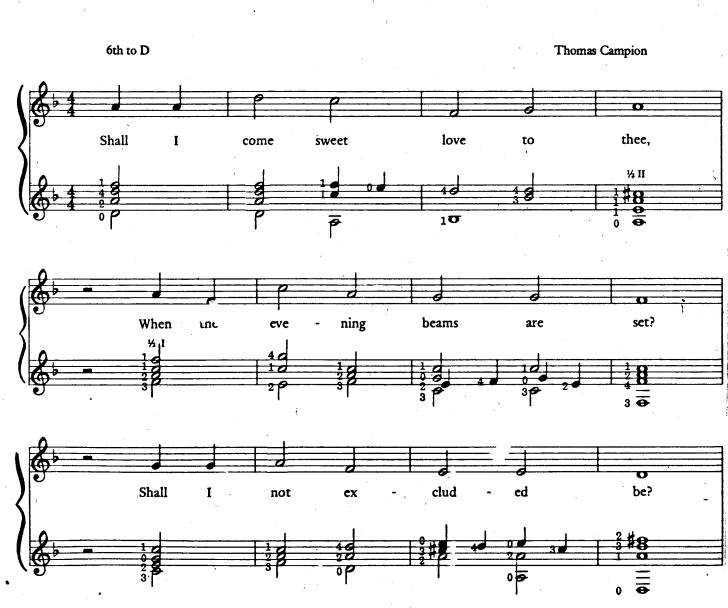
## **Shall I Come Sweet Love To Thee**

Although Campion was not a professional musician, having trained first in law and later in medicine, his poetry and music are among the finest examples of the period. This song is taken from his first *Book of Ayres*. He published four books of "ayres" altogether and shared another with Philip Rosseter. In an introduction he wrote, "These Ayres were for the most part framed at first for one voice with the lute or viol, but upon occasion they have since been filled with more parts, which who so please may use, who like not may leave."

The song should be taken at a gentle tempo to fit the lyric. The singer may wish to ornament one of the verses; a typical example of florid ornamentation is given for this song in the New Oxford History of Music (vol. 4, edited by Gerald E. Abraham, 1968, p. 217).





Who can tell what thief or foe, In the cover of the night, For his prey will work my woe; Or through wicked soul despite, So may I die unredressed, Ere my long, long love, Ere my long love be possessed.

But to let such dangers pass,
Which a lover's thoughts disdain,
'Tis enough in such a place,
To attend love's joys in vain.
Do not mock me in thy bed,
While in e cold, cold nights,
While these cold nights freeze me dead.

