

PRIVATE TOMMY ATKINS

WRITTEN BY
HENRY HAMILTON

COMPOSED BY
S. POTTER.

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TORONTO.
THE ANGLO-CANADIAN MUSIC PUBLISHERS' ASSOCIATION, LIMITED.

PRIVATE TOMMY ATKINS.

1. Oh we take him from the city or the plough,
And we drill him and we dress him up so neat,
We teach him to uphold his manly brow,
And how to walk, and where to put his feet;
It doesn't matter who he was before,
Or what his parents fancied for his name,
Once he's pocketed the shilling, and a uniform he's filling,
We call him Tommy Atkins all the same.

Chorus.— Oh! Tommy, Tommy Atkins, you're a "good'un" heart and hand,
You're a credit to your calling and to all your native land,
May your luck be never failing, may your love be ever true,
God bless you Tommy Atkins, here's your country's love to you.

2. In time of peace he hears the bugle call,
In Barracks, from "Revally" to "Lights out,"
And if "Sentry go" and "pipe-clay" ever pall,
There's always plenty more of work about;
On leave o'nights you meet him in the street,
As happy as a school-boy and as gay,
Then back he goes to duty, all for England, Home and Beauty,
And the noble sum of thirteen pence a day.

Chorus.—

3. In war time then, it's "Tommy to the front,"
And we ship him off in "Troopers" to the scene,
We sit at home while Tommy bears the brunt,
A-fighting for his country and his Queen;
And whether he's on India's coral strand,
Or pouring out his blood in the Soudan,
To keep our flag a flying he's a doing and a dying,
Ev'ry inch of him a soldier and a man.

Chorus.—

4. So Tommy dear, we'll back you 'gainst the world
For fighting or for funning or for work,
Wherever Britain's banner is unfurled
To do your best and never, never shirk.
We keep the warmest corner in our hearts,
For you, my lad, wherever you may be,
By the Union Jack above you! but we're proud of you and love you,
God keep you, Tommy, still by land and sea!

Chorus.—

PRIVATE TOMMY ATKINS.

Words by Henry Hamilton.

Music by S. Potter.

Tempo di Marcia.

PIANO.

The piano introduction is in 6/8 time, marked *f* (forte). The right hand features a melody of eighth and sixteenth notes, while the left hand provides a rhythmic accompaniment with chords and single notes. A *Cornet.* part is indicated above the right hand staff.

The first vocal line begins with the lyrics "1. Oh, we take him from the Ci - ty or the". The melody is in 6/8 time, marked *p* (piano). The piano accompaniment consists of chords and moving lines in both hands.

The second vocal line continues with the lyrics "plough, And we drill him and we dress him up so neat,". The melody is in 6/8 time, with dynamic markings *f*, *p*, *p*, and *f*. The piano accompaniment features a steady eighth-note pattern in the left hand and chords in the right hand.

The third vocal line concludes with the lyrics "We teach him to up - hold his man - ly brow, And". The melody is in 6/8 time, with dynamic markings *mf*, *f*, and *mf*. The piano accompaniment continues with a consistent eighth-note accompaniment in the left hand and chords in the right hand.

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who he was be - fore, Or what his pa-rents fan-cied for his

name, Once he's poc - ket - ed the shilling and a u - ni-form he's

fill-ing, We call him Tom-my At-kins all the same. Oh!

1st time p, 2nd time f

Tom-my Tom-my At-kin's you're a good'un heart and hand, You're a cre-dit to your

call-ing and to all your na-tive land, May your luck be ne-ver fail-ing, may your

love be ev-er true God bless you Tom-my At-kin's Here's your Country's love to

1. 2.

you. Oh! — you.

