

Jeanie with the Light Brown Hair

S. FOSTER

Quite slowly [$\text{♩} = c.72$]

mp

6

10

13

mf *dim.* *p*

16

allarg. *ten.* *rit.*

pp

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#) and a 4/4 time signature. It consists of five staves of music. The first staff begins with the tempo marking 'Quite slowly' and a metronome marking of approximately 72 quarter notes per minute. The dynamics range from mezzo-piano (*mp*) to pianissimo (*pp*). Performance instructions include 'allarg.' (ritardando), 'ten.' (tenuto), and 'rit.' (ritardando). The score includes various musical notations such as slurs, ties, and fingering numbers (0, 1, 2, 3).

Stephen Foster (1826–64) was the first great American songwriter, responsible for such familiar songs as *Camptown Races*, *Old Folks at Home* and *Beautiful Dreamer*. This one was written in 1854 in honour of his wife Jane McDowell, and begins:

I dream of Jeanie with the light brown hair,
Borne, like a vapor, on the summer air...

It is a sentimental love song, which needs to be played expressively rather than too 'cleanly'.

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