From silent night

To my loving Country-man Mr. John Forster the younger, Merchant of Dublin in Ireland.

Cantus
[Treble viol]

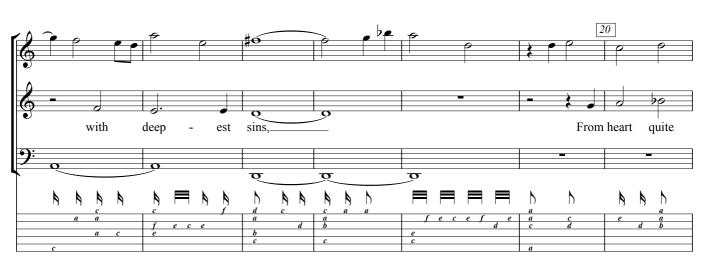
Altus

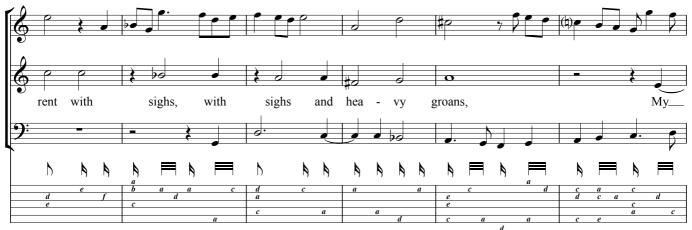
From si - lent night, true re
Bassus
[Bass viol]

Lute tuning: D, G, c, f, a, d', g'

Lute tuning: D, G, c, f, a, d', g'

From sad - dest Soul con-sumed









From silent night, true register of moanes, From saddest Soule consumde with deepest sinnes, From hart quite rent with sighes and heavie groanes, My wayling Muse her wofull worke beginnes. And to the world brings tunes of sad despaire, Sounding nought else but sorrow, griefe and care.

Sorrow to see my sorrowes cause augmented, and yet lesse sorrowfull were my sorrowes more: Griefe that my griefe with griefe is not prevented, for griefe it is must east my grieved sore. Thus griefe and sorrow cares but how to grieve, For griefe and sorrow must my cares relieve.

If any eye therefore can spare a teare to fill the well-spring that must wet my cheekes, O let that eye to this sad feast draw neere, refuse me not my humble soule beseekes: For all the teares mine eyes have ever wept Were now too little had they all beene kept.

Source: John Dowland, A Pilgrimes Solace (London, 1612), no.10.

Altus: titled "Cantus".

I.1.3: sharp supplied by lute tablature

I.19.1: minim rest I.20.1: crotchet

I.38.2: flat supplied by lute tablature

Lute.41.1: printed as two separate quavers, G-d' (open G & d strings) followed by b (c on a string)

I.45.1: sharp supplied by lute tablature

Lute.46.2: dotted crotchet

I.49.3: semibreve

III.50.1: redundant sharp (= natural)

III.50.2: sharp supplied by lute tablature

III.51.2: sharp II.58: breve