

Friendship

Bidwell, 1786

87. 87. 88. 87.

Transcribed from *Wyeth's Repository, Part Second*, 1813.

G Major

George Frideric Handel, 1736

Arranged by G. Cook, 1813

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1. { Friendship to every willing mind O - pens a heaven - ly trea - sure; } See what employments men pursue, Then you will own my words are true;
 { There may the sons of sorrow find The sources of real plea - sure. }

2. { Poor are the joys that fools esteem, Fa - ding and tran - si - to - ry; } Luxury leaves a sting behind Wounding the body and the mind,
 { Mirth is as fleeting as a dream. Or a de - lu - sive sto - ry: }

3. { Learning, that boasting, glittering thing. Scarcely is worth pos - ses - sing; } Fame like a shadow flies away, Titles and dig - ni - ty de - cay,
 { Riches, for - ev - er on the wing, Scarce can be called a bles - sing: }

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1. Friendship alone unfolds to view The sources of real plea - sure. pleas - sure.

2. Only in friendship can we find Pleasure and so - lid glo - ry. glo - ry.

3. Nothing but friendship can display Joys that are freed from trou - ble. trou - ble.

4. Beauty with all its gaudy show,
 Is but a painted bubble:
 Short is the triumph wit bestow,
 Full of deceit and trouble :
 Sensual pleasure swells desire.
 Just as the fuel feeds the fire,
 Friendship can real bliss inspire
 Bliss that is worth possessing.

5. Happy the man who hath a friend
 Formed by the God of nature,
 Well may he feel and recommend
 Friendship for his Creator.
 Then may our hearts in friendship join
 To let our social powers combine,
 Ruled by a passion most divine,
 Friendship to our Creator.

The melody (*Tenor*) was written by George Frideric Handel as an aria from his opera *La caccia in Etolia* in 1715, published in 1736. There is a two part version (Tenor-Bass) in *American Musical Miscellany* of 1798. The above three-part version from 1813 was rearranged for four parts by Ananias Davisson in his *Supplement to the Kentucky Harmony* in 1820.