

The Better Land

(The Music composed & dedicated to Miss M. J. F. Cook by Antoinette Sterling)

Frederic H. Cowen

Non troppo allegro

Voice

Piano *Tranquillo*

4

p

I hear thee speak _____ of the

7

Bet - ter Land, _____ Thou call'st its chil - dren a hap - py band, _____

10

cresc.

Mo-ther, where_____ is that ra - diant shore? Shall we not seek it,

cresc.

13

Shall we not seek it, and weep we not seek no more?_____ Is it

16

cresc.

where the flow'r_____ of the or - angeblows, And the fire - flies dance_____ thro' the

cresc.

19

myr - tle boughs?_____ **Lento** *p* Not there, not there, my

Red. *dim. e rall.*

25 **Tempo I**

child.

Tranquillo

28

29

mf

Is it far a - way, _____ in some re - gion old, _____ Where the

p

32

ri - vers wan - der o'er sands of gold, _____ Where the burn - ing rays _____ of the

cresc.

cresc.

35

ru - by shine, _____ And the dia-mond lights up, _____ the dia-mond lights up _____ the

cresc. ed agitato

se - - - cret mine, And the pearl gleams forth from the

cresc.

mf

co - ralstrand Is it there, sweet mo - ther, that Bet - ter Land? Is it

there, sweet mo - ther, that Bet - - - ter

mf

Land?

dim. e rall.

And.

Lento *p*

Not there, not there, my

(And.)

53 **Tempo I**

The musical score consists of three staves. The top staff is a vocal line in 8/8 time, starting with a half note G4, followed by a quarter rest, a quarter note G4, and a quarter rest. The second staff is the piano accompaniment, starting with a half note G4, followed by a quarter note A4, a quarter note B4, and a quarter note C5. The third staff is the piano accompaniment, starting with a half note G3, followed by a quarter note A3, a quarter note B3, and a quarter note C4. The piano part features a steady eighth-note accompaniment in the bass line and a melodic line in the treble. The tempo is marked **Tempo I**. The piano part is marked *Trappuillo* and *rall.* (rallentando). The score ends with a double bar line and a repeat sign.

child.

Trappuillo

rall.

6

57 **Molto andante**

Tranquillamente

p

Eye hath not seen it, my gen - tle boy, Ear hath not heard its deep

60

cresc.

songs of joy; Dreams can - not pic - ture a world so fair.

63

Sor - row and death, sor - row and death may not en - ter there;

67

sempre crescendo

Time doth not breathe on its fade - less bloom, on its fade - less bloom,

71 *ff* *p* *ff*

Far be - yond, _____ be-yond the clouds, Far be -

75 *p* *cresc.*

-yond, _____ be-yond the tomb, _____ Far be - yond the clouds, and be - yond the tomb, It is

79 *con tutt'ff la forza*

there, it is there, my child! it is there, 'tis

83

there! _____