

Once to Every Man and Nation

Unison accompanied or S.S.A.T.B.

for Harry Dodge

James Russell Lowell, 1845

Crys Armbrust, 2006

Tune: *Port Wing*

Moderato ♩ = 64

Solo

mf 1. Once to ev - 'ry man and na - tion Comes the mo - ment to de - cide,

* In the strife of truth with false-hood, For the good or e - vil side;

9 Some great cause, God's new Mes - si - ah, Of - fring each the bloom or blight,

13 And the choice goes by for ev - er 'Twixt that dark - ness and that light.

The musical score is written for a solo voice and piano. It features a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#) and a 4/4 time signature. The tempo is marked 'Moderato' with a quarter note equal to 64 beats. The score is divided into four systems, each with a measure number (1, 5, 9, 13) at the beginning of the vocal line. The vocal line is in treble clef, and the piano accompaniment is in bass clef. The piano part consists of a steady eighth-note pattern in the left hand and a more melodic line in the right hand. The lyrics are printed below the vocal line.

*The bass obbligato here, and in verse 4, may be performed by a cello or other suitable instrument.

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S. *mp* 2. Then to side with truth is no - ble, When we share her wretch - ed crust,

A. *mp* E're her cause bring fame and pro - fit And 'tis pros-p'rous to be just;

S. *mf* Then it is the brave man choos - es, While the cow - ard stands a - side

A. *f* Till the mul - ti - tude make vir - tue Of the faith they had de - nied.

S.A. *f* 33. By the light of burn - ing mar - trys Je - sus' bleed - ing feet I track,

T.B.

Toil - ing up new Cal-varies ev - er With the cross that turns not back;

ff 41. New oc - ca - sions teach new du - ties, Time makes an - cient good un-couth;

f 45. They must up - ward still and on - ward who would keep a - breast of truth.

All ⁴⁹

mf 4. Though the cause of e - vil pros - per, Yet 'tis truth a - lone is strong;

⁵³

Though her por - tion be the scaf - fold, And u - pon the throne be wrong,

⁵⁷

Yet that scaf - fold sways the fu - ture, And, be - hind the dim un-known,

⁶¹

Stand - eth God with - in the sha - dow Keep - ing watch a - bove his own.

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Piano

The musical score is written for piano in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of four systems of music, each with a treble and bass staff. The lyrics are printed below the treble staff. The first system starts at measure 1 and ends at measure 4. The second system starts at measure 5 and ends at measure 8. The third system starts at measure 9 and ends at measure 12. The fourth system starts at measure 13 and ends at measure 16. The score is a piano accompaniment for a song.

Once to ev - 'ry man and na - tion Comes the mo - ment to de - cide,
Then to side with truth is no - ble, When we share her wretch - ed crust,
By the light of burn - ing mar - tries Je - sus' bleed - ing feet I track,
Though the cause of ev - il pros per, Yet 'tis truth a - lone is strong;

5
In the strife of truth with false hood, For the good or e - vil side;
E're her cause bring fame and pro - fit And 'tis pros - p'rous to be just;
Toil - ing up new Cal - varies ev - er With the cross that turns not back;
Though her por - tion be the scaf - fold, And up - on the throne be wrong,

9
Some great cause, God's new Mes - si - ah, Of - fering each the bloom or blight,
Then it is the brave man choos - es, While the cow - ard stands a - side
New oc - ca - sions teach new du - ties, Time makes an - cient good un - couth;
Yet that scaf - fold sways the fu - ture, And, be - hind the dim un - known,

13
And the choice goes by for ev - er 'Twixt that dark - ness and that light.
Till the mul - ti - tude make vir tue Of the faith they had de - nied.
They must up - ward still and on - ward Who would keep a - breast of truth.
Stand - eth God with - in the sha - dow Keep - ing watch a - bove his own.

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