



The stone-breaker's daughter

**George James Webb
(1803-1887)**

George James Webb (1803-1887) was born at Rushmore Lodge, near Salisbury in Wiltshire, England. He trained early in England and was an organist in Falmouth, England. He emigrated to Boston, Massachusetts, in 1830. He was organist at the Old South Church in Boston for nearly 40 years and was organist at the Boston Church of the New Jerusalem. With Lowell Mason, he founded the Boston Academy of Music. He was president of the Handel and Haydn Society. In 1871, he left Boston, taught in New York from 1876-1885, and retired to Orange, New Jersey. He was an editor for the journals "The Music Library" and "The Music Cabinet." He published the books "Vocal Techniques" and "Voice Culture," and was editor and arranger of the collections "Young Ladies' Vocal Class Book," "The Glee Hive," "The New Odeon," "The Vocalist," the "Little Songster," and "Cantica Laudis." He composed organ music, choral music, songs, and hymns. His most well-known composition is his part-song "'Tis Dawn, the Lark is Singing." The original song was well received and later adapted as a hymn with the addition of sacred words "Stand up, stand up for Jesus."

He seemed a stern and harsh old man;
As if his soul had caught
The nature of the cold gray stones
On which he daily wrought;
Yet on the waste of that rude heart,
One flower in beauty love,
One fountain in the desert gushed,
A wellspring of deep love.

And she, the sunlight of his life,
Who called that fountain forth,
Walked angellike along his path,
Too beautiful for earth:
The bloom upon her rounded cheek
Was of the rose's die;
But like our crimson autumn leaves,
Foretold the spoiler nigh.

And when her fair, young form was laid
Low in its narrow bed;
And wild flowers, like pale mourners, came,
And gathered o'er her head,
Though still among the haunts of men,
He trailed life's heavy chain,
Like England's mourning king of old,
"He never smiled again."

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G. J. Webb

Andante con espressione

S *mp* He seem'd a stern and harsh old man; As if his soul had caught The

A *mp* He seem'd a stern and harsh old man; As if his soul had caught The

T *mp* He seem'd a stern and harsh old man; As if his soul had caught The

B *mp* He seem'd a stern and harsh old man; As if his soul had caught The

5
S na - ture of the cold gray stones On which he dai - ly wrought; Yet

A na - ture of the cold gray stones On which he dai - ly wrought; Yet

T na - ture of the cold gray stones On which he dai - ly wrought; Yet

B na - ture of the cold gray stones On which he dai - ly wrought; Yet

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S on the waste of that rude heart, One flow'r in beau - ty love, One

A on the waste of that rude heart, One flow'r in beau - ty love, One

T on the waste of that rude heart, One flow'r in beau - ty love, One

B on the waste of that rude heart, One flow'r in beau - ty love, One

13

S foun - tain in the des - ert gush'd, A well - spring of deep love. *ad lib.*

A foun - tain in the des - ert gush'd, A well - spring of deep love. *ad lib.*

T foun - tain in the des - ert gush'd, A well - spring of deep love. *ad lib.*

B foun - tain in the des - ert gush'd, A well - spring of deep love. *ad lib.*

S *mp* And she, the sun - light of his life, Who call'd that foun - tain forth, Walk'd

A *mp* And she, the sun - light of his life, Who call'd that foun - tain forth, Walk'd

T *mp* And she, the sun - light of his life, Who call'd that foun - tain forth, Walk'd

B *mp* And she, the sun - light of his life, Who call'd that foun - tain forth, Walk'd

21

S an - gel - like a - long his path, Too beau - ti - ful for earth: The

A an - gel - like a - long his path, Too beau - ti - ful for earth: The

T an - gel - like a - long his path, Too beau - ti - ful for earth: The

B an - gel - like a - long his path, Too beau - ti - ful for earth: The

25

S bloom up - on her round - ed cheek Was of the ros - e's die; But

A bloom up - on her round - ed cheek Was of the ros - e's die; But

T bloom up - on her round - ed cheek Was of the ros - e's die; But

B bloom up - on her round - ed cheek Was of the ros - e's die; But

29

S like our crim - son au - tumn leaves, Fore - told the spoil - er nigh. *ad lib.*

A like our crim - son au - tumn leaves, Fore - told the spoil - er nigh. *ad lib.*

T like our crim - son au - tumn leaves, Fore - told the spoil - er nigh. *ad lib.*

B like our crim - son au - tumn leaves, Fore - told the spoil - er nigh. *ad lib.*

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33 *mp*

S And when her fair, young form was laid Low in its nar - row bed; And

A And when her fair, young form was laid Low in its nar - row bed; And

T *mp*
8 And when her fair, young form was laid Low in its nar - row bed; And

B *mp* And when her fair, young form was laid Low in its nar - row bed; And

38

S wild flow'rs, like pale mourn - ers, came, And gath - er'd o'er her head, Tho'

A wild flow'rs, like pale mourn - ers, came, And gath - er'd o'er her head, Tho'

T wild flow'rs, like pale mourn - ers, came, And gath - er'd o'er her head, Tho'

B wild flow'rs, like pale mourn - ers, came, And gath - er'd o'er her head, Tho'

42

S still a - mong the haunts of men, He trail'd life's heav - y chain, Like

A still a - mong the haunts of men, He trail'd life's heav - y chain, Like

T still a - mong the haunts of men, He trail'd life's heav - y chain, Like

B still a - mong the haunts of men, He trail'd life's heav - y chain, Like

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S Eng - land's mourn - ing king of old, "He nev - er smil'd a - gain." *ad lib.*

A Eng - land's mourn - ing king of old, "He nev - er smil'd a - gain." *ad lib.*

T Eng - land's mourn - ing king of old, "He nev - er smil'd a - gain." *ad lib.*

B Eng - land's mourn - ing king of old, "He nev - er smil'd a - gain." *ad lib.*

Mason & Law
(1850)

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