



Ah! woe is me

Prize winner:

London Madrigal Society Competition 1884

Henry Lahee
(1826-1912)

Ah! Woe is me

H. Lahee

Moderato $\text{♩} = 66$

S 1 Ah! woe is me! Ah! woe, woe

S 2 Ah! woe is me! Ah! woe, woe

A Ah! woe,

T 1 Ah! woe is me! Ah! woe is me! woe

T 2 Ah! woe is me! Ah! woe! Ah! woe

B Ah! woe is me! Ah! woe, woe is me! Ah! woe! Ah!

Detailed description: This system contains the first six staves of the musical score. It is in 3/4 time with a tempo of Moderato (♩ = 66). The key signature has one sharp (F#). The vocal parts are Soprano 1 (S 1), Soprano 2 (S 2), Alto (A), Tenor 1 (T 1), Tenor 2 (T 2), and Bass (B). The lyrics are: 'Ah! woe is me! Ah! woe, woe'. The music features a melodic line with a crescendo leading to the first 'Ah!' and a dynamic marking of *p* (piano).

S 1 is me, my love is cold, And when I sigh, and when I

S 2 is me, my love is cold, And when I sigh, and when I

A my love is cold, And when I sigh,

T 1 is me! my love is cold, And when I sigh,

T 2 is me!

B woe is me!

Detailed description: This system contains the second six staves of the musical score. The lyrics continue: 'is me, my love is cold, And when I sigh, and when I'. The music features a melodic line with a crescendo leading to the end of the phrase and a dynamic marking of *cresc.* (crescendo).

14 *f*

S 1 sigh, she flies me! Ah! woe is

S 2 sigh, she flies me! Ah! woe is

A she flies, she flies me! *p* Ah! woe is me! Ah! woe is

T 1 she flies, she flies me! *p* Ah! woe is me!

T 2 *f* And when I sigh, she flies me! *p* Ah! woe is me! Ah! woe is

B *f* And when I sigh, she flies me! *p* Ah! woe is me!

21

S 1 me! Ah! woe is me!

S 2 me! Ah! woe is me!

A me! Ah! woe is me! *cresc.* my love is cold, And when I

T 1 Ah! woe is me! *cresc.* my love is cold, And when I

T 2 me! Ah! woe is me! my love is cold,

B Ah! woe! Ah! woe is me! my love is cold,

Ah! Woe is me

27

S 1 *f* And when I sigh, she flies me, Ah! *p*

S 2 *f* And when I sigh, she flies me, Ah! *p*

A > sigh, and when I sigh, she flies me, Ah!

T 1 > sigh, and when I sigh, she flies me,

T 2 *f* And when I sigh, and when I sigh, she flies me,

B *f* And when I sigh, and when I sigh, she flies me,

33

S 1 woe is me! Ah! woe is me! Ah! woe is me!

S 2 woe is me! Ah! woe is me! Ah! woe is me!

A woe is me! Ah! woe is me! Ah! woe is me!

T 1 Ah! woe is me!

T 2 *p* Ah! woe is me! *f* Ah! woe, woe is me!

B *f* Ah! woe, woe is me!

40

S 1 Per - chance, a smile, per -

S 2 Per - chance a smile, per - chance a smile her

A

T 1 Per - chance a smile, per - chance, per - chance a smile, per -

T 2 Per - chance a smile,

B Per -

45

S 1 chance, per - chance a smile her heart may move, per - chance a smile

S 2 heart may move, per - chance a smile

A Per - chance a smile her heart may

T 1 chance, per - chance a smile, a smile her heart may move, per - chance a smile her heart may

T 2 per - chance a smile her heart may move, per - chance a

B chance a smile, a smile her heart may move, per - chance a

50

S 1 her heart may move, A mer-ry, mer-ry laugh may_ win her, a

S 2 her heart may move, A mer-ry, mer-ry laugh may_

A move, per - chance a smile her heart may move.

T 1 move, per - chance a smile her heart may move.

T 2 smile her heart may move. A mer-ry, mer-ry laugh may_ win her,

B smile, her heart may move. A mer-ry, mer-ry

54

S 1 mer-ry, mer-ry laugh may win her, a mer-ry, mer-ry laugh may win her, a

S 2 win her, a mer-ry, mer-ry laugh may win her, a mer-ry, mer-ry laugh may

A

T 1

T 2 a mer-ry, mer-ry laugh may win her, a mer-ry, mer-ry laugh may win her,

B laugh may win her, a mer-ry, mer-ry laugh may win her, a mer-ry, mer-ry

58

S 1 *ff* mer-ry, mer-ry laugh may win her, a mer-ry, mer-ry laugh may win her, a

S 2 *ff* win her, a mer-ry, mer-ry laugh may win her, a

A *f* *ff* A mer-ry, mer-ry laugh may win, a mer-ry, mer-ry laugh, a mer-ry, mer-ry,

T 1 *f* *ff* A mer-ry, mer-ry laugh may win, a mer-ry, mer-ry laugh, a mer-ry, mer-ry,

T 2 *ff* a laugh may win her, a laugh, a mer-ry, mer-ry laugh, a

B *ff* laugh may win her, win her, a laugh, a mer-ry, mer-ry laugh, a

62

S 1 *p* mer - ry laugh may win her! Fa la,

S 2 *p* mer - ry laugh may win her! Fa la,

A *p* mer-ry, mer-ry laugh may win her! Fa la, la

T 1 *p* mer-ry, mer-ry laugh may win her! Fa la, la la la,

T 2 *p* mer - ry laugh may win her! Fa la, la la la,

B *p* mer - ry laugh may win her! Fa la, la la la,

67

S 1
la la la, la la la, Fa la, la la la, la

S 2
la la la, la la la, Fa la, la la la,

A
la la, la la la, Fa la, la la la,

T 1
fa la, la la la, la

T 2
fa la, la la la,

B
fa la, la la la,

73

S 1
la la, la la la, Fa la, _____

S 2
la la, Fa la, _____ fa la, _____

A
A mer-ry, mer-ry laugh may win her,

T 1
la, Fa la, _____ A mer-ry, mer-ry laugh may win her, a mer-ry, mer-ry

T 2
A mer-ry, mer-ry laugh may win her, a

B
A mer-ry, mer-ry laugh may_ win her, a mer-ry, mer-ry laugh may

77

S 1
fa la, fa la, fa la, fa

S 2
fa la, fa la, fa

A
a mer-ry, mer-ry laugh may win her! Fa la, fa la, fa

T 1
laugh may win her, a mer-ry, mer-ry laugh may win her, A laugh may

T 2
mer-ry, mer-ry laugh may win her, a mer-ry, mer-ry laugh may win her!

B
win her, a mer-ry, mer-ry laugh may win her! Fa la, fa

81

Andante tranquillo

S 1
la.

S 2
la, fa la, fa la, fa la.

A
la, fa la, fa la, fa la.

T 1
win her! Fa, fa la, fa la, fa la.

T 2
Fa la, fa la, fa la, fa la.

B
la! Then sighs be-gone!

87

S 1 Then sighs be - gone! Then sighs be - gone! Let mirth a -

S 2 Then sighs be - gone! Then sighs be - gone!

A Then sighs be - gone! Then sighs be - gone!

T 1 Then sighs be - gone!

T 2 Then sighs be - gone! Then sighs be - gone! Let mirth a -

B

92

S 1 lone at - tend her! Then sighs be - gone!

S 2 Let mirth at - tend her! Then sighs be - gone!

A Let mirth at - tend her! Then sighs be - gone!

T 1 Then sighs be - gone! Then sighs be -

T 2 lone at - tend her! Then sighs be -

B be - gone! Then sighs be - gone!

Henry Lahee (1826-1912) was born in Chelsea, London. He studied under John Goss and William Sterndale Bennett. He held organist positions at several churches, including Holy Trinity Church, Brompton, and was well known as a professor, writer, and composer. His works include the *Metrical Psalter* (with William Irons), *Famous Singers of Today and Yesterday*, and *One Hundred Hymn Tunes*. He composed cantatas, songs, instrumental works, a number of hymns, anthems and part-songs. His part-songs were very popular, winning prizes for in various competitions: 'Now the bright morning star' (Bristol 1869); 'Hark, how the birds' (Bristol, 1869); 'Hence, loathed Melancholy' (Manchester, 1878); 'Away to the hunt' (Glasgow, 1879); 'Love in my bosom' (London Madrigal Society, 1880); and 'Ah! woe is me' (London Madrigal Society, 1884). Of his other part-songs, 'The Unfaithful Shepherdess,' 'Love me little, love me long,' and 'Bells,' were especially popular throughout the country.

97

S 1 Let mirth a - lone, Let mirth a - lone at - tend

S 2 Let mirth a - lone, let mirth at - tend

A Let mirth a - lone, let mirth a - lone at - tend her,

T 1 gone! Let mirth a - lone, mirth a - lone at - tend her,

T 2 gone! Let mirth a - lone, a - lone at - tend

B Let mirth a - lone, let mirth a - lone at - tend

102

S 1 her, let mirth a - lone at - tend her!

S 2 her, let mirth a - lone at - tend her!

A let mirth s - lone, a - lone at - tend her!

T 1 let mirth a - lone, a - lone at - tend her!

T 2 her, let mirth a - lone at - tend her!

B her, let mirth at - tend her!

Novello's Part-Song Book No. 515
(1880)

Ah! woe is me!
And when I sigh, she flies me!
Ah! woe is me!
My love is cold;
Perchance a smile her heart may move.
A merry laugh may win her!
Then sighs be-gone!
Let mirth alone attend her!

Henry Lahee

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David Anderson
SHORCHOR Music
1706 NE 177th St.
Shoreline, WA 98155 USA

