

Chapter One

Newport, New Hampshire

1805 – 1813

Sarah Josepha was born on October 24, 1788 to Martha and Gordon Buell. She was the third child and eldest daughter of the farmer and his wife. Five years later, Sarah's only sister, Martha, was born.

Sarah grew into a beautiful young woman. She had dark brown hair and soft, hazel eyes.


The day that set the tone for Sarah Buell's life work occurred when she was just seventeen. In late summer, 1805, she watched her brother Horatio leave their home in Newport, New Hampshire. Horatio, just a year older than Sarah, was on his way to Dartmouth College to study law.

Sarah wished she could follow her brother. They had always studied together and challenged each other. But now Sarah was left behind. It did not matter that she loved learning and studying as much as Horatio did.

Dartmouth College did not accept women students. Sarah did not know any college that did. Too many people still believed that women's brains were smaller than men's brains and not meant for "intellectual learning." Sarah was grateful that her mother, Martha, had never gone along with that silly, old-fashioned idea. Mrs. Buell had always encouraged both of her daughters

MARY'S LAMB. 61

Allegro.



Mary had a little lamb, Its fleece was white as snow, And everywhere that
Mary went, The lamb was sure to go; He followed her to school one day—That
was against the rule, It made the children laugh and play, to see a lamb at school.

<p style="text-align: center;">2</p> <p>So the teacher turned him out, But still he lingered near, And waited patiently about, 'Till Mary did appear; And then he ran to her, and laid His head upon her arm, As if he said—'I'm not afraid— You'll keep me from all harm.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">6</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">3</p> <p>What makes th' lamb love Mary so! The eager children cry— 'O Mary loves the lamb, you know,' The teacher did reply:— 'And you each gentle animal In confidence may bind, And make them follow at your call, If you are always kind.</p>
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“Mary Had a Little Lamb” as it first appeared in
Lowell Mason’s *Juvenile Lyre* in 1831. Today’s
children sing the poem to a different tune.