

# The Great Scottish Composers

## The Farewell (W Marshall)

Chords: D, D, A, A<sup>7</sup>, Em, A, D

The first system of musical notation for 'The Farewell' consists of a treble clef staff with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. The melody is written in eighth and quarter notes. Below the staff is a guitar fretboard diagram with strings labeled T (top) and B (bottom). The fret numbers are: 4 5, 0 5 4 2, 0 4 0 5 2 5, 0 0 2 3 5 3 2 3, 0, 2 4 2 4 5, 0 5 4 2.

Chords: D, G, 1. Em, A, D, 2. Em, Bm, D

The second system of musical notation continues the melody. It includes a first ending bracket over the notes G, A, D and a second ending bracket over the notes Em, Bm, D. The fretboard diagram shows: 0 4 0 5 2 5 3 2 0, 0 5 4 2 0 4 5 0 2 5 5, 0 5 4 2 2 0 5 4, 0 0 0.

Chords: D, Bm, G, D, Em, A

The third system of musical notation continues the melody. The fretboard diagram shows: 2 3 5 5 2 5, 5 4 5 0 2 5, 3 0 2 5 3 2, 0, 2 4 2.

Chords: D, Em, Bm, G, D, A, A<sup>7</sup>, D

The fourth system of musical notation continues the melody. The fretboard diagram shows: 2 3 5 3 2 0 5 4, 0 5 4 2 2 0 5 4, 5 2 0 5 4 0 0 3, 2 5 5.

Chords: D, F#m, G, Bm, D, G, D, A

The fifth system of musical notation continues the melody. The fretboard diagram shows: 2 3 5 5 2 4, 5 0 2 0 4 0, 2 0 4 0 5 2 2 4 5, 2 0 0.

Chords: D, D, G, Em, Bm, D

The sixth system of musical notation concludes the piece. The fretboard diagram shows: 4 5, 0 5 4 2, 0 4 0 5 2 5 3 2 0, 0 5 4 2 2 0 5 4, 0 0 0.

**2. William Marshall** In the history of Scottish music, there are few people as fascinating as William Marshall (1748-1833). He spent most of his life at Gordon Castle in the service of the 4th Duke of Gordon as butler and later factor for the Duke's land. In his spare time he studied astronomy, horology, mechanics, architecture and falconry, and some of the clocks he made are regarded as exceptional examples. He is best remembered, however, for his music, and many of his 250-plus tunes are revered by musicians. Some complained of the difficulty of some of his tunes; he would say that practise was required. "I do not write for bunglers," he is reputed to have said. *The Farewell* was composed upon retiring leaving Keithmore farm in 1823 after 33 years of farming and factoring.

