

Amy Beach (1867-1944) was one of the first important women composers in America, and was also a famous pianist. She composed her first music at the age of four, before she could write; her mother wrote her compositions down for her. Beach had absolute pitch and associated colors with each key. Her concert music was performed in America and in Europe by well-known musicians, orchestras and choruses, as well as by herself. She wrote so much good music for students that "Mrs. Beach Clubs" sprang up all over the nation to honor her. Beach's advice to young composers was to "write, hear, analyze, train your ear and enrich your taste!"

If you would like to compose a piece, write it out on the colored staff paper at the end of this book and send it to the Hildegard Publishing Company. We will review it and return it to you with our "stamp of approval."

Children's Album No. 1 Minuet

Amy Beach

Op. 36 No. 1

A minuet is a gentle dance in 3/4 time. When you play this one, think of people dressed in formal, fancy, satin clothing, wearing powdered wigs, taking small, shuffling steps and bowing graciously to each other.

5 3 4 2 3 1 4 2 3 1 5 1 5 1

p

5 2 4 1 5 1 4 2 3 4 2 4 2 4 2

mf

4 5 3 2

f rit. *p* a tempo

1 4 2 2

cresc.

f *p*

Fine.

1 5 1 3 1

2 4 2 3 2 4 4 4 5 3

cresc. dolce

1 4 1 3 2 3 1 4 1 3 2

pp D.C.

1 4 1 2 1 4 2 2 3