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By

H Y M N S

F O R T H E

N A T I V I T Y

O F

O U R L O R D



By *CHARLES WESLEY*, M. A.

1745.

A Facsimile Reprint

47.51

H Y M N S
FOR THE
N A T I V I T Y
O F
O U R L O R D

by
Charles Wesley

with
Introduction and Notes

by
Frank Baker

A Facsimile of the First Edition
[London: William Strahan, 1745]
pages [1]-24

In this facsimile the pages are here shown on the left, and facing them on the right is the corresponding text from the last edition published during the lifetime of Charles Wesley: London: New Chapel, 1788, pp. 1-23. The text (which appears on differently numbered pages) is here matched to that on the original 1745 pages, with the dozens of accruing variants also presented in facsimile.

The Charles Wesley Society
Madison, NJ
1991

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Introduction

The more we study Charles Wesley as a poet and hymn-writer, the more we are amazed at his versatility both in themes and in versification. It is strange that what is in many ways his most remarkable small collection is so little known. This is very strange in view of the fact that it was reprinted more frequently than any other of his personal collections, either small or large. It is doubly strange because he revised it more persistently than any other. Perhaps the major reason was John Wesley's lukewarm commendation of it.

Charles, far more than his brother John, seems to have been greatly drawn to the festivals of the Church Year, and most especially to Christmas, which he preferred to think of, not in sentimental terms as the birth of the Babe of Bethlehem, but theologically as the Incarnation, the Nativity of our Lord.

His best known Christmas hymn appeared in *Hymns and Sacred Poems*, published jointly with John in 1739, beginning, "Hark, how all the welkin rings / 'Glory to the King of kings'" (misprinted "Kings of kings" in the first edition). It became better known still when their friend George Whitefield

Introduction

selected eight verses for his *Collection of Hymns for Social Worship* in 1753. Whitefield altered its opening couplet to read, "Hark! the herald angels sing / Glory to the new-born King."

John did not take to it, and did not include it in any of the predecessors of his own classical *Collection of Hymns for the Use of the People Called Methodists* (1780). It was not in *A Collection of Psalms and Hymns* (1741, 1743), nor *Hymns and Spiritual Songs* (1753), nor *Select Hymns* (1761), nor even in the famous 1780 *Collection* itself. Not until 1787 did John Wesley introduce it in one of his general hymn-books, *A Pocket Hymn Book, for the Use of Christians of All Denominations*. Even then, however, as his preface pointed out, it was done under protest. Robert Spence, a Methodist bookseller of York, had been profiting greatly since 1781 by a pocket hymn-book almost wholly pirated from Wesley's 1780 *Collection*. Together with a token handful of other hymns, John Wesley had himself published a small pocket hymn-book in 1785, but this made no dent in Spence's immense market. The 1787 Conference urged Wesley to reproduce "*the whole book printed at York*", including even some Wesley hymns which he himself might otherwise "never have printed". Wesley agreed, though he did exclude some which he regarded as "doggerel double distilled". Thus he did indeed eventually take over Charles's first Christmas hymn, though it was at last in the form popularized by George Whitefield, which had been chosen by Spence. In that backhanded way it thus came at last into official Methodist usage, and was later incorporated into the 1831 supplement to the 1780 *Collection*. We do not know whether John may indeed have preferred Whitefield's revision; nor has Charles's opinion so far been revealed, though because "the herald angels" gained much greater currency he must surely have been happy, though with a tinge of regret.

Introduction

“Hark, how all the welkin rings” was entitled in the 1739 *Hymns and Sacred Poems* “A Hymn for Christmas Day”, and in 1743 William Strahan, the London printer, prepared for Charles a broadsheet with that same title. It must also have been the same hymn, with the same opening lines. Of this, however, we cannot be *absolutely* sure, for no trace of it remains except the entry in Strahan’s ledgers. A year later Charles employed Strahan to print fifteen hundred copies of “Hymns for Christmas Day”, and was billed on December 20, 1744, fifteen shillings for the printing, twelve shillings for a ream and a half of paper—which implied a maximum of twelve duodecimo pages at a price of one penny, and about five or six hymns. Actually two of the Wesleys’ early book catalogues show that the printed title was in fact *Hymns for the Nativity [of our Lord]*, and that for a year or two there were two distinct collections on sale having that same title. Again “Hark, how all the welkin rings” must surely have formed a part of this penny booklet, probably the opening hymn, thus forestalling its use in the twopenny booklet to follow—but again we can be only 90% sure, because no copy has survived.

On December 17, 1745, Strahan charged Wesley for another collection of “Hymns for Christmas”, actually a large edition of them, three thousand. Again the printed title was in fact *Hymns for the Nativity of our Lord*, and the price for the twenty-four pages of this duodecimo pamphlet was advertised as twopence. Everything was fresh. The small 1744 collection apparently comprised a handful of suitable Wesley hymns which had appeared earlier in their publications, which Charles decided not to reprint. Instead he wrote a new group to supplement and eventually to supplant them. Actually one of the new hymns, No. 15, “All-wise, all-good, almighty Lord”, is to be found in an earlier manuscript—but only one. (This was on pp. 42–43 of “MS Thirty”, where many of

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the 108 items were transcribed for the Countess of Huntingdon, and most eventually appeared in Charles's *Hymns and Sacred Poems* of 1749—but not this one.) Even “All-wise, all-good, almighty Lord”, however, was revised for publication. The remainder seem to have been freshly composed over several weeks (or months) in that year of 1745. Nor was there any wild panic to get something ready for Christmas, for Charles used no fewer than fourteen different metres for the eighteen hymns.

For his first edition of these new *Nativity Hymns* Strahan added no imprint, no London, no Strahan, no 1745. Again the details of his printing appear only in his ledgers. The proof that this rare work actually came from Strahan's well-appointed printing-house appears in the unique woodcut headpiece on page 2; the press figures on pp. 11 and 19 show that it was set up by two different pressmen.

Charles spent most of October and the whole of November and December in London, and may well have given his finished manuscript to Strahan long before Christmas. During the interval Charles prepared a rather more elaborate second edition, with running titles and several important revisions. This was clearly intended for Felix Farley to print in Bristol in time for Christmas, and indeed bears the date 1745. Something went awry with Wesley's plans, however, to which neither Charles's *Journal* nor his letters offer any clear clue. John's *Journal* for December 18, 1745, however (the day of a National Fast), hints at the rising panic in London over the double threat posed by the advance of Bonnie Prince Charlie from the north and a possible French invasion from the southeast. It seems entirely possible that in order to bolster up the morale of the London Methodists Charles delayed his return to Bristol, and delayed it too long, so that his hasty last-minute despatch of the manuscript of the second edition led to its reaching Farley revised but lacking the closing hymn. By

Introduction

a series of other mischances this truncated form, with only seventeen hymns, continued to be reprinted, surviving in no fewer than six separate editions!

Charles rode belatedly from London to Bristol (in January 1746), around Britain (including Newcastle), to Ireland twice (meantime wooing and wedding—in 1749—Sally Gwynne in Garth, Wales), and back to Bristol, and London, and Bristol again. In every printing center he tried in vain to undo the damage caused by the incomplete second edition of the *Nativity Hymns*, and to introduce some improvements. The sixth and last of these seventeen-hymn editions appeared in December 1761. John Wesley had already studied and annotated a copy of Farley's complete fourth edition of 1750, but when he received this defective 1761 edition (printed by William Pine of Bristol) he wrote immediately to Charles in Bristol—on December 26, 1761: "Pray tell R. Sheen I am hugely displeased at his reprinting the *Nativity Hymns*, and omitting the very best hymn in the collection, 'All glory to God in the sky, etc.' I beg they may never more be printed without it. Omit one or two and I will thank you. They are *Namby-Pambical*." (Ambrose Philips was known as "Namby-Pamby" because of his finicky language, such as one child's poem which began, "Dimply damsel, sweetly smiling". John's annotated 1750 edition had marked nine verses in three hymns for omission.)

Charles went to work again as soon as he received John's rebuke, determined to ensure that the next edition from Pine (in 1762) should both be complete and contain still more improvements. While revising, although one or two of John's suggestions crept into the revised text, Charles paid no attention to John's pleas for the removal of infelicitous verses, and (as we might have expected) completely ignored John's request that "sinless perfection" should be altered to "spotless perfection" and "dearest Lord" to "gracious

Introduction

Lord". It was not that Charles was so wedded to these texts that had flowed from his pen in 1745 that he would brook no alteration, but that he was not now so malleable by his elder brother. Nevertheless he continued ardently to polish the text, to remove any further possibility of criticism from John.

By 1761 there had already been at least thirteen editions, and should have been fifteen, if the numbering of the 10th and 11th London editions were to be believed—and they seemed to have been based on information supplied by Charles. A further fifteen at least appeared from 1762 to the death of John Wesley in 1791, to bring the probable total to thirty, twenty-nine by the death of Charles in 1788. Twenty-four-page unbound pamphlets do not normally survive in very large numbers, fewer still if they are broadsheets, or have only four pages, or even twelve. No copy of the 1743 broadsheet exists, nor one of the twelve-page *Hymns for the Nativity*. From the first edition of the twenty-four-page *Hymns* we are very fortunate, having identified eighteen copies in various parts of the world out of the three thousand printed in 1745. Of the other editions none are extant in as many as ten copies, and most in only one, two, or three. We feel that we have sufficient documentary evidence to list also two of which no physical copy remains, but three remain ghosts—they *might* be around somewhere, but no one has seen them.

We list those of which we are sure in a stemma, a kind of genealogical table showing the probable textual descent of each edition from the first or one of its successors. Clues to links between editions are furnished by the repetition of revisions or (more convincing still) repeated printers' errors. Here, as frequently in the publication of Wesley pamphlets, the numbering of editions often provides only flimsy evidence, sometimes misleading, because the Wesleys used so many printers, and the numbering tended to be tied to individual cities. Each edition, therefore, is

Introduction

identified by its own capital letter; these are arranged as far as possible in chronological as well as alphabetical order.

Charles Wesley kept *Hymns for the Nativity of our Lord* under constant revision, so that one-tenth of the lines were altered during the course of over forty years. Not that he actually saw many editions completely through the press, but normally touched up only a hymn or two, though he probably marked up M (1761) fully, and closely supervised this marked-up copy for the printing of N (1762). The careful collating of all the surviving twenty-six editions with each other shows that fresh revisions turn up in fifteen or sixteen editions. Indeed only three editions can firmly be ruled out as not subject to the personal scrutiny of Charles Wesley—R, 2A, and 2B.

This being the case, it is natural to wonder which is the more interesting and historically valuable edition, the first (A) or his last (2A, 1788). What we are doing here is to offer an exact facsimile of the first, and to show in parallel lines the last, but to record all the substantive variant readings in between, by means of the stemma. In the first three columns of the variant readings are shown the hymn, verse, and line of the original 1745 text which follows. Then appear the variants within square brackets, followed by the editions in which those variants occur.

Frank Baker
Durham, North Carolina



H Y M N S

F O R T H E

N A T I V I T Y

O F

O U R L O R D .



This is a facsimile of the original title page, which did not include the names of the author and the publisher and the date of publication.

[1745]

(2)



H Y M N S

F O R T H E

N A T I V I T Y, &c.

H Y M N I.

I.

YE simple Men of Heart sincere,
Shepherds who watch your Flocks by Night,
Start not to see an Angel near,
Nor tremble at this glorious Light.

II.

An Herald from the Heavenly King
I come, your every Fear to chase;
Good Tidings of Great Joy I bring,
Great Joy to all the Fallen Race!

III. To



H Y M N S

FOR THE

N A T I V I T Y, &c.

H Y M N I.

1 **Y**E simple men of heart sincere,
Shepherds, who watch your flocks by night,
Start not to see an angel near,
Nor tremble at his glorious light.

2 An herald from the heavenly king,
I come your every fear to chase;
Good tidings of great joy I bring,
Great joy to all the fallen race.

A 2

3 To

[1745]

(3)

III.

'To you is born on this glad Day,
A Saviour by our Host ador'd,
Our GOD in *Bethlehem* survey,
Make Haste to worship CHRIST the LORD.

IV.

By this the Saviour of Mankind,
Th' Incarnate GOD shall be display'd,
The Babe ye wrapp'd in Swaths shall find,
And humbly in a Manger laid.

H Y M N II.

I.

YE heavenly Choir,
Assist me to sing,
And strike the soft Lyre,
And honour our King:
His mighty Salvation
Demands all our Praise,
Our best Adoration,
And lofliest Lays.

II.

All Glory to GOD,
Who ruleth on high,
And now hath bestow'd;
And sent from the Sky
CHRIST JESUS, the Saviour,
Poor Mortals to bless;
The Pledge of his Favour,
The Seal of their Peace.

A 2

H Y M N

- 3 To you is born on this glad day,
 A Saviour, by our host adoréd ;
 Our God in Bethlehem survey,
 Make hast to worship Christ the Lord.
- 4 By this the Saviour of mankind,
 The incarnate God shall be displayéd,
 The Babe ye wrappéd in swathes shall find,
 And humbly in a manger laid.

H Y M N II.

- 1 **Y**E heavenly choir
 Assist me to sing,
 And strike the soft lyre,
 And honour our king:
 His mighty salvation
 Demands all our praise,
 Our best adoration,
 And loftiest lays.
- 2 All glory to God,
 Who ruleth on high,
 And now hath bestowéd,
 And sent from the sky
 Christ Jesus the Saviour;
 Poor mortals to bless:
 The pidge of his favour,
 The seal of his peace.

H Y M N III.

I.

A N G E L S speak, let Man give Ear,
 Sent from high,
 They are nigh,
 And forbid our Fear.

II.

News they bring us of Salvation,
 Sounds of Joy
 To employ
 Every Tongue and Nation.

III.

Welcome Tidings I to retrieve us
 From our Fall,
 Born for All,
 C H R I S T is born to save us.

IV.

Born his Creatures to relieve,
 Abject Earth
 Sees His Birth,
 Whom the Heavens adore.

V.

Wrapt in Swaths th' Immortal Stranger
 Man with Men
 We have seen,
 Lying in a Manger.

VI. All

H Y M N III.

- 1 **A**NGELS speak, let men give ear,
 Sent from high,
 They are nigh,
 And forbid our fear.
- 2 News they bring us of salvation,
 Sounds of joy
 To employ
 Every tongue and nation.
- 3 Welcome tidings! to retrieve us
 From our fall,
 Born for all,
 Christ is born to save us.
- 4 Born his creatures to restore,
 Abject earth,
 Sees his birth,
 Whom the heavens adore.
- 5 Wrapp'd in swaths the immortal stranger,
 Man with men,
 We have seen
 Lying in a manger.

[1745]

(5)

VI.

All to GOD's Free Grace is owing ;
We are his
Witnesses,
Poor, and nothing knowing.

VII.

Simple Shepherds Us he raises,
Bids us sing
CHRIST the King,
And shew forth his Praïses.

VIII.

We have seen the King of Glory,
We proclaim
CHRIST his Name,
And record his Story.

IX.

Sing we with the Holt of Heaven,
Reconcil'd
By a Child
Who to Us is given.

X.

Glory be to GOD the Giver,
Peace and Love
From above
Reign on Earth for ever.

H Y M N IV.

I.

GLORY be to GOD on high,
And Peace on Earth descend ;
GOD comes down : He bows the Sky :
He shews himself our Friend !

Λ 3

GOD

- 6 All to God's free-grace is owing ;
We are his
Witnesses,
Poor, and nothing knowing.
- 7 Simple shepherds, us he raises,
Bids us sing,
Christ the King,
And shew forth his praises.
- 8 We have seen the King of glory,
We proclaim
Christ his name,
And record his story.
- 9 Sing we with the host of heaven,
Reconciléd,
By a child,
Who to us is given.
- 10 Glory be to God the giver,
Peace and love
From above
Reign on earth for ever.

H Y M N IV.

- 1 **G**LORY be to God on high,
And peace on earth descend ;
God comes down ; he bows the sky,
And shews himself our friend !

[1745]

(6)

GOD th' Invisible *appears*,
GOD the Blest, the Great I AM
Sojourns in this Vale of Tears,
And JESUS is his Name.

II.

Him the Angels all ador'd
Their Maker and their King :
Tidings of their Humbled LORD
They now to Mortals bring :
Emptied of his Majesty,
Of His dazzling Glories shorn,
Beings Source *begins to Be*,
And GOD himself is BORN !

III.

See th' Eternal Son of GOD
A Mortal Son of Män;
Dwelling in an Earthy Clod
Whom Heaven cannot contain !
Stand amaz'd ye Heavens at This !
See the LORD of Earth and Skies
Humbled to the Dust He is,
And in a Manger lies !

IV.

We the Sons of Men rejoice,
'The Prince of Peace proclaim,
With Heaven's Host lift up our Voice,
And shout *Immanuel's* Name ;
Knees and Hearts to Him we bow ;
Of our Flesh, and of our Bone
JESUS is our Brother now,
And GOD is All our own !

H Y M N

God, the invisible, *appears*,
 God, the blest, the great I AM,
 Sojourns in this vale of tears,
 And Jesus is his name.

- 2 Him the angels all ador'd.
 Their Maker and their King ;
 Tidings of their humbled Lord,
 They now to mortals bring ;
 Emptied of his majesty,
 Of his dazzling glories shorn,
 Being's source *begins to be*,
 And God himself is born !
- 3 See the eternal Son of God,
 A mortal son of man,
 Dwelling in an earthly clod,
 Whom heaven cannot contain !
 Stand amaz'd, ye heavens, at this !
 See the Lord of earth and skies !
 Humbled to the dust he is,
 And in a manger lies !
- 4 We the sons of men rejoice,
 The Prince of peace proclaim,
 With heaven's host lift up our voice,
 And shout Immanuel's name :
 Knees and hearts to him we bow,
 Of our flesh and of our bone,
 Jesus is our brother now,
 And God is all our own !

H Y M N V.

I.

LET Earth and Heaven combine,
 Angels and Men agree
 To praise in Songs divine
 Th' Incarnate Deity,
 Our GOD contracted to a Span,
 Incomprehensibly made Man.

II.

He laid his Glory by,
 He wrap'd Him in our Clay,
 Unmark'd by Human Eye
 The latent Godhead lay ;
 Infant of Days He here became,
 And bore the lov'd IMMANUEL'S Name.

III.

See in that Infant's Face
 The Depths of Deity,
 And labour while ye gaze
 To sound the Mytery :
 In vain ; ye Angels gaze no more,
 But fall, and silently adore.

IV.

Unsearchable the Love
 That hath the Saviour brought,
 The Grace is far above
 Or Men or Angels Thought ;
 Suffice for Us, that GOD, we know,
 Our GOD is manifest below.

V. He

H Y M N V.

- 1 **L**ET earth and heaven combine,
 Angels and men agree,
 To praise in songs divine
 The incarnate Deity,
 Our God contracted to a span,
 Incomprehensibly made man.
- 2 He laid his glory by,
 He wrapped him in our clay,
 Unmarked by human eye,
 The latent Godhead lay,
 Infant of days he here became ;
 And bore the mild Immanuel's name.
- 3 See in that infant's face
 The depths of Deity,
 And labour while ye gaze,
 To found the mystery ;
 In vain : ye angels gaze no more,
 But fall and silently adore.
- 4 Unsearchable the love,
 That hath the Saviour brought,
 The grace is far above,
 Or man or angel's thought :
 Suffice for us that God we know,
 Our God is manifest below.

[1745]

(8)

V.

He deigns in Flesh t' appear,
Widest Extremes to join,
To bring our Vilencs near,
And make us All divine ;
And we the Life of GOD shall know,
For GOD is manifest below.

VI.

Made perfect first in Love,
And sanctified by Grace,
We shall from Earth remove,
And see his glorious Face ;
His Love shall then be fully shew'd,
And Man shall all be lost in GOD.

H Y M N VI.

I.

J O I N all ye joyful Nations
Th' acclaiming Hosts of Heaven !
This happy Morn
A Child is born,
To us a Son is given ;

The Messenger and Token
Of GOD's Eternal Favour,
GOD hath sent down
To us his Son,
An Universal Saviour !

II.

The wonderful Messias,
The Joy of every Nation,
Jesus his Name,
With GOD the same,
The Lord of all Creation ;

The

5 He deigns in flesh to appear,
 Widest extremes to join,
 To bring our vileness near,
 And make us all divine ;
 And we the life of God shall know,
 For God is manifest below.

6 Made perfect first in love,
 And sanctified by grace,
 We shall from earth remove,
 And see his glorious face ;
 His love shall then be fully show'd,
 And man shall all be lost in God.

H Y M N VI.

1 **J**OIN all ye joyful nations,
 Th' acclaming host of heaven,
 This happy morn,
 A child is born,
 To us a son is given.

The messenger and token
 Of God's eternal favour,
 God hath sent down,
 'To us his Son,
 An universal Saviour !

2 The wonderful Messias,
 The joy of every nation,
 Jesus is name,
 With God the fame,
 The Lord of all creation.

[1745]

(9)

The Counsellor of Sinners,
Almighty to deliver,
The Prince of Peace,
Whose Love's Increase
Shall reign in Man for ever.

III.

Go see the King of Glory,
Discern the Heavenly Stranger,
So poor and mean,
His Court an Inn,
His Cradle is a Manger :

Who from his Father's Bosom
But now for Us descended,
Who built the Skies,
On Earth he lies,
With only Beasts attended.

IV.

Whom all the Angels worship,
Lies hid in Human Nature ;
Incarnate see
The Deity,
The Infinite Creator !

See the Stupendous Blessing
Which GOD to us hath given !
A Child of Man,
In Length a Span,
Who fills both Earth and Heaven.

V.

Gaze on that Helpless Object
Of endless Adoration !
Those Infant-Hands
Shall burst our Bands,
And work out our Salvation ;

Strangle

The Counsellor of finners,
 Almighty to deliver,
 The Prince of Peace,
 Whose love's increase,
 Shall reign in man for ever:

- 3 Go see the King of glory,
 Discern the heavenly stranger,
 So poor and mean,
 His court an inn,
 His cradle is a manger.

Who from his Father's bosom,
 But now for us descended,
 Who built the skies,
 On earth he lies,
 With only beasts attended.

- 4 Whom all the angels worship,
 Lies hid in human nature ;
 Incarnate see
 The Deity
 The infinite Creator !

See the stupendous blessing,
 Which God to us has given ;
 A child of man,
 In length a span,
 Who fills both earth and heaven.

- 5 Gaze on that helpless Object
 Of endless adoration !
 Those infant hands,
 Shall buff our bands,
 And work out our salvation ;

[1745]

(10)

Strangle the crooked Serpent,
Destroy his Works for ever,
 And open set
 The Heavenly Gate
To every True Believer.

VI.

Till then, thou holy JESUS,
We humbly bow before Thee,
 Our Treasures bring
 To serve our King,
And joyfully adore Thee :

To Thee we gladly render
Whate'er thy Grace hath given,
 Till thou appear
 In Glory here,
And take us up to Heaven.

H Y M N VII.

I.

ALL Glory to GOD, and Peace upon Earth
Be publish'd abroad at JESUS's Birth ;
The Forfeited Favour of Heaven we find
Restor'd in the Saviour and Friend of Mankind.

II.

Then let us behold Messias the Lord,
By Prophets foretold, by Angels ador'd,
Our GOD's Incarnation with Angels proclaim,
And publish Salvation in JESUS's Name.

III.

Our newly-born King by Faith we have seen,
And joyfully sing his Goodness to Men,
That all Men may wonder at what we impart,
And thankfully ponder his Love in their Heart.

IV. What

Strangle the crooked serpent,
 Destroy his works for ever,
 And open set
 The heavenly gate,
 To every true believer.

- 6 Till then thou holy Jesus,
 We humbly bow before thee,
 Our treasures bring
 To serve our King,
 And joyfully adore thee :

To thee we gladly render
 Whate'er thy grace hath given,
 Till thou appear,
 In glory here,
 And take us up to heaven.

H Y M N VII.

- 1 **A**LL glory to God, And peace upon earth,
 Be published abroad At Jesus's birth :
 The forfeited favour Of heaven we find
 Restoréd in the Saviour And Friend of mankind.
- 2 Then let us behold Messias the Lord,
 By prophets foretold, By angels adoréd ;
 Our God's incarnation, With angels proclaim,
 And publish salvation In Jesus's name.
- 3 Our newly-born King By faith we have seen,
 And joyfully sing His goodness to men,
 That all men may wonder At what we impart,
 And thankfully ponder His love in their heart.

[1745]

(11)

IV

What mov'd the Most High so greatly to stoop,
He comes from the Sky Our Souls to lift up ;
That Sinners forgiven, might sinless return
To GOD and to Heaven ; their Maker is born.

V.

IMMANUEL's Love let Sinners confess,
Who comes from above, to bring us his Peace ;
Let every Believer his Mercy adore,
And praise him for ever, when Time is no more.

H Y M N VIII.

I.

AWAY with our Fears!
The Godhead appears
In CHRIST reconcil'd,
The Father of Mercies in JESUS the Child.

II.

He comes from above,
In manifest Love,
The Desire of our Eyes,
The meek Lamb of GOD, in a Manger he lies.

III.

At IMMANUEL's Birth
What a Triumph on Earth !
Yet could it afford
No better a Place for its Heavenly Lord.

IV.

The Antient of Days
To redeem a Lost Race,
From his Glory comes down,
Self-humbled to carry us up to a Crown.

V. Made

x

- 4 What movéd the Most High, So greatly to stoop ?
 He comes from the sky Our souls to lift up ;
 That sinners forgiven Might sinless return
 To God and to heaven, Their Maker is born.
- 5 Immanuel's love, Let sinners confess,
 Who comes from above, To bring us his peace ;
 Let every believer His mercy adore,
 And praise him for ever, When time is no more.

H Y M N .VIII.

- 1 **A**WAY with our fears :
 The Godhead appears,
 In Christ reconciléd,
 The Father of Mercies in Jesus the child.
- 2 He comes from above,
 In manifest love,
 The desire of our eyes,
 The meek Lamb of God in a manger he lies.
- 3 At Immanuel's birth
 What a triumph on earth,
 Yet could it afford
 No better a place for its heavenly Lord !
- 4 The Ancient of Days,
 To redeem a lost race,
 From his glory comes down,
 Self-humbled to carry us up to a crown.

[1745]

(12)

V.

Made Flesh for our Sake,
That we might partake
The Nature Divine,
And again in his Image, his Holiness shine ;

VI.

An Heavenly Birth
Experience on Earth,
And rise to his Throne,
And live with our JESUS eternally One.

VII.

Then let us believe,
And gladly receive
The Tidings they bring,
Who publish to Sinners their Saviour and King.

VIII.

And while we are here,
Our King shall appear,
His Spirit impart,
And form his full Image of Love in our Heart.

H Y M N IX.

I.

FA T H E R, our Hearts we lift
Up to thy Gracious Throne,
And bless Thee for the precious Gift
Of thine Incarnate Son ;
The Gift unspeakable
We thankfully receive,
And to the World thy Goodness tell,
And to thy Glory live.

II JESUS,

- 5 Made flesh for our sake,
 That we might partake,
 The nature divine,
 And again in his image, his holiness shine ;
- 6 An heavenly birth,
 Experience on earth,
 And rise to his throne,
 And live with our Jesus eternally one.
- 7 Then let us believe,
 And gladly receive
 The tidings they bring,
 Who publish to sinners, their Saviour and King.
- 8 And while we are here,
 Our King shall appear,
 His Spirit impart,
 And form his full image of love in our heart.

H Y M N I X.

- 1 **F**ATHER our hearts we lift,
 Up to thy gracious throne,
 And bless thee for the precious gift,
 Of thine incarnate Son :
 The gift unspeakable,
 We thankfully receive,
 And to the world thy goodness tell,
 And to thy glory live.

II.

JESUS, the holy Child,
 Doth by his Birth declare,
 That GOD and Man are reconcil'd,
 And One in Him we are.
 Salvation thro' his Name
 To all Mankind is given,
 And loud his Infant-Cries proclaim
 A Peace 'twixt Earth and Heaven.

III.

A Peace on Earth He brings,
 Which never more shall end :
 The Lord of Hosts, the King of Kings,
 Declares Himself our Friend,
 Assumes our Flesh and Blood,
 That we his Sp'rit may gain,
 The everlasting Son of GOD,
 The mortal Son of Man.

IV.

His Kingdom from above
 He doth to us impart,
 And pure Benevolence and Love
 O'erflow the faithful Heart :
 Chang'd in a Moment we
 The sweet Attraction find,
 With open Arms of Charity
 Embracing all Mankind.

V.

O might they all receive
 The new-born Prince of Peace,
 And meekly in his Spirit live,
 And in his Love increase !
 'Till He convey us home,
 Cry every Soul aloud,
 Come, Thou Desire of Nations come,
 And take us all to GOD !

- 2 Jesus the holy child,
 Doth by his birth declare,
 That God and man are reconcil'd,
 And one in him we are:
 Salvation through his name
 To all mankind is given,
 And loud his infant cries proclaim,
 A peace 'twixt earth and heaven.
- 3 A peace on earth he brings,
 Which never more shall end:
 The Lord of hosts, the King of Kings,
 Declares himself our friend;
 Assumes our flesh and blood,
 That we his Spirit may gain;
 The everlasting Son of God,
 The mortal Son of man.
- 4 His kingdom from above,
 He doth to us impart,
 And pure benevolence and love,
 O'erflow the faithful heart:
 Chang'd in a moment we
 The sweet attraction find,
 With open arms of charity
 Embracing all mankind.
- 5 O might they all receive,
 The new-born Prince of peace
 And meekly in his spirit live,
 And in his love increase!
 Till he convey us home,
 Cry every soul aloud,
 Come, thou desire of nations come,
 And take us up to God.

H Y M N X.

I.

COME Thou long-expected JESUS,
 Born to set thy People free,
 From our Fears and Sins relieve us,
 Let us find our Rest in Thee :
Israel's Strength and Consolation,
 Hope of all the Earth Thou art,
 Dear Desire of every Nation;
 Joy of every longing Heart.

II.

Born thy People to deliver,
 Born a Child and yet a King;
 Born to reign in Us for ever,
 Now thy gracious Kingdom bring ;
 By thine own eternal Spirit
 Rule in all our Hearts alone,
 By thine all-sufficient Merit
 Raise us to thy glorious Throne:

H Y M N XI.

I.

LIGHT of those whose dreary Dwelling
 Borders on the Shades of Death,
 Come, and by thy Love's revealing
 Dissipate the Clouds beneath :
 The new Heaven and Earth's Creator,
 In our deepett Darkness rise,
 Scattering all the Night of Nature,
 Pouring Eye-sight on our Eyes.

II. Still

H Y M N X.

1 **C**OME, thou long-expected Jesus,
 Born to set thy people free,
 From our fears and sins release us,
 Let us find our rest in thee:
 Israel's strength and consolation,
 Hope of all the earth thou art,
 Dear desire of every nation,
 Joy of every longing heart.

2 Born thy people to deliver,
 Born a child and yet a King,
 Born to reign in us for ever,
 Now thy gracious kingdom bring:
 By thy own eternal Spirit,
 Rule in all our hearts alone,
 By thy all-sufficient merit
 Raise us to thy glorious throne,

H Y M N XI.

1 **L**IGHT of those whose dreary dwelling
 Borders on the shades of death,
 Come, and by thy love's revealing,
 Dissipate the clouds beneath:
 The new heaven and earth's Creator,
 In our deepest darkness rise,
 Scattering all the night of nature,
 Pouring eye-light on our eyes.

[1745]

(15)

II.

Still we wait for thy Appearing,
Life and Joy thy Beams impart,
Chasing all our Fears, and chearing
Every poor benighted Heart.
Come, and manifest the Favour
GOD hath for our ransom'd Race ;
Come, thou universal Saviour,
Come, and bring the Gospel-Grace.

III.

Save us in thy great Compassion,
O Thou mild pacific Prince,
Give the Knowledge of Salvation,
Give the Pardon of our Sins ;
By thine all-redeeming Merit
Every burden'd Soul release,
Every weary wandring Spirit
Guide into thy perfect Peace.

H Y M N XII.

I.

SING, ye ransom'd Nations, sing
Praises to our new-born King,
Son of Man our Maker is,
Lord of Hosts and Prince of Peace.

II.

Lo ! He lays his Glory by,
Emptied of his Majesty !
See the GOD who all Things made,
Humbly in a Manger laid.

III.

Cast we off our needles Fear,
Boldly to his Cratch draw near,
JESUS is our Flesh and Bone,
GOD-WITH-US is all our own.

B 2

IV. Let

2 Still we wait for thy appearing,
 Life and joy thy beams impart,
 Chasing all our fears, and cheering
 Every poor benighted heart ;
 Come, and manifest the favour
 God hath for our ransom'd race ;
 Come, thou universal Saviour,
 Come, and bring the gospel-grace.

3 Save us in thy great compassion,
 O thou mild, pacific Prince,
 Give the knowledge of salvation,
 Give the pardon of our sins ;
 By thy all-restoring merit,
 Every burthen'd soul release,
 Every weary wandering spirit,
 Guide into thy perfect peace.

H Y M N XII.

1 **S**ING, ye ransom'd nations sing,
 Praises to our new-born King,
 Son of man our Maker is,
 Lord of hosts and Prince of peace !

2 Lo ! he lays his glory by,
 Emptied of his majesty !
 See the God who all things made,
 Humbly in a manger laid.

3 Cast we off our needless fear,
 Boldly to the church draw near,
 Jesus is our flesh and bone,
 God *with us* is all our own.

[1745]

(16)

IV.

Let us then with Angels gaze
On our new-born Monarch's Face,
With the Quire Celestial join'd,
Shout the Saviour of Mankind.

V.

Son of Man, will he despise
Man's well-meaning Sacrifice ?
No ; with condescending Grace
He accepts his Creature's Praise.

VI.

Will his Majesty disdain
The poor Shepherd's simple Strain ?
No ; for Israel's Shepherd He
Loves their artless Melody.

VII.

He will not refuse the Song
Of the stammering Infant's Tongue,
Loves He hears humanely mild,
Once Himself a little Child.

VIII.

Let us then our Prince proclaim,
Humbly chant *Immanuel's* Name,
Publish at his wondrous Birth
Praise in Heaven and Peace on Earth :

IX.

Triumph in our Saviour's Love,
Till He takes us up above,
All his Majesty displays,
Shews us all his Glorious Face.

HYMN

- 4 Let us then with angels gaze
On our new-born Monarch's face,
With the choir celestial join'd,
Shout the Saviour of mankind.
- 5 Son of man, will he despise,
Man's well-meaning sacrifice ?
No ; with condescending grace
He accepts his creature's praise,
- 6 Will his majesty disdain
The poor shepherd's simple strain :
No ; for Israel's Shepherd, he
Loves their artless melody.
- 7 He will not refuse the song
Of the stammering infant's tongue,
Babes he bears humanely mild,
Once himself a little child.
- 8 Let us then our Prince proclaim,
Humbly chaunt Immanuel's name,
Publish at his wondrous birth,
Praise in heaven, and peace on earth.
- 9 Triumph in our Saviour's love,
Till he takes us up above,
All his majesty displays,
Shews us all his glorious face.

 H Y M N XIII.

I.

L E T Angels and Archangels sing
 The wonderful *Immanuel's* Name,
 Adore with us our new-born King,
 And still the joyful News proclaim,
 All Earth and Heaven be ever join'd
 'To praise the Saviour of Mankind.

II.

The everlasting GOD comes down
 To sojourn with the Sons of Men ;
 Without his Majesty or Crown,
 The great INVISIBLE is seen :
 Of all his dazzling Glories shorn
 The everlasting GOD is born !

III.

Angels, behold that Infant's Face,
 With rapt'rous Awe the Godhead own :
 'Tis all your Heaven on Him to gaze,
 And cast your Crowns before his Throne ;
 Tho' now He on his Footstool lies,
 Ye know He built both Earth and Skies.

IV.

By Him into Existence brought,
 Ye sang the All-creating Word ;
 Ye heard Him call our World from nought :
 Again, in Honour of your Lord,
 Ye Morning-Stars your Hymns employ,
 And shout, ye Sons of GOD, for Joy.

H Y M N XIII.

- 1 **L**ET angels and archangel's sing,
 The wonderful Immanuel's name,
 Adore with us our new-born King,
 And still the joyful news proclaim ;
 All earth and heaven be ever joinéd,
 To praise the Saviour of mankind.
- 2 The everlasting God comes down,
 To sojourn with the sons of men ;
 Without his majesty or crown
 The great Invisible is seen :
 Of all his dazzling glories shorn,
 The everlasting God is born !
- 3 Angels, behold that infant's face,
 With rapturous awe the Godhead own,
 'Tis all your heaven on him to gaze,
 And cast your crowns before his throne ;
 Though now he on his footstool lies,
 Ye know he built both earth and skies.
- 4 By him into existence brought,
 Ye sang the all-creating word ;
 Ye heard him call our world from nought ;
 Again, in honour of your Lord,
 Ye morning stars, your hymns employ,
 And shout, ye sons of God, for joy.

H Y M N XIV.

I.

O Astonishing Grace,
 That the Reprobate Race
 Should be so reconcil'd !
 What a Wonder of Wonders that GOD is a Child !

II.

The Creator of all,
 To repair our sad Fall,
 From his Heav'n stoops down,
 Lays hold of our Nature, and joins to his own.

III.

Our *Immanuel* came,
 'T'he whole World to redeem,
 And Incarnated shew'd
 That Man may again be united to GOD !

IV.

And shall we not hope,
 After GOD to wake up,
 His Nature to know ?
 His Nature is sinless Perfection below.

V.

To this Heavenly Prize,
 By Faith let us rise
 To his Image ascend,
 Apprehended of GOD let us GOD apprehend.

H Y M N XIV.

- 1 **O** Astonishing grace,
 That the reprobate race
 Should be reconciled !
 What a wonder of wonders that God is a child ?
- 2 The Creator of all,
 To repair our sad fall,
 From heaven stoops down :
 Lays hold of our nature and joins to his own.
- 3 Our Immanuel came,
 The whole world to redeem,
 And incarnated shewed
 That man may again be united to God !
- 4 And shall we not hope,
 After God to wake up,
 His nature to know ?
 His nature is sinless perfection below.
- 5 To this heavenly prize,
 By faith let us rise,
 To his image ascend,
 Apprehended of God, let us God apprehend.

[1745]

(19)

H Y M N XV.

I.

ALL-wise, all-good, almighty Lord,
JESUS, by highest Heaven ador'd,
E'er Time its Course began,
How did thy glorious Mercy sloop
To take the fallen Nature up,
When Thou thyself wert Man ?

II.

Th' Eternal GOD from Heav'n came down,
'The King of Glory dropp'd his Crown,
And veil'd his Majesty,
Empty'd of all but Love He came ;
JESUS, I call Thee by the Name
Thy Pity bore for me.

III.

O holy Child, still let thy Birth
Bring Peace to us poor Worms of Earth,
And Praise to GOD on high !
Come, Thou who didst my Flesh assume,
Now to the abject Sinner come,
And in a Manger lie.

IV.

Didst Thou not in thy Person join
The Natures Human and Divine,
That GOD and Man might be
Henceforth inseparably One ?
Haste then, and make thy Nature known
Incarnated in me.

V.

In my weak sinful Flesh appear,
O GOD, be manifested here,
Peace, Righteousness, and Joy,
Thy Kingdom, Lord, set up within
My faithful Heart, and all my Sin,
The Devil's Works destroy.

2

VII. I

H Y M N XV.

- 1 **A**LL-WISE, all-good, almighty Lord,
 Jesus, by highest heaven adoréd,
 Ere time its course began,
 How did thy glorious mercy sloop,
 To take thy fallen nature up,
 When thou thyself wert man ?
- 2 The eternal God from heaven came down,
 The King of glory droppéd his crown,
 And veiléd his majesty ;
 Emptiéd of all but love he came,
 Jesus, I call thee by the name,
 The pity bore for me.
- 3 O holy child, still let thy birth
 Bring peace to us poor worms on earth,
 And praise to God on high !
 Come, thou who didst my flesh assume,
 Now to the abject sinner come,
 And in a manger lie.
- 4 Didst thou not in person join
 The natures human and divine,
 That God and man might be
 Henceforth inseparably one ?
 Hast thou then and make thy nature known
 Incarnated in me.
- 5 In my weak, sinful flesh appear,
 O God, be manifested here,
 Peace, righteousness, and joy ;
 Thy kingdom, Lord, set up within
 My faithful heart ; and all my sin,
 The devil's work destroy.

VI.

I long thy Coming to confess
 The mystic Power of Godliness,
 The Life Divine to prove,
 The Fulness of thy Life to know,
 Redeem'd from all my Sins below,
 And perfected in Love.

VII.

O CHRIST, my Hope, make known in me
 The great, the glorious Mystery,
 The hidden Life impart :
 Come, thou Desire of Nations, come,
 Form'd in a spotless Virgin's Womb,
 A pure believing Heart.

VIII.

Come quickly, dearest Lord, that I
 May own, tho' Antichrist deny,
 Thy Incarnation's Power,
 May cry, a Witness to my Lord,
 " Come in my Flesh is CHRIST, the Word,
 " And I can sin no more !"

H Y M N XVI.

I.

O Mercy Divine
 How couldst Thou incline
 My GOD to become such an Infant as *mine* !

II.

What a Wonder of Grace !
 The Antient of Days
 Is found in the Likeness of *Adam's* frail Race.

- 6 I long thy coming to confess,
 The mystic power of godliness,
 The life divine to prove :
 The fulness of thy life to know,
 Redeemed from all my sins below,
 And perfected in love.
- 7 O Christ, my hope, make known to me
 The great, the glorious mystery,
 The hidden life impart,
 Come, thou desire of nations, come,
 Formed in a spotless virgin's womb,
 A pure, believing heart.
- 8 Come quickly, dearest Lord, that I
 May own, though antichrist deny,
 Thy incarnation's power :
 May cry, a witness to my Lord,
 " Come in my flesh is Christ the Word,
 " And I can sin no more !"

H Y M N XVI.

- 1 **O** MERCY divine;
 O couldst thou incline,
 My God, to become such an infant as *mine* ?
- 2 What a wonder of grace,
 The Ancient of days
 Is found in the likeness of Adam's frail race !

[1745]

(21)

III.

He comes from on high,
Who fashion'd the Sky,
And meekly vouchsafes in a Manger to lie.

IV.

Our GOD ever blest
With Oxen doth rest,
Is nurs'd by his Creature and hangs at the Breast.

V.

So Heavenly-mild
His Innocence smil'd,
No wonder the Mother should worship the Child.

VI.

The Angels she knew
Had worshipp'd him too,
And still they confess Adoration his Due.

VII.

On JESUS's Face,
With eager Amaze,
And Pleasure extatic the Cherubim gaze.

IX.

Their newly-born King,
Transported they sing,
And Heav'n and Earth with the Triumph doth ring.

X.

The Shepherds behold
Him promis'd of old,
By Angels attended, by Prophets foretold.

XI.

The wise Men adore,
And bring him their Store,
The Rich are permitted to follow the Poor.

XII.

To the Inn they repair,
To see the young Heir:
The Inn is a Palace; for JESUS is there!

XIII.

Who now would be great,
And not rather wait
On JESUS their Lord in his humble Estate?

XIV.

- 3 He comes from on high,
 Who fashioned the sky,
 And meekly vouchsafes in a manger to lie.
- 4 Our God, ever blest,
 With oxen doth rest,
 Is nursed by his creature, and hangs at the breast.
- 5 So heavenly mild,
 His innocence smiled,
 No wonder the mother should worship the child.
- 6 The angels she knew
 Had worshippéd him too,
 And still they confess adoration is due.
- 7 On Jesus's face
 With eager amaze,
 And pleasures extatic the cherubims gaze.
- 8 Their newly-born King
 Transported they sing,
 And heaven and earth with the triumph doth ring.
- 9 The shepherds behold
 Him promised of old
 By angels attended, by prophets foretold.
- 10 The wise men adore,
 And bring him their store,
 The rich are permitted to follow the poor.
- 11 To the inn they repair,
 To see the young heir:
 The inn is a palace; for Jesus is there.
- 12 Who now would be great,
 And not rather wait
 On Jesus, their Lord, in his humble estate?

[1745]

(22)

XIV.

Like him would I be,
My Master I see
In a Stable ; a Stable shall satisfy me.

XV.

With Him I reside :
'The Manger shall hide
Mine Honour ; the Manger shall bury my Pride.

XVI.

And here will I lie,
Till rais'd up on high
With Him on the Cross I recover the Sky.

H Y M N XVII.

I.

WHERE is the holy Heav'n-born Child,
Heir of the everlasting Throne,
Who Heav'n and Earth hath reconcil'd,
And GOD and Man rejoin'd in One ?

II.

Shall we of earthly Kings enquire,
To Courts or Palaces repair ?
The Nation's Hope, the World's Desire,
Alas ! we cannot find Him there.

III.

Shall Learning shew the Sinner's Friend,
Or Scribes a Sight of CHRIST afford ?
Us to his Natal Place they send,
But never go to see their Lord.

IV.

We search the Outward Church in vain,
They cannot Him we seek declare,
They have not found the Son of Man,
Or known the sacred Name they bear.

V.

Then let us turn no more aside,
But use the Light Himself in parts,
His Spirit is our surest Guide,
His Spirit glimmering in our Hearts.

Down

- 13 Like him would I be!
My Master I see
In a stable!—a stable shall satisfy me.
- 14 With him I reside;
The manger shall hide
Mine honour: the manger shall bury my pride.
- 15 And here will I lie,
Till raised up on high,
With him on the cross, I recover the sky.

H Y M N XVII.

- 1 **W**HERE is the holy, heaven-born child?
Heir of the everlasting throne?
Who heaven and earth hath reconciled,
And God and man rejoined in one?
- 2 Shall we of earthly kings enquire?
To courts or palaces repair?
The nation's hope, the world's desire,
Alas! we cannot find him there.
- 3 Shall learning shew the sinner's Friend,
Or scribes a fight of Christ afford?
Us to his natal place they send,
But never go to seek the Lord.
- 4 We search the outward church in vain,
They cannot him we seek declare,
They have not found the Son of man,
Or known the sacred name they bear.
- 5 Then let us turn no more aside,
But use the light himself imparts,
His Spirit is our surest guide,
His Spirit glimmering in our hearts.

[1745]

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VI.

Drawn by his Grace we come from far,
And fix on Heaven our wishful Eyes,
That Ray divine, that orient Star
Directs us where the Infant lies.

VII.

See there! the new born Saviour see,
By Faith discern the great I AM ;
'Tis He! the Eternal GOD! 'tis He
That bears the mild *Immanuel's* Name.

VIII.

The Prince of Peace on Earth is found,
The Child is born, the Son is given ;
Tell it to all the Nations round,
JEHOVAH is come down from Heaven!

IX.

JEHOVAH is come down to raise
His dying Creatures from their Fall,
And all may now receive the Grace
Which brings eternal Life to all.

X.

Lord, We receive the Grace and Thee,
With Joy unspeakable receive,
And rise Thine open Face to see,
And one with GOD for ever live.

H Y M N XVIII.

I.

ALL Glory to GOD in the Sky,
And Peace upon Earth be restor'd!
O JESUS, exalted on high,
Appear our omnipotent Lord :
Who meanly in *Bethlehem* born,
Didst stoop to redeem a lost Race,
Once more to thy Creature return,
And reign in thy Kingdom of Grace.

II.

When Thou in our Flesh didst appear,
All Nature acknowledg'd thy Birth ;
Arose the acceptable Year,
And Heaven was open'd on Earth :

Receiving

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- 6 Drawn by his grace we come from far,
And fix on heaven our wishful eyes,
That Ray divine, that orient Star,
Directs us where the infant lies.
- 7 See there; the new-born Saviour see,
By faith discern the great I AM;
'Tis he! the Eternal God; 'tis he
That bears the mild Immanuel's name.
- 8 The Prince of peace on earth is found,
The Child is born, the Son is given,
Tell it to all the nations round,
Jehovah is come down from heaven.
- 9 Jehovah is come down to raise
His dying creatures from their fall,
And all may now receive the grace
Which brings eternal life to all.
- 10 Lord, *we* receive thy grace, and thee
With joy unspeakable receive,
And rise thine open face to see,
And one with God for ever live.

II Y M N XVIII.

- 1 **A**LL glory to God in the sky,
And peace upon earth be restoréd!
O Jesus, exalted on high,
Appear, our omnipotent Lord!
Who meanly in Bethlehem born,
Didst stoop to redæm a lost race,
Once more to thy creatures return,
And reign in thy kingdom of grace.
- 2 When thou in our flesh didst appear
All nature acknowledgéd thy birth:
Arose the acceptable year,
And heaven was openéd on earth;

()

Receiving its Lord from ab
 The World was united to
 The Giver of Concord and
 The Prince and the Author of Peace.

III.

O wouldst Thou again be made known,
 Again in thy Spirit descend,
 And set up in each of thine own,
 A Kingdom that never shall end !
 Thou only art able to bless,
 And make the glad Nations obey,
 And bid the dire Enmity cease,
 And bow the whole World to thy Sway.

IV.

Come then to thy Servants again,
 Who long thy Appearing to know,
 Thy quiet and peaceable Reign
 In Mercy establish below :
 All Sorrow before Thee shall fly,
 And Anger and Hatred be o'er,
 And Envy and Malice shall die,
 And Discord afflict us no more.

No horrid Alarm of War
 Shall break our Eternal Repose ;
 No Sound of the Trumpet is there,
 Where JESUS's Spirit o'erflows :
 Appeas'd by the Charm of thy Grace
 We all shall in Amity join,
 And kindly each other
 And love with a Passion

F I

b S

Receiving its Lord from above,
 The world was united to blefs,
 The giver of concord and love,
 The Prince and the Author of peace.

8 O would'st thou again be made known,
 Again in thy Spirit descend,
 And set up in each of thine own,
 A kingdom that never shall end?
 Thou only art able to blefs,
 And make the glad nation obey,
 And bid the dire enmity cease,
 And bow the whole world to thy sway.

4 Come then to thy servants again,
 Who long thy appearing to know,
 Thy quiet and peaceable reign
 In mercy establish below:
 All sorrow before thee shall fly,
 And anger and hatred be o'er,
 And envy and malice shall die,
 And discord afflict us no more.

5 No horrid alarm of war,
 Shall break our eternal repose,
 No sound of the trumpet is there,
 Where Jesus's spirit o'erflows:
 Appeas'd by the charms of thy grace,
 We all shall in amity
 And kindly each other embrace,
 And love with one like thine.

F I N I S.

Hymns for the Nativity of our Lord (1745)

First Lines and Metres

1. Ye simple men of heart sincere	8.8.8.8
2. Ye heavenly choir	5.5.5.5.6.5.6.5
3. Angels speak, let man give ear	8.3 3.6
4. Glory be to God on high	7.6.7.6.7.7.7.6
5. Let earth and heaven combine	6.6.6.6.8 8
6. Join all ye joyful nations	7.7.4 4.7.7.4 4.7
7. All glory to God, and peace upon earth	5.5.5.5.6.5.6.5
8. Away with our fears!	5 5.5 11
9. Father, our hearts we lift	6.6.8.6.6.6.8.6
10. Come, thou long-expected Jesus	8.7.8.7.8.7.8.7
11. Light of those whose dreary dwelling	8.7.8.7.8.7.8.7
12. Sing, ye ransomed nations, sing	7 7.7 7
13. Let angels and archangels	8.8.8.8.8 8
14. O astonishing grace	5 5.5 11
15. All-wise, all-good, almighty Lord	8 8.6.8 8.6
16. O mercy divine	5 5 11
17. Where is the holy, heaven-born child?	8.8.8.8
18. All glory to God in the sky	8.8.8.8.8.8.8.8

Of these only No. 18 was welcomed by John Wesley into his 1780 *Collection*, although No. 9 was included in *Select Hymns* (1761) and *Pocket Hymn Book* (1785); Nos. 4, 5, and 11 were added in the 1831 Supplement, and 10 in the 1876 Supplement.

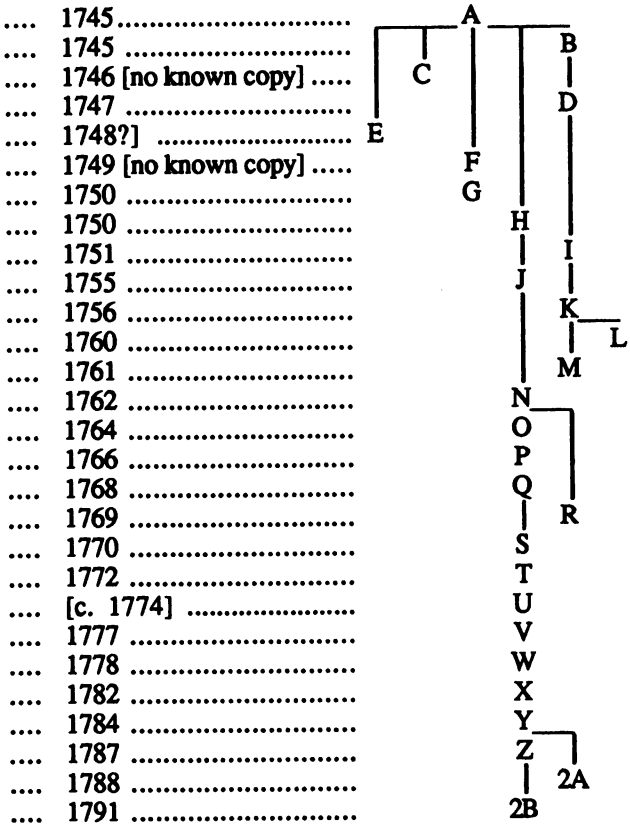
Hymns for the Nativity of our Lord Stemma

[* = 17 hymns]

A		London	[Strahan]
B*	2	Bristol	Farley
C		Newcastle	Gooding
D*	3	Dublin	Powell
E		[Cork?	Harrison?
F	3?	Bristol	Farley
G	4	Bristol	Farley
H	10	London	Cock
I*	4	Dublin	Powell
J	11	London	Foundry
K*	5	Bristol	Farley
L*	6	Dublin	Powell
M*	6	Bristol	Pine
N		Bristol	Pine
O		Bristol	Pine
P		Bristol	Pine
Q		Bristol	Pine
R		Philadelphia	Dunlap
S		Bristol	Pine
T		Bristol	Pine
U		London	Hawes
V		London	Hawes
W		London	Hawes
X		London	Paramore
Y		London	Paramore
Z		London	Paramore
2A		London	New Chapel
2B		London	Paramore

The stemma furnishes a kind of genealogical table for multiple editions of works. It attempts to trace the *probable* lines down which (or across which) the text descended from one edition to another. Frequently these links are quite certain, but not always. In other stemmata dotted instead of solid lines indicate greater doubt than usual, but that device has not been used here. The disappearance of some editions obviously makes a stemma more conjectural than is the case with larger texts and plentiful clues.

Stemma



Hymns for the Nativity of our Lord
Variant Readings, 1745–1791

<i>hymn</i>	<i>vs</i>	<i>line</i>	<i>original text</i>
1	1	4	Nor tremble at this glorious light
1	4	1	By this the Saviour of mankind
1	4	3	The Babe ye wrapped in swaths shall find
2	2	8	The seal of their peace
3	1	1	Angels speak, let man give ear
3	4	4	Whom the heavens adore
3	5	1	Wrapped in swaths th'immortal stranger
4	1	3	God comes down: he bows the sky
4	2	7	Being's Source <i>begins</i> to Be
4	3	3	Dwelling in an earthy clod
4	4	3	With heaven's host lift up our voice
		
5	2	6	And bore the lov'd Immanuel's Name
5	4	4	Or men or angels thought
		
6	1	2	Th'acclaiming hosts of heaven
6	1	4	A Child is born
6	3	4	His court an inn
6	4	7	Which God to us hath given
6	5	1	Gaze on that helpless object
8	2	3	The desire of our eyes
8	5	1	Made flesh for our sake
8	6	3	And rise to his throne
9	3	6	That we his Sp'rit may gain
9	5	8	And take us all to God
10	1	3	From our fears & sins relieve us
10	2	5	By thine own eternal Spirit
10	2	7	By thine all-sufficient merit
11	3	5	By thine all-redeeming merit
		
11	3	6	Every burden'd soul release
12	3	2	Boldly to his cratch draw near
		

Variant Readings, 1745-1791

<i>[variants]</i>	<i>editions</i>
..... [his glorious light]	X-2B
..... [omit 'the']	H, J
..... [swathes]	L, T-2B
..... [of his peace]	N-2B
..... [let men give ear]	Q, S-2B
..... [heavens do adore]	J only
..... [swathes]	L, T-2B
..... [God came down]	H, J
..... [<i>begins to be</i>]	K-2B
..... [earthly clod]	H, J, L-R, T-2B
..... [your voice]	J, Q
..... [heaven's hosts]	M
..... [the mild Immanuel's]	BC, G, I, K-2B
..... [men or angel's]	H, PQ, STUV
..... [man or angel's]	W-2B
..... [host of heaven]	PQ, S-2B
..... [A child was born]	UVW
..... [His court and inn]	H, J, R
..... [to us has given]	R, Y [as], Z-2B
..... [the helpless object]	PQ
..... [of your eyes]	M
..... [Made man for . . .]	E
..... [rise on his throne]	UVW
..... [his Spirit]	V-2B
..... [take us up to God]	N-2B
..... [sins release us]	V-2B
..... [thy own eternal]	N-2B
..... [thy all-sufficient]	N-2B
..... [thine all-restoring]	BC, G, I, K-U
..... [thy all-restoring]	V-2B
..... [every burthen'd soul]	S-2B
..... [to his church]	M-Z, 2B
..... [to the church]	2A

Variant Readings, 1745–1791

<i>hymn</i>	<i>vs</i>	<i>line</i>	<i>original text</i>
12	3	4	GOD-WITH-US is all our own [A, D, H]
			<i>God with us</i> is all our own [BC, I]
12	4	3	With the quire celestial joined
12	8	2	Humbly chant Immanuel's Name
13	2	4	The great INVISIBLE is seen
		
13	3	1	Angels, behold that infant face
14	1	3	Should be so reconciled
14	2	3	From his heaven stoops down
14	3	1	Our Immanuel came
15	1	2	Jesus, by highest Heaven ador'd
15	2	5	Jesus, I call thee by the name
15	2	6	Thy pity bore for me
15	3	2	Bring peace to us poor worms of earth
15	3	4	Come, Thou who didst my flesh assume
15	5	6	The devil's works destroy
15	6	5	Redeem'd from all my sins below
15	7	1	O Christ, my hope, make known in me
15	8	5	Come in my flesh is Christ the Word
16	6	3	And still they confess adoration his due
16	7	3	And pleasure ecstatic the cherubim gaze
		
17	3	4	But never go to see their Lord
		
17	4	4	Or known the sacred Name they bear
17	10	1	Lord, <i>we</i> receive the grace and thee
18	1	7	Once more to thy creature return
18	2	4	And Heaven was open'd on earth
18	2	6	The world was <i>united</i> to bless
18	3	6	And make the glad nations obey
18	5	1	No horrid alarm of war
		

Variant Readings, 1745–1791

<i>[variants]</i>	<i>editions</i>
..... [GOD <i>with us</i> —varied]	G, K–2B
.....	
..... [the choir celestial]	G, K–2B
..... [Humbly chaunt]	H, J, Q, S–2B
..... [Invisible]	Q, S–2B
..... [is <i>seen</i>]	B, D, G, I, K–U
..... [the infant face]	J
..... [omit 'so'; error?]	Y–2B
..... [From heaven stoops]	PQ, S–2B
..... [Our Immanuel come,]	U, WXY [error]
..... [highest heavens]	Q, STU
..... [by thy name; error]	N–R
..... [The pity; error]	X–2A
..... [worms on earth]	N–2B
..... [thy flesh; error]	VW
..... [devil's work destroy]	U–2B
..... [all my sin below]	B, D, G, I, KLM
..... [make known to me]	U–2B
..... [Come in; my flesh]	VW
..... [adoration is due]	H, J, N–R, X–2B
..... [pleasures]	OPQ, S–2B
..... [cherubims]	I, NO, R, TU, W–2A
..... [to see the Lord]	K–U
..... [to seek the Lord]	V–2B
..... [the secret name; error]	ST
..... [thy grace, and thee]	T–2B
..... [to thy creatures]	J, O–Q, S–2B
..... [was open on earth]	H, J, N–U
..... [was united to bless]	H, J, N–2B
..... [glad nation]	Y–2A
..... [horrid alarum of war]	H, N–2B
..... [alarm of dread war]	G

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