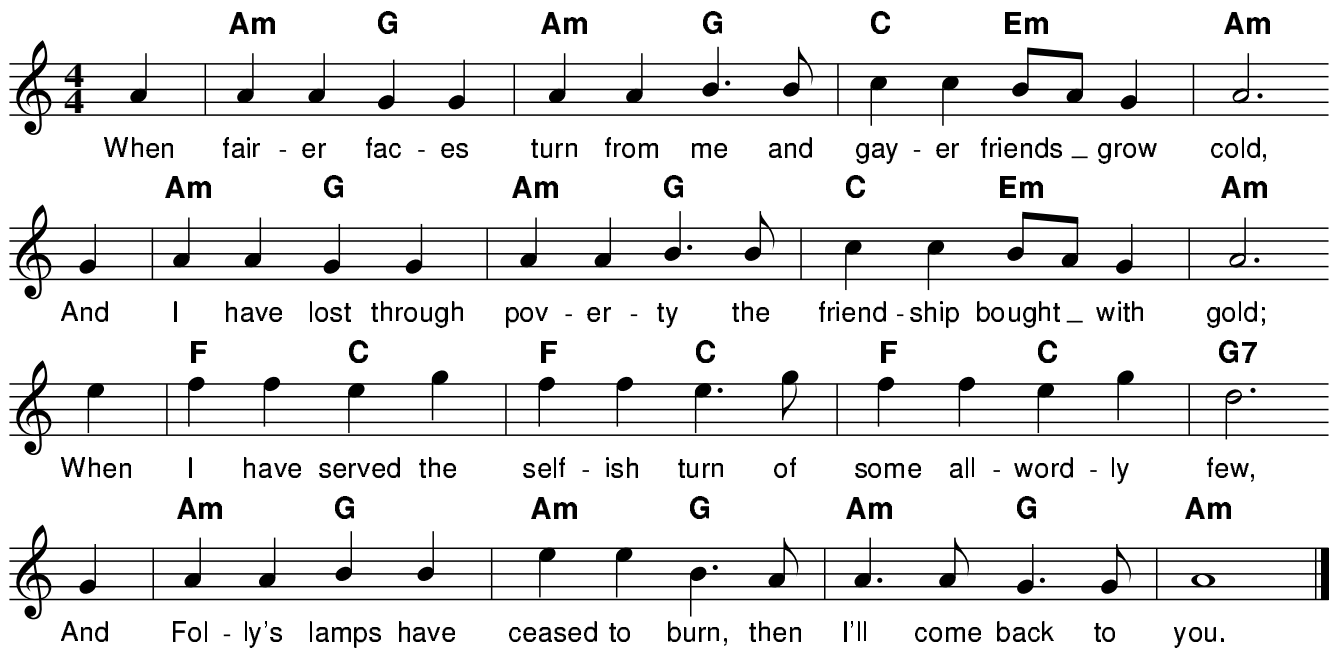


The Way of the World

The words were written by Henry Lawson in early 1896 at a time when Lawson's stars were in the ascension. Literary figures in the 1890s were the celebrities of the time. Lawson clearly perceived the temporary nature of such fame. The tune is by David Johnson



Am G Am G C Em Am
When fair - er fac - es turn from me and gay - er friends _ grow cold,
Am G Am G C Em Am
And I have lost through pov - er - ty the friend - ship bought _ with gold;
F C F C F C G7
When I have served the self - ish turn of some all - word - ly few,
Am G Am G Am G Am
And Fol - ly's lamps have ceased to burn, then I'll come back to you.

When my admirers find I'm not the rising star they thought,
And praise or blame is all forgot my early promise brought;
When brighter rivals lead a host where once I led a few,
And kinder times reward their boast, then I'll come back to you.

You loved me, not for what I had or what I might have been.
You saw the good, but not the bad, was kind for that between.
I know that you'll forgive again – that you will judge me true:
I'll be too tired to explain when I come back to you.