



My Old Coat

Philip P. Bliss
(1838-1876)

My Old Coat

P. P. Bliss

S We've long been friends to - geth - er, But,

A We've long been friends to - geth - er, But,

T We've long been friends to - geth - er, But,

B We've long been friends to - geth - er, But,

4
S soon, a - las! must part, In bright and cloud - y

A soon, a - las! must part, In bright and cloud - y

T soon, a - las! must part, In bright and cloud - y

B soon, a - las! must part, In bright and cloud - y



My Old Coat

7

S weath - er, Thou — oft has cheered my heart; But thread - bare

A weath - er, Thou oft has cheered my heart; But thread - bare

T weath - er, Thou oft has cheered my heart; But thread - bare

B weath - er, Thou oft has cheered my heart; But thread - bare

10

S now, thy lus - ter gone, Thy waist - ing form I

A now, thy lus - ter gone, Thy waist - ing form I

T now, thy lus - ter gone, Thy waist - ing form I

B now, thy lus - ter gone, Thy waist - ing form I

13

S see; Though once so "fair to look up - on," I

A see; Though once so "fair to look up - on," I

T see; Though once so "fair to look up - on," I

B see; Though once so "fair to look up - on," I

My Old Coat

16

S
now must part with thee: Though once so "fair to look up -

A
now must part with thee: Though once so "fair to look up -

T
now must part with thee: Though once so "fair to look up -

B
now must part with thee: Though once so "fair to look up -

19

S
on," I now must part with thee.

A
on," I now must part with thee.

T
on," I now must part with thee.

B
on," I now must part with thee.

S
Old coat, thou'st done thy du - ty, Would

A
Old coat, thou'st done thy du - ty, Would

T
Old coat, thou'st done thy du - ty, Would

B
Old coat, thou'st done thy du - ty, Would

My Old Coat

24

S I had mine, as well; Thy worth has been thy

A I had mine, as well; Thy worth has been thy

T I had mine, as well; Thy worth has been thy

B I had mine, as well; Thy worth has been thy

27

S beau - ty, Thy rents thy ser - vice tell; Thy pock - ets,

A beau - ty, Thy rents thy ser - vice tell; Thy pock - ets,

T beau - ty, Thy rents thy ser - vice tell; Thy pock - ets,

B beau - ty, Thy rents thy ser - vice tell; Thy pock - ets,

30

S too, have nev - er failed, Thy lin - ing's "good as

A too, have nev - er failed, Thy lin - ing's "good as

T too, have nev - er failed, Thy lin - ing's "good as

B too, have nev - er failed, Thy lin - ing's "good as

My Old Coat

33

S new," While oth - er coats have been re - tailed, Thou'st

A new," While oth - er coats have been re - tailed, Thou'st

T new," While oth - er coats have been re - tailed, Thou'st

B new," While oth - er coats have been re - tailed, Thou'st

36

S served me long and true: While oth - er coats have been re -

A served me long and true: While oth - er coats have been re -

T served me long and true: While oth - er coats have been re -

B served me long and true: While oth - er coats have been re -

39

S tailed, Thou'st served me long and true.

A tailed, Thou'st served me long and true.

T tailed, Thou'st served me long and true.

B tailed, Thou'st served me long and true.

My Old Coat

S
Though oth - - er friends may leave me, And

A
Though oth - - er friends may leave me, And

T
Though oth - - er friends may leave me, And

B
Though oth - - er friends may leave me, And

44
S
"shod - dy" - like, "fall through," Their loss could nev - er

A
"shod - dy" - like, "fall through," Their loss could nev - er

T
"shod - dy" - like, "fall through," Their loss could nev - er

B
"shod - dy" - like, "fall through," Their loss could nev - er

47
S
grieve me Like part - ing now with you; But, hark! I

A
grieve me Like part - ing now with you; But, hark! I

T
grieve me Like part - ing now with you; But, hark! I

B
grieve me Like part - ing now with you; But, hark! I

My Old Coat

50

S hear the "Ole Clo" man, Pro - claim our part - ing

A hear the "Ole Clo" man, Pro - claim our part - ing

T hear the "Ole Clo" man, Pro - claim our part - ing

B hear the "Ole Clo" man, Pro - claim our part - ing

53

S knell, I'll find thine e - qual, if I can, Old

A knell, I'll find thine e - qual, if I can, Old

T knell, I'll find thine e - qual, if I can, Old

B knell, I'll find thine e - qual, if I can, Old

56

S friend, a fond fare - well: I'll find thine e - qual, if I

A friend, a fond fare - well: I'll find thine e - qual, if I

T friend, a fond fare - well: I'll find thine e - qual, if I

B friend, a fond fare - well: I'll find thine e - qual, if I

My Old Coat

59

S can, Old friend, a fond fare - well.

A can, Old friend, a fond fare - well.

T can, Old friend, a fond fare - well.

B can, Old friend, a fond fare - well.

S And so, when I'm re - ject - ed, Worn

A And so, when I'm re - ject - ed, Worn

T And so, when I'm re - ject - ed, Worn

B And so, when I'm re - ject - ed, Worn

64

S out, my lus - ter gone; Thread - bare, laid by, neg -

A out, my lus - ter gone; Thread - bare, laid by, neg -

T out, my lus - ter gone; Thread - bare, laid by, neg -

B out, my lus - ter gone; Thread - bare, laid by, neg -

My Old Coat

67

S lect - ed, My — deeds of du - ty done; Some "Ole Clo"

A lect - ed, My deeds of du - ty done; Some "Ole Clo"

T lect - ed, My deeds of du - ty done; Some "Ole Clo"

B lect - ed, My deeds of du - ty done; Some "Ole Clo"

70

S man, I hope, may say, "His works his vir - tues

A man, I hope, may say, "His works his vir - tues

T man, I hope, may say, "His works his vir - tues

B man, I hope, may say, "His works his vir - tues

73

S tell," Tho' out of date, "he had his day" And

A tell," Tho' out of date, "he had his day" And

T tell," Tho' out of date, "he had his day" And

B tell," Tho' out of date, "he had his day" And

76

S
“did his du - ty well.” Tho’ out of date, “he had his

A
“did his du - ty well.” Tho’ out of date, “he had his

T
“did his du - ty well.” Tho’ out of date, “he had his

B
“did his du - ty well.” Tho’ out of date, “he had his

79

S
day” And “did his du - ty well.”

A
day” And “did his du - ty well.”

T
day” And “did his du - ty well.”

B
Root & Cady
(1865) day” And “did his du - ty well.”

Philip Paul Bliss (1838-1876) was born in Clearfield County, Pennsylvania, into a devout Methodist family. The family moved to Ohio and back to Pennsylvania during his younger years, and he was educated mostly by his mother from the Bible. His parents were musical and he developed a passion for singing. At age 11, he left home to make his own living, working in timber camps and sawmills, but he continued to attend local schools as much as he could. At age 18, started to teach at Hartsville, New York. He trained at music schools, conventions and normal schools under J. G. Towner, William B. Bradbury, T. E. Perkins, and T. J. Cook. They persuaded him to teach music. At 20, He taught at Rome Academy, Pennsylvania, and at 22, became an itinerant music teacher. At 26, he moved to Chicago and became known as a singer and teacher, working for Root and Cady Musical Publishers. He formed an association with Dwight L. Moody and frequently led the music at the revival meetings. After a time leading music at the First Congregational Church in Chicago, he was convinced to become a full-time singing evangelist. He travelled extensively in his ministry and Moody encouraged him to take his ministry overseas. He and his wife decided to visit their home in Pennsylvania before going to England, but, as they were riding the train approaching Ashtabula, Ohio, a trestle bridge collapsed. Bliss initially escaped from the wreck, but the carriages caught fire and he returned to try to save his wife. No trace of either body was discovered. He wrote many sacred songs, gospel songs, sheet music songs, and a number of song collections. Many of his pieces appear in the books of George F. Root, Horatio R. Palmer, and others. He occasionally used the pseudonym Pro Phundo Basso.

We've long been friends together,
But, soon, alas! must part,
In bright and cloudy weather,
Thou oft has cheered my heart;
But threadbare now, thy luster gone,
Thy waisting form I see;
Though once so "fair to look upon,"
I now must part with thee.

Old coat, thou'st done thy duty,
Would I had mine, as well;
Thy worth has been thy beauty,
Thy rents thy service tell;
Thy pockets, too, have never failed,
Thy lining's "good as new,"
While other coats have been retailed,
Thou'st served me long and true.

Though other friends may leave me,
And "shoddy"-like, "fall through,"
Their loss could never grieve me
Like parting now with you;
But, hark! I hear the "Ole Clo" man,
Proclaim our parting knell,
I'll find thine equal, if I can,
Old friend, a fond farewell.

And so, when I'm rejected,
Worn out, my luster gone;
Threadbare, laid by, neglected,
My deeds of duty done;
Some "Ole Clo" man, I hope, may say,
"His works his virtues tell,"
Though out of date, "he had his day"
And "did his duty well."

P. P. Bliss

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