HENRY VIII

BY

William Shakespeare

Incidental Music

Composed by

ARTHUR SULLIVAN

Arranged from the Orchestral Score by

BERTHOLD TOURS

Published by Paul Howarth, York, England
HENRY VIII

by

William Shakespeare

INCIDENTAL MUSIC

Composed by

ARTHUR SULLIVAN

Arranged from the Orchestral Score by

BERTHOLD TOURS
This Edition Published by Paul Howarth
127 Manor Drive
York
YO26 5SD
ENGLAND

Copyright © 2003
Contents

1. March 1

2. King Henry’s Song (Youth will needs have dalliance.) 10

3. Graceful Dance 16

4. Water Music 25
Preface

Sullivan composed incidental music to five Shakespeare plays: The Tempest (1861), The Merchant of Venice (1871), The Merry Wives of Windsor (1874), Henry VIII (1877) and Macbeth (1888).

Although written as his graduation piece during his final term as a student at the Leipzig Conservatory and expanded for a concert performance at the Crystal Palace a year later, Sullivan always intended that the first of these should be appropriate for use in a production. Charles Calvert took the opportunity to incorporate some of it into his production of The Tempest at the Palace Theatre, Manchester in 1864. The incidental music to The Merchant of Venice was commissioned by Calvert to accompany a production of the play at the Prince’s Theatre which opened on 19 September 1871 and the incidental music to Henry VIII for a production which opened at the Theatre Royal, Manchester on 29 August 1877.

As would become Sullivan’s usual practice when writing the operas, he left the composition of the four numbers which make up the incidental music to this play, all of which were to be played during the fifth act, until the last minute. In fact, the opening had to be postponed for two days because the music was not ready on time. The production ran until 3 November 1877.

Perhaps the most interesting section of the score is the song “Youth must needs have dalliance” with its echoes of sixteenth century airs. When the song was published separately, the cover bore the inscription “Words by Henry VIII, Music by Arthur Sullivan”, however it is unlikely that the lyric was actually written by the monarch.

Two weeks after Henry VIII closed in Manchester, The Sorcerer, the third of Sullivan’s collaborations with W. S. Gilbert opened at the Opéra Comique in London. It had no proper overture. Instead, the Graceful Dance from the Henry VIII music, preceded by a short introduction consisting of a few bars of O marvellous illusion from that opera served as the overture.

The piano score was arranged by Berthold Tours and originally published by Metzler in 1879. The full orchestral score was published by the same firm in 1886.

Paul Howarth
York
2003
Henry VIII
Incidental Music

No. 1: March

Arthur Sullivan
Henry VIII
Henry VIII
Andante moderato.

Youth will needs have

dal-liance, Of good or ill some pas-tance; Com-pa-ny me thinks the best All_

thoughts and fancies to di-gest, For i-dleness is chief mistress of vi-ces
Henry VIII

all; Then who can say But pass the day The best of all?

CHORUS. (ad lib.)

For idle-ness Is chief mistress Of vices all; Then

For idle-ness Is chief mistress Of vices all; Then

who can say But pass the day The best of all?

who can say But pass the day The best of all?
Henry VIII

2nd Verse.

Passing time with good company, I love, and shall until I die;

Grudge who will, but not deny, So God be pleas'd this life will I; For

my pastance, Hunt, sing and dance; My heart is set. All

goodly sport To my comfort, Who shall me let?
CHORUS, (ad lib.)

For idleness Is chief mistress of vices all; Then

For idleness Is chief mistress of vices all; Then

who can say But pass the day The best of all?

who can say But pass the day The best of all?
Companion with honesty Is virtue; and vice to flee.

Company is good or ill, But every man hath his free will. The best I sue, The worst eschew: My mind shall be Virtue to use: Vice to refuse I shall use me.
Henry VIII

For idle-ness Is chief mistress of vi-ces all; Then

who can say But pass the day Is best of all?

who can say But pass the day Is best of all?
Henry VIII

No. 3: Graceful Dance
Henry VIII
Henry VIII
The eight bars from \( \Theta \) to \( \Theta \) are omitted in the original score.  -Arranger's note.
No. 4: Water Music

Andante moderato. \( \frac{\text{3}}{\text{4}} = 69, \)