Much Ado about Nothing

Opera

In Four Acts

Founded On

Shakespeare's Comedy

The Words Written

by

Julian Sturgis

The Music Composed

by

Charles Villiers Stanford.

(Op. 76.)

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Allegro. (Exeunt Dogberry, Verges and watchmen with Borachio bound.)

Ass!

Andante.

(Enter Benedick with tablets, composing verses.)

Benedick.

"The God of Love that sits above, and knows me, and knows
(thinking.) Andante.

me, how pitiful I deserve?

And little I deserve in song; For thus in rhyming I go wrong; but as for love,

Le-

an-
der brave, who swam the Hellespontic wave, nor

Tro-ilus, nor all his crew who live in ballads old and new, were

half so deep in love as I, who cannot rhyme it
Allegretto.

skill-full-y. Come, to it a-gain, and try a-nother strain.

"Then up and a-way in the

morning fair, and the plea-sant time o' the spring-a; for me is a tress of a

maid'en's hair, and for her is a gol-den ring-a; and Chan-ti-cleer sing

loud and clear, all in the morn-ing time-a, and Hark, o hark."
He scratches his head and thinks.

For dogs must bark.

to help me out with a rhyme-a!
Or this? Now here's a

measure might give some people pleasure.

Allegro.

"To-mor-row is my wed-ding day in all the morning

earl-y; and you will walk, my maid-en May, where the dews lie-
pearly, shining on the slender grasses, where the flying
shadow passes, and the birds sing sweet and shrill in the copse

on the hill, and the bell rings ding-dong, ding-dong, ding-dong,

(thinking for a rhyme)

ding-dong, for ending of my song, for

roll. (He puts away his tablets)

ending of my song. Ding-dong, ding-dong. And so, and so, the
Andante.

hobby horse is forgot, and I was surely born afar from

Animato.

any rhyming star: but dub me knight, and I will fight

Più moderato.

as soon as not. And by my troth, here comes the

man that I must fight withal.

(Enter Claudio and Don Pedro)