

# The spacious firmament on high

John Sheeles, circa 1720

London (Addison's)  
LMD

The first system of musical notation, measures 1-5. It features a treble and bass clef with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody in the treble clef consists of quarter and eighth notes, with some slurs and a fermata over the final note. The bass clef provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords and moving lines.

The second system of musical notation, measures 6-9. It continues the melody and accompaniment from the first system, maintaining the same rhythmic and harmonic structure.

The third system of musical notation, measures 10-13. It continues the piece, with the treble clef showing some more complex rhythmic patterns and the bass clef providing a steady accompaniment.

The fourth system of musical notation, measures 14-18. It concludes the piece with a final cadence in the treble clef and a sustained bass line.

The spacious firmament on high,  
With all the blue ethereal sky,  
And spangled heavens, a shining frame  
Their great Original proclaim.  
Th'unwearied sun, from day to day,  
Does his Creator's powers display,  
And publishes to every land  
The work of an Almighty Hand.

What though in solemn silence all  
Move round the dark terrestrial ball?  
What though no real voice nor sound  
Amid the radiant orbs be found?  
In reason's ear they all rejoice,  
And utter forth a glorious voice,  
Forever singing as they shine,  
"The hand that made us is divine."

Soon as the evening shades prevail  
The moon takes up the wondrous tale,  
And nightly to the listening earth  
Repeats the story of her birth;  
While all the stars that round her burn  
And all the planets in their turn,  
Confirm the tidings as they roll,  
And spread the truth from pole to pole.

Joseph Addison