

GREG BARTHOLOMEW

A Country Boy in Winter

A setting of the poem by 19th Century American poet
Sarah Orne Jewett

for unaccompanied men's chorus
with piano reduction for rehearsal only

BURKE & BAGLEY

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A Country Boy in Winter

Sarah Orne Jewett (1849–1909)

The wind may blow the snow about,
For all I care, says Jack,
And I don't mind how cold it grows,
For then the ice won't crack.
Old folks may shiver all day long,
But I shall never freeze;
What cares a jolly boy like me
For winter days like these?

When I go home at supper-time,
Ki! but my cheeks are red!
They burn and sting like anything;
I'm cross until I'm fed.
You ought to see the biscuit go,
I am so hungry then;
And old Aunt Polly says that boys
Eat twice as much as men.

I shall be glad when I grow up
And get all through with school,
I'll show them by-and-by that I
Was not meant for a fool.
I'll take the crops off this old farm,
I'll do the best I can.
A jolly boy like me won't be
A dolt when he's a man.

Far down the long snow-covered hills
It is such fun to coast,
So clear the road! the fastest sled
There is in school I boast.
The paint is pretty well worn off,
But then I take the lead;
A dandy sled's a loiterer,
And I go in for speed.

There's always something I can do
To pass the time away;
The dark comes quick in winter-time-
A short and stormy day
And when I give my mind to it,
It's just as father says,
I almost do a man's work now,
And help him many ways.

I like to hear the old horse neigh
Just as I come in sight,
The oxen poke me with their horns
To get their hay at night.
Somehow the creatures seem like friends,
And like to see me come.
Some fellows talk about New York,
But I shall stay at home.

"A Country Boy in Winter" appeared in Harper's Young People (3:194) for January 24, 1882.

For unaccompanied men's chorus
with piano reduction for rehearsal only

Duration: 3:30

The University of Central Oklahoma Men's Chorus presented the premiere performance at the National Conference of the Society of Composers, Edmond, Oklahoma, on March 5, 2004.

For information about composer Greg Bartholomew, visit www.gregbartholomew.com.

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A Country Boy in Winter

Dedicated to my godson William Rust Bartholomew

Text by
Sarah Orne Jewett

Music by
Greg Bartholomew

$\text{♩} = 72$ *mf* *Freely, boyishly*

Tenor 1
The wind may blow the snow a - bout, For all I care,

Tenor 2
mf
The wind may blow the snow a - bout, For all I care,

Baritone
mf
The wind may blow the snow a - bout, For all I care,

Bass
mf
The wind may blow the snow a - bout, For all I care, says

Piano
for rehearsal only
 $\text{♩} = 72$ *Freely, boyishly*

4

T.1
— And I don't mind how cold it grows, For then the ice won't crack.

T.2
— And I don't mind how cold it grows, For then the ice won't crack.

Bar.
— And I don't mind how cold it grows, For then the ice won't crack.

B.
Jack. And I don't mind how cold it grows, For then the ice won't crack.

Pno

9 **A**

T.1
8 Old folks may shi - ver all day long, But I _____ shall ne - ver freeze;

T.2
8 Old folks may shi - ver all day long, But I _____ shall ne - ver freeze;

Bar.
8 Old folks may shi - ver all day long, But I _____ shall ne - ver freeze;

B.
8 Old folks may shi - ver all day long, But I _____ shall ne - ver freeze;

Pno
8 **A**

15 *mf*

T.1
8 What cares a jol - ly boy like me for ___ win - ter days like these? 2

T.2
8 *mp* Win - - - ter days. _____

Bar.
8 *mp* Win - - - ter days. _____

B.
8 *mp* Win - - - ter days. _____

Pno
8 *mp* *mf* 2

20 **B**

T.1
8 Far down the long snow co - vered hills. So clear the

T.2
8 *mf* Far down the long snow co - vered hills. So clear the

Bar.
mf Far down the hills It is such fun to coast, So clear the

B.
mf Far down the hills It is such fun to coast, So clear the

Pno
B

25

T.1
8 road! The fast - est sled in school.

T.2
8 road! The fast - est sled there is, The fast - est sled I

Bar.
8 road! The fast - est, The fast - est sled I

B.
8 road! The fast - est sled there is I

Pno

29

T.1 *mf* But then I take__ the

T.2 boast. But then I take__ the

Bar. boast. But then I take__ the

B. boast. The paint is pret - ty well__ worn off.

Pno *mf*

33

T.1 lead; And I go in for speed.__ When

T.2 lead; And I go in for speed.__ When

Bar. lead; And I go in for speed.__ When

B. A dan - dy sled's a loi - ter - er, I go in for speed.__ When

Pno