



The wild bird seeks the mountain rill

George James Webb
(1803-1887)

Affettuoso

S
The wild bird seeks the moun - tain rill When sum - mer leaves are gone; — Tho'

A
The wild bird seeks the moun - tain rill When sum - mer leaves are gone; — Tho'

T
The wild bird seeks the moun - tain rill When sum - mer leaves are gone; — Tho'

B
The wild bird seeks the moun - tain rill When sum - mer leaves are gone; — Tho'

The wild bird seeks the mountain rill

5

S
rud - er streams that course may fill, The self - same voice is mur - m'ring still: But

A
rud - er streams that course may fill, The self - same voice is mur - m'ring still: But

T

B
rud - er streams that course may fill, The self - same voice is mur - m'ring still: But

9

S
I am all a - lone, A - lone, But I am all a - lone. *dim.*

A
I am all a - lone, A - lone, But I am all a - lone. *dim.*

T
dim.

B
I am all a - lone, A - lone, But I am all a - lone. *dim.*

S
It was not thus— not thus with me, Till sum - mer friends were gone; — It

A
It was not thus— not thus with me, Till sum - mer friends were gone; — It

T
p

B
p
It was not thus— not thus with me, Till sum - mer friends were gone; — It

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17

S
was not thus, - it could not be, But win - ter comes - and mis - er - y, - And

A
was not thus, - it could not be, But win - ter comes - and mis - er - y, - And

T

B
was not thus, - it could not be, But win - ter comes - and mis - er - y, - And

21

S
now I'm all a - lone, A - lone, And now I'm all a - lone!

A
now I'm all a - lone, A - lone, And now I'm all a - lone!

T

B
now I'm all a - lone, A - lone, And now I'm all a - lone!

J. H. Wilkins and R. B. Carter
(1843)

George James Webb (1803-1887) was born at Rushmore Lodge, near Salisbury in Wiltshire, England. He trained early in England and was an organist in Falmouth, England. He emigrated to Boston, Massachusetts, in 1830. He was organist at the Old South Church in Boston for nearly 40 years and was organist at the Boston Church of the New Jerusalem. With Lowell Mason, he founded the Boston Academy of Music. He was president of the Handel and Haydn Society. In 1871, he left Boston, taught in New York from 1876-1885, and retired to Orange, New Jersey. He was an editor for the journals "The Music Library" and "The Music Cabinet." He published the books "Vocal Techniques" and "Voice Culture," and was editor and arranger of the collections "Young Ladies' Vocal Class Book," "The Glee Hive," "The New Odeon," "The Vocalist," the "Little Songster," and "Cantica Laudis." He composed organ music, choral music, songs, and hymns. His most well-known composition is his part-song "'Tis Dawn, the Lark is Singing." The original song was well received and later adapted as a hymn with the addition of sacred words "Stand up, stand up for Jesus."

The wild bird seeks the mountain rill
When summer leaves are gone;
Though ruder streams that course may fill,
The self-same voice is murmuring still:
But I am all alone,
Alone,
But I am all alone.

It was not thus—not thus with me,
Till summer friends were gone;
It was not thus,— it could not be,
But winter comes—and mis-er-y,—
And now I'm all alone,
Alone,
And now I'm all alone!

attr. Sarah Stickney Ellis (1799–1872)

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