

THE AGE OF EXPLORATION

Now is the time, now is the precious hour:
A clean, new morning dawns upon the beach:
That new day's light is nearly in my reach -
The light of freedom, and of freedom's power.

All you who went before me, sisters all:
Your sons and husbands charted the unknown;
You were those fixed ones who stayed at home -
Who never learned to fly nor learned to fall.

Or if you went in ships you never were
The captain who sets course through mighty seas.
Though few are captains, still we can be free
To seek our vision, and that vision's prayer.

Now dawns upon the world, now comes that hour
When we - as women - find our voice, our power.

Margaret Hardy

This is the voice of an unnamed, contemporary young woman.

The Age of Exploration

Poem by Margaret Hardy

1 Andante $\text{♩} = 80$ *rubato* *p* Glenn Hardy

Voice

Now is the time, _____ now is the pre-cious hour:

Harpisichord

Violoncello *f > p*

7 V. _____ A clean, new mor - ning _____ dawns u - pon the

Hps.

Vc

14 V. beach; _____ That new day's light is

Hps. *colla voce* 1 x 8

Vc *mf*

Detailed description of the musical score: The score is for a vocal piece with instrumental accompaniment. It is in 4/4 time and starts with a tempo of Andante (♩ = 80). The key signature has one sharp (F#). The score is divided into systems. The first system (measures 1-6) features the voice part with lyrics 'Now is the time, _____ now is the pre-cious hour:'. The Harpsichord and Violoncello parts are present but contain rests. The second system (measures 7-13) features the voice part with lyrics 'A clean, new mor - ning _____ dawns u - pon the'. The Violin (V.) part enters with a melodic line. The Harpsichord (Hps.) and Violoncello (Vc) parts continue with accompaniment. The third system (measures 14-18) features the voice part with lyrics 'beach; _____ That new day's light is'. The Violin (V.) part continues with a melodic line. The Harpsichord (Hps.) and Violoncello (Vc) parts continue with accompaniment. Performance instructions include *rubato*, *p*, *f > p*, *mf*, and *colla voce*. A '1 x 8' marking is present in the Harpsichord part.

19 *f*

V. near - ly in my reach _____ The light of free - dom _____

Hps.

Vc

24 *tr*

V. _____ and of free - dom's power _____

Hps.

Vc


29 *Faster* ♩ = 120

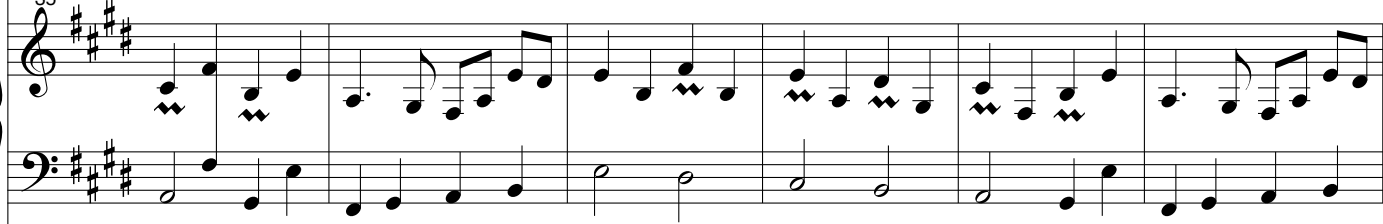
V. _____

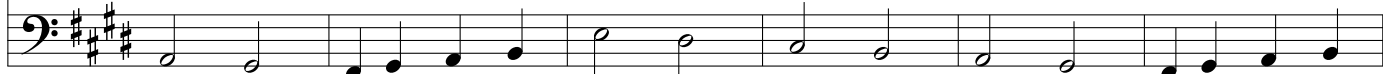
Hps. 2 x 8

Vc *f*


35 *mf*

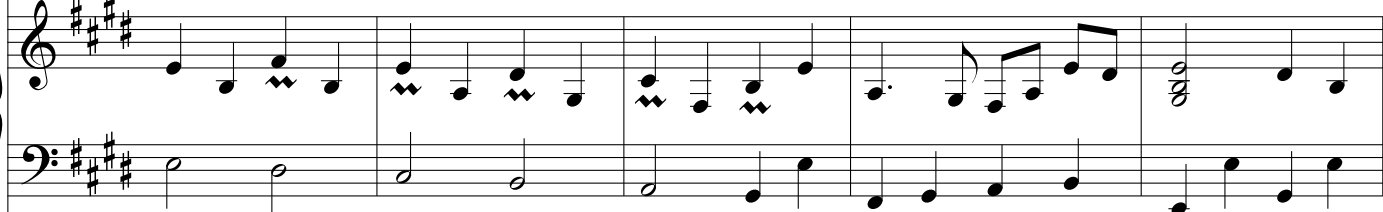
V. 
 Now is the time, _____


Hps. 

Vc 

41

V. 
 now is the pre - cious hour: _____ A clean, new

Hps. 

Vc 

46

V. 
 mor - ning _____ dawns up - on the beach _____

Hps. 

Vc 

51

V. That new day's light is near - ly in my

Hps.

Vc.

56

V. reach The light of free - dom and of free - dom's

Hps.

Vc.

61

V. power.

Hps.

Vc.

66

V. 

Hps. 

Vc. 

71

V. 

Hps. 

Vc. 

75

V. 

Hps. 

Vc. 


79

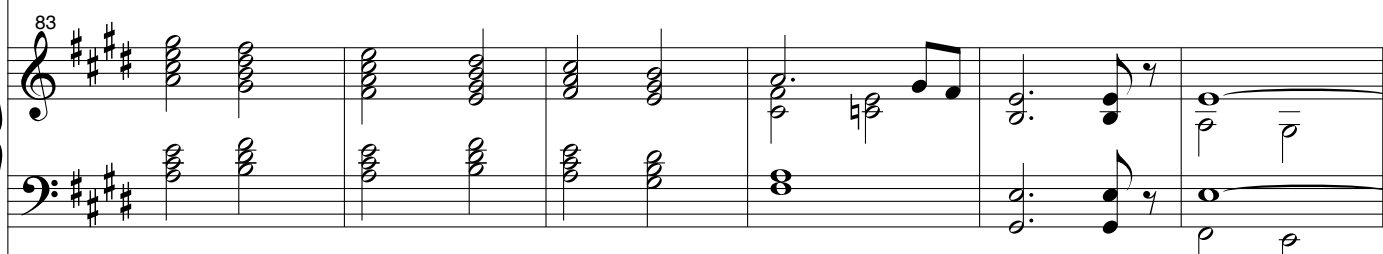
V. 
 known. 


Hps. 

Vc. 


83


V. 
 You were those fix - ed ones Who stay - ed at home - - - - who


Hps. 

Vc. 

89

V. 
 nev - er learned to fly or learned to fall.

Hps. 

Vc. 

94

V. Or if you went in ships you nev - er were ——— The cap - tain who sets

Hps.

Vc.

99

V. course ——— through might - y seas ——— Though few are cap - tains,

Hps.

Vc.

104

V. still we can — be free To seek our vi - sion ——— and that

Hps.

Vc.

109

V. *vi - sion's prayer.*

Hps.

Vc.

114

V. *Now dawns up -*

Hps.

Vc.

120

V. *on the world, now comes that hour When*

Hps. *simile*

Vc.

126

V. we, - as wo - men, find our voice,

Hps.

Vc

132

V. our power.

Hps.

Vc

138

V.

Hps.

Vc