

By Chance It Was

The image shows a musical score for the song 'By Chance It Was'. It consists of six staves of music in a single system, written in a treble clef with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat) and a 6/8 time signature. The lyrics are printed below the notes. The first staff begins with 'By chance it was I met my love, It'. The second staff continues with 'did me much sur - - prise, Down by a sha - dy'. The third staff has 'myr - tle grove, Just as the sun did rise. The ___'. The fourth staff reads 'birds they sang right glo - rious-ly, And plea - sant was the'. The fifth staff says 'air; _____ And there was none, save'. The sixth and final staff concludes with 'she and I, A - - mong the flow - ers fair.' The music features various note values including quarter, eighth, and sixteenth notes, as well as rests and accidentals.

By chance it was I met my love, It
did me much sur - - prise, Down by a sha - dy
myr - tle grove, Just as the sun did rise. The ___
birds they sang right glo - rious-ly, And plea - sant was the
air; _____ And there was none, save
she and I, A - - mong the flow - ers fair.

By chance it was I met my love,
It did me much surprise,
Down by a shady myrtle grove,
Just as the sun did rise.
The birds they sang right gloriously,
And pleasant was the air;
And there was none, save she and I,
Among the flowers fair.

In dewy grass and green we walk'd,
She was timid and was coy;
"How can'st thou choose but pity me,
My pretty pearl, my joy?
How comes it that thou stroll'st this way?
Sweet Maiden, tell me true,
Before bright Phoebus' glittering ray
Has supped the morning dew?"

"I go to tend the flocks I love
The ewes and tender lambs,
That pasture by the myrtle grove,
That gambol by thier dams;
There I enjoy a pure content
At dawning of the day,"
Then, hand in hand, we lovers went
To see the flock at play.

And as she wended down the road.
I said to her, "Sweet maid,
Three years I in my place abode
And three more must be stayed.
Three times that I am bound so fast,
O fairest wait for me.
And when these weary years are passed
Then married we will be"

Three years are long, three times to long,
Too lengthy the delay".
O then I answered in my song,
"Hope wastes them quick away.
Where love is fervent, fain and fast,
And knoweth not decay.
There nimbly fleet the seasons past
Accounted as one day."