



V I C T O R I A N W O M E N

Ragged and

torn and true

Clara Angela

Moricone

(1821-1914)

Clara Angela Macirone (1821-1914) was born in London, the daughter of Italian musicians. Her father was a singer and mother a pianist. She studied singing and piano at Royal Academy of Music. She built a reputation as a pianist, then as a teacher at the RAM, developing a system of music teaching that earned recognition by the eminent composer Sir George Macfarren. She was also active as a composer, publishing simply as C. A. Macirone. Most of her compositions are part-songs. These achieved wide recognition through performances by massed choirs at the Crystal Palace and at Exeter Hall. Her part-song “Sir Knight” was the first music heard by Queen Victoria over the telephone in 1878. She died in London.

I am a poor man, God knows,
And that all my neighbours can tell;
I want both money and clothes,
And yet I live wondrous well:
I have a contented mind,
And a heart to bear out all;
Tho' Fortune, being unkind,
Hath given me substance small.

Then hang up sorrow and care,
It never shall make me rue;
What though my back go bare,
I'm ragged and torn and true.
"Tis good to be honest and just,
Tho' a man be never so poor;
False dealers are still in mistrust,
They're afraid of the officer's door.

Their conscience doth accuse,
And they quake at the noise of a bush,
While he that doth no man abuse,
For the law needs not care a rush.
Then well fare the man that can say,
"I pay every man his due;
Although I go poor in array,
I'm ragged and torn and true."

Old Ballad (ca. 1500)

Ragged and torn and true

Allegro (♩ = 152)

S *mf* I am a poor man, God knows, And that all my neigh - bours can

A *mf* I am a poor man, God knows, And that all my neigh - bours can

T *mf* I am a poor man, God knows, And that all my neigh - bours can

B *mf* I am a poor man, God knows, And that all my neigh - bours can

5
S tell; I want both mon - ey and clothes, And yet I live won - drous

A tell; I want both mon - ey and clothes, And yet I live won - drous

T tell; I want both mon - ey and clothes, And yet I live won - drous

B tell; I want both mon - ey and clothes, And yet I live won - drous

9
S *f* well: I have a con - tent - ed mind, And a heart to bear out

A *f* well: I have a con - tent - ed mind, And a heart to bear out

T *f* well: I have a con - tent - ed mind, And a heart to bear out

B *f* well: I have a con - tent - ed mind, And a heart to bear out

Ragged and torn and true

13

S all; Tho' For - tune, be - ing un - kind, Hath giv - en me sub - stance

A all; Tho' For - tune, be - ing un - kind, Hath giv - en me sub - stance

T all; Tho' For - tune, be - ing un - kind, Hath giv - en me sub - stance

B all; Tho' For - tune, be - ing un - kind, Hath giv - en me sub - stance

17

S small. Then hang up sor - row and care, It nev - er shall make me

A small. Then hang up sor - row and care, It nev - er shall make me

T small. Then hang up sor - row and care, It nev - er shall make me

B small. Then hang up sor - row and care, It nev - er shall make me

21

S *cresc.* rue; What though my back go bare, I'm *ff* rag - ged and torn and true.

A *cresc.* rue; What though my back go bare, I'm *ff* rag - ged and torn and true.

T *cresc.* rue; What though my back go bare, I'm *ff* rag - ged and torn and true.

B *cresc.* rue; What though my back go bare, I'm *ff* rag - ged and torn and true.

Ragged and torn and true

26

S *p* "Tis good to be hon-est and just, Tho' a man be nev-er so poor; False

A *p* "Tis good to be hon-est and just, Tho' a man be nev-er so poor; False

T *p* "Tis good to be hon-est and just, Tho' a man be nev-er so poor; False

B *p* "Tis good to be hon-est and just, Tho' a man, tho' a man be nev-er so poor; False

30

S deal - ers are still in mis - trust, They're a - fraid of the of - fic - er's door. Their *f*

A deal - ers are still in mis - trust, They're a - fraid of the of - fic - er's door. Their *f*

T deal - ers are still in mis - trust, They're a - fraid of the of - fic - er's door. Their *f*

B deal - ers are still in mis - trust, They're a - fraid of the of - fic - er's door. Their *f*

34

S con-science doth them ac - cuse, And they_ quake at the noise of a bush, While

A con-science doth them ac - cuse, And they quake at the noise of a bush, While he

T con-science doth them ac - cuse, And they quake at the noise of a bush, While

B con-science doth them ac - cuse, And they quake at the noise of a bush, While

Ragged and torn and true

38

S he that doth no man a - buse, For the law needs not care a rush. Then *pp*

A _ that doth no man a - buse, For the law needs not care a rush. Then *pp*

T he that doth no man a - buse, For the law needs not care a rush. Then *pp*

B he that doth no man a - buse, For the law needs not care a rush. Then *pp*

42

S well fare the man that can say, "I pay ev-'ry man his due; Al - *cresc.*

A well fare the man that can say, "I pay ev-'ry man his due; Al - *cresc.*

T well fare the man that can say, "I pay ev-'ry man his due; Al - *cresc.*

B well fare the man that can say, "I pay ev-'ry man his due; Al - *cresc.*

46

S though I go poor in ar - ray, I'm rag - ged and torn and true." *ff*

A though I go poor in ar - ray, I'm rag - ged and torn and true." *ff*

T though I go poor in ar - ray, I'm rag - ged and torn and true." *ff*

B though I go poor in ar - ray, I'm rag - ged and torn and true." *ff*

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