



The Cottage Rose

Matthias Keller
(1813-1875)

Matthias Keller (1813-1875) was born in Ulm, Württemberg, Germany, and studied music in Stuttgart and Vienna. He played violin with the Viennese Royal Chapel and served as an army bandmaster. Relocating to the U.S. in 1846, he played in Philadelphia theaters, made violins, and conducted opera in New York City. He composed “An American Hymn” for a government-sponsored competition for an original national hymn. Initially unsuccessful, it became popular with wind bands in Boston. He added words to the song for the opening ceremonies of the National Peace Jubilee in 1869. His compositions include an assortment of small works. He died in Boston.

A lovely rose once graced a cottage scene,
And all who saw it loved it evermore;
The pride and joy of all the village green,
The cherished wealth that blessed the cottar's store.

They prized it dearly from the hour 'twas born,
And in it centered all their world's delight;
They prayed to Heaven at eve and early dawn,
To shield their lovely cottage rose from blight.

The rose for years had loved the simple cot,
Until the foolish thing had dreams of pride;
Rebelling then against its lowly lot,
It sighed to be some rich exotic's bride.

The hope fulfilled, the rose was ta'en away
From home and friends that once were held so dear,
To bloom its hour of pride and then decay,
Dying neglected ere the coming year.

The Cottage Rose

M. Keller

S *mf*
A love - ly rose once graced a cot - tage scene, And all who

A *mf*
A love - ly rose once graced a cot - tage scene, And all who

T *mf*
A love - ly rose once graced a cot - tage scene, And all who

B *mf*
A love - ly rose once graced a cot - tage scene, And all who

S ³
saw it loved it ev - er - more; — The pride and joy of all the vil - lage

A
saw it loved it ev - er - more; The pride and joy of all the vil - lage

T
saw it loved it ev - er - more; — The pride and joy of all the vil - lage

B
saw it loved it ev - er - more; The pride and joy of all the vil - lage

The Cottage Rose

6

S green, The cher - ish'd wealth that bless'd he cot - tar's store. They priz'd it

A green, The cher - ish'd wealth that bless'd he cot - tar's store. They priz'd it

T green, The cher - ish'd wealth that bless'd he cot - tar's store. They priz'd it

B green, The cher - ish'd wealth that bless'd he cot - tar's store. They priz'd it

9

S dear - ly from the hour 'twas born, — And in it cen - ter'd all their world's de -

A dear - ly from the hour 'twas born, And in it cen - ter'd all their world's de -

T dear - ly from the hour 'twas born, — And in it cen - ter'd all their world's de -

B dear - ly from the hour 'twas born, And in it cen - ter'd all their world's de -

12

S light; They pray'd to Heav'n at eve and ear - ly dawn, To shield their

A light; They pray'd at eve and ear - ly dawn, To shield their

T light; They pray'd at eve and ear - ly dawn, To shield their

B light; They pray'd at eve and ear - ly dawn, To shield their

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15

S love - ly cot - tage rose from blight.

A love - ly cot - tage rose from blight.

T love - ly cot - tage rose from blight.

B love - ly cot - tage rose from blight.

mf

S The rose for years had loved the sim - ple cot, Un - til the

A The rose for years had loved the sim - ple cot, Un - til the

T The rose for years had loved the sim - ple cot, Un - til the

B The rose for years had loved the sim - ple cot, Un - til the

19

S fool - ish thing had dreams of pride; — Re - bel - ling then a - gainst its low - ly

A fool - ish thing had dreams of pride; Re - bel - ling then a - gainst its low - ly

T fool - ish thing had dreams of pride; — Re - bel - ling then a - gainst its low - ly

B fool - ish thing had dreams of pride; Re - bel - ling then a - gainst its low - ly

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21

S lot, It sigh'd to be some rich ex - ot - ic's bride. The hope ful -

A lot, It sigh'd to be some rich ex - ot - ic's bride. The hope ful -

T lot, It sigh'd to be some rich ex - ot - ic's bride. The hope ful -

B lot, It sigh'd to be some rich ex - ot - ic's bride. The hope ful -

24

S fill'd, the rose was ta'en a - way _____ From home and friends that once were held so

A fill'd, the rose was ta'en a - way _____ From home and friends that once were held so

T fill'd, the rose was ta'en a - way _____ From home and friends that once were held so

B fill'd, the rose was ta'en a - way _____ From home and friends that once were held so

27

S dear, To bloom its hour of pride and then de - cay, Dy - ing ne -

A dear, To bloom its hour and then de - cay, Dy - ing ne -

T dear, To bloom its hour and then de - cay, Dy - ing ne -

B dear, To bloom its hour and then de - cay, Dy - ing ne -

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30

S
gled - ted ere the com - ing year.

A
gled - ted ere the com - ing year.

T
gled - ted ere the com - ing year.

B
gled - ted ere the com - ing year.

Copp, Clark & Co.
(ca. 1880)

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