

Just Twenty Years Ago

William Willing, ca.1839-1909
arr. Laurel Hunt Pedersen

I've wan-dered to the vil-lage, Tom, And sat be-neath the tree. — Up

on the school - house play - ground, That shel - tered you and me; But

none were there to greet me, Tom. And few were left to know, That

played with us up-on the green, — Just twen - ty years a - go. — Twen-ty years a-go,

Twen-ty years a-go, That played with us up-on the green, — Just twen-ty years a - go. — The

14

old school - house is changed, dear Tom, The bench - es are re - placed. By

16

new ones ver - y like the same, Our pen - knives had de - faced: The

18

same old tricks are in the wall. The bell swings to and fro, The

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mu - sic's just the same dear Tom, 'Twas twen - ty years a - go. Twen - ty years a - go,

23

Twen - ty years a - go, The mu - sic's just the same dear Tom, 'Twas twen - ty years a - go.

26

The riv - er's run - ning just the same, The wil-lows on it's side, Are

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lar - ger than they were, dear Tom, The stream ap - pears less wide; The

31

grape - vine swing is ruin - ed now, Where once we played the beau, And

33

swung our play - mates, boys and girls, Just twen - ty years a - go. Twen-ty years a-go,

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Twen-ty years a-go, And swung our play-mates, boys and girls, Just twen - ty years a - go.

39

Some now are in the church-yard laid, Some sleep be-neath the sea. And

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few are left of our old class, Ex - cept - ing you and me. But

44

when our time shall come, dear Tom, And we are called to go, I

46

hope they'll lay us where we played, Just twen-ty years a-go. Twen-ty years a-go,

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Twen-ty years a-go, I hope they'll lay us where we played, Just twen-ty years a-go.