

# Poor Rose of Lucerne

As sung by  
**Hamilton Lobdell**  
06-24-1941 Mukwonago, WI  
(at 3:00 from the bell in the background)

## Verse

The musical score is written on a single staff in 3/4 time with a key signature of two flats (Bb and Eb). It begins with a treble clef and a key signature change from C major to Bb major. The melody is simple and folk-like. The lyrics are written below the staff, with some words hyphenated across lines. The score is divided into sections: Verse (measures 1-10), Refrain (measures 11-19), and a final line (measures 20-22). Measure numbers 6, 11, 15, and 19 are indicated at the start of their respective lines. A star symbol (\*) is placed above the first measure of the verse.

I've come a - cross — the sea, I've braved ev - ry dan - ger. A  
bro - ther — dear — to see, from Swiss - land — a rang - er. In  
pi - ty — pro - tect and care for a poor stran - ger, and  
buy a lit - tle toy from poor Rose of Lu - cerne. Buy a  
toy, a lit - tle toy, from poor Rose of Lu - cerne.

## Verse 1.

I've come across the sea,  
I've braved every danger.  
A brother dear to see,  
From Swissland, a ranger.  
In pity protect and care for a poor stranger,

## Verse 2.

I have paints and perfumes,  
For all who may use them.  
Young ladies I suppose,  
You all will refuse them.  
The bloom on your cheeks show you'll never never use them,  
(refrain)

## Refrain

And buy a little toy from poor Rose of Lucerne.  
Buy a toy, a little toy, from poor Rose of Lucerne.

\* (Meterically difficult)

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## Critical Commentary

### HST notes:

In the Professional Papers series:

*See p. 108 - under title "The Swiss Toy Girl" by G.T. [G.J?] Barnett.*

*"Singing Bird" is from F.H. Lyman Collection in Mills Memorial Library.*

*Title Rose of Lucerne - J. Barnett. P. 90*

### Sources:

Howe, Elias, comp. *Family Circle Glee Book*. Boston: Russell & Richardson, 1857. "Rose of Lucerne."

McCaskey, John Piersol. *Franklin Square Song Collection. No. 5: Two-Hundred Favorite Songs and Hymns For Schools and Homes, Nursery and Fireside*. New York: Harper & Brothers, 1881-1891.

K.G.