



ASLEEP
AT THE
SWITCH

By

CHARLES
SHACKFORD

CHICAGO, ILL.
LYON & HEALY.

PUBLISHED
BY

E. T. PAULL MUSIC CO.
NEW YORK

46 WEST
28TH ST.

LONDON
HOWARD & CO.

CHICAGO, ILL.
NATIONAL MUSIC CO.

TORONTO, CAN.
WHALEY, ROYCE & CO.

ASLEEP AT THE SWITCH.

Words & Music by CHAS. SHACKFORD.

Allegro moderato.

INTRO.

The mid - night ex - press will be late here to - night, — So
 The freight slow - ly back'd on the main track a - gain, — The

side - track the West - bound freight _____ Those were the
men called to Tom good - night _____ On - ly the

or - ders that Tom had re - ceived, As he passed through the
sob of a girl made re - ply, And they saw by the

round - house gate _____ Tom was the switch - man, with
en - gines light _____ Tom ly - ing flat at his

heart true as steel, _____ And du - ty was first in his
post where he fell, _____ And there with her head on his

breast, _____ But the thought of his boy who was dy - ing at
 breast, _____ Was his brave daugh-ter Nell who had saved all their

home crazed Tom and he fell at his post _____ The
 lives And those on the mid - night ex - press _____ Each

ff *dim.* *dim.* *accel.*

Agitato.

shrill whis - tle blew on the freight for the west _____ The
 man on the freight for the west bared his head _____ For

rall.

rum - ble was heard of the mid - night ex - press.
 Toms heart had stopped at his post he lay dead.

ff

REFRAIN. (QUIETLY.)

A - sleep at the switch — And no warn - ing light, — To
A - sleep at the switch — The pres - i - dent read, — And

pp

sig - nal those trains — That rushed through the night — When
my wife and child — Were on board he said — But

(Low note ad lib.)

down to the switch — Ran Tom's daugh - ter Nell, — The
as he read on — His stern face re - laxed, — This

cri - sis had past, — His boy would get well, — She
road shall re - ward, — Such he - ro - ic acts, — He

(a little faster.)

caught up the light _____ And waved it on high, _____ And
 sat at his desk _____ And fill'd out a check, _____ And

cresc.

side - tracked the west - bound freight. _____ And the
 sent it with all dis - patch, _____ 'Twas for

mid - night ex - press All in safe - ty flew by, While
 Tom's daugh - ter Nell For her brave deed that night, While he

(small notes 2nd Verse only. ad lib.)

Tom was a sleep at the switch. _____
 slept his last sleep at the switch. _____