
120.3

There was a man nt Gimonton

##  (1813-1887)

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\text { Allegro moderato } \quad=116
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Hutchings \& Romer (1881)

Sir George Alexander Macfarren (1813-1887) was born in London. From early youth, he suffered from poor health and weak eyesight. His eyesight continually deteriorated until he became totally blind in 1860. However, his blindness had little effect on his productivity. Macfarren began to study music when he was fourteen and, at sixteen, entered the Royal Academy of Music. Because of his eyesight, he abandoned performance and concentrated on composition. He later taught at the Academy, eventually becoming a principal. He was also appointed professor of music at Cambridge University in 1875. He was conductor at Covent Garden, London; founder the Handel Society; program note writer for the Philharmonic Society; and edited the works of Handel and Purcell. He wrote 18 operas, 13 oratorios and cantatas, 9 symphonies, and 162 songs. He was active as writer of part-songs, literature for the many amateur choirs appearing throughout the country. He was knighted in 1883 on the same day as Arthur Sullivan and George Grove. His brother Walter Macfarren (1826-1905) was a pianist, composer and professor of the Royal Academy.

There was a man of Edmonton,
And he was wondrous wise;
He jumped into a quickset hedge, And scratched out both his eyes;
And when he saw his eyes were out, With all his might and all his main, He jumped into another hedge, And scratched them in again.

Nursery Rhyme

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[^0]:    Quickset hedge: a hedge or thicket planted for ornamentation or as a boundary marker and typically made up of English hawthorn. (Merriam-Webster)

