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Willow song.

Boston: Oliver Ditson (115 Washington St.), 1847

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Lu Nelson

Roy Bachu Nelson

THE
WILLOW SONG
OR
VOICES FROM THE SPIRIT LAND
Poetry by
(J. Wesley Hanson)
Music by
(L. N. METCALF)
25 cts. nett.
BOSTON
Published by **OLIVER DITSON**
N^o 115 Washington St.

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THE WILLOW SONG.

Audante *Espressivo.* *p* *mf* *8va* *loco* *Pad lib.*

The piano introduction is in 3/4 time with a key signature of two flats. It begins with a piano (*p*) dynamic and an *Audante* tempo. The right hand features a melodic line with a triplet of eighth notes. The left hand provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords. The piece concludes with a *loco* section and a *Pad lib.* (pédalier) instruction.

1. 'Twas a cold and starry eve - ning, Moonlight fell in silver lines, Airy

The first system of the vocal part includes the lyrics: "1. 'Twas a cold and starry eve - ning, Moonlight fell in silver lines, Airy". The piano accompaniment continues with a steady harmonic accompaniment.

voi - - - ces sad were griev - ing, In the mus - - - ic haunted pines. Pale a

The second system of the vocal part includes the lyrics: "voi - - - ces sad were griev - ing, In the mus - - - ic haunted pines. Pale a". The piano accompaniment continues with a steady harmonic accompaniment.

Mother watch'd her dearest, Wept she o'er her darling boy, — "O Mother! Mother!

The third system of the vocal part includes the lyrics: "Mother watch'd her dearest, Wept she o'er her darling boy, — "O Mother! Mother!". The piano accompaniment continues with a steady harmonic accompaniment.

hear - est Thou those dis - tant sounds of joy?"

The first system of music features a vocal line in a treble clef with a key signature of three flats and a common time signature. The lyrics are "hear - est Thou those dis - tant sounds of joy?". Below the vocal line is a piano accompaniment consisting of two staves: a right-hand treble staff and a left-hand bass staff. The piano part includes chords and single notes, with some notes marked with a fermata.

8va *ad lib:* *p* 2. "Oh! hush thee, hush thy sobbings, Lean thy

The second system continues the musical piece. The vocal line has a fermata over the first few notes, with the instruction *8va* above it. The lyrics are "2. 'Oh! hush thee, hush thy sobbings, Lean thy". The piano accompaniment includes the instruction *ad lib:* and *p* (piano). The system ends with a triplet of notes in the vocal line, indicated by a '3' above the notes.

head upon my breast, Mother! how thy heart's low throbbings Seem to

The third system of music shows the vocal line with the lyrics "head upon my breast, Mother! how thy heart's low throbbings Seem to". The piano accompaniment continues with chords and single notes in the same style as the previous systems.

whis - per me to rest!" As I slept upon my pillow, I saw before me stand A

The fourth system concludes the page with the vocal line lyrics "whis - per me to rest!" As I slept upon my pillow, I saw before me stand A". The piano accompaniment provides harmonic support for the final line of the page.

broad and waving wil - low, Leaning o'er a silent land.

mf

gva *loco*

p ad lib:

3. 'Mong its dark - - ly waving branches, Murmur'd voi - - - ces sweet, and

p

clear, Like an or - - gan, When it launches Sil-ver mu - - sic on the

p

ear! On that ver - dant, wide sava - nah, There stood no other tree, Its

mf

dark - ly waving banner, Was all that I could see.

gva *loco*

ad lib.

4

As I gazed upon its brightness,
 Forth a lovely creature flew;
 She was dressed in snow-bright whiteness,
 As she caught my startled view;
 Took my hand in her cold fingers,—
 Leaned my brow upon her heart,—
 Oh! like ice her cold touch lingers,—
 Will it nevermore depart!

5

“See the willow now is swinging!
 Slow its music cometh near;—
 Now grows faint,— now softly singing,
 Dies upon my listening ear!”
 Bowed the Mother in deep sorrow,—
 Fell her tears like April rain;
 Sadly drooped she on the morrow,—
 For the child ne'er spake again!