

### No. 3. "Oh, better far to live and die"

Solo and Chorus  
Pirate King and Pirates

*Allegro moderato*

The first system of the piano accompaniment consists of two staves. The right hand (treble clef) plays a melody with eighth and sixteenth notes, while the left hand (bass clef) provides a steady accompaniment with chords and single notes. A dynamic marking of *f* (forte) is present at the beginning.

Pirate King

The second system features a vocal line on a bass clef staff and piano accompaniment on two staves. The vocal line begins with a repeat sign and contains two verses. The piano accompaniment continues with a consistent rhythmic pattern. A dynamic marking of *p* (piano) is present.

1. Oh, bet - ter far to live and die  
2. When I sal - ly forth to seek my prey, I

The third system continues the vocal line and piano accompaniment. The vocal line includes the lyrics: "Un - der the brave black flag I fly, Than play a sanc - ti - help my - self in a roy - al way. I sink a few more". The piano accompaniment features a key signature change to one sharp (F#) in the second measure of this system.

Un - der the brave black flag I fly, Than play a sanc - ti -  
help my - self in a roy - al way. I sink a few more

mo - nious part, With a pi - rate head and a pi - rate heart.  
ships, it's true, Than a well - bred mon - arch ought to do;

A - way to the cheat - ing  
But man - y a king on a

world go you, first-class throne, Where pi - rates all are  
If he wants to call his

well - to - do; But I'll be true to the song I sing, And  
crown his own, Must man - age some - how to get through More

*cresc.*

(B) *a tempo*

live\_ and die a Pi - rate King, } For I am a Pi - rate  
dir - ty work than e'er I do, }

*rall.* *p*

Detailed description: This system contains the first two lines of the musical score. The vocal line is in bass clef, starting with a circled 'B' and the tempo marking 'a tempo'. The lyrics are: 'live\_ and die a Pi - rate King, } For I am a Pi - rate dir - ty work than e'er I do, }'. The piano accompaniment is in grand staff (treble and bass clefs). The first line of piano has a 'rall.' marking, and the second line has a 'p' marking. The music is in 4/4 time.

King! \_\_\_\_\_ And it is, it is a

Detailed description: This system contains the third line of the musical score. The vocal line continues with 'King! \_\_\_\_\_' and 'And it is, it is a'. The piano accompaniment continues with chords and moving lines in both hands.

glo - rious thing To be a Pi - rate King! \_\_\_\_\_ For I am a Pi - rate

Detailed description: This system contains the fourth line of the musical score. The vocal line continues with 'glo - rious thing To be a Pi - rate King! \_\_\_\_\_' and 'For I am a Pi - rate'. The piano accompaniment continues with chords and moving lines in both hands.

King! \_\_\_\_\_ And it

Chorus *f*

You are! Hur - rah for our Pi - rate King! \_\_\_\_\_

Detailed description: This system contains the fifth and sixth lines of the musical score. The vocal line continues with 'King! \_\_\_\_\_' and 'And it'. The chorus begins with 'Chorus f' and 'You are! Hur - rah for our Pi - rate King! \_\_\_\_\_'. The piano accompaniment continues with chords and moving lines in both hands.

is, it is a glo-ri-ous thing To be a Pi - rate King!

It is! Hur-

*f*

*f*

(Pause 2nd verse only)

Hur-rah for the Pi - rate King! —

rah for our Pi - rate King! Hur-rah for the Pi - rate King! —

*f*

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*(Reënt R. and R.U.E., all except Frederic. Enter Ruth. Frederic comes down C., followed by Ruth.)*