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ABORIGINAL SONGS

NICHOLSON'S

words by Mary Durack

MANUSCRIPT BOOK

music by Billy Edwards



No. 1

These are the songs the child - ren sing, Where the bush is wild and free; —

Softly
and
Swingyo

mp

This is the way they dance and play, And laugh - ing ech - oes all the day Of

melody

picc - a - ninny, picc - a - ninny, picc - a - ninny glee. —

Billy Edwards

Nº 2 This is the song of the birds at morn-ing, Swooping to drink at the bill - a - bong: —

Brightly

Handwritten musical score for the first system. It features a treble and bass staff in G major (one sharp) and common time. The treble staff begins with a treble clef and a common time signature. The bass staff begins with a bass clef and a common time signature. The music is marked 'mf' (mezzo-forte). The melody in the treble staff consists of quarter notes and half notes, with a final measure containing a half note and a whole note. The bass staff provides a simple accompaniment with quarter and half notes. The system is divided into four measures.

Wel-come Sun, a day's be-gun, — Warm and glad and full of fun, And

Handwritten musical score for the second system. It continues the melody and accompaniment from the first system. The treble staff has a treble clef and a common time signature. The bass staff has a bass clef and a common time signature. The music is marked 'mf'. The system is divided into four measures.

brimming full, — brimming full, — brimming full of song. —

Handwritten musical score for the third system. It concludes the piece. The treble staff has a treble clef and a common time signature. The bass staff has a bass clef and a common time signature. The music is marked 'mf'. The system is divided into four measures, ending with a double bar line.

Billy Edwards

No 3 Watch me! I'm an old go-an-na, Growing sleepy in the sun;

slowly and Creepy

You're a snake so wide a-wake, What a dinner I would make! But

see how fast I run!

Quickly

Billy Edwards

No. 4

Guess what ^{this} it is?

Hopp-ing, hopp-ing,

Just a lit-tle scared of you; —

Steady
Jumpy
time

mp

Gain-ing ground,

peep-ing round,

Into the hills with leap and bound,

Old

Man,

Old

Man,

Old

man Kang-a-roo! —

Billy Edwards

No 5 This is the song of the Kook - a - bur - ra Laughing at the weath - -

Bright
and
Swingy

Handwritten musical notation for the first system. The key signature is B-flat major (two flats) and the time signature is 3/4. The melody is written in the treble clef, and the accompaniment is in the bass clef. The melody consists of quarter notes and eighth notes, with a final measure containing a double bar line and a repeat sign. The accompaniment consists of quarter notes and eighth notes, with a final measure containing a double bar line and a repeat sign.

- er ——— Chuckling with glee at you and me, ——— Laughing "Ha! Ha!" and

Handwritten musical notation for the second system. The key signature is B-flat major (two flats) and the time signature is 3/4. The melody is written in the treble clef, and the accompaniment is in the bass clef. The melody consists of quarter notes and eighth notes, with a final measure containing a double bar line and a repeat sign. The accompaniment consists of quarter notes and eighth notes, with a final measure containing a double bar line and a repeat sign.

"He! He! He!" ——— Laugh-ing all to - geth - - er. ———

Handwritten musical notation for the third system. The key signature is B-flat major (two flats) and the time signature is 3/4. The melody is written in the treble clef, and the accompaniment is in the bass clef. The melody consists of quarter notes and eighth notes, with a final measure containing a double bar line and a repeat sign. The accompaniment consists of quarter notes and eighth notes, with a final measure containing a double bar line and a repeat sign.

Billy Edwards

No. 6 This is the song of a la - zy fell - ow, Sitting still and quiet so long; —

Lazily
and
Not fast

Handwritten musical score for the first system. The music is in G-flat major (two flats) and 4/4 time. The tempo/mood is indicated as 'Lazily and Not fast'. The first two staves are marked 'mf' (mezzo-forte). The melody in the treble clef consists of quarter and eighth notes, while the bass clef provides a simple harmonic accompaniment with half and quarter notes. The system contains four measures.

Blinking eyes and looking wise — But at night a great surprise! —

Handwritten musical score for the second system. The melody continues with eighth and quarter notes, including some beamed eighth notes. The bass line continues with simple accompaniment. The system contains four measures.

(croak like a frog) (croak like a frog) Hear him croak his song. —

Handwritten musical score for the third system. The first two measures are labeled '(croak like a frog)' and feature a melody with a dotted quarter note and an eighth note, with the instruction '"Kerrock"' written below. The final two measures are labeled 'Hear him croak his song.' and feature a melody of quarter notes. The system contains four measures.

Billy Edwards

No 7 This is the way the whirl-wind dances, Round and round on the dust-y plain; —

Not too fast.

mp mf

Spin - ing, whirl - ing, twist - ing, twirl - ing, Arms and flig - ers red and curling, A -

mf

-way and a-way, A - way and a-way, A - - way and back a - gain. —

mf much faster f

Billy Edwards

NO 8 This is the way the rain time comes With wind and rain and thunder;

Very
Steady

Handwritten musical notation for the first system. It consists of a grand staff with a treble and bass clef. The key signature has one sharp (F#). The time signature is common time (C). The music is marked 'mf' (mezzo-forte). The melody in the treble clef features eighth and sixteenth notes, often beamed together. The bass clef provides a steady accompaniment with eighth and sixteenth notes. The system contains four measures.

Lightning flashes, Rainy splashes, Ev-'ry - one to shel-ter dashes,

Handwritten musical notation for the second system. It continues the melody and accompaniment from the first system. The treble clef melody includes some slurs. The bass clef accompaniment remains steady. The system contains four measures.

And we all, — we all crawl under. —

Handwritten musical notation for the third system. The tempo and dynamics change to 'quieter'. The melody in the treble clef is slower, featuring half notes and whole notes. The bass clef accompaniment also slows down, using half and whole notes. The system contains four measures.

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Billy Edwards

NO 9 This is the song of the bus-y hor-net, Buzzing a-bout a - - bove the spring;

Bright
and
Light

Handwritten musical score for the first system. The music is written on two staves (treble and bass clef) in 2/4 time, key of B-flat major. The melody is in the treble clef, and the bass clef provides a simple accompaniment. The first measure is marked with a dynamic of *mf*. The melody consists of eighth and quarter notes, with a final measure ending on a sharp sign.

(Long buzz)

(Long buzz)

Go a - way!

Run and play!

Handwritten musical score for the second system. The first two measures are marked with a dynamic of *f* and contain a long horizontal line representing a 'Long buzz'. The third and fourth measures contain a melody in the treble clef and a bass line in the bass clef, both marked with a dynamic of *f*. The melody consists of eighth and quarter notes.

Wise folk do just as they say, Be-fore they've time to sting. —

Handwritten musical score for the third system. The music is written on two staves (treble and bass clef) in 2/4 time, key of B-flat major. The melody is in the treble clef, and the bass clef provides a simple accompaniment. The first measure is marked with a dynamic of *mf*. The melody consists of eighth and quarter notes, ending with a double bar line.

Billy Edwards

No 10 This is the song of the big grey brot-gas, Out on the plain when the moon is bright;

Gavotte

Style

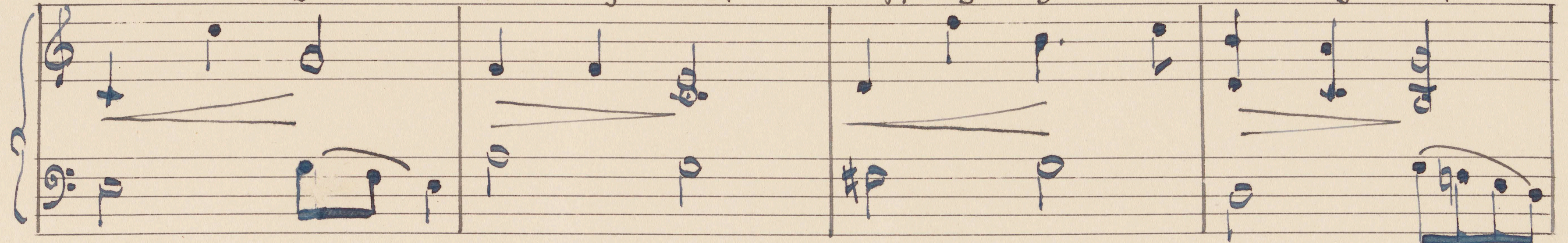
mp gracefully



See them go.

Bowing low.

Stepping high and swaying so.



All the Sum-mer night

all the Summer night.



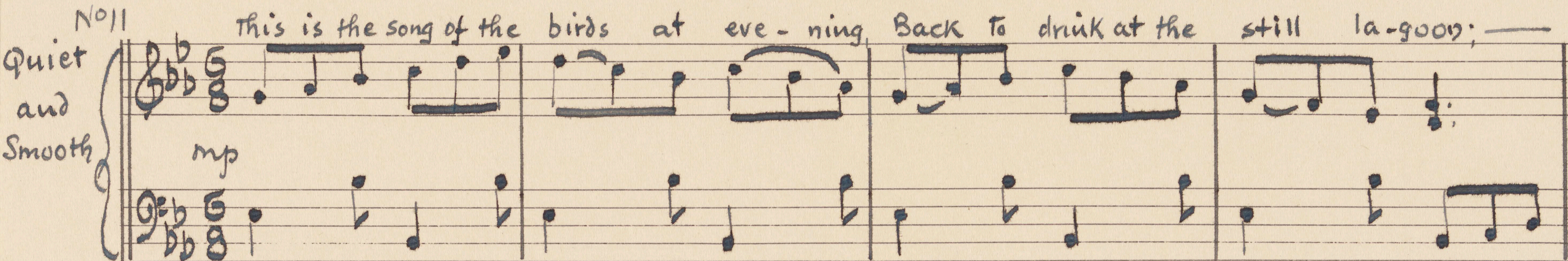
Billy Edwards

No 11

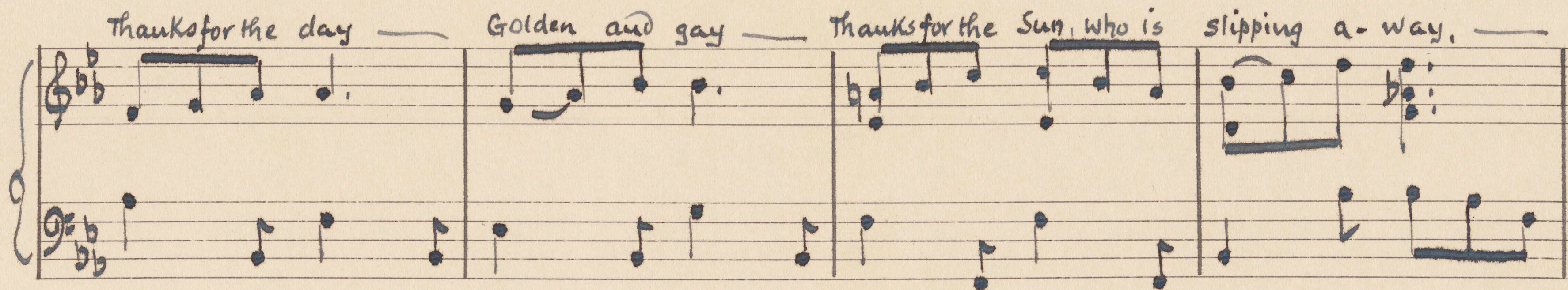
Quiet and Smooth

mp

This is the song of the birds at eve-ning, Back to drink at the still la-agoon; —

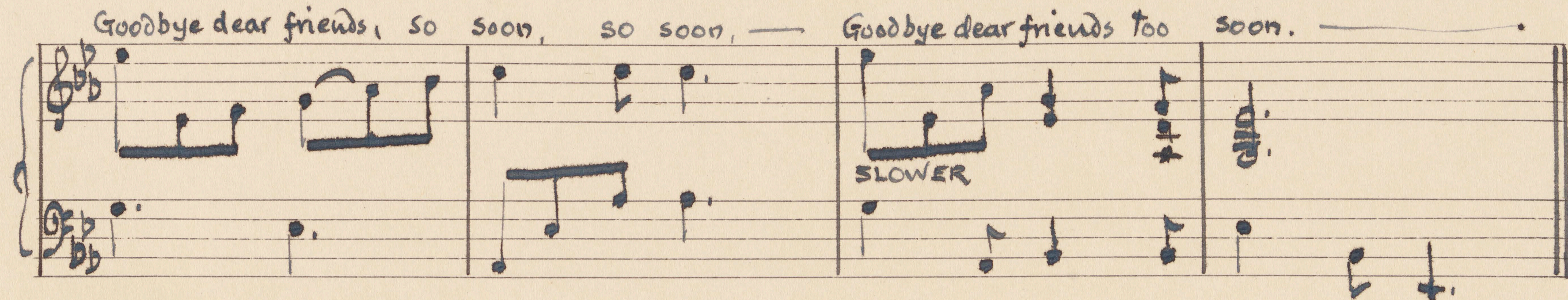


Thanks for the day — Golden and gay — Thanks for the Sun, who is slipping a-way. —



Goodbye dear friends, so soon, so soon, — Goodbye dear friends too soon. —

SLOWER



Billy Edwards

No. 12 This is the way the night comes over, Big black Spirit with star bright eyes:—

Quiet
and
Sleepy

It's not much fun with-out the Sun, We'll sleep and dream of a day be-gun, We'll

sleep, — Sleep, — Be-fore the fire — dies. —

Billy Edwards

