

WHOM HAVE I TO COMPLAIN OF?

SAMSON

Recit:

Whom have I to complain of but myself, Who heav'n's great trust could not in silence

keep, But weakly to a woman must reveal it? O glorious strength! O impotence of mind!

But without wisdom, what does strength avail? Proudly secure, Yet liable to

fall! God (when he gave it) hung it in my hair, To shew how slight the gift, but peace my

soul, Strength was my bane, the source of all my woes: Each told a part would ask a life to

MICAH.

wail: Matchless in might, once Israel's glory! now her grief, We come (thy friends well known) to

visit thee. If words have charms to swage thy troubled mind, Well pour their

SAMSON.

balm into it's fester'd wounds. Welcome my friends! Experience teaches now, how counterfeit

the coin of friendship is: that's only in the superscription shown. In the warm sunshine of our prosperous

days, friends swarm! But in the winter of aduersity, draw in their heads: tho'sought, not to be

MICAH. SAMSON.

found. Which shall we first bewail, thy bondage, or lost sight? O loss of sight! of thee I most com-

plain; O worse than beggary, old age, or chains! My very soul in real darkness dwells!

Samson.

TOTAL ECLIPSE!

SAMSON.

LARGHETTO

e STACCATO

The musical score consists of four staves of music for voice and piano. The top staff is for the voice (Soprano) in C major, indicated by a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp. The second staff is for the piano right hand in C major. The third staff is for the piano left hand in G major, indicated by a bass clef and two sharps. The fourth staff is for the piano basso in G major, indicated by a bass clef and two sharps. The vocal line begins with a short rest followed by eighth-note chords. The lyrics start with "Total e-clipse! no Sun, no moon! All dark---- All dark---- a-midst the". The piano parts provide harmonic support with various patterns of eighth and sixteenth notes. The vocal line continues with "blaze of noon! f", "glo-ri-ous light! no chearing ray To glad my eyes with wel-come day;". The piano basso part features sustained notes and rhythmic patterns throughout.

Samson.

17
 wel - come day. To - tal e-clipse! no sun, no moon, all
tr
f *tr*

21
 dark a-midst the blaze of no ! Why thus de-priv'd Thy prime_ dec-ree?
[p]

25
 Sun, moon, and stars are dark to me, sun, moon, and stars, sun, moon and stars are
dark

29
 dark to me, sun, moon, and stars, sun, moon and stars are dark to
me.

33
f *tr* *p* *[tr]*

VERSION A: Segue No.15
 VERSION B: Segue No.16 (p.47)