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Mother, can I go?.

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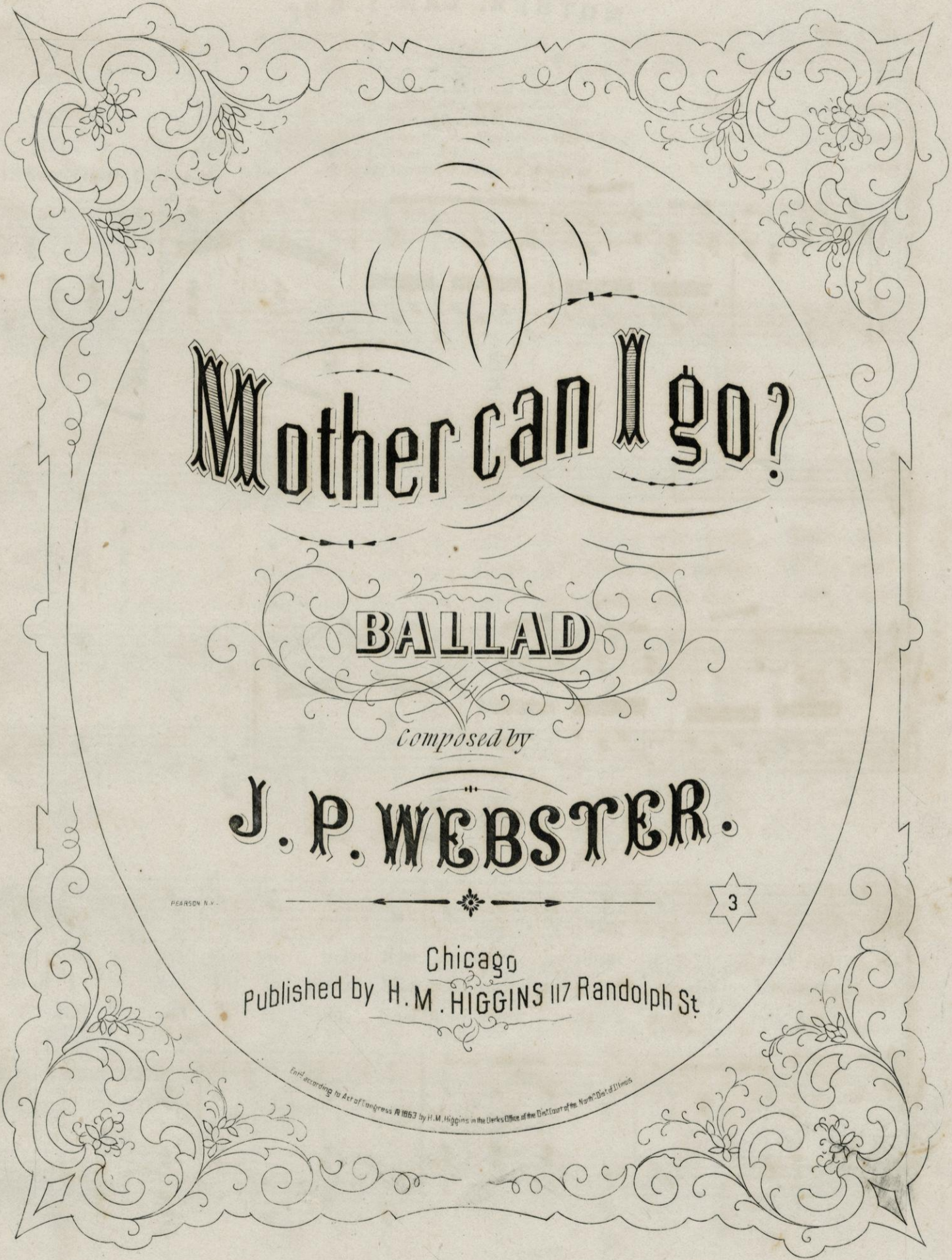
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From the library of
Joseph P. Webster



Mother can I go?

BALLAD

Composed by

J. P. WEBSTER.

PEARSON N.Y.

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Chicago
Published by H. M. HIGGINS 117 Randolph St.

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MOTHER, CAN I GO?

BALLAD

A young man from Lyme, Ct. employed in New-York, wrote to his mother for permission to enlist. He now belongs to the Signal Corps in the Tenth Connecticut Regiment, with Gen. Burnside's Expedition. A friend in New York has thus beautifully put his request into verse:—

Music by J. P. WEBSTER.

The first system of music is a piano introduction. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The key signature is one flat (B-flat) and the time signature is 4/4. The music features a steady eighth-note accompaniment in the bass and a more melodic line in the treble.

The second system of music is a piano introduction. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The key signature is one flat (B-flat) and the time signature is 4/4. The music continues with a steady eighth-note accompaniment in the bass and a more melodic line in the treble. There are some decorative symbols like a 'P' and a star in the treble staff.

- 1. I am
- 2. From the
- 3. I am

The third system of music features a vocal line on a single treble clef staff and a piano accompaniment on two staves (treble and bass clef). The key signature is one flat (B-flat) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are written below the vocal line.

wri - ting to you, moth-er, know-ing well what you will say, When you
 bat-tered walls of Sumpter, from the wild waves of the sea, I have
 young and slender, mother,— they would call me yet a boy, But I

read with tear-ful fondness what I write to you to-day; Knowing
 heard her cry for suc-cor, as the voice of God to me; In pros-
 know the land I live in, and the bless-ings I en-joy; I am

well the flame of ar-dor on a loy-al moth-er's part, That will
 -per-i-ty I loved her- in her days of dark dis-tress, With your
 old enough, my moth-er, to be loy-al, proud and true To the

kin-dle with each im-pulse, with each throbbing of your heart. I have
 spir-it in me, moth-er, could I love that coun-try less? They have
 faith-ful sense of du-ty I have ev-er learned from you. We must

Mother, can I go?

heard my coun - try call - ing for her sons that still are true, I have
 pierced her heart with trea - son they have caused her sons to bleed, **They have**
 conquer this re - bel - lion; let the doubt - ing heart be still; **We must**

loved that coun - try, moth - er, on - ly next to God and you; **And my**
 robbed her in her kindness, they have triumphed in her need; **They have**
 con - quer it or per - ish. We must conquer, and we will! **But the**

soul is springing for - ward to re - sist her bit - ter foe; **Can I**
 trampled on her standard, and she calls me in her woe; **Can I**
 faith - ful must not fal - ter, and shall I be want - ing? - No! **Bid me**

Mother, can I go?

go, my dear-est moth-er? tell me, moth-er, can I go?
 go, my dear-est moth-er, tell me, moth-er, can I go?
 go, my dear-est moth-er! tell me, moth-er, can I go?

4.

He who led his chosen people, in their effort to be free
 From the tyranny of Egypt, will be merciful to me;
 Will protect me by His power, whatsoever I undertake;
 Will return me home in safety dearest mother, for your sake.
 Or should this my bleeding country need a victim such as me,
 I am nothing more than others who have perished to be free.
 On her bosom let me slumber, on her altar let me lie;
 I'm not afraid, my mother, in so good a cause to die.

5.

There will come a day of gladness, when the people of the Lord
 Shall look proudly on their banner, which His mercy has restored;
 When the stars in perfect number, on their azure field of blue,
 Shall be clustered in a Union, then and ever firm and true.
 I may live to see it, mother, when the patriot's work is done,
 And your heart, so full of kindness, will beat proudly for your son;
 Or through tears your eyes may see it with a sadly thoughtful view,
 And may love it still more dearly for the cost it won from you.

6.

I have written to you mother, with a consciousness of right;
 I am thinking of you fondly, with a loyal heart to-night;
 When I have your noble bidding, which shall tell me to press on,
 I will come and kiss you, mother, — come and kiss you and be gone.
 In the sacred name of Freedom, and my country as her due —
 In the name of Law and Justice, I have written this to you.
 I am eager, anxious, longing to resist my country's foe;
 Shall I go, my dearest mother? tell me, mother, shall I go?