

Room for th'express

The Second Book of the Catch Club or Merry Companions, c. 1700

Henry Purcell (1659-1695)
ed. Raymond Nagem

[1.] Room, room, room, room, room for th'ex - press, at

[2.] Hark! hark! hark! the Guns of the Tow - er³ ring,

[3. to our] con - quer-ing Ar - my loud Prais - es, loud

length here it comes; Lim - rick's¹ our own, Lim - rick's our

ring it in peals, we'll drink round the Bon - fires, we'll drink round the

Prais - es let's sing, and now Mon - sieur⁴ French man, and now Mon - sieur

own, be it known, be it known to all Grums.²

Bon - fires, Huz - za, Huz - za to the Bells, [3.] to our

French man have at you, have at you next Spring.

1 The second siege of Limerick in Western Ireland ended in October 1691 with a victory for the attacking Willamite forces. The Irish Jacobite defenders were allied with France, and about 20,000 men, women, and children left for France following the defeat in what was called the "Flight of the Wild Geese." William viewed the conflict in Ireland, in the European context of the Nine Year's War (1688-1697), as a proxy invasion by France.

2 Probably derived from "grumblers"; figuratively, supporters of the Jacobite cause.

3 The Tower of London, where gun salutes were fired on important occasions.

4. Spelled correctly here, but during the period, often deliberately mispronounced "Monseer" for effect.

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