

# "Oh, dear! what can the matter be?"

OLD ENGLISH (18th CENTURY) SONG

Arr Granville Bantock (1868-1946)

**Allegretto giojoso, tempo rubato**

Soprano

Alto *mf*  
Oh, dear! what can the mat-ter be?

Tenor *mf*  
Oh, dear, me! Oh, dear!

Bass *mf*  
Oh, dear! what can the mat-ter be?

Piano  
(For rehearsal only) *mf*

**Allegretto giojoso, tempo rubato**

6 *mp* *espress.*

S. *mp*  
Oh, dear! what can the mat-ter be? Dear, dear! what can the mat-ter be?

A. *p*  
Oh, dear! Oh, dear!

T. *p*  
what can the mat-ter be? Dear, dear, what can the mat-ter be? Oh, dear!

B. *p*  
Oh, dear! Oh, dear! Oh, dear!

Pno. *p*

10 *mp espress.*

S. Oh, dear! what can the mat-ter be? John-ny's so long at the fair. He

A. John - - ny's so long at the fair.

T. what can the mat-ter be? Oh, dear, oh, dear! what can the mat-ter be?

B. dear! Oh, dear, oh, dear!

Pno. *mp*

14 *mp espress.*

S. pro-mised he'd buy me a fair - ing should please me, He

A. *mp espress.* And then for a kiss, oh! he vow'd he would tease me,

T. *p* what can the mat-ter be? Oh, dear! what can the mat - ter be? Oh, dear!

B. *p* Oh, dear! what can the matter be? Oh, dear! what can the mat-ter be?

Pno. *p*

18

S. *mf*  
 pro-mised he'd bring me a bunch of blue rib-bons, And it's oh, dear!

A. *mf*  
 Oh dear me! To tie up my bon-ny brown hair. Oh, dear,

T. *mf*  
 Oh, dear me! To tie up her bon-ny brown hair. Oh, dear,

B. *mf*  
 Oh, dear! Oh, dear! Oh, dear me! Oh, dear,

Pno. *mf*

23

S. what can the mat-ter be? Dear, dear! what can the mat-ter be? Oh, dear!. what can the mat-ter be?

A. me! Dear, dear, me. Oh, dear me.

T. me! Dear, dear, me. Oh, dear me!

B. me! Dear, dear, me! Oh, dear me!

Pno.

28

S. John-ny's so long at the fair. John-ny's so long at the fair,

A. John-ny's at the fair. Oh, dear, me! John-ny's so long at the

T. John-ny's long at the fair. John-ny's so long at the fair, long at the fair.

B. John-ny's at the fair. Oh, dear! long at the fair.

Pno.

33

**poco a poco rall.** **f** **sost.** **a tempo, allegretto**

S. What can the mat-ter be? Oh, dear me!

A. fair. Oh, dear me!

T. Oh, dear me!

B. John-ny's so long at the fair, dear me! Oh, dear! what can the mat-ter be?

**poco a poco rall.** **f** **sost.** **p** **a tempo, allegretto**

Pno.

39 *mp espress.*

S. Oh, dear! what can the mat-ter be?

A. *p* Oh, dear! what can the mat-ter be? *p* Oh, dear!

T. *p* Oh, dear me! \_\_\_\_\_ *p* Oh, dear! what can the mat-ter be? Dear, dear!

B. Oh, dear! \_\_\_\_\_ Oh, \_\_\_\_\_

Pno. *p*

44

S. Dear, dear! what can the mat-ter be? Oh, dear! what can the mat-ter be?

A. Oh, dear! John - - ny's so

T. what can the mat-ter be? Oh, dear! what can the mat-ter be? Oh, dear!

B. \_\_\_\_\_ dear! \_\_\_\_\_ Oh, \_\_\_\_\_ dear, \_\_\_\_\_ Oh,

Pno.

48

S. *pp espress.*  
 John-ny's so long at the fair. He pro-mised he'd bring me a bas-ket of po - sies

A. *pp*  
 long at the fair. A

T. *pp*  
 Oh, dear! what can the mat-ter be? what can the mat-ter be? Oh, dear!

B. *pp*  
 dear, oh, dear. Oh, dear! what can the mat-ter be?

Pno. *pp espress.*

52

S. *cresc.*  
 A lit-tle straw hat to set off the blue rib-bons,

A. *espress. cresc.*  
 gar-land of li-lies, a gar-land of ro-ses, Oh, dear me! that

T. *cresc.*  
 what can the mat-ter be? Oh, dear! Oh, dear me! that

B. *cresc.*  
 Oh, dear! what can the mat-ter be? Oh, dear! Oh, dear!

Pno. *cresc.*

56

S. *mf*  
And it's Oh, dear! what can the mat-ter be? Dear, dear!

A. *mf*  
tie up my bon-ny brown hair. Oh, dear me! Dear, dear

T. *mf*  
tie up her bon-ny brown hair. Oh, dear me! Dear, dear

B. *mf*  
Oh, dear me! Oh, dear me! Dear, dear

Pno. *mf*

61

S. what can the mat-ter be? Oh, dear! what can the mat-ter be? John-ny's so long at the fair.\_\_\_\_

A. me! Oh, dear me! John-ny's at the fair.\_\_\_\_

T. me! Oh, dear me! John-ny's long at the fair.\_\_\_\_

B. me! Oh, dear me! John-ny's at the fair.\_\_\_\_

Pno.

66

S. John - ny's so long at the fair.

A. *cresc.* Oh, dear me! John - ny's so long at the

T. *cresc.* John - ny's so long at the fair, long at the fair.

B. *cresc.* Oh, dear! long at the fair,

Pno. *cresc.*

69

S. *f* *allargando* what can the mat-ter be? *ff* *sost.* Oh, dear! Oh dear me!

A. *f* fair. *ff* *sost.* Oh, dear! Oh dear me!

T. *f* Oh, dear! Oh dear me!

B. *f* John-ny's so long at the fair. *ff* *sost.* Oh, dear me!

Pno. *f* *allargando* *ff* *sost.*