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.)

Price 5/ net

Boosey & Co

295, Regent Street, London, W.

and

9, East Seventeenth Street, New York.

Copyright 1901 by Boosey & Co.

All rights reserved under the International Copyright Act. Public performance forbidden, and right of representation reserved. Single detached numbers may be sung at concerts, not more than two at any one concert, but they must be given without theatrical costume or action. In no case must such performances be announced as a "selection" from the opera. Applications for the right of performing the above opera must be made to Messrs. Boosey & Co.

Printed by C.G. Röder, Leipzig.
Act III.

Allegro molto moderato, ma con fuoco.
(The Curtain rises. The Church at Messina. The front of the stage is the north transept. The steps of the high altar are seen R. further back. Claudio is standing alone R. front.)
Claudio.

How slowly drag the leaden hours a-way!

Vengeance!

I am hungry for thy face as for the fair looks of my virtuous bride.

Give me thy bitter fruit for lack of love.

Had I not known, this woman with her
lovers had been mine! 

More white than Innocence the 

bride would shine, and vow herself to me a-

lone. 

While withslant eyes be-

fore God's altar high, she sought the eyes of men, and dream'd un-

chas-ti-ty. 

Drive on ye lagging moments, drive on,
till I see her face, that seemed all truth to me, her face, made fair for
lovers' moans, that yet was charnel gate of dead men's

Allegro maestoso.

bones. O God! she comes! Be

(Bells.

(Acolytes with lighted tapers go up the altar steps and light the candles.)

strong, my heart, today till I behold her face, and say
(DON PEDRO and DON JOHN enter L. They grasp

what I must say.

Claudio's hand and pass on up the steps. The Church begins to fill.)

(A procession of Franciscan Monks goes across the back down the nave to L.)