

56 Robin's Petition - Mr Leatherday & Mr West

When the leaves had for - sa - ken the trees and the for - ests were
chil - ly and bare - . when the brooks were be - gin - ning to
freeze - , and - the snow wa - vered fast through - the air - ,

The musical score is written on a single treble clef staff in a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat) and a common time signature (C). It consists of three lines of music. The first line contains the lyrics 'When the leaves had for - sa - ken the trees and the for - ests were'. The second line contains 'chil - ly and bare - . when the brooks were be - gin - ning to'. The third line contains 'freeze - , and - the snow wa - vered fast through - the air - ,'. The melody features several eighth and sixteenth notes, with a triplet of eighth notes in the third line. The piece ends with a double bar line.

1
When the leaves had forsaken the trees
and the forests were chilly and bare,
when the brooks were beginning to freeze,
and the snow wavered fast through the air,

2
a robin had fled from the wood
to the snug habitation of man;
on the threshold the wanderer stood,
and thus his petition began,

3
'The snow's coming down very fast,
no shelter is found in the trees;
when you hear this unpitying blast,
I pray you take pity on me.

4
The hips and the haws are all gone;
I can find neither berry nor sloe;
the ground is as hard as a stone,
and I'm almost buried in snow.

5
My dear little nest, once so neat,
is now empty and ragged and torn;
on some tree should I now take my seat
I'd be frozen fast before morn.

6
O throw me a morsel of bread;
take me in by the side of your fire,
and when I am warmed and fed,
I'll whistle without any hire.

7
'Til the sun be again shining bright
and the snow is all gone, let me stay.
Oh see what a terrible night!
I shall die if you drive me away.

8
And when you come forth in the morn,
and are talking and walking around,
O how will your bosom be torn
when you see me lie dead on the ground.

9
Then pity a poor little thing
and throw me a part of your store.
I'll fly off in the first of the spring,
and never will trouble you no more.'