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AFFECTING BALLAD

OF THE

OYSTERMAN

"It was a tall Young Oysterman."

WRITTEN BY

H. W. Holmes

COMPOSED AND SUNG BY

J. L. HATTON.

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Vol.

BALLAD OF THE OYSTERMAN.

ANDANTE.

p

It was a tall young oysterman liv'd.

by the river side, His shop was just up - on the bank, his boat was on the tide; The

daughter of a fisherman that was so straight and slim, Liv'd o-ver on the oth-er bank, right

op-po-site to him. *p* It was the pensive oysterman that

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It consists of four systems of music. Each system has a vocal line on a single staff and a piano accompaniment on two staves (treble and bass clef). The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is common time (C). The tempo is marked 'ANDANTE.' and the piano part begins with a dynamic marking 'p'. The lyrics are written below the vocal line. The first system starts with a double bar line and the tempo marking. The second system continues the melody. The third system continues the melody. The fourth system continues the melody and ends with a double bar line.

saw a lovely maid, Up-on a moonlight evening, a sitting in the shade; He.

(in falsetto:)
saw her wave her handkerchief, As much as if to say, "I'm wide awake, young oysterman, And

all the folks a-way." Then up arose the oysterman, and

to himself said he, "I guess I'll leave the skiff at home, for fear that folks should see; I

read it in the story-book, that, for to kiss his dear, Leander swam the Hellespont, and I will swim this

here. And he has leap'd in to the waves, and cross'd the shining stream, And

he has clambered up the bank, all in the moonlight gleam; O there were kisses sweet as dew, and

words as soft as rain. (Spoken.) But they have heard her father's step, and in he leaps again.

Andante con moto:

pp

Ad libitum:

pp *Tremolo:*

(Spoken) Out spoke the ancient fisherman,—"O what wasthat, my

(in falsetto)

daughter!" "Twas nothing but a pebble, sir, I threw in-to the water;" "And what is that, pray

(in falsetto)

tell me love,that paddles off so fast!" "It's nothing but a porpoise, sir, that'sbeen a swimming

past." (Spoken) (in a hurried manner)
 Out spoke the ancient fisherman,— "Now bring me my harpoon!
 I'll get into my fishing-boat, and fix the fellow soon;"

Presto molto agitato:
ff

Ped *Rall:*

(an innocent tumble) *Dim - e - rall:* *Recit:*
 Down fell that pretty innocent, as

Ad lib *ff* *p*

falls a snow-white lamb, Her hair droop'd round her pallid cheeks, like sea - weed on a

pp *f* *p*

clam. A - - las for those two lov-ing ones! she wak'd not from her swoond, And

f *p*

he was taken with the cramp, and in the waves was drown'd; But fate has metamorphosed them in

pi-ty of their wo, And now they keep an oys-ter-shop for

mf

Piu lento:

mermaids down be - low, for mermaids down be - low.

Colla voce: *pp* *Rall: al fin:*