

# Good fellows must go learn

Edited by Jason Smart

William Parsons (fl.1551-63)

Mean

Countertenor

Tenor

Bass

Good fel -

Good fel - lows must go learn to

Good fel - lows must go learn to dance,

4

- lows must go learn to dance,

dance, good fel - lows must go learn to

Good fel - lows must go learn to dance,

good fel - lows must go learn to dance, good fel -

8

[good fel - lows must go learn to dance,]

dance, must go learn \_\_\_\_\_ to dance,

good fel - lows must go learn to dance, go learn \_\_\_\_\_ to dance,

- lows must go learn to dance, must go learn to dance,

12

The bri - dal

The bri - - dal is full near, the bri - dal

The bri - dal

The bri - - dal is full near, *the bri - dal*

16

is full near. There is a round come out of France, The

is full near. There is a round come out of France, The

is full near. There is a round come out of France, The

*is full near.* There is a round come out of France, The trim -

20

trim - mest you saw two year. and you must hop,

trim - mest you saw two year. For I must leap, and

trim - mest you saw two year.

- mest you saw two — year. and you must

24

And we will turn all three: The fourth—  
 you must hop, And we will turn all three:  
 The fourth must  
 hop, And we will turn all three:

27

— must bounce it like a top, *the fourth must bounce it*  
 The fourth— must bounce it like a top,  
 bounce it like a top, the fourth must  
 The fourth must bounce it like a

29

*like a top, the fourth must bounce it like a top;*  
 the fourth must bounce it like a top, like a top; And so shall  
 bounce it like a top, must bounce it like a top;  
 top, *the fourth must bounce it like a top;* And so shall we—

32

And so shall we a - gree. I  
 we a - gree, and so shall we a - gree. I pray thee,  
 And so shall we a - gree. I pray thee, min - strel, make no  
 — a - gree, and so shall we a - gree. I pray thee, min - strel,

36

pray thee, min-strel, make no stop, I pray thee, min-strel,  
 min-strel, make no stop, I pray thee, min-strel, make no  
 stop, I pray thee, min-strel, make no  
 make no stop, I pray thee, min-strel, make no stop,

40

make no stop, For we must mer - ry be.  
 stop, For we must mer - ry be, must mer - ry be.  
 stop, For we must mer - ry be, for we must mer - ry be.  
 For we must mer - ry be, for we must mer - ry be.

## Critical Commentary

### Original Spelling of Text

(Based principally on Mean part of Parsons's setting. Variants in the other partbooks are very few.)

Good fellows must go learne to daunce  
the brydall ys full neare  
ther ys a rownde come out of fraunce  
the trymest you sawe to yeare  
for I must leape  
and you must hoppe  
and we will turne all three  
the fourth must bounce yt lyke a toppe  
and so shall we agree  
I praye the mynstrell make no stoppe  
For we must mery be

### Editorial Conventions

The nomenclature of the voice-parts follows the Tudor convention.

The prefatory staves at the start of the piece show the original clef, staff signature and first note for each voice. No mensuration symbols are given, but  $\text{C}$  is to be assumed.

Editorial accidentals are placed above the notes concerned.

Spelling of the text has been modernised.

Repeat signs in the underlay have been expanded using italicised text.

Underlay between square brackets is entirely editorial.

### Source

Oxford, Bodleian Library, MSS Mus. e. 1–5 (c.1565–1585).

1	(M)	f.72 <sup>v</sup>	at end: <i>Wylliam parson</i>
2	(Ct)	f.72 <sup>v</sup>	at end: <i>wylliam parson</i>
3	(T)	f.72 <sup>v</sup>	at end: <i>wylliam parson</i>
4	—	—	
5	(B)	f.66 <sup>v</sup>	at end: <i>Wylliam parson</i>

### Notes on the Readings of the Source

- 7 Ct directs for both D and A at end of line after C (the A was written first, then corrected, but not deleted)
- 9 Ct underlay repeat sign missing
- 11 B new line in source with staff signature  $\flat$  for lower B begins with G
- 12 B  $\flat$  for B
- 16 B D is C
- 23 T new line in source with clef F4 begins with rest
- 27 Ct  $\flat$  for F
- 29 T new line in source with staff signature  $\flat$  for lower B begins with A
- 34 T  $\flat$  for first B
- 37 Ct one minim rest only
- 37 B  $\flat$  for first B
- 40 T new line in source without  $\flat$  for upper B in staff signature begins with D
- 41 T  $\flat$  for B