

Caroline's Farewell

The image shows a musical score for the song 'Caroline's Farewell'. It consists of four staves of music in a 2/4 time signature, with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a 2/4 time signature. The lyrics are: 'To ___ Mis - ter G. O. Ma-com - ber these lines I now do take In'. The second staff continues: 'an - swer to your let - ter of last De - cem - ber's date. It was'. The third staff continues: 'not my ex - pec - ta - tion to hear from you a - gain. You have'. The fourth staff concludes: 'proved your - self un - faith - ful, Your suit I do dis - dain.'

Go, false one, I despise you! How can I you believe?
You have betrayed my confidence, I own I was deceived.
The sailor once I dearly loved I turn from coldly now,
Your heart is dark and treacherous as the ocean that you plow.

Oh, once I loved you dearly, it needs no tongue to tell,
If e'er a fault was cherished it was loving you too well,
But, slighted for another, I will tell you now quite plain
The love that you have once possessed you ne'er can have again.

That other girl, my rival, permit me now to add,
No jealous thought or feeling for her I ever had,
From me you are quite welcome to get her if you can,
Perhaps she'll like you better since she's lost her married man.

Do you remember when first we met? My age was scarce sixteen.
Perhaps you thought to gain my confidence for a purpose base and mean,
If this was your intention, I am thankful I can say
I am free from all dishonor, independent every way.

I remember when next we met, 'twas in a silent grove
Where there was no one near us but the small birds above,
You vowed to make my happiness the business of your life
And by all earthly powers you'd make me your lawful wife.

Now when you pay your compliments to others' fairest shrine,
Does nothing ever cross your mind of those promises of thine?
Does your conscience never check you, when other lips you press?
Does nothing ever cross your mind to mar your happiness?

Now with my kindest wishes I pen my last farewell,
May your days be spent in happiness and peace no tongue can tell
Till like a peaceful river your days shall pass away
Till you reach that fountain called blessed eternity.

Oh, now you know this is the truth, though I've penned it carelessly,
May it bring you to repentance long years before you die.
May God grant your forgiveness as free as I give mine,
May you never have occasion to remember Caroline.

Note: This song was written by Miss Caroline Henniger, the sister of a friend and associate of my brother, between fifty and sixty years ago.