

# 23. If all the ages of the earth

Poem by Ben Jonson

Alfonso Ferrabosco II

5

If all the a- ges of the earth Were crowned but with this

The first system of music consists of two staves, treble and bass clef, in a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. The music is in common time (C). The lyrics are written below the treble staff.

10

fa- mous birth, but with this fa- mous birth; And when they

The second system of music continues from the first. It features a repeat sign at the end of the first phrase, indicating a first and second ending. The lyrics are written below the treble staff.

would boast their store Of wor- thy queens, of wor- thy

The third system of music continues the melody and bass line. The lyrics are written below the treble staff.

15

queens they know no more; How hap- pier is that age can give A

The fourth system of music continues the melody and bass line. The lyrics are written below the treble staff.

20

queen in whom they all do live. And live.

The fifth system of music concludes the piece. It features first and second endings for the final phrase. The lyrics are written below the treble staff.