

The Means Massacre

Excerpted from Robert P. Tristram
Coffin in *Collected Poems of Robert
P Tristram Coffin* (NY: MacMillan,
1939) pp.175-179.

Fred Blumenthal

Voice

Harpisichord

Drum I

Drum II

Hpschd.

D1

d2

9

Hpschd.

D1

d2

This block contains the musical notation for measures 9 through 12. It features three staves: a grand staff for the Harpsichord (Hpschd.) and two staves for the double bass (D1 and d2). The Hpschd. part includes a treble clef staff with a whole rest in measure 9 and a melodic line starting in measure 10, and a bass clef staff with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a bass line. The D1 and d2 parts consist of rhythmic patterns of eighth and sixteenth notes.

13

Hpschd.

D1

d2

King George raised his jew - eled pen And wrote *death* for a

This block contains the musical notation for measures 13 through 16. It features three staves: a grand staff for the Harpsichord (Hpschd.) and two staves for the double bass (D1 and d2). The Hpschd. part includes a treble clef staff with a melodic line and a bass clef staff with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a bass line. The D1 and d2 parts consist of rhythmic patterns of eighth and sixteenth notes. The lyrics are written below the Hpschd. treble staff.

17

17 thous - and men. King Lou - is spoke a sing - le word, And ov - er - seas the

Hpschd.

D1

d2

21

21 for - est stirred. Nak - ed bod - ies through the brakes Slid like dead - ly

Hpschd.

D1

d2

25

25 cop-per snakes.

Hpschd.

D1

d2

29

29 Bab - y James - 's eyes were tight As morn - ing - glor - ies

Hpschd.

D1

d2

33

33 are at night Ev' - ry bush a - long the rise Held a pair of

Hpschd.

D1

d2

37

37 hung - ry eyes. He had powd - er and two guns, The Lord would look aft - er

Hpschd.

D1

d2

41

his two sons!

Hpschd.

D1

d2

45

The night split with the crack of doom, The tree came through in -

Hpschd.

D1

d2

49

49 to the room. The neigh - bor found the moth - er weep - ing On son and mate for -

Hpschd.

D1

d2

53

53 ev - er sleep - ing. She kept say - ing, "We were five, And I am all the

Hpschd.

D1

d2

57

one a-live.

Hpschd.

D1

d2

61

Mist - ress Means sat by her dead With liv - ing tears up -

Hpschd.

D1

d2

65

65 on her head. A - cross the o - cean dark and broad King George played his

Hpschd.

D1

d2

69

69 harp - si - chord. And Lou - is sat with mist - res - ses Lean - ing on his

Hpschd.

D1

d2

73

73 sat - in knees.

Hpschd.

D1

d2

76

76

Hpschd.

D1

d2

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