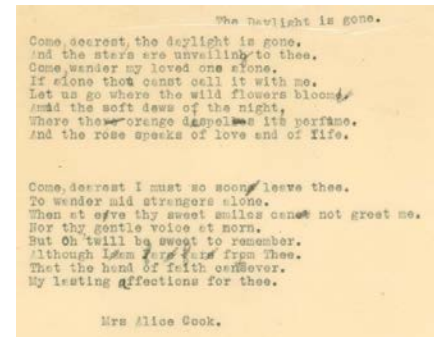


COME DEAREST THE DAYLIGHT IS GONE

Henry Brinley Richards, 1853

"Come Dearest the Daylight is Gone" was written in 1853 by Henry Brinley Richards (1817 in 1885). It was originally composed as a ballad written from the viewpoint of a soldier to his love, as he prepared to leave for war. This song was a favorite of General Robert E. Lee. During the war he had the fiddler play it at night to alert the soldiers that it was for the lanterns to be out.

It was first published by Miller and Beacham in Baltimore, Maryland. The sheet music does not contain his full name, but only his initials, B. R., which, along with using an alias, was a common practice at the time. Richards sometimes used the alias Mrs. Alice Cook, such as seen here done on one of the earliest typewriters.



Richards was a Welsh composer, who also published some works under the pseudonym Carl Luini, in addition to Alice Cook. His father was an organist at St Peter's Church in the town and an organizer of local musical events. He won a prize at the Gwent-Morgannwg Eisteddfod of 1834, held at Cardiff, for his arrangement of the popular folk song, *"The Ash Grove"*. As a result, he received the patronage of the Duke of Newcastle, which enabled him to study at the Royal Academy of Music. After graduation, he was accepted to study in Paris under Frédéric Chopin. He taught piano at the Royal Academy of Music, becoming one of the Academy's directors and instigating its regional system of examinations.

Richards' most famous work is the song, *"God Bless the Prince of Wales"* (1862), written in honor of the future King Edward VII of the United Kingdom.

In music and friendship,

~ Jull