

# ULLABY from "TRIBUTE TO FOSTER"

FOR PIANO by PERCY ALDRIDGE GRAINGER

A study in "musical glasses" effect based upon Stephen Foster's Song "Camptown Races" (also called "Doodah")

Loving birthday-gifts for mother,  
July 3d, 1914, and July 3d, 1916.

"Tribute to Foster" for solo voices, chorus and orchestra,  
begun in the spring of 1913.

Piano piece worked out summer of 1915 in New York City.

One of my earliest musical recollections is that of my mother singing me to sleep with Stephen Foster's song "Camp-town Races" ("Doodah").

## "Camptown Races" (or "Doodah") by Stephen C. Foster

De Camp-town la - dies sing dis song, Doo-dah! Doo-dah! De Camp-town race track  
 De long-tail fil-ly and de big black hoss, Doo-dah! Doo-dah! Dey fly de track and dey  
 Old Mu-lley cow came on to de track, Doo-dah! Doo-dah! De bob-tail fling her

five miles long, Oh! Doo-dah day! I came down dah wid my hat cav'd in, Doo-dah!  
 both cut a-cross, Oh! Doo-dah day! De blind hoss stick-en in a big bog hole, Doo-dah!  
 o-ber him back, Oh! Doo-dah day! Den fly a - long like a rail-road car, Doo-dah!

Doodah! I go back home wid a pock-et full ob tin, Oh! Doodah day!  
 Doodah! Can't touch de bot-tom wid a ten foot pole, Oh! Doodah day! Gwine to ride all night!  
 Doodah! Run-nin' a race wid a shoot - in' star, Oh! Doodah day!

Gwine to ride all day! I'll bet my money on de bob-tail nag, Some-bod-y bet on de bay.

In the spring of 1913 I began a composition for solo voices, chorus and orchestra based on this entrancing ditty, entitled "Tribute to Foster," in which I wished to give musical expression to these Australian memories and to my ever-increasing love and reverence for this great American genius—one of the most tender, touching and subtle melodists and poets of all time; a mystic dreamer no less than a whimsical humorist. It is, maybe, only natural that I should instinctively think of "Camptown Races" both as a dance-song and as a lullaby, and at the beginning and end of my above-mentioned choral composition the tune is heard in its original lively character, while in the middle of the work is interposed a "lullaby" section mirroring a mood awakened by memories of my mother's singing, in which the Foster tune is treated very freely indeed, and in which solo strings, piano, harp, celesta, glockenspiel, Deagan steel marimbaphone or Hawkes' resonaphone (played with bows), Deagan wooden marimbaphone (played with bows), and a large army of wineglasses and glass bowls of greatly varying sizes and pitches (their rims rubbed by wet fingers) accompany six solo voices that sing the following verses of my own:

In Pittsburgh town a man did dwell;  
 (Doodah! Doodah!)  
 His name was Foster as I've heard tell.  
 (Oh! Doodah day!)

Foster's dead and gone away;  
 (Doodah! Doodah.)  
 His songs dey lib for eber an' aye.  
 (Oh! Doodah day!)

(Refrain)  
*Gwine to still be sung*  
*As long as de worl's heart's young.*

Foster's songs weren't Darkie quite;  
 Yet neither were they merely "white."

Foster's songs dey make you cry;  
 Bring de tear-drop to yo' eye.

Denze songs dey trabble de worl' around;  
 At las' dey come to Adelaide town.

When I was young on my mummy's knee  
 She sang dat race course song to me.

Sang it to me sweet as a lullaby;  
 Hear dat song till de day I die.

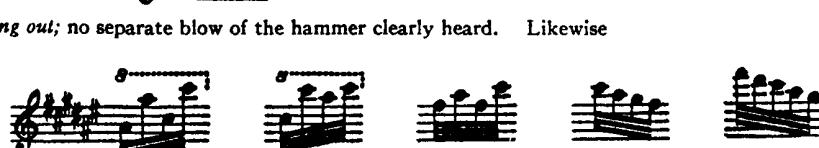
This piano piece is a free paraphrase of the lullaby section, and sets out to reflect, in its twiddly filigree work, something of the almost mesmeric quality of the sound of the "musical glasses" and Deagan instruments.

PERCY ALDRIDGE GRAINGER.

## HINTS TO PERFORMERS.

To reproduce upon the piano something of the mesmeric charm of "musical glasses" and bowed Deagan steel and wooden marimbaphones (or Hawkes' resonaphone) the repeated fluttering figures should be played very evenly and with legato pedaling, so as to give an *unbroken rhythm-less* flow of singing sound. Do not try to make each repeating note come out

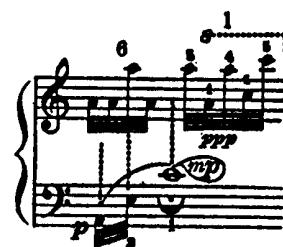
distinctly in such passages as  on the contrary, try and get a rich *blur* of pedalled sound, with *no individual note sticking out*; no separate blow of the hammer clearly heard. Likewise



should be sounded as a quickly prattling rush of indistinctly-heard notes, not like clean clear passage-work.

You need not play the joins between the various sections of florid passages note for note as they stand, nor need you follow this copy implicitly as to the exact rhythmic relation between your right and left hands. For instance,

It does not matter whether you play



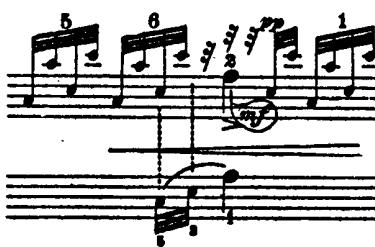
or



It does not matter whether you play



or



It does not matter whether you play



or



It does not matter whether you play



or



The speed of the passage-work should vary slightly from moment to moment at the discretion of the player, and both hands should play *very waywardly* as to time, and quicken and slacken *independently of each other*. Thus the speed of the fluttering right hand arabesques may be greatened at the same time that the left hand is slowing off, or the left hand quicken while the right slackens.

This Lullaby is a *sound-study* to be solved by each player individualistically in his or her own way, with plenty of freedom as to expression marks (those printed should be taken merely as hints), swells ( $\langle \rangle$ ) and treatment of the twiddly passage-work. This copy is noted down by me from a Duo-Art Pianola record of an actual hand-played performance by me, thereby preserving, as it were photographically, all the rhythmic irregularities of an individual rendering, and is not intended to be followed slavishly, note for note, by other players.

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ULLABY from "Tribute to Foster"

SLOWLY FLOWING: VERY WAYWARD IN TIME

Four right hand notes (████) equal to about M. M. 160

*N. B.*

Before beginning the Lullaby press down the following key silently , catching its damper in the "sustaining" (middle) pedal. Hold down the sustaining pedal till the very end of the piece.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

M. M. J = about 80 slight

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

QUICKEN SOMEWHAT

1 2 3 4 5      1 2 3 4 5      1 2 3 4 5

*f* *f* *mf*

*SLOW OFF*

*ped.* *ped.* *ped.*

6 8 1 5 2 3 5 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11

*ppp* M. M.  $\text{= about } 176$

*mp* *p*

*ped.*

8 1 2 3 4 5 1 2 3 4 5 1 2 3

*mf* *pp* *mf* *mf*

*mp* *p* *3* *5* *3* *5*

**SLIGHTLY FASTER THAN 1st SPEED?**

*ped.*

8 4 5 6 7 8 1 5 1 4 1 5 2 3 4 1 4 1 5 1 2

*slight*

*mp* *mf*

*ped.* *5* *3* *1* *5* *3* *1*

6

8 3 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

Ped.

f

Ped.

8 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 1 2 3 4 5

slightly

p 1

f

f

Ped.

Ped.

8 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14

mf

sf

p 1

mf

8 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11

pp

p

p

Ped.

8.....

12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22

*mp*

*pppp* 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

8.....

23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30

*pppp*

M.M.  $\text{= about } 144$

8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18

*mf* *pp*

*mp* 5 *d = about 69*

*p*

5 (3) 5 5  
4 (2) 4 3  
2 2

pp 5 5 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

The left hand above the right, the knuckles of the unused fingers of the left hand resting against lid of keyboard

Ted. Ted. Ted.

Right hand

*mf* 5 5 5 5  
*p* 3 3 3 3  
2 2 2 2

Right hand always below left

(Echo)

*p* 4 4 4 4  
*ppp* 3 3 3 3

Echo

pp 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

*mp* *ppp*

Ted. Ted. Ted. Ted.

## SLIGHTLY LINGERINGLY

Musical score for piano. The top staff shows a treble clef, a key signature of four sharps, and a common time signature. The bottom staff shows a bass clef, a key signature of one sharp, and a common time signature. The score includes dynamic markings such as *mp*, *rich*, *f*, *mp*, *p*, *pp*, and *ppp*. Fingerings are indicated above the notes, including circled 'mf' and circled '2'. The score also features various rests and note heads.

**between 120 and 132**

*slightly more flowing*  
♩ = about 88

very slight swells (<-->) at will

*the swells in the right hand should not follow the expression marks of the left hand, but run, oftenest, at cross purposes to them.*

quicken very slightly  
slow off slightly

Ted. Ted. Ted. Ted. Ted. Ted.

Rich, like men's voices very lingeringly

Ted. Ted. Ted.

FLOWINGLY ♩ = about 92

Ted.

slight  
suddenly soft

Ted. Ted. Ted. Ted.



1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 1 2 3 4 5 6

(don't soften)

*p* *mp* *p* *mp* suddenly soft *p* *mp*

Ted. Ted. Ted. Ted.

Right hand

7 8 9 10 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

*p* *mp* *mf* *f* *f*

*louden slowly but steadily*

*p* *mp* *mp*

Left hand

Ted. Ted.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

*f* *ff* *ff* *ff* *ff* *ff* *ff*

Ted. Ted. Ted. Ted. Ted. Ted. Ted.

8 9 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

*f* *ff* *ff* *ff* *V*

Ted.



1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

*Ped.* \_\_\_\_\_ *Ped.* \_\_\_\_\_

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12

*ff louden still more*

*mf* *f* *ff*

*louden* *Ped.* \_\_\_\_\_ *Ped.* \_\_\_\_\_ *Ped.* \_\_\_\_\_ *Ped.* \_\_\_\_\_

13 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

*louden*

*ff* *fff* *ff* *ff* *ff* *ff* *ff*

*GRADUALLY SLOWER AND SLOWER*

*Ped.* \_\_\_\_\_

9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19

*ff* *fff* *ff* *ff* *ff* *ff* *ff*

*Ped.* \_\_\_\_\_ *Ped.* \_\_\_\_\_



( = about 184)

*just as loud as you can*

*fff* *24*

**1st SPEED AGAIN**

*(not too loud)* *f*

*d = about 92*

*all you possibly can*

*lingeringly*

*ff*

*f*

*mp*

*mf*

*p*

*Right hand*

*Left hand*

slight

*Left hand*

f                    f

*Left hand*

SLACKEN

ff                    p                    ff                    p

*Left hand*

$\text{♩} = \text{about } 33 (\text{♩} = 66)$

ff                    p

*Left hand*

f                    pp                    mp

*Left hand*

mp                    p

*Right hand*

*Enso*

*p gently*

*p gently*

*mp*

*(mp)* *hold*

*(p)* *hold*

*(p)* *mp*

*more flowingly again*

*pp* *5*

*pp* *5*

*Ad.* \_\_\_\_\_ *Ad.* \_\_\_\_\_

*5* *6* *7* *8* *9* *5* *1* *2* *3* *4* *5* *6* *7* *8* *very slight* *pp*

*5* *6* *7* *8* *9* *5* *1* *2* *3* *4* *5* *6* *7* *8* *very slight* *pp*

*mp* *p* *mp* *(pp)* *8* *pp* *5* *pp* *3* *pp*

*ppp* *5* *pp* *3* *pp* *3*

*Ad.* \_\_\_\_\_

*Easier*

*as below*

**SLOWLY** ♩ = about 38 (♩ = 76)

*Ted.* *Ted.*

*Ted.* *Ted.* *Ted.*

*Ted.* *Ted.* *Ted.*

*Ted.* *Ted.* *Ted.*

*Ted.* *Ted.* *Ted.*

**SLACKEN GRADUALLY**

*Ted.* *Ted.* *Ted.*

(don't slow off in the right hand)

*Right hand*

*Left hand*

*pp (without swells)*

*SLOW OFF LOTS*

*pp*

*mp*

*p*

*Ped.*

**SLOW OFF VERY GRADUALLY (in the right hand)**

*soften more and more*

*mp*

*pp*

*ppp*

*Ped.*

**SLOW OFF LOTS**

*slight more long*

*ppppp*

*die right off*

*pp*

\*