

LAMENT for OWEN ROE O'NEILL

T. O'Carolan 1670-1738

slowly and freely (60)

mp

Musical notation for measures 1-3. The piece is in common time (C). The melody in the treble clef starts with a quarter note G4, followed by quarter notes A4, B4, C5, and a dotted quarter note B4. The bass line consists of a half note G3, a quarter note A3, and a half note B3. The dynamic marking *mp* is placed in the first measure.

4

Musical notation for measures 4-6. The melody continues with a quarter note D5, a quarter note E5, a quarter note F5, and a quarter note G5. The bass line has a half note C4, a quarter note D4, and a half note E4.

7

Musical notation for measures 7-9. The melody features a quarter note A5, a quarter note B5, a quarter note C6, and a quarter note D6. The bass line has a half note F3, a quarter note G3, and a half note A3.

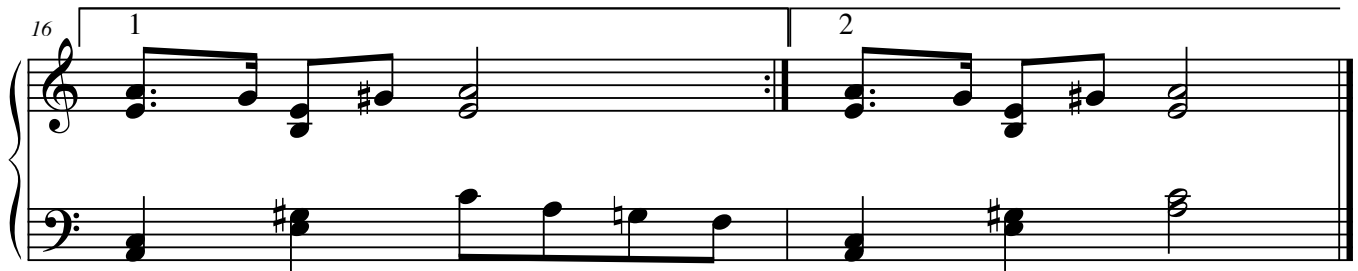
10

Musical notation for measures 10-12. The melody has a quarter note E6, a quarter note F6, a quarter note G6, and a quarter note A6. The bass line has a half note B3, a quarter note C4, and a half note D4.

13

Musical notation for measures 13-15. The melody concludes with a quarter note B6, a quarter note C7, a quarter note D7, and a quarter note E7. The bass line has a half note E4, a quarter note F4, and a half note G4.

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The "Fiddler's Companion" website furnishes the following:

Owen Roe O'Neill (1582-1649), or, in Irish, Eoghan Rua Ó Neill, was a member of the noble O'Neill family of County Tyrone who as a youth left Ireland for military service on the Continent.

He fought in the Netherlands and distinguished himself as an officer in service with the Spanish, but in 1642 at the age of 60 he returned to Ireland and helped to mastermind the rebellion against the Stuart regime called the Confederation of Kilkenny. O'Neill won an important victory at Benburb in 1646, but died three years later of an illness at Cloughouter, County Cavan, just before he was to campaign against Oliver Cromwell's Roundheads.

It has long been maintained in tradition that O'Neill was in fact poisoned at the hands of a woman who placed the toxin in his shoes before a banquet. O'Neill danced vigorously at the affair for several hours, causing the substance to be absorbed into his skin, leading to his death several days later.