



Dost thou idly ask

**Henry Smart
(1813-1879)**

Dost thou idly ask

Henry Smart

Allegretto $\text{♩} = 132$

S
Dost thou i - dly ask to hear — At what gen - tle sea - sons

A
Dost thou i - dly ask to hear — At what gen - tle sea - sons

T
Dost thou i - dly ask to hear At what gen - tle sea - sons

B
Dost thou i - dly ask to hear At what gen - tle sea - sons

5
S
Nymphs re - lent, when lov - ers near Press the ten - d'rest rea - sons? — *cresc.*

A
Nymphs re - lent, when lov - ers near Press the ten - d'rest rea - sons? *cresc.*

T
Nymphs re - lent, when lov - ers Press the ten - d'rest rea - sons? *cresc.*

B
Nymphs re - lent, when lov - ers Press the ten - d'rest rea - sons? *cresc.*

Dost thou idly ask

9

S *f* > Press the ten - d'rest rea - sons? Ah! they give their faith too oft *cresc.* >

A *f* > Press the ten - d'rest rea - sons? Ah! they give their faith too oft *cresc.* >

T *f* > Press the ten - d'rest rea - sons? Ah! they give their faith too oft *cresc.* >

B *f* > Press the ten - d'rest rea - sons? Ah! they give their faith too oft *cresc.* >

13

S *dim.* > To the care - less woo - er; Maid - ens' hearts are al - ways soft: *pp.* >

A *dim.* > To the care - less woo - er; Maid - ens' hearts are al - ways soft: *pp.* >

T *dim.* > To the care - less woo - er; Maid - ens' hearts are al - ways soft: *pp.* >

B *dim.* > To the care - less woo - er; Maid - ens' hearts are al - ways soft: *pp.* >

17

S *cresc. e rit.* > Would that men's were tru - er! Maid - ens' hearts are al - ways soft: *cresc. e rit.* >

A *cresc. e rit.* > Would that men's were tru - er! Maid - ens' hearts are al - ways soft: *cresc. e rit.* >

T *cresc. e rit.* > Would that men's were tru - er! Maid - ens' hearts are al - ways soft: *cresc. e rit.* >

B *cresc. e rit.* > Would that men's were tru - er! Maid - ens' hearts are al - ways soft: *cresc. e rit.* >

Dost thou idly ask

21 *a tempo*

S *p* > Would that men's were tru - er! Woo the fair one, when a - round__

A *p* > *a tempo* Would that men's were tru - er! Woo the fair one, when a - round__

T *p* > *a tempo* Would that men's were tru - er! Woo the fair one, when a - round

B *p* > *a tempo* Would that men's were tru - er! Woo the fair one, when a - round

25

S Ear - ly birds are sing - ing; When o'er all the fra - grant ground,

A Ear - ly birds are sing - ing; When o'er all the fra - grant ground,

T Ear - ly birds are sing - ing; When o'er all the ground, -

B Ear - ly birds are sing - ing; When o'er all the ground, -

29 *cresc.*

S *f* > Ear - ly herbs are spring - ing, Ear - ly herbs are spring - ing:

A *cresc.* Ear - ly herbs are spring - ing, Ear - ly herbs are spring - ing:

T *cresc.* Ear - ly herbs are spring - ing, Ear - ly herbs are spring - ing:

B *cresc.* Ear - ly herbs are spring - ing, Ear - ly herbs are spring - ing:

Dost thou idly ask

33

S *p* When the brook - side, bank, and grove, — All with blos - soms la - den, *cresc.* *dim.*

A *p* When the brook - side, bank, and grove, — All with blos - soms la - den, *cresc.* *dim.*

T *p* When the brook - side, bank, and grove, — All with blos - soms la - den, *cresc.* *dim.*

B *p* When the brook - side, bank, and grove, — All with blos - soms la - den, *cresc.* *dim.*

37

S *pp.* Shine with beau - ty, Breathe of love— Woo the tim - id maid - en, *pp.*

A *pp.* Shine with beau - ty, Breathe of love— Woo the tim - id maid - en, *pp.*

T *pp.* Shine with beau - ty, Breathe of love— Woo the tim - id maid - en, *pp.*

B *pp.* Shine with beau - ty, Breathe of love— Woo the tim - id maid - en, *pp.*

41

S *cresc. e rit.* Shine with beau - ty, Breathe of love— Woo the tim - id maid - en. *p* *a tempo*

A *cresc. e rit.* Shine with beau - ty, Breathe of love— Woo the tim - id maid - en. *p* *a tempo*

T *cresc. e rit.* Shine with beau - ty, Breathe of love— Woo the tim - id maid - en. *p* *a tempo*

B *cresc. e rit.* Shine with beau - ty, Breathe of love— Woo the tim - id maid - en. *p* *a tempo*

Dost thou idly ask

45 *mf*

S Woo her, when the north winds call At the lat - tice night - ly;

A Woo her, when the north winds call At the lat - tice night - ly; _____

T Woo her, when the north winds call At the lat - tice night - ly; _____

B Woo her, when the north winds call At the lat - tice night - ly; _____

49

S When, with - in the cheer - ful hall, Blaze the fag - gots bright - ly;

A When, with - in the cheer - ful hall, Blaze the fag - gots bright - ly;

T When, with - in the cheer - ful hall, Blaze the fag - gots bright - ly;

B When, with - in the cheer - ful hall, Blaze the fag - gots bright - ly;

53 *cresc.*

S While the win - try tem - pest round Sweeps the land - scape hoar - y, *f*

A While the win - try tem - pest round Sweeps the land - scape hoar - y, *f*

T While the win - try tem - pest round Sweeps the land - scape hoar - y, *f*

B While the win - try tem - pest round Sweeps the land - scape hoar - y, *f*

Dost thou idly ask

57

S Sweet - er in her ear shall sound Love's de - light - ful sto - ry,

A Sweet - er in her ear shall sound Love's de - light - ful sto - ry,

T Sweet - er in her ear shall sound Love's de - light - ful sto - ry,

B Sweet - er in her ear shall sound Love's de - light - ful sto - ry,

61

S Sweet - er in her ear shall sound Love's de - light - ful sto - ry.

A Sweet - er in her ear shall sound Love's de - light - ful sto - ry.

T Sweet - er in her ear shall sound Love's de - light - ful sto - ry.

B Sweet - er in her ear shall sound Love's de - light - ful sto - ry.

Novello, Ewer and Co.
(1860-1885)

Henry Thomas Smart (1813-1879) was born in London, son of a music publisher, orchestra director and violinist. He declined a commission in the Indian army and planned to work in law, but he 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 compositions are now probably the hymn tune "Regent Square", commonly sung with the words "Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation" and "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.

Dost thou idly ask to hear
At what gentle seasons
Nymphs relent, when lovers near
Press the tenderest reasons?
Ah! they give their faith too oft
To the careless wooer;
Maidens' hearts are always soft:
Would that men's were truer!

Woo the fair one, when around
Early birds are singing;
When o'er all the fragrant ground,
Early herbs are springing:
When the brookside, bank, and grove,
All with blossoms laden,
Shine with beauty, Breathe of love—
Woo the timid maiden

Woo her, when the north winds call
At the lattice nightly;
When, within the cheerful hall,
Blaze the faggots brightly;
While the wintry tempest round
Sweeps the landscape hoary,
Sweeter in her ear shall sound
Love's delightful story.

William Cullen Bryant (1794-1878)

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