

CANTATA FOR WOMEN'S VOICES

AWARDED PRIZE IN 1918 COMPETITION
OF MATINEE MUSICAL CLUB, PHILADELPHIA

THE SINGING LEAVES

TEXT BY
JAMES RUSSELL LOWELL

MUSIC BY
FRANCES McCOLLIN



BOSTON
OLIVER DITSON COMPANY
New York Chicago
Chas. H. Ditson & Co. Lyon & Healy

THE SINGING LEAVES

1

"What fairings will ye that I bring?"
Said the King to his daughters three;
"For I to Vanity Fair am bound,
Now say what shall they be?"

Then up and spake the eldest daughter,
That lady tall and grand:
"Oh, bring me pearls and diamonds great,
And gold rings for my hand."

Thereafter spake the second daughter,
That was both white and red:
"For me bring silks that will stand alone,
And a gold comb for my head."

Then came the turn of the last daughter,
That was whiter than thistle-down,
And among the gold of her blithesome hair
Dim shone the golden crown.

"There came a bird this morning,
And sang 'neath my bower eaves,
Till I dreamed, as his music made me,
'Ask thou for the Singing Leaves.'"

Then the brow of the King swelled crimson
With a flush of angry scorn:
"Well have ye spoken, my two eldest,
And chosen as ye were born;

"But she, like a thing of peasant race,
That is happy binding the sheaves;"
Then he saw her dead mother in her face,
And said, "Thou shalt have thy leaves."

M782.4

M1295

M1

950945

He mounted and rode three days and nights
 Till he came to Vanity Fair.
 And 't was easy to buy the gems and silk,
 But no Singing Leaves were there.

Then deep in the greenwood rode he,
 And asked of every tree.
 "Oh, if you have ever a Singing Leaf,
 I pray you give it me!"

But the trees all kept their counsel,
 And never a word said they,
 Only there sighed from the pine-tops
 A music of seas far away.

Only the pattering aspen
 Made a sound of growing rain,
 That fell ever faster and faster,
 Then faltered to silence again.

"Oh, where shall I find a little foot-page
 That would win both hose and shoon,
 And will bring to me the Singing Leaves
 If they grow under the moon?"

Then lightly turned him Walter the page,
 By the stirrup as he ran:
 "Now pledge you me the truesome word
 Of a king and gentleman,

"That you will give me the first, first thing
 You meet at your castle-gate,
 And the Princess shall get the Singing Leaves,
 Or mine be a traitor's fate."

The King's head dropt upon his breast
 A moment, as it might be;
 'T will be my dog, he thought, and said,
 "My faith I plight to thee."

Then Walter took from next his heart
 A packet small and thin,
 "Now give you this to the Princess Anne,
 The Singing Leaves are therein."

III

As the King rode in at his castle-gate,
 A maiden to meet him ran,
 And "Welcome, father!" she laughed and cried
 Together, the Princess Anne.

"Lo, here are the Singing Leaves," quoth he,
 "And woe, but they cost me dear!"
 She took the packet, and the smile
 Deepened down beneath the tear.

It deepened down till it reached her heart,
 And then gushed up again,
 And lighted her tears as the sudden sun
 Transfigures the summer rain.

And the first Leaf, when it was opened,
 Sang: "I am Walter the page,
 And the songs I sing 'neath thy window
 Are my only heritage."

And the second Leaf sang: "But in the land
 That is neither on earth or sea,
 My lute and I are lords of more
 Than thrice this kingdom's fee."

And the third Leaf sang, "Be mine! "Be mine!"
 And ever it sang, "Be mine!"
 Then sweeter it sang and ever sweeter,
 And said, "I am thine, thine, thine!"

At the first Leaf she grew pale enough,
 At the second she turned aside,
 At the third, 'twas as if a lily flushed
 With a rose's red heart's tide.

"Good counsel gave the bird," said she,
 "I have my hope thrice o'er,
 For they sing to my very heart," she said,
 "And it sings to them evermore."

She brought to him her beauty and truth,
 But and broad earldoms thrée,
 And he made her queen of the broader lands
 He held of his lute in fee.

THE SINGING LEAVES

JAMES RUSSELL LOWELL *A Cantata for Women's Voices*
with Soprano, Tenor and Baritone Solos

FRANCES MCCOLLIN

Allegro maestoso

PIANO

BARITONE SOLO (THE KING)

mf "What fair-ings will ye that I bring?"

CHORUS

SOPRANO I

Said the King to his daugh - ters three;

SOPRANO II

Said the King to his daugh - ters three;

ALTO

Said the King to his daugh - ters three;

Words used by permission of
Houghton Mifflin Company

Copyright MCMXVIII by Oliver Ditson Company
International Copyright Secured

I to Van - i - ty Fair ambound, Now say what shall they be?"

p Then
p Then
p Then

ALTO SOLO (FIRST DAUGHTER)

That la - dy tall and
 up and spake the eld - est daugh - ter,
 up and spake the eld - est daugh - ter,
 up and spake the eld - est daugh - ter,

p

grand: "Oh, bring me pearls and dia - monds great, — And

smorzando

gold rings for my hand?" *p*

There - af - ter spake the sec-ond

There - af - ter spake the sec-ond

There - af - ter spake the sec-ond

SOPRANO SOLO (SECOND DAUGHTER) *mf*

For

daugh - ter, That was both white and red:

daugh - ter, That was both white and red:

daugh - ter,

cresc.

me bring silks that will stand a-lone, For me bring silks that will

p *cresc.*

stand a-lone, And a gold comb for my head?"

Then
Then
Then

The first system of the musical score features a vocal line with lyrics and three piano accompaniment staves. The piano part includes a prominent arpeggiated figure in the right hand and a more active bass line. Dynamics include *p* and *mf*.

came the turn of the least daugh-ter, That was whit-er than this-tle-down,

came the turn of the least daugh-ter, That was whit-er than this-tle-down,

came the turn of the least daugh-ter, That was whit-er than this-tle-down,

p *sempre p*

The second system continues the vocal melody and piano accompaniment. The piano part features a consistent arpeggiated pattern in the right hand. Dynamics include *p* and *sempre p*.

And a-mong the gold of her blithe-some hair

And a-mong her blithe-some hair

And a-mong her blithe-some hair

f *p* *mf*

The third system concludes the vocal phrase and piano accompaniment. The piano part features a more active bass line and a final arpeggiated figure in the right hand. Dynamics include *f*, *p*, and *mf*.

cresc. Dim shone the gold - en crown, *dim. e rit.* the gold - en crown.
cresc. Dim shone the crown, *dim. e rit.* the gold - en crown.
cresc. Dim shone the crown, *dim. e rit.* the gold - en crown.

f *rit.* *p*

Andante tranquillo

SOPRANO SOLO (ANNE) *mf*

"There came a bird this morn - ing,

And sang 'neath my bow - er eaves, Till I

mf
 dream'd, as his mu - sic made me, Till I dream'd,

simile

dim.

till I dream'd, 'Ask thou for the Sing - ing

dim.

Leaves.'"

CHORUS *poco accel.*

Then the brow of the King swell'd crim - son With a

poco accel.

Then the brow of the King swell'd crim - son With a

poco accel.

Then the brow of the King swell'd crim - son With a

poco accel.

poco accel.

no ally

flush of an - - gry scorn:

flush of an - - gry scorn:

flush of an - - gry scorn:

BARITONE SOLO (THE KING)

f

"Well have ye spo-ken, my two eld- est, And cho - sen as ye were

born; But she, like a thing of peas - ant race, That is

hap - py bind - ing the sheaves;"

p meno mosso

Then he saw her dead

p meno mosso

Then he saw her dead

p meno mosso

Then he saw her dead

meno mosso

rit
p "Thou shalt have thy
moth - er in her face, And said,
moth - er in her face, And said,
moth - er in her face, And said,
rit
pp

Tempo I

leaves?"
f
rit

f con energico
He mount-ed and rode three days and nights Till he came to Van-i-ty
He mount-ed and rode three days and nights Till he came to Van-i-ty
He mount-ed and rode three days and nights Till he came to Van-i-ty
con energico
f

mf

Fair, — And'twas ea - sy to buy — the gems and silk, But —

mf

Fair, And'twas ea - sy to buy the gems and silk, But —

mf

Fair, And'twas ea - sy to buy — the gems and silk, But —

p

no Sing-ing Leaves were there. Then deep in the green-wood

p

no — Sing-ing Leaves were there. Then deep in the green-wood

p

no Sing-ing Leaves were there. Then deep in the green-wood

BARITONE SOLO (THE KING) *mf*

"Oh,

rode he, And ask'd of ev - 'ry tree,

rode he, And ask'd of ev - 'ry tree,

rode he, And ask'd — of ev - 'ry tree,

p

if ye have ev - er a Sing-ing Leaf, I pray you give it

p

me! I pray you give it me!"

poco rit.

a tempo

p

But the *a tempo*

But the *a tempo*

But the *a tempo*

poco rit.

p

But the *a tempo*

trees all kept their coun - sel, And nev - er a word said they,

trees all kept their coun - sel, And nev - er a word said they,

trees all kept their coun - sel, And nev - er a word said they, On - ly there

p

p

p

On - ly there sigh'd from the pine - tops A mu - sic of seas - far a -

On - ly there sigh'd from the pine - tops A mu - sic of seas - far a -

sigh'd from the pine - tops A mu - sic of seas - far a -

The first system of the musical score features three vocal staves and a piano accompaniment. The vocal parts are in a soprano, alto, and tenor/bass range. The piano accompaniment consists of a right-hand melody and a left-hand bass line. The key signature has three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The first vocal line begins with a piano (*p*) dynamic marking. The lyrics are: "On - ly there sigh'd from the pine - tops A mu - sic of seas - far a -".

way. On - ly the pat - tering as - pen Made a

way. On - ly the pat - tering as - pen Made a

way. On - ly the pat - tering as - pen Made a

The second system continues the vocal and piano parts. The lyrics are: "way. On - ly the pat - tering as - pen Made a". The piano accompaniment features a prominent sixteenth-note pattern in the right hand, which becomes more complex and rhythmic in the later part of the system. The dynamic marking *pp* (pianissimo) is used in the piano part.

cresc. ed accel.

sound - of grow - ing rain, That fell ev - er fast - er and fast - er and

cresc. ed accel.

sound - of grow - ing rain, That fell ev - er fast - er and fast - er and

cresc. ed accel.

sound - of grow - ing rain, That fell ev - er fast - er and fast - er and

The third system features a crescendo and acceleration (*cresc. ed accel.*) in both the vocal and piano parts. The lyrics are: "sound - of grow - ing rain, That fell ev - er fast - er and fast - er and". The piano accompaniment has a very active and rhythmic texture, with the right hand playing a series of ascending sixteenth-note patterns. The dynamic marking *cresc. ed accel.* is repeated three times, corresponding to the three vocal lines.

più lento
 fast - er, Then fal - ter'd to si - lence a - gain.
più lento
 fast - er, Then fal - ter'd to si - lence a - gain.
più lento
 fast - er, Then fal - ter'd to si - lence a - gain.
f *p*

BARITONE SOLO (THE KING)

mf
 "Oh, where shall I find a lit - tle page, That would
rit. *a tempo*
mf

dim.
 win both hose and shoon, And will bring to me the
p

Sing - ing Leaves If they grow un - der the

b2.
moon?"

f con energico
Then light - ly turn'd him Wal-ter the page By the

f con energico
Then light - ly turn'd him— Wal-ter the page By the

f con energico
Then light - ly turn'd him— Wal-ter the page By the

con energico



TENOR SOLO (WALTER)

mp
"Now pledge you me the

stir - rup as he — ran:

stir - rup as he ran:

stir - rup as he ran:

p



dim.

true - some word Of a king and gen - - tie -

mf *pp*

man, _____ That you will give me the first, first thing You

f *pp*

meet - at your cas - tle - gate, And the Prin - cess shall get the

dim. *f*

Sing - ing Leaves, Or mine be a trait - or's fate."

f *rit.* *a tempo*

poco meno mosso

p
The King's head dropp'd up-on his breast A mo-ment, as it might

p
The King's head dropp'd up-on his breast A mo-ment, as it might

p
The King's head dropp'd up-on his breast A mo-ment, as it might

poco meno mosso
(*accomp. ad lib.*)

f non legato
be; 'Twill be my dog, he thought, and he said,

f non legato
be; 'Twill be my dog, he thought, and he said,

f non legato
be; 'Twill be my dog, he thought, and he said,

BARITONE SOLO (THE KING)

"My faith I plight to thee!"

mf
Then

mf
Then

mf
Then

mf
Then

Wal - ter took from next his heart A pack - et small and

Wal - ter took from next his heart A pack - et small and—

Wal - ter took from next his heart A pack - et small and

TENOR SOLO (WALTER)

“Now give you this to the Prin - cess Anne, The

thin,

thin,

thin,

Sing - ing Leaves are there - in, The Sing - ing Leaves are there -

in.
poco rit
a tempo

f

SOPRANO SOLO (ANNE)

And

f 3

As the King rode in at his cas-tle-gate, A maid-en to meet him-ran,

f 3

As the King rode in at his cas-tle-gate, A maid-en to meet him ran,

f 3

As the King rode in at his cas-tle-gate, A maid-en to meet him ran,

"Wel - come, wel - come, fa - ther!"

f

she laugh'd and cried To -

f

she laugh'd and cried To -

geth-er, the Prin - cess Anne.

geth-er, the Prin - cess Anne.

geth-er, the Prin - cess Anne.

poco tranquillo

p

rit

Andante

mf BARITONE SOLO (THE KING)

“Lo, here — the Sing - ing Leaves,

p

And woe, but they cost me dear!’

CHORUS



She took the pack-et, And the smile deep-en'd
 She took the pack-et, And the smile deep-en'd
 And the smile deep-en'd

pp

down be-neath the tear. It deep - en'd down till it
 down be-neath the tear. It deep - en'd down till it
 down be-neath the tear. It deep - en'd down till it

poco stringendo

reach'd her heart, And then gush'd up a - gain,
 reach'd her heart, And then gush'd up a - gain,
 reach'd her heart, And then gush'd up a - gain,

L.H.

dim.
 And light - ed her tears As the
dim.
 And light - ed her tears As the
dim.
 And light - ed her tears As the

f
 sud-den sun Trans - fig-ures the sum-mer rain.
f
 sud-den sun Trans - fig-ures the sum-mer rain.
f
 sud-den sun Trans - fig-ures the sum-mer rain.

L.H.
L.H.

mf
And the first Leaf, when it was o - pen'd, Sang:

mf
And the first Leaf, when it was o - pen'd, Sang:

mf
And the first Leaf, when it was o - pen'd, Sang:

L.H.
rit. *a tempo*
dim.

TENOR SOLO

f
"I, I am Wal - ter the page, And the

songs I sing 'neath thy win - dow Are my on - ly her - i - tage?"

“But
 the sec-ond Leaf sang:
mf
 And the sec-ond Leaf, the sec-ond Leaf sang:
 the sec-ond Leaf sang:

Detailed description: This system contains the first three vocal lines and the beginning of the piano accompaniment. The vocal lines are in treble clef with a key signature of one flat. The piano accompaniment is in grand staff (treble and bass clefs). The first vocal line has a fermata over the final note. The second vocal line starts with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic and includes a triplet of eighth notes. The piano accompaniment features a melodic line in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand, with a piano (*p*) dynamic marking.

in the land That is nei - ther on earth or sea, My
mf

Detailed description: This system contains the second vocal line and the piano accompaniment. The vocal line continues from the previous system. The piano accompaniment is in grand staff. The key signature changes to two sharps (D major) for the second half of the system. The piano accompaniment includes a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic marking and a fermata over the final chord.

lute and I are lords of more Than thrice this king-dom's fee?

Detailed description: This system contains the third vocal line and the piano accompaniment. The vocal line continues from the previous system. The piano accompaniment is in grand staff. The key signature changes to three sharps (F# major) for the second half of the system. The piano accompaniment includes a piano (*p*) dynamic marking.

f
Be

mf
And the third Leaf sang, and ev-er it sang,

mf
And the third Leaf sang, and ev-er it sang,

mf
And the third Leaf sang, and ev-er it sang,

f *dim.* *marcato*

mine! Be mine! Be mine!"

p
Then sweet-er it sang and ev-er sweet-er,

p
Then sweet-er it sang and ev-er sweet-er,

p
Then sweet-er it sang and ev-er sweet-er,

f *appassionato*

"I am thine, I am thine, I am

thine, I am thine, I am thine!"

poco rit.

mf At the

p At the first Leaf she grew pale e-nough, At the

a tempo At the first Leaf she grew pale e-nough,

fp

f sec-ond she turn'd a - side, At the third, 'twas as if a lil - y flush'd With a

f sec-ond she turn'd a - side, At the third, 'twas as if a lil - y flush'd With a

f At the third, 'twas as if a lil - y flush'd With a

SOPRANO SOLO (ANNE) *mf*

"Good

ro - se's red heart's tide. —

ro - se's red heart's tide.

ro - se's red heart's tide.

coun - sel gave the bird, I have my hope thrice o'er, —

For they sing to my ver - y heart, they sing to my ver - y

heart, And it sings to them ev - er - more, — ev - er - more."

"It sings to them, it sings to them, it

f SOPRANO II

"It sings to them, it sings to them, it

f ALTO

"It sings to them, it sings to them, it

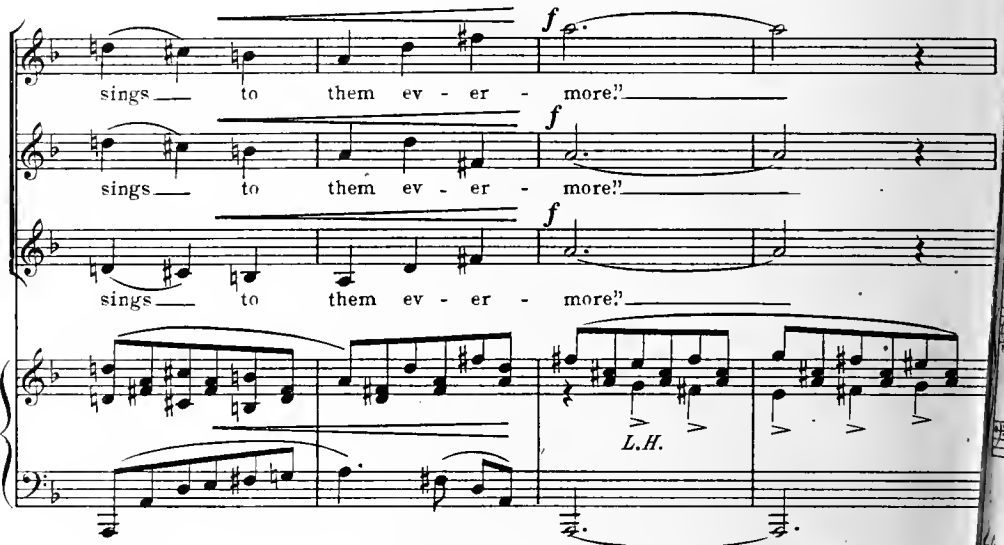


sings to them ev - er - more."

sings to them ev - er - more."

sings to them ev - er - more."

L.H.



mf

She

mf

She

mf

She

molto dim.

p



brought to him her beau - ty and truth, - But and broad earl - doms

brought to him her beau - ty and truth, - But and broad earl - doms

brought to him her beau - ty and truth, - But and broad earl - doms

mf

three, And And

three, And he made her queen of the broad - er lands, And

three, And he made her queen of the broad - er lands,

p

he made her queen of the broad - er lands He held of his lute in

he made her queen of the broad - er lands He held of his lute in

He held of his lute in

f

fee, He made her queen of the broad - er lands He

fee, He made her queen of the broad - er lands He

fee, He made her queen of the broad - er lands He

rit. held of his lute, *ff* his lute in *molto rit.*

rit. held of his lute, *ff* his lute in *molto rit.*

rit. held of his lute, *ff* his lute in *molto rit.*

rit. held of his lute, *ff* his lute in *molto rit.*

fee.

fee.

fee.

u tempo

ff

ff