



The Factory Operatives Call on Humanity

Arranged by Caroline Price

The Factory OPERATIVES CALL ON HUMANITY.

You working men of every station,
High and low of each degree,
Behold the proud oppressor hands,
Has brought us to this misery ;
While sumptions tales they have spread,
In deep distress we have to roam,
Our wivies and children they are starving,
In a sad dejected home.

With cheerful hearts we went each morning,
To the factory did hie,
While our hard and cruel masters,
In cosy beds at ease did lie ;
Their coxers we have filled with gold :
They laugh at our calamity,
While in the streets half clothed and starved,
Our orphans may see.

And us in our righteous struggle,
Our cause with you should be at heart,
For, like us, you are unprotected,
From the oppressor's smart ;
But you have not on days gone bye,
When fortune smiled on us with joy,
That the men we placed in stately mansions,
Would our peaceful homes destroy.

The factory masters they combined,
To bring our humble wages low,
While with humble applications,
We begged of them to spare the blow,
But they were deaf to every feeling,
On humanity was cast,
The factory doors on us locked,
For to endure the winter's blast.

The factory lordling sits at ease,
While his producers starve and pine,
Reclining on his easy chair,
His store well stocked with costly wine ;
Like Pharaoh in the days of old,
He is hardened unto mercy's call,
Oh ! help us from his iron grasp,
That we his victims may not fall.

P. CUNNINGHAM.



**Unlocking hidden treasures of
England's cultural heritage
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The Full English

The Full English was a unique nationwide project unlocking hidden treasures of England's cultural heritage by making over 58,000 original source documents from 12 major folk collectors available to the world via a ground-breaking nationwide digital archive and learning project. The project was led by the English Folk Dance and Song Society (EFDSS), funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund and in partnership with other cultural partners across England.

The Full English digital archive (www.vwml.org) continues to provide access to thousands of records detailing traditional folk songs, music, dances, customs and traditions that were collected from across the country. Some of these are known widely, others have lain dormant in notebooks and files within archives for decades.

The Full English learning programme worked across the country in 19 different schools including primary, secondary and special educational needs settings. It also worked with a range of cultural partners across England, organising community, family and adult learning events.

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Arranged by: Caroline Price

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Introduction

This song comes from the Frank Kidson collection of folk material, and was published by J.O.Bebbington on a printed broadside (lyric sheet).

Caroline Price chose to arrange this song, and several others, as part of The Full English community event held at The Met, Bury in on 8 March 2014. Over 50 singers came together to learn material that originated from the North West, led by Caroline and the *Stream of Sound* youth chorus from Stourbridge.

Scores of the other songs Caroline arranged are available for free download at www.efdss.org/resourcebank

Caroline Price and Stream of Sound

Caroline Price is a dynamic choir leader and prolific arranger of folk material! She researched and arranged a variety of songs and warm ups for The Full English community event in Bury.

Stream of Sound is a youth chorus, led by Caroline, who sing a-cappella harmony, and founded on a variety of musical traditions from around the world. They are known for their energetic and inspiring performances, and aim to share their love of harmony with as many people as possible.

Together, Caroline and Stream of Sound run a variety of workshops and events to encourage people to sing. They are often to be found at folk festivals encouraging more singing too!



Photo: Caroline teaching at The Met, Bury (taken by Frances Watt)

The Factory Operatives Call On Humanity

Published on a broadside printed by J. O. Bebbington within the Frank Kidson collection

<http://www.vwml.org/record/FK/18/82/2>

Trad./Arr. Caroline Price

Roud Number: V16539

NB: Verse 1 is under Tune part, other verses under other parts

Soprano

V4: The fact - ory lord - ling sits so ea - sy: While us work - kers

Alto

V3: The fact - ory mas - ters joined to - geth - er For to bring our

Tune

V1: You work - ing men of ev' - ry sta - tion, High and low of

Bass

V2: With cheer - ful hearts we went each morn - ing, To the fac - to -

5

S. starve and pine. Re - clin - ing on his ea - sy chair, His stores well-stocked with

A. wa - ges low, While we, with heart - felt sup - pli - ca - tions begged of them to

T. each de - gree, Be - hold, the proud o - ppre ssors hand Has brought us to this

B. ry did hie. The while, our hard and crue - el mas - ters in their dow - ny

9

S. cost - ly wine. Like Phar - oah in the days of old. He's hard - ened un - to mer - cy's

A. spare the blow. But they were deaf to ev - ery care that on hu - man - it - ty was

T. mi - ser - y. While sump tuous ta - bles they have spre - ad In deep dis tress we have to

B. beds did lie. Their cof - ers we have filled with gold, They laugh at our ca - la - mi

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S. call, O free us from his i - ron grasp, that

A. cast. The fac - tory doors were locked a - gainst us

T. roam. Our wives and child ren, they are star - ving

B. ty, While in the streets, half clothed and starved, our

16

S. we his vic - tims may not fall.

A. To en - dure the wint - ters' blast.

T. in a sad de - jec ted home.

B. lit - tle chil - dren you may see.

The Factory Operatives Call on Humanity

1. You working men of every station,
High and low, of each degree,
Behold, the proud oppressor's hand
Has brought us to this misery.
While sumptuous tables they have spread,
In deep distress we have to roam.
Our wives and children, they are starving
In a sad dejected home.

2. With cheerful hearts we went each morning,
To the factory did hie,
The while, our hard and cruel masters
In their downy beds did lie.
Their coffers we have filled with gold,
They laugh at our calamity:
While in the streets, half clothed and starved,
Our little children you may see.

3. Assist us in our righteous struggle
Our cause should be close to your heart.
For like us, you are unprotected
From the proud oppressor's smart.
We little thought, in days gone by,
When fortune smiled on us with joy
That men we placed in stately mansions
Would our peaceful homes destroy.

4. The factory masters joined together
For to bring our wages low,
While we, with heart-felt supplications
Begged of them to spare the blow.
But they were deaf to every care
That on humanity was cast:
The factory doors were locked against us,
To endure the winters' blast.

5. The factory lordling sits so easy:
While us workers starve and pine:
Reclining on his easy chair,
His stores well-stocked with costly wine.
Like Pharaoh in the days of old,
He's hardened unto mercy's call.
O free us from his iron grasp,
That we his victims may not fall.



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At the English Folk Dance and Song Society, we champion the folk arts at the heart of England's rich and diverse cultural landscape.

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