

There were ninety and nine

J.F. Bridge, 1844-1924

Good Shepherd

The first system of musical notation consists of a grand staff with a treble clef on the upper staff and a bass clef on the lower staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The music features a melody in the treble clef and a harmonic accompaniment in the bass clef. The melody begins with a quarter note G4, followed by quarter notes A4 and B4, then a half note C5. The accompaniment starts with a chord of G4 and B4 in the bass clef.

The second system of musical notation continues the piece. It begins with a measure rest in the treble clef, followed by a quarter note G4. The melody continues with quarter notes A4 and B4, then a half note C5. The accompaniment consists of chords in the bass clef.

The third system of musical notation includes a measure rest in the treble clef, followed by a quarter note G4. The melody continues with quarter notes A4 and B4, then a half note C5. The accompaniment consists of chords in the bass clef. A bracketed section of the music is labeled "Omit on 3rd Verse".

The fourth system of musical notation includes a measure rest in the treble clef, followed by a quarter note G4. The melody continues with quarter notes A4 and B4, then a half note C5. The accompaniment consists of chords in the bass clef. A bracketed section of the music is labeled "Omit on 3rd Verse".

There were ninety and nine that safely lay
In the shelter of the fold;
But one was out on the hills away,
Far off from the gates of gold.
Away on the mountains wild and bare;
Away from the tender Shepherd's care.

"Lord, Thou hast here Thy ninety and nine;
Are they not enough for Thee?"
But the Shepherd made answer: "This of Mine
Has wandered away from Me.
And although the road be rough and steep,
I go to the desert to find My sheep."

But none of the ransomed ever knew
How deep were the waters crossed;
Nor how dark was the night the Lord passed through
Ere He found His sheep that was lost.
Out in the desert He heard its cry;
'Twas sick and helpless and ready to die.

"Lord, whence are those blood-drops all the way,
That mark out the mountain's track?"
"They were shed for one who had gone astray
Ere the Shepherd could bring him back."
"Lord, whence are Thy hands so rent and torn?"
"They're pierced tonight by many a thorn."

And all through the mountains, thunder-riv'n,
And up from the rocky steep,
There arose a glad cry to the gate of heav'n,
"Rejoice! I have found My sheep!"
And the angels echoed around the throne,
"Rejoice, for the Lord brings back His own!"

Elizabeth Clephane