

Eternal Father, strong to save

John B. Dykes, 1823-1876

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The first system of musical notation consists of two staves, a treble clef on top and a bass clef on the bottom. The key signature has three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat). The melody in the treble clef begins with a quarter note G4, followed by a dotted quarter note G4, and then a series of chords. The bass line starts with a half note G2, followed by a dotted half note G2, and then a series of chords. A finger number '5' is written above the treble staff in the fourth measure.

The second system of musical notation continues the piece with two staves. The treble clef staff features a melody of chords and eighth notes. The bass clef staff provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords and eighth notes.

The third system of musical notation concludes the piece with two staves. The treble clef staff has a melody of chords and eighth notes. The bass clef staff has a harmonic accompaniment with chords and eighth notes. A finger number '10' is written above the treble staff in the first measure.

Eternal Father, strong to save,
Whose arm hath bound the restless wave,
Who biddest the mighty ocean deep
Its own appointed limits keep;
Oh, hear us when we cry to Thee,
For those in peril on the sea!

Watch o'er the men who guard our coasts.
Protect them from the raging seas
And give them light and life and peace.
Grant them from Thy great throne above
The shield and shelter of Thy love
The shield and shelter of Thy love.

Protect the ones we love at home.
Provide that they should always be
By Thine own grace both safe and free.
O Father, hear us when we pray
For those we love so far away
For those we love so far away.

We dedicate this ship to Thee.
In faith we send her on her way;
In faith to Thee we humbly pray:
O hear from Heaven our sailor's cry
And watch and guard her from on high!
And watch and guard her from on high!

Her work for home and country done,
Of all the souls that in her sailed
Let not one life in Thee have failed;
But hear from Heaven our sailor's cry,
And grant eternal life on high!
And grant eternal life on high!

William Whiting