

Week 2: Tin Pan Alley

August 21, 2020

A Real Place

- 28th Street, between Broadway and Sixth Ave.



Publishing Industry

- Unlike today's music business, it was focused on the production of sheet music, mainly for home consumption by amateurs.
- Many Jewish immigrants from Russia and other parts of Europe (Jerome Kern, Gershwins, George Cahon, etc)

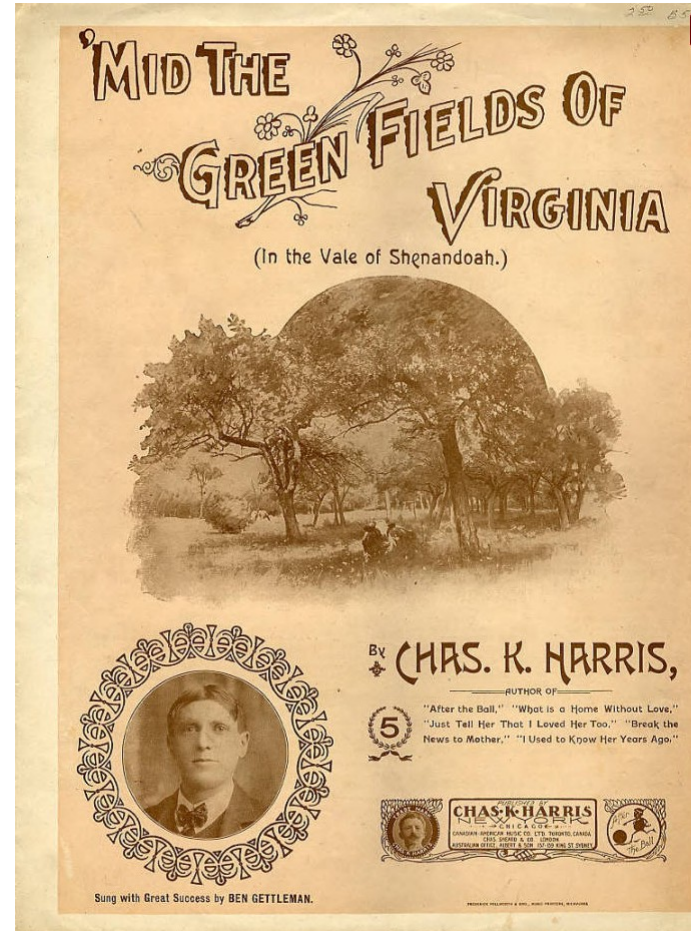
American Piano Manufacture

- More than 1000 US manufacturers
- Steinway
- Mason and Hamlin
- Knabe
- Chickering
- Baldwin
- Aeolian



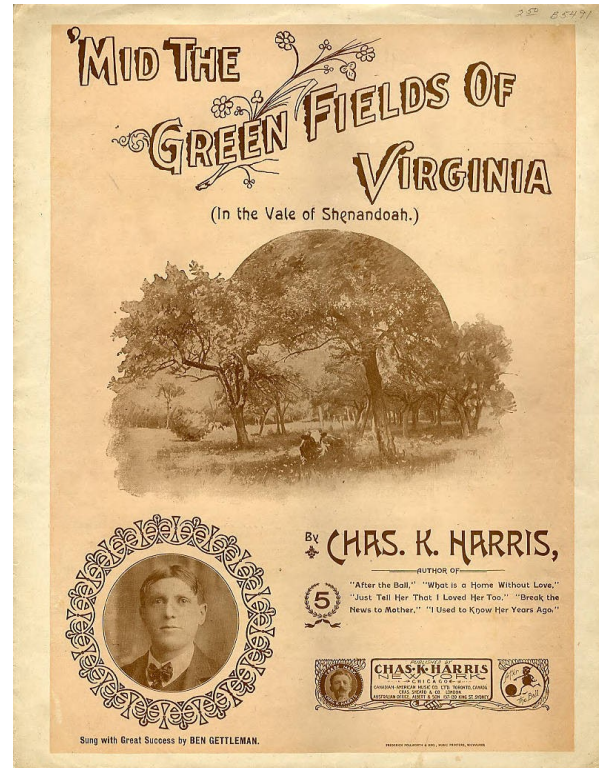
Sheet Music

- Purchased in booklets, for consumption in the home



Patriotism, nationalism

Mid the Green Fields of Virginia



Virginia, con't

Mid the green fields of Virginia in
the vale of Shenandoah
There's an ivy covered homestead
that I love
With its white old fashioned
chimney and its simple homelike
airs
This the home of my dear parents
now above

Arr. by JOS. CLAUDE.
Andante Moderato.

Words and Music by CHAS. K. HARRIS.

INTRO.

1. 'Mid the green fields of Vir-gin-ia, In the vale of Shen-an-doh, There's an
2. 'Mid the green fields of Vir-gin-ia Stands an old mill by the stream, And I'd

i-vy-cov-ered homestead that I love; With its quaint, old-fash-ioned chimney, and its
come to that old spot to sing and play; Ah, how oft-en would I throw the stones in-

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'Mid the Green Fields of Virginia.—2-1.

Virginia, con't

There's a peaceful cottage there, a happy home so dear
My heart is longing for them day by day
Where I spent life's golden hours in the vale of Shenandoah
Mid the green fields of Virginia far away

[Verse 2]

Mid the green fields of Virginia stands an old mill
by the stream
I would wander to that spot to sing and play
And how often I would throw a stone into the babbling brook
And dream some day it would carry be away

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sim - ple home - like air; 'Twas the home of my dear por - ents now a -
to that bab - bling brook, And I dreamt some day 'twould car - ry me a -

here. Though I'm liv - ing in a man - sion grand, With wealth at my com - mand, I'd
way. Yes, the dream came true, one day in June, I left the dear old home, I'd

give it all just for a sin - gle day, To play with my young com -rades, and
told me moth - er's heart had broke that day; Oh, if I could but see her I'd

Mid the Green Fields of Virginia 39

George M. Cohan, “Over There”

Johnnie, get your gun
Get your gun, get your gun
Take it on the run
On the run, on the run
Hear them calling, you and me
Every son of liberty
Hurry right away
No delay, go today
Make your daddy glad
To have had such a lad
Tell your sweetheart not to pine
To be proud her boy's in line



God Bless America, Irving Berlin (1938)

Recording

While the storm clouds gather far across the sea
Let us swear allegiance to a land that's free
Let us all be grateful for a land so fair
As we raise our voices in a solemn prayer. "

God bless America
Land that I love
Stand beside her and guide her
Thru the night with a light from above

From the mountains, to the prairies
To the oceans white with foam
God bless America
My home, sweet home
God bless America
My home, sweet home



Romance

George and Ira Gershwin, Embraceable You

Dozens of boys would storm up
I had to lock my door
Somehow I couldn't warm up
To one before

What was it that controlled me
What kept my love life lean
My intuition told me
You'd come on the scene

Lady listen to the rhythm of my heartbeat
And you'll get just what I mean

(Chorus)

Embrace me, my sweet embraceable you
Embrace me, you irreplaceable you
Just one look at you my heart grew tipsy in
me
You and you alone bring out the gypsy in me

I love all the many charms about you
Above all I want my arms about
Don't be a naughty baby
Come to papa come to baby do
My sweet embraceable you

Vaudeville

Light entertainment form mixing comedy, music, dance, and other forms.

Old Vaudeville Footage



Exoticism, Minstrelsy, Racism

Blackface: the practice of applying black makeup to the skin to give a cartoonish African American appearance.



Legacies of Vaudeville

SNL, In Living Color (comedy)

Blackface

- Documentary on Blackface Minstrelsy
- Mickey's Mellerdrammer

Jerome Kern, Showboat (1927)

Recording: “Can’t Help Lovin’ that Man of Mine”

Racial politics

Jazz “works with” these weird, classic songs

- Oscar Peterson, Can’t Help Lovin’ that Man of Mine

Writing Assignment

200 words, due on Wednesday

Explain what we have referred to as the “racial politics” that are happening in Jerome Kern’s 1927 *Show Boat*. Can you think of contemporary music that does something similar with music and/or politics?