

LAMENT for ROGERS O'NEILL

F. O'Neill 1849-1936

slowly and freely (60)

Measures 1-3 of the piece. The music is in 3/4 time with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The tempo is marked 'slowly and freely (60)'. The first staff (treble clef) features a melodic line with triplets of eighth notes. The second staff (bass clef) provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords and single notes.

Measures 4-6 of the piece. The melodic line continues with triplets and eighth notes. The bass line features a steady accompaniment with chords and moving lines.

Measures 7-9 of the piece. The melodic line includes a half note with a fermata in measure 8. The bass line continues with a consistent accompaniment.

Measures 10-12 of the piece. The melodic line continues with eighth notes and chords. The bass line provides a steady accompaniment.

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The image shows a musical score for a piece titled "LAMENT for ROGERS O'NEILL". The score is written for piano and consists of two systems. The first system starts at measure 13 and ends at measure 15. The second system starts at measure 16 and ends at measure 18. The music is in a minor key, indicated by two flats in the key signature. The tempo is marked "slower (40)". The score features a mix of eighth and sixteenth notes in the right hand, with a more rhythmic accompaniment in the left hand. A fermata is placed over the final note of the piece in measure 18.

This touching lament can be found in Francis "The Chief" O'Neill's *Irish Music and Musicians*, originally published in 1913 and reprinted in 1987. It honors Rogers O'Neill, whom the Chief refers to only as "a young collegian of brilliant promise", when in actuality Rogers was the O'Neill family's oldest son, who died in Chicago of meningitis at the age of eighteen. He was the last of the O'Neill sons to die; all were dead before age 21, including three younger siblings who all died on the same day of diphtheria. (The young man's unusual first name was his mother's maiden name.)

In the book there is no attribution to a composer, although it seems a foregone conclusion that it was the Chief himself who composed it. It bears a strong resemblance to the well-known "Lament for Owen Roe O'Neill" that appears on the same page in the book.