

Clarence (7.7.7.7.)

Published in "Church Hymns, with Tunes", S.P.C.K., 1874, where it was listed as being an original tune by Sullivan for that work. In subsequent editions (1875 and 1881), it is listed as an arrangement.

The musical score is arranged in four systems, each with a grand staff (treble and bass clefs). The first system is labeled 'vv. 1 - 4.' and is in G major (one sharp) and common time. The second system continues the first system. The third system is labeled 'vv. 5 & 6.' and changes to D major (two sharps). The fourth system concludes the piece with a double bar line and the text 'A - men.' written below the notes.

1 Winter reigneth o'er the land,
Freezing with its icy breath,
Dead and bare the tall trees stand;
All is chill and drear as death.

2 Yet it seemeth but a day
Since the summer flowers were here,
Since they stacked the balmy hay,
Since they reaped the golden ear.

3 Sunny days are past and gone:
So the years go, speeding fast,
Onward ever, each new one
Swifter speeding than the last.

4 Life is waning; life is brief;
Death, like winter, standeth nigh:
Each one, like the falling leaf,
Soon shall fade and fall and die.

5 But the sleeping earth shall wake,
And the flowers shall burst in bloom,
And all nature, rising, break
Glorious from its wintry tomb.

6 So, Lord, after slumber blest
Comes a bright awakening,
And our flesh in hope shall rest
Of a never-fading spring. Amen.

William Walsham How, 1871.