



Laura

**Lowell Mason
(1792-1872)**

Lowell Mason (1792-1872) was born in Medfield, Massachusetts, and at age 17 became the Music Director of First Parish Church. For a time he lived in Savannah, Georgia, where he worked a dry-goods store, then became a banker. Showing talent since a youth, he had very strong amateur musical interests. He was choir director and organist at the Independent Presbyterian Church and initiated the first Sunday school for black children in America. He moved to Boston and was choirmaster and organist at Park Street Church. He became a music director for three churches, in a six-month rotation. He served as president of the Handel and Haydn Society, taught music in the public schools, was co-founder of the Boston Academy of Music, and was appointed music superintendent for the Boston school system. After retiring from Boston musical activity, he moved to New York City where his sons, Daniel and Lowell, Jr. had established a music business. He developed a great interest for congregational singing after a trip to Europe and accepted the position as music director at the Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church. He was an active leader in music his entire life. He composed many pieces following a more European tradition. He compiled and published many books for musical and singing training. His influence has been enduring and he is often called the father of American music education. He was the father of Henry Mason (founder of the Mason and Hamlin piano company) and composer William Mason. He was the grandfather of music critic and composer Daniel Gregory Mason, and John B. Mason, a popular late nineteenth and early twentieth-century stage actor.

A maiden, like my Laura,
You no where else will find,
So good, so sweet, so gentle,
So faithful, true, and kind.
She's dear to me,
And well deserves to be,
For a maiden like my Laura,
You no where else will find.

Oh, could you hear her singing
Like birds at break of day!
Oh, could you see her blooming
Like flowers of early May!
But vain to raise
A song to tell her praise—
For a maiden like my Laura
You no where else will find.

She's ever kind to others,
From duty never swerves;
She tends the sick and suffering,
Her neighbor loves and serves;
And yet her love
Is given to things above—
For a maiden like my Laura
You no where else will find.

Laura

Lowell Mason

Allegretto

S *f* A — maid - en, like my Lau - ra, You no where else will find, So —

A *f* A maid - en, like my Lau - ra, You no where else will find, So

T *f* A — maid - en, like my Lau - ra, You no where else will find, So —

B *f* A maid - en, like my Lau - ra, You no where else will find, So

S *f* good, so sweet, so gen - tle, So faith - ful, true, and kind. She's

A *f* good, so sweet, so gen - tle, So faith - ful, true, and kind. She's

T *f* good, so sweet, so gen - tle, So faith - ful, true, and kind. She's

B *f* good, so sweet, so gen - tle, So faith - ful, true, and kind. She's

S *mp* dear to me, And well de - serves to be, For a

A *mp* dear to me, And well de - serves to be, For a

T *mp* dear to me, And well de - serves to be, For a

B *mp* dear to me, And well de - serves to be, For a

Laura

14

S maid - en like my Lau - ra, You no where else will find, You

A maid - en like my Lau - ra, You no where else will find, no, no, You

T 8 maid - en like my Lau - ra, You no where else will find, You

B maid - en like my Lau - ra, You no where else will find, no, no, You

18

S no where else will find. *rit.*

A no where else will find. *rit.*

T 8 no where else will find. *rit.*

B no where else will find. *rit.*

S Oh, — could you hear her sing - ing Like birds at break of day! Oh,

A Oh, could you hear her sing - ing Like birds at break of day! Oh,

T 8 Oh, — could you hear her sing - ing Like birds at break of day! Oh,

B Oh, could you hear her sing - ing Like birds at break of day! Oh,

Laura

26

S could you see her bloom - ing Like flow'rs of ear - ly May! But

A could you see her bloom - ing Like flow'rs of ear - ly May! But

T could you see her bloom - ing Like flow'rs of ear - ly May! But

B could you see her bloom - ing Like flow'rs of ear - ly May! But

30

S vain to raise A song to tell her praise— For a

A vain to raise A song to tell her praise— For a

T vain to raise A song to tell her praise— For a

B vain to raise A song to tell her praise— For a

34

S maid - en like my Lau - ra You no where else will find, You

A maid - en like my Lau - ra You no where else will find, no, no, You

T maid - en like my Lau - ra You no where else will find, You

B maid - en like my Lau - ra You no where else will find, no, no, You

Laura

38 *rit.*

S no where else will find.

A no where else will find.

T no where else will find.

B no where else will find.

f

S She's ev - er kind to oth - ers, From du - ty nev - er swerves; She

A She's ev - er kind to oth - ers, From du - ty nev - er swerves; She

T She's ev - er kind to oth - ers, From du - ty nev - er swerves; She

B She's ev - er kind to oth - ers, From du - ty nev - er swerves; She

46 *f*

S tends the sick and suf - f'ring, Her neigh - bor loves and serves; And

A tends the sick and suf - f'ring, Her neigh - bor loves and serves; And

T tends the sick and suf - f'ring, Her neigh - bor loves and serves; And

B tends the sick and suf - f'ring, Her neigh - bor loves and serves; And

Laura

50

S yet her love Is giv'n to things a - bove— For a *mp*

A yet her love Is giv'n to things a - bove— For a *mp*

T yet her love Is giv'n to things a - bove— For a *mp*

B yet her love Is giv'n to things a - bove— For a *mp*

54

S maid - en like my Lau - ra You no where else will find, You *f*

A maid - en like my Lau - ra You no where else will find, no, no, You *f*

T maid - en like my Lau - ra You no where else will find, You *f*

B maid - en like my Lau - ra You no where else will find, no, no, You *f*

58

S no where else will find. *rit.*

A no where else will find. *rit.*

T no where else will find. *rit.*

B no where else will find. *rit.*

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