



The Lilies Sweet

J. F. Fargo
(1834-1911)

The Lilies Sweet

J. F. Fargo

Cantabile

S
A
T
B

Low in the hills a lake is sleep - ing, Where

S
A
T
B

bend - ing pines a-bove it wave; Where vines, a - mid the wil - lows

S
A
T
B

creep - ing, Their green leaves in its wa - ters lave;



The Lilies Sweet

S And there, in sum - mer's rich - est weath - er, When

A And there, in sum - mer's rich - est weath - er, When

T And there, in sum - mer's rich - est weath - er, When

B And there, in sum - mer's rich - est weath - er, When

11

S earth with beau - ty is re - plete, We float - ed o'er the lake to -

A earth with beau - ty is re - plete, We float - ed o'er the lake to -

T earth with beau - ty is re - plete, We float - ed o'er the lake to -

B earth with beau - ty is re - plete, We float - ed o'er the lake to -

14

S geth - er, And sailed a - mong the lil - ies sweet.

A geth - er, And sailed a - mong the lil - ies sweet.

T geth - er, And sailed a - mong the lil - ies sweet.

B geth - er, And sailed a - mong the lil - ies sweet.

The Lilies Sweet

S One ev' - ning, in the sun - set splen - dor, When

A One ev' - ning, in the sun - set splen - dor, When

T One ev' - ning, in the sun - set splen - dor, When

B One ev' - ning, in the sun - set splen - dor, When

19 S dream - y si - lence hov - ered near, When on - ly the young moon could

A dream - y si - lence hov - ered near, When on - ly the young moon could

T dream - y si - lence hov - ered near, When on - ly the young moon could

B dream - y si - lence hov - ered near, When on - ly the young moon could

22 S ren - der A charm to grace the wa - ter clear, -

A ren - der A charm to grace the wa - ter clear, -

T ren - der A charm to grace the wa - ter clear, -

B ren - der A charm to grace the wa - ter clear, -

The Lilies Sweet

25

S I _____ told a - gain the old - en sto - ry, Which _____

A I told a - gain the old - en sto - ry, Which

T I _____ told a - gain the old - en sto - ry, Which _____

B I told a - gain the old - en sto - ry, Which _____

28

S each new lov - er will re - peat; While, sit - ting in the fad - ing

A each new lov - er will re - peat; While, sit - ting in the fad - ing

T each new lov - er will re - peat; While, sit - ting in the fad - ing

B each new lov - er will re - peat; While, sit - ting in the fad - ing

31

S glo - ry, She _____ twined a wreath of lil - ies sweet.

A glo - ry, She twined a wreath of lil - ies sweet.

T glo - ry, She _____ twined a wreath of lil - ies sweet.

B glo - ry, She _____ twined a wreath of lil - ies sweet.

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34

S I wait - ed for her soft re - ply - ing, While ____

A I wait - ed for her soft re - ply - ing, While

T I wait - ed for her soft re - ply - ing, While

B I wait - ed for her soft re - ply - ing, While

37

S i - dly rest - ing on the oar,— I won - dered if the bright day

A i - dly rest - ing on the oar,— I won - dered if the bright day

T i - dly rest - ing on the oar,— I won - dered if the bright day

B i - dly rest - ing on the oar,— I won - dered if the bright day

40

S dy - ing, Would sad - ness bring, un - known be - fore;

A dy - ing, Would sad - ness bring, un - known be - fore;

T dy - ing, Would sad - ness bring, un - known be - fore;

B dy - ing, Would sad - ness bring, un - known be - fore;

The Lilies Sweet

43

S I _____ asked some word— some pre - cious to - ken To _____

A I asked some word— some pre - cious to - ken To

T I _____ asked some word— some pre - cious to - ken To _____

B I asked some word— some pre - cious to - ken To _____

46

S bind with joy the mo - ments fleet, When in my hand, with love un -

A bind with joy the mo - ments fleet, When in my hand, with love un -

T bind with joy the mo - ments fleet, When in my hand, with love un -

B bind with joy the mo - ments fleet, _____ When in my hand, with love un -

49

S spo - ken, She _____ placed the wreath of lil - ies sweet.

A spo - ken, She placed the wreath of lil - ies sweet.

T spo - ken, She _____ placed the wreath of lil - ies sweet.

B spo - ken, She _____ placed the wreath of lil - ies sweet.

John Franklin Fargo (1834-1911) was born in Sandisfield, Massachusetts. The family moved to Caneadea, New York, then to northern Illinois by the start of the Civil War. He received significant musical training by this time and was appointed Principal of Northwestern Academy of Music in Bloomington, Illinois. He was recognized as a musical authority. He presented at various musical and educational conferences throughout the mid-west and, at the annual meeting of the Illinois State teachers' Association in 1864, he lectured on the "Vocal Culture" and directed the convention in an evening of music. With Benjamin Franklin Baker, he published two collections of music: "The New Haydn: A Collection. Hymn Tunes, Chants, Sentences and Anthems. Adapted for All the Wants of Public and Private Worship. And for the Use of Choirs, Singing Schools, Musical Societies and Conventions." (1866); and, "Songs of the temple: a new collection of hymn tunes, chants, sentences, motets, and anthems original and selected, composed and arranged for the use of Christian churches of all denominations adapted to the wants of musical associations, conventions, and the home circle, together with a complete theoretical and practical system of elementary instruction for singing schools, and for the individual student." (1868). He changed directions in his career and graduated from the Hahnemann Medical College and Hospital of Chicago in 1881. He practiced medicine in Chicago and Minneapolis before moving to California about 1898. He was a physician in Hollywood until his death there. His compositions are mainly songs, quartets, hymns, anthems and part-songs.

Low in the hills a lake is sleeping,
Where bending pines above it wave;
Where vines, amid the willows creeping,
Their green leaves in its waters lave;
And there, in summer's richest weather,
When earth with beauty is replete,
We floated o'er the lake together,
And sailed among the lilies sweet.

One evening, in the sunset splendor,
When dreamy silence hovered near,
When only the young moon could render
A charm to grace the water clear,—
I told again the olden story,
Which each new lover will repeat;
While, sitting in the fading glory,
She twined a wreath of lilies sweet.

I waited for her soft replying,
While idly resting on the oar,—
I wondered if the bright day dying,
Would sadness bring, unknown before;
I asked some word— some precious token
To bind with joy the moments fleet,
When in my hand, with love unspoken,
She placed the wreath of lilies sweet.

J. F. Fargo

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