

On Liberty and Slavery

on the poem of the same name by

George Moses Horton

music by

Hilton Kean Jones

♩ = 72

Women

Men

Piano

ff

5

Unison

f 1. A-las! and am I born for this, — To wear this dove Which long has

f Unison

5

f

9

slav - ish chain? *mf* De - priv - ed of all cre - at - ed bliss, — Through hard - ship, coo - ed for thee, And breath - ed her notes from Af - ric's grove, — The sound of

mf

9

mf

On Liberty and Slavery

Div.

12
 12
 12
 12

toil, and pain!
 Lib - er - ty.
 2. How long have I in bond - age
 lain, And lan - guished
 prize, So of - ten

15
 15
 15
 15

to be free!
 sought by blood
 A - las! and must I still com - plain
 We crave thy sa - cred sun to rise, The gift of

Div.

18
 18
 18
 18

lib - er - ty.
 na - ture's God!
 3. Oh, Heav'n! and is there no re - lief This side the
 8. Bid Slav - 'ry hide her hag - gard face, And bar - ba -

f *Unis.*

21 *Div.* *Unis.*

si ri - lent sm grave fly; To soothe the pain, to quell the grief And an-guish see the sad dis - grace In which en -

Div. *Unis.*

25 *Div.*

of a slave? I lie.

Div. *mf*

30 *Unis.*

4. Come, Lib-er-ty, thou cheer-ful sound, Roll through my rav - ished ears! *f* Come, let my 9. Dear Lib-er-ty! up - on thy breast, I lan - guish to re - spire; And like the

mf *Unis.* *f*

34

grief in joys be drowned, And drive a way my fears. *mf* 5. Say un - to
 Swan up - on her nest, I'd to thy smiles re - tire. 10. Ol'lest a -

34

f

34

mf

39

foul op - pres - sion, Cease: Ye ty-rants rage no more, *f* And let the
 sy - lum-heav'n - ly balm! Un - to thy boughs I flee And in thy

39

mf

39

f

43

joy - ful trump of peace, Now bid the vas - sal
 shades the storm shall calm, With songs of

43

Div.

43

Div.

47 *ff* soar.

47 *ff*

51 *Unis.*
f
6. Soar on the pin-ions of that
f
Unis.

55 *Div.* *Lib* er *ff* ty!
Div. *ff* *rit.*

George Moses Horton was an African-American poet from North Carolina, the first to be published in the Southern United States. His book was published in 1828 while he was still enslaved. He did not gain freedom until 1865, late during the Civil War. -- Wikipedia Born: Northampton County, North Carolina, NC Died: 1883, Education: University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Books: Naked genius, The Black bard of North Carolina