
 Youth with its gen' - rous hands o'er-brimmed with gold, with gold,

ff *poco riten.*
ff *poco riten.*
ff *poco riten.*

ff *poco riten.*

mf a tempo

Count - ing the coin of life but a poor ob - la - tion

mf

mf a tempo

Count - ing the coin of life but a poor ob - la - tion

mf

mf a tempo

cresc. molto e ritard. *ff* *a tempo*

Borne to the shrine of a faith that grows not old.

ff

cresc. molto e ritard. *ff* *a tempo*

Borne to the shrine of a faith that grows not old.

cresc. molto e ritard. *ff*

cresc. molto e ritard. *ff* *a tempo*

$\frac{4}{4}$
Più mosso e agitato

Death we have seen in the bleakest and no - blest guis - es,

Death we have seen in the bleakest and no - blest guis - es,

mf *f* *mf* *f* *mf* *f*

Più mosso e agitato

trem.

mf *f* *f*

Death for the cause where-by man-kind shall live;

Death for the cause where-by man-kind shall live;

mf *f* *mf* *f* *mf* *f*

mf *f* *f*

mf cresc. sempre

Life — we have seen, like a steady fast tide that rises

mf

mf cresc. sempre

Life — we have seen, like a steady fast tide that rises

mf cresc. sempre

mf cresc. sempre

Più Largamente e sostenuto

f cantabile molto

Flood - ing the shoals of self, while the deep calls, Give! —

f cantabile molto

Flood - ing the shoals of self, while the deep calls, Give! —

Più Largamente e sostenuto

f cantabile molto

Flood - ing the shoals of self, while the deep calls, Give! —

ritard. fff

ritard. fff

ritard. fff

ritard. fff

Molto Largamente

f Of - fer - ing all for the last, su-preme de - ci - sion,
ff Of - fer - ing all for the last, su-preme de - ci - sion,
f Of - fer - ing all for the last, su-preme de - ci - sion,
ff

Molto Largamente

f *ff*

mf Pay - ing the ut - ter-most far-thing in blood and tears. *p*

molto espressivo e cantabile
mf *f*
Yea, it was giv - ing and giv-ing that flashed the vi - sion

mf *f*
Yea, it was giv - ing and giv-ing that flashed the vi - sion

molto espressivo e cantabile
mf *f*

mp *f* *ff*
Of - fer-ing all for the last, su-preme de-ci - sion

p *mf* *f*

mf Bright in the eyes of your flags thro' the war-torn years! *f*

mf Bright in the eyes of your flags thro' the war-torn years! *f*

mf Bright in the eyes of your flags thro' the war-torn years! *f*

mf Bright in the eyes of your flags thro' the war-torn years! *f*

mf

f

The first system of the musical score consists of five staves. The top staff is a vocal line with lyrics. The second and third staves are vocal lines with lyrics. The fourth staff is a vocal line with lyrics. The fifth staff is a piano accompaniment line. The lyrics are: "Bright in the eyes of your flags thro' the war-torn years!". The dynamic markings are *mf* and *f*.

mf Pay - ing the ut-ter-most farthing in blood and tears.

p

mf

The second system of the musical score consists of five staves. The top staff is a vocal line with lyrics. The second, third, and fourth staves are empty. The fifth staff is a piano accompaniment line. The lyrics are: "Pay - ing the ut-ter-most farthing in blood and tears.". The dynamic markings are *mf* and *p*.

6

mf cresc. sempre

Yea, it was giv - ing and giv - ing that flashed the vi - sion —

mf cresc. sempre

p cresc. sempre

Detailed description: This system contains the first vocal and piano entries. The vocal line (soprano and alto) begins with a melodic phrase in G major, marked *mf cresc. sempre*. The piano accompaniment features a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes in the right hand and a steady bass line in the left hand, also marked *p cresc. sempre*.

f cresc. *ff*

Yea, it was giv - ing and giv - ing that flashed the vi - sion

f cresc. *ff*

Yea, it was giv - ing and giv - ing that flashed the vi - sion

f cresc. *ff*

Yea, it was giv - ing and giv - ing that flashed the vi - sion

Detailed description: This system contains three vocal entries and piano accompaniment. Each vocal line (soprano, alto, and tenor/bass) enters with the same melodic phrase, marked *f cresc.* and *ff*. The piano accompaniment continues with the same rhythmic pattern as in the first system.

mf cresc. *f*

Detailed description: This system contains the piano accompaniment for the third system. It features a melodic line in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand, both marked *mf cresc.* and *f*. The piano part concludes with a final chord.

f *poco riten.* *ff*

Bright in the eyes of your flags thro' the war - torn years! —

Bright in the eyes of your flags thro' the war - torn years! —

Bright in the eyes of your flags thro' the war - torn years!

f *poco riten.* *ff*

Bright in the eyes of your flags thro' the war - torn years!

f *molto ritard.* *ff* *ffff*

Bright in the eyes of your flags thro' the war torn

Bright in the eyes of your flags thro' the war torn

Bright in the eyes of your flags thro' the war torn

years!

years!

years!

fff *cresc.*

Tempo Iº ♩ = 42

mf Stars that are vig - i - lant eyes of the flags re - turn - ing *f*

p *mf*

cresc. molto

Home from the crim - soned field where the fight was

cresc *f* *sfz col. voce*

8 ♩ = 48 Adagio espress.

won,

sfz *fffz ff* *fff* *pp*

attacca

p

This that ye saw - let it shine as the goal of our yearn-ing,

cantabile molto ed espress.
pp

This that ye saw - let it shine as the goal of our yearn-ing,

pp

pp

Detailed description: This system contains the first two systems of music. The first system features a vocal line in treble clef with a dynamic marking of *p* and a piano accompaniment in treble clef. The second system features a vocal line in treble clef with a dynamic marking of *pp* and a piano accompaniment in bass clef. The piano accompaniment includes a *pp* dynamic marking and a *b* flat note in the final measure.

mp

Char - ter and rock of our faith for the years be - gun!

p *mf*

Char - ter and rock of our faith for the years be gun!

p *mf*

mp *pp*

Detailed description: This system contains the second two systems of music. The third system features a vocal line in treble clef with a dynamic marking of *mp* and a piano accompaniment in treble clef. The fourth system features a vocal line in treble clef with a dynamic marking of *p* and a piano accompaniment in bass clef. The piano accompaniment includes a *mf* dynamic marking and a *pp* dynamic marking in the final measure.

mf

This that ye saw_ let it shine as the goal of our yearn - ing,

mf

This that ye saw_ let it shine as the goal of our yearn - ing,

mf

This that ye saw_ let it shine as the goal of our yearn - ing,

p

mf

Char - ter and rock of our faith for the years be - gun! —

mf

Char - ter and rock of our faith for the years be - gun! —

mf

Char - ter and rock of our faith for the years be - gun! —

mf

Char - ter and rock of our faith for the years be - gun! —

p

pp ritardando e cresc. molto

Molto Largamente

Char - ter and rock of our faith for the years be - gun!

Char - ter and rock of our faith for the years be - gun!

Char - ter and rock of our faith for the years be - gun!

ritardando e cresc. molto

Char - ter and rock of our faith for the years be - gun!

Char - ter and rock of our faith for the years be - gun!

ritardando e cresc. molto

Molto Largamente

Char - ter and rock of our faith for the years be - gun!

Char - ter and rock of our faith for the years be - gun!

For years be - gun!

For years be - gun!

For years be - gun!

For years be - gun!

For years be - gun!

For years be - gun!

For years be - gun!

For years be - gun!



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