

The Real Question

Paul Laurence Dunbar (1872-1906)

Gary Bachlund

$\text{♩} = 60$

f *f* *f*

p *mp*

7 *Velo.*

Folks is talk-in' 'bout de mon - ey, 'bout de sil-vah an' de

12 gold; all de time de sea-son's chan - gin' an' de days is git-tin' cold.

17 An' dey's won - d'r in 'bout de me - tals, whe-thah we'll have one er

21

two. _____ While de price o' coal is ri - sin' an' dey's

25

two months' rent dat's due. _____ Some folks

p

30

says dat gold's de on - ly mo-ney dat's wuff de name, _____

mf

34

(mo - ney, mo - ney, mo - ney, mo - ney, mo - ney, mo - ney) _____ den de o - thahs rise an' tell 'em dat dey

38

ought to be a - shame._____ (mo - ney, mo - ney, mo - ney, mo - ney, mo - ney, mo - ney)

This system contains measures 38, 39, and 40. The vocal line starts with a quarter note 'ought', followed by a half note 'to be', and a dotted quarter note 'a - shame.' with a long horizontal line extending to the right. The piano accompaniment features a complex texture with many beamed sixteenth notes in the right hand and a steady eighth-note bass line in the left hand.

41

an' dat sil - vah_ is de on - ly thing_ to save us_ f'om de

p

This system contains measures 41, 42, and 43. The vocal line has a dotted quarter note 'an' dat', followed by a half note 'sil - vah_', a quarter note 'is de', a dotted quarter note 'on - ly thing_', a quarter note 'to save', and a dotted quarter note 'us_ f'om de'. The piano accompaniment includes a dynamic marking of *p* (piano) in measure 42.

45

pov ah_____ of de gold - bug..._____ de gold - bug..._____ de gold-bug ra - gin' roun'_

This system contains measures 45, 46, 47, and 48. The vocal line begins with a dotted quarter note 'pov ah' followed by a long horizontal line, then a quarter note 'of de', a dotted quarter note 'gold - bug...', another long horizontal line, a quarter note 'de gold - bug...', another long horizontal line, and finally a dotted quarter note 'de gold-bug ra - gin' roun'_'. The piano accompaniment is highly rhythmic with many beamed sixteenth notes.

49

an' seek-in' who he_ may de - vow - ah_ (mo - ney, mo - ney, mo - ney, mo - ney, mo - ney, mo - ney)

This system contains measures 49, 50, and 51. The vocal line starts with a dotted quarter note 'an' seek-in' who he_ may de - vow - ah_' followed by a long horizontal line. The piano accompaniment features a triplet of eighth notes in the right hand in measure 49, indicated by a bracket with the number '3' above it.

Well, you folks kin keep on shout - in' -

— wif yo' gold er sil-vah cry, — but I tell you peo-ple hams is sceerce and fowls is

roost-in' high. — An' hit ain't de so't o' mo-ney — dat is pes-ter-in' — my

min', — but de ques - tion I want an - swehed's how to get at an - y

73

kin' _____ O mo-ney, mo-ney, mo-ney, mo-ney, mo-ney, mo-ney,

mp

76

(mo-ney, mo-ney, mo-ney, mo-ney, mo-ney, mo-ney, mo-ney, mo-ney,

mf

78

(mo-ney, mo-ney, mo-ney, mo-ney, mo - ney,

f

81

mo - ney, mo-ney, mo-ney, mo - ney,

f

circa 2' 45"

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