

Merrily the Easter bells

George Benjamin Lissant (1827? - 1899)

Con spirito *f* *dim.*

1. Mer - ri - ly the Eas - ter bells Ring from tow'r and stee - ple, Tell - ing of the

6 *cresc.* *ff*

death - less Love, Liv - ing for His peo - ple. Al - le - lu - ia! notes of joy

11 *cresc.* *f*

Won - drous - ly are blend - ing With the sad - ness yes - ter - eve Of the Life so end - ing.

The musical score is written for piano and voice. It consists of three systems of music. The first system (measures 1-5) is marked 'Con spirito' and 'f'. The second system (measures 6-10) is marked 'cresc.' and 'ff'. The third system (measures 11-15) is marked 'cresc.' and 'f'. The lyrics are printed below the vocal line of each system.

2. But the night has passed away,
Sweet the bells are ringing,
He our Joy this morn has come,
We too now are singing:—
Alleluia! Christ is risen,
So will we be rising,—
He from death, and we from sin,
Loving life and prizing.

3. Up through all the heavenly spheres
Ring the old, old story,
As we sing the Easter joy
Of the Lord of Glory.
Alleluia! angels sing
Songs of joy with mortals—
Of the way of Life to-day
Christ unbarred the portals.

4. All our doubts and fears are gone,
Cheerily the pealing
Through the blinding mist of tears
Wakens joyous feeling.
Alleluia! ring again,
Christ has passed the river,
As He rose and lives would we
Rise and live for ever!

(Source: Carols old and carols new, Boston, 1916)