

# THE TIME WORN LUTE

WRITTEN BY

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Music composed by

GEO. KINGSLEY.

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ALLEGRETTO

MODERATO



If thou would'st have me sing and play, As once I play'd and sung, First



take this time worn Lute a - way And bring one freshly strung.

8VA..... loco.

Call back the time when pleasure's sigh First

breath'd among the strings; And Time himself, in flitting by, Made music with his

ad lib a tempo

wings, Made music with his wings. Take, take the worn-out Lute a - way, And

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bring one newly strung, If thou would'st have me sing and play, As

once I play'd and sung.

loco.

2

3

But how is this? though new the Lute,  
 And shining fresh the chords,  
 Beneath this hand they slumber mute,  
 Or speak but dreamy words.  
 In vain I seek the soul that dwelt,  
 Within that once sweet shell,  
 Which told so warmly what it felt,  
 And felt what nought could tell.  
 Oh ask not then for passion's lay,  
 From lyre so coldly strung;  
 With this I ne'er can sing and play,  
 As once I play'd and sung.

No bring that long lov'd lute again,  
 Though chill'd by years it be,  
 If thou wilt call the slumb'ring strain,  
 'Twill wake again for thee.  
 Though time have froz'n the tuneful stream  
 Of thoughts that gush'd along,  
 One look from thee like summer's beam,  
 Will thaw them into song.  
 Then give, oh give that wakening ray,  
 And, once more blithe and young,  
 Thy bard again will sing and play,  
 As once he play'd and sung.