

# The Landfall of Cabot

arranged for SATB Choir and Piano

Selected verses set to an original melody composed and arranged by D. F. Cook

Johnny Burke (1897)  
(with additional lyrics by M. J. Fewer, 1961)

**Light & Rhythmic** ♩. = 108

*mf* *sempre dim*

Choir

*ad lib.* spoken dialogue, singers  
"arguing amongst themselves"

T & B

[T & B sing] **ppp**

He

**Light & Rhythmic** ♩. = 108

**ppp** *leggiero*

Piano

5 *sempre dim* **ppp**

Choir

[Half S, A, T & B continue speaking]

S & A

[Half S & A sing] **p**

He

s He did! He did!

T & B

ad - n't! He did - n't! He did - n't, he did - n't! He did! \_\_\_\_\_

*sempre cresc.* **p**

Piano

7 *ppp* *sempre dim. al niente*

Choir

S & A *sempre cresc.* all wom

S & A did - n't! He did - n't!

T & B He did! He did - n't, he did - n't! He

*mf* *mp*

*sempre cresc.* *mf*

9

S & A arg - u - ment un - fin - ished twi - ship and the Judge, And the

T & B He did! He did - n't, he did - n't! He did!

*mp*

11

S & A tor takes a hand in for to set - tle an old grudge; It's a -

He did - n't!

T & B He did! He did! He did - n't, he did - n't! He did! He

*mf*

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13

S & A *mp* bout this Ca - bot land - fall they are mak - ing such a rack - et; *me*

T & B He did! He did!  
did - n't! He did - n't! He did - n't, he did - n't! He c'

15

S & A *ff* say he came as pas - sen - ger o' ry Coad - y's pack - et. But, we

T & B He did! He did - n't!  
He did! did - n't, he did - n't! He did! But, we *ff*

17

S & A 'twas Bon - a - vis - ta he dis - cov - ered af - ter tea, And

T & B know 'twas Bon - a - vis - ta he dis - cov - ered af - ter tea, And

*mf* *leggiero* *ff* *mp*

19

S & A  you can tell Cape Bre - ton that's the way it has to be!

T & B  you can tell Cape Bre - ton that's the way it has to be! .le dee




21


S & A  Did - dle de dee. Ooh *nis.*


T & B  dee. *mf* *v* *f* 2. I re - mem - ber well John Ca - bot when he



24

S & A  ot a dol - lar, Ooh \_\_\_\_\_ But - ton up his col - lar;

T  nad - n't got a dol - lar, And he used a wart was on his neck to but - ton up his col - lar; And a



27

S & A Ooh \_\_\_\_\_ Dev - il for ta - bac - cie, a

T & B shock - in' hand for smok - in', and a dev - il for ta - bac - c' ith a

29

S & A scat - tered fox - y whisk - er like an Up - per Is - ' He did! He did! He

T & B scat - tered fox - y whisk - er like an I' d crac - kie. Oh, he did - n't! He did - n't! He

32

S & A d - n't! He did! He did - n't! He did - n't! He did - n't, he did - n't! He did!

T Solo (spoken)  
id - n't, he did - n't! He did! He did! He did! He did - n't, he did - n't! He did! I was

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35 *unis. mf*

S & A

T & B

*mf* **Tutti unis.**

37 *unis.*

S & A

T & B

39 *meno mosso*

S & A

T

*meno mosso*

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41 *rit.* **ppp** *slow slide*

S & A spring the crew turned ma - nus. Oc We

T & B *rit.* (spoken slowly, in a whisper) [incredulous whisper in the choir.] They said Ca - bot was a jink - er! ooouoo We

*gliss.*

**a tempo**

43 **mf**

S & A know 'twas Bon - a - vis - ta he v - ered af - ter tea, And

T & B **mf** know 'twas Bon - a - vis dis - cov - ered af - ter tea, And

**a tempo**

**mf** **ff** **mf**

(8) - 1

45 **Gossip I** "Sure I

(Solo)

S & A an tell Cape Bre - ton that's the way it has to be!

T you can tell Cape Bre - ton that's the way it has to be!

47

S & A *mf* knew John Ca - bot's mo-ther," " her

T & B *unis. mf* Says a spin - ster named Kate Ab - bot.

*mp*

49

S & A *unis. mf* name was Pa - tience Mor - gan (That's be - fore - ried Ca - bot). "I re -

**Gossip II (Solo)**

51 [spoken in a free conversation]

S & A **Gossip I** mem - ber her three sis - ry, Jo, and Ju - lia John - ston." Yes, yes, yes! Did - n't a -

*mp*

53

S & A **Gossip III (spoken slowly)** *ten. mf* ther mar - ry Fla - vin?" "Is - n't she liv - ing in Wis - con - sin? Oh we

*mp* **meno mosso** **a tempo** *f* Oh we

*mp* **meno mosso** **a tempo** *f*

Ped.

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55

S & A  
know 'twas Bon-a-vis-ta he dis-cov-ered af-ter tea, And you can tell Cape Bre-t 'he

T & B  
know 'twas Bon-a-vis-ta he dis-cov-ered af-ter tea, And you can tell C that's the

*mf* *leggiero* *ff* *mf*

58

S & A  
way it has to be! Did-dle de dee, did-dle de dee. de dee.

T & B  
way it has to be! Ah did-dle de dee.

*mp* *mf* *mf* *f* *ff* *mf*

Solo (spoken) "Sure, I went to school with Ca-bot," Says a

T *is.*

man named Bil-ly Bran-don, "It was called the Or-phan A-sy-lum, where St.

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63

T & B

Pa - trick's Hall is stand - in'. He was dul - ler than mo - las - ses ar his

S & A

And his fin all bro - ken, From the

T & B

tongue was like a clap-per; Ar gers were all bro - ken,

*meno mosso* *mp* *rall.*

*meno r* *rall.*

*Ped.*

S & A

ard wood slap - per. *mf* *ten. ten. a tempo* *unis.*

O we know 'twas Bon - a - vis - ta he dis -

T

O we know 'twas Bon - a - vis - ta he dis -

*mf* *ten. ten. a tempo* *unis.*

*mf*

*Ped.*

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71 *allargando* *div. cresc.*

S & A *cov - ered af - ter tea, And you can tell Cape Bre - ton that's the way*

T & B *cov - ered af - ter tea, And you can tell Cape Bre - ton that's the way*

*cresc e marcato*

74 *a tempo* *senza rit.* *fff*

S & A *has to be... He did - n't! He did! e did! Yes he did!*

T & B *has to be... He did - n't! He did! e did! Yes he did!*

*a f* *senza rit.* *ff* *fff*

It is generally believed that in 1497 the Genoese explorer John Cabot, sailing out of Bristol, England in the ship "Matthew" first sighted the continent of North America at Cape Bonavista [i.e.'happy sight'] on the East coast of Newfoundland. This has been long disputed by some historians who believe that the first European to set foot on the shores of Cape Breton Island in Nova Scotia was the explorer John Cabot who believed that he landed there first.

Glossary

*packet*  
*after*

[at] a boat that carries mail after the evening meal the name of a small sailing schooner a metal striker for a bell one of many sailing captains, c. 1900 a lack-lustre reddish-brown colour someone whose presence brings bad luck a well-known sealing captain; a senior of 10 sealing captains representing several generations of the Barbour family from Newtown, Bonavista Bay to mutiny, to rebel

*St. Patrick's Hall*

a boys' school in St. John's; closed in the 1960's

*to the ice*

to sail to the ice fields off Newfoundland's north-east coast hunting seals in the spring of the year

*Upper Island crackie*

a mongrel dog, reputed to have been especially numerous and uncontrolled in Upper Island Cove, a small outpost in Conception Bay

*the "Walrus"*

a small wooden steamer, constructed esp. for navigating ice; lost at the seal-hunt in 1907

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