



Softly come!
Thou evening gale

Henry Smart
(1813-1879)

Henry Thomas Smart (1813-1879) was born in London, son of a music publisher, orchestra director and violinist. He declined a commission in the Indian army and planned to work in law, but he gave it up for a musical career. He was organist of Blackburn parish church; St. Giles-without-Cripplegate; St. Luke's, Old Street; and finally of St. Pancras New Church. He was the music editor for Psalms and Hymns for Divine Worship (1867), the Presbyterian Hymnal (1875), and the hymn book of the United Presbyterian Church of Scotland. He was a recognized authority on organs and designed many instruments, including those in the City Hall and St. Andrew's Hall in Glasgow, Scotland, and the Town Hall in Leeds. Smart was highly rated as a composer by his contemporaries, especially his organ works and part-songs. His best-known compositions are now probably the hymn tune "Regent Square", commonly sung with the words "Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation" and "Angels from the Realms of Glory". In the last fifteen years of his life Smart was practically blind. He composed by dictation, primarily to his daughter.

Softly come! thou evening gale,
Sweet as wind from Yemen's vale!
Sweet from rose and myrtle flower,
From olive grove and citron bower,
Where clustered bells in beauty bloom,
Where passion-flowers shine mid the gloom,
Where by the nectar scented rose,
With golden fruit, the orange glows.

Bear upon thy breath, oh! gale,
To my love the charmèd tale
Spoken by each leaf and flower,
With words that love has made their dower.
Had I but viewless wings like thine,
Soon would I seek this love of mine;
I'd pass each bar with yon moonbeams
And whisper softly where she dreams!

Frederick Enoch (1826-1905)

Softly come! Thou evening gale

Henry Smart

Andante moderato

S
Soft - ly come! thou ev' - ning gale, Sweet as

A
Soft - ly come! thou ev' - ning gale, Sweet as

T
Soft - ly come! thou ev' - ning gale, Sweet as

B
Soft - ly come! thou ev' - ning gale,

S
wind from Ye - men's vale! Sweet from rose and myr - tle

A
wind from Ye - men's vale! Sweet from rose and myr - tle

T
wind from Ye - men's vale! Sweet from rose and myr - tle

B
Sweet as wind from Ye - men's vale! Sweet from rose and myr - tle

Softly come! Thou evening gale

6 *f*

S flow'r, From ol - ive grove and cit - ron bow'r, Where

A flow'r, From ol - ive grove and cit - ron bow'r, Where

T flow'r, From ol - ive grove and cit - ron bow'r, Where

B *f* flow'r, From ol - ive grove and cit - ron bow'r, Where *p*

9

S clus - t' red bells in beau - ty bloom, Where pas - sion - flow'rs shine mid the

A clus - t' red bells in beau - ty bloom, Where pas - sion - flow'rs shine mid the

T clus - t' red bells in beau - ty bloom, Where pas - sion - flow'rs shine mid the

B clus - t' red bells in beau - ty bloom, Where pas - sion - flow'rs shine mid the

12 *p*

S gloom, Where by the nec - tar scent - ed rose, With gold - en

A gloom, Where by the nec - tar scent - ed rose, With gold - en

T gloom, Where by the nec - tar scent - ed rose, With gold - en

B gloom, Where by the nec - tar scent - ed rose, With gold - en

Softly come! Thou evening gale

15

S fruit, the o - range glows. Soft - ly come! thou ev' - ning

A fruit, the o - range glows. Soft - ly come! thou ev' - - - ning

T fruit, the o - range glows. Soft - ly come! thou ev' - - - ning

B fruit, the o - range glows. Soft - ly come! thou ev' - ning

18

S gale, Sweet as wind from Ye - men's vale! *rit.*

A gale, Sweet as wind from Ye - - - men's vale! *rit.*

T gale, Sweet as wind from Ye - - - men's vale! *rit.*

B gale, Sweet as wind from Ye - men's vale! *rit.*

S Bear up - on thy breath, oh! gale, To my

A Bear up - on thy breath, oh! gale, To my

T Bear up - on thy breath, oh! gale, To my

B Bear up - on thy breath, oh! gale,

Softly come! Thou evening gale

23

S love the charm - èd tale _____ Spok - en by each leaf and

A love the charm - èd tale _____ Spok - en by each leaf and

T love the charm - èd tale Spok - en by _____ each leaf _____ and

B To my love the charm - èd tale _____ Spok - en by each leaf and

cresc.

26

S flow'r, With words that love _____ has made their dow'r. _____ Had

A flow'r, With words that love _____ has made their dow'r. _____ Had

T flow'r, With words _____ that _____ love _____ has made their dow'r. _____ Had

B flow'r, With words that love has made their dow'r. _____ Had

f

29

S I but view - less wings like thine, _____ Soon would I seek _____ this love of

A I but view - less wings like thine, _____ Soon would I seek _____ this love of

T I but view - less wings like thine, _____ Soon would I seek _____ this love of

B I but view - less wings like thine, _____ Soon would I seek _____ this love of

Softly come! Thou evening gale

32

S mine; I'd pass each bar with yon moon - beams And whis - per

A mine; I'd pass each bar with yon moon - beams And whis - per

T mine; I'd pass each bar with yon moon - beams And whis - per

B mine; I'd pass each bar with yon moon - beams And whis - per

35

S soft - ly where she dreams! Soft - ly go! thou ev' - ning

A soft - ly where she dreams! Soft - ly go! thou ev' - - - ning

T soft - ly where she dreams! Soft - ly go! thou ev' - - - ning

B soft - ly where she dreams! Soft - ly go! thou ev' - ning

38

S gale, Sweet as wind from Ye - men's vale!

A gale, Sweet as wind from Ye - - - men's vale!

T gale, Sweet as wind from Ye - - - men's vale!

B gale, Sweet as wind from Ye - men's vale!

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