



The Humble-Bee

**W. H. Neidlinger
(1863-1924)**

William Harold Neidlinger (1863-1924) was born in Brooklyn, New York, and studied with Dudley Buck and Carl Christian Müller. He was organist at St. Michael's Church, conducted the Amphion Male Chorus, the Cecilia Women's Chorus in Brooklyn, and the Treble Clef Club and Mannheim Glee Club in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. In 1896, he went to London and studied with E. Dannreuther. He briefly lived in Paris working as a singing teacher before returning to America in 1901. For a number years he was an important singing teacher in Chicago, Illinois. He turned his attention toward working with children with disabilities and established a school for children lacking motor skills, especially speech and vocal disabilities, in East Orange, New Jersey. He died in Orange, New Jersey. His compositional output includes operas, songs, hymns and part-songs. His most successful works were those for children, especially "Small Songs for Small Singers," a standard work for kindergartens. His best known piece is the Christmas song "The Birthday of a King."

BURLY, dozing humble-bee,
Where thou art is clime for me.
Let them sail for Porto Rique,
Far-off heats through seas to seek;
I will follow thee alone,
Thou animated torrid-zone!
Zigzag steerer, desert cheerer,
Let me chase thy waving lines;
Keep me nearer, me thy hearer,
Singing over shrubs and vines.

Insect lover of the sun,
Joy of thy dominion!
Sailor of the atmosphere;
Swimmer through the waves of air;
Voyager of light and noon;
Epicurean of June;
Wait, I prithee, till I come
Within earshot of thy hum,—
All without is martyrdom.

When the south wind, in May days,
With a net of shining haze
Silvers the horizon wall,
And with softness touching all,
Tints the human countenance
With a color of romance,
And infusing subtle heats,
Turns the sod to violets,
Thou, in sunny solitudes,
Rover of the underwoods,
The green silence dost displace
With thy mellow, breezy bass.

Hot midsummer's petted crone,
Sweet to me thy drowsy tone
Tells of countless sunny hours,
Long days, and solid banks of flowers;
Of gulfs of sweetness without bound
In Indian wildernesses found;
Of Syrian peace, immortal leisure,
Firmest cheer, and bird-like pleasure.

Aught unsavory or unclean
Hath my insect never seen;
But violets and bilberry bells,
Maple-sap and daffodels,
Grass with green flag half-mast high,
Succory to match the sky,
Columbine with horn of honey,
Scented fern, and agrimony,
Clover, catchfly, adder's-tongue
And brier-roses, dwelt among;
All beside was unknown waste,
All was picture as he passed.

Wiser far than human seer,
Yellow-breeched philosopher!
Seeing only what is fair,
Sipping only what is sweet,
Thou dost mock at fate and care,
Leave the chaff, and take the wheat.
When the fierce northwestern blast
Cools sea and land so far and fast,
Thou already slumberest deep;
Woe and want thou canst outsleep;
Want and woe, which torture us,
Thy sleep makes ridiculous.

Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803-1882)

The Humble-Bee

W. H. Neidlinger

Briskly

S *mf*
Bur - ly, doz - ing, hum - ble - bee, — Where thou art is clime for me.

A *mf*
Bur - ly, doz - ing, hum - ble - bee, doz - ing bee,

T *mf*
Bur - ly bee, doz - ing bee,

B *mf*
Bur - ly bee, doz - ing bee,

5
S
Let them sail for Por - to Ri - que, Far - off heats through

A
Let them sail for Por - to Ri - que, Far - off heats through

T
Let them sail, Far - off heats through

B
Let them sail, Far - off heats through



The Humble-Bee

8

S seas to seek, I will fol - low thee a - lone, Thou

A seas to seek; I will fol - low thee a - lone,

T seas to seek, I will fol - - - low

B seas to seek, I will fol - - - low

11

S an - i - ma - ted tor - rid - zone! Let me chase thy wav - ing

A thee a - lone! Fol - - - low

T thee a - lone! Fol - - - low

B thee a - lone! Fol - - - low

14

S lines; Sing - ing o - ver shrubs and vines.

A thee o - ver shrubs and vines.

T thee o - ver shrubs and vines.

B thee o - ver shrubs and vines.

The Humble-Bee

17

S *p* When the south wind, in May days, With a net of shin - ing

A *p* When the south wind, in May days, With a net of — shin - ing

T *p* When _____ the _____ shin - ing

B *p* When the shin - ing

20

S haze Sil - vers the ho - ri - zon wall, And with

A haze Sil - vers the ho - ri - zon wall, And with

T haze, _____ Soft - - - - ly _____

B haze, Soft - - - - ly

23

S soft - ness touch - es all, Thou, in sun - ny sol - i - tudes,

A soft - ness touch - es all, Thou, in sun - ny

T touch - es all, _____ Thou in sun - ny

B touch - es all, Thou in sun - ny

The Humble-Bee

27 *rit.*

S Rov - er of the un - der - woods, The green si - lence dost dis - place With *rit.*

A sol - i - tudes, The si - lence dost dis - place With *rit.*

T sol - i - tudes, The si - lence dost dis - place With *rit.*

B sol - i - tudes, The si - lence dost dis - place With *rit.*

31 *a tempo* *mf*

S mel - low, breez - y bass. Bur - ly, doz - ing

A mel - low bass. Bur - ly, doz - ing *a tempo* *mf*

T mel - low bass. Bur - ly *a tempo* *mf*

B mel - low bass. Bur - ly *a tempo* *mf*

34

S hum - ble bee, Where thou art is clime for me.

A hum - ble bee, doz - - - ing bee,

T bee, doz - - - ing bee,

B bee, doz - - - ing bee,

The Humble-Bee

37 *accel.* *rit.*

S Let me chase thy wav - ing lines; Sing - ing o - ver shrubs and

A *accel.* *rit.*
Bur - ly bee o - ver shrubs and

T *accel.* *rit.*
Bur - ly bee o - ver shrubs and

B *accel.* *rit.*
Bur - ly bee o - ver shrubs and

40 **Tempo 1** *mf*

S vines. Hot mid sum - mer's pet - ted crone, Sweet to

A vines. Hot mid sum - mer's pet - ted crone,

T vines. Pet - ted crone,

B vines. Pet - ted crone,

43

S me thy drow - sy tone Tells of count - less sun - ny hours,

A pet - ted crone, Tells of count - less sun - ny hours,

T pet - ted crone, Sweet thy tone,

B pet - ted crone, Sweet thy tone,

The Humble-Bee

47

S Long days,— sol - id banks of flow - ers; Aught un - sav - 'ry

A Long days,— sol - id banks of flow - ers; Aught un - sav - 'ry

T Long days,— sol - id banks of flow - ers; Aught un -

B Long days,— sol - id banks of flow - ers; Aught un -

50

S or un - clean — Hath my in - sect nev - er seen;

A or un - clean, nev - - - er seen;

T clean, nev - - - er seen;

B clean, nev - - - er seen;

53

S Clo - ver, catch - fly, ad - der's - tongue, — Bri - er ro - ses, — dwelt a -

A Banks of flow'rs; ro - ses, dwelt a -

T Banks of flow'rs; ro - ses, dwelt a -

B Banks of flow'rs; ro - ses, dwelt a -

The Humble-Bee

56

S mong; Wis - er far than hu - man seer, Yel - low -

A mong; Wis - er far than hu - man seer, Yel - low -

T mong; Wise phi - - - -

B mong; Wise phi - - - -

59

S breech'd phi - los - o - pher! See - ing on - ly

A breech'd phi - los - o - pher! See - ing on - ly

T los - - - o - - - pher! See - - - -

B los - - - o - - - pher! See - - - -

62

S what is fair, Thou dost mock at fate and care.

A what is fair, Thou dost mock at fate and care.

T ing what is fair.

B ing what is fair.

The Humble-Bee

65

S When the fierce north - west - ern blast Cools sea and land so far and fast,

A When the blast Cools all so fast, Thou

T When the blast Cools all so fast, Thou

B When the blast Cools all so fast, Thou

69

S Thou al - rea - dy slum - b'rest deep; Woe and want thou canst out -

A slum - - - b'rest, slum - b'rest deep; Woe and want thou canst out -

T slum - - - b'rest, slum - b'rest deep; Woe and want thou canst out -

B slum - - - b'rest, slum - b'rest deep; Woe and want thou canst out -

rit.

72

S sleep; Bur - ly, doz - ing hum - ble bee, Where

A sleep; Bur - ly, doz - ing hum - ble bee,

T sleep; Bur - ly bee,

B sleep; Bur - ly bee,

a tempo
mf

The Humble-Bee

75 *accel.*

S thou art is clime for me. Let me chase thy wav - ing

A doz - - - ing bee, Bur - - - ly

T doz - - - ing bee, Bur - - - ly

B doz - - - ing bee, Bur - - - ly

78 *rit.*

S lines; Sing - ing o - ver shrubs and vines.

A bee o - ver shrubs and vines.

T bee o - ver shrubs and vines.

B bee o - ver shrubs and vines.

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