

Lamentation Over Boston: By the Rivers of Watertown

William Billings (1746-1800)
Edited by David Harris, 2007

mf ($\text{♩} = 80$) *p*

Soprano Treble
Alto Counter
Tenor First Singing Part
Bass

By the Riv - ers of Wa - ter - town we sat down and wept, we
By the Riv - ers of Wa - ter - town we sat down and wept, we
By the Riv - ers of Wa - ter - town we sat down and wept, we
By the Riv - ers of Wa - ter - town we sat down and wept, we

7 *mp* *mf* *f*

wept, we wept, we wept when
wept, we wept, we wept when
wept, we wept, we wept when
wept, we wept, we wept when

13 *mp*

we re - mem - ber'd thee, O Bos - ton, when we re - mem - ber'd thee, O
we re - mem - ber'd thee, O Bos - ton, when we re - mem - ber'd thee, O
we re - mem - ber'd thee, O Bos - ton, when we re - mem - ber'd thee, O
we re - mem - ber'd thee, O Bos - ton, when we re - mem - ber'd thee, O

// *p***mf*

Bos - ton. Lord God of Heav - en, pre - serve them, de -
 Bos - ton. As for our Friends, Lord God of Heav - en, pre - serve them, de -
 Bos - ton. Lord God of Heav - en, pre - serve them, de -
 Bos - ton. As for our Friends, Lord God of Heav - en, pre - serve them, de -

fend them, de - liv - er and re - store them un - to us, pre - serve them, de - fend them, de -
 fend them, de - liv - er and re - store them un - to us, pre - serve them, de - fend them, de -
 fend them, de - liv - er and re - store them un - to us, pre - serve them, de - fend them, de -
 fend them, de - liv - er and re - store them un - to us, pre - serve them, de - fend them, de -

liv - er and re - store them un - to us a - gain.
 liv - er and re - store them un - to us a - gain.
 liv - er and re - store them un - to us a - gain. *mp**
 liv - er and re - store them un - to us a - gain. For

* Billings notes that "Much caution should be used in singing a Solo [antiphonal section], in my Opinion Two or Three at most are enough to sing it well, it should be sung as Soft as an Eccho [sic.], in order to keep the Hearers in an agreeable Suspense till all the Parts join together in a full Chorus, as smart and strong as possible. -*The New-England Psalm-Singer*, 31.

37

they that held them in Bond - age re - quir'd of them to take up

43

For - bid it, Lord God, for - bid,
 For - bid it, Lord God, for - bid,
 For - bid it, Lord God, for - bid,
 Arms a - gainst their Breth - ren. For - bid it, Lord God, for - bid,

50

for - bid it, Lord God, for - bid that those who have suck-ed Bos -
 for - bid it, Lord God, for - bid that those who have suck-ed Bos -
 for - bid it, Lord God, for - bid that those who have suck-ed Bos -
 for - bid it, Lord God, for - bid that those who have suck-ed Bos -

NB

ton - i - an Breasts should thirst for A - mer - i - can Blood. A

ton - i - an Breasts should thirst for A - mer - i - can Blood. A

8 ton - i - an Breasts should thirst for A - mer - i - can Blood. A

ton - i - an Breasts should thirst for A - mer - i - can Blood. A

connected, burdensome

voice was heard in Rox-bur-y which ec-cho'd thro' the Con-ti-nent, weep - - - ing,

voice was heard in Rox-bur-y which ec-cho'd thro' the Con-ti-nent,

8 voice was heard in Rox-bur-y which ec-cho'd thro' the Con-ti-nent, Weep - ing

voice was heard in Rox-bur-y which ec-cho'd thro' the Con-ti-nent, weep - - - ing,

weep - ing. weep - - - ing, weep - ing, weep -

weep - - - ing weep - - - ing, weep-ing for

8 weep - - - ing, weep - ing weep-ing for

weep - - - ing, weep - ing for Bos - ton be - cause of their Dan - ger,

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5

74

ing weep - ing for Bos - ton, weep - - - ing for Bos - ton be -
 Bos - ton, weep - ing for Bos - ton, weep - ing weep - ing for Bos - ton be -
 8 Bos - ton be - cause of their Dan - ger, weep - - - ing for Bos - ton be -
 weep - ing weep - ing for Bos - ton, weep - ing, weep - ing for Bos - ton be -

80

mf slightly faster; $\text{♩} = 96$

cause of their Dan - ger. Is Bos - ton my dear Town, is it my na - tive
 cause of their Dan - ger. Is Bos - ton my dear Town, is it my na - tive
 8 cause of their Dan - ger. Is Bos - ton my dear Town, is it my na - tive
 cause of their Dan - ger. Is Bos - ton my dear Town, is it my na - tive

86

Place? For since their Ca - lam - i - ty I do ear - nest - ly re - mem - ber it still.
 Place? For since their Ca - lam - i - ty I do ear - nest - ly re - mem - ber it still.
 8 Place? For since their Ca - lam - i - ty I do ear - nest - ly re - mem - ber it still. I do
 Place? For since their Ca - lam - i - ty I do ear - nest - ly re - mem - ber it still.

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I do ear - nest - ly. I do ear - nest - ly re - mem - ber it still.

I do ear - nest - ly re - mem - ber it still.

ear - nest - ly I do ear - nest - ly re - mem - ber it still.

I do ear - nest - ly re - mem - ber it still.

marked
1st time: *mp-f*
2nd time: *f-ff*

If I for-get thee, if I for-get thee, yea, if I do not re - mem - ber

If I for-get thee, if I for-get thee, yea, if I do not re - mem - ber

If I for-get thee, if I for-get thee, yea, if I do not re - mem - ber

If I for-get thee, if I for-get thee, yea, if I do not re - mem - ber

thee, Then let my num - bers cease to flow, Then be my Muse un -

thee, Then let my num - bers cease to flow, Then be my Muse un -

thee. Then let my num - bers cease to flow, Then be my Muse un -

thee. Then let my num - bers cease to flow, Then be my Muse un -

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NB

7

107

kind, Then let my Tongue for - get to move and

kind, Then let my Tongue for - get to move and

kind, Then let my Tongue for - get to move and

kind, Then let my Tongue for - get to move and

112

ev - er be con - fin'd; Let hor - rid Jar - gon split the Air and

ev - er be con - fin'd Let hor - rid Jar - gon split the Air and

ev - er be con - fin'd Let hor - rid Jar - gon split the Air and

ev - er be con - fin'd Let hor - rid Jar - gon split the Air and

117

rive my nerves a - sun - der, Let hate - ful dis - cord greet the ear as

rive my nerves a - sun - der, Let hate - ful dis - cord greet the ear as

rive my nerves a - sun - der, Let hate - ful dis - cord greet the ear as

rive my nerves a - sun - der, Let hate - ful dis - cord greet the ear as

122

ter - ri - ble as Thun - der. Let har - mo - ny be ban - ish'd hence and
 ter - ri - ble as Thun - der. Let har - mo - ny be ban - ish'd hence and
 ter - ri - ble as Thun - der. Let har - mo - ny be ban - ish'd hence and
 ter - ri - ble as Thun - der Let har - mo - ny be ban - ish'd hence and

127

Con - so - nance de - part; Let dis - so - nance e - rect her throne and
 Con - so - nance de - part; Let dis - so - nance e - rect her throne and
 Con - so - nance de - part; Let dis - so - nance e - rect her throne and
 Con - so - nance de - part; Let dis - so - nance e - rect her throne and

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reign with - in my Heart. Heart. By the Riv - ers of
 reign with - in my Heart. Heart. By the Riv - ers of
 reign with - in my Heart. Heart. By the Riv - ers of
 reign with - in my Heart. Heart. By the Riv - ers of

137

Wa - ter - town we sat down and wept, we wept,

Wa - ter - town we sat down and wept, we wept,

8 Wa - ter - town we sat down and wept, we wept,

Wa - ter - town we sat down and wept, we wept,

142

we wept, we wept when we re - mem - ber'd

we wept, we wept when we re - mem - ber'd

8 we wept, we wept when we re - mem - ber'd

we wept, we wept when we re - mem - ber'd

148

slow to the end

thee, O Bos - ton, when we re - mem - ber'd thee, O Bos - ton.

thee, O Bos - ton, when we re - mem - ber'd thee, O Bos - ton.

8 thee, O Bos - ton, when we re - mem - ber'd thee, O Bos - ton.

thee, O Bos - ton, when we re - mem - ber'd thee, O Bos - ton.