

The Curfew Tolls The Knell of Parting Day

Thomas Gray 1716 - 1771

William Hayes 1708 - 1777

A

Tr
The cur - few tolls the knell of par - ting day, The low - ing

A
The cur - few tolls the knell of par - ting day, The low - ing

Ten
The cur - few tolls the knell of par - ting day,

B
The cur - few tolls the knell of par - ting day,

Tr
6 7 8 9 10 11
herd winds slow - ly o'er the lea. The plough - man home - ward plods his wea - ry

A
herd winds slow - ly o'er the lea. The plough - man home - ward plods his wea - ry

Ten
winds slow - ly o'er the lea. The plough - man home - ward plods his wea - ry

B
winds slow - ly o'er the lea. The plough - man home - ward plods his wea - ry

Tr
12 13 14 15 16 17
way, And leaves the world, and leaves the world, and leaves the

A
way, And leaves the world, and leaves the world, and leaves the

Ten
way, And leaves the world, and leaves the world, and leaves the

B
way, And leaves the world, and leaves the world, and leaves the

Tr
18 19 20 21 22 23
world to dark - ness and to me.

A
world to dark - ness and to me.

Ten
world and leaves the world to dark - ness and to me.

B
world to dark - ness and to me.

24  25 26 27 28

Tr Now fades the glimm' - ring land - scape on the sight, And all the

A Now fades the glimm' - ring land - scape on the sight, And all the

Ten Now fades the glimm' - ring land - scape on the sight,

B Now fades the glimm' - ring land - scape on the sight,

29 30 31 32 33

Tr air a so - lemn still - ness holds; Save where the bee - tle

A air a so - lemn still - ness holds; Save where the bee - tle

Ten a so - lemn still - ness holds; Save where the bee - tle

B a so - lemn still - ness holds; Save where the bee - tle

34 35 36 37 38

Tr wheels his dro - ning flight, And drow - sy tink - lings, drow - sy

A wheels his dro - ning flight, And drow - sy tink - lings, drow - sy

Ten wheels his dro - ning flight, And drow - sy tink - lings, drow - sy

B wheels his dro - ning flight, And drow - sy tink - lings, drow - sy

39 40 41 42 43

Tr tink - lings, drow - sy tink - lings lull the

A tink - lings, drow - sy tink - lings lull the

Ten tink - lings, drow - sy tink - lings, drow - sy tink - lings

B tink - lings, drow - sy tink - lings lull the

44 45 46 47 48 49

Tr dis - - - - tant folds. Be - neath those rug - ged

A dis - tant folds. Be - neath those rug - ged

Ten lull the dis - - tant folds. Be - neath those rug - ged

B dis - tant folds. Be - neath those rug - ged

50 51 52 53 54

Tr elms, that yew tree's shade,

A elms, that yew tree's shade,

Ten elms, that yew tree's shade, Where heaves the turf in ma-ny a mould'-ring

B elms, that yew tree's shade, Where heaves the turf in ma-ny a mould'-ring

55 56 57 58 59

Tr Each in his nar - row cell for e - ver laid, The

A Each in his nar - row cell for e - ver laid, The

Ten heap, Each in his nar - row cell for e - ver laid, The

B heap, Each in his nar - row cell for e - ver laid, The

60 61 62 63 64

Tr rude fore - fa - thers, rude fore - fa - thers, rude

A rude fore - fa - thers, rude fore - fa - thers,

Ten rude fore - fa - thers, rude fore - fa - thers, rude

B rude fore - fa - thers, rude fore - fa - thers, rude

65 66 67 68

Tr fore - fa - thers of the ham - - -

A fore - fa - thers of the ham - let

Ten fore - fa - thers, the rude fore - fa - thers of the

B fore - fa - thers of the ham - - -

69 70 71 72 73

Tr let sleep. Far from the mad - ding crowd's ig - nob - le

A let sleep. Far from the mad - ding crowd's ig - nob - le

Ten ham - let sleep. Far from the mad - ding crowd's ig - nob - le

B let sleep. Far from the mad - ding crowd's ig - nob - le

74 75 76 77 78 79

Tr strife their so - ber wi - shes ne - ver learned to stray; A - long the

A strife their so - ber wi - shes ne - ver learned to stray; A - long the

Ten strife ne - ver learned to stray; A - long the

B strife ne - ver learned to stray; A - long the

80 81 82 83 84 85

Tr cool se - quest' - red vale of life. They kept the noise - less, kept the

A cool se - quest' - red vale of life. They kept the noise - less, kept the

Ten cool se - quest' - red vale of life. They kept the noise - less, kept the

B cool se - quest' - red vale of life. They kept the noise - less, kept the

86 87 88 89 90

Tr
noise - less, kept the noise - less te - nor

A
noise - less, kept the noise - less te - nor

Ten
noise - less, kept the noise - less, kept the noise - less

B
noise - less, kept the noise - less te - nor

91 92 93

Tr
of their way.

A
of their way.

Ten
te - nor of their way.

B
of their way.

William Hayes (26 January 1708 - 27 July 1777) was born in Gloucester, but worked for most of his life in Oxford, where he directed many performances of Handel's compositions, in particular his oratorios. In 1749 he was responsible for the first known performance of *Messiah* in Oxford. He was also a composer of oratorios and church music, the *Elegy* being based on his psalm tune entitled 'Southport'.

The only known publication of 'Southport' appeared nearly 40 years after the death of William Hayes, in Samuel Webbe's 'Collection of Psalm Tunes', 3rd ed., pub. 1816. Attributed there to 'Dr Hayes' (both William and his composer son Philip were DMus), it has been assumed 'Southport' was the work of Philip Hayes, (baptised 17 April 1738 - 19 March 1797). However, Webbe's 'Collection' contains two other works known to be by William Hayes, 'Tranmere' and 'Eastham', printed on two of the preceding four pages to 'Southport'. It is, perhaps, more sensible to assume 'Southport' is by the same hand, but unlike the other two tunes, had not been published during William Hayes's lifetime. HTI No. 15583.

The original tune, with a metre of 10.10.10.10., has been skilfully adapted to fit Thomas Gray's words, the music itself being very well suited to Gray's own feelings when originally composed. Thomas Gray (26 December 1716 - 30 July 1771) was an English poet, letter-writer, classical scholar, and professor at Pembroke College, Cambridge.

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