

268. David's Lamentation

William Billings, 1778

Da-vid the king was grieved and mov-ed, He went to his chamber his chamber, and wept;

Da-vid the king was grieved and mov-ed, He went to his chamber his chamber, and wept;

Da-vid the king was grieved and mov-ed, He went to his chamber his chamber, and wept;

Da-vid the king was grieved and mov-ed, He went to his chamber his chamber, and wept; And

The first system of the musical score consists of four staves. The top three staves are vocal parts, and the bottom staff is the bass line. The music is in 2/4 time and features a key signature of one sharp (F#). The lyrics are repeated on each staff.

O my son! O my son!

O my son! O my son!

O my son! O my son! Would to God I had

as he went he wept, and said, O my son! O my son! Would to God I had

The second system of the musical score consists of four staves. The top three staves are vocal parts, and the bottom staff is the bass line. The lyrics are repeated on each staff.

Would to God I had died, Would to God I had died, For thee, O Absalom, my son, my son!

Would to God I had died, For thee, O Absalom, my son, my son!

died, Would to God I had died, For thee, O Absalom, my son, my son!

died, Would to God I had died, Would to God I had died, For thee, O Absalom, my son, my son!

The third system of the musical score consists of four staves. The top three staves are vocal parts, and the bottom staff is the bass line. The lyrics are repeated on each staff. A triplet of eighth notes is marked with a '3' in the first and third staves.