

274. Mortality and Immortality

The musical score is written for a four-part vocal ensemble (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) and piano accompaniment. It is in the key of B-flat major (three flats) and 3/4 time. The score consists of two systems. The first system contains four verses of lyrics. The second system contains two verses of lyrics. The piano accompaniment is written in the bass clef, featuring a steady eighth-note bass line and chords that support the vocal parts. The vocal parts are written in the treble clef, with the Soprano part having a higher range than the other parts. The lyrics are printed below the vocal staves, with each line of music corresponding to a line of text.

1. Be - fore my jour - ney is com - plete My vi - gor fails, my years de - cline;
2. O cut not short my life's brief day, O Thou Whose years e - ter - nal run,
3. The earth and heav'n's shall pass a - way, Like ves - ture worn and laid a - side,
4. Thy ser - vants' chil - dren shall re - main For e - ver - more be - fore Thy face;

My God, O spare me, I en - treat; The days of life are whol - ly Thine.
Thou Who didst earth's foun - da - tions lay, Cre - a - tor of the stars and sun.
But change - less Thou shalt live for aye, Thy years for - e - ver shall a - bide.
En - du - ring ho - nor they shall gain, E - sta - blished e - ver in Thy grace.