

A Song- for Anything

(1892)

Andante moderato

When the waves soft - ly sigh, When the sun-beams die;
Yale, Fare-well! we must part, But in mind and heart,
O have mer - cy Lord, on me, Thou art ev - er kind,

con espressione (per verse)

mp legato

7

When the night shad - ows fall, Eve - ning bells call, Marg-ar - t - ta! Marg-ar - i - ta!
We shall ev - er hold thee near, Be life gay or drear. Al - ma Ma - ter! Al - ma Ma - ter!
O, let me oppressed with guilt, Thy mer - cy find. The joy Thy fav - or gives, —

13

rit.

I think of thee! While the sil - ver moon is gleam - ing, of thee, I'm dream - ing.
We will think of thee! May the strength thou gavest ev - er be shown in ways, fair to see.
Let me re - gain, Thy free spir - it's firm support my faint - ing soul sus - tain.

NOTE: The song above is a common illustration (and not the only one in this book) of how inferior music is inclined to follow inferior words and "vice-versa." The music was originally written to the sacred words printed last, (and the best of the three.) Some thirty years ago it was sung in a country church and even as a response after the prayer. The congregation not only tolerated it, but accepted it apparently with satisfaction. That music of this character is less frequently heard in religious services no-a-days is one of the signs of the wholesome progress of music in this country. An "Amen" was tacked on to the end of this song; a relative of the composer remarked, at the time, that it was about as appropriate to this kind of a tune as a benediction would be after an exhibition of the "Circassian Beauty" at the "Danbury Fair."