

My mind to me a kingdom is

Dow Partbooks (Christ Church, Oxford MSS 984-988)

William Byrd
(ca.1540-1623)

Transcription
Anton Höger

Sopran

My mynde to me a

Git. 1

Git. 2

4

king - dom is such per - fect joy ther - in I

4

4

2
7

finde, that it ex-cells all o-ther bliss

10

that god or na-ture hath as-sinde:

13

tho much I want that most men have

16

yet stil my mynde for - bids to crave

19

tho much I want that most men

22

have yet stil my mynd for - bids to

4
25

crave yet stil my mynd for - bids to crave.

25

25

2. No princely port nor welthie store,
no force to winne a victorie,
no wyly wit to salve a sore,
no shape to winne a loving eye:
to none of these I yeld as thrall,
for why my minde despise them all.

3. I see that plentie surfeits oft,
and hastie clymbers soonest fall:
I see hat such as are a loft,
mishap doth threaten most of all:
these get with toyle and keepe with feare,
such cares my minde can never beare

4. I presse to beare no haughtie sway,
I wish no more then may suffice:
I doe no more than well I may,
look what I want my minde supplies,
loe thus I triumph like a King,
my minde content with any thing.

5. I laugh not at anothers losse,
nor grudge not at anothers gaine:
no worldly waves my minde can tosse,
I brooke that is anothers bane:
I feare no foe nor nor fawne on friend,
I loth not lyfe nor dread mine end.

6. My wealth is health and perfecte ease,
and conscience cleere my chiefe defence,
I never seeke by brybes to please,
nor by desert to give offence:
thus doe I live, thus will I dye,
would all did so as well as I.