

Geo. B. Loomis (1833-1887)





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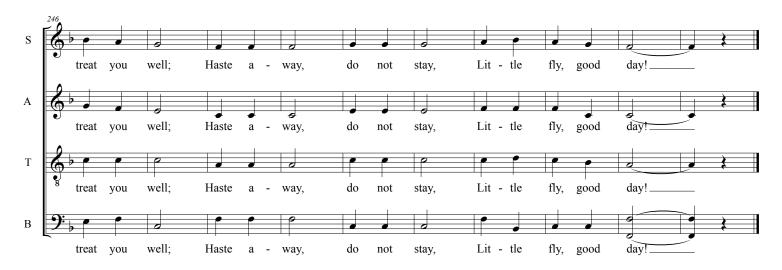












Harper & Bros. (1881)

George Brace Loomis (1833-1887) was born in Bennington, New York. He was educated at the local academy and travelled to New York City to study music with Lowell Mason. He taught music in Providence, Rhode Island, then in Wooster, Ohio. With the recommendation by Lowell Mason, he was hired as the superintendent of music teaching for the public schools at Indianapolis, Indiana. He was the first president of the Indiana Music Teachers' Association and was a member of all the leading musical organizations in Indianapolis, eventually conducting the Choral Union and was musical director of the Harmonic Society. He was also an active member of the choir at the First Baptist Church. He died in Indianapolis of typhoid fever. An advocate of the East Coast concept of systematic instruction in music in the public schools, he initiated that practice in Indianapolis. He wrote and compiled a number of volumes for music education including "Progressive Music Lessons" and "The Progressive Glee and Chorus Book." His publications were widely used in Indiana and surrounding states. George B. Loomis Elementary School in Indianapolis is named after him

Baby bye here's a fly, We will watch him, you and I. How he crawls up the walls, Yet he never falls!

I believe, with those six legs, You and I could walk on eggs! There he goes, on his toes, Tickling baby's nose.

Spots of red dot his head; Rainbows on his wings are spread! That small speck is his neck, See him nod and beck!

I can show you, if you choose, Where to look to find his shoes; Three small pairs, made of hairs, These he always wears.

Black and brown is his gown, He can wear it upside down! It is laced round his waist, Ladmire his taste!

Pretty as his clothes are made, He will spoil them, I'm afraid, If tonight he gets sight Of the candlelight.

In the sun webs are spun, What if he gets into one? When it rains he complains On the window panes.

Tongues to talk have you and I, God has given the little fly No such things; so he sings With his buzzing wings. He can eat bread and meat, See his mouth between his feet! On his back is a sack Like a peddler's pack.

Does the baby understand? Then the fly shall kiss her hand; Put a crumb on her thumb, May be he will come.

Round and round on the ground, On the ceiling he is found; Catch him? No. Let him go. Never hurt him so!

Now you see his wings of silk Drabbled in the Baby's milk, Fie! oh fie! foolish fly! How will you get dry?

All wet flies twist their thighs; So they wipe their head and eyes, Cats, you know, wash just so; Then their whiskers grow!

Flies have hair too small to comb; Flies go all bareheaded home; But the gnat wears a hat: Do you laugh at that?

Flies can see more than we, So how bright their eyes must be! Little fly, mind your eye, Spiders are near by.

For a secret I can tell, Spiders will not treat you well; Haste away, do not stay, Little fly, good day!

Theodore Tilton (1835-1907)

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