

# *The Snowdrift Gallop* *(Incorporating Fingle Bells?)*

CHARLES COOTE JNR ARR. HUGH LEVEY



**STRING QUARTET**

SCORE & PARTS

# *The Snowdrift Galop*

## CHARLES COOTE JNR

Charles Coote Jnr (1831-1916) was a prolific English composer of popular music, including quadrilles, waltzes and galops. His music was written for society balls and subsequently published for piano, so that others could play them at local dances or in their own homes. He was the son of composer and bandmaster, Charles Coote (1809-1880). Coote Snr worked for the 6th Duke of Devonshire for 30 years, conducted his private orchestra, and was referred to by the Duke as his 'personal pianist'. Growing up in this environment would have ensured that Coote Jnr was well connected with British 'society'.

Snowdrift Galop was published in London in 1868 in a small collection of works by various composers, including Charles Coote Snr. Woodwindly believes it may have also been published separately, because the arranger's own copy is not part of the above collection.

The opening theme of Snowdrift is immediately recognisable as the popular holiday favourite, Jingle Bells. The 'snowdrift' title and the cover image of a sleigh ride suggests that this is no coincidence, but the truth is more complicated. Jingle Bells was published in 1857 as 'One Horse Open Sleigh', with the earliest British newspaper reference being 1870. There is also an 1868 reference to a song, 'Dashing Through the Snow'. Neither of these performances credit James Pierpoint as the composer of what appears to be 'Jingle Bells'. Nor does Charles Coote Jnr credit or acknowledge Jingle Bells or Pierpoint in his publication, although I think it likely that the work was known to him. Whatever the truth is, the rest of the work continues on its own way with original material by Coote.

Duration: 4'

### PERFORMANCE NOTES

This arrangement adheres to the melody, structure, and harmony of the original piano composition, but enhances the accompaniment to make it enjoyable for all players. Each player also gets the opportunity to play the important melodic material: either the main theme or in the Trio. When the second theme returns between bars (measures) 132-148, the arranger has embellished it with semi-quaver (16th note) flourishes to make it more interesting. If you prefer to stay closer to the original, then bars 18-35 can be used as the model.

---

*Cover images: (1) Original sheet music cover of The Snow-Drift Galop published c. 1867 with artwork by Alfred Concanen. Scanned and edited from the arranger's own music library*

© Copyright arrangement, 2023, Hugh Levey, woodwindly.com. All rights reserved. Do not copy or reproduce this music without the express permission of the copyright holder.

# The Snowdrift Galop

Charles Coote, Junior arr. H. Levey

Violin 1 *mp*

Violin 2 *p*

Viola *p*

Violoncello *p*

Vln.1

Vln.2

Vla.

Vc.

*Sim.*

Vln.1

Vln.2

Vla.

Vc.

1. 2.

*f* *mf* *mf* *f*

19

Vln.1

Vln.2

Vla.

Vc.

*ff*

*ff*

*ff*

*ff*

PREVIEW ONLY

26

Vln.1

Vln.2

Vla.

Vc.

*f* <sup>3</sup>

*mf*

*mf* <sup>3</sup>

*f*

*ff*

*ff*

*ff*

32

Vln.1

Vln.2

Vla.

Vc.

1.

2.

*ff*

*f*

*f*

36

Vln.1

Vln.2

Vla.

Vc.

43

Vln.1

Vln.2

Vla.

Vc.

49

TRIO

Vln.1

Vln.2

Vla.

Vc.

*mf*  $\rightarrow$  *mp*

*mf*  $\rightarrow$  *mp*

*f*  $\rightarrow$  *mf*

*mf*  $\rightarrow$  *mp*

Solo

54

Vln.1

Vln.2

Vla.

Vc.

**PREVIEW ONLY**

60

Vln.1

Vln.2

Vla.

Vc.

66

Vln.1

Vln.2

Vla.

Vc.

72

Vln.1

Vln.2

Vla.

Vc.

PREVIEW ONLY

78

Vln.1

Vln.2

Vla.

Vc.

pizz.

*f*

pizz.

*f*

pizz.

*f*

Solo

*mf* < *ff*

85

Vln.1

Vln.2

Vla.

Vc.