



# The Curfew Bell

Joseph C. Bridge

(1853-1929)

**Joseph Cox Bridge** (1853-1929) was born at Rochester, England. His musical training was at Rochester Cathedral where he became assistant organist. He also served as assistant organist at Manchester Cathedral under his brother Sir John Frederick Bridge. He trained at Oxford and was organist of Exeter College, Oxford. He held positions as Organist of Chester Cathedral and Conductor of the Bradford Festival Choral Society. His compositions include an oratorio; "Magnificat" and "Nunc Dimittis" for voices, orchestra, and organ, produced at the Chester Festivals; a cantata, a symphony, an operetta, works for organ, anthems, works for piano, songs, and part-songs. He also completed numerous transcriptions for the organ.

Elegy Written in a Country Churchyard

The curfew tolls the knell of parting day,  
The lowing herd winds slowly o'er the lea,  
The ploughman homeward plods his weary way,  
And leaves the world to darkness and to me.

Beneath those rugged elms, the yew-tree's shade,  
Where heaves the turf in many a mould'ring heap,  
Each in his narrow cell for ever laid,  
The rude forefathers of the hamlet sleep.

The breezy call of incense-breathing Morn,  
The swallow twitt'ring from the straw-built shed,  
The cock's shrill clarion, or the echoing horn,  
No more shall rouse them from their lowly bed.

The boast of heraldry, the pomp of pow'r,  
And all that beauty, all that wealth e'er gave,  
Awaits alike the inevitable hour.  
The paths of glory lead but to the grave.

Thomas Gray (1716-1771)

# The Curfew Bell

Joseph C. Bridge

Andante

S

A

T

B

Horns in F

*pp*

*mf*

The cur - few tolls the

The cur - few tolls the

The cur - few tolls the

The cur - few tolls the

# The Curfew Bell

5

S  
knell of part - ing day, The low - ing herd winds

A  
knell of part - ing day, The lough - ing herd winds

T  
knell of part - ing day, The low - ing herd winds

B  
knell of day, The low - ing herd winds

Hn.  
5

9

S  
slow - ly o'er the lea, the low - ing herd winds

A  
slow - ly o'er the lea, the low - ing herd winds

T  
slow o'er - ly, the slow - ly o'er the lea, winds

B  
o'er the lea, the low - ing herd winds

Hn.  
9

## The Curfew Bell

13

S  
slow - - - ly, slow - ly o'er the

A  
slow - - - ly, slow - ly o'er the

T  
8  
slow - - - ly, slow - ly o'er the

B  
slow - - - ly, slow - ly o'er the

Hn.  
13

17

S  
lea, The plough - man home - ward plods his

A  
lea, o'er the lea, The plow - man home - ward plods his

T  
8  
lea, o'er the lea, The

B  
lea, o'er the lea,

Hn.  
17

# The Curfew Bell

21

S wear - y way, his wear - - - y

A wear - y way, his wear - - - y

T 8 plough - man home - ward plods his wear - - - y

B his wear - - - y

Hn. 21

25

S way, And leaves the world to

A way, And leaves the world to

T 8 way, And leaves the world to

B way, And leaves the world to

Hn. 25

## The Curfew Bell

29 *mp* Fine

S dark - ness and to me.

A dark - ness and to me.

T dark - ness and to me.

B dark - ness and to me.

Hn. *p*

34 *p*

S Be - neath those rug - ged elms, the yew - tree's

A Be - neath those rug - ged elms, the yew - tree's

T Be - neath those rug - ged elms, the

B Be - neath those rug - ged elms, the yew - tree's

Hn. *mf*



# The Curfew Bell

39

S shade, Where heaves the turf in man - y\_a mould - 'ring

A shade, Where heaves the turf in man - y\_a mould - 'ring

T 8 yew - tree's shade, Where heaves the turf in man - y\_a mould - 'ring

B shade, Where heaves the turf in man - y\_a mould - 'ring

Hn. 39

43

S heap, Each in his nar - row cell for ev - er

A heap, Each in his nar - row cell for ev - er

T 8 heap, Each in his nar - row cell for

B heap, Each in his nar - row cell for

Hn. 43

## The Curfew Bell

47

S  
laid, The rude fore - fath - ers of the ham - let

A  
laid, The rude fore - fath - ers of the ham - let

T  
8  
ev - er laid, The rude fore - fath - ers of the ham - let

B  
ev - er laid, The rude fore - fath - ers of the ham - let

Hn.  
47

51

S  
sleep, the rude fore - fath - ers of the ham - let sleep.

A  
sleep, the fath - ers of the ham - let sleep.

T  
8  
sleep, the fath - ers of the ham - let sleep.

B  
sleep, the fath - ers of the ham - let sleep.

Hn.  
51

# The Curfew Bell

*A little quicker*

56

S  
The breez - y call of in - cense - breath - ing

A  
The breez - y call of in - cense - breath - ing

T  
*mf*  
The breez - y call of in - cense - breath - ing

B  
*mf*  
The breez - y call of in - cense - breath - ing

Hn.  
56

60

S  
Morn, The swal - low twit - t'ring from the straw - built

A  
Morn, The swal - low twit - t'ring from the straw - built

T  
Morn, The swal - low, swal - low twit - t'ring from the straw - built

B  
Morn, The swal - low, swal - low twit - t'ring from the straw - built

Hn.  
60

## The Curfew Bell

*L'istesso tempo*

64

S  
shed, The cock's shrill clar - ion, or the ech - o - ing horn, \_\_\_\_\_

A  
shed, The cock's shrill clar - ion, or the ech - o - ing horn, \_\_\_\_\_

T  
shed, The cock's shrill clar - ion, or the ech - o - ing horn, \_\_\_\_\_

B  
shed, The cock's shrill clar - ion, or the ech - o - ing horn, \_\_\_\_\_

Hn.

67

S  
No more shall rouse them from their low - ly bed, no

A  
No more shall rouse them from their low - ly bed, no

T  
No more shall rouse them from their low - ly bed, no

B  
No more shall rouse them from their low - ly bed, no

Hn.

# The Curfew Bell

70

S more shall rouse them from their low - ly bed. The boast of

A more shall rouse them from their low - ly bed. The boast of

T more shall rouse them from their low - ly bed. The boast of

B more shall rouse them from their low - ly bed. The boast of

Hn.

74

S her - ald - ry, the pomp of pow'r, the boast of her - ald - ry, the pomp of

A her - ald - ry, the pomp of pow'r, the boast of her - ald - ry, the pomp of

T her - ald - ry, the pomp of pow'r, the boast of her - ald - ry, the pomp of

B her - ald - ry, the pomp of pow'r, the boast of her - ald - ry, the pomp of

Hn.

## The Curfew Bell

77

S  
pow'r, And all that beau - ty, all that wealth e'er

A  
pow'r, And all that beau - ty, all that wealth e'er

T  
pow'r, And all that beau - ty, all that wealth e'er

B  
pow'r, And all that beau - ty, all that wealth e'er

Hn.

80

S  
gave, A - waits a - like the in - ev - i - ta - ble

A  
gave, A - waits a - like the in - ev - i - ta - ble

T  
gave, A - waits a - like the in - ev - i - ta - ble

B  
gave, A - waits a - like the in - ev - i - ta - ble

Hn.

# The Curfew Bell

84

S  
hour. The paths of glo - ry lead but to the grave,

A  
hour. The paths of glo - ry lead but to the grave,

T  
hour. The paths, the paths of glo - ry lead but to the grave,

B  
hour. The paths of glo - ry lead but to the grave,

Hn.

89

S  
lead but to the grave, lead but to the grave. The

A  
lead but to the grave, lead but to the grave. The

T  
lead but to the grave, lead but to the grave. The

B  
lead but to the grave. The

Hn.

*Tempo primo* **D.S. al Fine**

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