



# **I Climb to Rest**

**J. M. Dungan  
(1851-1925)**

**James M. Dungan** (1851-1925) was born in Johnson County, Indiana. He was a music instructor at Franklin College, Indiana, and director of the Indianapolis Piano College (Indianapolis College of Music). He died in Franklin, Indiana. He was also active at the First Christian Church in Indianapolis. He composed a number of popular hymns and part songs.

Still must I climb if I would rest,  
The bird soars upward to its nest;  
The young leaf on the treetop high  
Cradles itself within the sky.

The streams that seem to hasten down  
Return in clouds the hills to crown;  
The plant arises from her root  
To rock her flower and fruit.

I cannot in the valley stay,  
The great horizons stretch away;  
The very cliffs that wall me round  
Are ladders unto higher ground.

To work, to rest, for watch a time,  
I toil, but I must also climb;  
What soul was ever quite at ease  
Shut in by earthly boundaries.

I am not glad till I have known  
Life that can lift me from my own;  
A loftier level must be won,  
A mightier strength to lean upon.

And heaven draws near as I ascend,  
The breeze invites, the stars befriend;  
All things are beckoning to the best,  
I climb to thee, my God, my God, for rest.

Lucy Larcom (1824-1893)

# I Climb to Rest

J. M. Dungan

**Moderato**

*pp* *mp*

S Still must I climb if I would rest, The bird soars up - ward

A Still must I climb if I would rest, The bird soars up - ward

T Still must I climb if I would rest, The bird soars up - ward

B Still must I climb if I would rest, The bird soars up - ward

<sup>4</sup> *f* *p*

S to its nest; The young leaf on the

A to its nest; The young leaf on the

T to its nest; The young leaf on the

B to its nest; The young leaf on the

# I Climb to Rest

6

S *mf* tree - top high Cra - dles it - self with - in the sky. *f*

A *mf* tree - top high Cra - dles it - self with - in, with - in the sky. *f*

T *mf* tree - top high Cra - dles it - self with - in, with - in the sky. *f*

B *mf* tree - top high Cra - dles it - self with - in the sky. *f*

S *f* The streams that seem to has - ten down

A *mf* The streams that seem to has - ten

T *mf* The streams that seem to has - ten

B

11

S The

A down Re - turn in clouds the hills to crown; The

T down Re - turn in clouds the hills to crown; The

B Re - turn in clouds the hills to crown; The

## I Climb to Rest

14

S plant a - ris - es from her root To rock her

A plant a - ris - es from her root To rock, to rock her flower and

T plant a - ris - es from her root To rock, to rock her flower and

B plant a - ris - es from her root To rock her

17

S flower and fruit. *rit.* I can - not in the *a tempo* val - ley stay,

A fruit. *rit.* I can - not in the *a tempo* val - ley stay,

T fruit. *rit.* I can - not in the *a tempo* val - ley stay,

B fruit. *rit.* I can - not in the *a tempo* val - ley stay,

20

S The great ho - ri - zons stretch a - way; The ver - y cliffs that

A The great ho - ri - zons stretch a - way; The ver - y cliffs that

T The great ho - ri - zons stretch a - way; The ver - y cliffs that

B The great ho - ri - zons stretch a - way; The ver - y cliffs that

# I Climb to Rest

23

S wall me round Are lad - ders un - to high - er ground.

A wall me round Are lad - ders un - to high - er, high - er ground.

T wall me round Are lad - ders un - to high - er, high - er ground.

B wall me round Are lad - ders un - to high - er ground.

26

S Still I must climb if I would rest, if I would

A Still I must climb if I would

T Still I must climb if I would rest, if I would

B Still I must climb if I would

28

S rest, must climb if I would rest.

A rest, still I must climb if I would rest, if I would rest.

T rest, must climb if I would rest.

B rest, still I must climb if I would rest, if I would rest.

## I Climb to Rest

Moderato

31 *pp* *mp*

S To work, to rest, for watch a time, I toil, but I must

A To work, to rest, for watch a time, I toil, but I must

T To work, to rest, for watch a time, I toil, but I must

B To work, to rest, for watch a time, I toil, but I must

34 *f* *p*

S al - so climb; What soul was ev - er

A al - so climb; What soul was ev - er

T al - so climb; What soul was ev - er

B al - so climb; What soul was ev - er

36 *mf* *f*

S quite at ease Shut in by earth - ly boun - da - ries.

A quite at ease Shut in by earth - ly, earth - ly boun - da - ries.

T quite at ease Shut in by earth - ly, earth - ly boun - da - ries.

B quite at ease Shut in by earth - ly boun - da - ries.



# I Climb to Rest

39 *f*

S I am not glad till I have known

A *mf* I am not glad till I have

T *mf* I am not glad till I have

B

42

S known

A known Life that can lift me from my own; A

T known Life that can lift me from my own; A

B Life that can lift me from my own; A

45

S loft - ier lev - el must be won, A strength to

A loft - ier lev - el must be won, A might - ier strength to lean up -

T loft - ier lev - el must be won, A might - ier strength to lean up -

B loft - ier lev - el must be won, to lean up -

## I Climb to Rest

48 *rit.* *a tempo*

S lean up - on. And heav'n draws near as I as - cend,

A on. And heav'n draws near as I as - cend,

T on. And heav'n draws near as I as - cend,

B on. And heav'n draws near as I as - cend,

51

S The breeze in - vites, the stars be - friend;

A The breeze in - vites, the stars be - friend;

T The breeze in - vites, the stars be - friend;

B The breeze in - vites, the stars be - friend;

53

S All things are beck - 'ning to the best,

A All things are beck - 'ning to the best,

T All things are beck - 'ning to the best,

B All things are beck - 'ning to the best,

# I Climb to Rest

55

S I climb to thee, my God, for rest;

A I climb to thee, my God, my God, for rest;

T I climb to thee, my God, my God, for rest;

B I climb to thee, my God, for rest;

57

S Still I must climb if I would rest, if I would

A Still I must climb if I would

T Still I must climb if I would rest, if I would

B Still I must climb if I would

59

*rit.*

S rest, must climb if I would rest.

A rest, Still I must climb if I would rest, if I would rest.

T rest, must climb if I would rest.

B rest, Still I must climb if I would rest, if I would rest.

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