



# Laugh Not, Youth, at Age!

Robert Lucas Pearsall  
(1795-1856)

**Robert Lucas Pearsall** (1795-1856) was born at Clifton Hill, Bristol, into a wealthy Quaker family. His father was an army officer and amateur musician. He was privately educated and practiced as a barrister in Bristol. In 1825, after suffering a stroke, he took his family to live abroad. He sold the family estate in Willsbridge and, in 1842, bought the Schloss Wartensee, a ruined medieval keep near Rorschach in Switzerland and spent several years restoring it. He remained there until his death. Pearsall was an amateur composer and many of his compositions were not published until after his death. He is best remembered for his part-songs and madrigals but also wrote orchestral works, anthems, services, musical treatises, and edited a Catholic hymnal. He kept in touch with his home city of Bristol and wrote many pieces for the Bristol Madrigal Society. He also composed poetry, some of which he used for his madrigals, such as 'Why Do the Roses' and 'Why should the cuckoo's tuneful note'. The particle "de" often spelled in his name is a feature added after his death by his daughter Philippa.

Laugh not, Youth, at Age!  
It has been as you!  
The Grandsire bears the stamp of other days,  
And custom long gone by.  
He may not mingle in the sportive throng.  
His limbs are stiff, his energy belongs  
Not to a light fantastic age like ours,  
But to a time when he  
And those who lived and loved with him,  
Paced in the stately long-forgotten dance  
To measures slow and sweet.  
Gracefully moving, they traversed the floor,  
Bending, receding with courtly salute.  
Yet were they neither tame nor cold,  
Love ruled their pulses as he ruleth now;  
And feet that stepped formally bore up  
Young hearts, which were warm with emotions  
That kindle now in yours.

# Laugh not, Youth, at Age

Robert L. Pearsall

Not too fast  $\text{♩} = 80$

S

A *mf*  
Laugh not, laugh \_\_\_\_\_ not, Youth, at

T *mf*  
Laugh not, laugh \_\_\_\_\_

B

6

S *mf*  
Laugh not, laugh not, Youth, at Age! laugh \_\_\_\_\_ not,

A  
Age! laugh \_\_\_\_\_ not, Youth, laugh \_\_\_\_\_ not, Youth, at

T  
not, Youth, at Age! It has

B *mf*  
Laugh not, Youth, at Age! It has



# Laugh not, Youth, at Age

12

S Youth, It has been as you, *dim.* it \_\_\_\_\_ has been \_\_\_\_\_ as

A Age! *dim.* It has been as you, it has been, has been as

T *dim.* been \_\_\_\_\_ as you, it has been as you!

B *dim.* been as you, it has been as you!

18

S you! *f* Laugh \_\_\_\_\_ not,

A you! *f* Laugh \_\_\_\_\_ not, laugh \_\_\_\_\_

T *f* Laugh \_\_\_\_\_ not, laugh \_\_\_\_\_

B *f* Laugh \_\_\_\_\_ not,

23

S laugh \_\_\_\_\_ not, laugh \_\_\_\_\_

A \_\_\_\_\_ not, laugh \_\_\_\_\_ not,

T \_\_\_\_\_ not, laugh \_\_\_\_\_

B laugh \_\_\_\_\_ not, It has been as

## Laugh not, Youth, at Age

28

S not, Laugh not, Youth, at

A Youth, laugh not, laugh not, Youth, at

T not, Youth, Laugh not, Youth, at

B you! Laugh not, laugh not, Youth, at

34

S Age! *p* The Grand - sire bears the

A Age! *p* The Grand - sire bears the

T Age! *p* The Grand - sire bears the

B Age! *p* The Grand - sire bears the

40

S stamp of oth - er days, And cus - tom long

A stamp of oth - er days, And cus - tom long

T stamp of oth - er days, And cus - tom long

B stamp of oth - er days, And cus - tom long









## Laugh not, Youth, at Age

97

S tas - tic age like ours, But \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ a

A tas - tic age like ours, But \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ a

T tas - tic age like ours, But \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ a

B tas - tic age like ours, But \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ a

103

S time \_\_\_\_\_ when he \_\_\_\_\_ And those who

A time when he \_\_\_\_\_ And those \_\_\_\_\_

T time \_\_\_\_\_ when he \_\_\_\_\_ And those \_\_\_\_\_ who

B time \_\_\_\_\_ when he \_\_\_\_\_ And those \_\_\_\_\_

109

S liv'd \_\_\_\_\_ and lov'd \_\_\_\_\_ with

A \_\_\_\_\_ who liv'd and lov'd \_\_\_\_\_ with

T liv'd \_\_\_\_\_ and lov'd \_\_\_\_\_ with

B \_\_\_\_\_ who liv'd \_\_\_\_\_ and lov'd \_\_\_\_\_ with

# Laugh not, Youth, at Age

115 *f* >

S him, Pac'd in the state - ly long - for - got - ten dance,

A him, Pac'd in the

T him, Pac'd in the state - - - ly

B him,

121

S pac'd in the

A state - - - - - ly

T long - for - got - ten dance,

B Pac'd in the state - - - ly

127

S state - - - ly long - for - got - ten dance To

A dance, pac'd in the state - ly long - for - got - ten dance

T pac'd in the state - - - ly long - for - got - ten

B long - - - - for - got - - - - ten dance

## Laugh not, Youth, at Age

133

S meas - - - ures slow

A To meas - - - ures slow,

T dance To meas - ures slow and sweet, to

B To meas - - - - - - - - -

138

S - and sweet, to meas - - - ures slow and sweet.

A - to meas - ures slow and sweet.

T meas - ures slow and sweet.

B - - - ures slow and sweet.

*Grazioso (in the time of the OLD Minuet)*

143

S Grace - ful - ly mov - ing, they tra - vers'd the floor,

A Grace - ful - ly mov - ing, they tra - vers'd the floor, -

T Grace - ful - ly mov - ing, they tra - vers'd the floor, Bend -

B Grace - ful - ly they tra - vers'd the floor, Bend -

# Laugh not, Youth, at Age

147

S Bend - ing, re - ced - ing with court - ly sa - lute.

A Bend - ing, re - ced - ing with court - ly sa - lute.

T - - ing, re - ced - ing with court - ly sa - lute. Yet were they

B - ing, re - ced - ing with court - ly sa - lute.

151

S Yet were they nei - ther tame nor cold, nei - ther

A Yet were they nei - ther tame,

T nei - ther tame nor cold, nei - ther tame nor cold, Love rul'd their

B Yet were they nei - ther tame, tame nor cold,

155

S tame nor cold, Love rul'd their pul - ses as he

A tame nor cold, Love rul'd their pul - - - ses as

T pul - ses, Love rul'd as he rul - eth now, as he

B Love rul'd their pul - ses as he rul - eth now, Love rul'd as he

## Laugh not, Youth, at Age

159

S  
rul - eth now; And feet that stopt for - mal-ly bore

A  
he rul - eth now; And feet that stopt for - mal - ly

T  
rul - eth now; And feet that stopt for - mal - ly

B  
rul - - - eth now; And feet that stopt for - mal - ly

*cresc.* *dim.* *cresc.* *dim.* *cresc.* *dim.* *cresc.* *dim.*

163

S  
up Young hearts, which were warm with e - mo - tions That

A  
bore up Young hearts, which were warm with e - mo - tions That

T  
bore up Young hearts, which were warm with e - mo - tions That

B  
bore up Young hearts, which were warm with e - mo - tions That

*cresc.* *cresc.* *cresc.* *cresc.*

167

S  
kin - dle now in yours, were warm with e -

A  
kin - dle in yours, were warm with e -

T  
kin - dle now in yours, which were warm with e -

B  
kin - dle in yours, which were warm with e -

*cresc.* *f* *cresc.* *f* *cresc.* *f* *cresc.* *f*

# Laugh not, Youth, at Age

170 *Adagio*



S  
mo - tions That kin - dle in yours.

A  
mo - tions That kin - dle in yours.

T  
mo - tions That kin - dle in yours.

B  
mo - tions That kin - dle in yours.

Novello, Ewer and Co.  
(1860-1885)

#### TERMS OF USE

These editions are available as a service to the choral community, offering inexpensive access to public domain literature. Choir resources can purchase other literature still under copyright, especially to support those creating and publishing new compositions and arrangements. These editions have been created using public domain sources under U. S. copyright law. Out of respect to the research, time and effort invested:

- please print and issue an edition in its entirety, retaining notices, attributions, and logos.
- please do not consider this edition a source for creating another edition.

If performed, sending a copy of the concert program would be a valuable affirmation. If recorded, notification and attribution would be appropriate professional courtesies and a copy of the recording would be greatly appreciated!

For a full description of these requests and more scores, visit:  
[www.shorchor.net](http://www.shorchor.net)

