

THEY ARE AT REST

by EDWARD ELGAR.

Edited by John Morrison.

They are at rest was composed by Elgar in 1909 as an elegy to be sung in the service on 22 January 1910, at the Royal Mausoleum near Frogmore House in Windsor Home Park, on the ninth anniversary of the death of Queen Victoria. It was due to concern for the health of her son King Edward VII that the ninth anniversary was chosen for special commemoration rather than wait another year for the tenth.

The two verses are stanzas from a short poem 'Rest' by Cardinal Newman. The second stanza is omitted.

It was published by Novellos in 1910.

It is for *A cappella* choir, and no accompaniment has been provided, being thought unnecessary for good experienced singers even for the convenience at practice. It has been heard effectively performed with a start *molto lento*, even at quaver (not crotchet) = 60 or less.

John Morrison, March 2020

Rest.

THEY are at rest.

We may not stir the heaven of their repose
By rude invoking voice, or prayer addrest
In waywardness to those
Who in the mountain grotts of Eden lie,
And hear the fourfold river as it murmurs by.

[They hear it sweep
In distance down the dark and savage vale;
But they at rocky bed or current deep
Shall never more grow pale.
They hear, and meekly muse, as fain to know
How long untired, unspent, that giant stream shall flow]

And soothing sounds
Blending with the neighb'ring waters as they glide;
Posted along the haunted garden's bounds,
Angelic forms abide,
Echoing, as words of watch, o'er lawn and grove
The verses of that hymn which Seraphs chant above.

John Henry Newman (1801-1890)

THEY ARE AT REST.

ELEGY.

John Henry Newman

Edward Elgar, 1909.

Transcribed by John Morrison, 2020.

Lento e sostenuto.

S. *p* They are at rest, _____ they are at rest; _____ *pp ten. rit.* We may not stir the

A. *p* They are at rest, _____ they are at rest; _____ *pp ten. rit.* We may not stir the

T. *p* They are at rest, _____ they are at rest; _____ *pp ten. rit.* We may not stir the

B. *p* They are at rest, _____ they are at rest; _____ *pp ten. rit.* We may not stir the

a tempo p

4

heav'n of their re - pose By rude in - vo - king voice, or prayer ad - drest In way _____

heav'n- of their re - pose By rude _____ in - vo - king voice, or prayer ad - drest In way _____

heav'n of their re - pose By rude _____ in - vo - king voice, or prayer ad - drest In

heav'n of their re - pose By rude in - vo - king voice, or prayer ad - drest In way _____

dim. cresc. dim.

Tranquillo.

7

_____ ward - ness to those Who in the moun - tain grots of E - den lie, _____

_____ ward - ness to those Who in the moun - tain grots of E - den lie, And

way - ward - ness to those Who in the moun - tain grots _____ of E - den lie, And

_____ ward - ness to those Who in the moun - tain grots of E - den

dim. e rit. pp

10 *espress.*

And hear the four - fold riv - er as it mur - murs by.

dim. *p* *pp*

hear the four - fold riv - er, the four - fold riv - er as it mur - murs by.

dim. *p* *pp*

hear the four - fold riv - er, the four - fold riv - er as it mur - murs by.

dim. *p* *pp*

lie, And hear the four - fold riv - er as it mur - murs by.

14 *tempo.*

And sooth - ing sounds Blend with the neigh - b'ring wa - ters as they glide;

mf *p*

And sooth - ing sounds Blend with the neigh - b'ring wa - ters as they glide; Post

mf *p*

And sooth - ing sounds Blend with the neigh - b'ring wa - ters as they glide; Post

mf *p*

And sooth - ing sounds Blend with the neigh - b'ring wa - ters as they glide;

16 *cresc.* *f* *dim.* *p*

Post - ed a - long the haunt - ed gar - den's bounds, An - gel - ic forms a - bide, E -

cresc. *f* *dim.* *pp*

- ed a - long the haunt - ed gar - den's bounds, An - gel - ic forms a - bide, E -

cresc. *f* *dim.*

- ed a - long the haunt - ed gar - den's bounds, An - gel - ic forms, an - gel - ic

cresc. *f* *dim.* *pp*

Post - ed a - long the haunt - ed gar - den's bounds, An - gel - ic forms a - bide, E -

Tranquillo.

19 *cantabile.* *cresc.*

cho - ing as words of watch, o'er lawn and grove

cho - ing e - cho - ing o'er lawn and grove, o'er

pp forms a - bide, E - cho - ing, e - cho - ing o'er lawn and grove, o'er

cho - ing, as words of watch, o'er lawn and

21 *dim.* *p* *pp*

The ver-ses of that hymn which Se - raphs chant a -

lawn and grove The ver-ses of that hymn which Se - raphs chan a -

lawn and grove The ver-ses of that hymn which Se - raphs chant a -

grove The ver-ses of that hymn which Se - raphs chant a -

Piu lento.

24 *p* *pp* *dim. e rit.*

bove. They are at rest, they are at rest.

bove. They are at rest, they are at rest.

bove. They are at rest, they are at rest.

bove. They are at rest, they are at rest.