

105.The Brevity of Human Life

The musical score is written for a two-part setting (Soprano and Bass) in 6/8 time, with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is primarily composed of eighth and sixteenth notes, with some rests. The lyrics are arranged in two systems, each with six numbered lines of text. The first system covers lines 1 through 6, and the second system covers lines 7 through 12. The lyrics are written in a simple, sans-serif font, with hyphens used for syllables that span across lines. The music is written on a grand staff with a treble clef for the upper part and a bass clef for the lower part. The lyrics are placed below the notes, with some lines of text aligned under specific notes or rests. The overall structure is a simple, homophonic setting of the text.

1.I con-stant care will take, Lest sin-ful words they hear; My
2.I dumb and si-lent stood, No words of mine were heard; I
3.My heart was all on fire, With bur-ning thoughts suppressed; My
4.My end, Lord, make me know, My days, how soon they fail; And
5.To Thy e-ter-nal thought My days are but a span; To
6.Man lives in emp-ty show, His anx-ious care is vain, He

lips their si-lence shall not break While wick-ed men are near.
e'en re-frained from speak-ing good, Till sor-row's deeps were stirred.
tongue was loosed, my soul's de-sire I then to God ad-dressed.
to my thought-ful spi-rit show How weak I am and frail.
Thee my years ap-pear as nought, A breath at best is man.
hoards his wealth, and does not know Who shall pos-sess his gain.