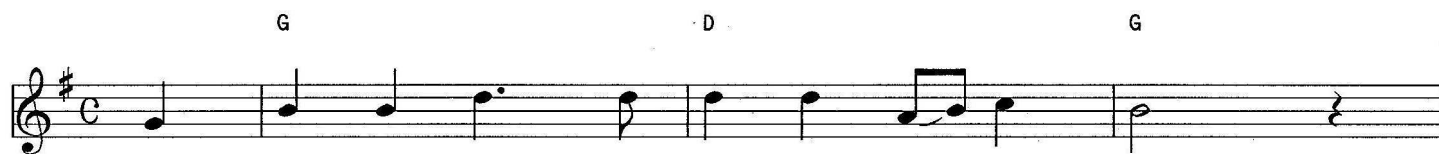


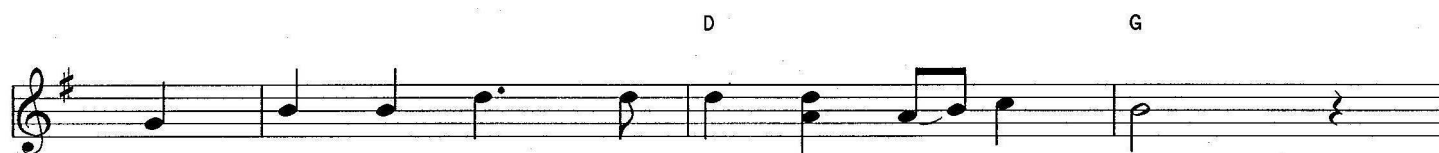
Death and the Lady

No. 16.

Slowly



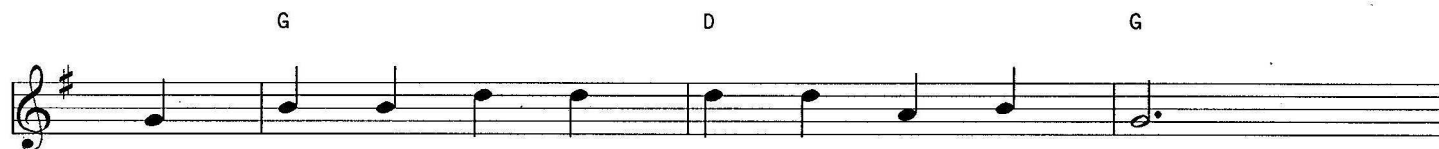
1. [Death] "Fair la -dy lay/throw those cost- ly robes.. a- side,
 3. [Death] "Do you not know me? I will tel.... you then:
 5. [Death] "Talk not of noon! You might as well... be mute;
 7. [Lady - cont.] Are there not man- y bound in pri.... son strong



No long- er may you glo- ry in.... your pride.
 I am he who conqu- ers all the sons.. of men,
 There is no time at all for vain.. dis- pute,
 In bit- ter grief? And souls that lang- uish long,



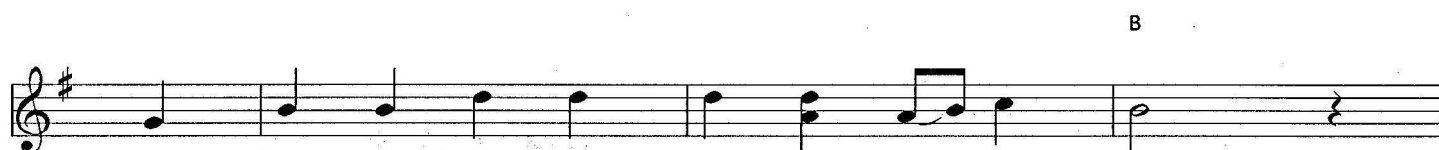
Take leave of all your carn- al vain de- light;
 No pitch of hon- our from my dart is free,
 Your rich- es, gold, and gar- ments, jew- els bright,
 Who could but find the grave a place of rest



I'm come to summ- on you a- way this night."
 My name is Death! Have you not heard of me?"
 Your house, and land, must on new own- ers light."
 From all their grief, by which they are opp- rest?



2. [Lady] "What bold att-empt is this? Pray let... me know
 4. [Lady] "Yes; I have heard of thee, time af-... ter time;
 6. [Lady] "My heart is cold; it trem- bles at.... such news!
 8. "Be- sides there's man- y with a hoar- y head



From whence you come, and with- er I.... must go.
 But be- ing in the glo- ry of... my prime,
 There's/Here's of gold, if you will me... ex- cuse
 And pals- ied joints; from whom all joy.. is fled.

D G D

Shall I, who am a la- dy stoop or bow
 I did not think you would have come so soon;
 And seize on those; and fin- ish thou their strife,
 Rel- ease thou them whose sorr- ows are so great,

G D G

To such a pale faced vis-age? Who art thou?"
 Why must my morn- ing sun go down at noon?"
 Who wretch- ed are, and wear-y of their life.
 And spare my life un- til a lat- er date!"

- | | |
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| <p>9. <u>Death.</u> "Though thy vain heart to riches is inclined
 Yet thou must die and leave them all behind.
 I come to none before their warrant's sealed,
 And, when it is, they must submit, and yield.</p> <p>10. Though some by age be full of grief and pain,
 Till their appointed time they must remain;
 I take no bribe, believe me, this is true.
 Prepare yourself to go; I'm come for you."</p> <p>11. <u>Lady.</u> "But if, oh! If you could for me obtain
 A freedom, and a longer life to reign,
 Fain would I stay, if thou my life would spare.
 I have a daughter, beautiful and fair,
 I wish to see her wed, whom I adore;
 Grant me but this, and I will ask no more."¹</p> <p>12. <u>Death.</u> This is a slender frivolous excuse!
 I have you fast! I will not let you loose!
 Leave her to Providence, for you must go
 Along with me, whether you will or no!</p> <p>13. If Death commands the King to leave his crown
 He at my feet must lay his sceptre down;
 Then, if to Kings I do not favour give
 But cut them off, can you expect to live
 Beyond the limits of your time and space?
 No! I must send you to another place."¹</p> <p>14. <u>Lady.</u> "Ye learned doctors, now exert your skill,
 And let not Death on me obtain his will!
 Prepare your cordials, let me comfort find,
 My gold shall fly like chaff before the wind!"</p> <p>15. "Forebear to call! That skill will never do;
 They are but mortals here as well as you.
 I give the fatal wound, my dart is sure,
 And far beyond the doctor's skill to cure.</p> | <p>16. How freely you can let your riches fly
 To purchase life, rather than yield and die!
 But while you flourished here with all your store,
 You would not give one penny to the poor.</p> <p>17. Though in God's name they sue to you did make
 You would not spare one penny for His sake.
 My Lord beheld wherein you did amiss,
 And calls you hence, to give account of this."</p> <p>18. <u>Lady.</u> "Oh! Heavy news! Must I no longer stay?
 How shall I stand at the great Judgement Day?"
 Down from her eyes the crystal tears did flow,
 She says "None knows what I now undergo!</p> <p>19. Upon my bed of sorrows here I lie!
 My selfish life makes me afraid to die!
 My sins are great, and manifold, and foul;
 Lord Jesus Christ have mercy on my soul!</p> <p>20. Alas! I do deserve a righteous frown!
 Yet pardon, Lord, and pour a blessing down!"
 Then with a dying sigh her heart did break,
 And did the pleasures of this world forsake.</p> <p>21. Thus may we see the mighty rise and fall,
 For cruel Death shows no respect at all
 To those of either high or low degree.
 The great submit to Death as well as we.</p> <p>22. Though they are gay, their life is but a span,
 A lump of clay, so vile a creature's man!
 Then happy they whom God hath made his care,
 And die in God, and ever happy are!</p> <p>23. The grave's the market place where all must meet
 Both rich and poor, as well as small and great;
 If life were merchandise, that gold could buy,
 The rich would live - only the poor would die.</p> |
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1. Note (1908): Repeat last part of tune.