

Polly: Air 48 (Down in a meadow.)

lyr. John Gay (March 1729)

Polly

Voice

The sports - men keep hawks, and their quar - ry they gain; Thus the
What care and ex - pence for their hounds are em - ploy'd! Thus the

Harp

mp

4

wood - cock, the par - tridge, the phea - sant is slain. The spa - niel they che - rish, whose
fox, and the hare, and the stag are de - stroy'd.

8

fat - te - ring way Can as well as their mas - ters cringe, fawn and be - tray. Thus

11

stanch po - li - ti - cians, look all the world round, Love the men who can serve as hawk,

14

spa - niel or hound.

The musical score is written for voice and harp. It consists of four systems of music. Each system has a vocal line on a treble clef staff and a harp line on a bass clef staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 6/8. The tempo is marked 'mp' (mezzo-piano). The first system starts with a tempo marking of quarter note = 130. The lyrics are: 'The sports - men keep hawks, and their quar - ry they gain; Thus the What care and ex - pence for their hounds are em - ploy'd! Thus the'. The second system starts at measure 4 and has lyrics: 'wood - cock, the par - tridge, the phea - sant is slain. The spa - niel they che - rish, whose fox, and the hare, and the stag are de - stroy'd.'. The third system starts at measure 8 and has lyrics: 'fat - te - ring way Can as well as their mas - ters cringe, fawn and be - tray. Thus'. The fourth system starts at measure 11 and has lyrics: 'stanch po - li - ti - cians, look all the world round, Love the men who can serve as hawk, spa - niel or hound.'. The harp accompaniment is simple, often using chords and single notes to support the vocal line.