

THE TIOGA WALTZ

[Composed in 1841; published in 1896]

This was Stephen Foster's first musical composition, composed in 1841, when he was just 14 years old. It was written originally for four flutes, and was played at the commencement exercises of the Athens Academy in Bradford County, Pennsylvania, where Stephen was a student. Stephen himself played one of the flutes in this performance. The name comes from Tioga Point, a beautiful landmark near the School, at the junction of the Susquehanna and Chemung rivers.

The *Tioga Waltz* was not published until 1896, long after Stephen's death, when Morrison Foster, Stephen's brother, brought it forth as part of his *Biography of Stephen Foster*. Thus it appeared 70 years after Foster's birth.

It is amusing to think that the Waltz as a dance, had been castigated by many Social Uplift Groups of the time for its lascivious character. This Waltz is a far cry from a riotous picture of debauchery. It is entirely innocent, and quite charming.



Stephen Foster
Edited by Eugene List



1 2

First system of a piano score. The right hand (treble clef) plays a melodic line with eighth and sixteenth notes, featuring a repeat sign and first/second endings. The left hand (bass clef) provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords and single notes. A bracket connects the first ending in the right hand to the first ending in the left hand.

[mf] *f* *p*

Second system of the piano score. The right hand continues the melodic line. The left hand features a series of chords. Dynamic markings *[mf]*, *f*, and *p* are present. A bracket connects the *f* dynamic in the right hand to the *f* dynamic in the left hand.

1. 2.

Third system of the piano score. The right hand has a melodic line with a repeat sign and first/second endings. The left hand has a harmonic accompaniment. Dynamic markings *[mf]* and *[f]* are present.

[f-p]

Fourth system of the piano score. The right hand has a melodic line. The left hand has a harmonic accompaniment. A dynamic marking *[f-p]* is present.

1 2

Fifth system of the piano score. The right hand has a melodic line with a repeat sign and first/second endings. The left hand has a harmonic accompaniment. Dynamic markings *[p]* and *[mf]* are present.

Sixth system of the piano score. The right hand has a melodic line. The left hand has a harmonic accompaniment.

