

THE WORLD WENT VERY WELL THEN,

Humorous Song

Composed by **BOND ANDREWS,**
Written and Sung by

MEL B. SPURR



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THE WORLD WENT VERY WELL THEN.

WORDS BY
MEL. B. SPURR.

MUSIC BY
BOND ANDREWS.

Tempo di Gavotte.

VOICE.

PIANO.

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It begins with a treble clef, a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and a common time signature (C). The tempo is marked 'Tempo di Gavotte.' The voice part is indicated by 'VOICE.' and the piano part by 'PIANO.' The piano part starts with a dynamic marking of *p* (piano). The score consists of three systems of staves. The first system shows the voice part with a whole rest and the piano part with a melody. The second system continues the piano melody. The third system shows the piano part with a dynamic marking of *f* (forte) and a final cadence. The piano part is written in a grand staff (treble and bass clefs).

♩ *A little quicker.*

p

Once on a time in the long — a — go, How

p

long it — was I hard — ly know, But

things were sure, if a tri — fle slow, And the

world went ve — ry well then. They

had no mo - tor cars, of course, Nor

a - ny i - con - o - clas - tic force, But man re - lied on his

trus - ty horse, And the world went ve - ry well then.

Verses 1 to 6. %

D.C.

f

slower.

pp dreamily.

After Last Verse only.

FINE.

1

Once on a time in the 'long ago,
 How long it was I hardly know,
 But things were sure, if a trifle slow,
 And the world went very well then.
 They had no motor-cars, of course,
 Nor any iconoclastic force,
 But man relied on his trusty horse,
 And the world went very well then.

2

The songs they sang were blythe and gay,
 And if they *had* too much "Tra la la lay"
 'Twas better than sighing, "Alack-a-day!"
 And the world went very well then.
 They didn't keep raving of "Loves gone wrong"
 To a Valse refrain, idiotic and long,
 And folks didn't chatter all through the song,
 And the world went very well then.

4

The ladies' style of dress, I know,
 Would not now-a-days be *comme il faut*,
 For fashion in dress does alter so,
 Yet the world went very well then.
 And one thing all of us must confess
 That girls *did* take the trouble to dress,
 And their garments covered them,—*more* than *less*,
 And the world went very well then.

6

The ladies, most of them, so they say,
 Were very much like they are to-day,
 They never *would* give their age away—
 And the world went very well then.
 But they didn't talk slang, and none of them spoke
 Of a man as a "mash" or a "silly old bloke."
 And they couldn't, and wouldn't, and never did *smoke!*
 And the world went very well then.

3

When dancing in the ball-room, too,
 They danced the figures that ev'ryone knew,
 And *those* didn't change ev'ry month or two,
 And the world went very well then.
 They danced because their hearts were light,
 And the men didn't find supreme delight
 In propping the wall up half the night,—
 And the world went very well then.

5

The writers of books were not afraid,
 But what they wanted to say they said,
 They always called a spade "a spade,"
 And the world went very well then.
 The books were written by men *for* men,
 Who of social problems took no ken,
 And "The Woman that Did" didn't do so *then*,
 And the world went very well *then*.

7

A word on the men, and my song is done.
 They "passed the bottle" at set of sun,
 And sank to slumber, one by one,
 And the world went very well then.
 But they knew how to fight, and how to die,
 And they planted a star in Glory's sky
 That is shining still, as in days gone by,
Though the world went very well then.