TRADITIONAL SONGS
EASY ARRANGEMENTS
FOR PIANO WITH CHORDS
audio included
Pianochord.org
ebooks

PIANOCHORD.ORG EBOOKS

TRADITIONAL SONGS

EASY ARRANGEMENTS FOR PIANO WITH CHORDS

Audio

Audio examples of all the songs are available from

https://www.pianochord.org/traditional-songs-audio.html

© Pianochord.org

No part of this publication may be reproduced in any form or by any means without permission from the publisher except for personal use.

CONTENTS

Intro

The songs

Morning Has Broken

Oh! Susanna

Aura Lee

Home on the Range

Auld Lang Syne

We Shall Overcome

Deep Blue Sea

Swanee River

Annie Laurie

My Bonnie Lies over the Ocean

Love's Old Sweet Song

Annabel Lee

The House of the Rising Sun

Loch Lomond

Mustalainen

Londonderry Air

Greensleeves

INTRO

This eBook contains selected traditional songs arranged for piano and with chords in mind. The left hand plays the chords and the right hand the melody.

Inverted chords are used frequently. An inverted chord is played with the notes in an alternative order. For example, C/G is a C chord with G as the bottom note. The reason for using inverted chords are mainly to reduce the hand movements, and ultimately making it easier to play.

If you don't like this approach, you can always play the chord from its first position, with the root as the bottom note, that is (in some cases, you will be force to play an octave down to avoid that the notes in the chord collides with the notes in the upper part of the note system). In this case you need only to worry about the first letter: G/D is a G chord, Am/C is an Am chord and so on. Chord diagrams can be found on PianoChord.org.

Another common practice, used in the arrangements, is to omit one note from four-note chords. Often is the fifth omitted. This is an effective way to play chords together with melody.

* * *

The arrangements are made with beginner (and intermediate in some degree) players in mind. A few songs have been shortened to only include the most familiar part. The songs are mainly in their original keys, but have in some cases been transposed to other keys to decrease the level of difficulty.

THE SONGS

Morning Has Broken

"Morning Has Broken" is a Christian hymn first published in 1931. It has words by English author Eleanor Farjeon and was inspired by the village of Alfriston in East Sussex, then set to a traditional Scottish Gaelic tune, "Bunessan". English pop musician and folk singer Cat Stevens included a version on his album *Teaser and the Firecat* (1971).

Oh! Susanna

"Oh! Susanna" is a minstrel song by Stephen Foster (1826–1864), first published in 1848. It is among the most popular American songs ever written.

Aura Lee

"Aura Lee" (sometimes spelled "Aura Lea") is an American Civil War song about a maiden. The tune is familiar to modern audiences from the 1956 Elvis Presley #1 hit "Love Me Tender".

Home on the Range

"Home on the Range" is a classic western folk song sometimes called the "unofficial anthem" of the American West. The lyrics were originally written by Dr. Brewster M. Higley of Smith County, Kansas, in a poem entitled "My Western Home" in 1872. The music was later added by Daniel E. Kelley, a carpenter and friend of Higley.

Auld Lang Syne

“Auld Lang Syne" (“Old Long Since" in modern English) is a Scots-language poem written by Robert Burns in 1788 and set to the tune of a traditional folk song. Its traditional use being to bid farewell to the old year at the stroke of midnight on New Year's Eve. By extension, it is also sung at funerals, graduations, and as a farewell or ending to other occasions.

We Shall Overcome

"We Shall Overcome" is a gospel song which became a protest song and a key anthem of the Civil Rights Movement. The song is most commonly attributed as being lyrically descended from "I'll Overcome Some Day", a hymn by Charles Albert Tindley that was first published in 1900.

Deep Blue Sea

"Deep Blue Sea" has no known source, but is perhaps an old English ballad. The song is otherwise most associated with Pete Seeger’s version from the 1950’s.

Swanee River

“Swanee River” (also known as “Old Folks at Home") is a minstrel song written by Stephen Foster in 1851.

Annie Laurie

"Annie Laurie" is an old Scottish song based on a poem said to have been written by William Douglas (1682?–1748) of Dumfriesshire, about his romance with Annie Laurie (1682—1764). The earliest known version of the song was composed by Lady John Scott and published in the 1850s.

My Bonnie Lies over the Ocean

"My Bonnie Lies over the Ocean" (often called only “My Bonnie”) is a traditional Scottish folk song.

Love's Old Sweet Song

"Love's Old Sweet Song" is a Victorian parlour song published in 1884 by composer James Lynam Molloy and lyricist G. Clifton Bingham.

Annabel Lee

"Annabel Lee" is the last complete poem composed by American author Edgar Allan Poe. The poem was set to music by the English composer Joseph Charles Holbrooke as a Ballad for voice and orchestra.

The House of the Rising Sun

"The House of the Rising Sun" is a traditional folk song, sometimes called "Rising Sun Blues". The most successful commercial version, recorded in 1964 by British rock group The Animals, was a number one hit in England and the United States.

Loch Lomond

"The Bonnie Banks o' Loch Lomond", or simply "Loch Lomond" for short, is a well-known traditional Scottish song first published in 1841.

Mustalainen

“Mustalainen” is a composition by Elemér Szentirmay, first published in Hungary in 1875.

Londonderry Air

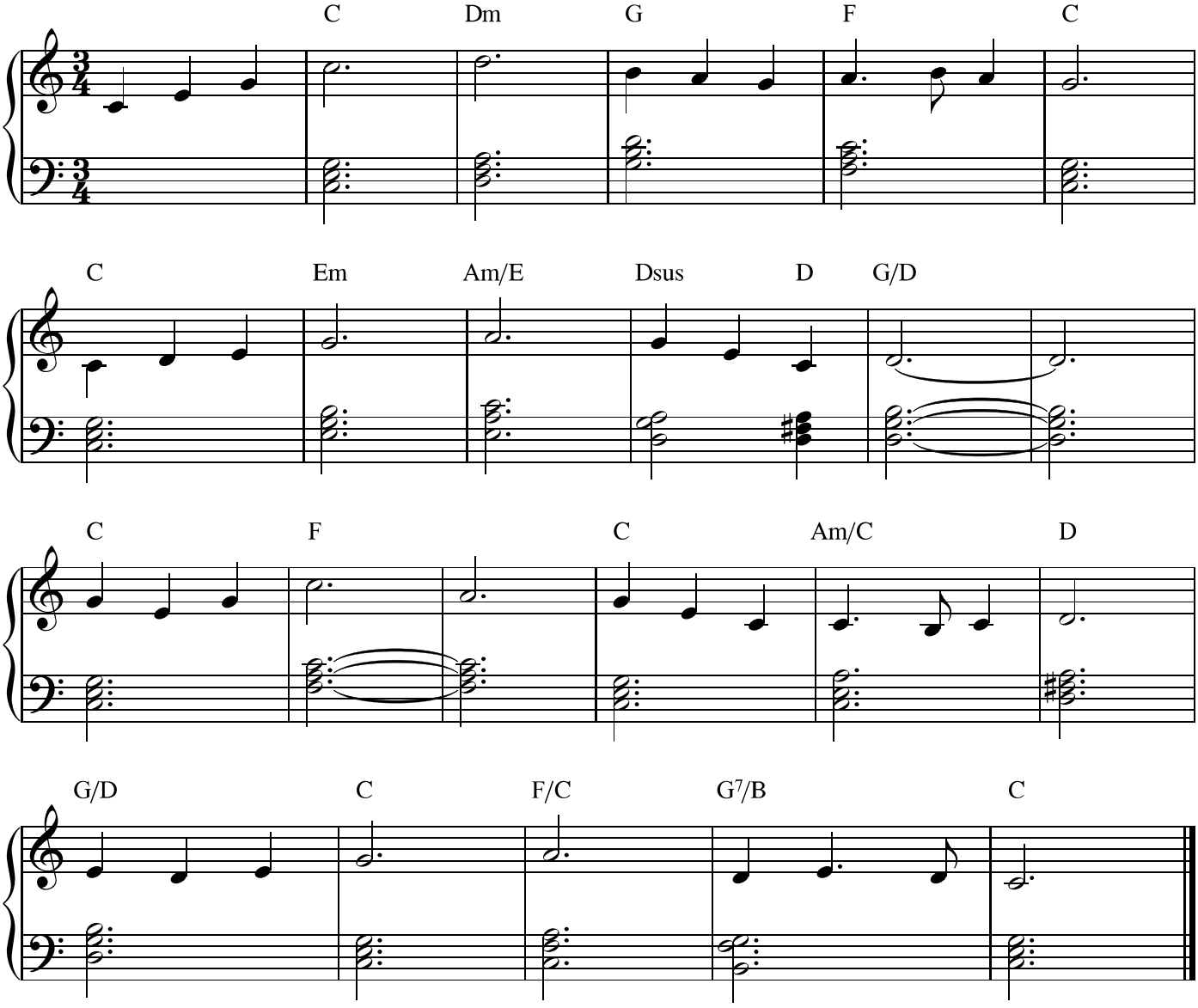
“Londonderry Air” is an Irish air that originated in County Londonderry. It is popular among the American Irish diaspora and is well known throughout the world. The song "Danny Boy" uses the tune, with a set of lyrics written in the early 20th century.

Greensleeves

“Londonderry” is a traditional English folk song. A broadside ballad by the name "A Newe Northen Dittye of ye Ladye Greene Sleves" was registered by Richard Jones at the London Stationer's Company in September 1580, and the tune is found in several late-16th-century and early-17th-century sources.

Morning has Broken

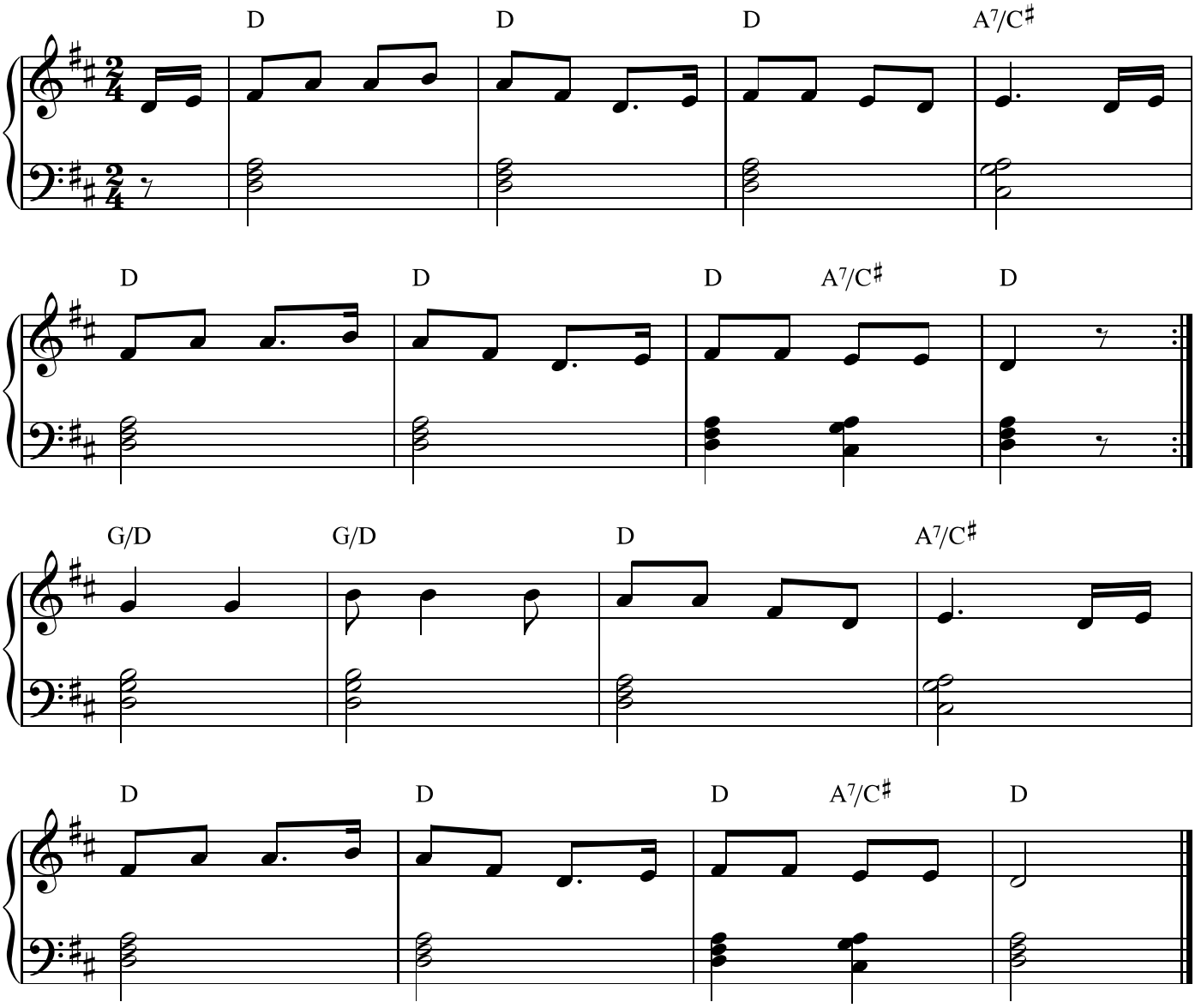
Trad.



Copyright © Pianochord.org

Oh! Susanna

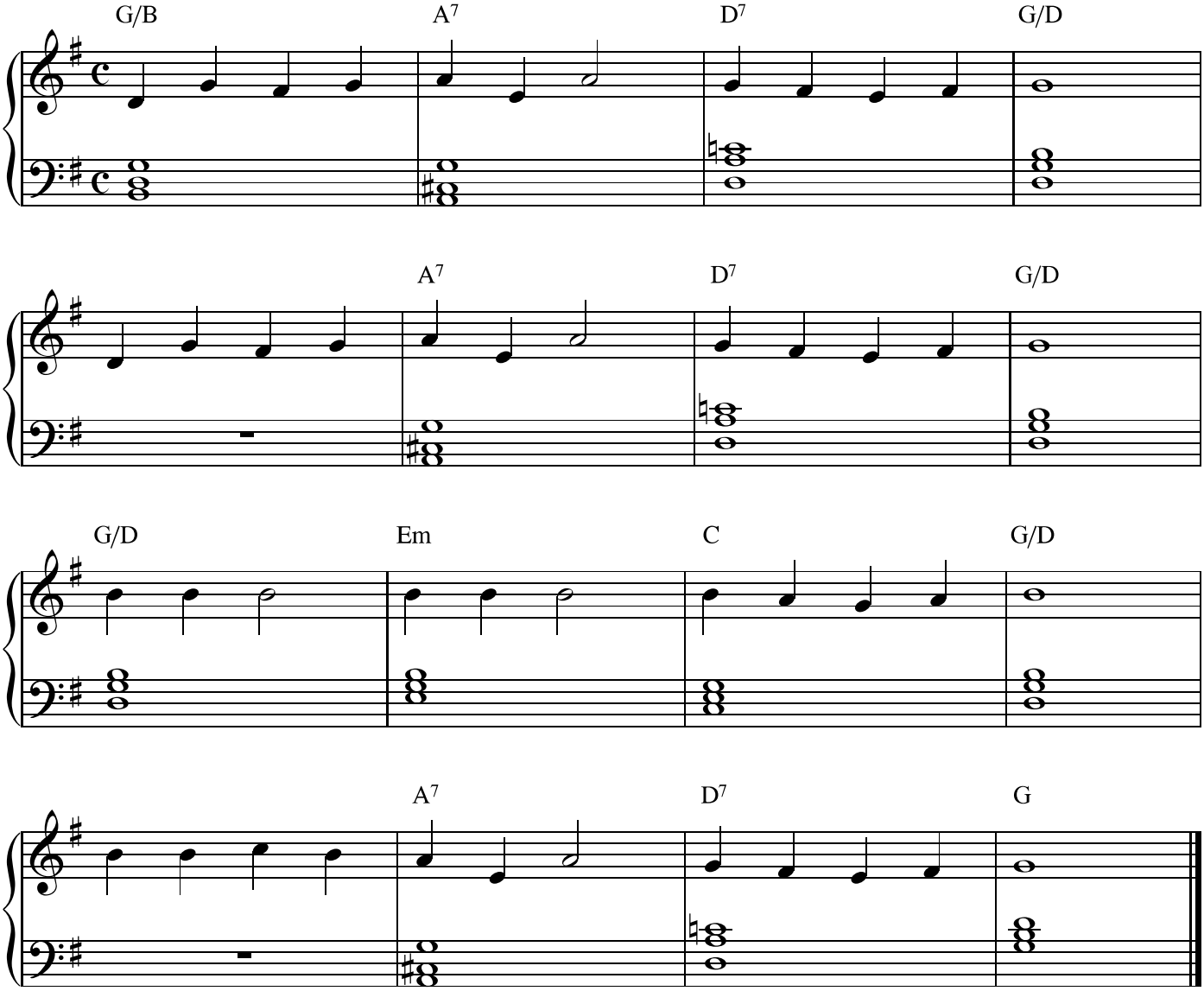
Stephen Foster



Copyright © Pianochord.org

Aura Lee

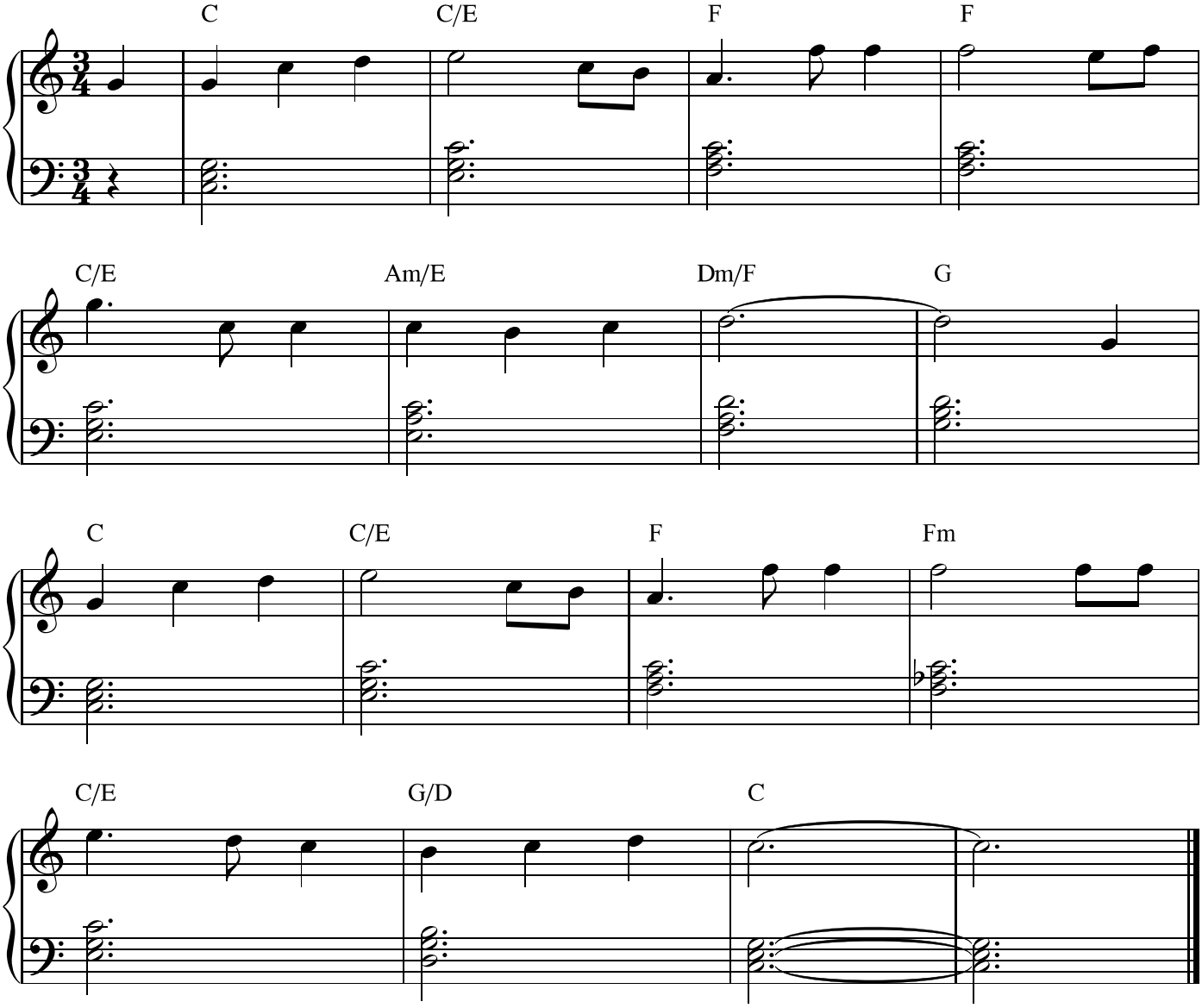
Trad.



Copyright © Pianochord.org

Home on the Range

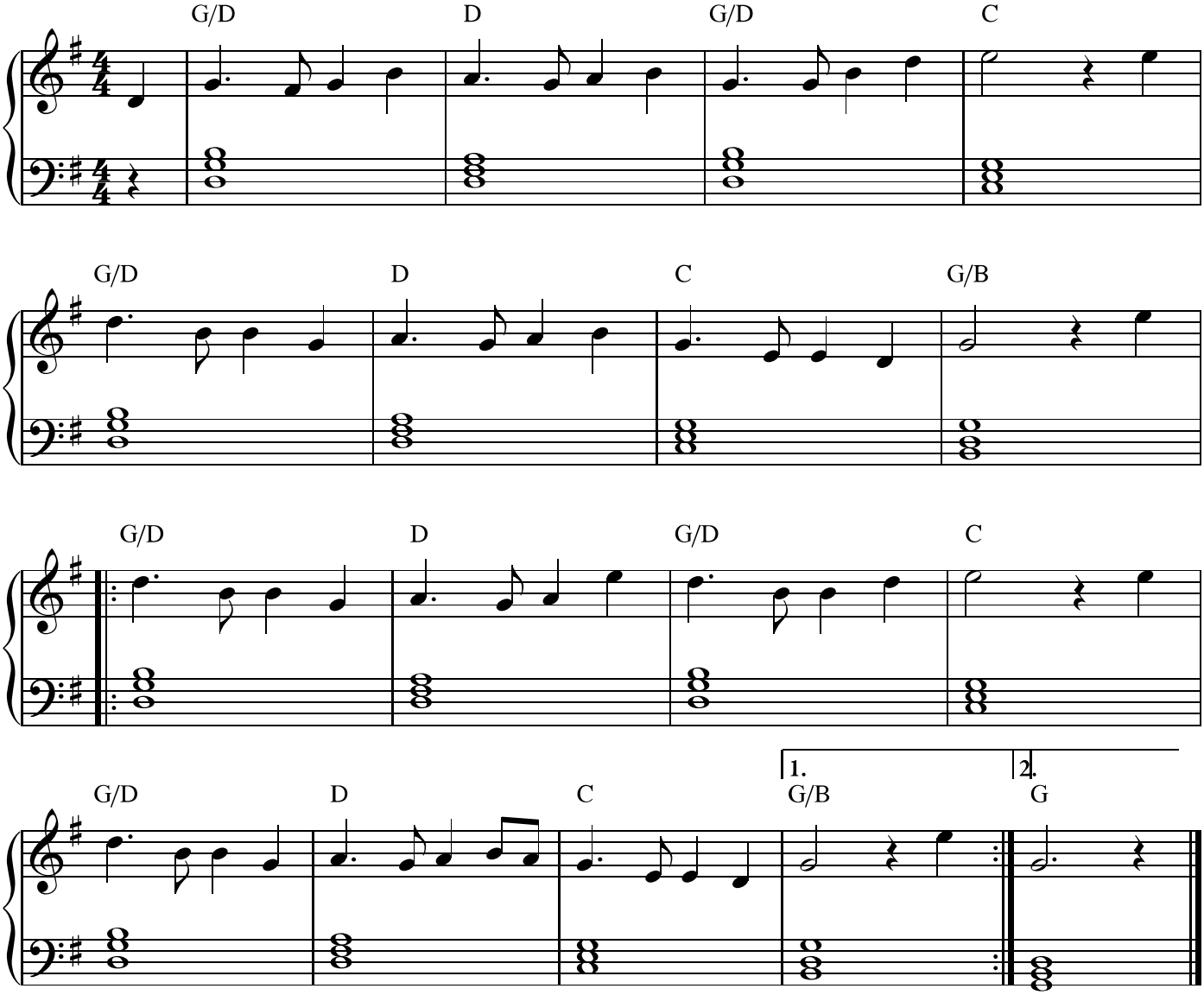
D. E. Kelley



Copyright © Pianochord.org

Auld Lang Syne

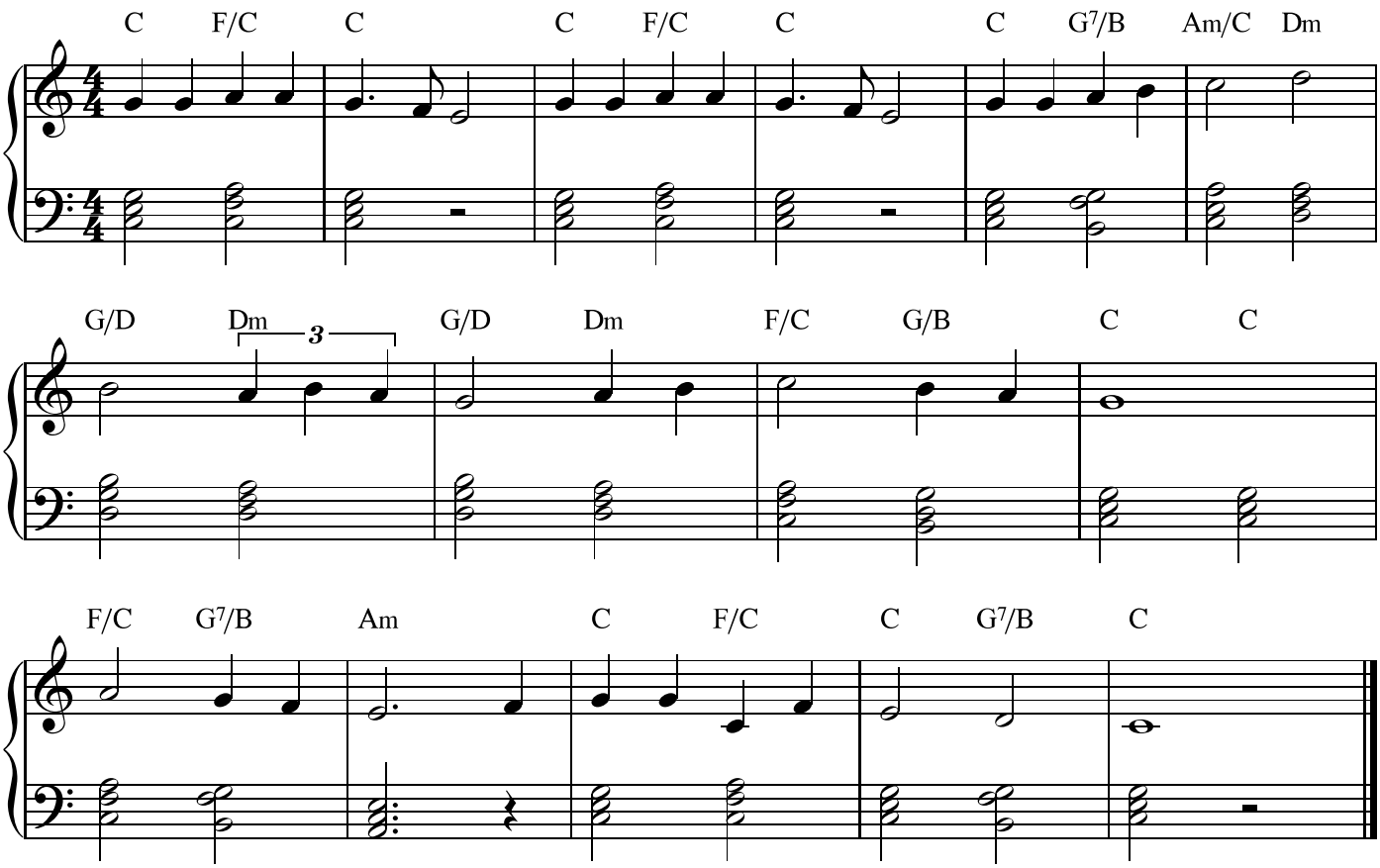
Trad.



Copyright © Pianochord.org

We Shall Overcome

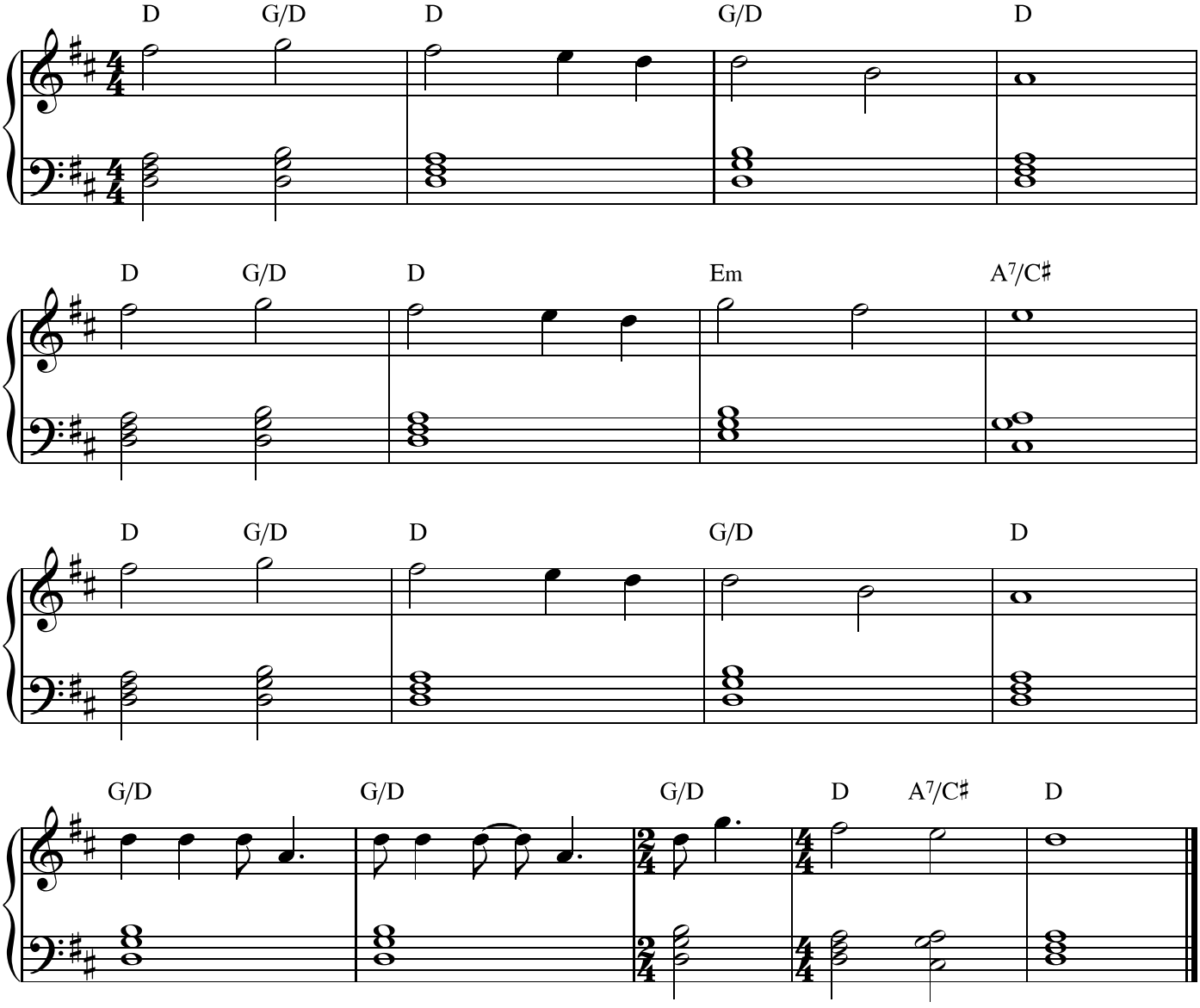
Trad.



Copyright © Pianochord.org

Deep Blue Sea

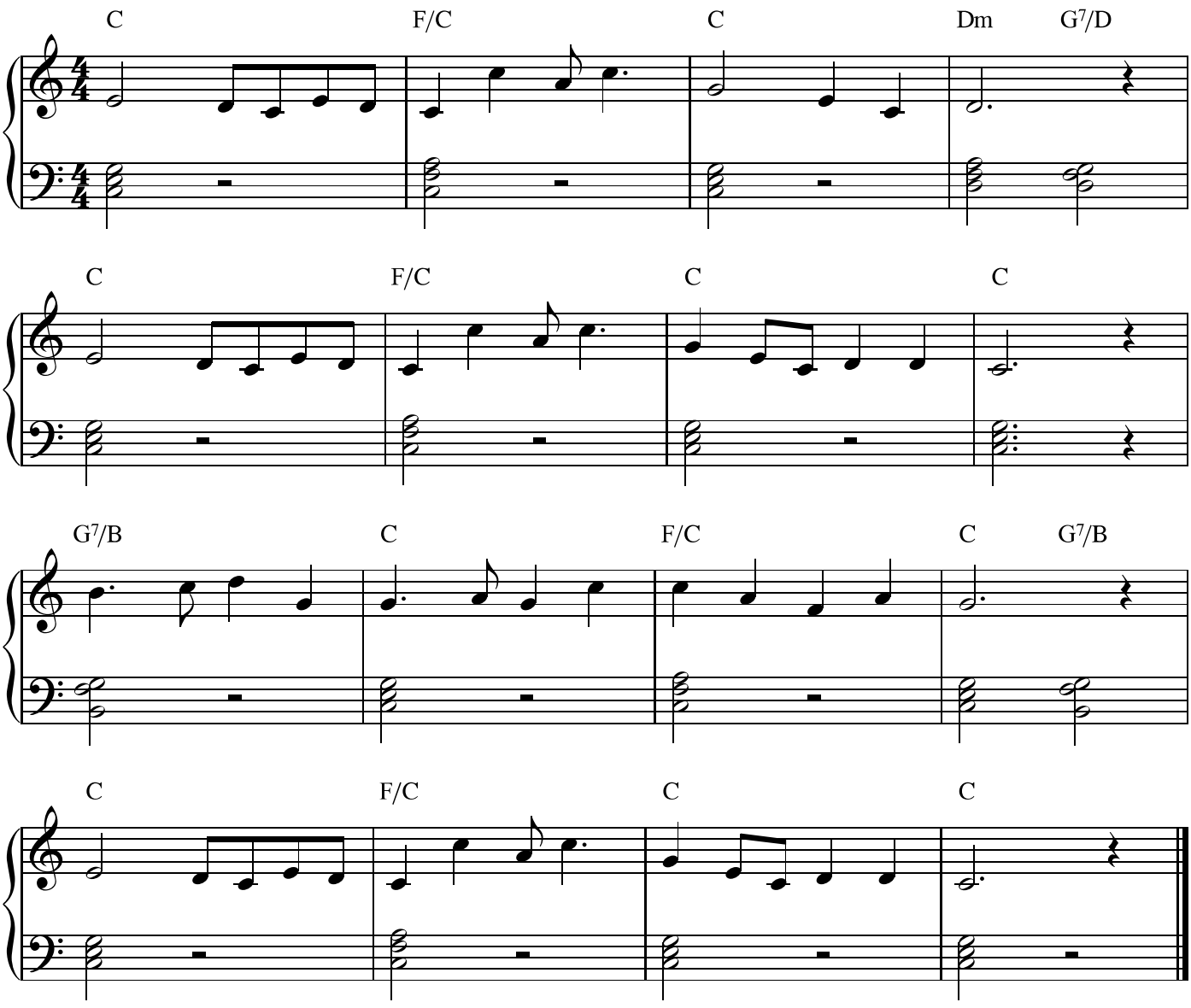
Trad.



Copyright © Pianochord.org

Swanee River

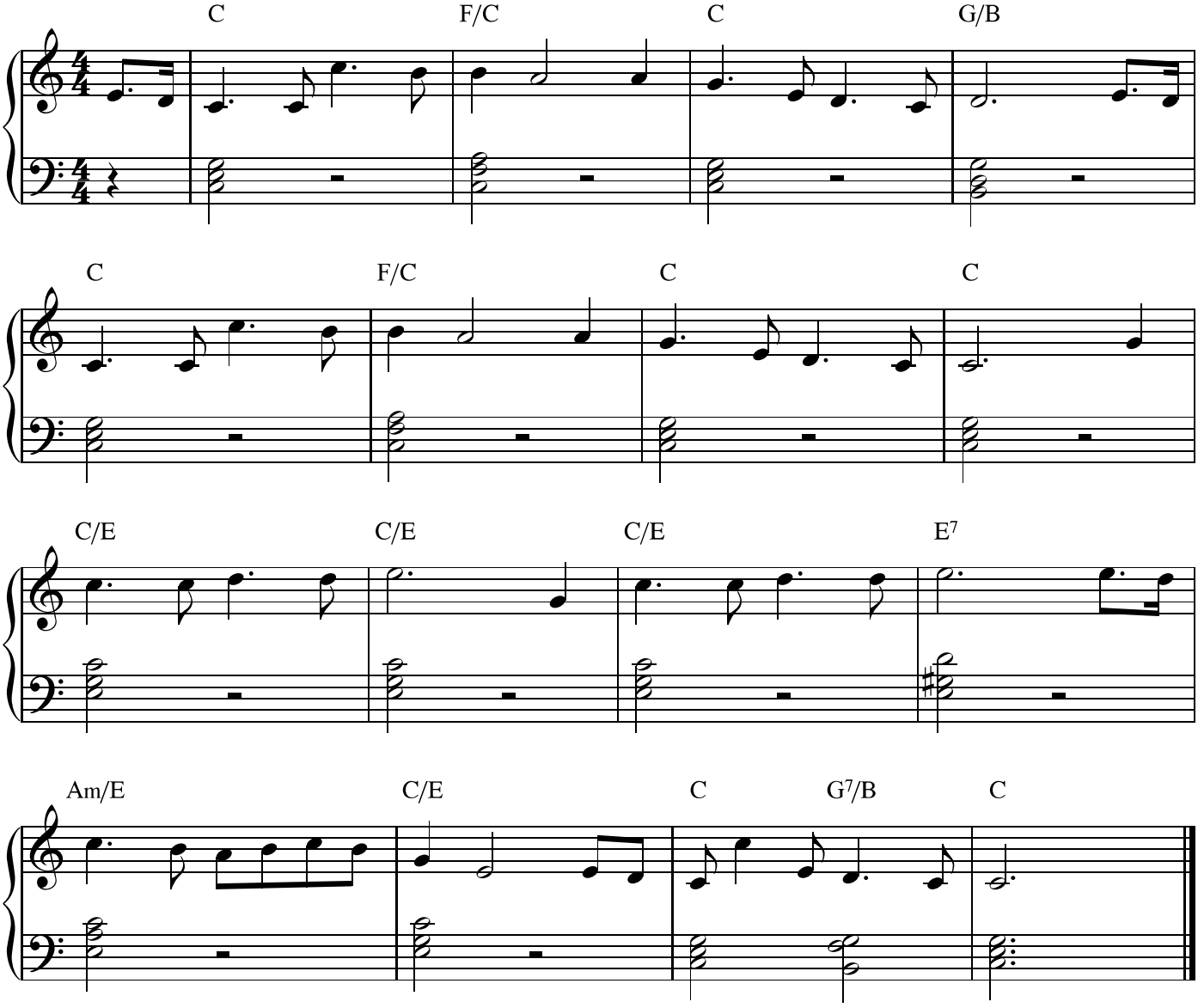
Stephen Foster



Copyright © Pianochord.org

Annie Laurie

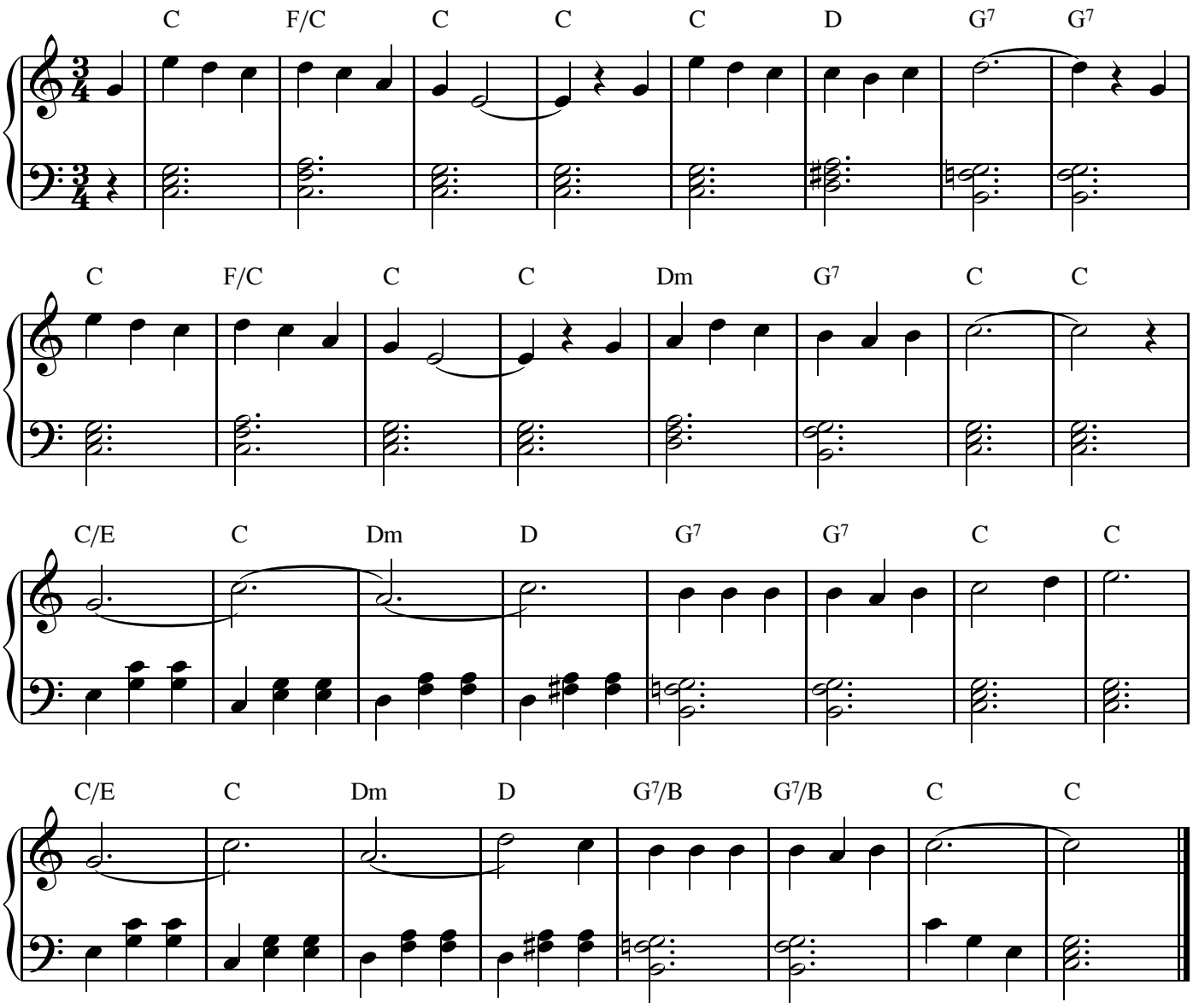
Lady John Scott



Copyright © Pianochord.org

My Bonnie Lies Over the Ocean

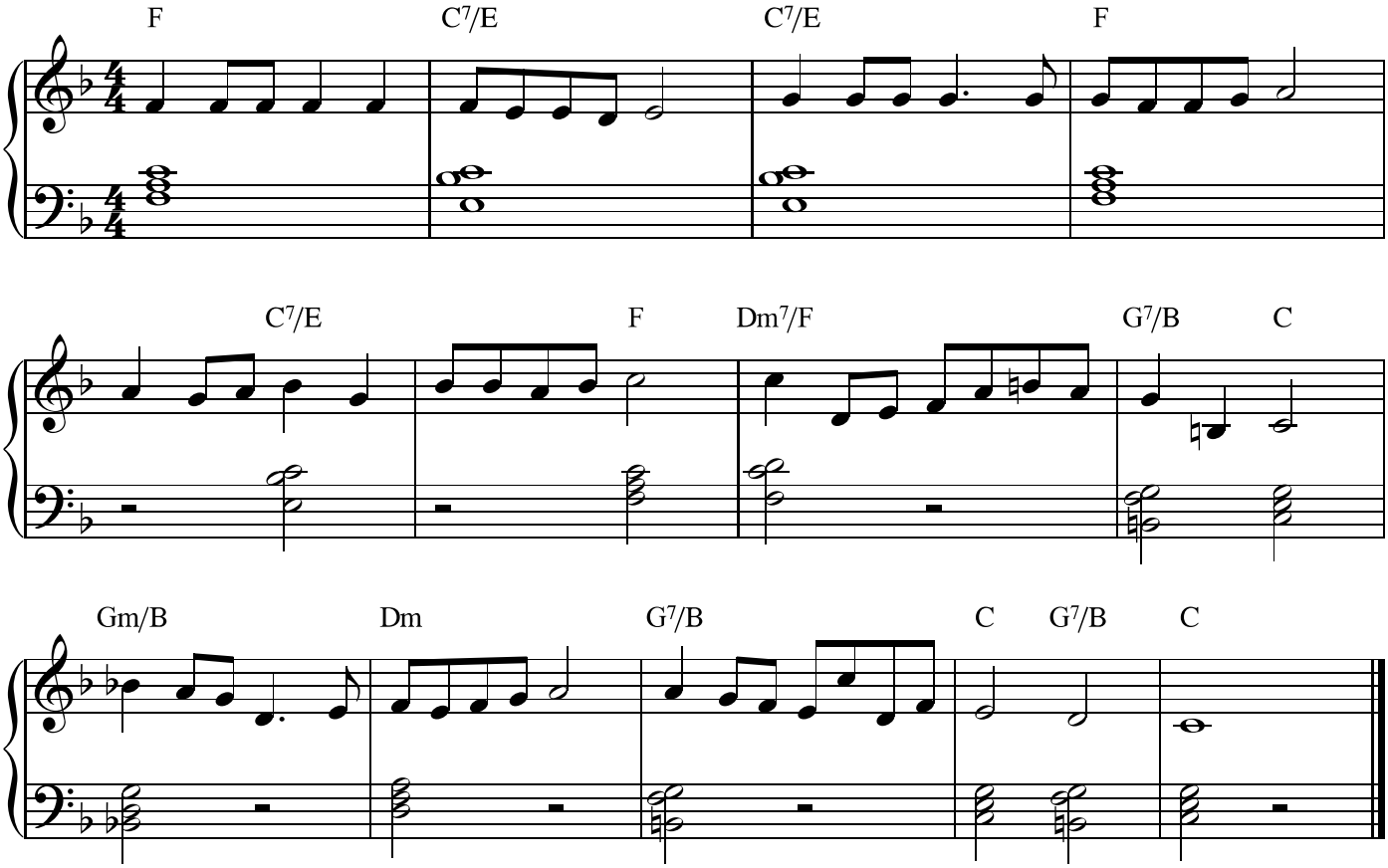
Trad.



Copyright © Pianochord.org

Love's Old Sweet Song

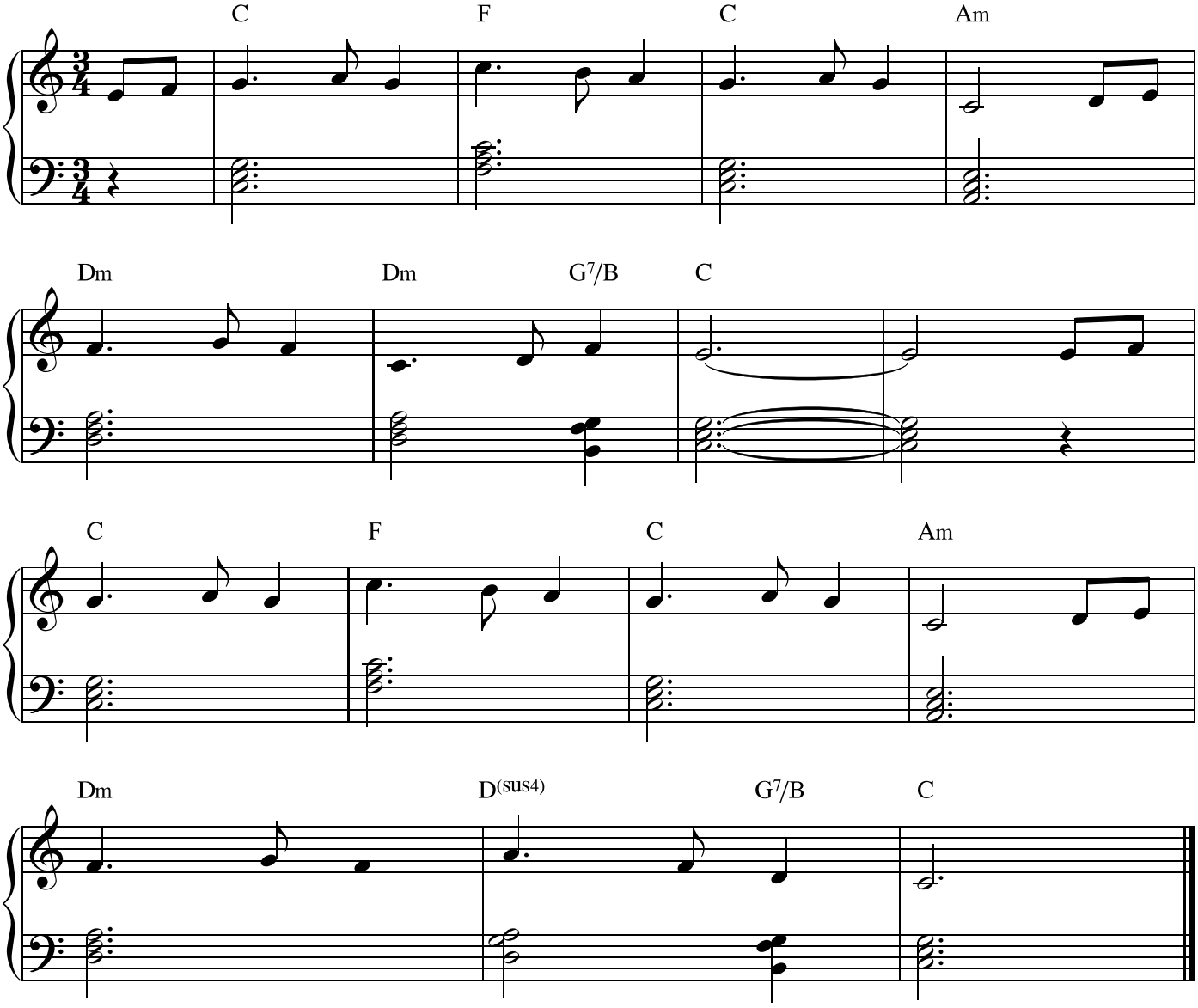
G.C. Bingham & J.L. Molloy



Copyright © Pianochord.org

Annabel Lee

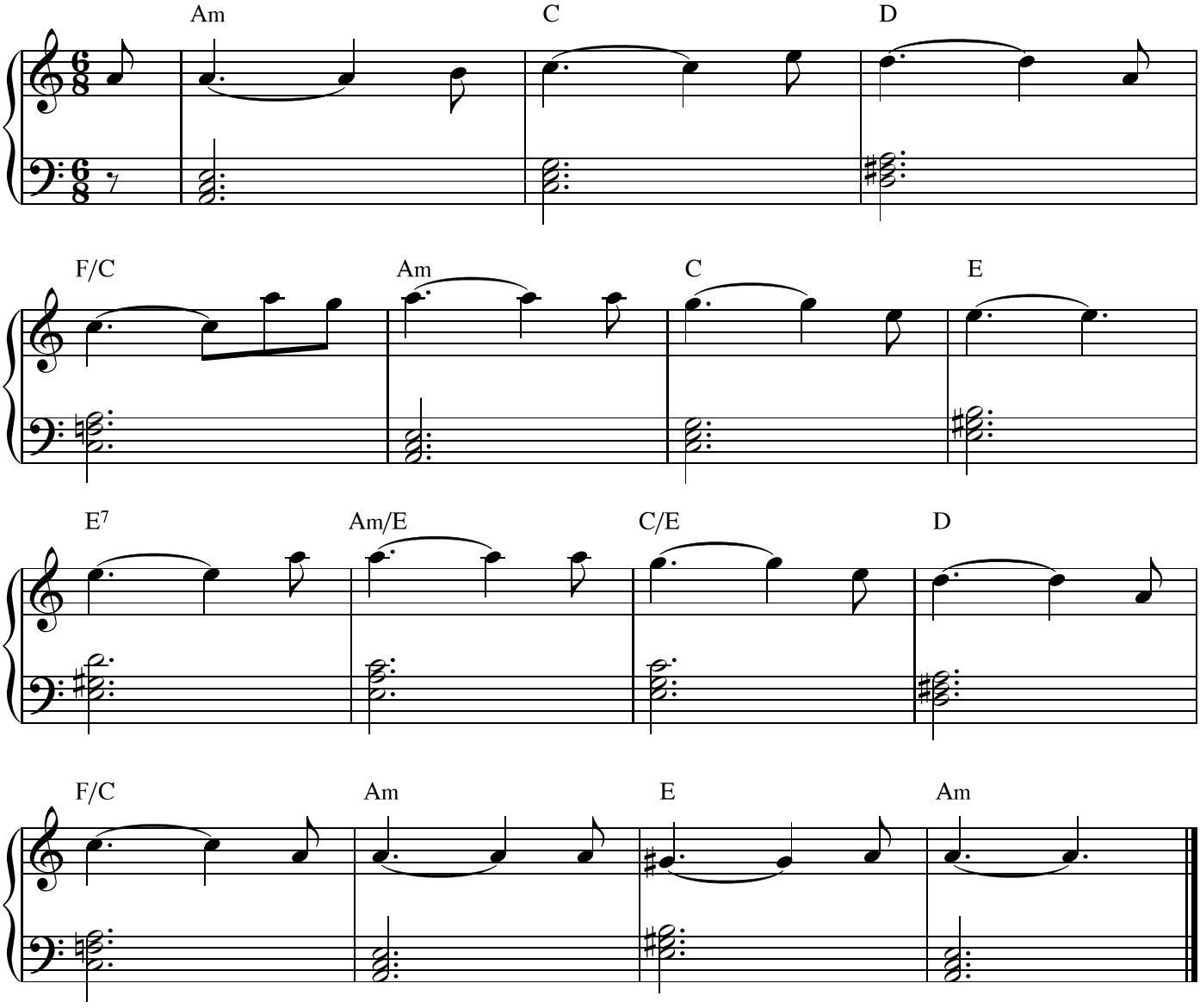
Trad.



Copyright © Pianochord.org

The House of the Rising Sun

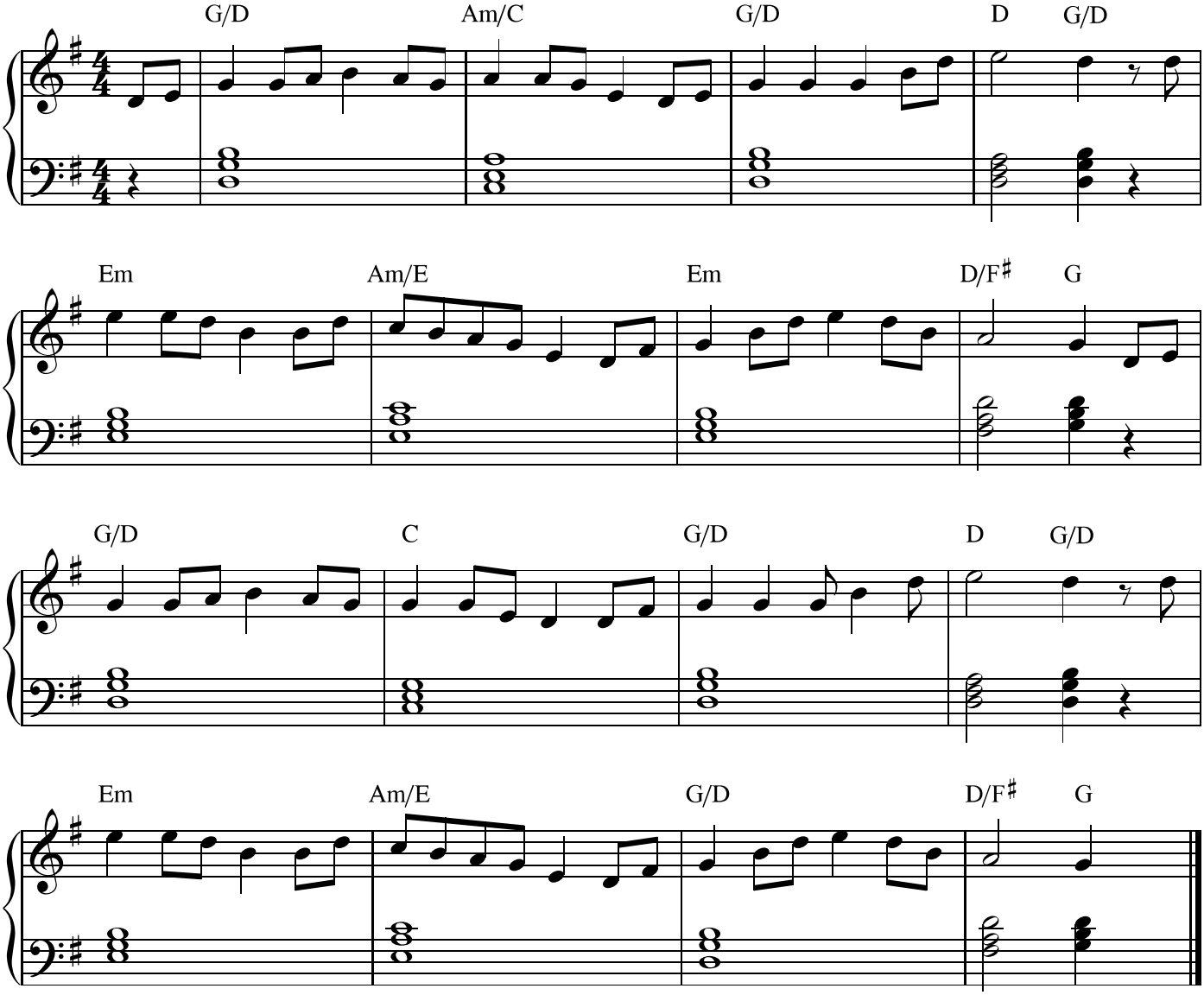
Trad.



Copyright © Pianochord.org

Loch Lomond

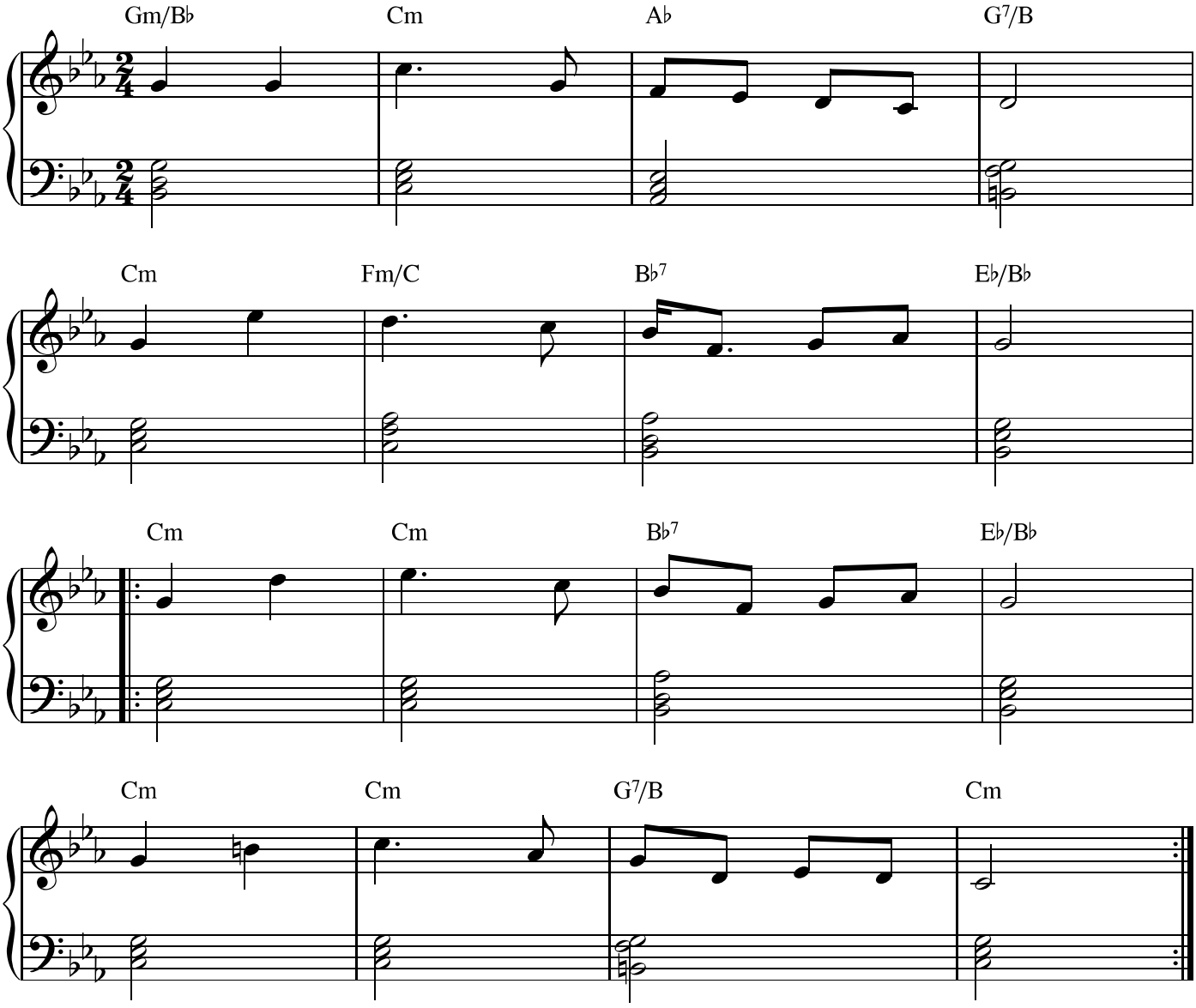
Trad.



Copyright © Pianochord.org

Mustalainen

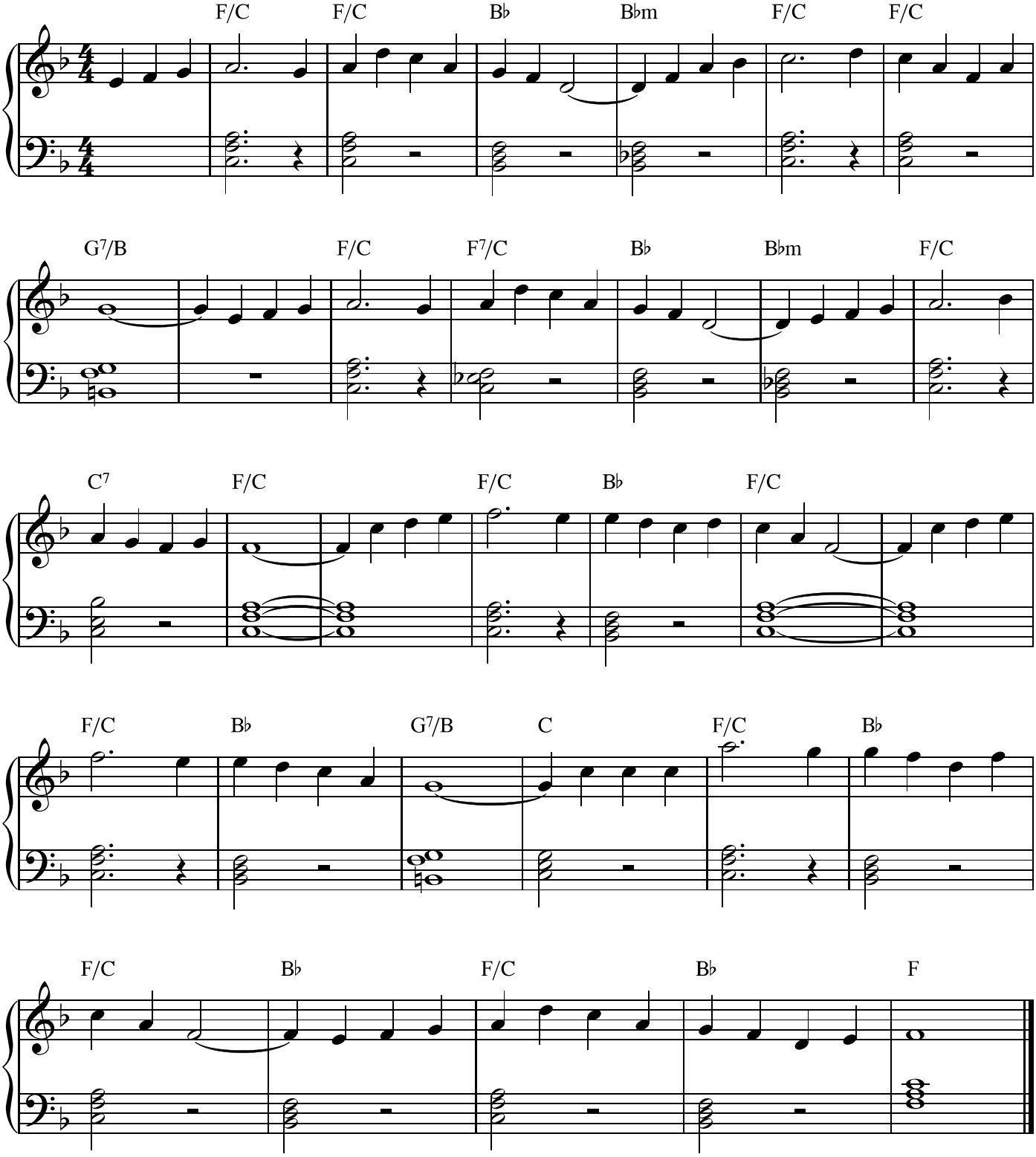
E. Szentirmay



Copyright © Pianochord.org

Londonberry Air (Danny Boy)

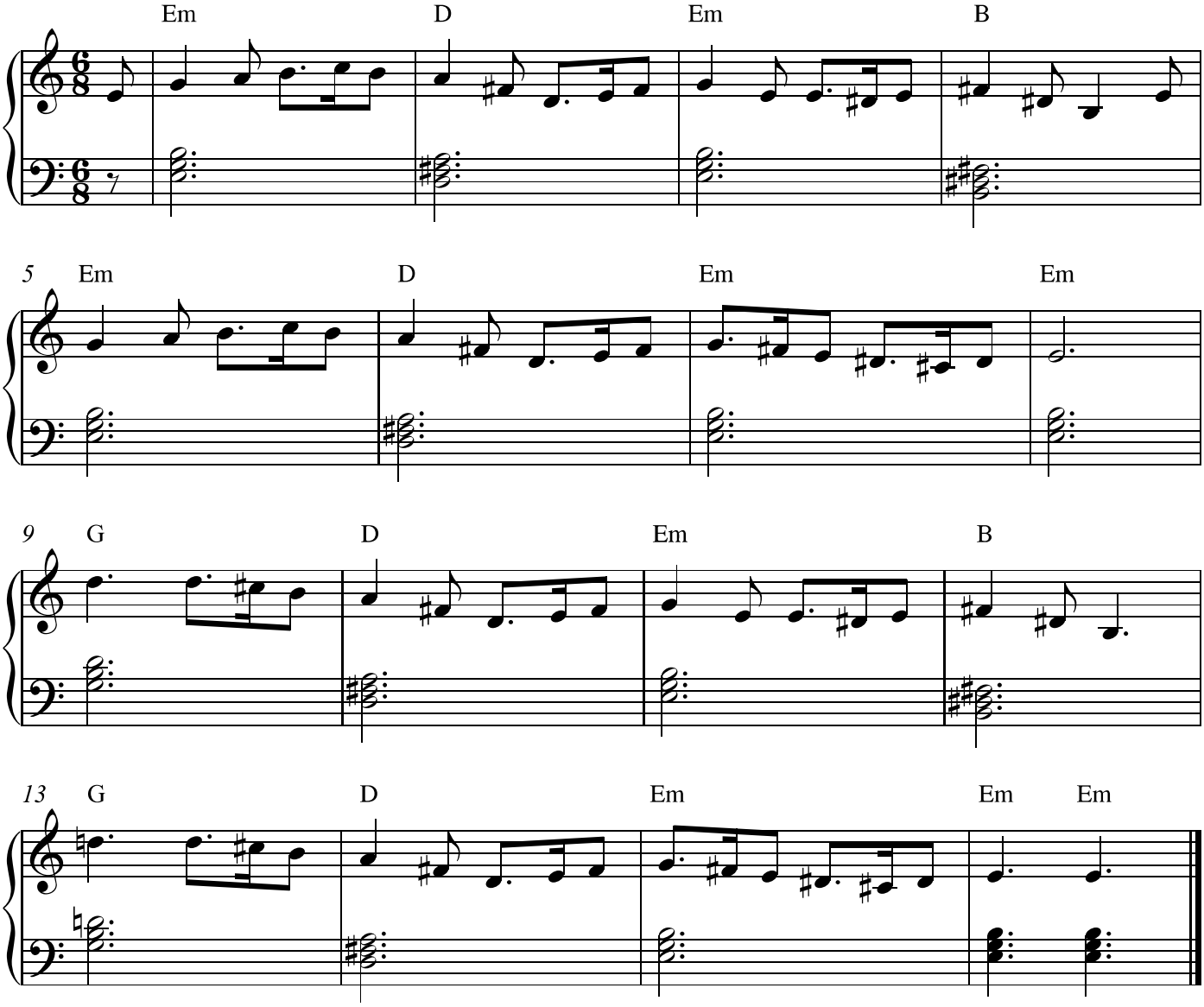
Trad.



Copyright © Pianochord.org

Greensleeves

Trad.



Copyright © Pianochord.org