

How vain the toils

William Byrd (c.1540-1623)

Psalmes, songs and sonnets (London, 1611)

Musical score for the first system, measures 1-5. The score is for six voices: Cantus I, Cantus II, Sextus, Contratenor, Tenor, and Bassus. The key signature is one flat (B-flat) and the time signature is common time (C). The music begins with a common time signature, which changes to 4/2 time at measure 5. The Cantus I part has a fermata over the final note of measure 5, with a '5' above it. The other parts have rests in measures 1-4, followed by their respective melodic lines.

Musical score for the second system, measures 6-10. The lyrics "How vain the toils that mor-tal men__ do" are placed under the Tenor part. The score continues with six staves for the voices. Measure 10 has a fermata over the final note, with a '10' above it. The music concludes with a double bar line and repeat signs.

15

take to hoard up gold that time doth turn to dross, for-

20

get-ting him who_ on - ly for their sake, his pre-cious blood did shed u -

25

pon the Cross. And taught us all in heav'n to hoard our trea-sure,

30

where true in-crease doth grow a-bove all mea-sure;

35

40

And taught us all in heav'n to hoard our trea-sure, where true in-crease

45

doth grow a - bove all mea - sure, doth grow a - bove all mea - sure,

How vain the toils that mortal men do take
to hoard up gold that time doth turn to dross,
forgetting him who only for their sake,
his precious blood did shed upon the Cross.
And taught us all in heav'n to hoard our treasure,
where true increase doth grow above all measure.