



Ye little birds that sit and sing

Henry Smart
(1813-1879)

Allegretto ♩ = 120

S *p* Ye lit - tle birds that sit and sing A - midst the sha - dy val - leys, And

A *p* Ye lit - tle birds that sit and sing A - midst the sha - dy val - leys, And

T *p* Ye lit - tle birds that sit and sing A - midst the sha - dy val - leys, And

B *p* Ye lit - tle birds that sit and sing A - midst the sha - dy val - leys, And

5
S *p* see how Phil - lis sweet - ly walks With - in her gar - den - al - leys; Go, pret - ty birds, a -

A *p* see how Phil - lis sweet - ly walks With - in her gar - den - al - leys; Go, pret - ty birds, a -

T *p* see how Phil - lis sweet - ly walks With - in her gar - den - al - leys; Go,

B *p* see how Phil - lis sweet - ly walks With - in her gar - den - al - leys; Go,

Ye little birds that sit and sing

10

S *cresc.* *f*
 bout her bow'r, Sing, pret - ty birds, she may not low'r; For ah! Me-thinks I

A *cresc.* *f*
 bout her bow'r, Sing, pret - ty birds, she may not low'r; For ah! Me-thinks I

T *cresc.* *f*
 pret - ty birds, Sing, pret - ty birds, she may not low'r; For ah! Me-thinks I

B *cresc.* *f*
 pret - ty birds, Sing, pret - ty birds, she may not low'r; For ah! Me-thinks I

14

S *p poco rit.* *a tempo p*
 see her frown! Ye pret - ty wan - tons, war - ble, Ye pret - ty wan - tons, war - ble, pret - ty,

A *p poco rit.* *a tempo p*
 see her frown! Ye wan - tons, war - ble, Ye pret - ty, Ye pret - ty,

T *p poco rit.* *a tempo p*
 see her frown! Ye pret - ty wan - tons, war - ble, Ye pret - ty, Ye pret - ty,

B *p poco rit.* *a tempo p*
 see her frown! Ye wan - tons, war - ble, Ye pret - ty, Ye pret - ty,

19

S *p*
 pret - ty wan - tons, war - ble. Oh, fly! make haste! see, see she falls In -

A *p*
 pret - ty wan - tons, war - ble. Oh, fly! make haste! see, see she falls In -

T *p*
 pret - ty wan - tons, war - ble. Oh, fly! make haste! see, see she falls In -

B *p*
 pret - ty wan - tons, war - ble. Oh, fly! make haste! see, see she falls In -

Ye little birds that sit and sing

24

S to a pret - ty slum - ber. Sing round a - bout her ro - sy bed That, wak - ing, she may

A to a pret - ty slum - ber. Sing round a - bout her ro - sy bed That, wak - ing, she may

T to a pret - ty slum - ber. Sing round a - bout her ro - sy bed That, wak - ing, she may

B to a pret - ty slum - ber. Sing round a - bout her ro - sy bed That, wak - ing, she may

29

S won - der. Sing to her, 'tis her lov - er true That send - eth love by

A won - der. Sing to her, 'tis her lov - er true That send - eth love by

T won - der. Sing, 'tis her lov - er true That send - eth

B won - der. Sing, 'tis her lov - er true That send - eth

33

S you and you; And when you hear her kind re - ply, Re - turn with pleas - ant

A you and you; And when you hear her kind re - ply, Re - turn with

T love by you; And when you hear her kind re - ply, Re - turn with pleas - ant

B love by you; And when you hear her kind re - ply, Re - turn with

Ye little birds that sit and sing

37 *a tempo* *p*

S warb - lings, re - turn with pleas - ant warb - lings, re - turn with pleas - ant warb - lings.

A *a tempo* *p* warb - lings, re - turn, re - turn, re - turn with pleas - ant warb - lings.

T *a tempo* *p* warb - lings, re - turn, re - turn, re - turn with pleas - ant warb - lings.

B *a tempo* *p* warb - lings, re - turn, re - turn, re - turn with pleas - ant warb - lings.

Novello, Ewer and Co.
(1860-1885)

Henry Thomas Smart (1813-1879) was born in London, son of a music publisher, orchestra director and accomplished violinist. He declined a commission in the Indian army, and had planned to work in law, but gave it up for a musical career. He was organist of Blackburn parish church; St. Giles-without-Cripplegate; St. Luke's, Old Street; and finally of St. Pancras New Church. He was the music editor for *Psalms and Hymns for Divine Worship* (1867), the *Presbyterian Hymnal* (1875) and the hymn book of the United Presbyterian Church of Scotland. He was a recognized authority on organs, and designed many instruments, including those in the City Hall and St. Andrew's Hall in Glasgow, Scotland, and the Town Hall in Leeds. Smart was highly rated as a composer by his contemporaries, especially his organ works and part-songs. His best-known composition is now probably the hymn tune "Regent Square", commonly sung with the words "Christ Is Made The Sure Foundation" or "Angels from the Realms of Glory". In the last fifteen years of his life Smart was practically blind. He composed by dictation, primarily to his daughter.

Ye little birds that sit and sing
Amidst the shady valleys,
And see how Phillis sweetly walks
Within her garden-alleys;
Go, pretty birds, about her bower,
Sing, she may not lower;
Ah, me! methinks I see her frown!
Ye pretty wantons, warble.

Oh, fly! make haste! see, she falls
Into a pretty slumber.
Sing round about her rosy bed
That, waking, she may wonder.
Sing to her, 'tis her lover true
That sendeth, sendeth love by you and you;
And when you hear her kind reply,
Return with pleasant warblings.

Thomas Heywood (ca. 1570-1641)
Originally published in *Fair Maid of the Exchange* (1607)

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