



Laughing Chorus

Edwin T. Pound
(1833-1919)

Edwin Theophilus Pound (1833-1919) was born in Hancock County, Georgia, grew up in Talbot County, and settled in what is now Lamar County. He was a merchant, became a judge, and was on the board of trustees for Gordon Institute. He was founder and editor of the Barnesville Gazette, published a musical journal called "Musical Tidings," and published music books. He was very active as a musician. He was a composer, teacher, and held singing schools. He was a pupil and close associate of B. F. White. He was a part of The Southern Musical Convention and contributor to the second revision of "The Sacred Harp" in 1858-1859. He was eventually president of the association and promoted systems of notation other than the standard 4-note shape system. He wrote or compiled a number of sacred and secular song books and wrote "The Vocal Triad: Embracing Three Systems of Musical Notation." He died in his daughter's home at Shellman, Georgia.

It is agreed on every hand
Beyond a doubt, I trow,
That laughing is, you understand,
Preferred to sorrow, pain or woe;
Together let us laugh,
And of the pleasure quaff,
It is a joy
Without alloy,
Then laugh, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha!

*Then laugh, ha, ha, ha, again,
Now altogether join the strain,
'Tis a pleasure rare indeed,
And a blessing that we need,
So then laugh, ha, ha, ha, ha!*

Some go through life with faces long,
And scarcely ever smile,
A hearty laugh they think is wrong,
And go complaining all the while;
But sober let them be,
We'll laugh in merry glee,
'Twill give you health,
'Twill give you wealth,
Then laugh, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha!

Laughing Chorus

E. T. Pound

S
It is a - greed on ev - 'ry hand Be - yond a doubt, I trow, That

A
It is a - greed on ev - 'ry hand Be - yond a doubt, I trow, That

T
It is a - greed on ev - 'ry hand Be - yond a doubt, I trow, That

B
It is a - greed on ev - 'ry hand Be - yond a doubt, I trow, That

5
S
laugh - ing is, you un - der - stand, Pre - ferred to sor - row, pain or woe; To -

A
laugh - ing is, you un - der - stand, Pre - ferred to sor - row, pain or woe; To -

T
laugh - ing is, you un - der - stand, Pre - ferred to sor - row, pain or woe; To -

B
laugh - ing is, you un - der - stand, Pre - ferred to sor - row, pain or woe; To -



Laughing Chorus

9

S
geth - er let us laugh, ha, ha, ha! And of the pleas - ure quaff, ha, ha, ha! It

A
geth - er let us laugh, ha, ha, ha! And of the pleas - ure quaff, ha, ha, ha! It

T
geth - er let us laugh, ha, ha, ha! And of the pleas - ure quaff, ha, ha, ha! It

B
geth - er let us laugh, ha, ha, ha! And of the pleas - ure quaff, ha, ha, ha! It

The first system of the musical score consists of four staves labeled S (Soprano), A (Alto), T (Tenor), and B (Bass). Each staff contains a vocal line with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: 'geth - er let us laugh, ha, ha, ha! And of the pleas - ure quaff, ha, ha, ha! It'. The music is written in a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat) and a common time signature. The melody is simple and rhythmic, with a focus on the 'ha, ha, ha' laughter. The lyrics are aligned with the notes on the staves.

13

tempo ad lib.

S
is a joy With - out al - loy, Then laugh, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha!

A
is a joy With - out al - loy, Then laugh, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha!

T
is a joy With - out al - loy, Then laugh, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha!

B
is a joy With - out al - loy, Then laugh, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha!

The second system of the musical score consists of four staves labeled S (Soprano), A (Alto), T (Tenor), and B (Bass). Each staff contains a vocal line with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: 'is a joy With - out al - loy, Then laugh, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha!'. The music is written in a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat) and a common time signature. The tempo is marked 'tempo ad lib.'. The melody is simple and rhythmic, with a focus on the 'ha, ha, ha' laughter. The lyrics are aligned with the notes on the staves.

Laughing Chorus

CHORUS

S
Ha, ha, ha! Ha, ha, ha! Ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha,

A
Ha, ha, ha! Ha, ha, ha! Ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha,

T
Ha, ha, ha! Ha, ha, ha! Ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha,

B
Then laugh, a - gain, Now al - to - geth - er join the

20
S
ha! 'Tis a pleas - ure rare in - deed, And a

A
ha! 'Tis a pleas - ure rare in - deed, And a

T
ha! 'Tis a pleas - ure rare in - deed, And a

B
strain, 'Tis a pleas - ure rare in - deed, And a

22
S
bless - ing that we need, So then laugh, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha!

A
bless - ing that we need, So then laugh, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha!

T
bless - ing that we need, So then laugh, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha!

B
bless - ing that we need, So then laugh, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha!

Laughing Chorus

tempo ad lib.

25

S
Ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha!

A
Ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha!

T
Ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha!

B
Ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha!

VERSE 2

S
Some go through life with fac - es long, And scarce - ly ev - er smile, A

A
Some go through life with fac - es long, And scarce - ly ev - er smile, A

T
Some go through life with fac - es long, And scarce - ly ev - er smile, A

B
Some go through life with fac - es long, And scarce - ly ev - er smile, A

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32

S heart - y laugh they think is wrong, And go com - plain - ing all the while; But

A heart - y laugh they think is wrong, And go com - plain - ing all the while; But

T heart - y laugh they think is wrong, And go com - plain - ing all the while; But

B heart - y laugh they think is wrong, And go com - plain - ing all the while; But

36

S so - ber let them be, ha, ha, ha! We'll laugh in mer - ry glee, ha, ha, ha! 'Twill

A so - ber let them be, ha, ha, ha! We'll laugh in mer - ry glee, ha, ha, ha! 'Twill

T so - ber let them be, ha, ha, ha! We'll laugh in mer - ry glee, ha, ha, ha! 'Twill

B so - ber let them be, ha, ha, ha! We'll laugh in mer - ry glee, ha, ha, ha! 'Twill

40

tempo ad lib.

S give you health, 'Twill give you wealth, Then laugh, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha!

A give you health, 'Twill give you wealth, Then laugh, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha!

T give you health, 'Twill give you wealth, Then laugh, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha!

B give you health, 'Twill give you wealth, Then laugh, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha, ha!

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