

Sydney Nelson (1800-1862) arranged by Samuel M. Bixby (1833-1912)

Sydney Nelson





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Mary of Argyle

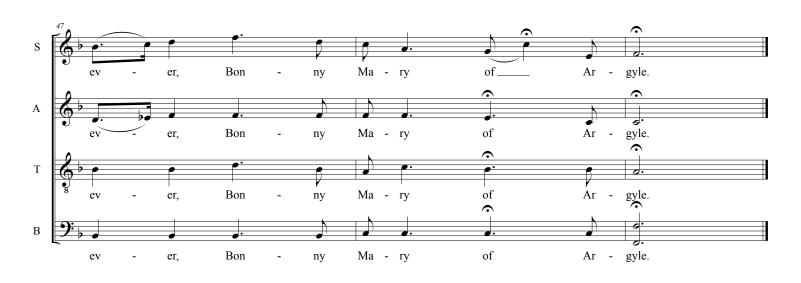


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Sydney Nelson (1800-1862) was born in London, England. He demonstrated musical ability when he was young and was adopted by a gentleman who gave him a good general and musical education. He studied under Sir George Smart, and became a teacher in London. He was a music retailor with lyricist Charles Jeffreys and was elected an associate of the Philharmonic Society. He became a music publisher, but, arranged musical and dramatic entertainment with members of his family, and went on tour in North America, Canada, and Australia. He died in London. He composed an opera, several burletta, many duets, trios, pianoforte pieces, and songs. He was a prolific composer, and wrote about eight hundred pieces.

Samuel Merrill Bixby (1833-1912) was born in Haverhill, New Hampshire. His company manufactured of shoe blackings and shoe dressings, but music was his passion. He was a Sunday school superintendent, choir leader, arranger and composer. He published a number of volumes of hymns and amateur song books. He died in Fordham, New York.

I have heard the mavis singing His love-song to the morn; I have seen the dewdrops clinging To the rose just newly born; But a sweeter song has cheered me At the evening's gentle close, And I've seen an eye still brighter Than the dewdrop on the rose; 'Twas thy voice, my gentle Mary, And thine artless, winning smile, That made this world an Eden, Bonny Mary of Argyle.

Tho' thy voice may lose its sweetness, And thine eye its brightness, too, Tho' thy step may lack its fleetness, And thy hair its sunny hue, Still to me wilt thou be dearer Than all the world shall own; I have lov'd thee for thy beauty, But not for that alone; I have watch'd thy heart, dear Mary, And its goodness was the wile, That has made thee mine forever, Bonny Mary of Argyle.

S. M. Bixby & Co. (1909)

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