

THREE
CHARACTER SKETCHES
of OLD LONDON

for the Piano

by

HEALEY WILLAN

The Policeman
The Flower Girl
The Whistling Errand Boy

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CHARACTER SKETCHES OF OLD LONDON

HEALEY WILLAN

I. The Policeman

*With measured tread, in majesty he's girt,
For helping hand or reprimand alert.
With tales untold a twinkle in his eye
The sovereign of the street is swinging by.*

Slowly, with humour but in strict time

PIANO

pp (soft pedal)

p gradually getting louder

mp (lift soft pedal)

mf

ff

Ped. * *Ped.* * *Ped.* * *Ped.* * *Ped.* *

Ped. * *Ped.* * *Ped.* * *Ped.* * *Ped.* *

Ped. * *Ped.* * *Ped.* * *Ped.* * *Ped.* *

Ped. * *Ped.* * *Ped.* * *Ped.* * *Ped.* *

First system of musical notation. The treble staff contains a series of chords and melodic lines, with fingerings 5, 3, 4, 2, 3 indicated above the final measures. The bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment. The system concludes with the instruction *ped.* followed by an asterisk.

Second system of musical notation. The treble staff features a melodic line with a dynamic marking of *f* (forte) and the instruction *gradually getting softer*. The bass staff continues the accompaniment. The system concludes with the instruction *ped.* followed by an asterisk.

Third system of musical notation. The treble staff contains a melodic line with a dynamic marking of *mf* (mezzo-forte). The bass staff provides accompaniment. The system concludes with the instruction *ped.* followed by an asterisk.

Fourth system of musical notation. The treble staff contains a melodic line with a dynamic marking of *p* (piano) and the instruction *p (soft pedal to end)*. The bass staff provides accompaniment. The system concludes with the instruction *pp* (pianissimo) and the instruction *ped.* followed by an asterisk.

Fifth system of musical notation. The treble staff contains a melodic line with a dynamic marking of *ppp* (pianissimo). The bass staff provides accompaniment. The system concludes with the instruction *ped.* followed by an asterisk.

II. The Flower Girl

*Basket a-brimming, with blossoms a-glow—
Glimmer of gardens there, petals a-blow—
Fragrance of flowers from fields far away
"Who'll buy a bunch to-day, who'll buy to-day?"*

Waltz time, gently

PIANO

mf

Pedal with each bar

Detailed description: This system shows the first two measures of the piano accompaniment. The music is in 3/4 time with a key signature of two sharps (D major). The right hand features a melody with fingerings 4, 2, 1, 5, 4, 2, 1, 5, 3, 2, 1, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1. The left hand provides a steady bass line with fingerings 2, 1. The dynamic marking is *mf* and the instruction 'Pedal with each bar' is written below the staff.

Detailed description: This system contains measures 3 and 4. The right hand continues the melodic line with fingerings 2, 1. The left hand maintains the bass line with fingerings 5, 2, 1, 3 and 5, 3, 2, 1.

f *cresc.*

Detailed description: This system contains measures 5 and 6. The dynamic marking changes to *f* with a *cresc.* (crescendo) hairpin. The right hand has fingerings 5, 2, 1, 3 and 5, 3, 2, 1. The left hand continues with fingerings 5, 2, 1, 3 and 5, 3, 2, 1.

ff

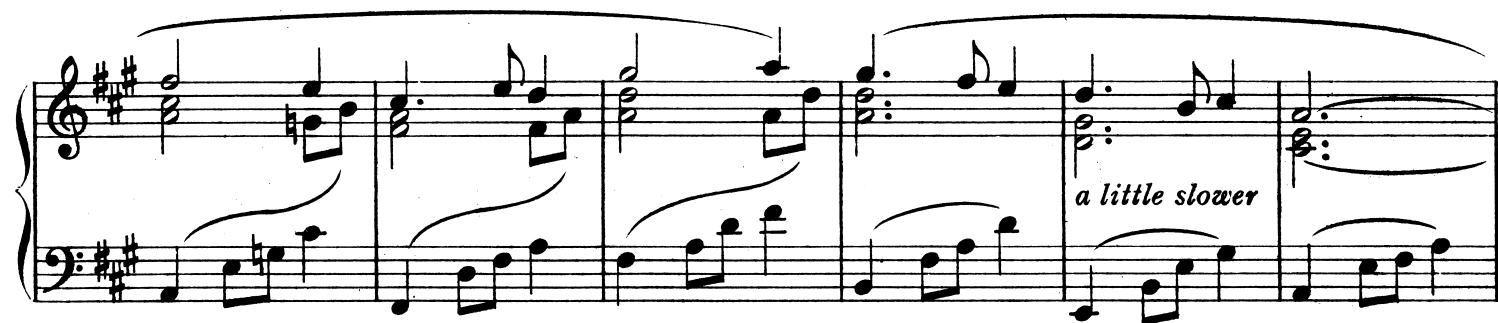
Detailed description: This system contains measures 7 and 8. The dynamic marking is *ff* (fortissimo). The right hand has fingerings 5, 3, 2, 1. The left hand continues with fingerings 5, 2, 1, 3 and 5, 3, 2, 1.

f *mf* *p*


Detailed description: This system contains measures 9 and 10. The dynamics are *f*, *mf*, and *p*. The right hand has fingerings 5, 4, 2, 2. The left hand continues with fingerings 5, 2, 1, 3 and 5, 3, 2, 1.



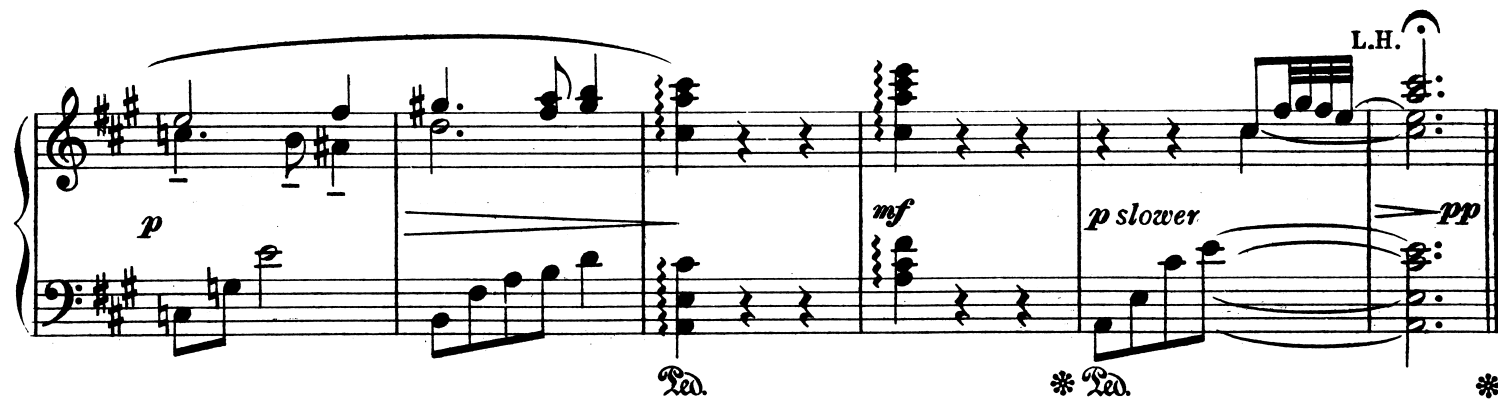
pp (soft pedal) *a little slower* *mf in time* (lift soft pedal)



a little slower



f in time *p*



p *mf* *p slower* *pp*

L.H.

ped. * *ped.* *

III. The Whistling Errand Boy

*Listen to his whistle down the distant street,
Thoughts as light as thistle-down, and steps as fleet,
With ev'ry bell a joy to ring upon his way.
There'll be an errand boy to sing the livelong day.*

Lively

PIANO

The musical score is written for piano in 2/4 time. It consists of five systems of two staves each. The first system is marked *mf* and *Lively*. The melody in the right hand is characterized by eighth-note patterns and triplet figures. The left hand provides a steady accompaniment with chords and moving lines. Fingerings are indicated by numbers 1-5 above or below notes. The key signature has two sharps (F# and C#).

brightly

a little slower *mf in time*

dim. *pp* *f* *sf*