

Hector the Hero

Scottish Lament

by J. Scott Skinner, 1903

The musical score for 'Hector the Hero' is written in 6/8 time and the key of D major (indicated by two sharps). The melody is composed of six staves. Chords are indicated by letters above the notes: A, D, A, A, D, E(Bm) E on the first staff; A, D, A, A, E, A, A on the second staff; D, A, D, A, E(Bm) E on the third staff; D, A, E, A on the fourth staff; D, A, D, A, E on the fifth staff; and A, D, A, (F#m), A, E, A on the sixth staff. The piece concludes with a double bar line and the initials 'JSL'.

James Scott Skinner composed this lament in honor of Sir Hector McDonald (1853-1903). McDonald served at the Battle of Khartoum in 1885, Knighted in 1901, Aide-de-Camp to Queen Victoria and Major-General in the British Army. Unsavory rumors and illness drove him to suicide.

- Transcribed verbatim from the original handwritten 1903 manuscript in the University of Aberdeen Collection