

The Soldier's Adieu

Charles Dibdin
(1745-1814)

The first system of musical notation consists of two staves. The upper staff is in treble clef and the lower staff is in bass clef. Both are in the key of D major (indicated by two sharps) and common time (C). The melody in the treble clef begins with a quarter note D, followed by a dotted quarter note E, an eighth note F, and a quarter note G. The bass clef accompaniment starts with a whole rest, followed by a quarter note D, a quarter note E, a quarter note F, and a quarter note G.

The second system of musical notation consists of two staves. The upper staff is in treble clef and the lower staff is in bass clef. Both are in the key of D major and common time. The melody in the treble clef features a series of chords and eighth notes. The bass clef accompaniment consists of a steady eighth-note pattern.

The third system of musical notation consists of two staves. The upper staff is in treble clef and the lower staff is in bass clef. Both are in the key of D major and common time. The melody in the treble clef includes the lyrics "A - dieu A dieu my on - ly life, my". The bass clef accompaniment continues with eighth notes.

The fourth system of musical notation consists of two staves. The upper staff is in treble clef and the lower staff is in bass clef. Both are in the key of D major and common time. The melody in the treble clef includes the lyrics "hon - or calls me from thee; Re - mem - ber thou'rt a sail - or's wife, those". The bass clef accompaniment continues with eighth notes.

The Soldier's Adieu

17

tears but ill_ be - come_ thee. What tho' by du - ty I am called where

21

thun - d'ring can - nons rat - tle where val - ours self might stand ap - palled where

25

val - ours self mightstand ap - palled when on the_ wings of thy_ true love to

29

heav'n a - bove thy fer - vent o - ri - sons had flown the ten - der pray'r thou

33

putst up there Shall call a guar - dian an - gel down Shall call a guar - dian

37

an - gel down to watch me in the bat - tle.

41

I go assured my life adieu
Tho' thund'ring cannons rattle
Tho' murd'ring carnage stalk in view
When on the wings of thy true love
To heav'n above etc.

2. My safety thy fair truth shall be
As sword and buckler serving
My life shall be more dear to me
Because of thy preserving

Let peril come let horror threat
Let thund'ring cannons rattle
I fearless seek the conflicts heat
Assured when on the wings of love
To heav'n above etc.

3. Enough with that benignant smile
Some kindred God inspired thee
Who saw thy bosom void of guile
Who wondered and admired thee

I go assured my life adieu
Tho' thund'ring cannons rattle
Tho' murd'ring carnage stalk in view
When on the wings of thy true love
To heav'n above etc.

Transcribed from Levy 030.102, substituting in ms. 16 *sailor* for *soldier*;
Jane Austen sang this, making that change, as her brothers were in the navy.
This copy transposed from F major to D major.