

Through all the World the Echo Bounds...

Volume 1, N° 1 January 2011



# A thrice-annual periodical for singers and writers of dispersed harmony & fasola music

2011 Editorial Board Will Fitzgerald Thomas A Malone Robert L Vaughn

Submission & Subscription information: http://www.SingTheTrumpet.org

The Trumpet Society is a non-profit organization founded in 2010 to promote the writing and promulgation of dispersed harmony composition in the shape note tradition.

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#### In This Issue

By The Editors

Well, this is the very first one: Vol. 1, No. 1... and the offerings from singers started rolling in as soon as the call went out. In fact, by the end of December we had started filling up issue No. 2. So we are excited to proceed, with the goal that each issue will provide you an abundance of music of a high quality from the widest variety of authors possible.

In this first issue you will find a number of songs ranging from plain tunes, spirituals songs with choruses, fuging tunes, and a couple of more demanding pieces for you to work up to. In fact, if there is a theme to this first issue it is the theme of "dedication." Notice how many songs are named for, or dedicated to, other singers! This is nothing new for our music (pg. 288 & 418 in both the Cooper and Denson books), but we were pleased to see that our first issue shows this tradition is charging ahead full steam in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. So even if you don't know some of the writers, you probably know some of the people to whom the songs are dedicated. Dan Hertzler's LINCOLN STREET is a dedication to the singers of Springfield, Vermont, and Blake Sizemore and Drew Smith's LONGVIEW is named for the road where Blake's Grandfather lived. One of these pieces was written by a young person of less than 15 years of age; we are very impressed by her work. Remember that these writers want to hear from you, so if you like their song, or have suggestions, let them know. And if you have a song that you have been tinkering with, think about sending it in for consideration to appear in a future issue. For now, let's let the music speak. Sing on!

Dedicated to the Memory of Bob Meek.

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# Dear Sacred Harp Singers

We come to you with a new idea that is actually quite old. As you may know BF White had a newspaper called "The Organ" in which many new songs appeared. Well we have been noticing such an outpouring of new and heartfelt Sacred Harp song writing that it felt that that idea could be put into use today. Imagine—with email and PDF files, a small pamphlet of new songs could be produced quite easily, one that could be sung at practice singings all over this country. Such a publication, containing 12-14 new songs, called The *Trumpet* could appear three times a year, in January, May, and September providing new music throughout the year. Each year the total of nearly forty new songs would form the digest of that year's offerings. It is a simple idea, but we believe that, if put forward in a spirit of sincerity to the Sacred Harp community, it can provide a valuable service to singers and songwriters alike.

The Trumpet will not own any rights to the songs that appear there. As its name suggests, it is merely the instrument by which these new tunes will be "sounded out" to the singing public. The decision to include only 12-14 songs per issue places some weight on the shoulders of those on the editorial board, those very voices who address you now. Therefore the following criteria are put forth that shall guide the editorial board in making their selection. 1) Balance of Major and Minor Keys. 2) Balance of regions and styles 3) Including plain tunes, fuges, and folk hymns in an agreeable proportion 4) Including one Anthem or ode when possible. 5) Basing all selections on the musical merits of each piece and their contribution to the songs thus selected. Furthermore, editorial board members are exempt from placing their own music up for consideration during the year that they serve in that capacity. We feel that these criteria, proclaimed openly, and followed faithfully, should remove any sense of self-promotion, favoritism, or undue regional preference that an endeavor of this type might evoke.

The Trumpet will be available three times a year as a PDF file, or it can be sent to you directly in the mail. We would like to have regional singings contact us directly, and we can work with your community to get the music to you in a way that works for your singing schedule. These songs will be enjoyed best at practice singings, house/kitchen/porch singings, or night singings where people gather to enjoy hearing new music. All-day Singings and Conventions have their own bylaws regarding new music, and this publication respects those protocols. At the year's end a "Digest Edition" containing all the songs and a CD of recordings uploaded by the singing public will be available at a cost of \$10.00. The money raised will pay for supplies and printing costs only, since the publication itself is a volunteer effort.

The website http://www.SingTheTrumpet.com will have files and information, as well as places to give feedback to the composers, and to upload audio files of your favorite songs. We are excited about this new project, and hope that it will meet with the approval and good will of singers through out the Sacred Harp Singing community—"through all the world the echo bounds!"

Finally, we would like to express our sincere thanks to this issue's authors; to Carolyn Deacy for her excellent book design tips; to Robert Stoddard for help on music typesetting; and, of course, to all those composers who submitted works to *The Trumpet*.

Sincerely,

The Editors
ed@singthetrumpet.org

# Why Write?

By RL Vaughn

We live in a period of flourishing four-shape tune-writing activity. Why do we write tunes in the four-shape tradition of the Sacred Harp? Why should we? Let me first simply speak for myself. Why do I?

Beginning around 1980, with no training, little knowledge and less encouragement, I first tried the art of Sacred Harp composition. My oldest surviving works were centonizations and arrangements of other songs. Nothing to write home about, but it did help me learn a little about putting harmony together. My only published work is "Sweet Thought", residing on 468 of the Cooper Book through the grace and kindness of the 1992 revision committee. I dabbled with composing off and on through the intervening years until 2009, when it struck through my soul with an obsession.

First and foremost, I write tunes in the four-shape tradition of the Sacred Harp because I love Sacred Harp! Though raised in and among the tradition and even fond of the music as a kid, I didn't take any active part until about 1978 or 1979 when I began my personal trek to local East Texas singings. For a while I remained a singer, not a leader. At a singing at old Hopewell Church in Nacogdoches County, my uncle convinced me to lead with him standing in the square with me. From there I never turned back any more. I love this music above any music on earth, and I want to compose songs that might be recognized as the *kind* of music I love.

I would describe writing songs as entertaining, pleasant and cathartic. Some composers may find the process frustrating as they work to get it just right. But in my blissful ignorance I find it relaxing. My world is busy and chaotic; a stop with pencil and paper is a time standing still, a release from what troubles me, and a figurative crossing into the Promised Land. What a great way to wind down the day!

Writing shape-note tunes is a great learning experience. We learn about how songs fit together—poetic meter, accent, harmony, parts dropping in and out, etc. In a sense, writing shape note tunes is to learning rudiments what working on a motor is to attending a mechanic's class. It is a putting into practice some of what we learned. I recommend it as an exercise to those studying the rudiments of our shape-note tradition, even to those who do not expect to continue the songwriting process.

Writing tunes in the four-shape tradition honors our musical ancestors. It says we care enough to not only sing what you wrote, but also to imitate your style of composition. It declares that Sacred Harp is not a relic of the past. We don't just sing to recreate the history of early American music. The music is in our minds, hearts and souls. What is in our hearts will come out of our mouths—and sometimes find its way on to paper.

Finally, I would say I write because I am inspired to write. I attribute that inspiration to God—though I would not blame Him with some of the musical results! A dramatic testimony is seldom associated with the kind of inspiration I feel. It is a still, small voice that no one can hear, or a few notes stuck in some section of my brain that I can only get out by writing, or merely an idea of "what would happen if I…" Praise God for great testimonies of those moved in unusual ways to write songs. But if He only moves you in an ordinary way, write anyway.

These are some reasons I write tunes in the four-shape tradition of the Sacred Harp. They are only my reasons. My reasons may intersect with some of the reasons others are writing such tunes. My reasons may give some reasons YOU ought to be writing such tunes. Perhaps you should try it; see if you can find your own reasons.

Come, let us raise our voices high And form a sacred song... May His rich grace the theme prolong Of His eternal praise.

# Regional Report: Pennsylvania

By Dan Hunter

I remember as I got more involved with singing in Southern PA, if I missed a night of singing in Reading, West Philadelphia, Lancaster, or West Chester PA, I would always hear the same phrase: "That's fine Dan, there's always more singing!" And I quickly found it was true!

Over the last 20 years a renewed interest in fasola singing has spread across the state, reaching from Philadelphia all the way up to Erie. Singers in the Reading area and in Havertown were the first participants in this re-establishment of PA shape-note singing, and today there are regular singings in Brandywine, Edenboro, Pittsburgh, State College, Somerset County, the Lehigh Valley, Philadelphia, Lancaster, Wilkes-Barre, and Swarthmore, with a thick smattering of regional "All-days" as well.

Just within an hour radius of Reading you find a practice singing 2 to 3 nights a week, each with their own peculiar space, flavor, and customs. If you come and visit, you'll find that the singers here are adventuresome, lively and extremely welcoming—people who have taken the time to find great singing spaces, and attendance is GROWING.

Our annual Keystone Convention is January 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> this year in Lancaster County at the Midway Mennonite Reception Center, 210 East Lexington Road in Lititz. We'd love to have you there! Contact: Tom Tucker (tom@tbasso.us) for general questions, and Ruth Wampler (beatifulfriend05@gmail.com) for housing and hospitality.

In short, you'll find that PA folk will happily attempt to sing any fasola song, any way, any time. We are a chipper, hospitable bunch of singing addicts.

Website: http://mysite.verizon.net/vzer5hxc/links.html

# Singing and Remembering: Remus A Canant

By Robert Kelley

During the most recent National Sacred Harp Convention, a small group of singers took the opportunity to visit Elmwood Cemetery in Birmingham Alabama. Despite rush-hour traffic we arrived in time to inquire about the location of Mr RA Canant's grave within the vast cemetery. Luckily for us the grave was near the edge of one of the cemetery sections, because they were about to lock the front gate of the cemetery, and if we were still hunting when this happened we wouldn't be able to get out! We had just enough time to snap a few photographs and sing the song on p. 521, "Parting Friends," and escape before the gate was closed.

The song on p. 521 is Mr Canant's only composition appearing in *The Sacred Harp*, and although less familiar for some, it is among my favorites. In addition to the heartfelt poetry, the harmonies in the song sound in my ear in a way that few other songs do. I'm particularly struck by the unusual half-note chords that appear near the mid-point of the top brace and the chord that is sung on the word "all" on the bottom brace. Maybe you'll try it at your next local red-book singing and see if you like it, too.

I recently enjoyed learning more about Mr Canant in Warren Steel and Richard Hulan's new book, *The Makers of the Sacred Harp*. I found that Mr Canant and I both count 378b "Never Turn Back" among our favorite songs. You will also read a cute story about Mr Canant's 100th birthday. Dr. Steel's new book can be purchased through the Beasley Foundation or The Sacred Harp Publishing Co. and I highly recommend it to all readers of The Trumpet.

Mr. Canant also has a song on p. 5 of *The Christian Harmony* (1958 and 2010 revisions) – another book I'd recommend to all.

# Longview. S.M.



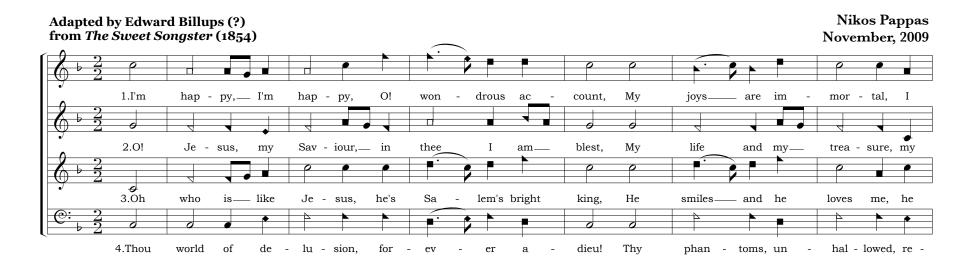
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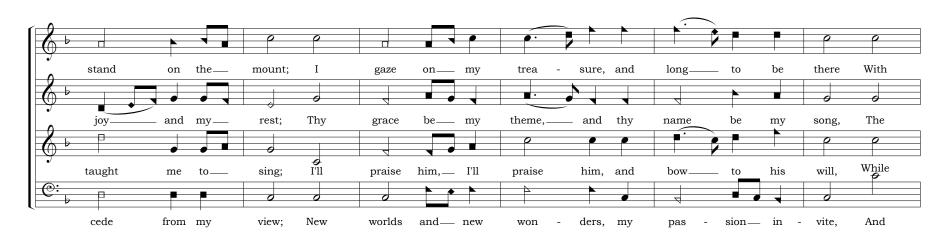


# BOWEN. Concluded.

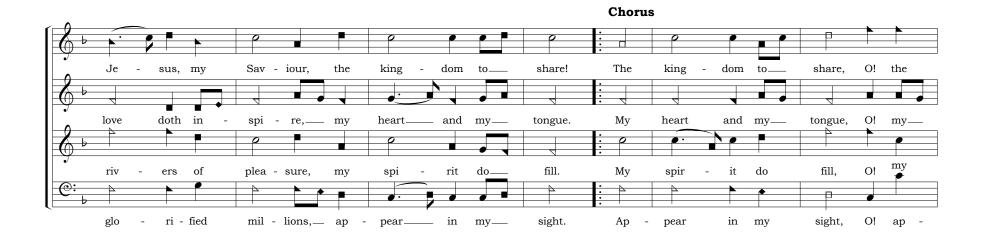


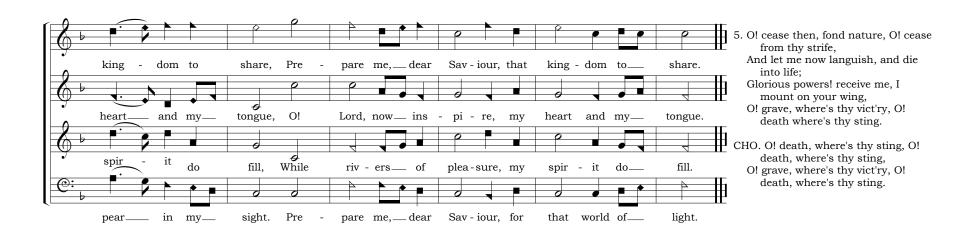
# Meek 11s

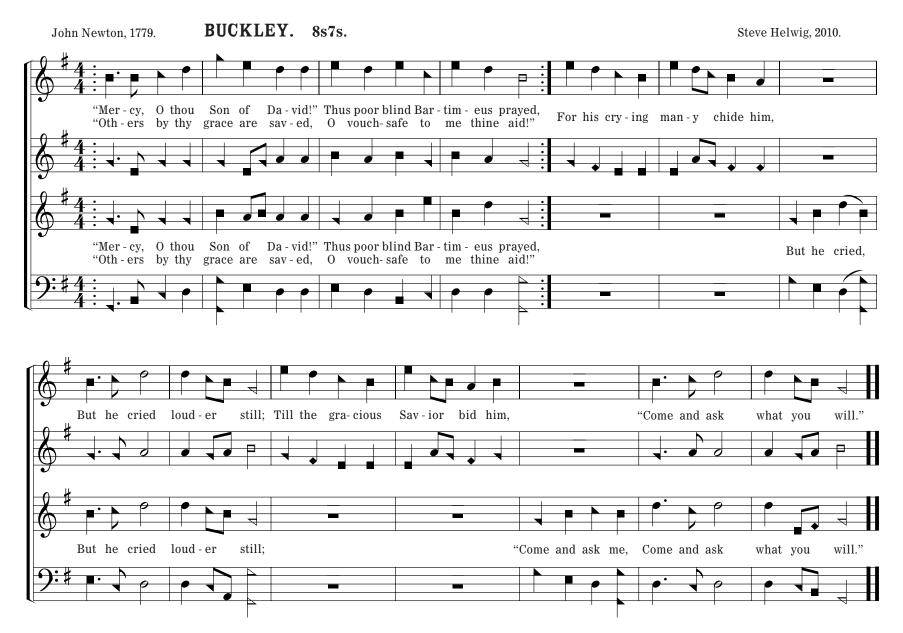


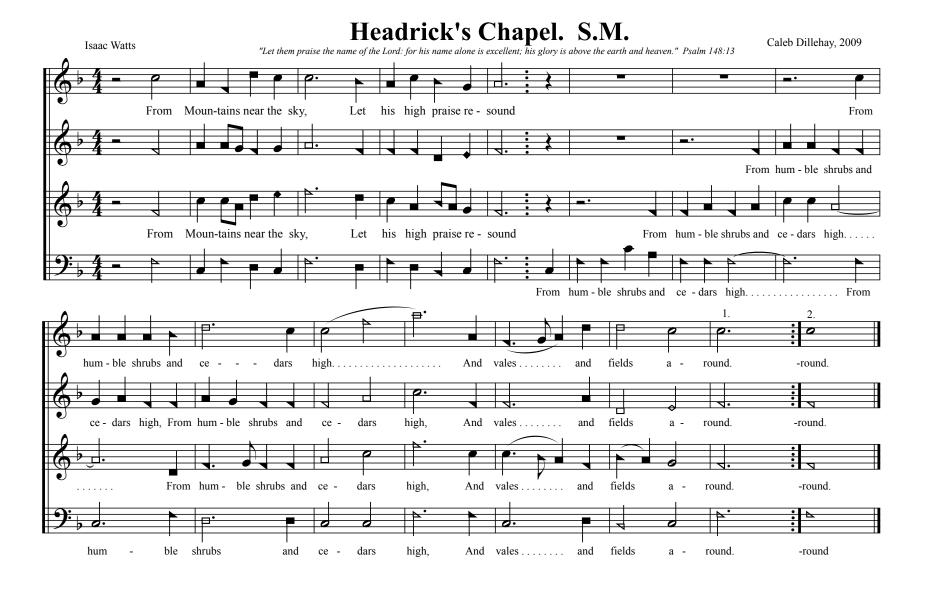


#### **Meek Concluded**



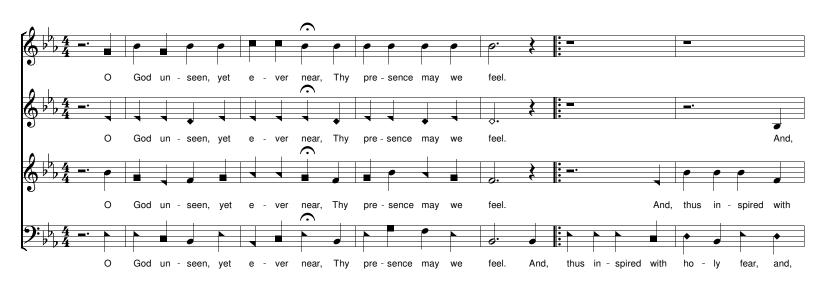


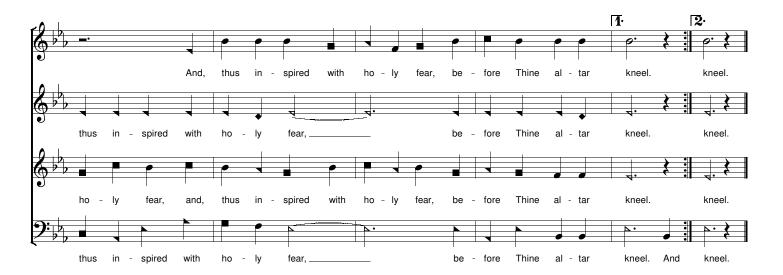




#### CREEL.

Edward Osler, 1836. Randy Webber

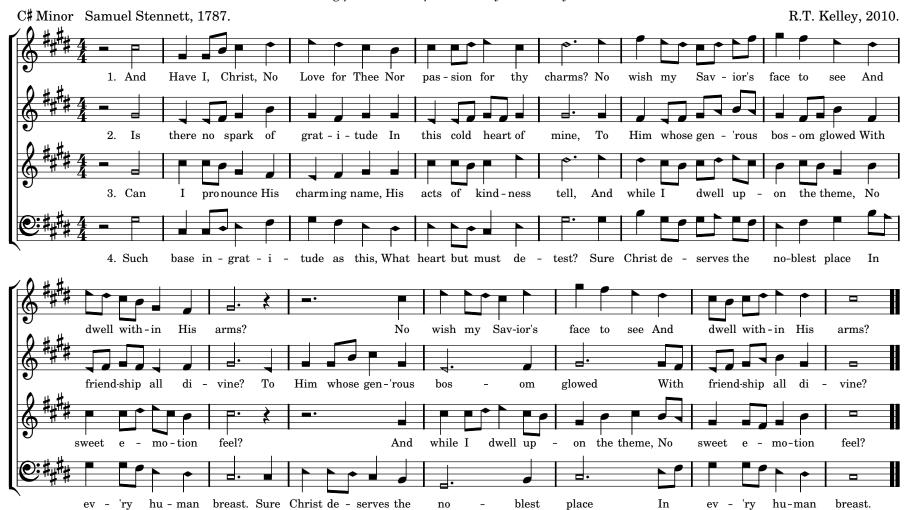




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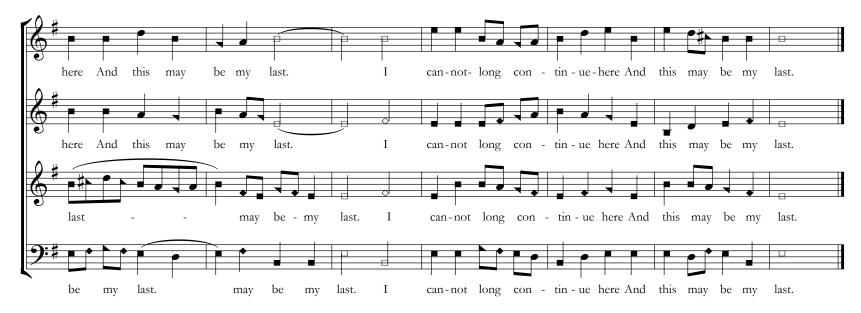
# **Gray Court. C.M.**

"Not because I desire a gift: but I desire fruit that may abound to your account." -- Phil. 4:17



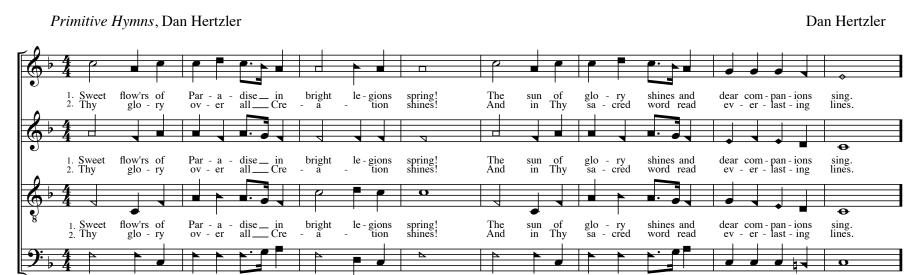


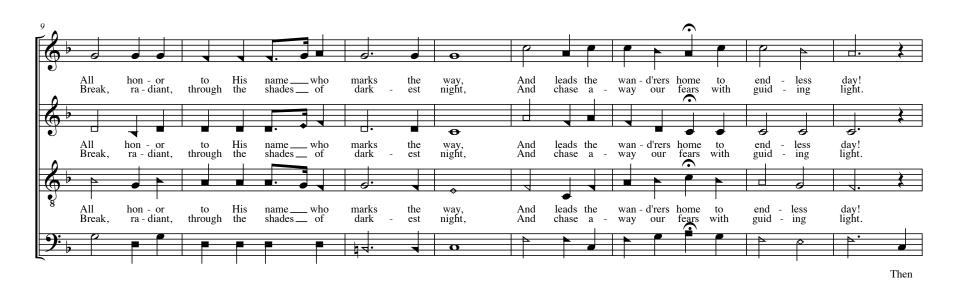
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- 2. Much of my dubious life is done, Nor will return again And swift my passing moments run, The few that yet remain.
- 3. Devoutly yield thyself to God, And to his care commend: And still pursue the heavenly road, Nor doubt an happy end.

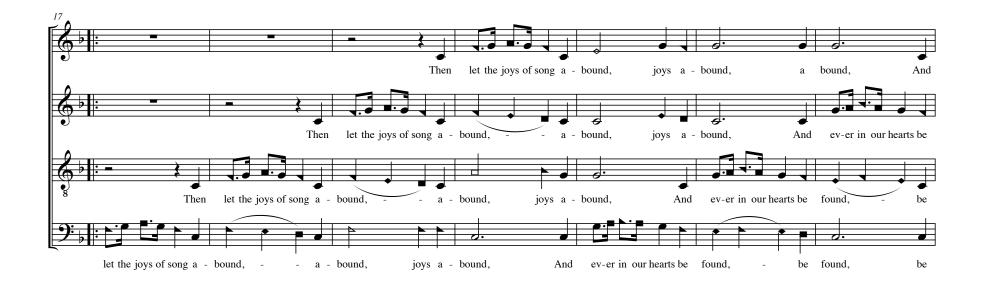
# Lincoln Street P.M.

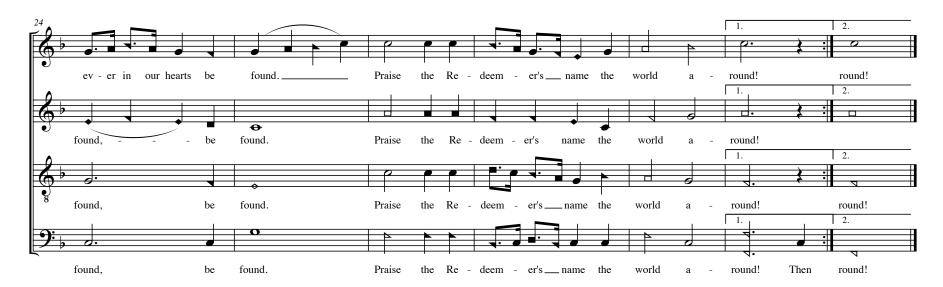




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# Lincoln Street concluded.





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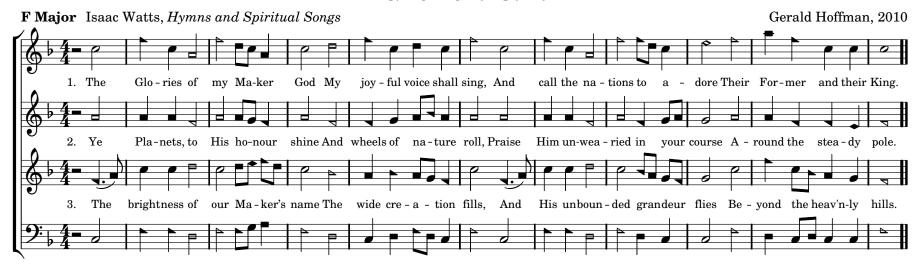
# Cedar Street. C.M.





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## GIRARD. C.M.



# WRIGHT. C.M.

Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need. —Heb 4:16

G Major Ingram Cobbin, 1843. Lloyd's Primitive Hymns, No. 424

Janie Short, July, 2010



4. The throne of glo - ry then shall flow With beams from Je - sus' face; And we no long - er want shall know Nor need a throne of grace.

This has been the inaugural issue of the Trumpet, a brand new venture seeking to share the work of the many "fasola" writers out there with the wider singing community. So, tell us what you liked, and make suggestions on how we could improve this humble publication. But most of all, sing these songs! You can upload recordings at our website—http://www.SingTheTrumpet.com, and offer feedback to the composers. I know they would love hear your thoughts on their music, and offer their responses. These conversations may become a feature of future issues.

We noticed that "dedications" seemed to be the theme of this first volume early on, but Nikos' song for Bob Meek has become both a dedication and memorial. We dedicate this first issue to Bob and all of the singers, friends, and family who are missing him at this time.

We also want to thank Dan Hunter and the Pennsylvania singers for their region report, and Robert Kelly for his thoughts on RA Canant. If you want to be involved, just let us know!

Looking ahead to June—Issue No. 2 is already taking shape, and will feature music by Matthew Bell, Aldo Ceresa, Jesse Pearlman Karlsberg, Tom Padwa, James Page, Karen Swenson, and others; along with an anthem and a beautiful set-piece in memory of Ms Ruth Denson Edwards from 1978. Thanks and God Bless!

Sincerely,

The Editors ed@singthetrumpet.org

# The Tumpet

Through all the earth the echo bounds...

Volume 1, N° 2 June 2011

# The Tumpet

Through all the earth the echo bounds...

Volume 1, N° 2 January 2011 The Trumpet: A triennial periodical for singers and writers of dispersed harmony and fasola music

2011 Editorial Board Will Fitzgerald Thomas A Malone Robert L Vaughn

> Design Carolyn Deacy

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# Welcome Back, Singers

Responses to the first Trumpet have been exciting. Singings have included it; recordings have been made; new compositions have been exposed to new venues. The inaugural issue of *The Trumpet* is now history and we're coming to you with Vol. 1, No. 2. In this second issue you will find another good variety of songs. Major. Minor. Fuging tunes. Hymn tunes. A song by John Merritt. A song in memory of Ruth Denson Edwards. And many more. Come and see.

Since our last meeting through The Trumpet, tornadoes ravaged through some of our Sacred Harp heartland. In every location where the tornadoes hit we have singers and singings and memories. Hard-hit Cullman, Alabama was the home of the much-loved and lamented Ruth Denson Edwards. In DeKalb County the path of destruction was over 25 miles long. Yet apparently none of our singing family have been killed or seriously injured. As far as I know, no singing locations were destroyed. For these blessings we thank the Lord. There have been floods in various places. As I write this some friends prepare to sing in Vicksburg, where this year's singing has been dubbed the "Higher Ground Singing" - an allusion to the singing location standing on high ground above the raging Mississippi floodwaters (as well as to the song of that title by John Merritt, organizer of this annual singing who is struggling with sickness in his body). Remember all these friends in your prayers. Sing on with gratitude in your hearts and praise on your lips.

The tempest may howl and the loud thunder roar, And gathering storms may arise, But calm are his feelings, at rest is his soul, The tears are all wiped from his eyes. The Trumpet is a labor of love that would not be possible without its supporters. We would like to express our special thanks to the authors in this edition; typesetting assistance from David Olson and Robert Stoddard; all the composers who submitted their tunes to The Trumpet; and all the singers who will sing these tunes. We also appreciate those who made and shared recordings from No. 1 of *The Trumpet*.

Remember that *The Trumpet* will be available three times a year as a PDF file, or it can be sent to you directly in the mail. At the year's end a "Digest Edition" containing all the songs and a CD of recordings uploaded by the singing public will be available at a cost of \$10.00. The website http://www.SingTheTrumpet.com has files and information, as well as places to give feedback to the composers and to upload audio files of favorite songs. The composers would love to hear from you. If you have comments or suggestions, let them know. And if YOU have a song in your heart and on your mind, think about sharing it with The Trumpet in the near future. Sincerely,

The Editors ed@singthetrumpet.com

A note about Ruth Denson Edwards: According to *The Makers of the Sacred Harp*, Jarusha Henrietta "Ruth" Denson Edwards has three tunes in *The Sacred Harp*, 1991 Edition: INFINITE DAY (446), NEW GEORGIA (534) and THOU ART GOD (543). She was a long-time secretary of the Sacred Harp Publishing Company, and a member of the 1960 and 1966 revision committees. She was the daughter of TJ and Amanda Denson, and taught school in Cullman, Alabama for many years.

# Why Four Shapes?

By Will Fitzgerald

From time to time, people ask why *The Sacred Harp* uses four shapes, instead of seven shapes—or, for that matter, just one shape. The answer that is usually given is a historical one: when William Little and William Smith published their ground-breaking *The Easy Instructor* in 1803, they used the shapes that *The Sacred Harp* uses today. Little and Smith applied their shapes to the syllables they were used to singing. The assignment of syllable sounds to musical tones itself had a long history by the time Little and Smith published their book—it was at least 800 years old. So, although the question, "Why four shapes?" is usually asked, the real question is, "Why four syllables?"

For most of us who attended standard music classes in the United States, and who watched *The Sound of Music*, it seems almost God-given that the right syllables are *do*, *re*, *mi*, *fa*, *so*, *la*, *ti* (which brings us back to *do*). But a moment's reflection brings us to understand that the actual syllables that were chosen are arbitrary choices—pretty much any syllables would do. In fact, some people use *si* instead of *ti*, and the original Western syllabification used *ut* instead of *do* (the lowest *ut* what the "gamma ut," so "running the gamut" has its origins in the sense of singing a scale starting from the lowest *ut*). Each important tone gets its own syllable; this syllabification is called *solfege* (or *solfeggio*) but the actual syllables used just happen to be the ones in use historically. So, the question really isn't "Why four shapes?" or "Why four syllables?" but "Why four tones?"

And here is where things get less arbitrary, and become based on physics of music, our human anatomy for producing and perceiving music. Anyone with normal health can feel the naturalness of two tones sung at the same pitch; anyone with normal health can feel the naturalness of both the sameness and the difference of two notes sung one octave apart. Take any string, pluck it twice: the notes will be the same. Take any string, pluck it once; take half the string, pluck it once: the difference will be an octave. We naturally perceive the notes to be "the same" but one is higher than the other. This happens when men and women are singing "the same" notes, but the women are singing up an octave—the vocal chords of the women are vibrating at twice the frequency of the men. That basic

note is called the *tonic*, and is given the syllable *do* in *do-re-mi* systems and *fa* in *fa-so-la* systems. Sometimes, four shape people call this the "tonic fa." By the way, what I've said so far is true for any arbitrary tone. The tonic can (in theory) start at any frequency. This is in contrast to assigning letters, such as *A*, *B*, etc., to more or less specific frequencies, as a piano does. But we sing with human voices, not mechanical ones, and it is certainly a convenient fact of musical physics that octaves can be produced from any place that our human voices begin to sing.



The question then becomes: how should the intervals between two tones an octave apart be divided? Again, those of us with some standard musical training and *The Sound of Music* in our ears have been taught there is just one way: *do* to *ti* and then *do* again; or the white notes on a piano from C to shining C. But it ain't *necessarily* so.

Recently, I experimented with a novice class singing a *do-re-mi* scale, but instead of having them sing them in equal lengths, I had them sing a long *mi* and a long *la*. After a few repetitions, I had them switch to *fa-so-la*. They didn't need a visual staff to sing from, but I did something like the scale above. I think they could viscerally feel that the "*do-re-mi*" and the "*fa-so-la*" parts of the first scale were "the same" in a similar way that two notes an octave apart are "the same." And they felt how the *ti* was different in some way, too. And if the two parts are "the same," they can be represented by the same syllables and shapes—but a fourth syllable or shape is needed for what is called the leading tone. I'll leave it to the real musical theorists to explain the details, but perhaps if you repeat the experiment above, you'll get a feeling for the rightness of a four tone/syllable/shape system in a way that we have all been acculturated into the rightness of a seven tone/syllable/shape system.

Seven and four shape systems each have their advantages, to be sure. And all I've tried to do here is to clear away some misconceptions that we use an impoverished notation. In the end, though, I'd rather sing with someone than argue with them.

# First Ireland Sacred Harp Convention

By Alice Maggio

In March I wrote a post on my blog about the first Sacred Harp convention in Cork, Ireland. At that point, my head was still ringing and my heart was still singing from the worst post-Sacred-Harp-convention syndrome I have yet experienced. Worst-ever-post-Sacred-Harp-convention syndrome means best-ever-Sacred-Harp convention, right? Quite a claim. This might seem strange, since Sacred Harp has only been sung in Cork for about two years. So how could such a new singing community produce such a fantastic convention? In a post-convention g-chat, Jesse Pearlman Karlsberg and I hypothesized that the following double effect was responsible:

- Almost none of the Cork singers had been to a convention before, so they were discovering, *en masse*, how amazing Sacred Harp can be. Result: enormous energy and joy among the Irish singers.
- The more experienced singers had probably never before seen so many people experiencing a convention for the first time, *all at once*. Result: the non-Irish singers were able to rediscover the power of Sacred Harp.

The unprecedented aspect of the convention was the way that it successfully melded Irish culture with Sacred Harp culture. At the Saturday night social we branched out from the Sacred Harp as whoever felt like sharing a song asked for everyone's attention and sang. We were treated to English drinking songs, Irish traditional music, a New England ballad, and sea shanties. Rumor has it that David Ivey said it was the best Sacred Harp social he had ever attended.

After Sunday afternoon's rendition of Parting Hand, we were all invited to the weekly meeting of the Cork Singers' Club. The invading Sacred Harp singers were warmly welcomed and we were invited to sing quite a few songs. Once we launched into the song, with basses, tenors, altos and trebles scattered all over the room, the master of ceremonies would happily sit back in his big green sweater, close his eyes, and enjoy the crazy American music.

For a more complete report, see:

http://adventuresofaleece.wordpress.com/2011/03/13/shout-on/

#### Edmund Dumas

By Chloe Webb

In 1987, as I browsed a waiting room magazine, a photo of age-gnarled hands holding an antiquated book of music caught my eye. The strange shape of the music note heads looked curiously familiar. A closer look jogged my memory of a tattered songbook my grandmother, Terry Dumas Nolan, had given me years before. The worn-out 1869 edition of The Sacred Harp had belonged to her grandfather, whose brother, Edmund Dumas, had written a number of its tunes. The magazine article revealed surprising news to me that the music continued to be sung; in fact, a large gathering of singers was expected at an upcoming singing "convention" in Henderson, Texas, within a drivable distance of our home. Of course, I knew I must go—I wanted to know more about Edmund Dumas and his connection to Sacred Harp music. A page in Grandma's old songbook listed Edmund Dumas on the committee chaired by B.F. White to revise and enlarge The Sacred Harp. I soon learned that Dumas' tune WHITE (288) was written in honor of his mentor and colleague, B.F. White. Dumas had also written songs and articles published in The Organ, the newspaper White founded.

My first trip to Henderson was only the beginning of a long journey that would take me back in time four hundred years as I retraced my Dumas family line following the path of our country's westward expansion. I began to document chapters in the Dumas journey because I had an unexpected opportunity to delve deeper into intriguing family stories. Peeling away layer by layer, as in an archaeological excavation, the journey took me to pivotal actions of ancestors in the early days of the Virginia Colony and a surprising link with William Shakespeare. Yet the information I learned in most cases would have been typical for anyone who lived in that time and place; these are anyone's ancestors. Perhaps your own ancestors tie into this cast of thousands.

These intimate personal stories, told in historical context and connected by the Sacred Harp fasola music they sang, make up the resulting memoir, Legacy of the Sacred Harp, a 400-year slice of American history, published by TCU Press and Texas A&M University Press; also available through http://originalsacredharp.com and

http://www.joebeasleymemorialfoundation.org/.

#### In This Issue

By The Editors

As submissions from singers started rolling in as soon as the call went out for *The Trumpet*, so they have continued to roll in. This promises quality issues still to come, and we hope it will encourage others who have not yet offered their tunes. If you have a song, consider submitting it for a future issue.

In this issue you will find hymn tunes, part songs, fuging tunes—a little something for everyone. The tunesmiths are from varied places, including one of our Sacred Harp community "across the pond." Tune names will remind you of people, places and things. Some composers you will know, perhaps others you will not. Fynn Titford-Mock's tune name speaks to us of Hauxley in Northumberland. Dan Brittain's RUTH is a memorial for Ruth Denson Edwards. John Merritt and Timothy Gilmore's "TRAV'LER'S REST - SAMSON" reminds us of a great singing stop in southeast Alabama, but also commends two singers in the northeast who have provided a "traveler's rest" for traveling singers. And we also have Charles Obert's moving tune NIGHTFALL, a tribute to his wife, Cindy Kissee, who chose the words for Charles's tune, written a month before her death.

As with the tunes, there is a variety of hymn sources ~ from Watts and Wesley to the *Lutheran Book of Worship* to one of our own Sacred Harp singers. One is from the rare *Kendal Hymn Book* published in England in 1757.

Check out all these tunes. There's a message in each hymn, a story behind each tune name, and a piece of a composer's heart in each tune. As we mentioned last issue, please remember that these shape-note tunewriters would love to hear from you. If you like their songs or have comments, feel free to contact them or post a comment at http://SingTheTrumpet.com.

Sing On!

The Editors

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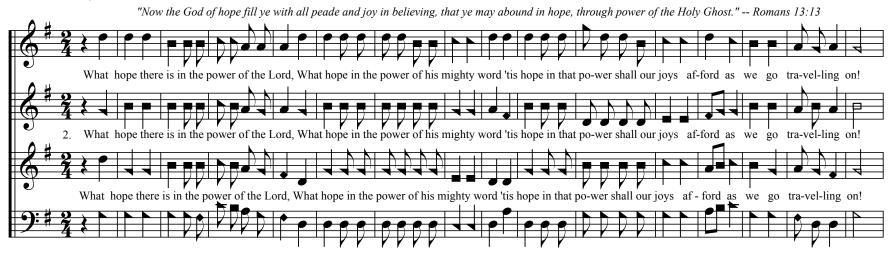
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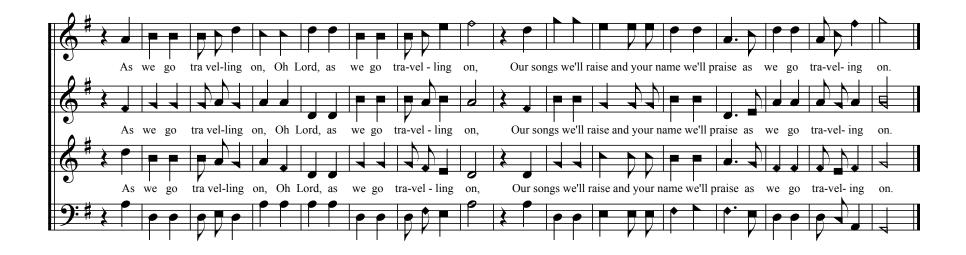
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# Hope and Power.

Tom M. Padwa, 2009

Tom M. Padwa





# GOD OF MIGHT. L.M.



# HAUXLEY. c.m.



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# Candler Park. H.M.

A major Nahum Tate & Nicholas Brady, 1696.

Aldous, 2010.

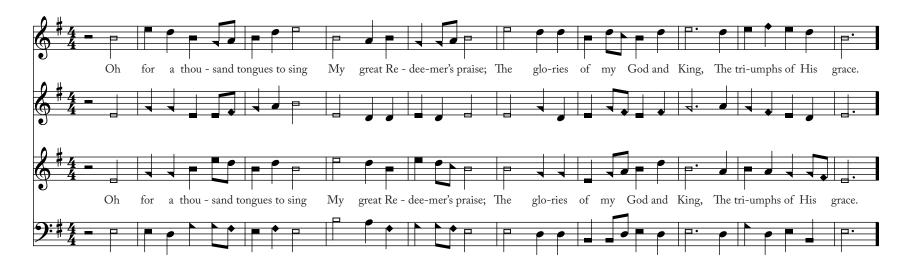


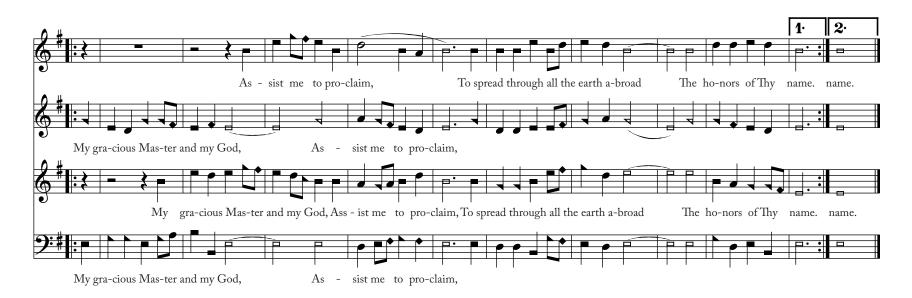
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## AUBURNDALE. C.M.D.

Charles Wesley, 1739

Jesse Pearlman Karlsberg, 2009

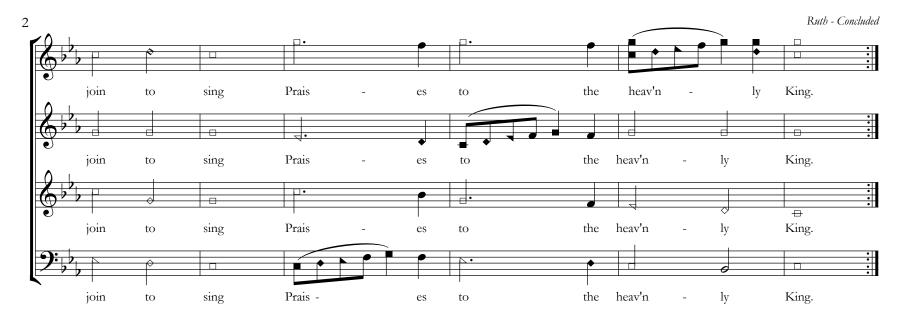




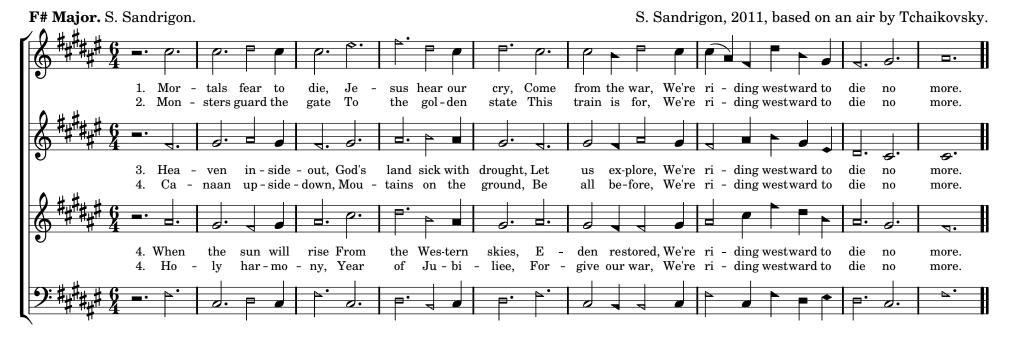
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## **DIE NO MORE. 5.5.4.9.**



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## BORDER. C.M.D.

Isaac Watts Logan Green, 2010.



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## EXALTED HOPE. C.M.



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To Thy will I all resign,

Now no more my own, but Thine.

## Golgotha. 7s.

John Newton, 1779. Matthew Bell, 2010.



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3. Why restless, why cast down, my soul? /Hope still and thou shalt sing/ Praise to the one who is thy God,/Thy health's eternal spring.

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#### IMPERMANENCE. SET PIECE.



Dedicated to the Densmores — Chris and Laura — of West Chester, PA: For years of hospitality extended to Travelling Singers.





for Cindy

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## **HIGHEST GLORY** 8s and 7s



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"The Trumpet" will be available three times a year as a PDF file, or it can be sent to you directly in the mail. We would like to have regional singings contact us directly, and we can work with your community to get the music to you in a way that works for your singing schedule. These songs will be enjoyed best at practice singings, house/kitchen/porch singings, or night singings where people gather to enjoy hearing new music. All-day Singings and Conventions have their own bylaws regarding new music, and this publication respects those protocols wherever possible. At the year's end a "Digest Edition" containing all 36 songs and a CD of recordings uploaded by the singing public will be available at a cost of \$10.00. The money raised will pay for supplies and printing costs only, since the publication itself is a volunteer effort.

The website www.SingtheTrumpet.com will have files and information, as well as places to give feedback to the composers, and to upload audio files of your favorite songs. We are excited about this new project, and hope that it will meet with the approval and good will of singers through out the Sacred Harp Singing community ~ "through all the world the echo bounds!"

Sincerely,

The Editors ed@singthetrumpet.com

The Trumpet Volume 1, Issue 3 Coming in September!

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Through all the World the Echo Bounds...

Volume 1, No 3. October, 2011.



A thrice-annual periodical for singers and writers of dispersed harmony & fasola music

2011 Editorial Board Will Fitzgerald Thomas A Malone Robert L Vaughn

Musical Typesetting James Nelson Gingerich

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#### In this Issue

nother year has flown, "swift around the wheel of time" and we are saying goodbye to summer and getting ready to close out the very first inaugural year of The Trumpet. We want to thank all of the writers who contributed songs to this first 'go-around' and encourage any of you who sat out the first dance, to send us something for 2012.

Looking back on the first year, we have had some surprises and some losses, and we have learned a lot about how much work goes into, even a tiny publication, such as this. To that end the editors want to thank James Gingerich for stepping forward and taking on the typesetting of this issue.

As you flip through these pages, you will find that the call for songs has continued to bring back echoes from around the world. In this issue we are proud to recognize the Sacred Harp singing community in Poland, some of whom traveled in the US over the summer. Their warmth and love for the music was felt by all, and we are able now to report that there are songs flowing out from this community.

Even right here in the US we continue to be amazed at the number of new names and voices that write to us to share their songs—we are finding new writers and connecting them to the larger community, and in that, we are fulfilling our purpose. We hope you find this publication useful and enjoyable. You will find the handiwork of the three editors in this volume, as a three-fold mutual dedication for the many hours of labor and dedication that this effort requires—we are proud, but hope this is not mistaken for pridefulness.

Lastly, we are including two letters, one from A.M. Cagle in 1957 in which he gives his thoughts on how the 'fasola' singers of that time could improve, and a letter from Jazaniah Sumner, the author of "Ode to Science," which gives the background of that song and its origin. Mr. Cagle's letter comes to us from the archives and museum of the Sacred Harp Publishing Co. headquarters in Carrolton, GA. In appreciation we are including a little song by Hugh McGraw which contains some beautiful "dispersed" chords.

Dedicated to the memory of Marie Ivey and Travis Keeton.

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## Trumpet News

By The Editors

Trumpet. Really it's just a new spin on a very old idea. B.F. White's newspaper *The Organ* allowed fasola songs by local writers to be shared among local communities; now our digital newspaper does the same thing for the world-wide community of Sacred Harp singers. We hope that our efforts in this have been up to the task. If you like what we are doing, let us know, and if you have suggestions on how we could improve, we would like to hear from you.

ALL-DAY SINGING from THE TRUMPET! Well, not really, but we will sing from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. with a few scheduled breaks, and we intend to sing all of the music in all three volumes. If you would like to help us sing, please come! The event will be at Campus of UMass Lowell, that is 35 Wilder Street, in Lowell Massachusetts. We will make a Facebook group for this event and people can sign up to lead a particular song in advance, that way we can get them all done in good order. Please find us on Facebook, or email "Dr." Tom Malone for more info, thomas\_malone@uml.edu. We will be making recordings from this singing and a special "digest edition" which contains all three volumes combined, available by the end of the year.

In this issue, we hope you will find many surprises and nice songs to enjoy. The burgeoning singing community in Poland has made a substantial contribution to this volume, and we thank them for that. You will also find a little song for Marcia Johnson's composed by her dear friends John and Judy, as well as a beautiful hymn by Lisa Geist, with music by Glenn Keeton and Chris Ballinger. There may be other writers represented here whose names are totally new to you, and those are especially important. The writers who are just beginning, or who are newer to the singing community—they are the future, and they represent the fact that our family of singers is too big for anyone to know everyone—but we can try! In closing, we truly appreciate the work of each writer who contributed to the first year. We have many worthy songs ready to go for January 2012, and we hope you will keep sending them and keep singing them.

Sincerely yours,

The Editors

# Shape Note Singing from



Sunday, November 6, 2011
1:00 p.m. – 5 p.m.

Durgin Hall
University of Massachusetts-Lowell
Lowell, Massachusetts

An afternoon of singing new "fasola" songs by living composers. We will sing from *The Trumpet* issues 1,2 & 3. Come sing! The event is free and all are welcome!

## Jazaniah Sumner, author of the Ode on Science

Jazaniah Sumner was a noble hearted, unpretending, patriotic man; a deacon of the church, who loved his country more than his political party. When in 1798 the excellent Mr. Simeon Daggett was preparing the young gentlemen and ladies for the fiftieth annual examination of the Taunton Academy, the good deacon was inditing a song, both words and music, to be sung on the occasion. The author's letter to Mr. Daggett, with the autograph of the original music lies before me as I write.

To Mr. Simeon Daggett, Preceptor of Taunton Academy.

While I was anticipating the pleasing satisfaction of a respectable audience who will probably attend on the day of exhibition, I was anxious that we on our part might add something to the novelty of the day. In searching our church music, I could find nothing suitable which was the cause of my attempting this small piece of music, together with the lines. It will be a sufficient apology for me to say that I have no pretensions to a poetical genius, nor have I trod the flowery path of science, but hope my attempt may emulate some superior genius who may offer something more worthy your acceptance. Such as it is it is humbly dedicated to you, sir...by your most obedient, Jazaniah Sumner. (Taunton, April 3, 1798.)

Though political in its bearing, he gave it the name of Ode on Science, and this, so far as I can learn, is the first good patriotic song whose music and whose words were both composed by an American. The author strikes at France and England alike, exalting our own land in glory between. Though the words of this song are not remarkably poetical, the music is as original and peculiar as Timothy Swan's old tune of China. The chorus comes out in fine relief to the plaintiveness of the quartette with the ring of a war trumpet. Had the tune commenced, as the Gods of the Greeks, upon a lower note, it would have been more popular still. The first step is unfortunately the longest one, and that too often prevents the people from taking any step at all; but the tune is national, our first national patriotic tune; it performed good service in its day, and hence in memory of the times gone by we love to sing it and to speak the name of Jazaniah Sumner still.

From A Monogram on our National Song, by Elias Nason, 1869

## A letter from Marcus Cagle and Friends

Horost

Atlanta, Georgia January 1957

Dear Friend:

As you doubtless realize, singing is a part of worship in which almost everyone can take part. Especially is this true of Sacred Harp singing, which is often described as "singers" music because the greatest benefit and enjoyment comes from active participation. However, this is not meant to exclude the thousands of "listeners", many of whom seem to derive fully as much from it as the singers themselves, and without whose support it could not prosper.

Actually, from a technical viewpoint, this type of music is as solid and sound as any in existence, which explains why it has not passed out of the picture long ago, as have so many other types. However, practically all of us recognize that there are some deficiencies in the songs themselves, and undoubtedly a vast area for improvement in the manner in which the music is rendered. And all of us are, or should be, interested in anything that will improve the singing of this grand old music. The question naturally arises, "What can be done?"

One of the most important points along this line is the pace of the songs. Uncle Tom Denson once said, "The Sacred Harp can be rushed to death or dragged to death." Much has been said about "too slow singing" or "too fast, even hot rod, singing", with frequent reference to rules and regulations set forth in the rudiments printed by B. F. White in The Original Sacred Harp. In this connection, it must be observed that the musical equipment of B. F. White was only moderate, as is the case with most of us who have supplemented his work. While those rules are sound in principle, such as the number of seconds allotted to each measure, they cannot be applied exactly alike to every song, for example, all songs written in four-four time ( $2\frac{1}{2}$  seconds to the measure) obviously should not be sung at the same pace. The best rule is, "Be reasonable and logical" and use the pace best suited to the type of song and to give proper accent to the music and permit the listeners to clearly understand the words and recognize the tune.

Another important point to consider is volume. Loud or boisterous singing seems to be all there is to good singing in too many instances. Certainly we should sing loud AT TIMES but not ALL THE TIME. Consideration should be given to the general harmonizing of all the parts, which would be better accomplished if each singer would sing the part best suited to his voice and stay with it. We are just plain singers but if we give a little heed to time and volume of tone the quality of the music will greatly improve. Otherwise, the singer only hurts his own voice and other people's ears. If this is not done, you will continue to hear the question asked, "Why do all the songs sound alike, or just what does anyone get out of it, anyway"?

Another matter that goes hand-in-hand with improvement of the singing is the development of a better attitude among the singers in the various sections. The existence of factions, jealousies, or other petty differences does nothing but harm the cause and should be eliminated as far as possible. Just remember that, actually, we have no experts who "know it all" and too few who are really well qualified to instruct or advise. Also, there are certain things necessary to have a singing at all, such as officers, committees, and the inevitable "tune histers". All consideration should be given the people selected for this work, especially the "tune hister" who "sticks his neck out" on every song. BUT what would we do without him? Therefore, we should refrain from undue criticism and always be tolerant of the other fellow's efforts.

These observations and remarks are submitted in the utmost humility and only for the purpose of causing more of our good people to think along these lines, from which some good might possibly accrue to the Sacred Harp cause.

Respectfully
A. M. Cagle
Tom McGraw
T. R. Knight

#### The Polish Sol

#### Magdalena Gryszko and Blazej Matusiak OP

In 2008 and 2009 the European Union faced a revolutionary change. Its Middle Eastern and Western part was filled with a new vivid shout created by two new Sacred Harp groups in Warsaw, Poland and Cork, Ireland.

#### GRANDFATHER ERIKSEN AND MOTHER SCHOFIELD

While singing Sacred Harp in Ireland is not that much of a surprise, one may ask how it happens that this uniquely American tradition is developing in a Slovian country speaking strange Polish language. The answer is love. In 2008 Magdalena Zapedowska convinced her future husband Tim Eriksen to come to the "Song of Our Roots" Festival in Jaroslaw, Southeastern Poland. At the end of August 2008 Tim gave a six day Sacred Harp workshop at the festival—the first Sacred Harp workshop in Poland. Participants were crazy about Tim and Jesse Pearlman Karlsberg who came with Tim. And, more importantly, they were overwhelmed by Sacred Harp spirit and passion. Already in September 2008 the first Sacred Harp weekly singing was organized in Warsaw by Father Blazej Matusiak, a Dominican and a lover of old music who participated in Tim's workshop in Jaroslaw. A year later, in October 2009, Allison Blake Schofield arrived to lead a Sacred Harp workshop in Warsaw. Since September 2008 about 80 people came across the weekly Sacred Harp singing in Warsaw. There are also about 6 strong Sacred Harp singers in the central Polish city of Poznan, after Magdalena Zapedowksa introduced Sacred Harp during lectures at Poznan University. Most of Polish Sacred Harp singers participated in Allison's Warsaw workshop in 2009 or Aldo Thomas Ceresa and Michael Walker's Warsaw singing school in March 2010. On the average we have about 15 people at our weekly singing.

#### THE POLISH "SOL"

Polish Sacred Harp has some specific stylistic traits, what could be a subject of a separate article. We have been shaped both by Western Massachusetts/New England pedagogy style, when participating in the Western Massachusetts Sacred Harp Convention and being

taught by Tim and Allison—and by amazing Georgia and Alabama singing communities in Hoboken, Henagar, and Atlanta. In 2011, Several Polish singers attended both Camp Fasola and the workshops and singing schools led by David Ivey and Neely Bruce during the First Irish Sacred Harp Convention. They are all in our hearts and hopefully voices. But if I was to mention just one little Polish thing which makes people who sing with us smile; I would say that we pronounce the syllable "sol" like "soul", when I think most English speaking singing groups pronounce it "so". As one of the Cork Sacred Harp singers said, it is "pleasant to the ear". So we stick to our "soul" and we sing. Aloud for glory!

#### New Composers

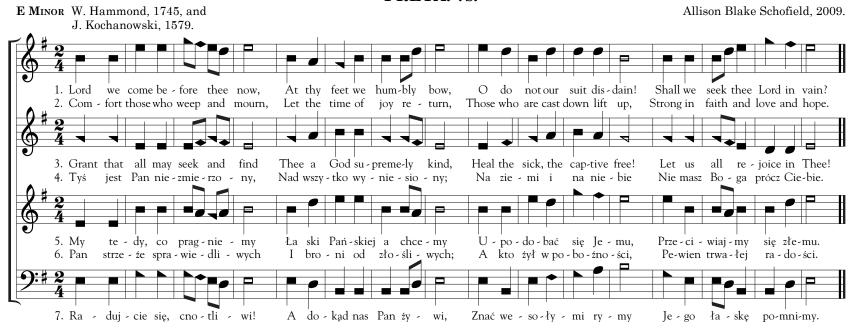
As a remembrance of her singing school, Allison Blake Schofield composed the first Sacred Harp song with Polish text, chosen by Father Blazej. It was not easy to choose the text due to differences between poetic meters in English and Polish. In a classical Polish poet Kochanowski's setting of psalms (16th century) there were only few which could fit the pattern and it seemed a right choice. The piece was named after the street where we gather. Freta (see page 33) remains one of our beloved songs, as it is not only a well written contemporary Sacred Harp composition and a sweet memory of our teacher, but also, surprisingly enough, it resembles some of 16th century 4-part Polish psalms. Okólnik is the first Polish shape-note composition, set by two Sacred Harp singers, Zofia Przyrowska and Jacek Borkowicz (see page 47). It's a thrill to sing such powerful tunes with text in our own language.

#### THE NEW MARSHALL PLAN

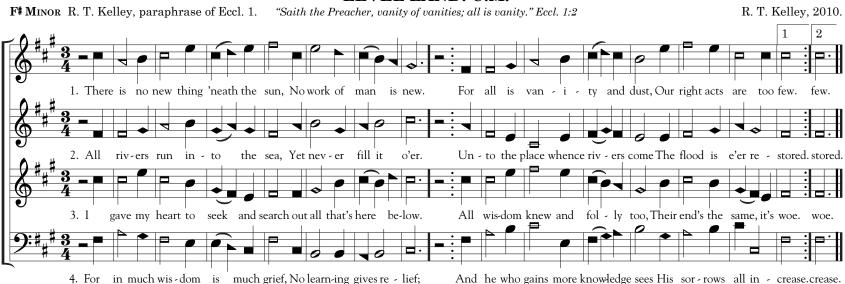
The singing has changed our lives. We all feel a part of a Sacred Harp family. We have been touched so many times by Sacred Harp singers' hospitality and love. And we want to share it! After Warsaw and Cork, new groups have appeared in France, Germany, and Switzerland. There is interest in Hungary, Italy and the Czech Republic. And this is just the beginning. We are planning the 1st European Camp Fasola, and the 1st Polish Sacred Harp Convention, both to be held at the end of September, 2012! Some say the world will end in 2012—well, perhaps—but what a sound! So please join in and help us to sing!

For more info, look for the Sacred Harp in Poland page on Facebook.

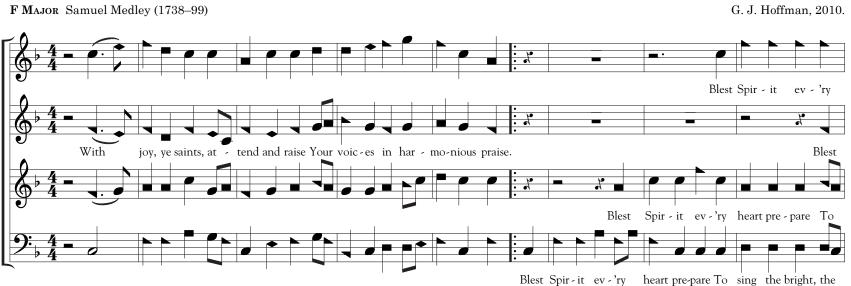
#### FRETA. 7s.

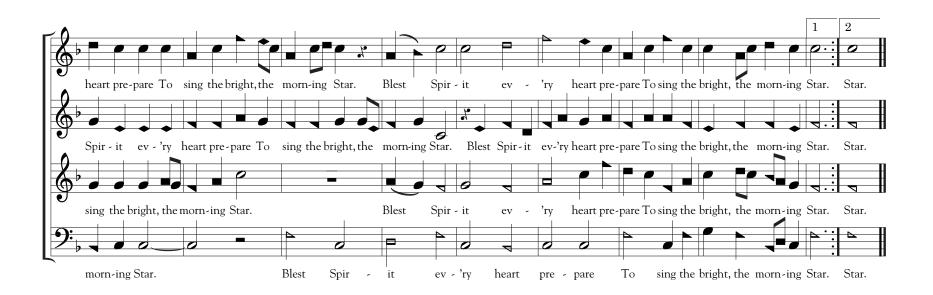


#### LEVEL LAND. C.M.

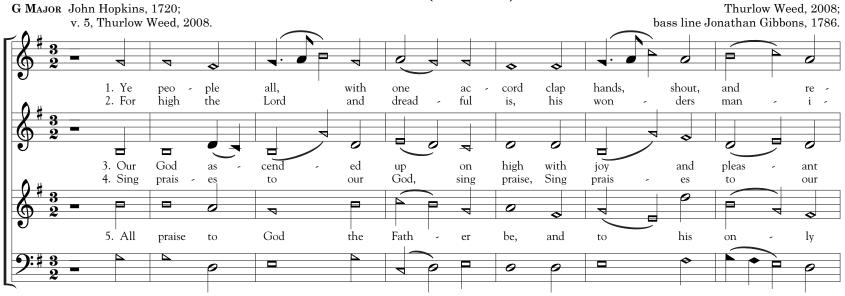


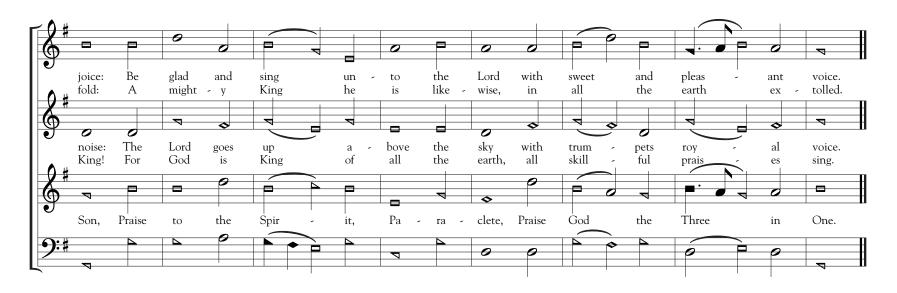
#### BRIGHT MORNING STAR. L.M.





#### ZANE'S TRACE (Psalm 47). C.M.

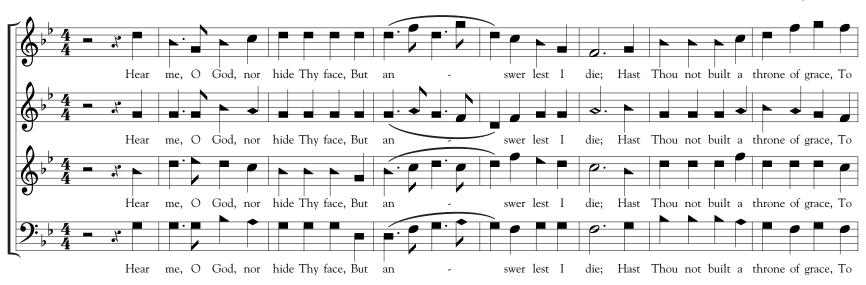


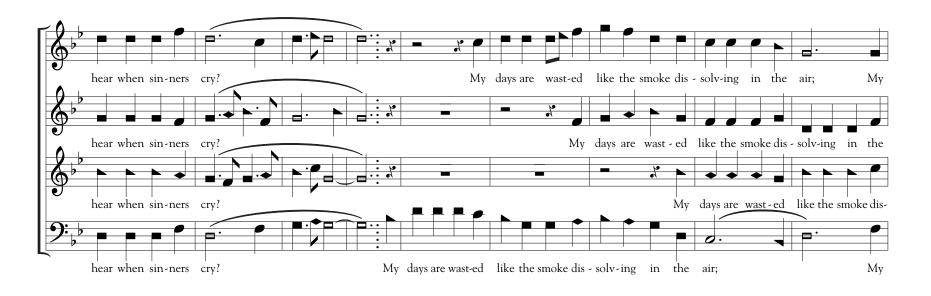


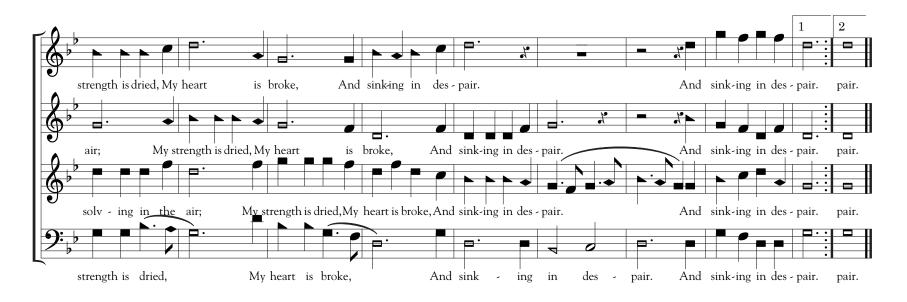
#### MALONE. C.M.D.

G Minor Isaac Watts, 1719.

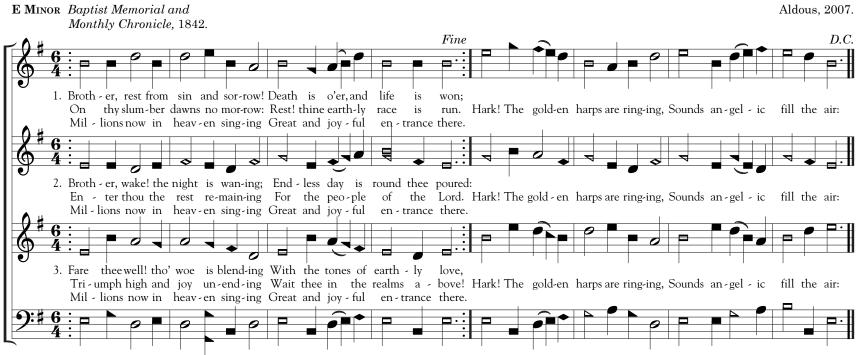
Robert L. Vaughn, 2010.







#### STANTON. 8s & 7s D.

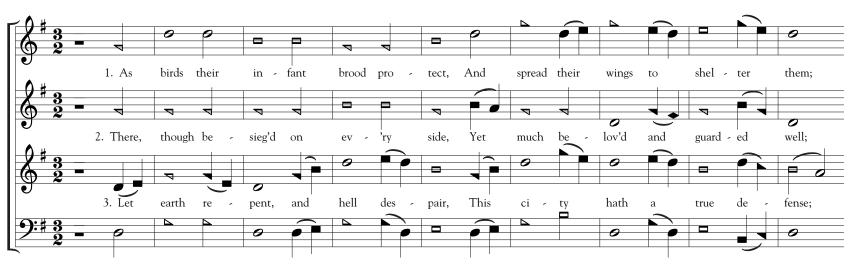


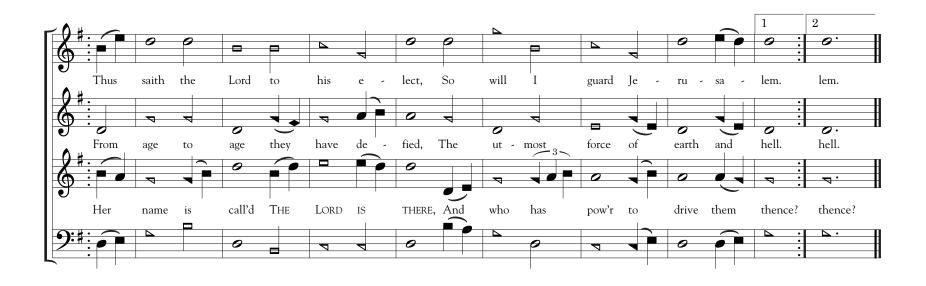
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#### MARCIA. L.M.

G Major William Cowper, Olney Hymns, 1779.

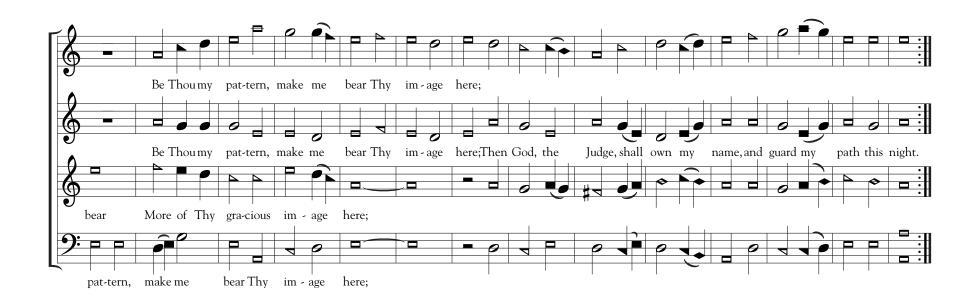
John Bayer and Judy Hauff, 1994.





#### CATALINA. P.M.



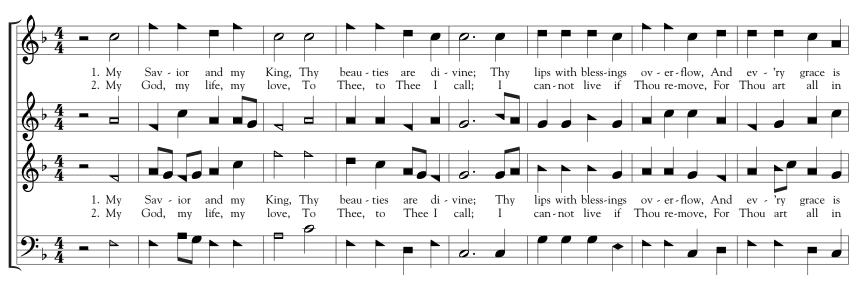


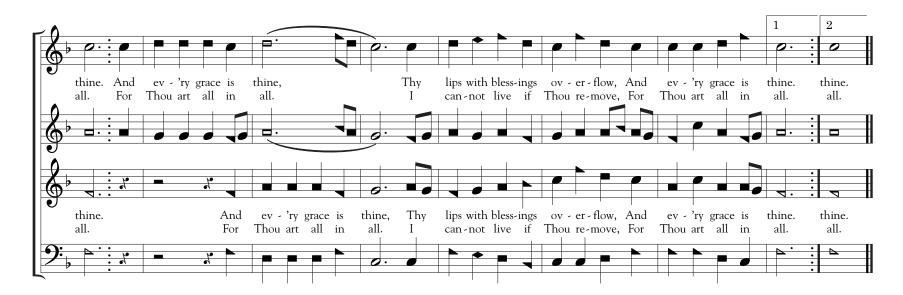
#### STAFFORD. S.M.

A Major Will Fitzgerald and Tom Malone, 2008. Daniel Read, 1782. Acrostic on "Isaac Watts" and "Daniel Read" 1. I seek 2. De - light an - gel ly a To an ful choir join in fear - ful praise, a new Now en - rap - tured, love. fear - ful choir To gel praise, 2. De - light ful lv Now a new en - rap - tured, love. seek gel choir To join fear - ful As Mo-ses and as praise, 2. De - light ful 1<sub>y</sub> en - rap - tured, rise each day to new Now love. a seek gel choir To an join fear - ful praise, As Mo-ses and as riam 2. De - light ful - ly a new Now I, en - rap - tured, love. rise each day to my Mo - ses and as Mi - riam With all the trem - bling saints. sang saints. rise each day to see Race each cen - ding dove. dove. my praise as Mo-ses and Mi With all the trem - bling as riam sang saints. saints. cen rise each day to see praise Race each ding dove. dove. my 0 Mo - ses and as Mi - riam With all the trem - bling sang saints. ding rise each each dove. see my praise, I day to see my praise Race cen dove. Mo - ses and as With all the trem - bling Mi - riam saints. saints. sang, sang rise each day to Race each cen - ding dove. dove. praise, my praise as

#### VAUGHN. S.M.

F Major Isaac Watts, 1719. Thomas Malone, 2007.

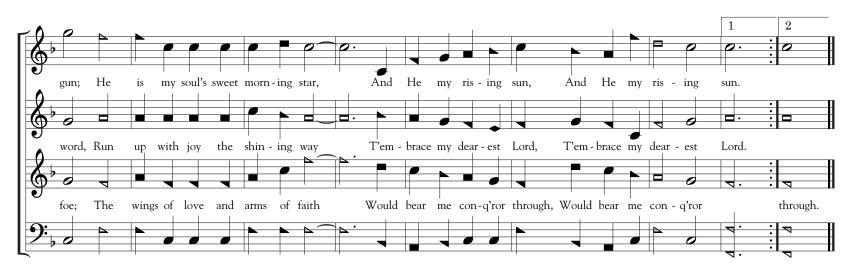




F Major Isaac Watts, 1707.

Andrew Beauchamp, 2009.



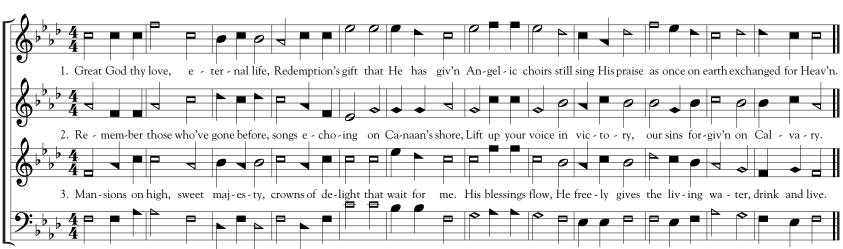


\*On repeat sing third verse

# ASHLEY. L.M.

F Minor Lisa Ballinger Geist, 2004.

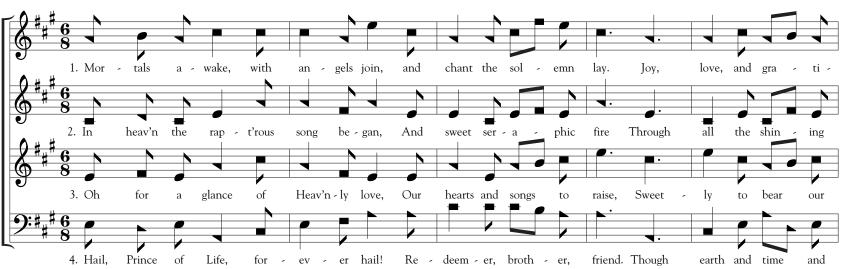
Glenn Keeton, 1998; and Chris Ballinger, 2005.

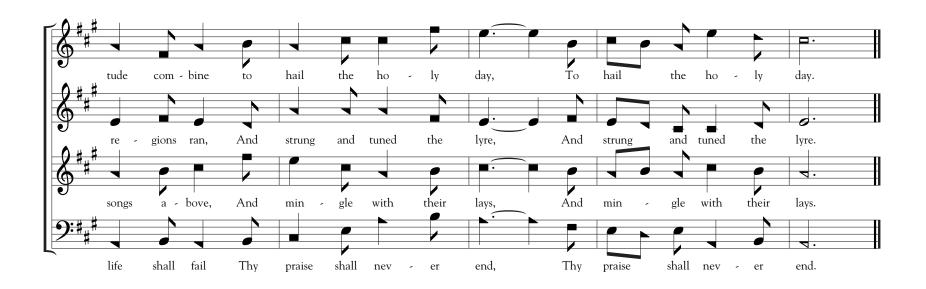


# SOUTH OGDEN. C.M.

A Major Samuel Medley, 1789, alt.

Wade Kotter, 2011.

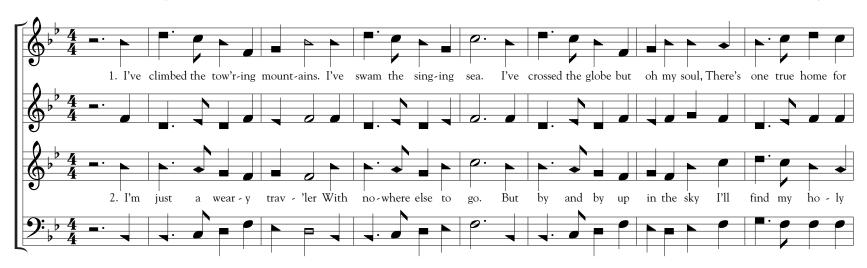


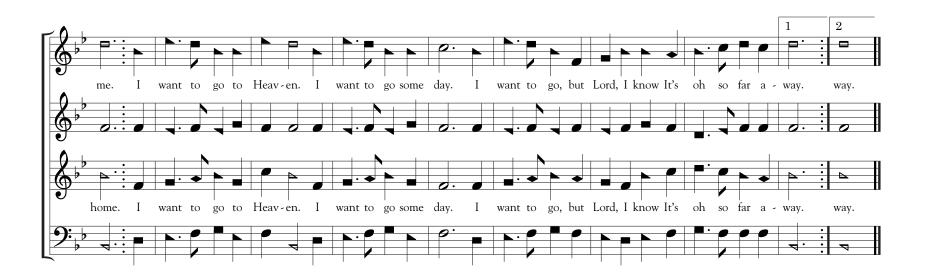


# TRAVELER. 7,6,8,6 D.

B Major Micah Sommer, 2011.

Micah Sommer, 2011.



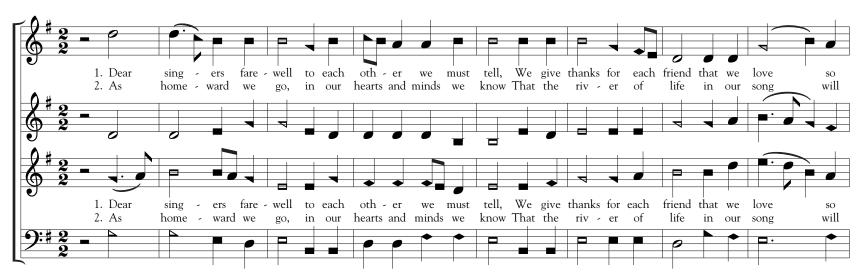


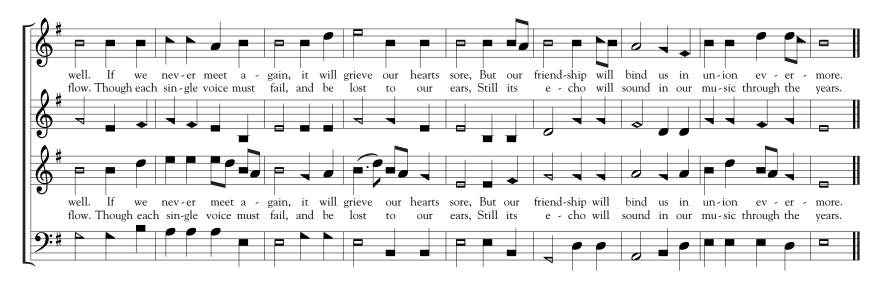
#### ALTAMONT. P.M.

**E M**INOR Penny Anderson, 2011.

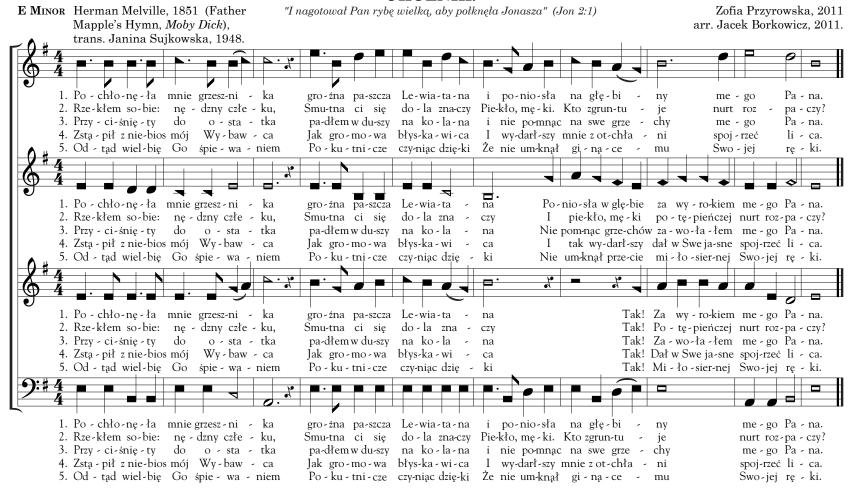
"Wherefore comfort one another with these words."—I Thessalonians 4:18

Penny Anderson, 2011.





# OKÓLNIK.



- The ribs and terrors in the whale
   Arched over me a dismal gloom,
   While all God's sun-lit waves rolled by,
   And lift me deepening down to doom.
- 2. I saw the opening maw of hell,
  With endless pains and sorrows there;
  Which none but they that feel can tell—
  Oh, I was plunging to despair.
- 3. In black distress, I called my God, When I could scarce believe him mine,

He bowed his ear to my complaints— No more the whale did me confine.

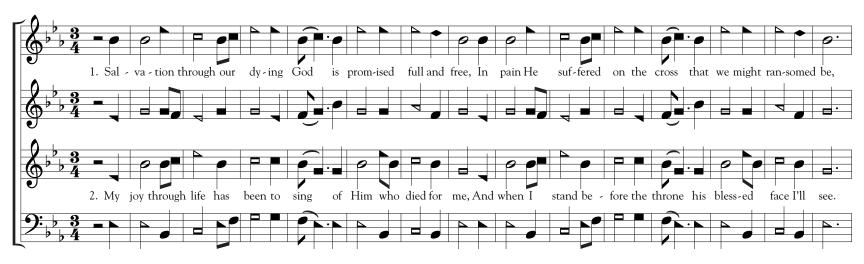
- 4. With speed he flew to my relief, As on a radiant dolphin borne; Awful, yet bright, as lightning shone The face of my Deliverer God.
- 5. My song for ever shall record
  That terrible, that joyful hour;
  I give the glory to my God,
  His all the mercy and the power.

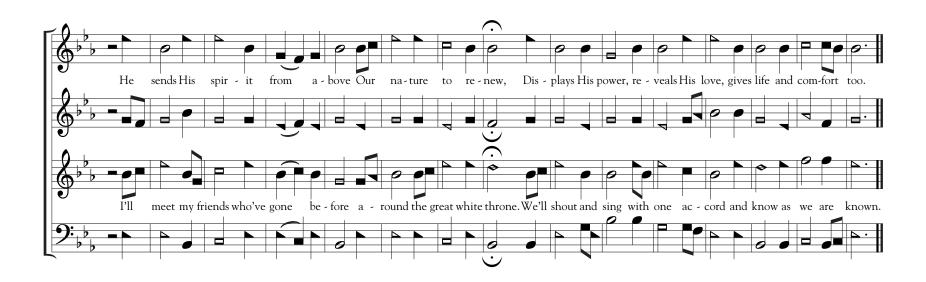
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# GOD'S PROMISE. C.M.

E<sup>b</sup> Major from Rippon's Selection, 1787, alt.

Hugh W. McGraw.







Volume 2, No 1. January, 2012.



A thrice-annual periodical for singers and writers of dispersed harmony & fasola music

2012 Editorial Board Will Fitzgerald Thomas A Malone Robert L Vaughn

Musical Typesetting James Nelson Gingerich

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# In this Issue

The new year of 2012 is upon us, and the singing season is well under way! The All-California singing weekend, Auburn Alabama, the Keystone Convention, and a winter singing School in Cullman County are just a few of the wonderful events that have marked the singing year thus far. There have been losses and tragedies as well, including the death of John Merritt, a loss that will be felt for some time. Maybe you will page back to issue No. 2 and sing the song "Traveler's Rest" on page 30, which he and Timothy Gilmore composed. If you do you will be moved by these lines:

His own soft hand shall dry my tears And hold me to his breast; Then take me homeward through the skies, Unto the trav'ler's rest.

Although we begin each new year focused on new possibilities, there is also a place for reflection as well. In this issue of *The Trumpet* many songs are dedicated to specific singers in the form of a memorial or prayer for healing (IVEY, MELANIE). We also find many pieces of greater length, an anthem by Dan Harper, and set-piece by Steve Helwig, as well as a pair of three-line songs for you altos who like to sing on the bass. We welcome the contributions of a trio of Alabama writers, Stanley Smith, Ed Thacker and Linda Sides, and are grateful for their contributions. We are excited to begin our second year with a substantial & heartfelt offering of tunes ~ opening with a fanfare (Clinton) and closing with a lullaby (Hans). We trust that you, the singers, will savor each song for the particular poignancy or uplifting power that each author was inspired to note down. We are also very grateful to Mike Hinton for the memories of his Uncle Paine, and Robert Stoddard for his report on the Novermber *Trumpet* singing.

Please continue to download and share back issues of *The Trumpet* from our website ~ and keep your recordings coming in — a compilation of songs from year one is in the works which will be much appreciated by the tune-writers themselves.

Sing on! Sincerely,

The Editors ed@singthetrumpet.com

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# The Trumpet Sounds

### By Robert Stoddard

It's not every singing where you are handed an iPad as you walk in, but then, this wasn't just any singing: it was the first full singing of *The Trumpet*, Volume 1, taking place on Nov. 6, 2011.

*Trumpet* editor Tom Malone took the lead in organizing the singing and, as in the Watts verse, he:

Sends His summons forth,

Calls the south nations and awakes the north; ...

The Trumpet sounds; hell trembles, heav'n rejoices;

Lift up your heads, ye saints, with cheerful voices.

And many heard his summons! About 16 of us gathered on a fine, crisp November Sunday at the music building of the University of Massachusetts at Lowell, where Tom is on the music faculty. While many singers were locals, others came from Rhode Island, Vermont, and even Oregon. We were also fortunate to have several of the composers of works in *The Trumpet* join us: Steve Helwig, Dan Hertzler, Tom Malone and me.

There are many singings that Elizabeth and I have attended over the years where the venue alone was enough to inspire a great singing: a rustic chapel, perhaps, tucked in a quiet pine woods or set in a grassy meadow. UMass Lowell was not such a venue! Its modern concrete, institutional buildings seemed an unlikely place, but the music rehearsal room that Tom had selected was a fine singing space for our small group to match our goal: to produce crisp recordings of all 47 tunes published in Volume 1 of *The Trumpet*.

As befitted the modernity of the space, the singing was more "high tech" than any I have attended. In addition to the aforementioned iPads, Tom provided an ordered list of tunes for each of the three sessions. The list for each session was projected on a screen, on which leaders signed up. One issue of *The Trumpet* was slated for each session, our breaks timed with military precision to complete the singing on schedule. And so, with a couple of MP3 recorders silently documenting our efforts, we began with a few warm-ups from *The Sacred Harp*, 1991 Edition, and then launched into our Trumpetizing.

We learned a great deal from the day. First, shape-notes truly work! Sight-singing 47 tunes, some of which were fairly complex, would be an unthinkably difficult task for almost any choir. Doing so in four hours, with a pick-up group of singers, was possible because of our ability to guide our voices with the shapes.

Second, an afternoon singing unfamiliar tunes is truly taxing. Singing is, as George Seiler put it, "the best exercise you can get sitting down," but this *Trumpet* marathon reminded me of what good mental exercise singing is, as well. Perhaps we should add intensive sight-singing to the list of Sudoku and crossword-puzzles as sovereign wards against Alzheimer's! In a typical Sacred Harp singing, nearly half of the calls are of the 100 most popular tunes, giving even a moderately experienced singer occasions to settle into a comfortable tune. Not so on this day! Even those who had ambitiously practiced the tunes had to pay close attention to unfamiliar harmonies and entrances.

A third take-away for me from the day was a greater appreciation of the high quality and diversity of talent of the composers. There is no one, single "Sacred Harp" style of song, either in *The Sacred Harp* or in *The Trumpet*. New composers are working in a full range of these traditions, ranging across English folk-tunes, West Gallery, New England plain and fuging tunes, camp-meeting revival songs, and Denson-inspired fuges; one tune is even set with Polish words. It is an exciting time to be singing in this tradition!

A less lofty lesson reinforced by the day's singing was the value of redundancy. Although both Tom and I were recording the event, mine failed for the first session, and Tom's for the third. Fortunately, between the two of us, we produced a complete set of recordings, available at http://www.bostonsing.org/recordings/the-trumpet/.

Many thanks again to Tom Malone for organizing the day, to *Trumpet* editors Tom, Will Fitzgerald and Robert Vaughn for their dedication to producing Volume 1 so successfully, and especially to all the composers of the tunes, which gave us such enjoyment!

A photo of the singers can be found at http://singthetrumpet.com/singing-from-the-trumpet-volume-1/

# Memories of my Uncle, Paine Denson

Mike Hinton

Paine Denson was my uncle, as he and my Mother were "half brother and sister." Paine's mother was Amanda Burdette Denson and my grandmother, Lola Akers, married T J Denson after Amanda Burdette died. T J and Lola were married 23 years and had three daughters, Vera, Violet (my Mom) and Tommye (Anne Chalker and Richard Mauldin's Mom). Paine was in his late 30's when my Mother was born. So there was a considerable age difference between the two "sets" of T J Denson's children.

I remember seeing Uncle Paine a number of times when I was young. He died in 1955, age 73, when I was 12. We would see him every summer when we went to Jasper, Alabama to visit relatives. He was a tall, "pear shape" man. He was always dressed in a suit and tie, and when outside, he wore a hat. In the summer he liked to wear seersucker suits and a flat brim white hat. He had a loud voice and a hearty laugh. He practiced law in Birmingham and then moved to Double Springs and continued to practice law in a "relaxed" style. He had a good sense of humor and liked to tease folks. He took me to a store near his Birmingham office and bought a cowboy hat one summer. He said "every boy needed a cowboy hat." He was a typical "Southern gentleman" and graduated from the University of Alabama law school.

I remember the "Henry J" auto that he drove. It was brown and yellow, and it was the last car he owned. He was not a terribly good driver, but he was able to get to Jasper or Cullman from Double Springs and back home. He had heart trouble in his later years and would stay with Aunt Vera Nunn, who would take care of him, and Aunt Tommye Mauldin, an RN who would attend to his medical needs as directed by his physician. Aunt Vera use to tell us that Uncle Paine was not a very good patient and could be rather stubborn and would not want to take his meds or to do other things his doctor told him to do. When he was uncooperative, Aunt Vera would say "OK, I am going to call Tommye to come down here and talk to you." Uncle Paine would say, "Alright, I will do what is needed." He did not want Aunt Tommye to "clean his plow!"

Paine and his younger sister, Ruth Denson Edwards, had a very close relationship, and both worked daily to see that Sacred Harp music and tradition was preserved and perpetuated. They wrote letters to each other weekly. Uncle Paine had an old typewriter and he used it to prepare his letters and Aunt Ruth would send hers in her own neat and distinctive hand writing. I have a few letters that Uncle Paine wrote to Aunt Ruth. He would often tell her some story or something humorous. They frequently went to singings together, and often with their "double first cousin", Robert E. "Bob" Denson. He lived in Addison, not far from Double Springs. He and Paine would pick up Aunt Ruth in Cullman and go to a singing or a convention. They had fun and talked and sang while they rode together. Each of them knew what they would sing and would discuss the tunes they planned to sing and they sometimes practiced as they rode along. Hugh McGraw told me that none of the Densons ever used a book when leading. Uncle Paine wrote some wonderful Sacred Harp tunes (in my opin-

Uncle Paine wrote some wonderful Sacred Harp tunes (in my opinion.) Peace and Joy is my favorite tune in the 1991 Revision. I love the words and the way the tune emphasizes the words. The harmony is also something that I enjoy and the refrain too. *Peace* and *Joy* have calming and pleasant meanings to me, and I like to lead the tune at a moderate speed. I often say that I do not think we should rush peace or joy.

I have the Bible that belonged to my Aunt Ruth Denson Edwards. In that Bible are notes, letters, articles and a small piece of paper with numbers on it. A note on that piece of paper says: Paine's own selections for his funeral in his own hand. The numbers for tunes selected had "words only" written and the following numbers:

27, 457, 111, 68, 349, 329

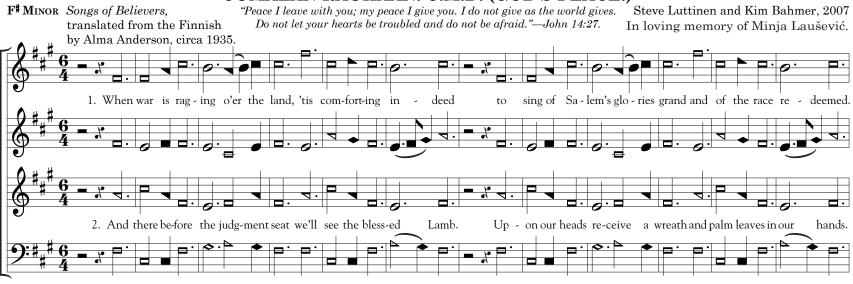
Uncle Paine died in 1955, so these would have been tunes in the 1936 Denson Revision. They remain the same tunes in the 1991 Revision as well. Two of these have top and bottom tunes. I suspect that he intended the top tune to be used since he did not indicate 111b, but that is speculation on my part.

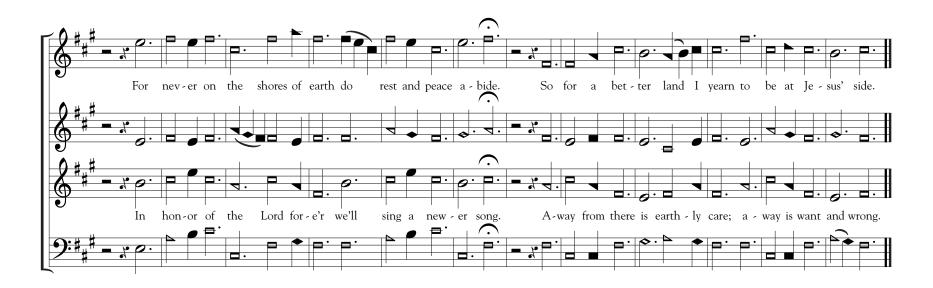
He was a lawyer, but his first love was Sacred Harp music. He was proud of his Sacred Harp heritage and worked to see that the music lived on and on.

# CLINTON. C.M.



# JUMALAN RAUHAAN. C.M.D. (GOD'S PEACE.)



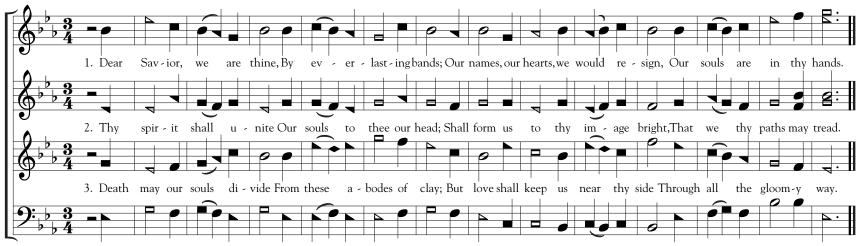


#### IVEY. S.M.

E Major Philip Doddridge. 1755, alt.

Dedicated to the memory of Marie Ivey

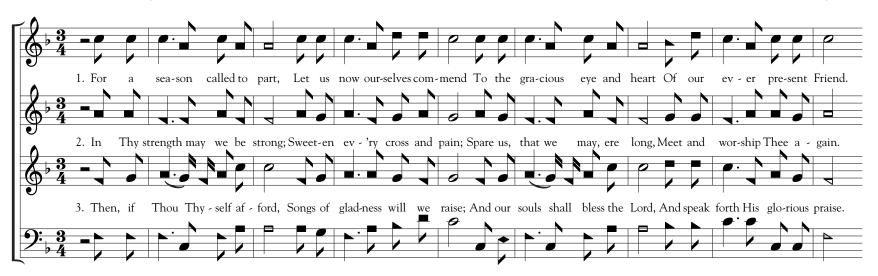
Wade Kotter, 2011.

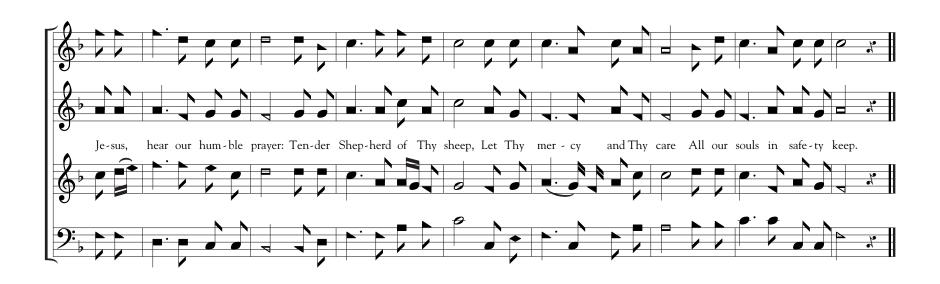


4. Since Christ and we are one, What should re - main to fear? If he in Heav'n hath fixed his throne, He'll fix his peo-ple there.

#### JANE'S ENCOURAGEMENT. 8.7.8.7.D.



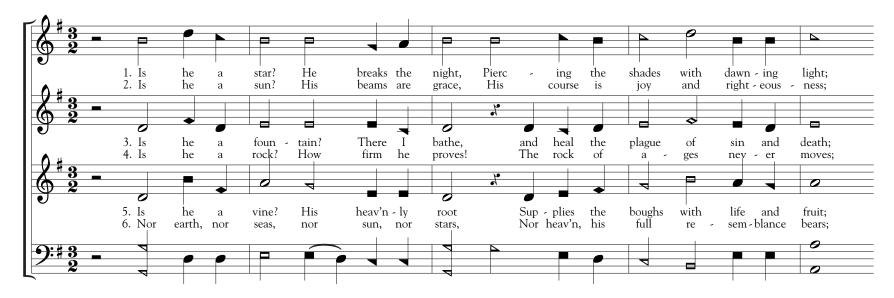


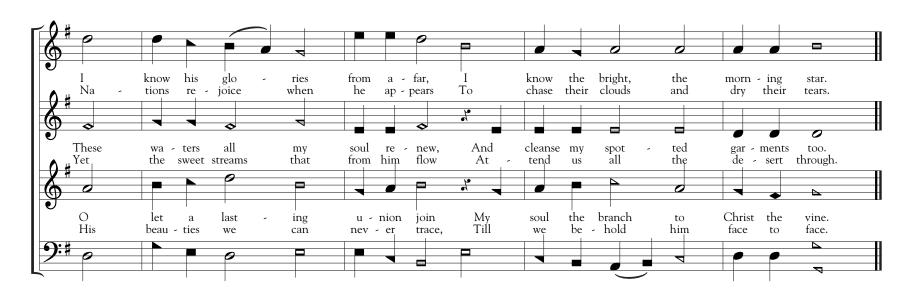


# MELANIE. L.M.

G Major Isaac Watts, 1707-09.

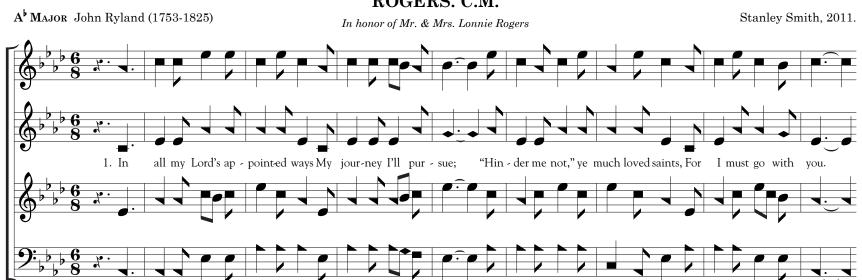
Anne Heider, 2009.

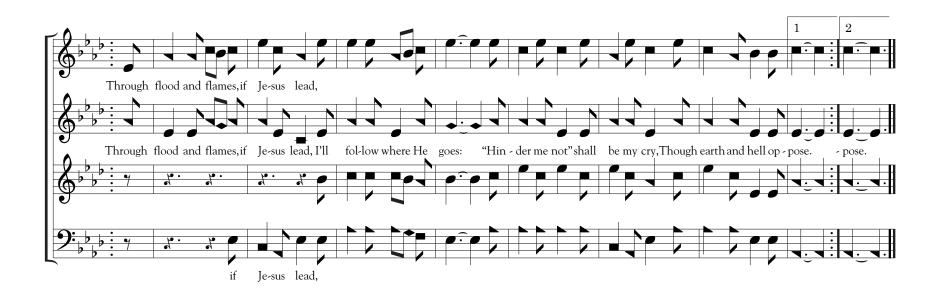






# ROGERS. C.M.





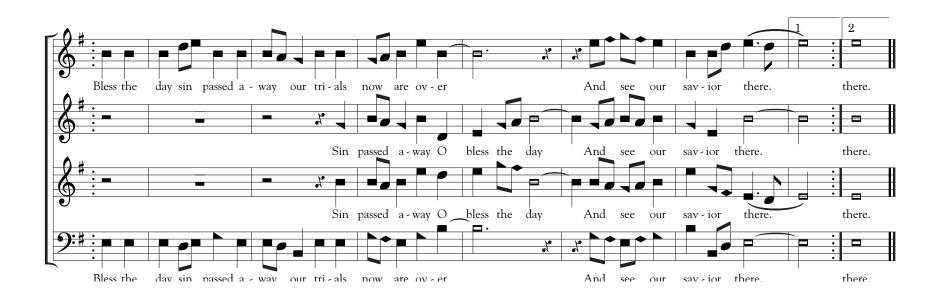
# CARTERSVILLE. C.M.

E MINOR Ed E. Thacker, 2010.

"I will remove the iniquity of that land in one day."—Zech. 3:9.

Ed E. Thacker, 2010.

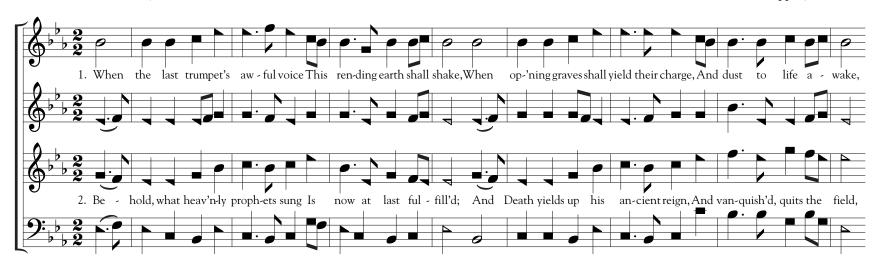


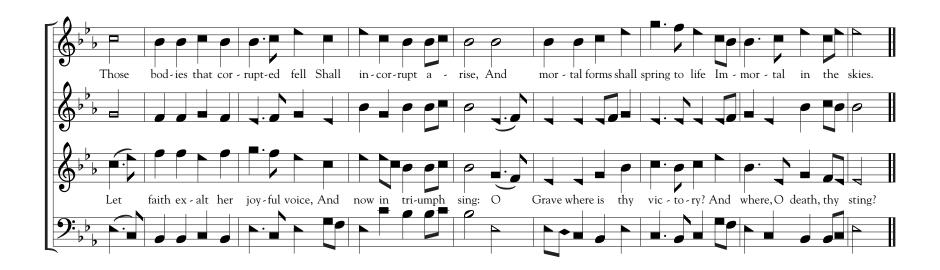


# EXULTATION. C.M.D.

E Major Isaac Watts, 1707.

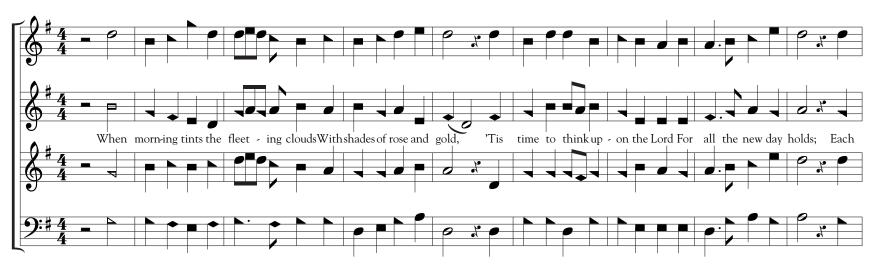
Nikos Pappas, rev. 2011.

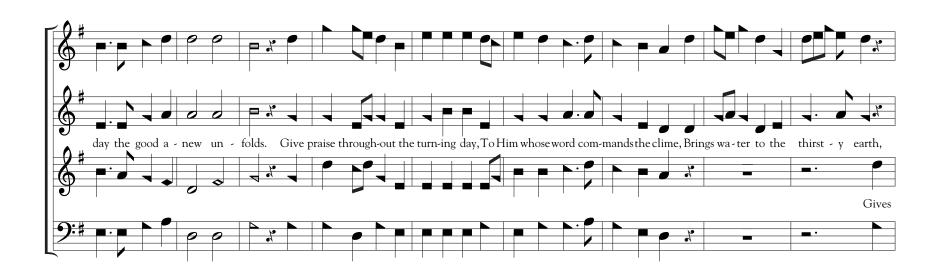




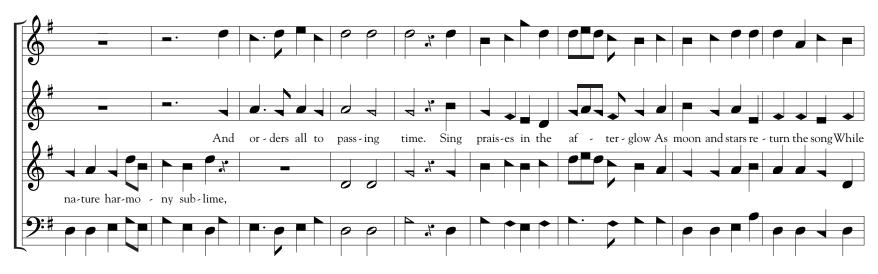
# CREST.

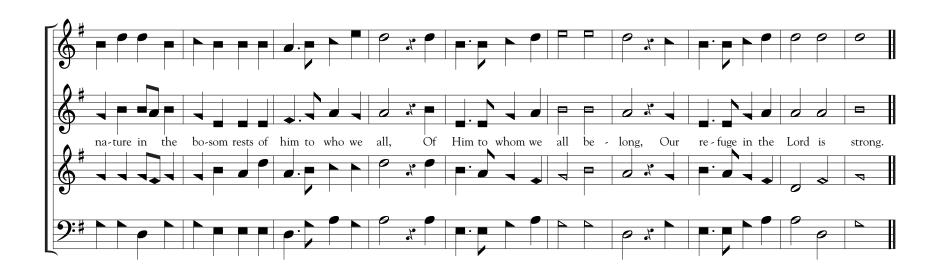
G Major Martha Sherwood, 2010. Steve Helwig, 2010.





# CREST. Concluded.

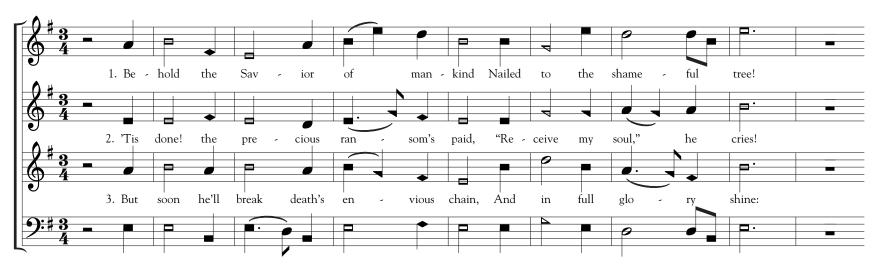


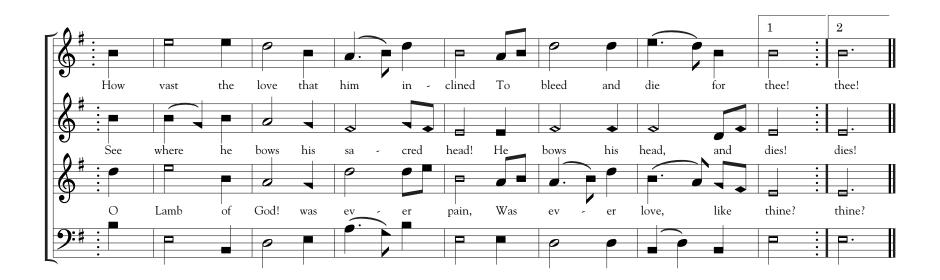


# ANGELS GATE. C.M.

E MINOR Samuel Wesley, Sr.

Dan Thoma, 2011.

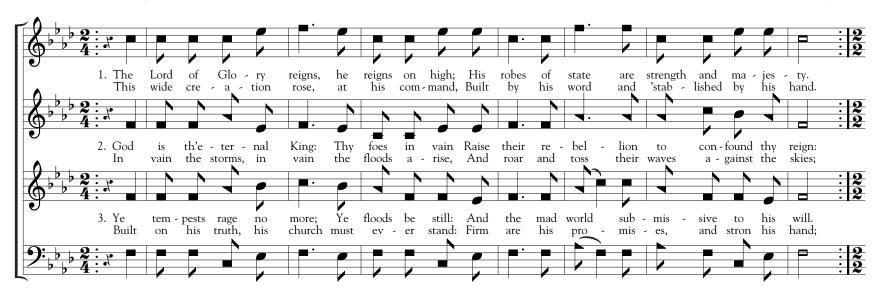


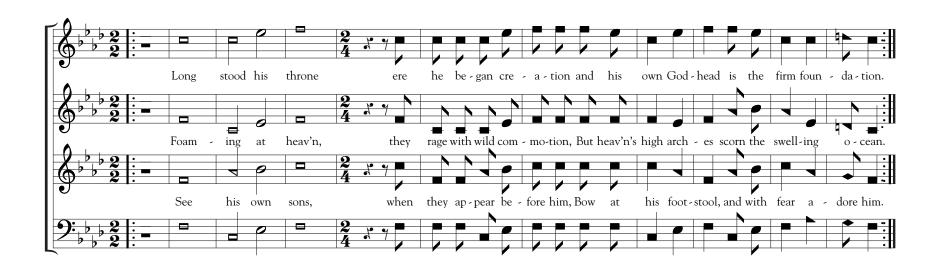


#### **REDDING. 10.11.10.11**

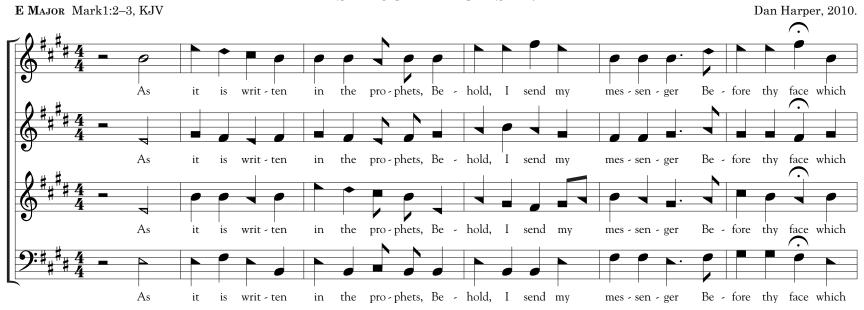
F MINOR Isaac Watts, 1719.

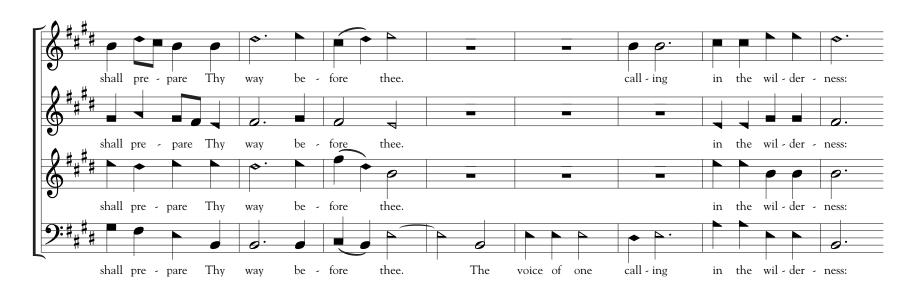
P. Dan Brittain, 1972.



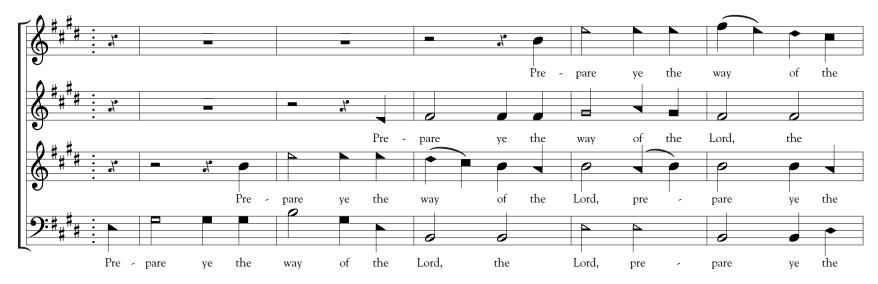


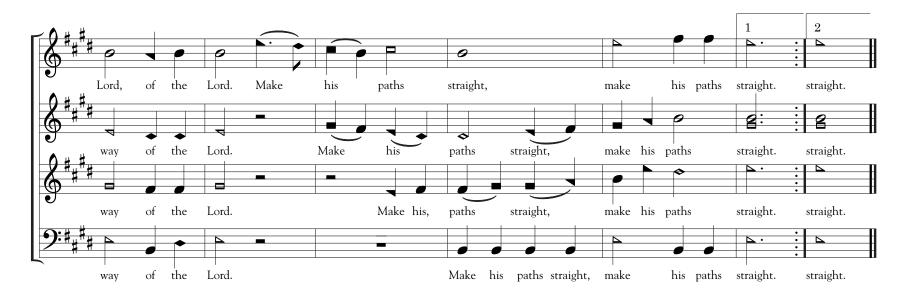
# SAN JUAN BAUTISTA.





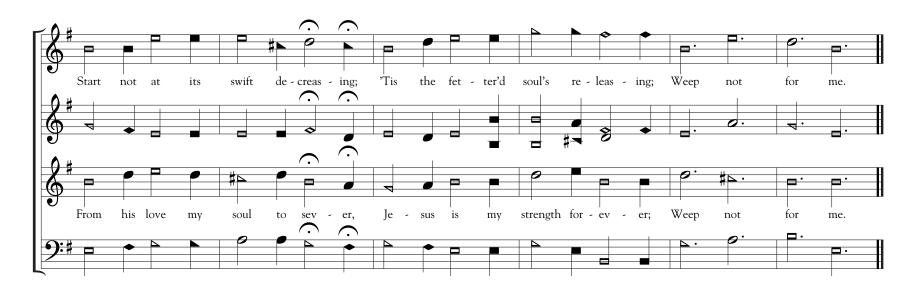
# SAN JUAN BAUTISTA. Concluded.





# WEEP NOT FOR ME. P.M.

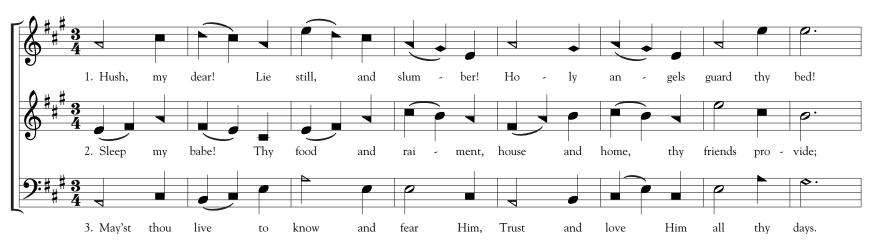


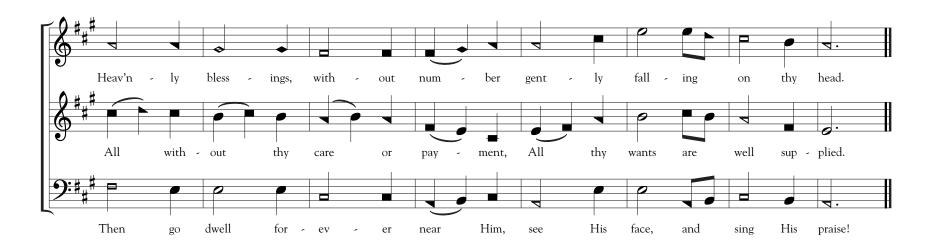


# HANS. 8s & 7s.

A Major Isaac Watts, Songs for Children, 1715.

John Bayer, Jr., Sept. 21, 1994.

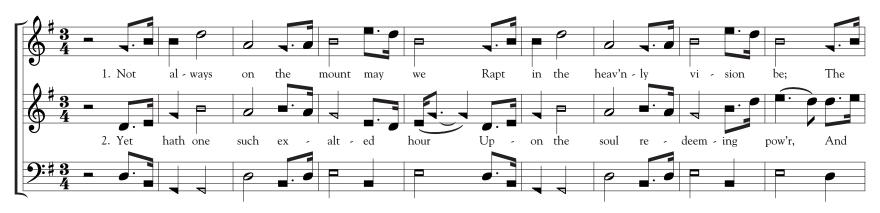


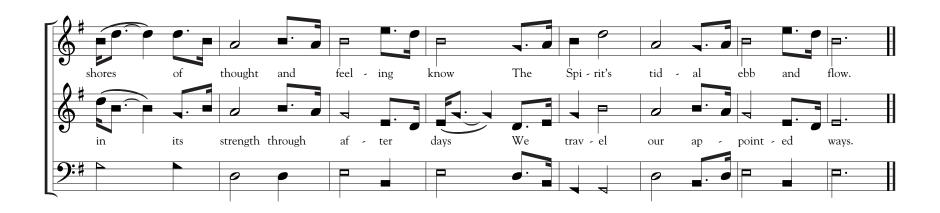


# BERRYVILLE. L.M.

E MINOR Frederick Lucian Hosmer (1840–1929), alt.

James P. Page, 1996.







Volume 2, No 2. May, 2012.



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2012 Editorial Board Will Fitzgerald Thomas B Malone Robert L Vaughn

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## In this Issue

The flowers appear on the earth; the time of the singing of birds is come, and the voice of the turtle is heard in our land. — Song of Solomon 2:12

Te are all glad to be welcoming the warmer days and the big summer season of Singings that comes with it — Fourth of July Singings, Decoration Day Singings, Camp Fasola, and countless other singings, both large and small, that we look forward to each Spring and Summer. As you travel on your way this year, chances are you might even meet up with one of the authors whose music finds its way into our pages.

A small and humble effort with no monetary obligation, our thrice-yearly publication reaches around the world, and across the united bands of fasola singers. We hope you will enjoy the songs and — "look out!" — because there are beautiful songs being written all around you, and we like to think that we play a part in encouraging those who are writing in solitude to "let their songs abound."

So take a look at these songs and see what speaks to you; some are by authors whom we are presenting for the first time, though their names might be familiar to you. Ed Thacker's Walton and Deidra Montgomery's Laurelton are among a group of plain-tunes and hymn tunes that will please and surprise you. Theresa Westmoreland, of Addison, Alabama, wrote the words and music for Lamb of God, and shows a fine ear for dispersed harmony. Don't overlook Palmer by Kevin Barrans either — sometimes those 'little songs' have a lot to say, and we appreciate the writers who keep them coming.

For lovers of fugues and anthems we have something for you as well, K.R. Swenson offers The Trumpet Sounds (a title we like very much); Logan Green's Evergreen and Micah Sommer's Runyan are fine examples of the fuging style as well. Jesse Pearlman Karlsberg offers an anthem with text by Harriet Tubman — a portion of which will serve to complete our introduction:

"There was such glory over everything, the sun came like gold through the trees, and I felt like I was in heav'n."

- The Editors ed@singthetrumpet.com

# Articles

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Psalm 121, by Isaac Watts, v

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# A Peek at the New Revised Cooper Book

By Karen Willard

The Sacred Harp, Revised Cooper Edition will be coming out later this year. It began in 2005 when John Etheridge, then president of The Sacred Harp Book Company, asked me to not only re-typeset a limited number of pages for what turned out to be the 2006 edition, but also start a cover-to-cover redo. Shortly after that 2006 edition came out, though, the project went into stasis and didn't resume until 2008. In August of that year I signed a contract with Vice President of the Board of Directors Johnny Lee, to do a total and complete revision of the entire book: every page to be re-typeset, all musical and typographical errors to be discovered and corrected, all remaining uses of "etc." to be replaced with actual lyrics, and to add new lyrics where there was space for more.

Following the Stockholders' vote on May 12, I hope the book can go to the printer later this month for shipping 8-10 weeks after that. The new edition is ½ inch taller and ½ inch wider than before but it is still smaller in page size than the Denson revision. It retains the blue cloth with silver lettering cover. The new cover will be a little bit

less plain than the 2006 cover.

I had to face the insurmountable problem of pages such as 504 with its three squeezed braces of music. Try as I might, it proved impossible to make those pages look good. One solution would have been to drop the songs on the adjacent pages to make room, or to drop the too crowded songs. Another solution, the one chosen by the board, was to add an additional "signature" to the end of the book and move the crowded songs. Big presses don't print single sheets of paper at a time; instead they print multiple "pages" on large sheets of paper, then fold and trim to size. This is called a signature and for this book, a signature holds 16 pages.

The songs that have been moved are Rock Of Ages to 451, Martin to 107, Worcester to 588, The Judgment to 592, I'm On My Journey Home to 207t, (Cooper's arrangement of Come Friends Go With Me was discarded in favor of the original, which only needed a single

page), Nearer My God To Thee to 587, The Gospel Feast to 585, God's Wondrous Love to 578, I Love To Sing Of Jesus to 584, The Gates Of Paradise to 580, and Long Ago Comrades to 582.

These moves gave Martin all of 107 and all its verses, I'm Wandering To And Fro got all of 393, Unity got all of 488, and The Living Stone got all of 498 (and a 2nd verse).

After moving all the overly crowded songs into their new homes, there was geography left over into which to put new-to-the-book songs, from both living composers and old sources.

Other changes: page 21 of the Rudiments now makes sense; 95 songs got additional verses; 140, 363, 453t, 507t lost verses; new alto parts were found or composed for 184b, 196, 206, and 324; all 5 "duet songs" are displayed with 4 staves per brace; all alto parts are in the treble clef; almost all songs that start on an upbeat have their opening measure completed with rests; a large number of the songs had harmonic errors that are now corrected; some keys were changed to ease the task of fitting largish songs onto the small Cooper book page; the songs with "Carry me home" choruses have been revised to reflect the way they're actually sung; the tunename index was moved to the back of the book and a 1st line index was added there, too; all tunenames starting with "The" are indexed under both "The" and under the 2nd word; all tunes with a second well-known name have that name in parentheses and are indexed under both names; the source of the tune and the text for nearly every song have been found and added; in the tunename index, minor songs have been printed in bold. The new book begins on page i and ends on page 608.

My apologies for the necessity of everyone purchasing a new book: too many changes to the music will prevent classes from using both new and old at the same singing, not to mention all the new-to-the-book songs. The Book Company will be announcing ways to ease this burden. On the bright side, though, let me assure everyone that there will not be another edition for a very long time to come!

# Sacred Harp Takes Root at Bennington College

by Kestrel Slocombe

This past Thursday, Bennington College's Sacred Harp Singing School held its "final exam"—a three-hour singing that welcomed singers from the wider Sacred Harp community to come and join us for singing, food, and a contradance. Although the class has been running since the fall of 2009, and has held several public singings in the past, this one felt different: it pulled together in a way none of us could have anticipated, moving with an energy and arc all its own.

I've sung Sacred Harp at Bennington every semester but one since that first class in fall 2009, and this singing marked the end of my time as a Bennington singer, as I graduate this June. It's bittersweet to leave this college, and especially this singing community—although I'm a literature student, Sacred Harp has been part of the soul of my time here. Since 2009, many students have taken Sacred Harp at Bennington, and at this point there's a core community who have fallen in love with it and come back again and again. We've been lucky enough to have Professor Kitty Brazelton standing by us and making sure that the class stays in the curriculum; we've also been lucky enough to have been guided and supported by local singer Joanne Fuller, and to have been taught, at various points, by some of the most talented and passionate singers in the Sacred Harp community: Jesse Pearlman Karlsberg, Ben Bath, Tom Malone, Dan Hertzler, and Allison Steel. Of all the music classes taught at Bennington, Sacred Harp is one of the most welcoming and accessible to non-music students, and as such, it's becoming a vital part of the Bennington musical community. It's also started to forge a connection between Bennington and the surrounding community, as we always welcome outside singers in our midst, and are grateful for their wisdom and support.

Leaving this community is hard, but I couldn't feel happier about how far we've come, and the wonderful feeling that's grown up out of this class. As I perhaps should have expected, the innate spirit of Sacred Harp transcended the boundaries of academia, and made this experience so much more than just a class—it is a community, and it is part of a lineage. This feeling of lineage has been an essential

part of Sacred Harp for me—suffering from the classically American condition of cultural confusion and unrootedness, I found in Sacred Harp a sense of the earth. When we sing, we sing in the moment, but we sing as Americans have sung for centuries, singing the music into this land of ours. And so, although graduation nears and soon I must uproot myself once again, it doesn't feel like a total uprooting. Bennington has become a part of me, and Sacred Harp has been an absolutely essential part of that. Although I must leave the Bennington singing community, it's not really leaving, as we've all become a part of something bigger—we all belong to this band.

Upward I lift mine eyes,

From God is all my aid;

The God that built the skies,

And earth and nature made:

God is the tower to which I fly:

His grace is nigh in every hour.

My feet shall never slide

And fall in fatal snares,

Since God, my guard and guide,

Defends me from my fears:

Those wakeful eyes that never sleep

Shall Isr'el keep when dangers rise.

No burning heats by day

Nor blasts of ev'ning air,

Shall take my health away,

If God be with me there:

Thou art my sun, and thou my shade,

To guard my head by night or noon.

Hast thou not giv'n thy word

To save my soul from death?

And I can trust my Lord

To keep my mortal breath:

I'll go and come, nor fear to die,

Till from on high thou call me home. — Isaac Watts, Psalm 121

#### LAURELTON. L.M.



#### WALTON. L.M.

D Major Ed E. Thacker, 2009.

"How shall we sing the Lord's song in a strange land?"—Psalm 137:4.

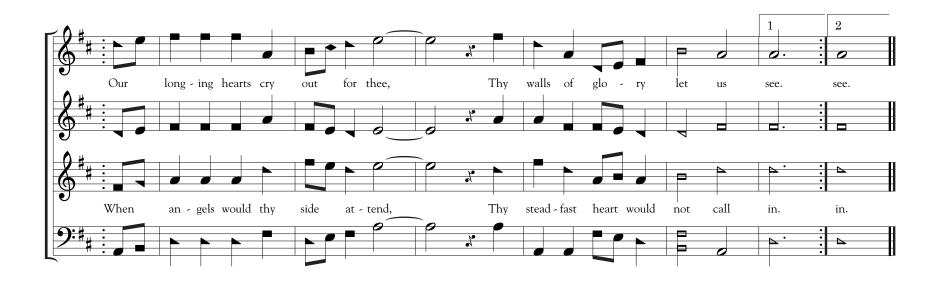
Ed E. Thacker, 2009.

1. When will the hills of Ca - naan rise,

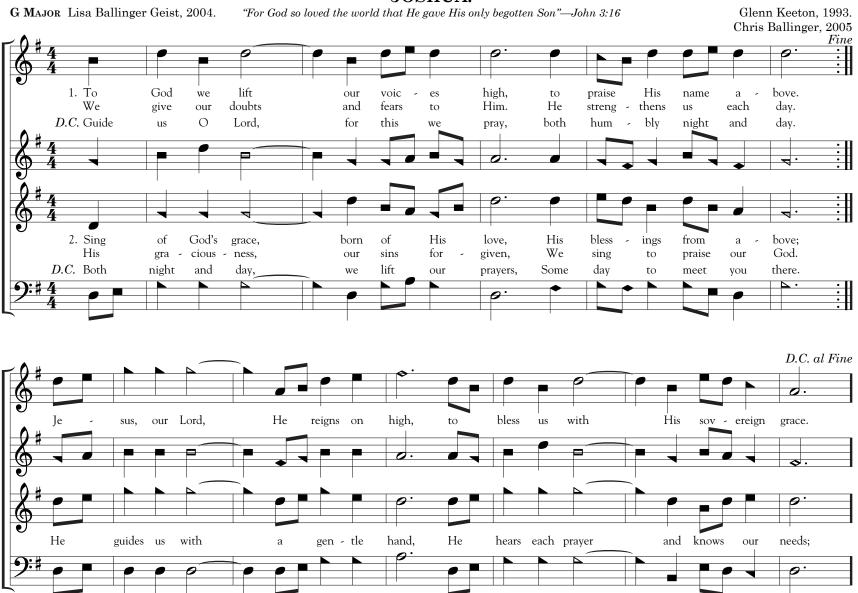
O Zi - on's ci - ty of the skies?

2. Oh, tell us, Lord, a - bout the cross,

How great the suff - 'ring and the cost.



#### JOSHUA.



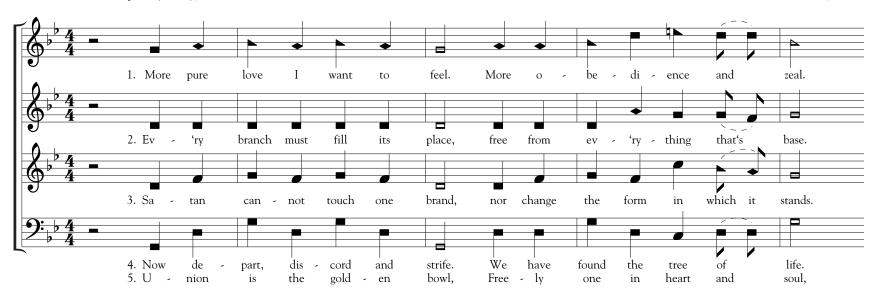
#### FLAMING TONGUES. 8.7.8.7.D.

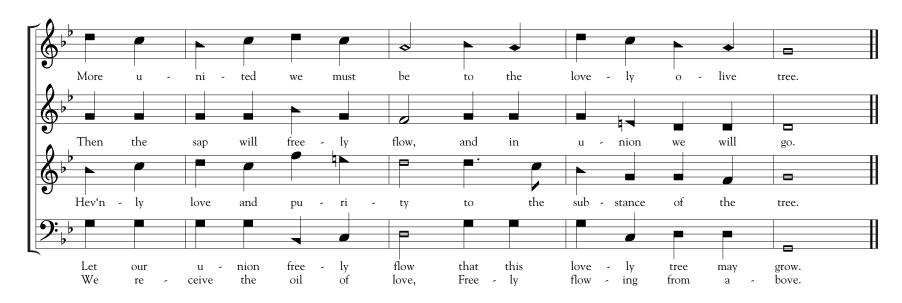


#### OLIVE TREE. 7s.

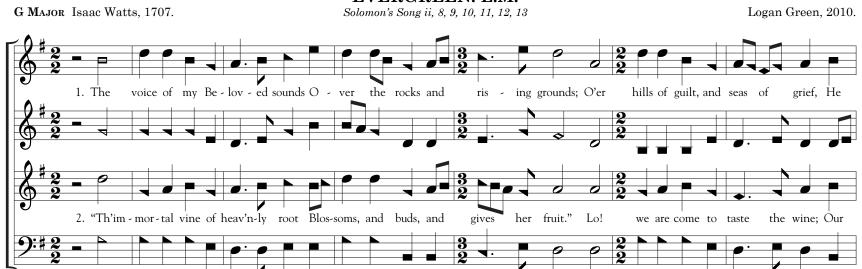
A MINOR Shaker hymn (anon.), 19th cent.

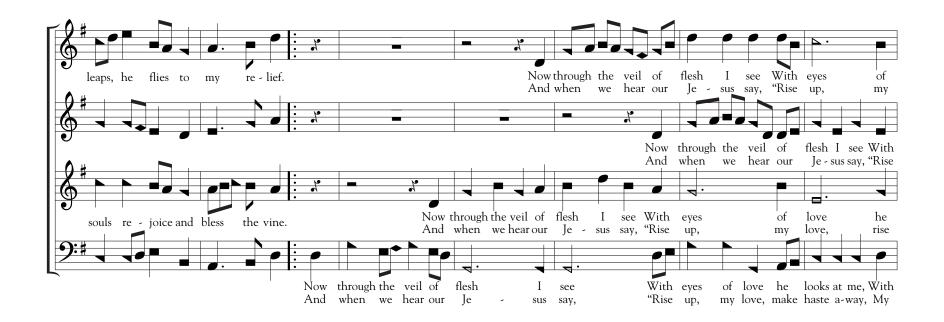
Arr. Carol Medlicott and R. C. Webber, 2012.





#### EVERGREEN. L.M.





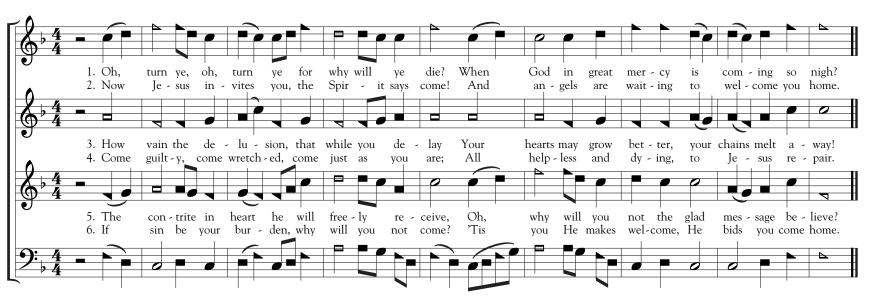
#### **EVERGREEN.** Concluded.



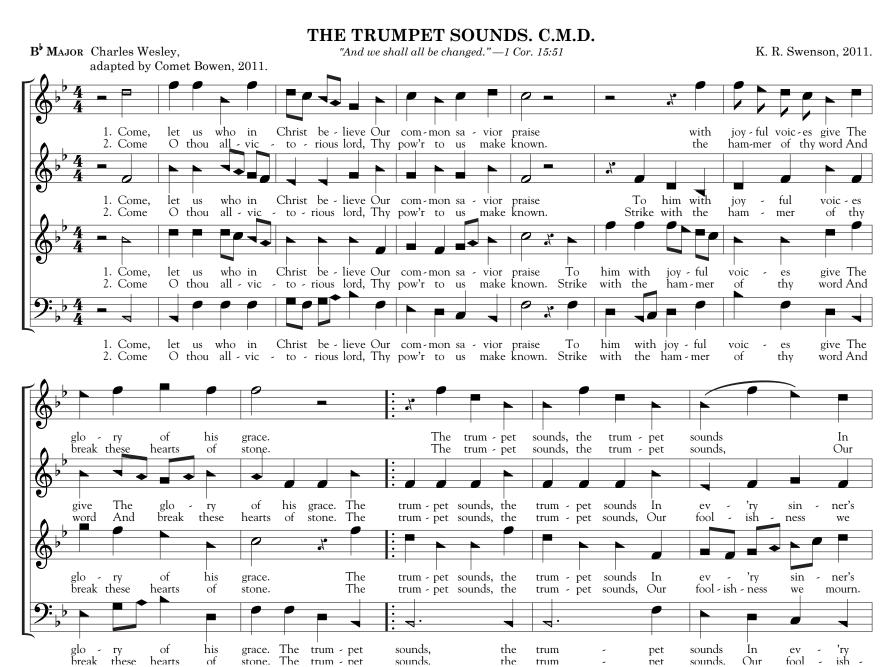
# PALMER.

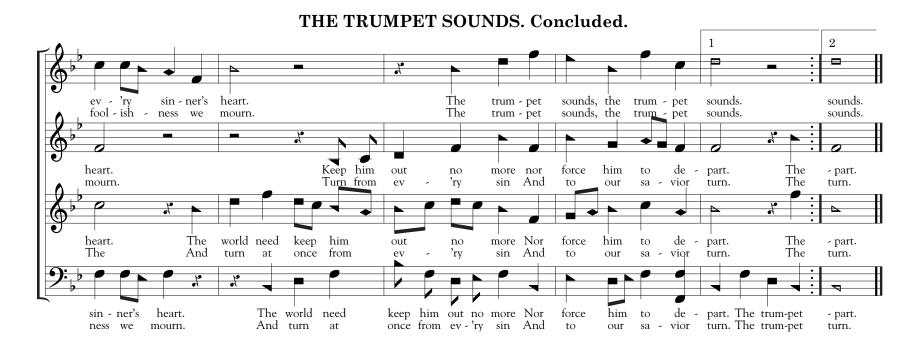
F Major Samson Occom (1723–92), in The Social Harp, 1855.

Kevin Barrans, 2012.



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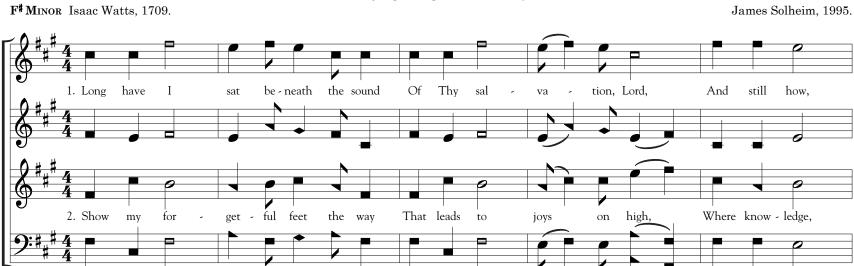


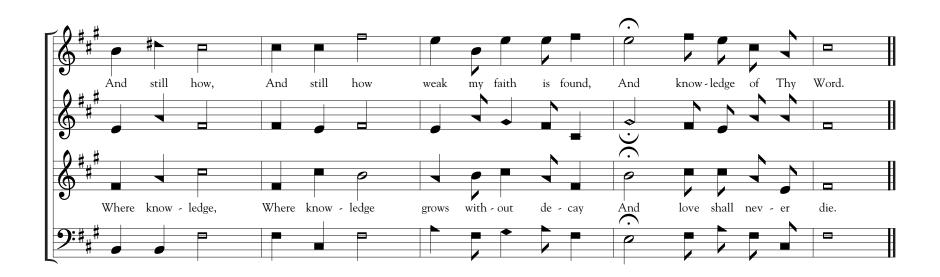


 Ten thousand to their endless home This solemn moment fly And we are to the margin come And we expect to die.

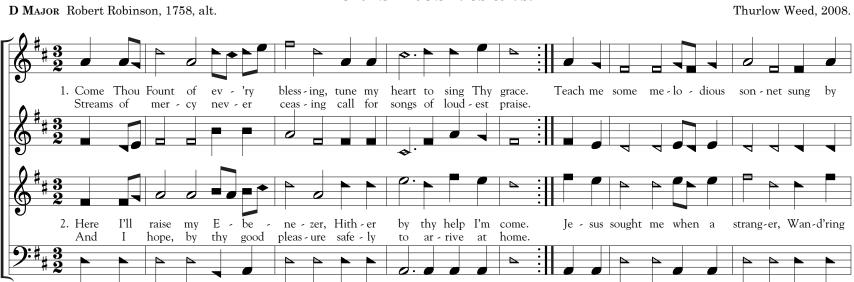
The trumpet sounds, the trumpet sounds With wishful looks we stand And long to see the happy coast And reach the heav'nly land.

#### KYRKJEBØBAKKEN.





#### FOREST ROSE. 8s & 7s.

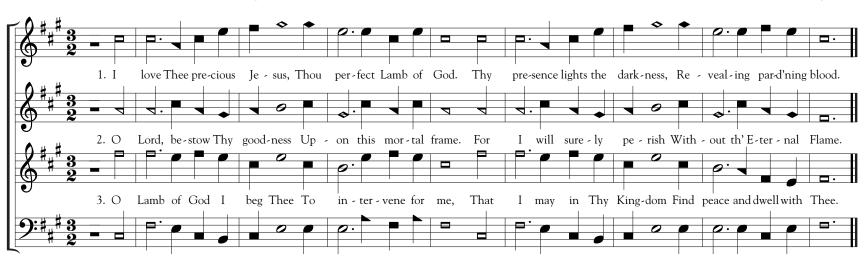




#### LAMB OF GOD.

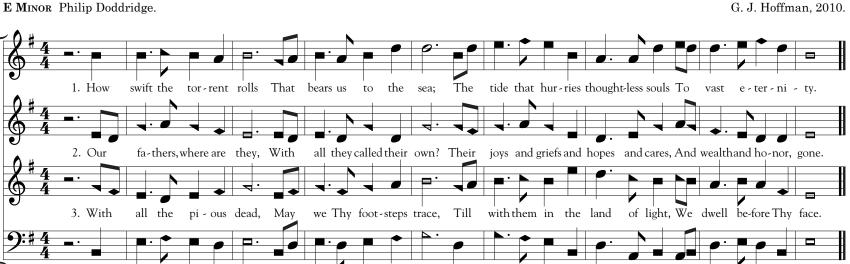
F# MINOR Theresa Hamrick Westmoreland, 2012.

Theresa Hamrick Westmoreland, 2012.



## ALLEGHENY. S.M.

E MINOR Philip Doddridge.



#### RUNYAN. L.M.



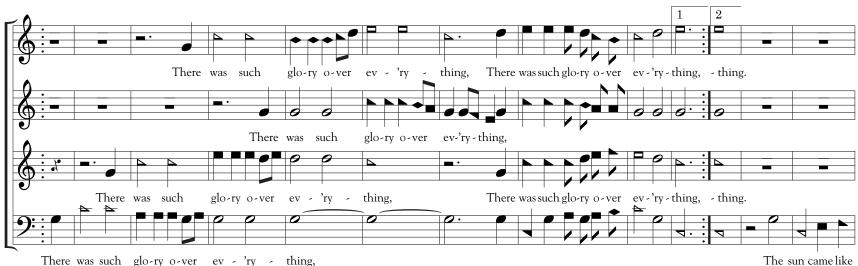
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#### NOW I WAS FREE.

C Major Harriet Tubman, 1849.

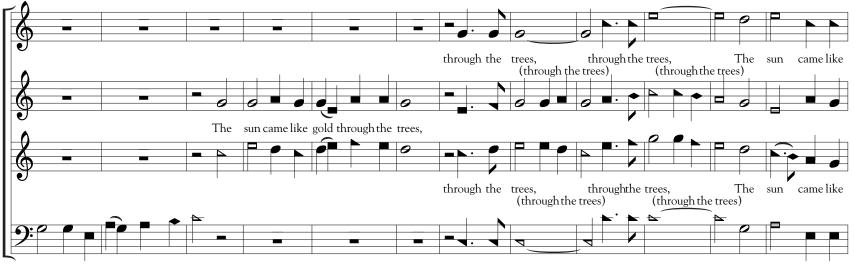
Jesse Pearlman Karlsberg, 2005-09.



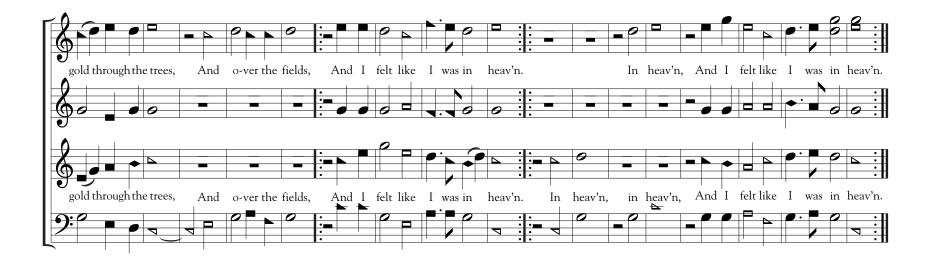


There was such glo-ry o-ver ev - 'ry - thing,

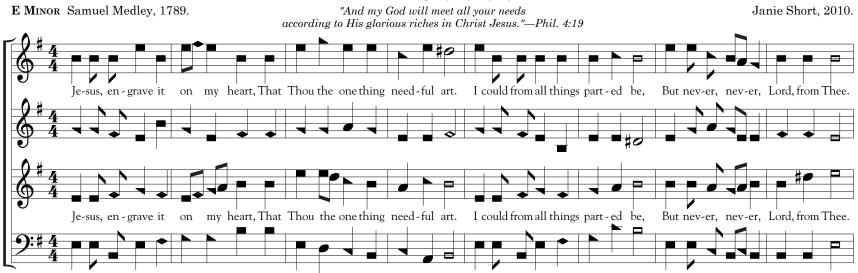
#### NOW I WAS FREE. Concluded.

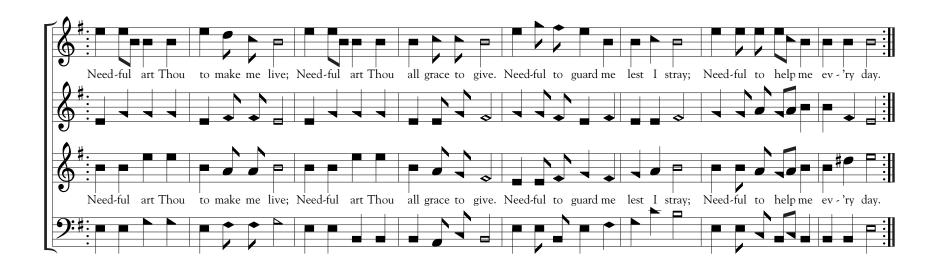


gold, came like gold through the trees,



#### NEEDFUL. L.M.D.







Through all the World the Echo Bounds...

Volume 2, No 3. September, 2012.



A thrice-annual periodical for singers and writers of dispersed harmony & fasola music

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# From the Editors

For students, Fall is like the beginning of the year. Yet for nature it is more like the end. The days get shorter and the earth gets colder, the leaves give their colors and then fall, making way for the snowy winds of the coming winter. Even for us singers, Fall is like the ending of the season, maybe because many of the original singing schedules were centered around the agricultural calendar. All the same, whether we live in the cities or nearer to the land, we get that autumnal feeling that is so well summed up in songs like Evening Shade and Sons of Sorrow. We feel great joy in living — living with the understanding that each season, even the season of life itself, yields and makes way for those that follow after.

This introspection brings me to another point — why do we like minor music so much? I remember once hearing Terry Wooten tell a singing class of young people that the reason he liked minor music so much was because he was "such a sad person." Of course he said this with a huge smile on his face, and most of those within earshot all broke into laughter. We recognize that the music speaks to us in ways that are deeper than our personalities, and Sacred Harp singers don't go around moping; although, as many newcomers are quick to notice, mortality and the finitude of life is a constant refrain of our tradition. Even in the pages of *The Trumpet* we have had a majority of minor songs in each volume, and have been gently coaxing some writers to lean on the Major side a little bit more. Some of our favorite major tunes get the tears rolling in a way that the powerful punch of the minor key just can't quite seem to muster.

Which brings us to this volume, the last issue of *The Trumpet*'s second year. Thanks for all of your support, you singers, writers, and contributors of essays and region reports. We would like to see this venture keep going forward and invite people thinking about composing to take up a pencil and give it a shot — we are a community that is global and our songs are humble but reach around the world. We may also be looking for help on the editorial side, so if you would like to be involved in the labor which makes this publication possible, drop us a line. The amount of heart, sweat, and late nights that our entire editorial staff puts in on this voluntary endeavor is a tribute to the fact that we do this for the love of one another and for our singing friends around the world — and for the spiritual gift that this

music brings to all of us. Take a minute and look at the names of the editorial staff and imagine that each of them deserves a moment of your silent appreciation. Then open to a tune and SING!

There will be an all-day singing from *The Trumpet* on November 4th 1pm-5pm at the University of Massachusetts, Lowell at Durgin Hall, 35 Wilder Street. If you think you might be in the area, contact Tom Malone at shapenote@gmail.com

- The Editors ed@singthetrumpet.com

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# About THE RADIANT BAND OF MUSIC

By Nikos Pappas, Lexington, Kentucky

If first read about The Radiant Band of Music through David Warren Steel's 1995 Collected Works of Stephen Jenks. I had attended high school in northeastern Ohio and was interested in sacred music of the Connecticut Western Reserve, the part of northeastern Ohio given to Revolutionary War veterans from the Nutmeg State. I had read about Jenks's retirement to Thompson in Geauga County and admired his tunes found in The Sacred Harp. Though Steel included almost every piece written by Jenks, this set piece was not among them, because Jenks never finished it. After reading that a few pieces by Jenks remained in his holograph manuscript copybook in either a fragmentary or imperfect state of preservation, I wanted to see them for myself. I ordered a copy of the manuscript from the Newberry Library in Chicago, a repository for many important early collections of American psalmody.

A few years later, after having studied the manuscript's contents, I revisited the Jenks manuscript for research I was conducting on Ohio sacred music. I found myself drawn to this set piece and became determined to complete it. Though its composer died in 1856, six years after working on it, The Radiant Band of Music was one of the last pieces that he ever composed and it remained unfinished, most likely because of health issues. Following the practice of many early nineteenth-century psalmodists such as Ananias Davisson, William Walker, and Benjamin Franklin White and Elisha J. King, I composed a treble part for the portions missing in the original manuscript. Jenks's treble began just before the concluding doxology; the rest of the part remained blank in the score.

Jenks's music falls into two basic periods: the first from 1799-1818, when he was a notable composer and compiler among the second generation of southern and western New England psalmodists such as Truman S. Wetmore, Elisha West, and Jeremiah Ingalls. Jenks's second period coincides with his retirement as an active singing master and his move west to Ohio. Composing mostly for himself, Jenks treated composition as an avocation. Only a handful of later pieces appeared in print and all are found in *The Shawm* (1853), a tunebook compiled by William Bradbury, George F. Root, Thomas Hastings,

and Timothy Mason, leaders of the Better Music movement associated with Northern reformers.

These two periods also fall into two general compositional styles, the first representative of his New England contemporaries, descending from the initiatives of William Billings in the 1770s. The second period reveals Jenks's efforts to incorporate the characteristics of the Northern reformers. Though an older composer at the time, he attempted to remain up-to-date through a more modern approach to composition, albeit with varying levels of success. He generally attempted to follow predictable chord patterns associated with mainstream popular and art music, simplified the individual voices and provided a more static bass line, and avoided textual overlap, or at least simplified it in fuging passages by pairing voices together. All of these features characterize The Radiant Band of Music.

Alongside these more progressive aspects to the set piece, Jenks also could not escape his old-fashioned sensibilities. Parallel fifths and octaves still appear between voices and a number of chords remain open, emphasizing only the first and fifth notes of a triad. Not all of the progressions follow the rules of orthodox harmony, and some of the sonorities seem dictated by the shape of the individual lines, all features associated with older New England composers. In fashioning his set piece, Jenks, though framing the piece within the context of the reform style, borrowed some melodic and rhythmic techniques from his youth. The opening melody quotes The Rose of Sharon by William Billings. The second verse, which begins with the text, "Angelic armies tune their harps," undergoes several time signature changes reminiscent of those in Heavenly Vision by Jacob French. This combination of old and new trends in sacred music adds to the charm of Jenks's original. I have tried to follow the elder musician's lead in composing my treble part, finding a balance between the eighteenth and nineteenth-century approaches to psalmody.

Finally, Jenks, like Billings, most likely shaped his own version of the text of this set piece. Versions of this poem appear in a number of text-only hymnals preceding Jenks's composition. Another version, used in Christmas Anthem (225b) in *The Sacred Harp*, descends from the third edition of John Totten's A Collection of the Most Admired Hymns and Spiritual Songs (New York, 1813). Few subsequent printings of this poem agree with each other, differing in word repetition, poetic meter, and verse content and order. Jenks's version is no exception.

In contrast, one element that links most of the versions together centers around the sources' connections to Methodism and other enthusiastic religious groups such as the Millerites, a branch of Christianity from which grew the Seventh Day Adventist church. A number of Jenks's pieces from the 1840s used or suggested texts suitable for camp meetings and revivals. It appears that Jenks, approaching his eighth decade, felt the influence of the Restoration movement popular throughout the Connecticut Western Reserve. In this spirit of old and new styles, past and present composers, and individual freedom of expression, I hope you find some measure of delight in singing this holiday set piece composed by Stephen Jenks and completed by myself.

**Editors' note:** See page 92 for Nikos's version of The Radiant Band of Music.

# Sand Mountain Singer's Journey to the North

by Drew Smith, Ider, Alabama

am writing to tell of one man's journey along an already well-beaten path. Many Northern singers have written about their trips to experience the deep-rooted tradition of Southern Sacred Harp singing, but perhaps the road is far less traveled coming from the opposite direction (or at least less written-about). And I can tell you from experience that the road is just as far no matter which way you're going . . . and it is well worth the trip either way.

I recently had the pleasure of attending the Maidencreek All-Day Singing in the state of Pennsylvania. On the road trip up, I drove through the foothills of Tennessee, the mountains and valleys of North Carolina, the simple beauty and charm of both Virginia and West Virginia, and even saw a little of Delaware's countryside. These views alone made the trip worth it. I even saw a few long rusty chicken houses along the way ~ which made me feel right at home.

The Sacred Harp singings that I attended were beautiful, well-organized, and wonderfully well-attended. In particular, I had never been more amazed by a treble section. It consisted mostly of female voices, a make-up that, I admit, I have never been quite fond of before, but the quality of singers and voices on the front few rows was genuinely awe-inspiring. Often I found myself enjoying just sitting and listening to them as much as I enjoyed singing myself. Now, this is not to say the other parts were lacking; the talent and strength of the singers in that old Quaker meeting house was the stuff of beauty that the "poets, bards, and sages" of other ages wrote and sang about.

Now when I wasn't out galavanting through Pennsylvania's gorgeous green countryside, I enjoyed the gracious hospitality of two families, who opened their homes, hearts, refrigerators, and coolers to my traveling companions and me. My only hope is that I can one day repay this hospitality to them and to others. We ate food both freshly picked and perfectly ripe. I had fennel (probably more than my fair share), figs, peppers, fruits, and other produce that, while foreign to me, were absolutely delicious. I could tell why many of these items were staples for singers that lived there. The only thing missing for me was a big tub of Papa Coy's fried chicken livers from Liberty Church, but I guess that's one thing that will always be a Southern exclusive.

While many Southern singings may have the upper hand in terms of longevity, country-fried foods, and may attract a more global singing base, the Northern singings that I have attended can rival even the best of singings in my home state of Alabama. Some things are just universal to those that hold the Harp dear, no matter what state you are singing in. Sacred Harp singers sing with an honest, fervent passion that pleases not only the ear but also the spirit; they genuinely love the fellowship of singing companions; they find and cherish beauty in tradition; and, most importantly, they openly welcome any stranger holding a Harp, even a backwoods boy with a crooked smile.

So, as a wise man once said, the road is just as far in either direction, and no matter which way you are coming from, North or South, one thing is for sure ~ traveling makes the Harp grow fonder.

Editors' note: See page 98 for Drew's tune, HALL.

# Three Amigos

by Robert L. Vaughn, Mount Enterprise, Texas

Into the 1980s, we had three East Texas Sacred Harp singers who lived to be nonagenarians. They were all born in October of 1891 (two of them born on the 9th day of the month). They were B. A. Harry (1891-1984), David Waldrop (1891-1985) and Grady McLeod (1891-1988). In 1891, Benjamin Harrison was President of the United States and *The Sacred Harp* was in its 47th year. These three men were 12 years old at the time of the death of B.F. White's son, David. They probably knew him.

To me as a child, Grady McLeod was someone who stood out in the crowd ~ even though he wasn't a very big man. He was the "youngster" of the three amigos, born October 28. He was short, red of face, with gold teeth and silvery white hair, and had an "affable" personality. He keyed music, and sang high treble with the ladies. Among his favorite tunes was O Jesus, Ever With Us Stay in the Cooper Book. I never hear "fave thud-ee too" (page 532) called, that I don't think of Mr. McLeod and his unique Southern accent. His father and mother were born in Pike County, Alabama in 1858 and came to Texas before 1890. Born last, he lived the longest, dying at age 96, in 1988.

"Uncle David" Waldrop isn't in my childhood memories as much as Mr. McLeod. But as I grew older I came to think of him as one of the "neatest" people I knew. I wanted to talk to him whenever I could. He knew a lot about a lot of subjects and had very interesting stories to tell. I think he served in both World Wars, and was a watch repairman (at least when I remember him). With the knowledge I have now, I wish I could go back and ask him about Sacred Harp in our area in his youth. Mr. Waldrop sang bass. The song I most often associate with him is 58 PISGAH, that old tune which he loved so very well. I also think of him when I hear 290 ALAS! AND DID MY SAVIOUR BLEED/VICTORIA and 275b ROLL ON. He comes to mind whenever I announce the singing at "Ooold Pine Grove." While he was living he was usually the man to announce that singing. He had a unique way of drawing out the "ooold" that caught your attention. He continued his watch repair and driving a car until the time of his death, which occurred at age 93 as the result of a car wreck on March 3, 1985.

Of the three, I was least acquainted with Dr. Harry (I think he was a chiropractor). He exists only in my adult memories. In his elder years when he did not drive, his (also elderly) daughter was faithful to bring him to the singings. Dr. Harry sang tenor. I remember him most for the magnifying glass he used to see the print in his book and his disinterest in singing the notes. He had a philosophy that once you had learned to sing the notes on a song that you didn't need to keep singing them every time you led (or sang) that song. This seemed strange to me - my Dad's saying was "If you don't sing the notes, it's not Sacred Harp." But later I would learn that there was an area in East Texas where singers had that in their background and training. Dr. Harry was the only one I remember still living who wasn't "converted." When Dr. Harry led, this trait of his always caused someone to ask (in good humor, I think) whether we would be singing the notes. Though he didn't sing the notes, he DID sing all the words. Among his favorites was Sing to Me of Heaven (312) ~ which had plenty of stanzas. His long songs and long life ended in February 1984 at age 92.

At the time, I didn't really realize what a blessing we had, to be able to know and sing with these men. Each was unique in his own way. They were old-time singers with a long history, and stories to tell. Their lives intersected with some of the early leaders of Texas Sacred Harp. Not only do I miss them, but it is with deep regret that I now know I didn't appreciate what we had ~ and I didn't ask all the questions I should have asked. Oh, to have had them sitting at my side when I wrote the 150-year history of the East Texas Sacred Harp Convention. They had lived almost two-thirds of it!

In every area of traditional Sacred Harp singing, there were men and women like these. Folks who may not have received nationwide notice or acclaim. Folks who were essential elements of the performance and preservation of this music. May this brief story of "three amigos" not just be a story of three people you didn't know. May it also be a reminder to be thankful for all those who have gone before us ~ known and unknown ~ those who have passed down a most beautiful repertoire of music, as they shared their love for it.

will his face for - ev - er see.

Dan Thoma, 2010.

#### BREMEN. L.M.

Dedicated to Hugh McGraw

Wade Kotter, 2012.

Dedicated to Hugh McGraw

Wade Kotter, 2012.

1. Help me to sing my Mas-ter's praise, To lift my voice in joy-ous lays; And when I reach fair Ca-naan's shore, I'll sing his praise for-ev-er more! more!

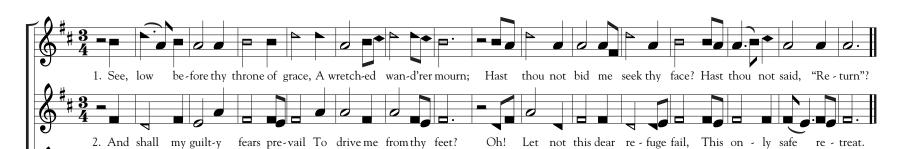
2. Help me to sing my Mas-ter's love, Sent down to us from heav'n a-bove; And when I fall down at his feet, His love will taste for-ev-er sweet! sweet!

3. Help me to sing my Mas-ter's grace, That res-cues our sad fal-len race; And when from sin grace sets me free, I

**D** Major Anne Steele, 1760.

4. Help me to sing my Mas-ter's pow'r, He rules the world from hour to hour; And when I see him on his throne, I'll make his pow'r for - ev - er known. known.

## NEHALEM. C.M.



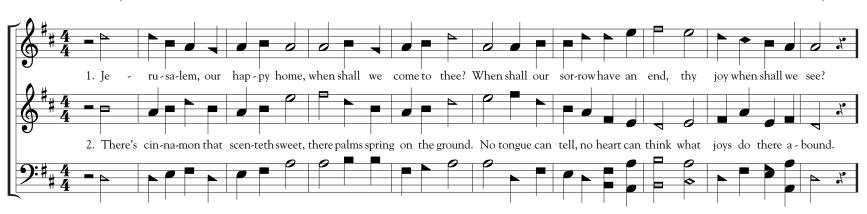


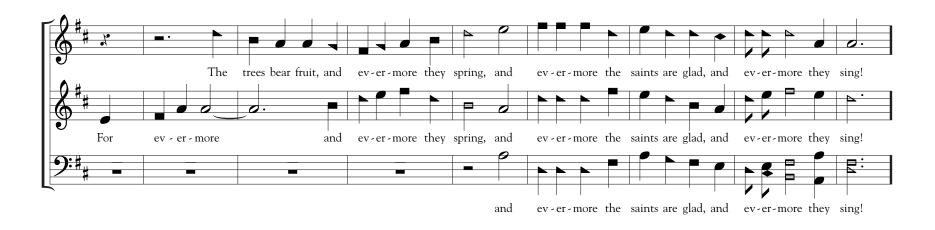


#### PAGE STREET. C.M.

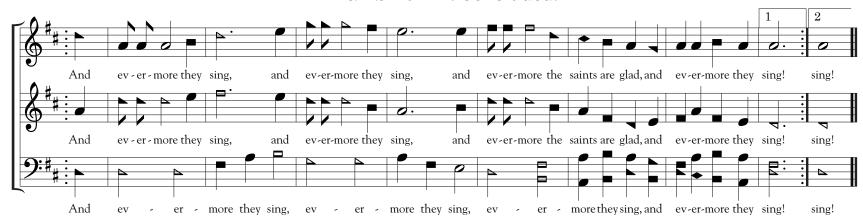
**D** Major "F. B. P.," c. 1580

Leland Paul Kusmer, 2012.





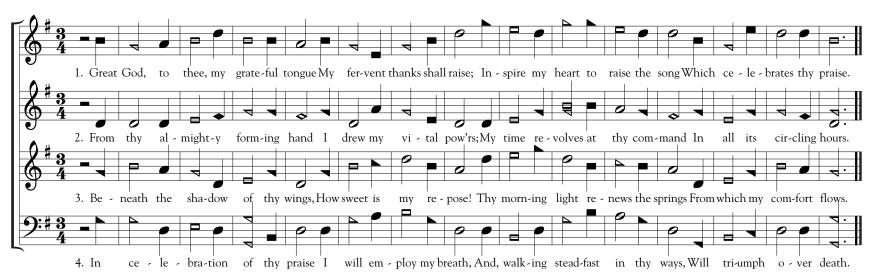
#### PAGE STREET. Concluded.



## GOODSHAW. C.M.

G Major Roger Flexman, 1760.

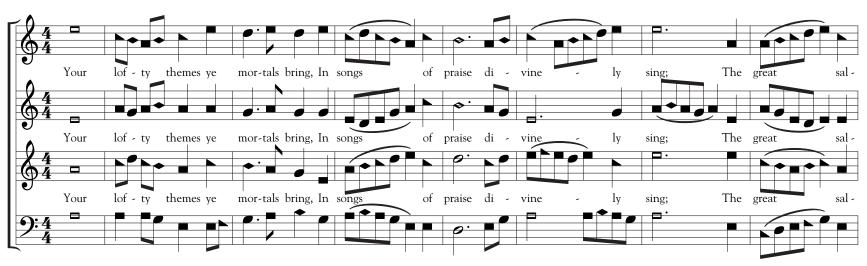
Aldo Thomas Ceresa, 2011.

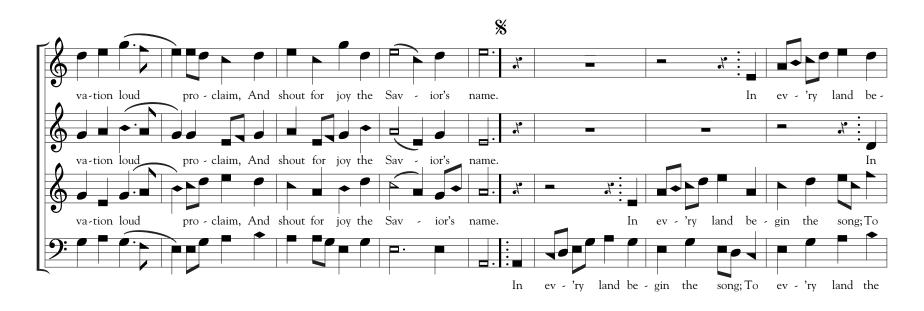


#### LEXINGTON. L.M.D.

A MINOR Robert Spence, 1780. "O praise the LORD, all ye nations: praise him, all ye people"—Psalm 117:1

R. T. Kelley, 2012.





#### LEXINGTON. Concluded.



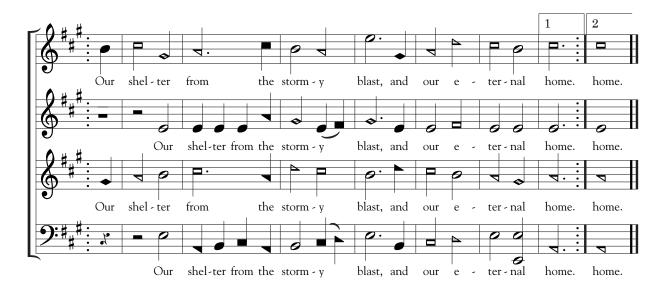
#### WATTS. C.M.

R. C. Webber, 2012. A Major Isaac Watts, 1719, rev. John Wesley, 1738. O God, our help our hope for in years to a - ges past, come. O God, our help our hope for in past, a - ges years to come. O God, our help our hope for in a - ges past, years come.

O God, our help

in

a - ges



 Thy word commands our flesh to dust, "Return, ye sons of men."
 All nations rose from earth at first, and turn to earth again.

years to

come.

hope for

past,

our

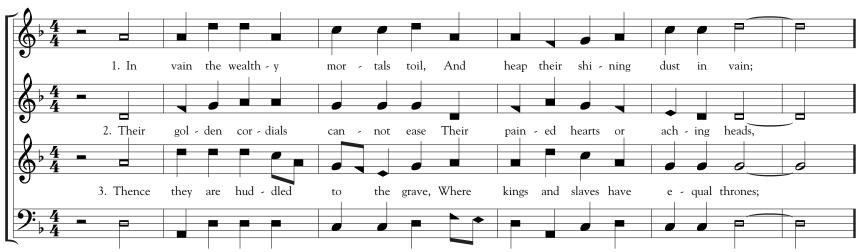
- Time, like an ever-rolling stream, bears all its sons away.
   They fly, forgotten, as a dream dies at the op'ning day.
- 4. Under the shelter of thy throne, still may we dwell secure.

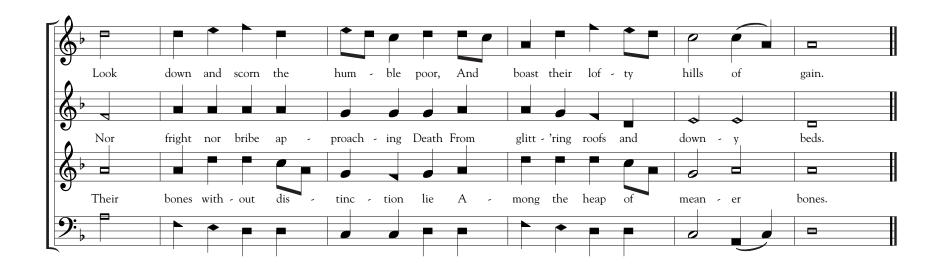
  Sufficient is thine arm alone, and our defense is sure.
- 5. O God, our help in ages past, Our hope for years to come, Be thou our guard while life shall last, and our eternal home.

#### THE RICH SINNER DYING. L.M.

D MINOR Isaac Watts, 1707.

Dan Harper, 2011.





PLEVNA. C.M.D. F Major Isaac Watts, 1715. "Be thou exalted, LORD, in thine own strength: so will we sing and praise thy power"—Psalm 21:13 Brad Bahler, 2009. power of God That spread the 1. I sing the might - y made the That flow - ing moun - tains rise, the good - ness 2. I the Lord, That filled He formed the crea-tures sing of the earth with food, seas a - broad, And built the loft - y sing the wis-dom that or-There's not a plant or flow'r besing the wis-dom that or-dained The There's not a plant or flow'r be-low, But with his word, And then pro-nounced them good. sing the wis - dom that or-dainedThe sun to There's not a plant or flow'r be-low, But makes thy

that

flow'r

The

But

sun

makes

to

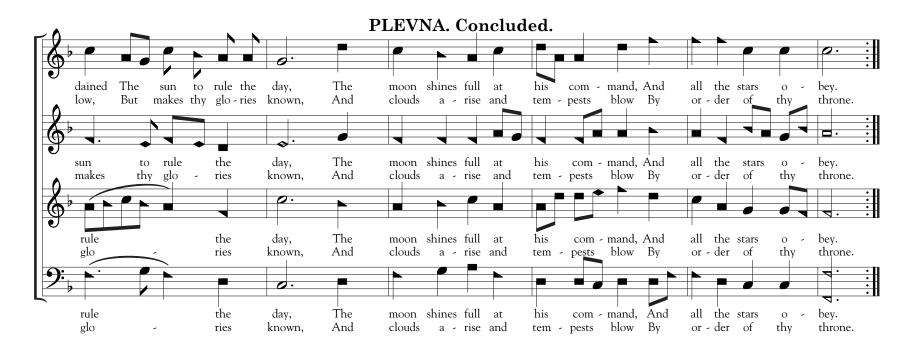
thy

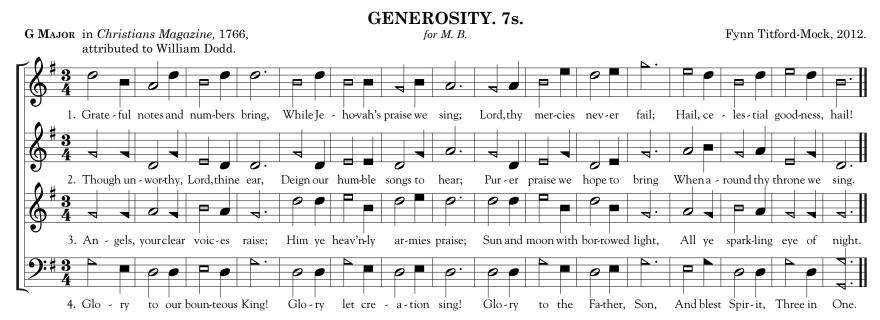
or - dained

be - low,

sing the wis-dom

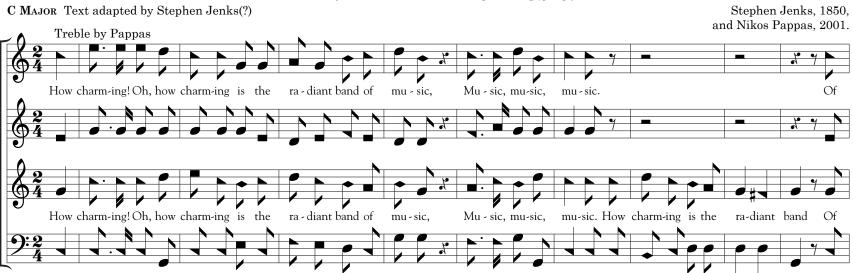
There's not a plant or

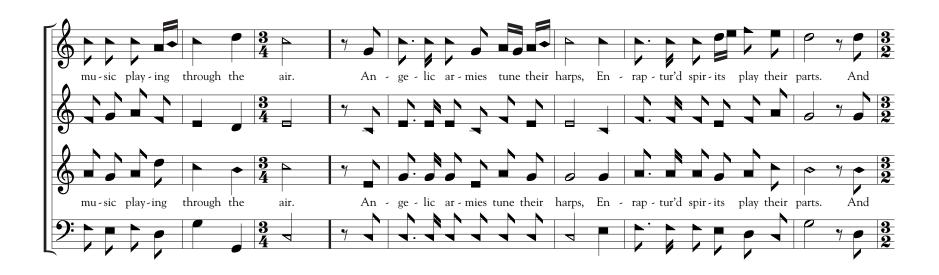




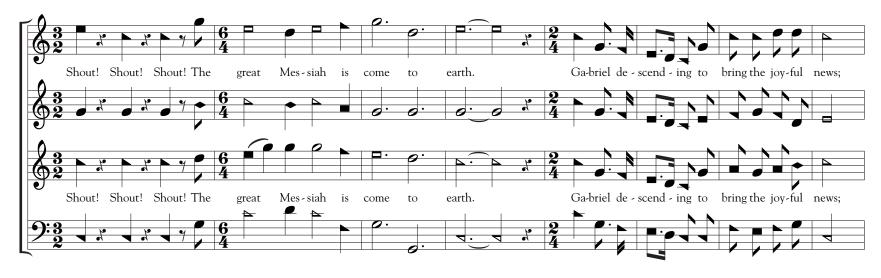
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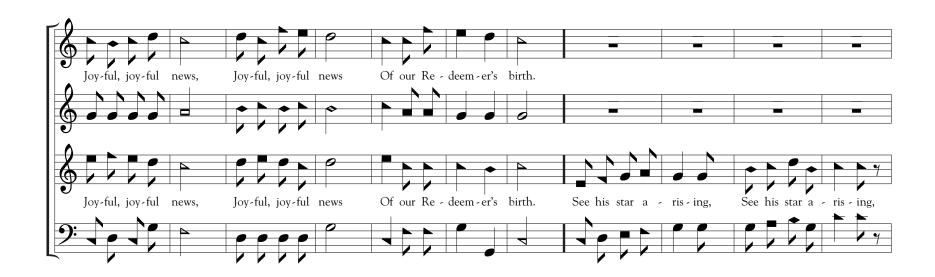
#### THE RADIANT BAND OF MUSIC.



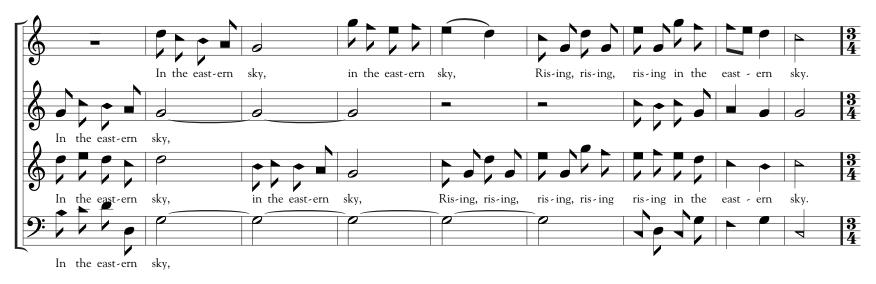


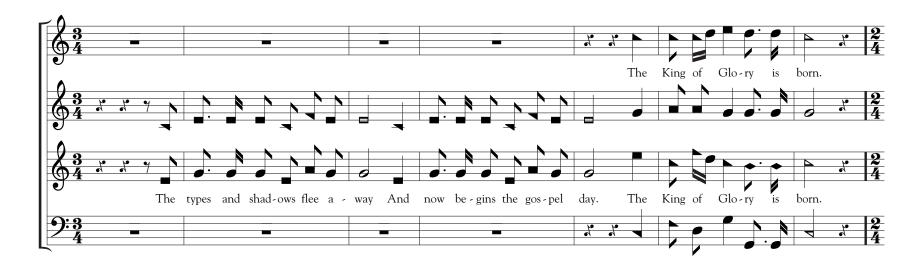
# THE RADIANT BAND OF MUSIC. Continued.





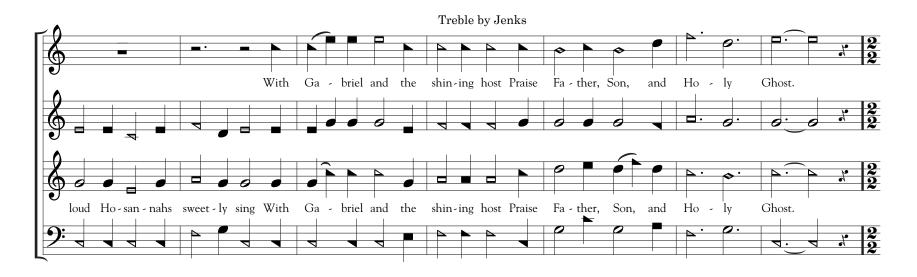
#### THE RADIANT BAND OF MUSIC. Continued.



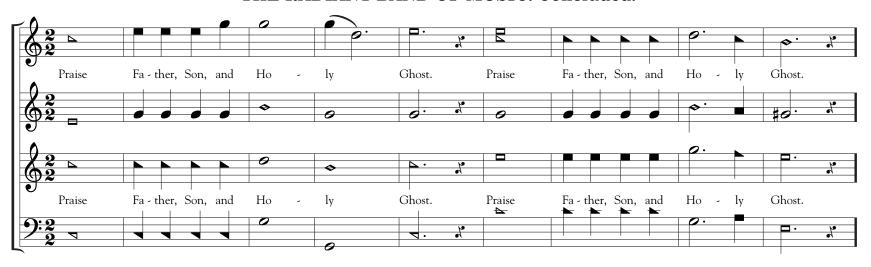


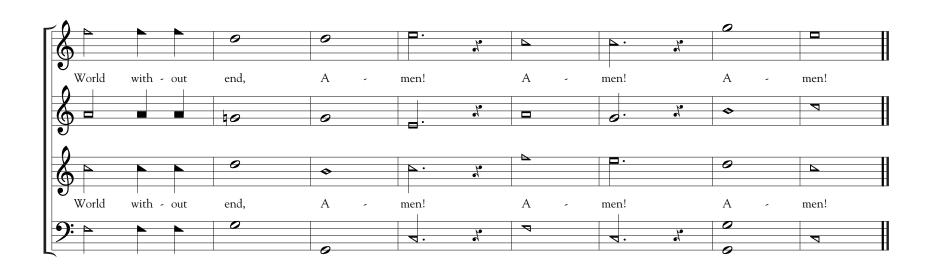
#### THE RADIANT BAND OF MUSIC. Continued.





# THE RADIANT BAND OF MUSIC. Concluded.

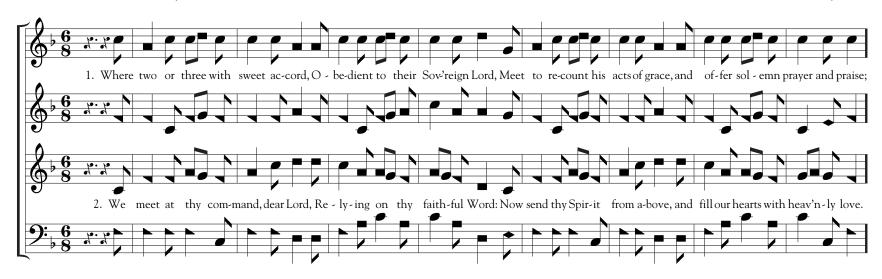


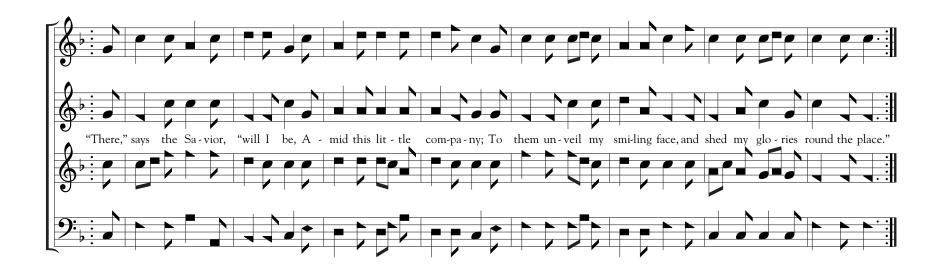


#### MCCOY. L.M.

F Major Samuel Stennett, 1778.

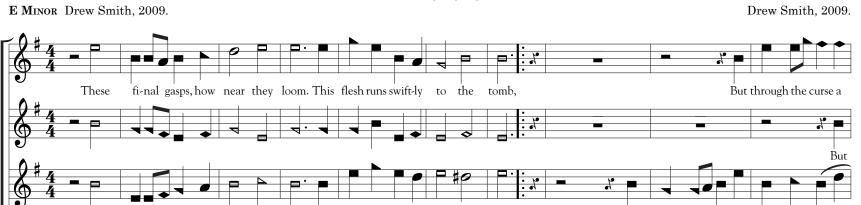
Linda Sides, 2012.





These

#### HALL. L.M.



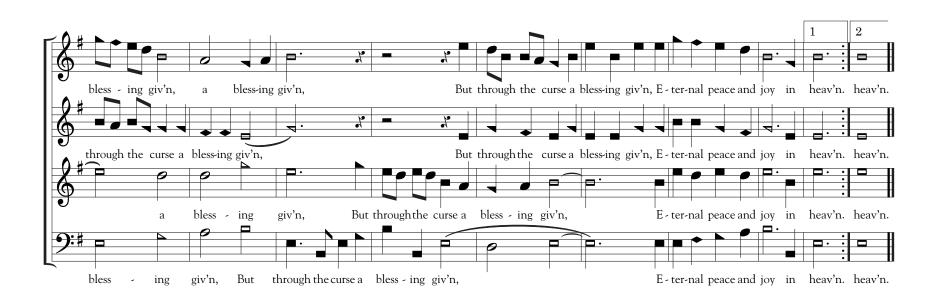
to the tomb,

But through the curse a

But through the curse a bless - ing giv'n,

bless - ing giv'n,

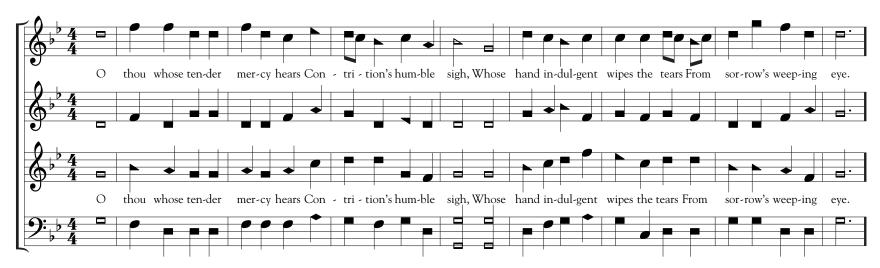
fi-nal gasps, how near they loom. This flesh runs swift-ly

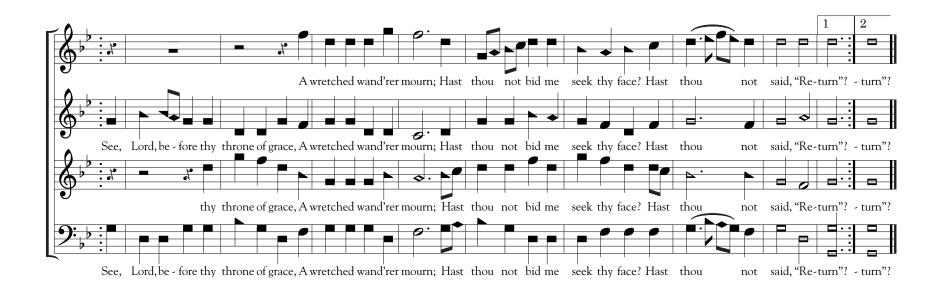


#### CONTRITION. C.M.D.

G MINOR Anne Steele, 1760.

Rebecca Wright, 2011.

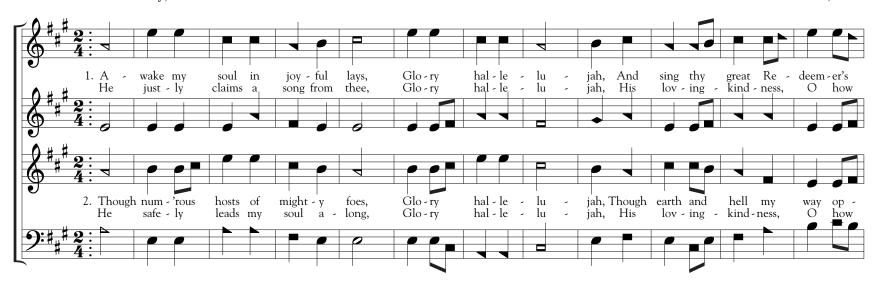


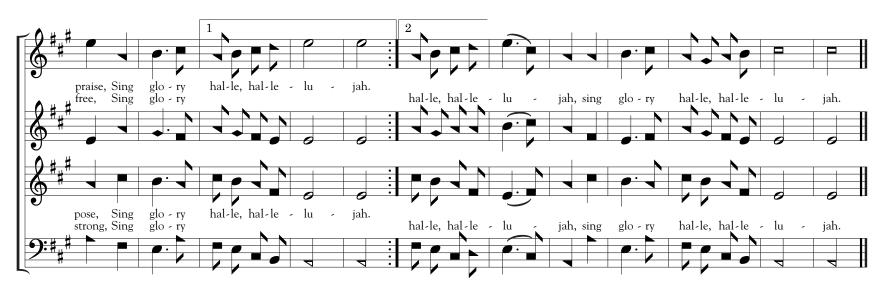


#### HURRICANE CREEK. L.M.

A Major Samuel Medley, 1782.

D. W. Steel, 2012.







Through all the World the Echo Bounds...

Volume 3, No 1. February, 2013.



A thrice-annual periodical for singers and writers of dispersed harmony & fasola music

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# From the Editors

That's no small accomplishment since the handful of people that bring it together three times yearly do so for the love of this music and for the fine people who sing it. We have been ably assisted by many volunteers and helpers, and James Gingerich along with Clarissa Fetrow deserve some particular recognition for the work they do in type-setting and proofreading each new volume. We also are very happy to feature an essay by singer Jennie Brown, which will be of lasting interest to readers of The Trumpet. Thank you, Jennie.

Now, on to the music. I think it is safe to say that we are entering 2013 with a bang! This issue is full of rich harmony and a diversity of style and approach that will have something for everyone. From Ireland we find Sabhdh O'Flynn's Walm Lane to be a fine plain tune with a low-set and resounding bass to it. New to us also is Gabriel Kyne who sends us his rousing tune Bernal (pay careful attention to the different chord in the first and second endings when you sing it, folks, you'll be glad you did). Bruce Randall, whose tune on pg. 474 of The Sacred Harp 1991 edition is enjoyed worldwide, sends us Sandy Hook, a song of reflection and memorial to those affected by a recent tragedy in the Northeast.

Lovers of fuging tunes will find much to enjoy in this volume including Woodpark by John Stonell, who appears here for the first time, and others by names who have graced our pages before. Many of these writers may be people you sing with, and many of these songs are dedications to people and places that you might know yourself. Each one of these songs has something special in it, and I know you will enjoy discovering that as you flip through these pages with a few of your singing friends. In short, we hope that these songs are a gift to you and your singing community wherever you may be. It is indeed a great gift to have this fine singing tradition and to see that new songs are being written and sung year in and year out.

Sing on!

- The Editors ed@singthetrumpet.com

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# A SINGER, BUT NOT A WRITER: WHY ONE NON-COMPOSER SINGS NEW COMPOSITIONS

By Jennie Brown, Oakland, California

arly on, as a new singer with a lot of enthusiasm but without a car, I fell in with Sacred Harp enthusiasts. You know the type: anywhere within driving distance was fair game, and "driving distance" is one of the most subjective terms in the Sacred Harp lexicon. In this excellent company, I enjoyed the travel as much as the destination, and accepted all new experiences — from lively discussions to living room singings — with cheerful abandon. It wasn't long before I found myself with a photocopied, brand-new song and a real test of my sight-reading. I assumed, as perhaps many new singers do, that someday I'd be writing songs too. First I'd master the shapes, then memorize the book, and then I'd be ready. Right?

Most of my early mentors probably read and sing *The Trumpet* (though if they're like me, the first time through they skip the essays and dive straight for the songs). A few of them have lent their songs to previous issues, and all of them think and care deeply about the music and practice of Sacred Harp singing. It shows through their dedication to composition "in the style of the Sacred Harp," with great success and tuneful results. Their commitment gives us more than great songs: the inclusion of new songs in sources like *The Sacred Harp* allows for growth and flexibility while grounding living composers in the constraints and conventions of our tradition. It's our good fortune to sing these songs, whether scribbled or photocopied or printed and bound, and my good luck to count many composers as my friends.

Today, though, I'm not writing to them.

Instead, I write for those singers who do not compose, no matter how many years and miles they have logged in love of this tradition. I am one of them: aside from one hastily scribbled tenor line, musical composition is outside my ken. Years of lessons didn't teach me theory, and no matter how many times it's explained, I can't see discords without squinting. I may someday harmonize that tenor line, but despite my unflagging enthusiasm for all parts of the Sacred Harp

tradition, I doubt it will ever appear printed here. Nevertheless, noncomposers have an important perspective in the ongoing process of exploring, expanding, and defining our shared tradition.

Since our singings are neither rehearsal nor performance, innovation exists in a narrow space between boring and discouragingly difficult. We seek a happy medium, and non-composers have a unique view to what is both fun and "singable." For example, from the treble bench, I will let you know if your treble line does something uncharacteristic — whether interesting or straight-up impossible. If we stumble over that stubborn interval four verses running, it's a strong hint that something needs to be adjusted; if we grin and nod over new rhythms and runs, don't even consider cutting it out.

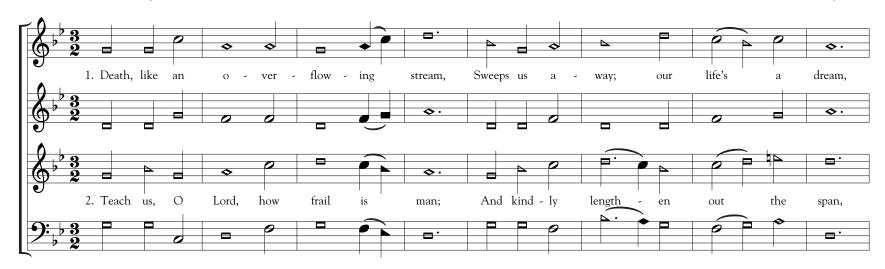
Singing new compositions is not just a service that we can provide for aspiring composers: it's an opportunity for our own participation and growth in this tradition. As new tunebooks spring up and shaped notes find their way across oceans, the music itself becomes the most immediate and exciting way to share ideas. New and different material builds confidence and commitment, and fresh songs are a challenge not just to our sight-reading abilities but to our beliefs about what makes Sacred Harp. If the singing requires care, the discussion doubly so — but through this dialogue, both composers and noncomposers can reach new understandings of the patterns, mechanics, and conventions we follow. Less obvious but just as important is the kindness and support that we offer each other with energetic voices and sincere feedback. To give voice to a new song is to see carefully, to listen actively, to sing thoughtfully — and bringing these habits into every hollow square can only make our singing stronger.

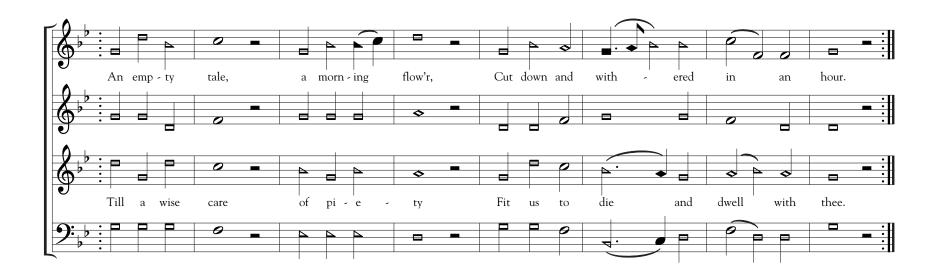
Since that first photocopy, I've found that singing new compositions brings what I love about Sacred Harp into sharper focus. With dedication, deliberation, and great good will, we come together to make a new and joyful noise.

# SANDY HOOK. L.M.

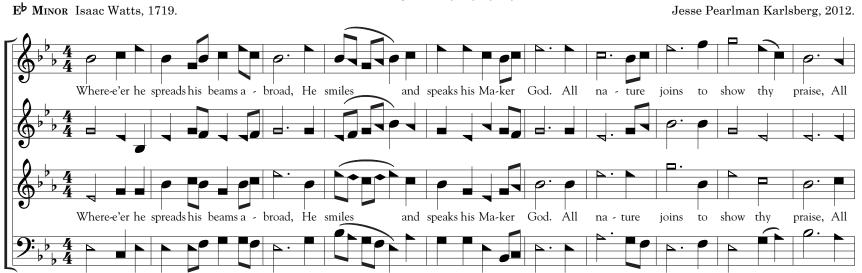
G MINOR Isaac Watts, 1707.

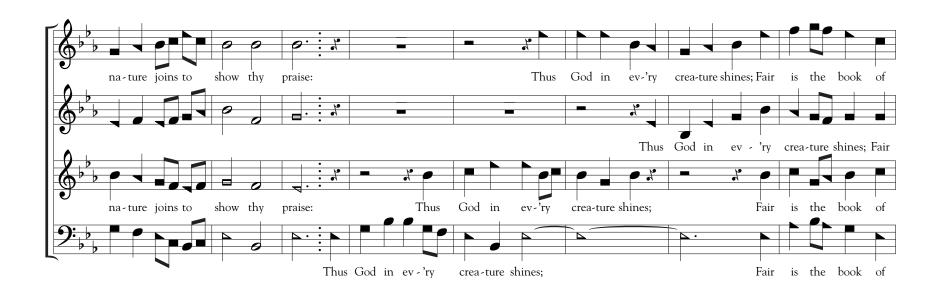
Bruce Randall, 2012.



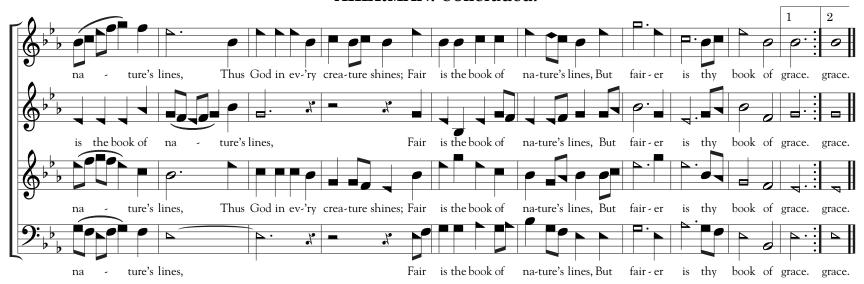


#### AKERMAN. L.P.M.





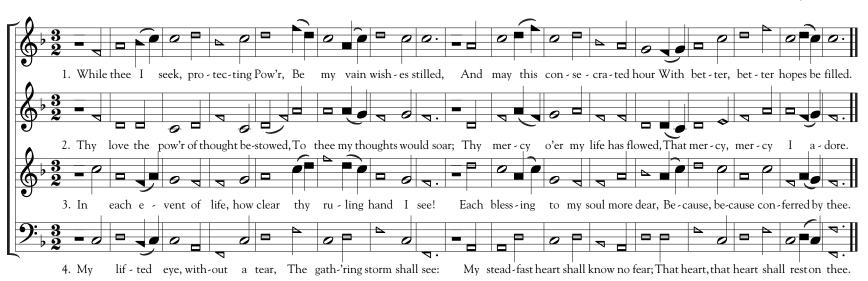
#### AKERMAN. Concluded.



# WALM LANE. C.M.

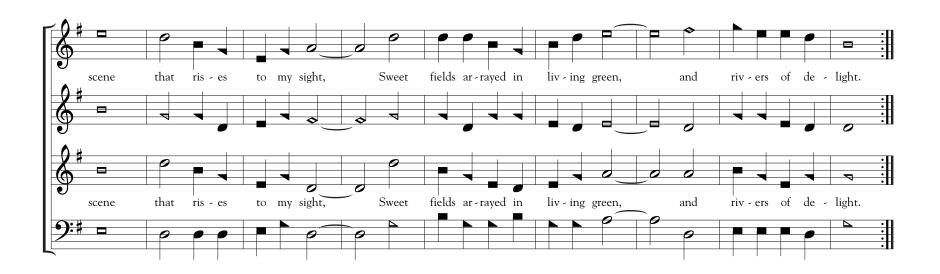
F Major Helen Maria Williams, 1790.

Sadhbh O'Flynn, 2012.



#### ARTEMAS. C.M.

G Major Samuel Stennett, 1787. Leah Velleman, 2012. On Jor - dan's banks I stand, wish - ful Oh, the trans - port - ing rap - t'rous storm - y and cast a eye Ca - naan's fair and hap - py land, where my pos - ses - sions lie. Jor - dan's storm - y banks I stand, and wish - ful Oh, the trans - port - ing rap - t'rous On cast a eye Ca - naan's fair and hap - py land, where my pos - ses - sions lie.

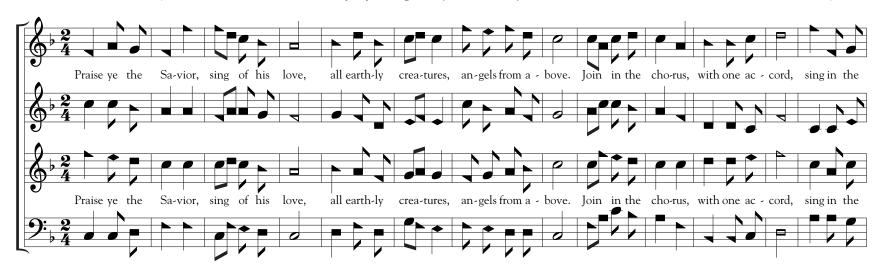


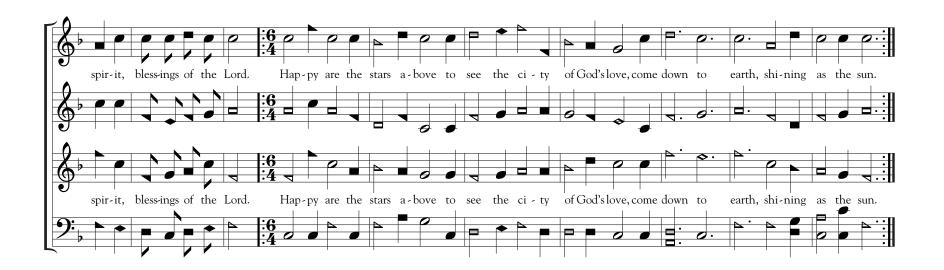
#### WILLS CREEK.

F Major Ed E. Thacker, 2010.

"And I saw the holy city coming down from God out of heaven . . ."—Rev. 21:2

Ed E. Thacker, 2010.



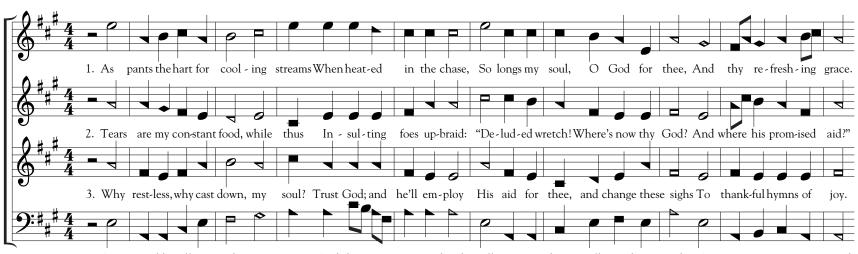


#### BERNAL. C.M.D.

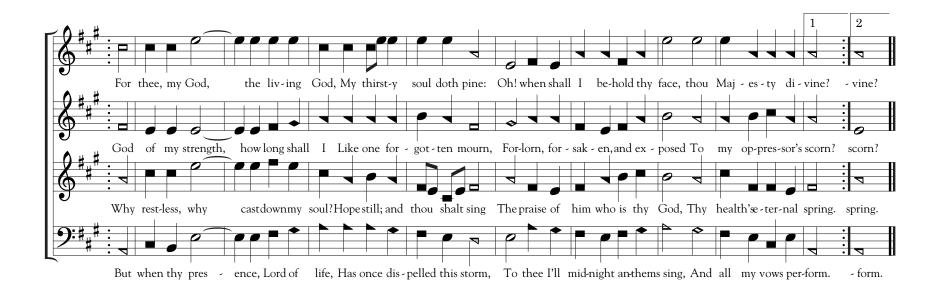
A Major in Tate and Brady, 1696.

with great thanks to Linnea Sablosky

Gabriel Kyne, 2012.



4. One trou-ble calls an - oth - er on; And burst-ing o'er my head, Fall spout-ing down till round my soul, A roar-ing sea is spread.

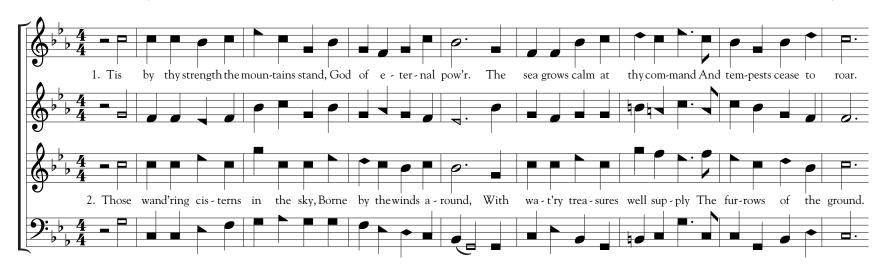


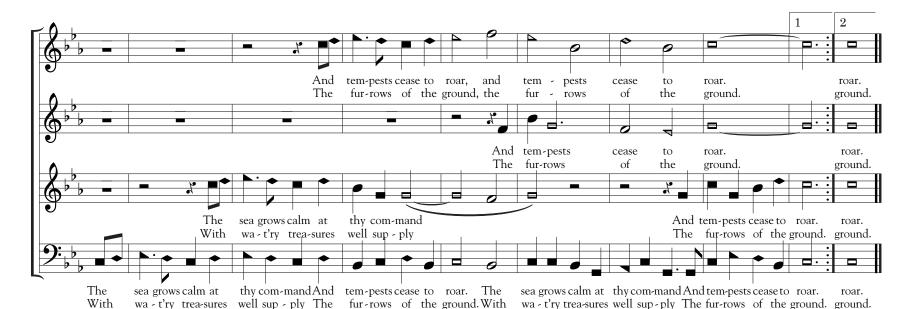
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#### WOODPARK. C.M.

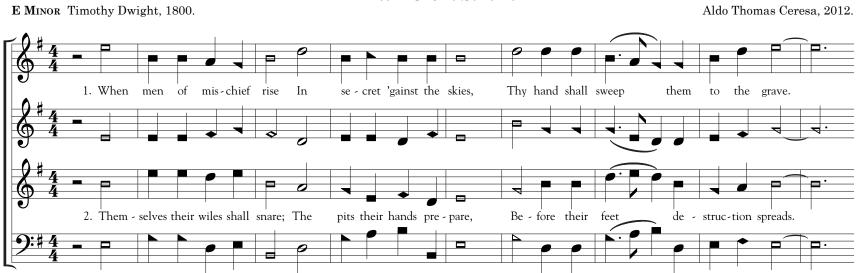
C MINOR Isaac Watts, 1719.

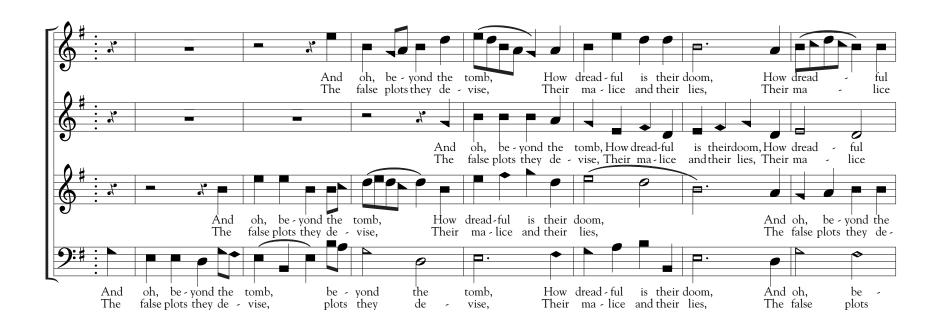
John Stonell, 2012.





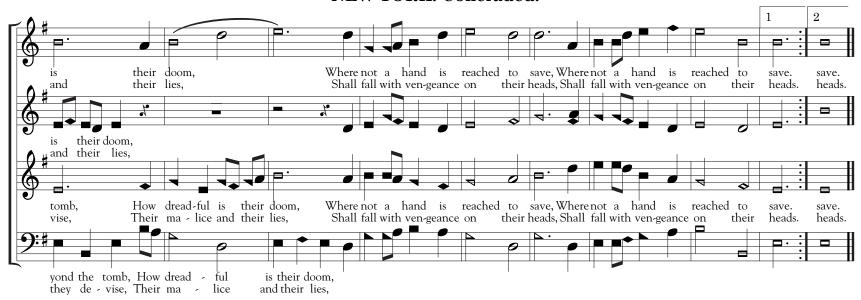
#### NEW YORK. S.P.M.



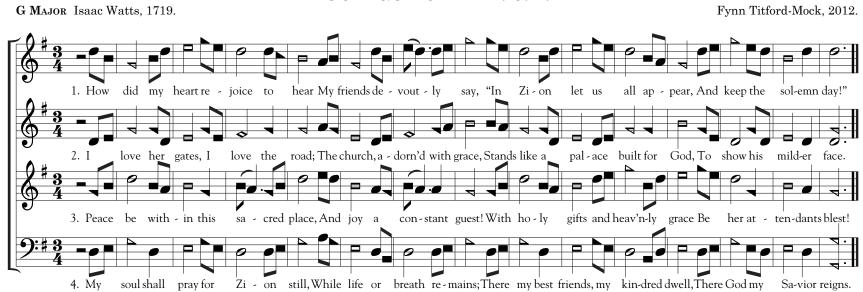


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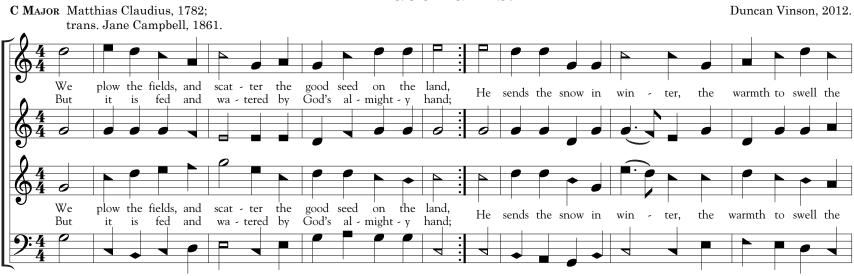
#### NEW YORK. Concluded.

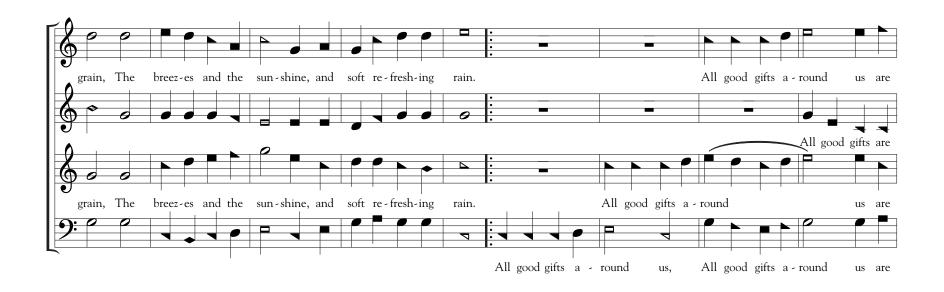


#### OCTAGON CHAPEL. C.M.

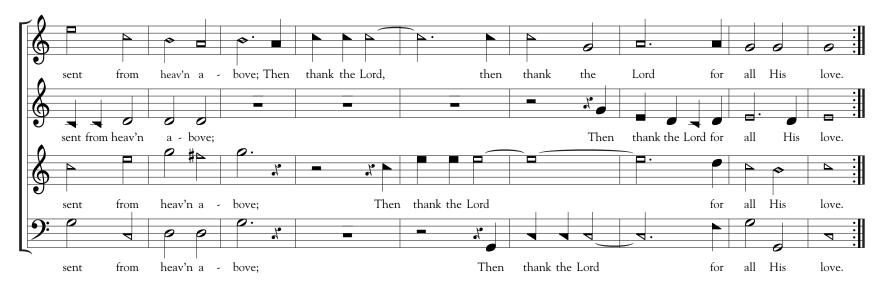


#### ALL GOOD GIFTS.

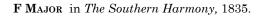




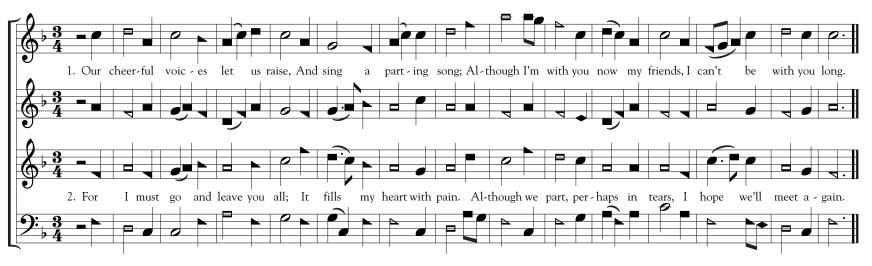
#### ALL GOOD GIFTS. Concluded.



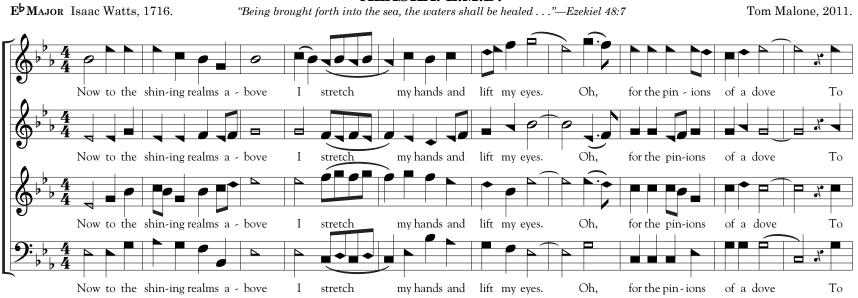
# URSINA. C.M.

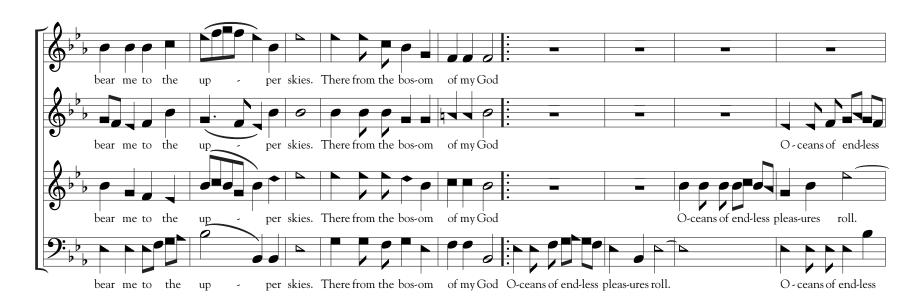


Deidra M. Montgomery, 2012.

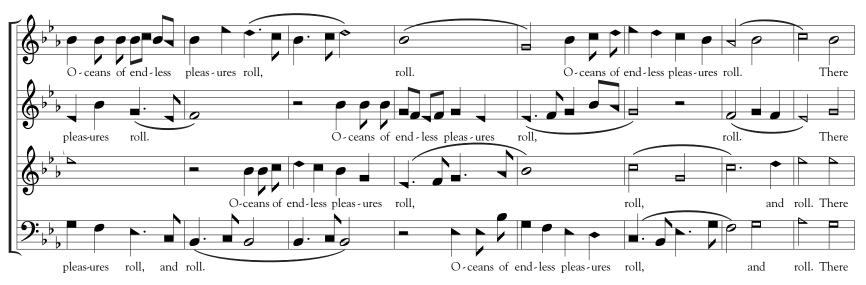


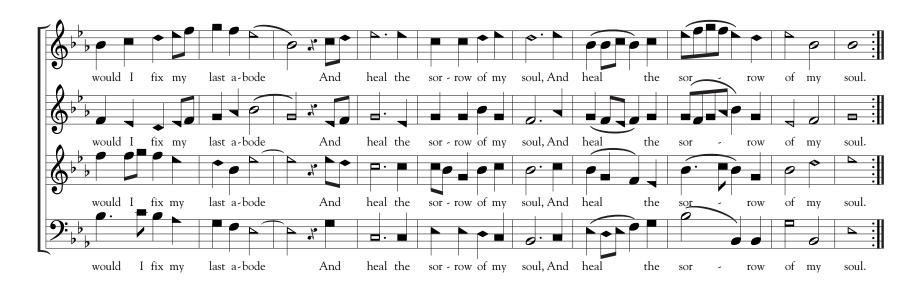
#### ALASKA. L.M.D.





# ALASKA. Concluded.

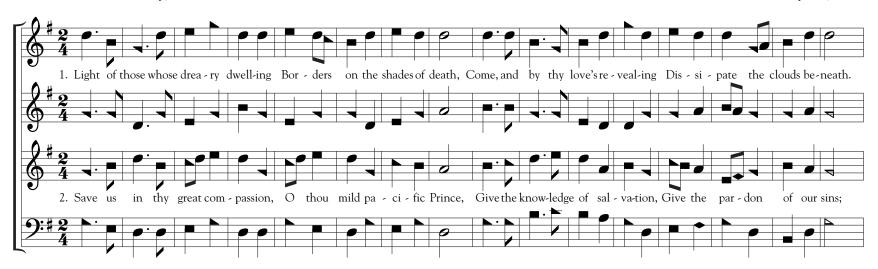




#### LAUDAVERE. 8.7.8.7.D.

G Major Charles Wesley, 1745.

Ian Quinn, 2012.







Through all the World the Echo Bounds...

Volume 3, No 2. August, 2013.



A thrice-annual periodical for singers and writers of dispersed harmony & fasola music

2013 Editorial Board Will Fitzgerald Thomas B Malone Robert L Vaughn

Musical Typesetting James Nelson Gingerich

> Copyediting Clarissa Fetrow

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# From the Editors

Te are delighted to bring before you another set of tunes composed in the tradition of dispersed harmony. Although these tunes will arrive to you a little later than usual — such are the pecadillos of the volunteer workforce involved — we think you'll find these tunes "tunable and sound."

You may be glad to know where some of the more unusal names come from. Chmielno by P. Dan Brittain was written for Camp Fasola Europe, held in that Polish city, and Plac Unii Lubleskiej, by Steve Helwig, is named for Lubin Union Square in Warsaw — so we are keeping up our Poland connections.

Matt Cartmill's arrangement of Condescension found in the Southern Harmony may require special attention. It is in Mixolydian mode — it begins and ends on sol! — not the norm for Sacred Harp music. Matt wrote that he thought the tune "cried out" to be sung in Mixolydian. Give it a try.

We have one composer that we have not previously published — Christina Wallin's sweet G# minor tune, Haven, can be found on page 116. We've enjoyed singing Kevin Barran's tune, Shoreline, very slowly (as indicated); it's a majestic plain tune doxology that will bring a class together, if the class is willing. Of course, we are also represented by other fine tunesmiths, including more plain tunes than usual. We like plain tunes, and are glad to publish them!

We do have two fine anthems. Nikos Pappas's BISHKEK is a fine setting of Perronet's "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name." BISHKEK is named for the capital of Kyrgyzstan, where Nikos was sent as a cultural emmisary of the U.S. State Department to celebrate 20 years of peaceful relations between these two countries. Anne Heider's ADVENT arrives in plenty of time to prepare for the Advent season — a good pairing with Linda Sides's advent text for Good Tidings.

As we go to press, news comes to us of the death of our friend and mentor, Jeff Sheppard. We hope you'll enjoy Tom Malone's little tale of the Rocking Chair Convention, and we are grateful to Ginnie Ely for allowing us to publish her poem.

Sing on!

Dedicated to the memory of Jeff Sheppard.

- The Editors ed@singthetrumpet.com

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# Mr. Jeff Sheppard and a Brief Untrue History of the Rocking Chair Convention

By Thomas B. Malone, Boston Massachusetts

ow if you know Mr. Jeff Sheppard you know he can be a joker, and he has been known to tell a tale or two. Still I feel I must share a story that he told me once late one night about the most confounded Sacred Harp singing you have ever not seen. Now I am not saying it was real, and I certainly never attended this singing, but I'll tell you the story on it just like Mr. Jeff told it to me.

They call it the Rocking Chair Convention, and no one is really sure how far back it goes, most people are careful not to try and find out.

Some say as far back as '09 but we're not sure whether that's 1909 or 1709 but suffice it to say its origins are shrouded in mystery. Which is probably best for all involved.

The first thing you got to know is that it is a "no-book" convention. That means that no books are used of any kind, not in the square or among the many gawkers, which makes it all the more important that you know your 'pagination' because when the arranging table calls you, they also give you your number to sing. And if you don't know that number they'll either change it or make you sing it anyway. So you'd best have a head full of numbers. For this and many other reasons, only the willingest leaders from various regions (known as *delegates*) are called.

Unlike most All-Day singings, this one is held at night. The location is out of doors usually on a moonlit porch and the singers and offis-eers are all arrayed splendidly in large rocking chairs in a broad oblong rectangle with rounded corners.

Suffice it to say when they get that secondary accent in the second mode of common time the whole house gets a-rocking to a peculiar jog-a-trot rhythm that will sweep you off your feet. But I am not trying to teach a singing school here, just paint you a picture of this most peculiar singing I never went to.

Now, before you accuse me of pulling your leg, or being out in the sun too long myself, I want to assure you that I am in a perfect state

of sobriety as I write this, and so were the singers at this event. Many have drinks in their hands, but they only drink watered-down sweet tea or Cokes ... might be Sprite coke, orange coke, grape coke, or root beer coke, but I can assure you no spirituous liquors were imbibed by this august assembly – although it sure looks that way by how they carry on.

Anyway, they have a key-man who uses a fork. Not a tuning fork, mind you, just a regular fork. He beats it on the ground, sticks it beside his head, shuts his eyes, mumbles a secret prayer, then makes a brief sound like a dyspeptic tomcat, and then croaks out his "Fa-r" or "La-r" accordingly. They been using that same fork (and that same man) since long before there was altos, and that's a mighty long time.

Now, at this convention, the tradition is to sing the *words only*, and anybody who sets in on the notes will be chastised by the front bench for *showing out*. Same goes for folks who don't pat their foot LOUD enough. I don't know why, it's just a tradition with these folks.

And now the *dancing*. Well, they don't call it dancing, but each leader is expected to not only direct the song assigned to them by arranging committee, but also required to emphasize the 'edifying nature of the poetry' by moving around the various sides of the square and expressing their lesson with the full vigor of their God-given frames. Facial expressions and *pant-o-mime* are important too.

This most-worshipful tradition is so cherished by the singing community that the arranging committee tends to select a song mostly on the basis of how much a fool they can make of the leader in question. Biblical support for this part of the tradition (as noted in their extensive Bye-and-by-laws) is found in 2nd Samuel 6, and 1st Corinthians 4:10. Look it up and you will see that it is all quite doctrinally sound, and so don't worry ~ under-regulated Baptists & over-Devout vegetarians can join right in and enjoy this kind of fellowship together. By now you probably think I am putting you on, but I'll share just a few favorite lessons that are still talked about today by the fine folks at this singing.

One leader, from Denmark I believe, who beautified the song on page 84 explained the beauty of her movements as follows, "First chop wood, and then fly like a bird." Can anyone deny the truth and simplicity of that claim? One delegate from Tennessee rendered

"The Dying Boy" so poignantly (acting out both parts of course) that the entire assembly was in tears and unable to speak for a good 15 seconds and a brief recess was called. A famous visiting lady-director from Rhode Island was called to lead 254 and she brought the music to life before our eyes – appletrees, spicy mountains, and all. And when she got to the part where the *rain was over and gone*, one young feller on the front bench got up and waltzed her right off her feet! – might have been a two-step – but they danced all the way through the mandatory unwritten *threepeat*.

You know, come to think about it, when Jeff was telling me that part of the story, the part about dancing with the girl, I got the distinct impression from a particular glint in his eye that HE may have been that upstart tenor long-time ago, but don't tell his wife, ok?

Well, if you have read this far then you probably have a sense of what a first rate cut-up and consummate confabulist Mr. Jeff Sheppard can be — if you catch him at the right moment, which is basically any old time, by night or noon.

And if you ask him about the Rocking Chair Convention he might say I made the whole thing up, but take it from me...the whole thing was *his* idea. I think he got to remembering on this long lost and venerable tradition when we were singing from Lloyd's one day and we came upon this verse.

Men in their own eyes, were children again; And children were wise and solid as men.

So, Jeff may be a joker and a cut-up, but he's as solid a man as I have ever known. If he **said it happened** like I told you, then that's good enough for me.

I almost feel like *I was there* somehow, but Mr. Jeff has a way with a story and a way with people too. You ought to ask him yourself sometime...but careful, he might just be putting you on — that's if you're lucky.

For Jeff and Shelbie By Ginnie Ely, 2013

Sunset glows on Mountain Tops.
We stop to take a breath.
As night draws near upon the earth
We feel the cusp 'tween life and death.

Colors sing among the clouds And slowly change from bright to pale. There's parallel 'tween youth and age, And each of us must walk that trail.

Sing loud the joy for those who leave And loud again for we who stay. Our bond is strong mid family ties We sing again for love each day.

# SABAOTH. S.M.

A Major Isaac Watts, 1707 "I come to thee in the name of the Lord of hosts...."—I Samuel 17:45

K. R. Swenson, 2012.

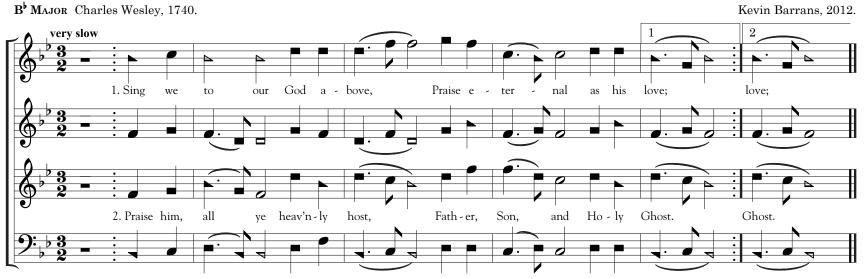
1. Je - ho-vah's strong-est will, It keeps the world in awe. A-midst the smoke on Si-nai's hill Breaks out the fier - y law, Breaks out the fier - y law.

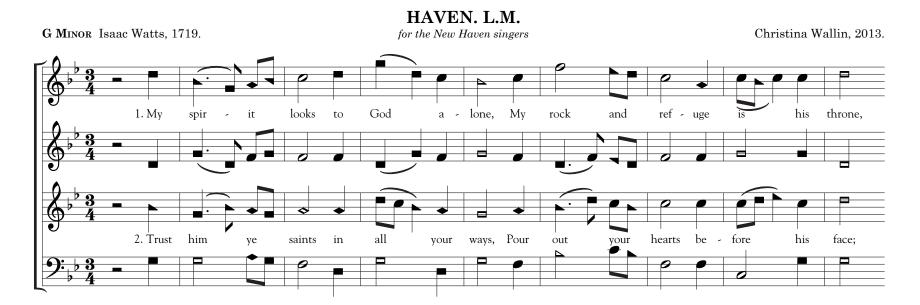
2. Our God re - yeals a face, That, beaming from a - bove, Sends down the word of gos-pel grace, E - pis-tles filled with love, E - pis-tles filled with love.

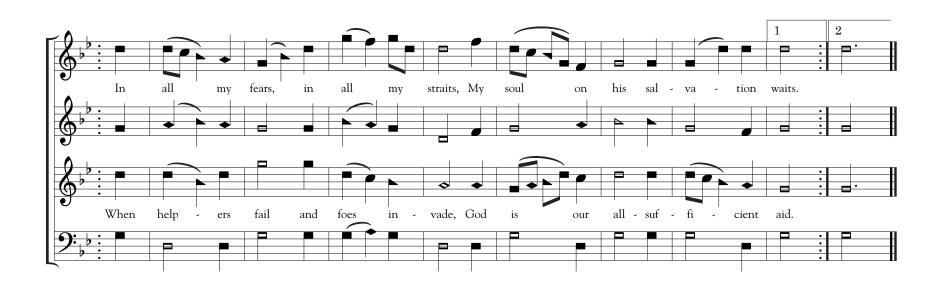
3. In vain shall Sa-tan rage A-gainst a book divine, Where wrath and light-ning guard the page, Where jew'ls of wisdom shine, Where jew'ls of wisdom shine.

4. These sa-cred words im-part Our ma-ker's just com-mands, The mer-cy from God's mel-ting heart, And justice for all lands, And justice for all lands.

# SHORELINE. 7s.





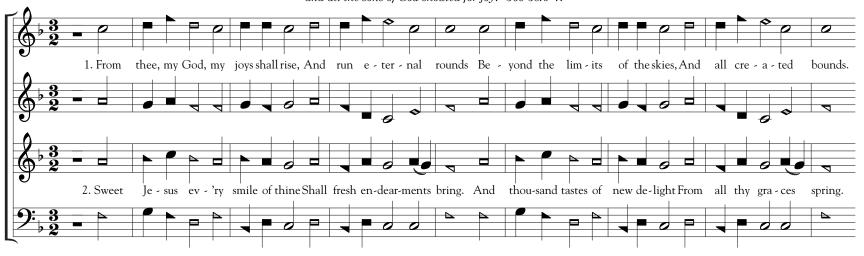


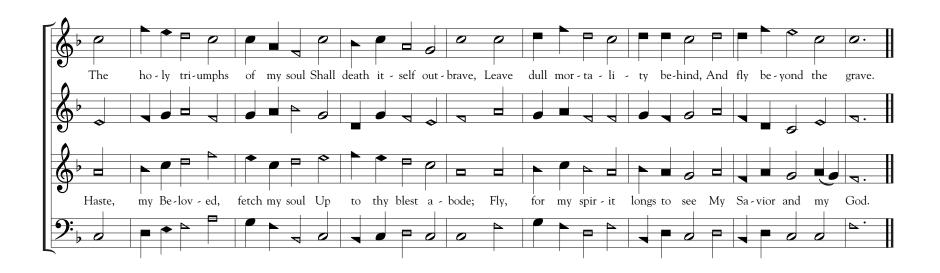
# CHAUTAUQUA. C.M.D.

F Major Isaac Watts, 1707.

"... Who laid the cornerstone thereof when the morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy?" Job 38:6-7.

G. J. Hoffman, 2010.

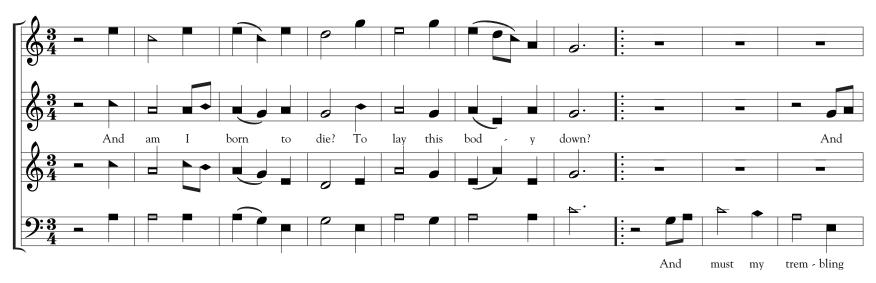


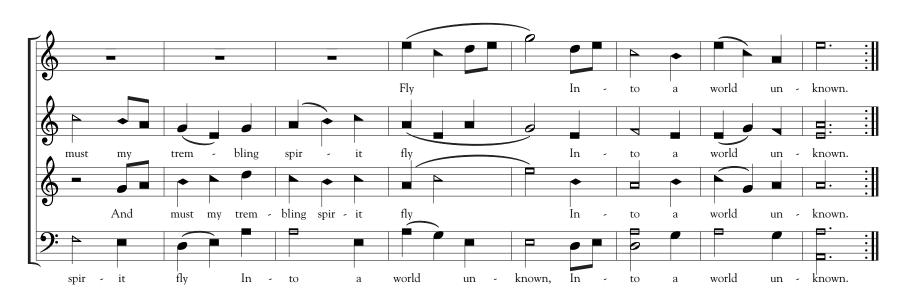


# PLAC UNII LUBELSKIEJ. S.M.

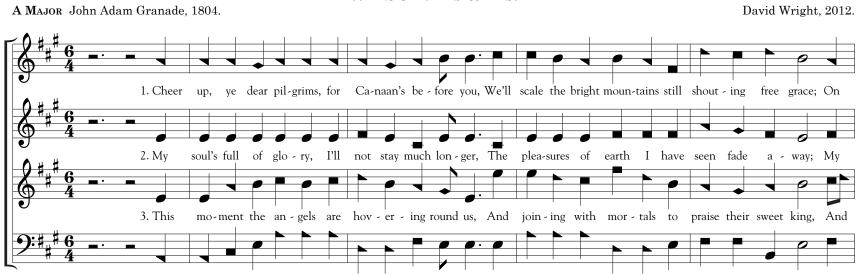
A MINOR Charles Wesley, 1763.

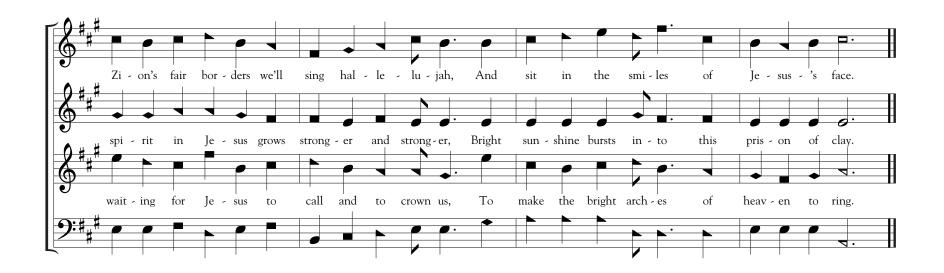
Steve Helwig, 2011.





# WILSON. 12s & 11s.

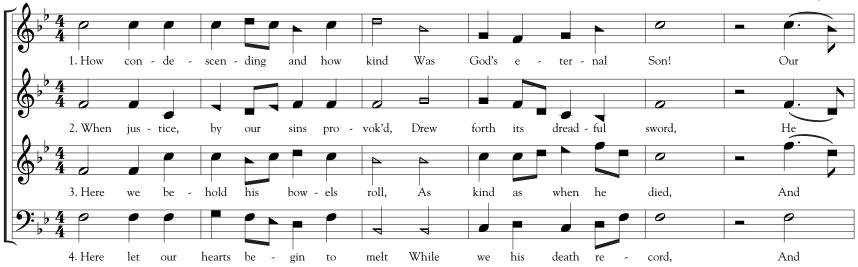


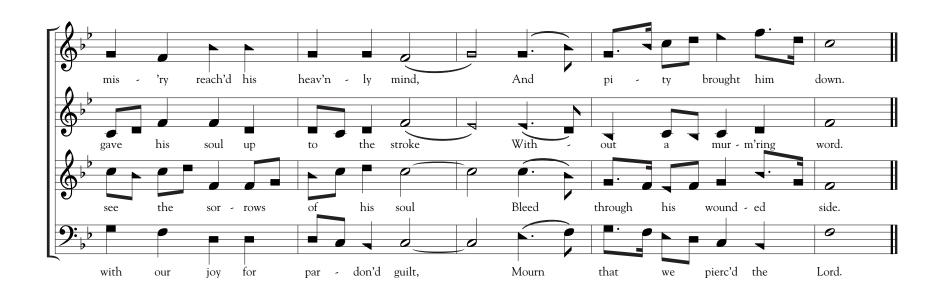


# CONDESCENSION. C.M.



Southern Harmony, 1854, arr. Matt Cartmill, 2004.





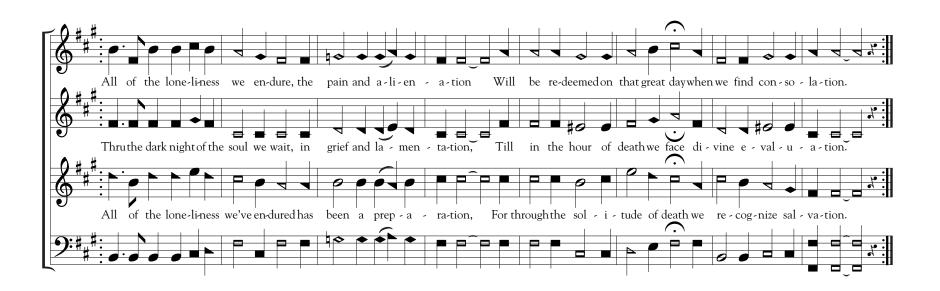
# SOLITUDE. 8s & 7s.

Dan Hertzler, 2012.

1. Oft to the woods have I re-tired for qui-et con-tem - plation. To spend an hour a - lone with God has been my in-spir - a-tion.

2. The world has changed, we live toolong in gloom-y con-ster - nation, While, one by one, friends dis - ap-pear, an end-less sep-a - ra-tion.

3. The world we know will slip a-way, and all as-so-ci - a-tion, Till, in the end, a - lone with God, we face the rev-el - a-tion:



# MOREL. C.M.



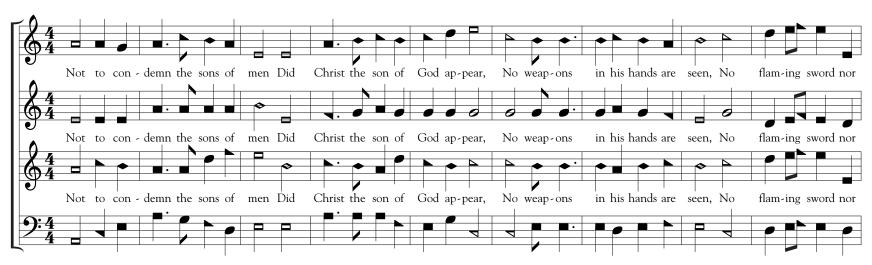
#### CHMIELNO. C.M.

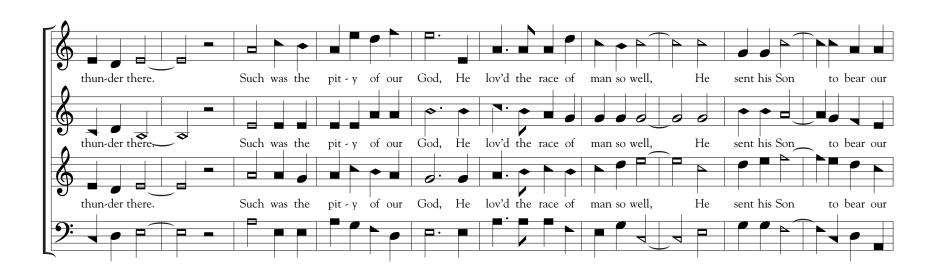


# ADVENT. L.M.

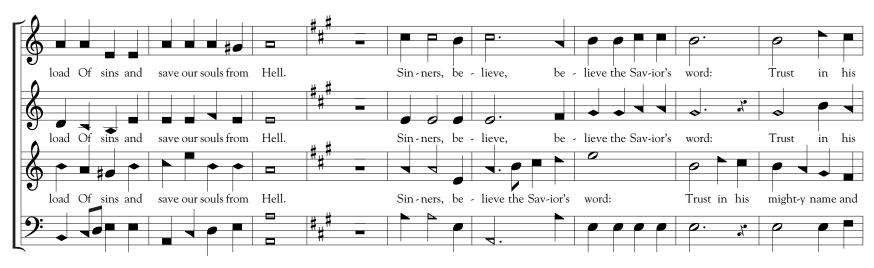
A Minor/A Major Isaac Watts, 1707.

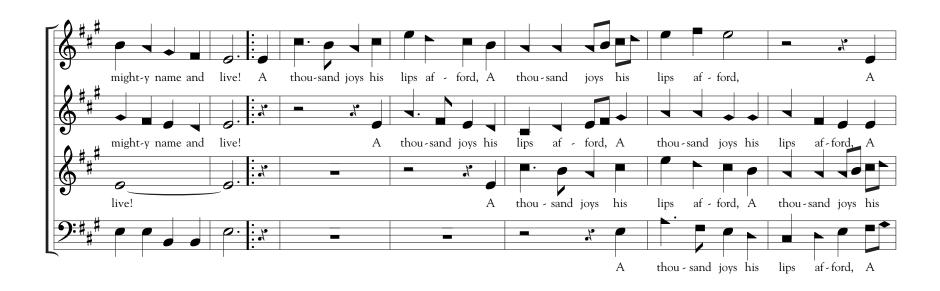
Anne Heider, 1998.

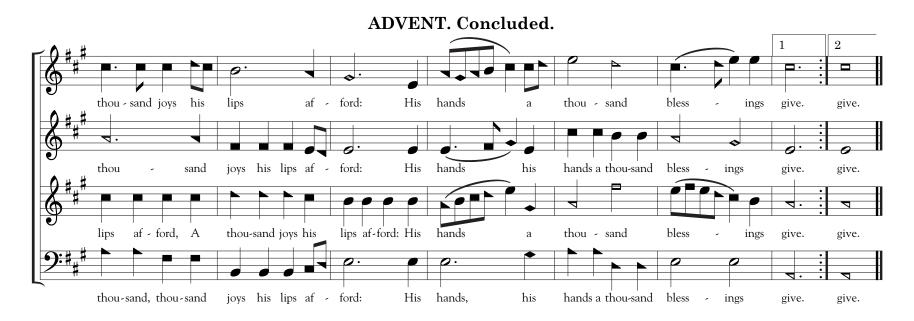


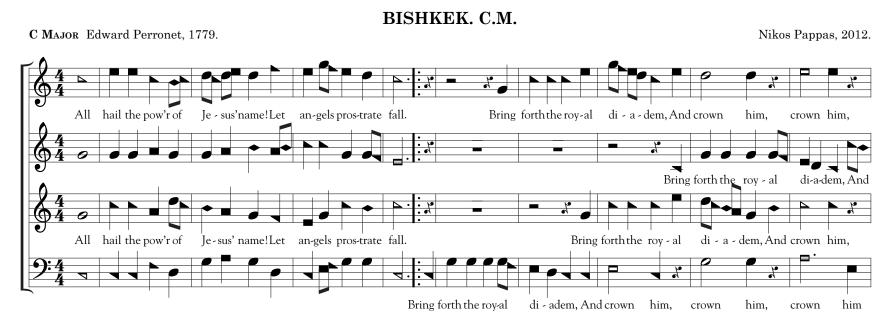


# ADVENT. Continued.

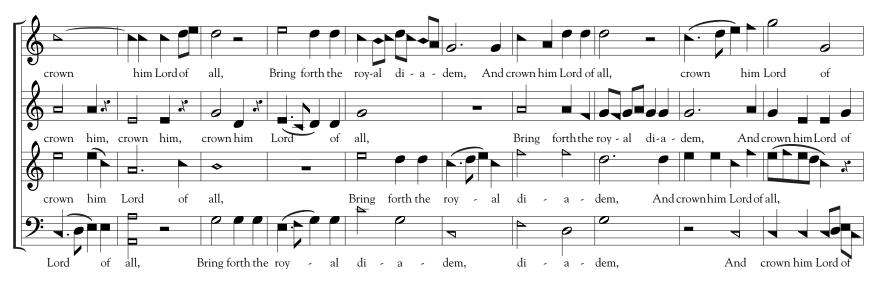


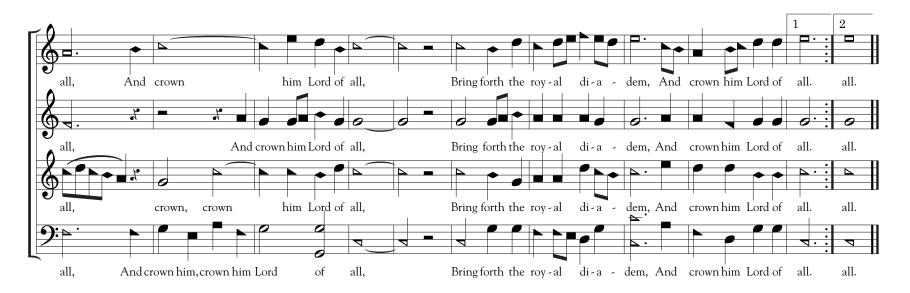


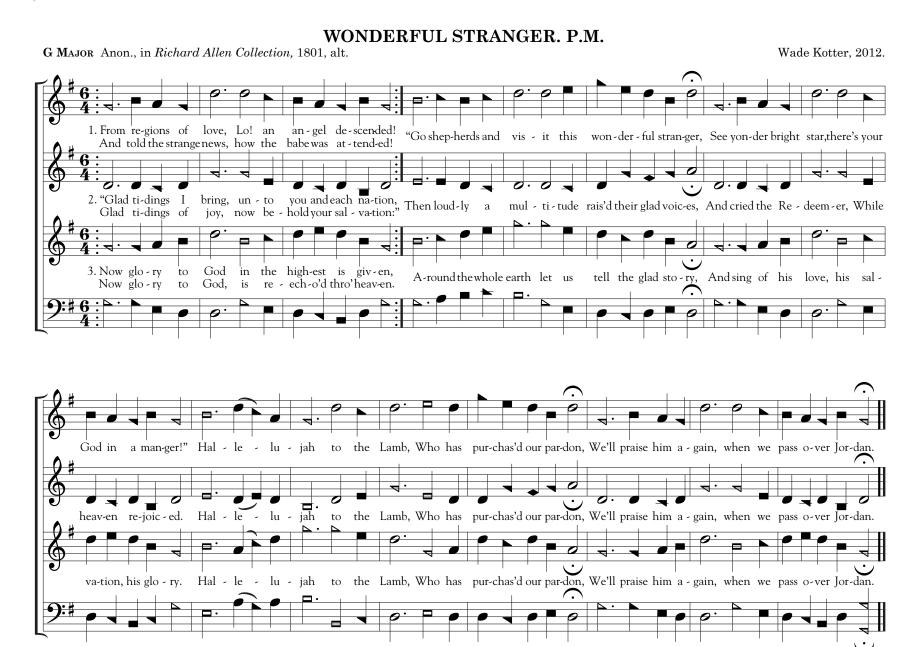




# BISHKEK. Concluded.



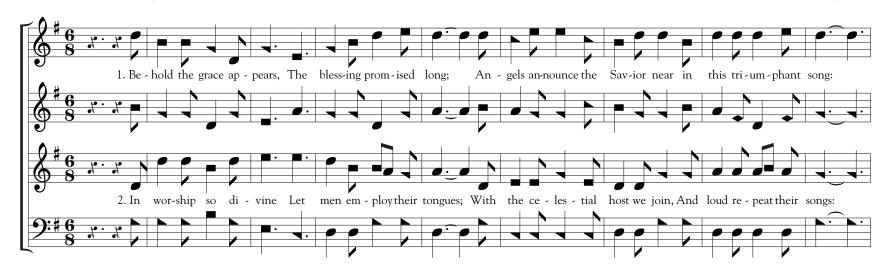


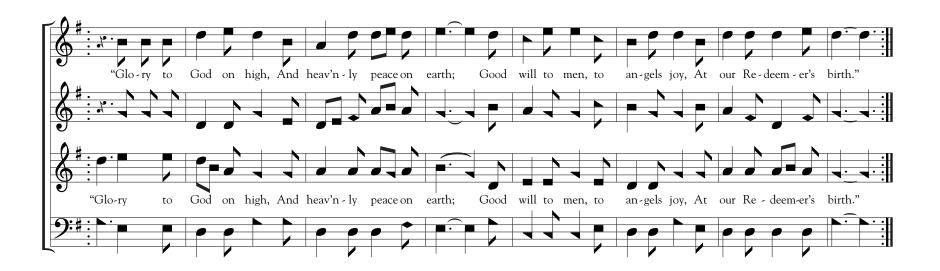


# GOOD TIDINGS. S.M.

G Major Isaac Watts, 1707.

Linda Sides, 2012.

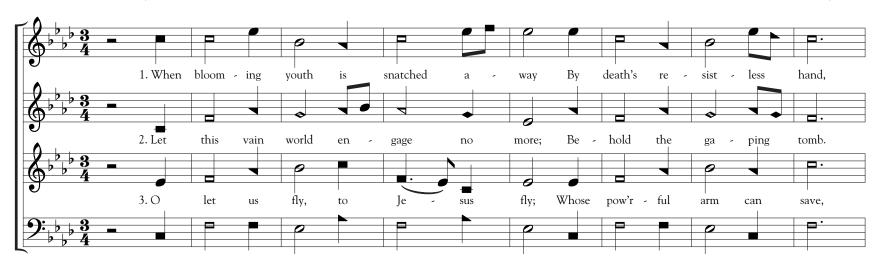


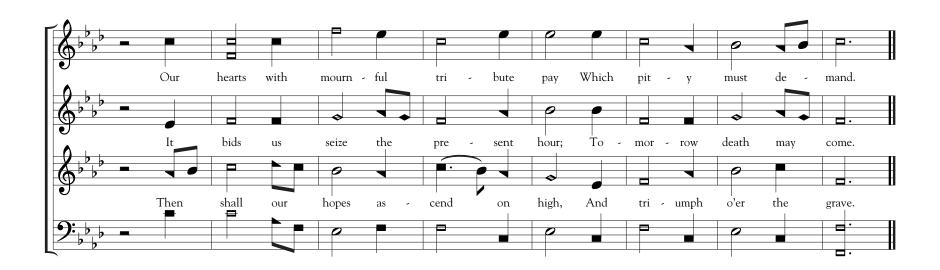


# MINNEHAHA. C.M.

F MINOR Anne Steele, 1760.

Steve Luttinen, 2012.







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# From the Editors

s we complete nearly 150 pages of tunes and the third volume of our humble offering, *The Trumpet*, and in a season of Thanksgiving, we are grateful to all the composers and authors who share, and singers who sing, the music we set before you.

We have several newly published composers in this issue. Phil Summerlin's Didache is a communion text taken from an ancient Christian treatise; Phil did both the tune and the poetic translation. Micah John Walter contributes Cold River, a short marching fuge. Micah Sommersmith provides Watts' Pains, a meditation on affliction. Scott Luscombe's Stanley is a setting for "Trav'ler, haste the night comes on." After Cory Winter moved to Austin, he wrote the tune Austin for the group he sings with there.

This issue has two anthems — both Gray and Memorial Anthem have Dan Brittain's name attached to them; the latter was written in collaboration with Bruce Randall. Gray has delightful poetry and you'll find the four pages of Memorial Anthem a good challenge for your sight-singing skills.

In addition, you'll find tunes by people we are starting to consider *Trumpet* "regulars," — Rob Kelley, Linda Sides, Stanley Smith (to whom we wish a speedy recovery), Ed Thacker, Matt Bell, Aldo Ceresa, and Randy Webber. Randy's tune, Kynzie, has a story that goes with it. Randy heard a young girl named Kynzie (pronounced like "Kinsey") humming a tune. With her mother's permission, Randy transcribed it and wrote fuging parts to go with it.

On the last page, you'll find two plain tunes by Jesse Pearlman Karlsberg. Anniston was written right after Jesse heard the news of Jeff Sheppard's death, and Farewell Brethren seems a fitting song to sing as we say goodbye yet again to a singer we miss deeply, and as a parting song for this year's issue.

We look forward to the new year, though — and your new compositions. Look for news of a compilation of the first three years of tunes from *The Trumpet*, and additions to our editorial staff. But mostly, send us your tunes, and ...

Sing on!

- The Editors ed@singthetrumpet.com

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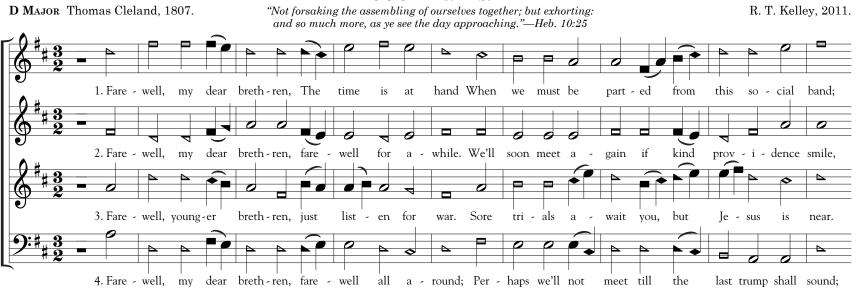
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# COOPER. 11s.



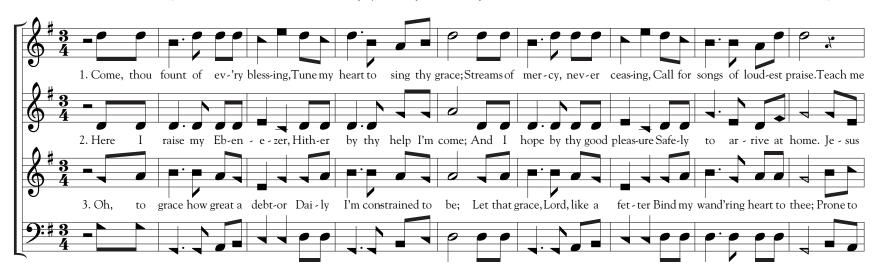


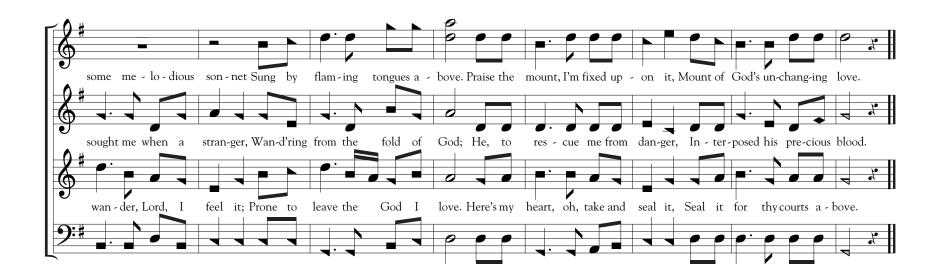
# NORTH RIDGE. 8s & 7s.

G Major Robert Robinson, 1758.

In memory of Josie Hyde and Mary Kitchens Gardner

Linda Sides, 2013.



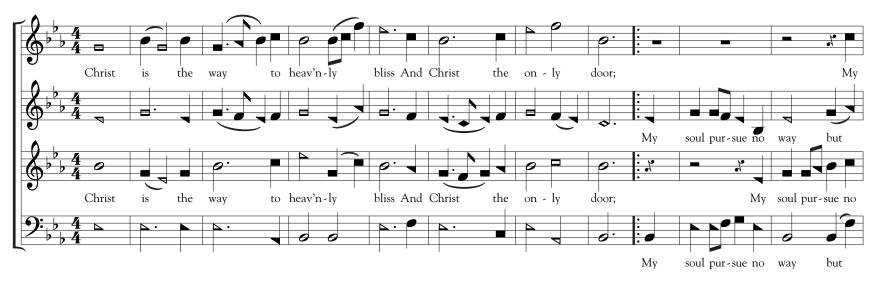


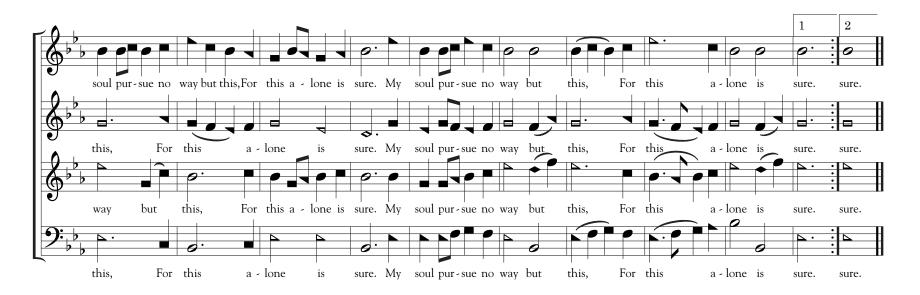
# SPURLOCK. C.M.

E Major in Lloyd's Primitive Hymns, no. 76

In honor of Tommie and Margaret Spurlock

Stanley Smith, 2009.

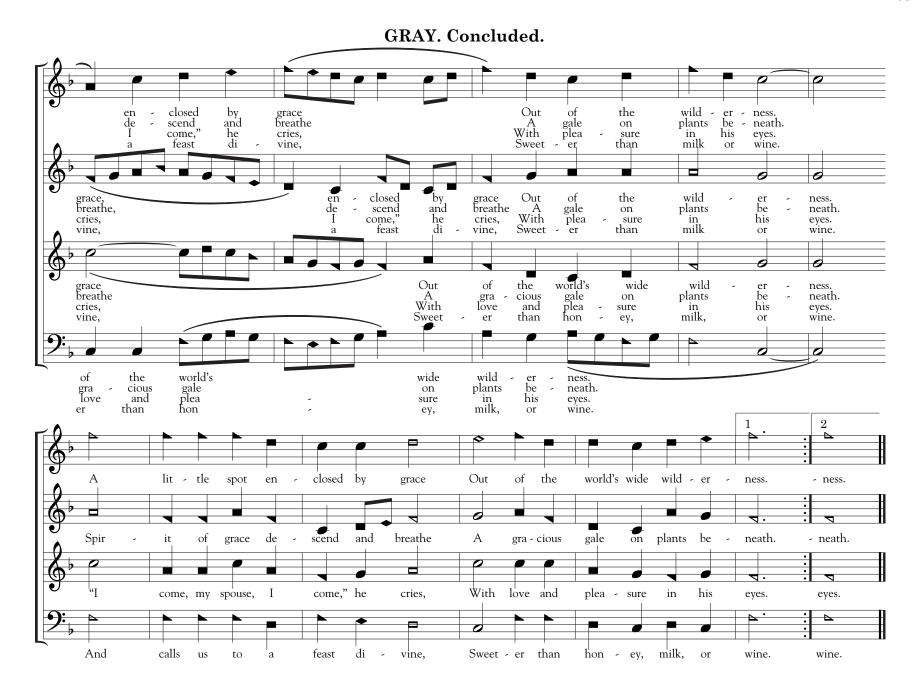




# GRAY. L.M.

F Major Isaac Watts, 1707. P. Dan Brittain, 2013. 1. We walled a - round, Cho and made pe - cu - liar ground; gar - den sen fume; 2. A wake, O heav'n - ly wind and come, Blow this gar - den of per on 3. Let be - lov - ed come and taste pleas - ant fruits his feast: 4. Our Lord Well in - to den comes, pleased to smell our poor per - fumes, lit tle closed grace, breathe, spot it di - vine, scend, and come, my spouse, come, cries, Ånd di vine, to feast tle di lit spot vine, en de I closed it scend and come, he di my spouse, come," feast to lit - tle spot it di - vine, by and grace, breathe, closed en - closed by. de I de scend scend and he di he di come, my spouse, come,' cries, come, And calls feast feast en - closed by grace, de - scend and breathe, I come," he cries, Out A With lit - tle spot en -de -I grace breathe closed by and di - vine, scend come," he cries, come, my spouse, And di - vine, vine, Sweet calls us to a feast feast

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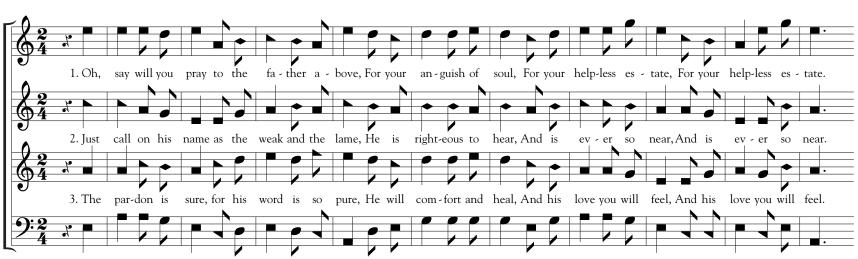


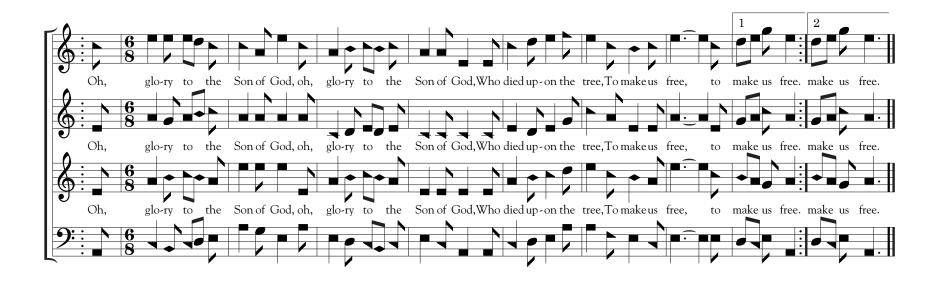
#### DAMASCUS.

A MINOR Ed E. Thacker, 2012.

"Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."—Matt. 4:17

Ed E. Thacker, 2012.

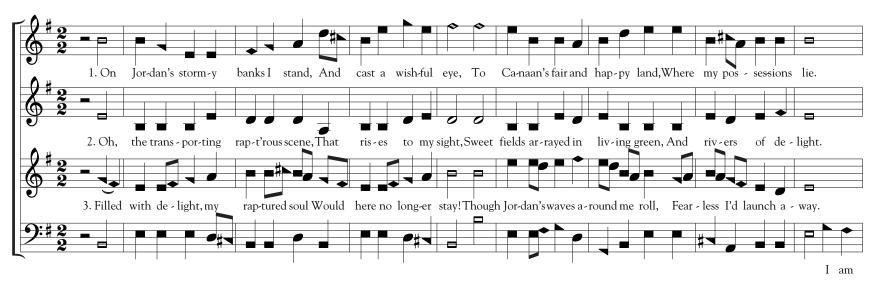


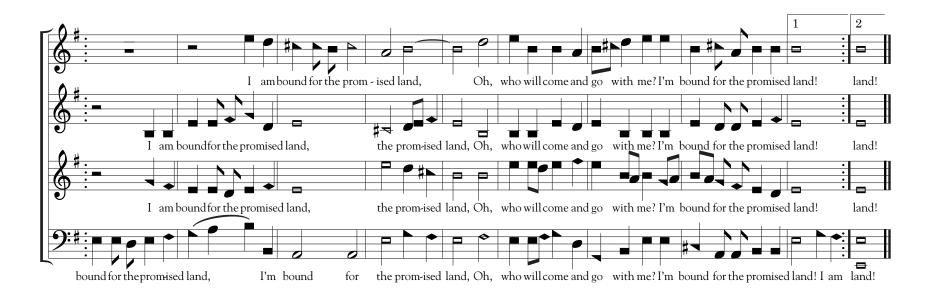


# COLD RIVER. C.M.

E MINOR Samuel Stennett, 1787.

Micah John Walter, 2013.

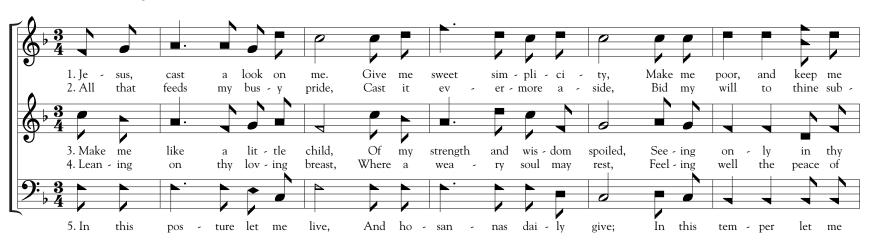


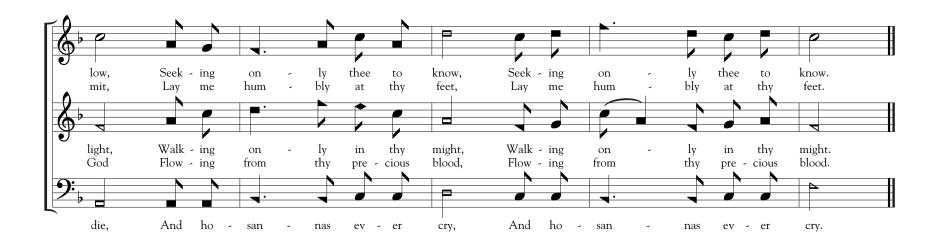


# ABBY. 7s.

F Major John Berridge, 1785.

Matthew Bell, 2012.

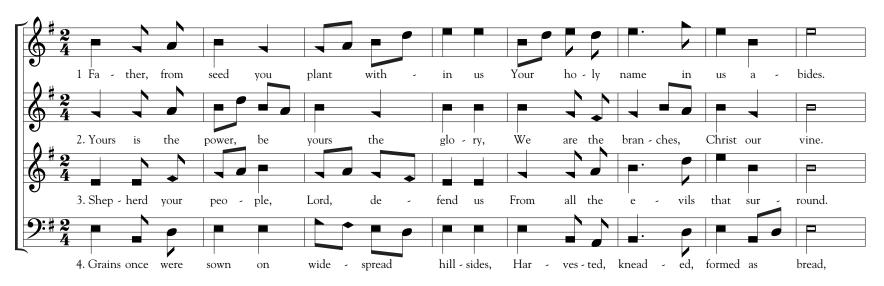


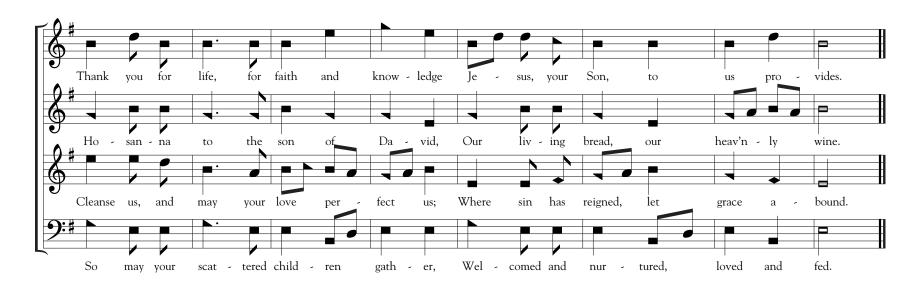


#### **DIDACHE. 9.8.9.8.**

**E** MINOR The Didache, sections 9 and 10.

Phil Summerlin, 2013.

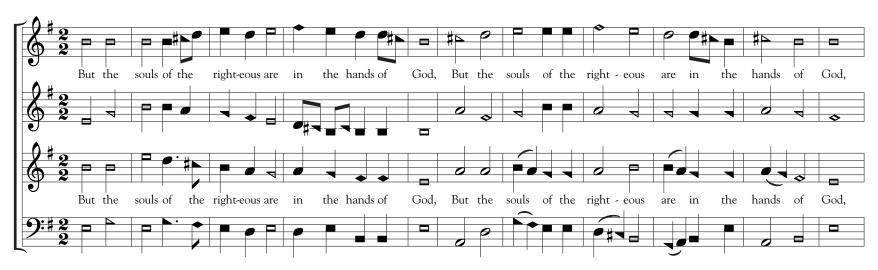


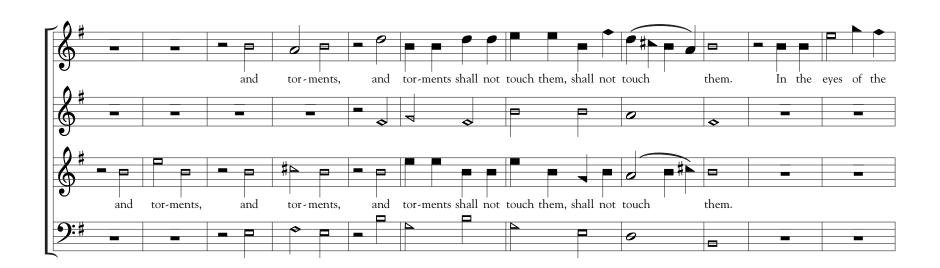


# MEMORIAL ANTHEM.

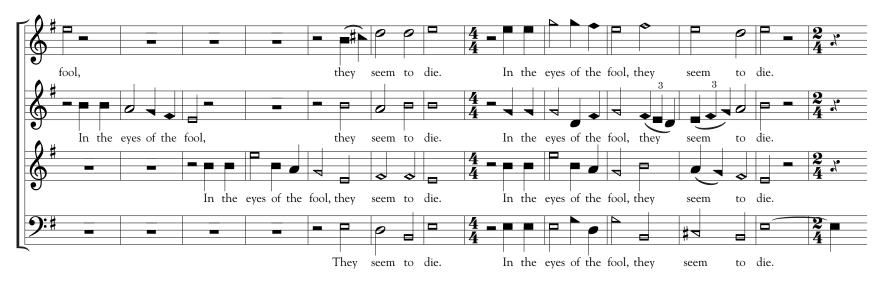
**E M**INOR Wisdom 3:1-4; Sirach 44:14, 51:1

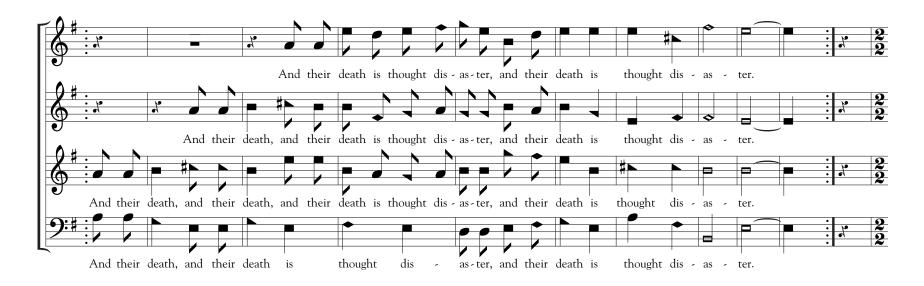
P. Dan Brittain and Bruce Randall, 1997.



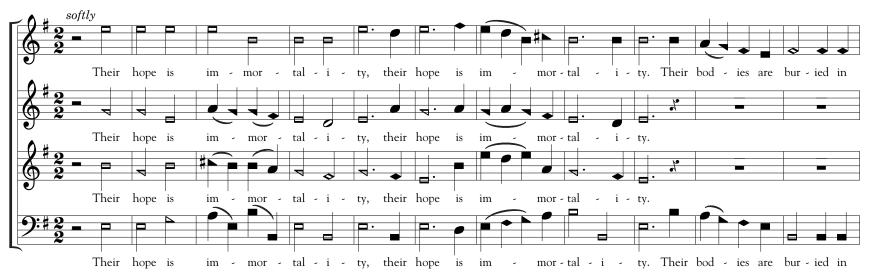


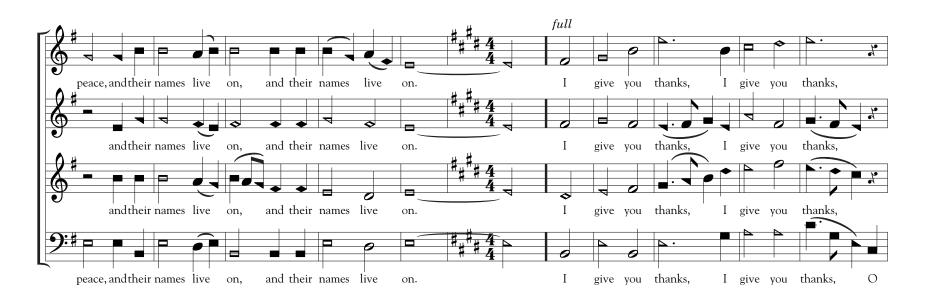
# MEMORIAL ANTHEM. Continued.



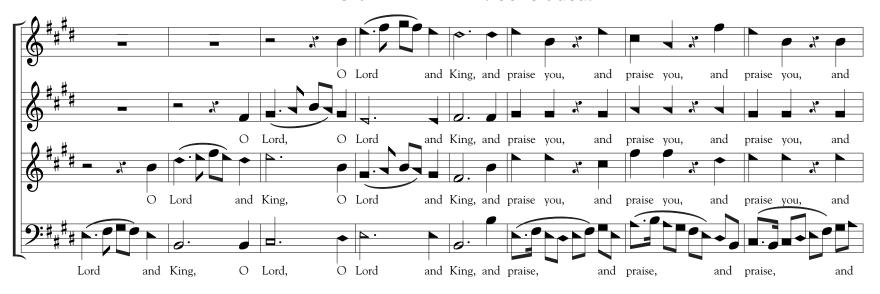


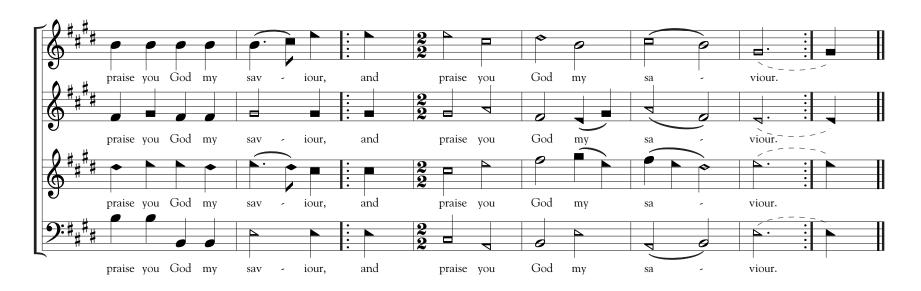
# MEMORIAL ANTHEM. Continued.





# MEMORIAL ANTHEM. Concluded.





#### WATTS' PAINS. C.M.

A Major Isaac Watts, 1736.

Micah Sommersmith, 2013.

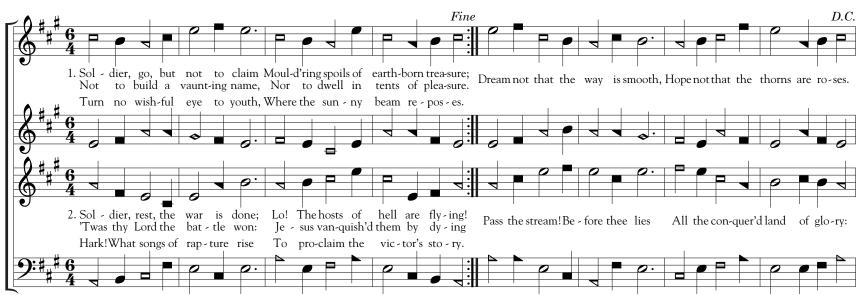


sinn ing nour at nand with peace up i on its wings. Offer it, O God, thy swift compliand, with an the joys it brings.



A Major Charlotte Elizabeth Tonna, c. 1825.

Aldo Thomas Ceresa, 2012.

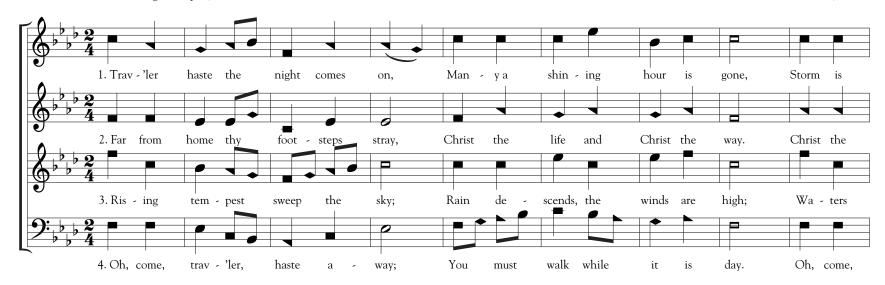


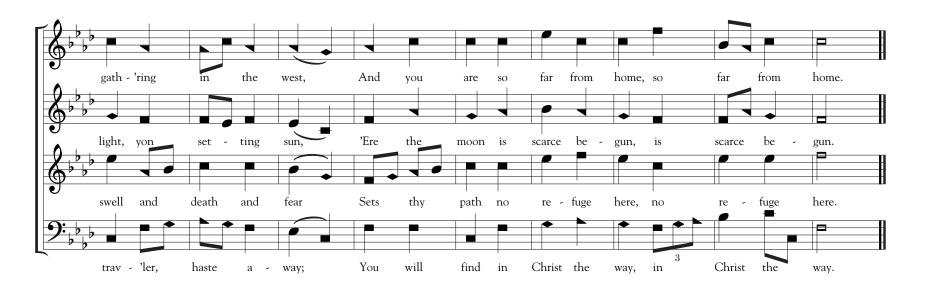
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# STANLEY. 7s.

F MINOR William Bengo Collyer, alt.

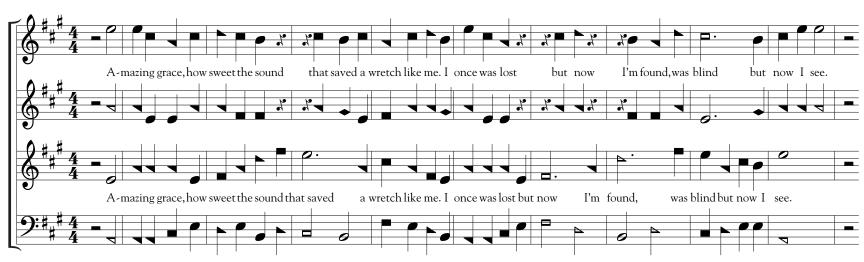
Scott Luscombe, 2013.

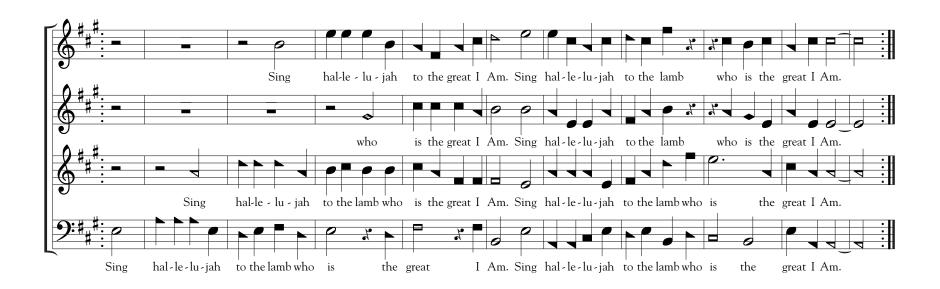




# AUSTIN. C.M.

A Major John Newton, 1779. Cory Winter, 2013.

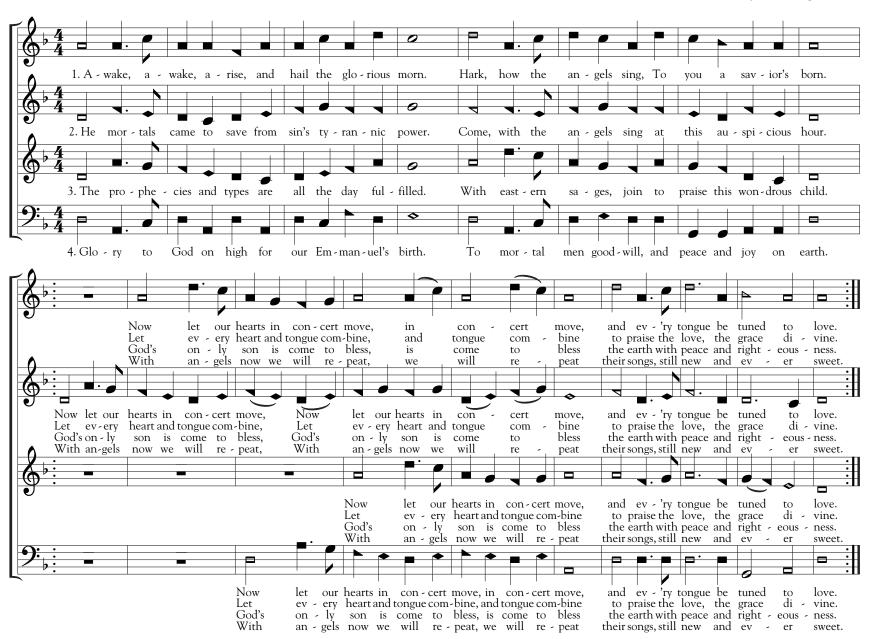




#### KYNZIE. 6s & 8s.

D MINOR John Newton, 1768.

R. C. Webber and Kynzie Stargle, 2013.

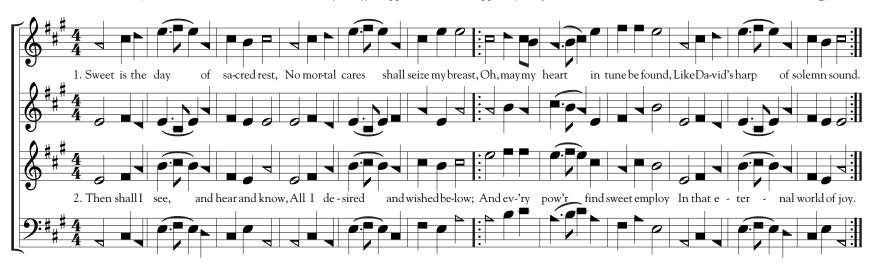


#### ANNISTON. L.M.

A Major Isaac Watts, 1719.

for Jeff Sheppard and the Sheppard family

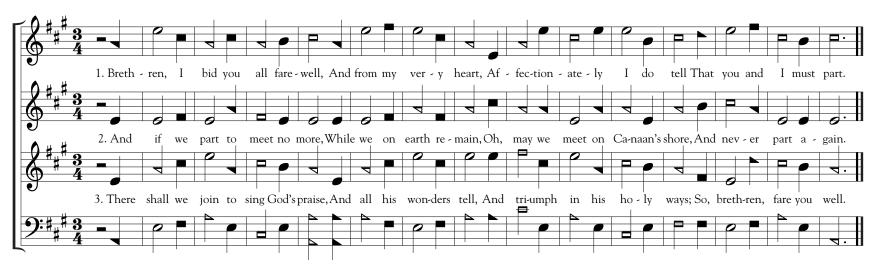
Jesse Pearlman Karlsberg, 2013.

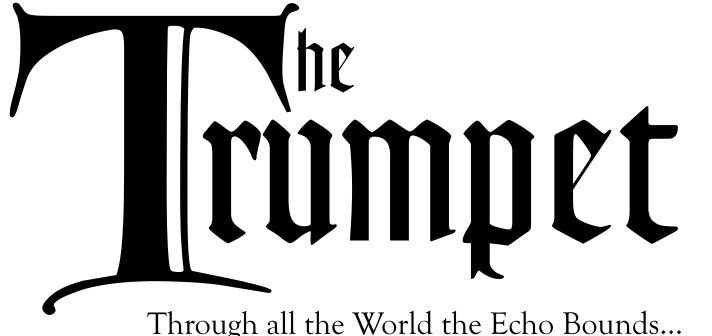


# FAREWELL BRETHREN. C.M.

A Major in Primitive Baptist Hymn Book, 1887.

Jesse Pearlman Karlsberg, 2010.





Through all the World the Echo Bounds...

Volume 4, No 1. February, 2014.



A thrice-annual periodical for singers and writers of dispersed harmony & fasola music

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# From the Editors

new year, and a new volume of *The Trumpet*; a good time to consider new things. The most delightful thing is that Rachel Wells Hall, one of the editors of the well-received Shenandoah Harmony, has agreed to join the editorial board of The Trumpet. Her expertise, we are sure, will add to the quality of our humble periodical. Rachel has agreed to curate, starting with this issue, a column called "Old Paths," which examines old tunes, texts, and composers that have much to teach us in the present. In this issue, Rachel presents two tunes from the recently rediscovered *Songs of Zion* (1821), by James P. Carrell. We are very pleased that Tom Malone will stay on as a "founding editor," and the rest of the board sends congratulations to him and Johanna on the birth of their son.

You may have had the pleasure of listening to Buell Cobb tell stories of Sacred Harp and shape note worthies; if not, we wish this pleasure on you. Wade Kotter reviews Buell's new book, *Like Cords Around My Heart: A Sacred Harp Memoir* in this issue.

And tunes — of course, we have tunes. We asked Tom and Rachel to grace this issue with their compositions, and they each have provided page-and-a-half fuges — an interesting titbit of continuity and synchronicity. We have composers who have not appeared yet in *The Trumpet*. Yotin Tiewtrakul, of Hamburg, Germany, provides us with the provocatively titled Rulers of Sodom. Daniel Hunter's arrangement of "a Baptist tune" he transcribed from Florida singer Tollie Lee, God's Unchanging Hand, is, in Daniel's words, "pretty catchy." And Jason R. Fruit, a new singer from Illinois, gifted us with a plain tune, OLD Stone.

Perhaps the most challenging piece is Aldo Ceresa's OUT OF THE DEEPS, a three-page minor anthem with time changes. Give this some time! Wade Kotter's tribute to Shelbie Sheppard, MUSCADINE, is here too. Other tunes are by composers you may recognize from past issues of *The Trumpet*.

Speaking of which — send in your compositions! We are excited to share this music with singers around the world.

- The Editors ed@singthetrumpet.com

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Wade Kotter, iv

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# The Story of "Big Ears" and the Cords Around His Heart

By Wade Kotter, South Ogden, Utah

**7**ho, you might ask, is "Big Ears," and what are those cords around his heart? Some of you might already know while others are surely scratching their heads. Well, for those of you who are scratching, part of the answer is found on p. 13 of a wonderful new book issued late last year by Outskirts Press titled Like Cords Around My Heart: A Sacred Harp Memoir that is sure to become a "must-read" for anyone interested in Sacred Harp. "Big Ears" is, believe it or not, none other than Buell Cobb, author of this new book, singer, performer, traveler, explorer, discoverer, promoter, organizer, facilitator, midwife (see below) and author of The Sacred Harp: A Tradition and Its Music, which for many singers served as their first written introduction to the world of Sacred Harp singing. Where did the name "Big Ears" come from? Buell tells us in this new book that as a youngster the adults in his family called him "Big Ears" due to his fascination with "grown-up conversation" of all sorts (p. 13). That his memoir is filled to the brim with fascinating stories drawn from his personal experience and stories related to him by others is clear evidence that the nickname "Big Ears" still fits, at least to me.

Following a helpful Introduction, which includes a glossary of Sacred Harp terms and essay-length answers to some basic questions about Sacred Harp singing, Buell launches into an account of his first memories of something called Sacred Harp singing, skillfully framed in the context of a vivid characterization of his beloved Grannie Cobb and a visit to the Cullman County Convention. Next he turns to his time at Alabama College in Montevallo, Alabama where his Sacred Harp adventures began in earnest. I suspect that fellow student Mike Hinton, grandson of the renowned T. J. Denson, had little if any inkling of all that would come when he loaned Buell two studio recordings recently issued by the Sacred Harp Publishing Company. Buell describes this life-changing experience as being struck by "sustained bolt of lightning." Within a short time, young Buell was crisscrossing Alabama and beyond to attend singings and perform at festivals, beginning what would become a life-long devotion to Sacred

Harp, the music, the tradition, and, just as important, the people. At this point, Buell interposes a brief chapter thoughtfully and convincingly comparing the lack of interest among young Southerners in Sacred Harp singing during the 1960s and 70s to the so-called "Ring of Repugnance," the area of lush growth surrounding cow piles where cows refuse to graze.

One might think Buell would continue from there in chronological order but instead he devotes the remainder of the volume to what some insensitive critics might view as a disorganized grab bag but what, to me, is a beautifully constructed mosaic of stories, some extended and others brief, that crosscut time and space in a manner similar to the interweaving musical lines characteristic of Sacred Harp music in the "dispersed harmony" tradition. In the process, like all great storytellers, Buell weaves a richly adorned tapestry of memories at times touching, often humorous, and always, to me, fascinating. Stories that especially stand out in my mind are his vignettes about the stately life-long school teacher and devoted singer Ruth Denson Edwards (Miss Ruth as she was often called), always ready to give people the lessons they deserved; his vivid descriptions of the leading styles and other qualities of other well-known figures such as Hugh McGraw, Dewey Williams, and Japheth Jackson, as well as lesser known singers (to me at least) like Annie Jewel Casey Boyd, Roy Avery, Ed Thomas, Willie Mae Moon, George M. Mattox, and Lonnie Odem; his affectionate and touching memories of Lonnie Rogers and Amanda Denson Brady; and his often humorous but deeply appreciative reminiscences of Buford McGraw, Charlie Creel, and Tat Bailey, three of the most interesting and truly unique Sacred Harp "characters" (in the best sense of the term) of recent times.

Many other people are mentioned but space constraints preclude me from mentioning them all; the name index at the back of the book, suggested by Richard Schmeidler (who also provided Buell with a first draft of the index) is very helpful in this regard. Also fascinating are Buell's accounts of his role as "midwife" in introducing the Sacred Harp to groups such as the Watersons from Yorkshire and his involvement in the "discovery" of "lost" Sacred Harp "tribes" such as the Lee family of Hoboken, Georgia and the African-American "Calvary Sacred Harp Singing Convention" in east-central Alabama. Throughout his narrative, Buell enriches his accounts with rare

photographs, excerpts from letters, interviews, and other primary sources, many of which have never before appeared in print.

While some reviewers and readers might reasonably disagree with a few details in the book, I have chosen to avoid this temptation, especially since Buell clearly intended this as a personal memoir and not a scholarly treatise. Motivated in part, as he indicates in the Introduction, by a desire to give an account of the people of the Sacred Harp tradition in light of questions from a reader of his first book, Buell is clearly a storyteller at heart, and a very skilled one at that. The images he creates with his words are as vivid and entertaining as I've read in any similar work and his prose flows like a peaceful river filled with magic, inevitably drawing the reader under its spell. I can hardly imagine a more delightful and attractive combination of grace, insight, tenderness, sensitivity, humility, self-deprecation, and humor, along with a healthy dose of playfulness. This book, I contend without reservation, is destined to become a classic and will certainly join Buell's The Sacred Harp: A Tradition and Its Music on the "must-read" list for anyone with even a passing interest in the Sacred Harp tradition. I suspect in years to come that Buell will meet people for the first time who say something like: "Your book opened a whole new world to me," the words David Lee from Hoboken spoke with respect to his other book upon meeting him for the first time (p. 164). In the years to come, Buell will probably have to ask them, "Which book?"

Let me close with one final thought. Some might wonder why I suggested writing about Buell's new book when asked to consider submitting an essay to *The Trumpet*. After all, *The Trumpet* is devoted to promoting music in the dispersed harmony tradition and there is very little in Buell's memoir specific to the music itself. My answer is simple; as Buell says on p. 2 of *Like Cords Around My Heart*, Sacred Harp singing "is today, as it was from the start, the people singing." I couldn't agree more. How can we possibly develop a complete understanding of Sacred Harp music without knowing more about the people who sing it? I believe it's the music, the words, the places, the memories, and especially the people that are the cords around Buell's heart, as they are around mine and, I suspect, the hearts of most of you who have endured this essay to its end.

# Old Paths: James P. Carrell

By Rachel Wells Hall, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

ev. James P. Carrell (1787–1854) of Lebanon, Virginia authored two tunebooks, Songs of Zion (1821) and The Virginia Harmony (1831, with David L. Clayton). Songs of Zion is a 64-page collection published in the Shenandoah Valley by Ananias Davisson, compiler of Kentucky Harmony and arranger of 47b IDUMEA in The Sacred Harp. It is the earliest known example of a shape-note book consisting almost exclusively of compositions and arrangements by a single author. We now know that three pieces from Songs of Zion appear in The Sacred Harp: 131t MESSIAH, 57 CHRISTIAN SOLDIER, and 139 ELYSIAN; fifteen appear in Hauser's Hesperian Harp (1848).

Songs of Zion was long thought to be lost. The University of Virginia Library recently acquired the only known copy. A digital facsimile is now freely available on the library's web site. I am planning to publish a critical edition of Songs of Zion together with essays on Carrell's compositional style and legacy.

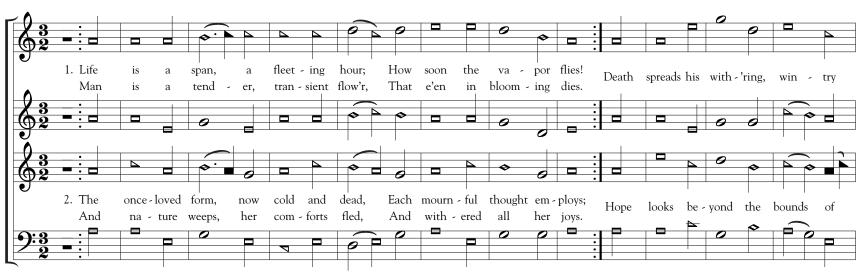
Carrell's Attention (page 164) is one of his finest. Although its melody is firmly major, his liberal use of the minor vi chord (formed by 6-la, 1-fa, and 3-la) and the minor ii chord (2-sol, 4-fa, 6-la) gives the piece a tenderness befitting the text. Carrell delays the major IV chord (4-fa, 6-la, 1-fa) until midway through the piece. The tenor and bass employ the same notes, with both parts omitting mi and placing unusual emphasis on the 4-fa. The rests punctuating the repeated phrases in measures 7 and 8 add urgency to the last line. It is a relative of HARK! My SOUL in Walker's Christian Harmony (1866).

Hallelujah (page 165) is a solid example of two-part writing. The lower part's melodic nature and high range are more typical of a treble than a bass. In measure 9, the bass's high note is a full octave above the tenor. Carrell adds interest to the song by varying the second part underneath the repeated phrases of the melody. I've tried Hallelujah with the tenors and trebles singing lead and the altos singing with the basses, though other configurations are possible. The melody is similar to John Steffey's Princeton (c. 1840) in *The Shenandoah Harmony* and M. L. Swan's Sion's Security (1848) in *The New Harp of Columbia*, with a more distant connection to Wayfaring Stranger.

Kevin Barrans, 2013.

# CARKEEK. C.M.D.

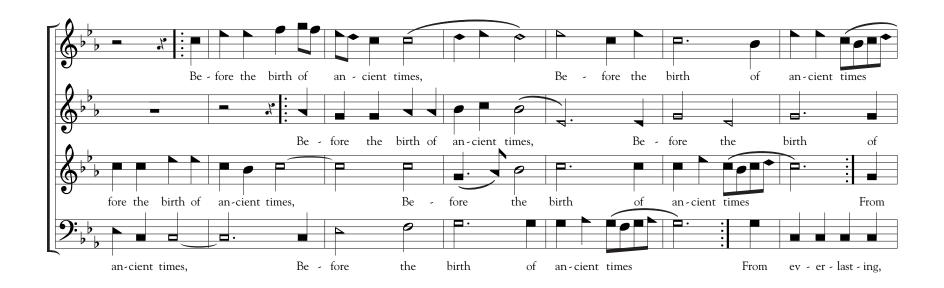
A Minor Anne Steele, 1760.





# NEW CREATION. L.M.



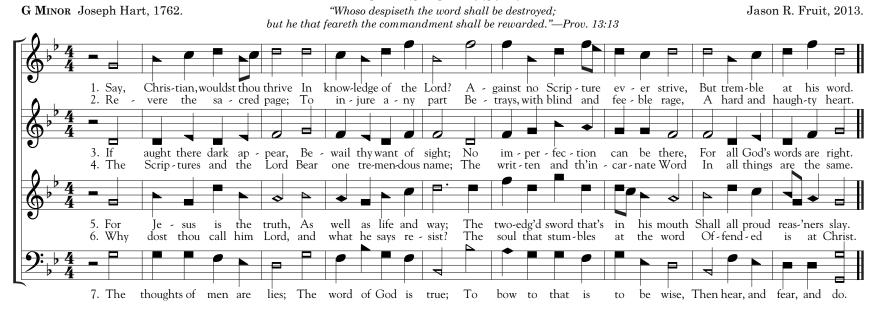


#### **NEW CREATION. Concluded.**



Thou art God, From ev - er - last - ing, Thou art God, From ev - er - last - ing, ev - er - last - ing, Thou art God.

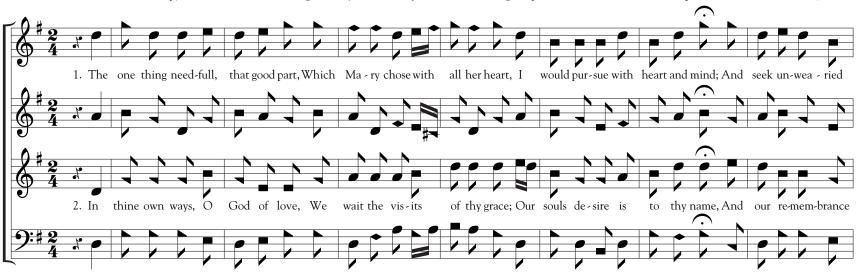
### OLD STONE. S.M.

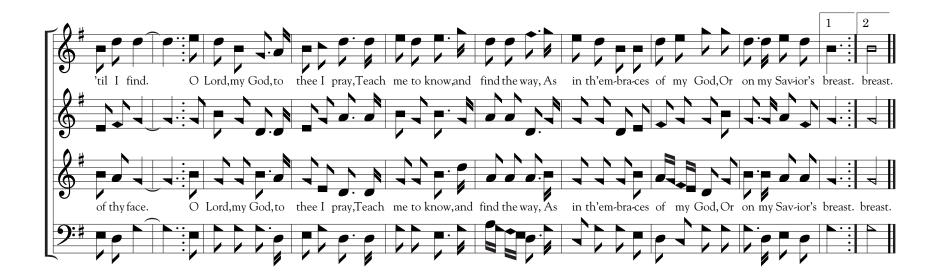


The composer suggests this be sung without the raised sixth. – Eds.

# CHILDERS. P.M.

G Major The Christian Duty, 1791. "But one thing is needful: and Mary hath chosen that good part"—Luke 10:41 John Bayer and P. Dan Brittain, 1995.





#### DELMENHORST. L.M.

E MINOR Isaac Watts, 1717.

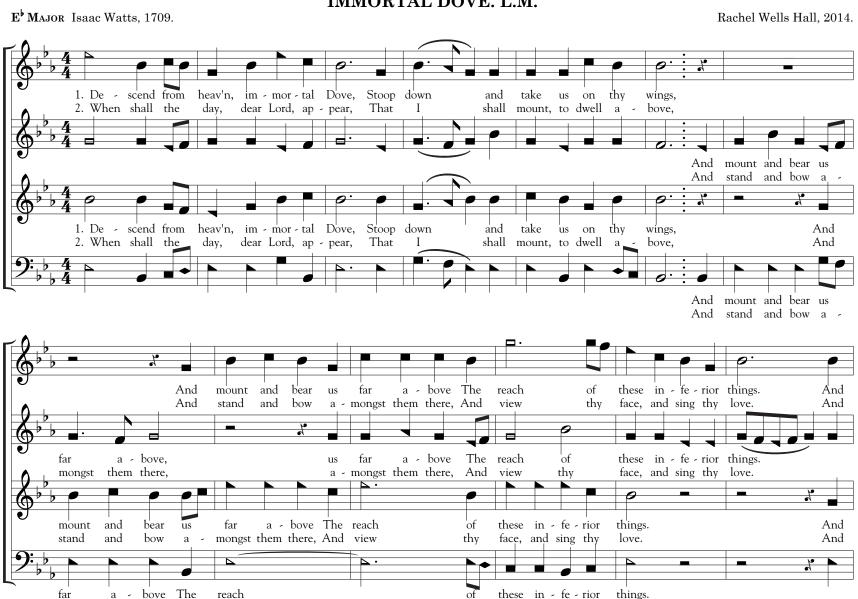
Fynn Titford-Mock, 2013.



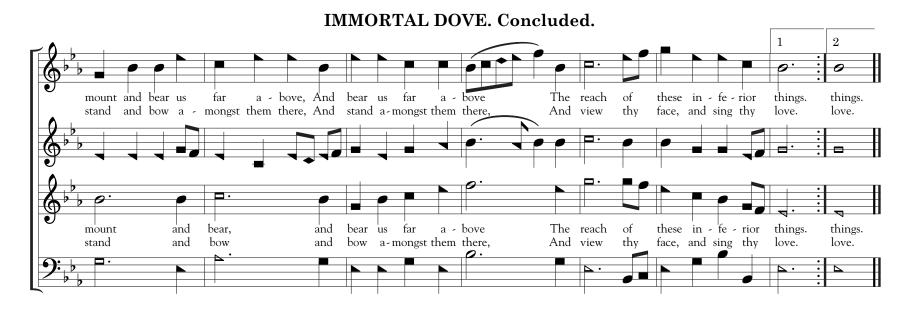
mongst them there, And

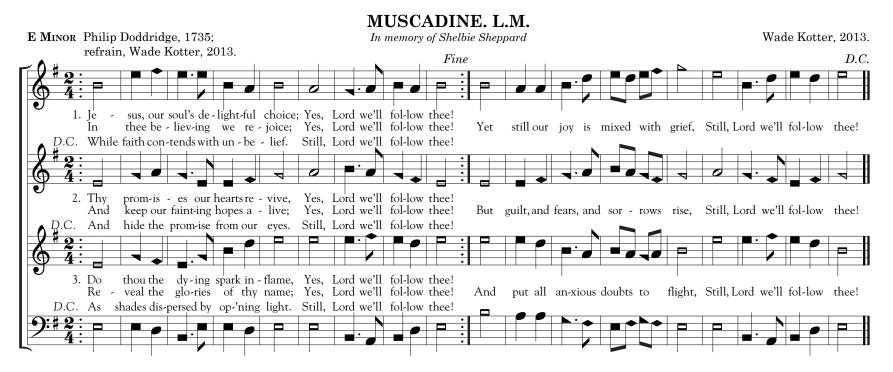
view

# IMMORTAL DOVE. L.M.



face, and sing thy





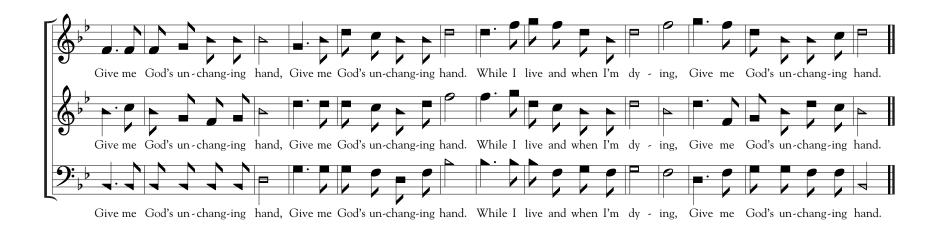
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#### GOD'S UNCHANGING HAND.

B Major Mrs. J. M. Hunter, by 1927.

arranged by Daniel Hunter, 2013.

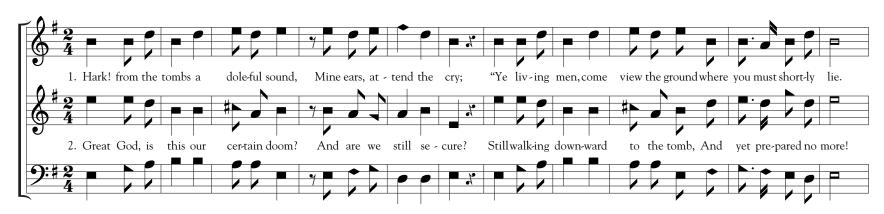


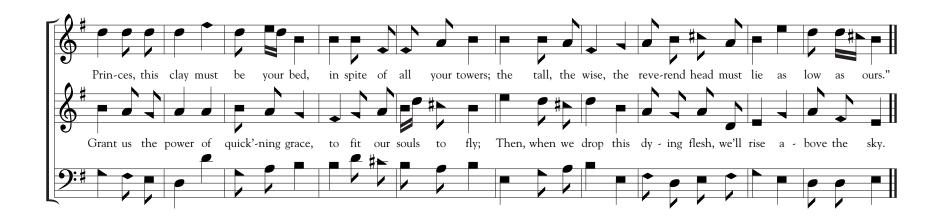


# RULERS OF SODOM. C.M.D.

E MINOR Isaac Watts, 1707.

Yotin Tiewtrakul, 2013.

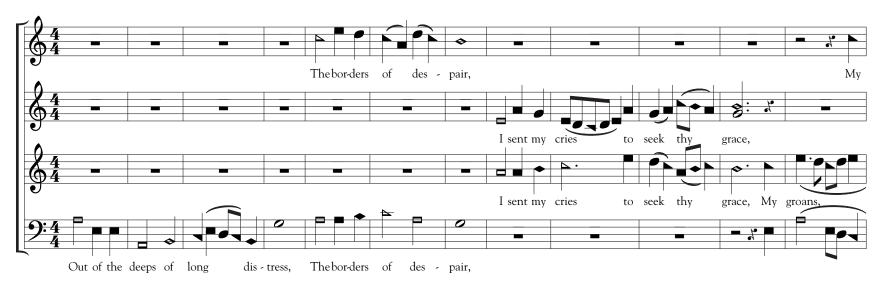


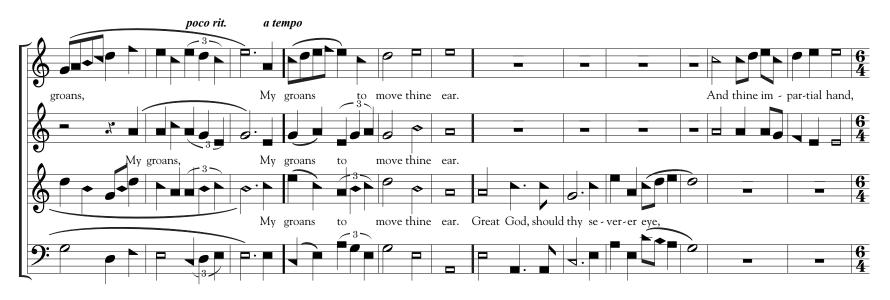


# OUT OF THE DEEPS. C.M.

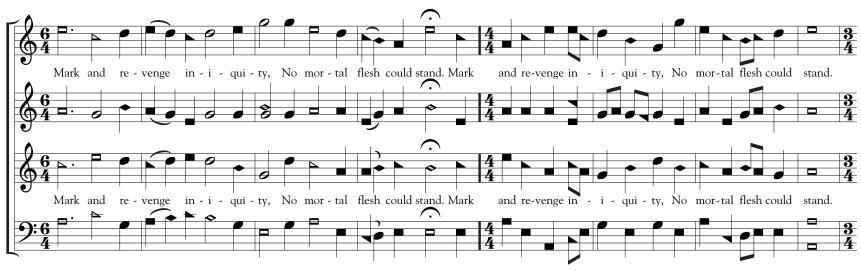
A MINOR Isaac Watts, 1719.

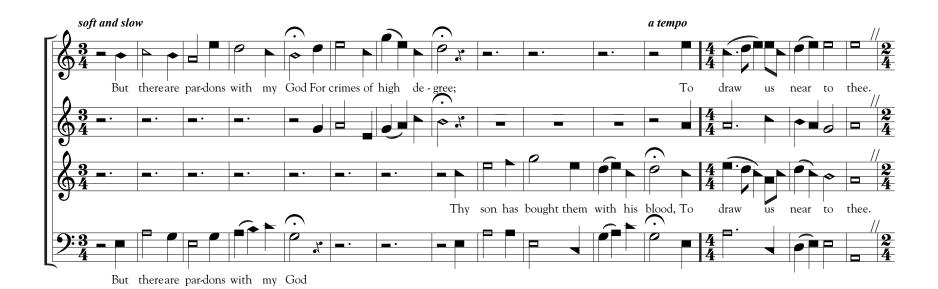
Aldo Thomas Ceresa, 2013.



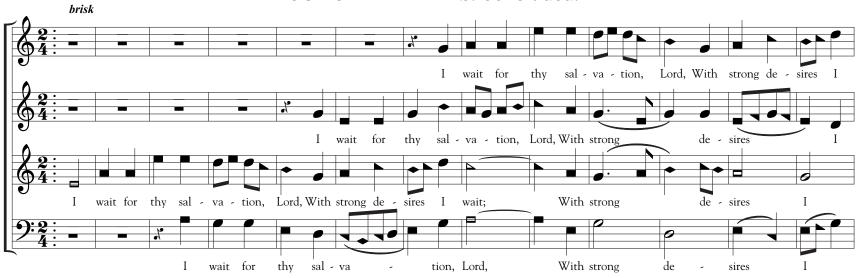


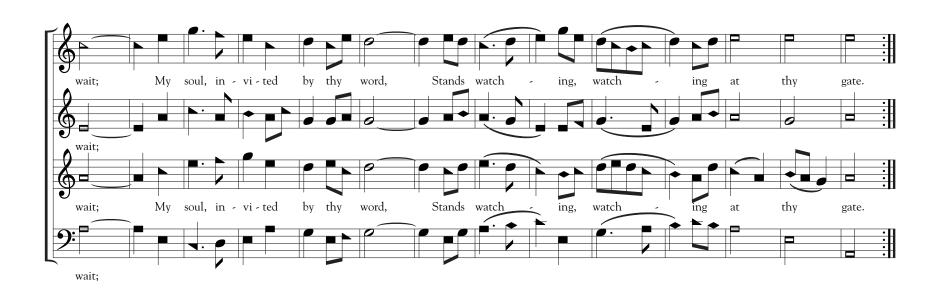
# **OUT OF THE DEEPS. Continued.**





## **OUT OF THE DEEPS. Concluded.**





## SOUTH SECOND. L.M.



## ATTENTION. 7s.



#### HALLELUJAH. 8s & 7s.

F# MINOR Robert Robinson, 1758.

James P. Carrell, 1821.



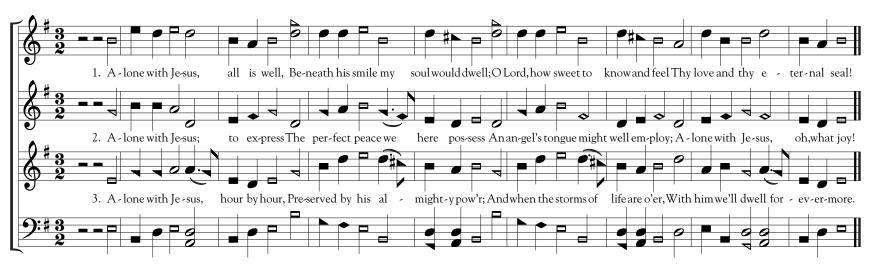
- 2. Teach me some me lo-dious son net, Sung by flam-ing tongues a-bove; Praise the mount, I'm fixed up-on it, Mount of God's re-deem-ing love.
- 3. Here I raise my Eb-en-e zer; Hith-er by thy help I'm come; And I hope by thy good pleas ure, Safe-ly to ar rive at home.



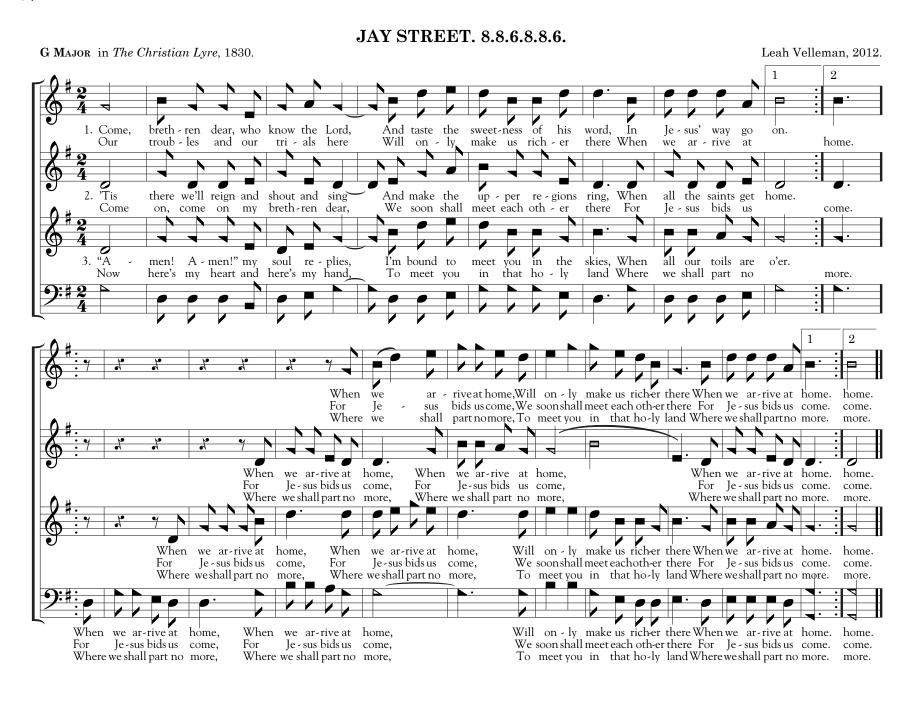
## COMPANY. L.M.

E MINOR Emily Barner, 1911.

Micah John Walter, 2013.



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Through all the World the Echo Bounds...

Volume 4, No 2. December, 2014.



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# From the Editors

**T** ave you been wondering when the next issue of *The Trumpet* was coming out? So have we, impatient with ourselves and Lour busy lives that get in the way of volunteer efforts. Well, here it is, with several fine tunes from familar composers, and a few composers we haven't published before. We have our first father and son combination: Dennis (father) and T.D. (son) George. Nancy Kulik, of Cork, Ireland provides a nice setting for the famous Scottish Psalter text The Lord's My Shepherd. Tom Ivey, from Charlotte, North Carolina, provides a tune for a text written, in the 1930s or 40s, by Ervin Spencer Laminack, who was a first cousin to Marcus Cagle, and related to T.D. Laminack, one of the editors of the James book. It is appropriately named LAMINACK. Thomas Ward gives us the delightfully named CABBAGE TOWN. Also appearing for the first time are Tracey Craig McKibben, who sings in Dayton, Ohio, and Angharad Davis, of New Haven, Connecticut. Editor Rachel Hall takes us down the "old paths" with Nehemiah Shumway.

As we were bringing this issue together, the Sacred Harp community was saddened by the death of Mr. Raymond Hamrick, whose LLOYD is one of the top 10 most led songs from the 1991 Edition, and whose Christian's Farewell is often led as we take the parting hand. As Jesse Karlsberg wrote of Mr. Hamrick, he was "a delightful presence at singings, and a living treasure in the Sacred Harp world." We hope to more fully honor his treasured memory with a special issue of *The Trumpet* next year.

Speaking of next year, we plan to move to two issues per year in 2015. This will allow us to spend more time singing new tunes and helping composers polish their compositions. To do this, though, we are seeking a new editor to join us who can oversee the creation and production of *The Trumpet*. It's possible that without this, we might need to cease publication. If you are interested in this role, please write us at the email address below. Help us keep *The Trumpet* highlighting the great new tunes being created!

Dedicated to the memory of Raymond Hamrick (1915–2014).

- The Editors ed@singthetrumpet.com

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# OLD PATHS: NEHEMIAH SHUMWAY

By Rachel Wells Hall, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

The influence of Nehemiah Shumway (1761-1843) on the Sacred Harp tradition is disproportionate to the fact that only two of his songs are included in *The Sacred Harp*: Schenectady and Ballstown. These songs are consistently "Top 40" (according to the Minutes) and have inspired several Southern Sacred Harp composers. Born in Massachusetts, Shumway lived most of his life in New Jersey and New York. He published his round-note *The American Harmony* in 1793 and later published tunes in four shapes in *The Easy Instructor*, which appeared in numerous editions from 1801 through the 1820s.

JUDGMENT, on page 176 in this issue of *The Trumpet*, first published in *The American Harmony*, is a fine example of Shumway's fuging style. What I find most remarkable in this piece—and others—is his use of rhythm. The first four lines of text take a variety of syllable durations, none less than a quarter note. Shumway introduces the long-short-short-long pattern in m.8-9 ("The nations near"), which is echoed at double speed in m.15 ("Thron'd on a cloud"). He confounds our expectations that the fuge will start after two or four lines of text by extending the plain text setting to six lines. The quarter-eighth-eighth-quarter pattern of "Thron'd on a cloud" becomes the rhythm of the fuge entrance and is finally repeated by all the voices together at the end of the piece. This pattern is particularly dramatic because it begins on a strong beat, rather than on a pickup.

Shumway's Judgment was evidently an inspiration for J.M.C. Shaw's 1902 song of the same name, which appears on page 269 of the Cooper edition of *The Sacred Harp*, with alto by Bamma Quick. The text and rhythm are the most noticeable similarities—in particular, the "Thron'd on a cloud" pattern is borrowed from Shumway, as well as the general rhythmic organization of the first four lines of text. There is some melodic borrowing as well. Shumway's Judgment was first disseminated in the South in William Hauser's *Hesperian Harp* (1848), and this is the most likely reason for Shaw's knowing it.

The catchy, almost syncopated, rhythms of Shumway's later songs Schenectady (1805) and Ballstown (1809) inspired several compositions in the Denson edition of *The Sacred Harp*. S.M. Denson's Morning Sun (1911) is a sort of "rhythmic twin" of Schenectady in that

the durations of corresponding syllables of text are mostly the same in both songs, as are the placement of fuge entrances. S.M. Denson and J.S. James's Traveling On (1911) has the same relationship to Ballstown. J.P. Reese's Fillmore (1869) imitates the rhythm of Schenectady, though less closely.

The practice of reworking New England fuges in the Southern shape-note tradition has been noted elsewhere. There are quite a few examples where the imitation involves both melodies and rhythms. It is particularly significant that rhythm is the aspect of Shumway's style that S.M. Denson, J.P. Reese, and J.M.C. Shaw choose to emulate.

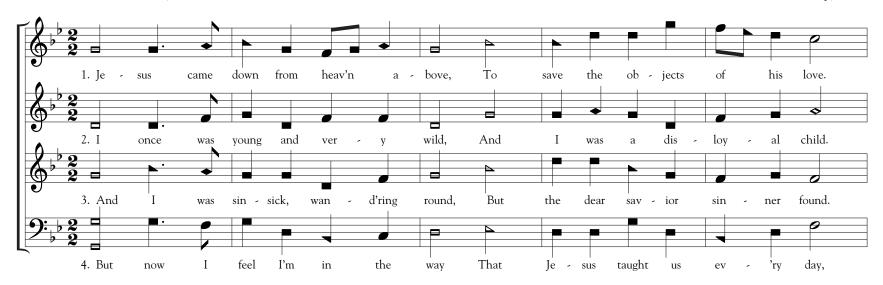
Shumway was no less influential as a compiler. In addition to reprinting compositions by Billings, Read, and others, Shumway's *The American Harmony* (1793, 1801) introduced thirty-eight new songs, including thirteen by Shumway. Four of the thirty-eight are found in editions of *The Sacred Harp*: Mount Pleasant, Sharon, All Saints New (218, 212, and 444 in the Denson edition), and a relative of Hatfield in the Cooper edition (327). This last tune is also related to Hatfield in Andrew Law's *Rudiments of Music* (ed.2, 1786) and The True Pentitent in Jeremiah Ingalls's *The Christian Harmony* (1805). Due to the existence of variations indicating probable oral transmission of the song, musicologists McKay and Crawford propose that Hatfield is "the earliest printed American folk hymn." S.M. Denson's arrangement of Voice of Nature, another song introduced in *The American Harmony*, appears on page 20 of *The Christian Harmony* as Prison Chains.

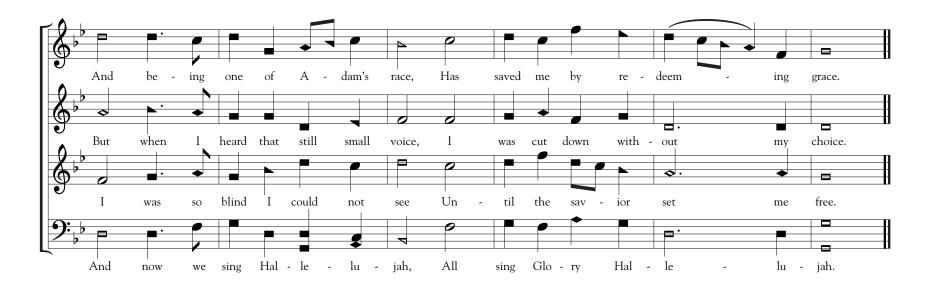
The American Harmony is well represented in other shape-note collections. It was a primary source of New England tunes for two early shape-note books, Freeman Lewis's The Beauties of Harmony (Pittsburgh, 1814) and Little and Smith's The Easy Instructor (Albany, 1801 and on). These songs made their way south and west through The Kentucky Harmony (Harrisonburg, Va., 1820), The Missouri Harmony (Cincinnati, 1820), and The Juvenile Harmony (Cincinnati, 1825), which were among the sources of The Hesperian Harp (1848) by William Hauser of Wadley, Georgia. Of the thirty-eight songs first published in The American Harmony, in addition to the four in The Sacred Harp, twelve are in The Shenandoah Harmony, three are in The Missouri Harmony (2005 ed.), two are in The Norumbega Harmony, and one is in The Northern Harmony (2012 ed.).

## LAMINACK. L.M.

G MINOR E. S. Laminack, 1930s-40s.

Thomas A. Ivey, 2014.

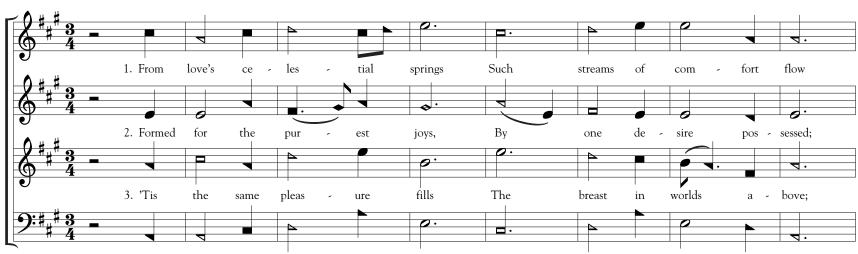


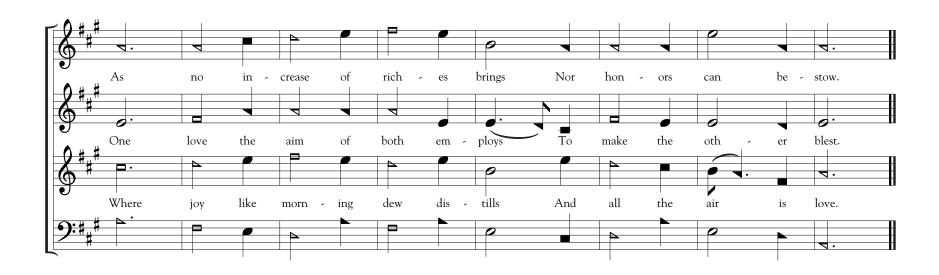


## CABBAGE TOWN. S.M.

A Major Isaac Watts, 1709. For Ruthie and Ben on the occasion of their wedding.

Thomas Ward, 2014.

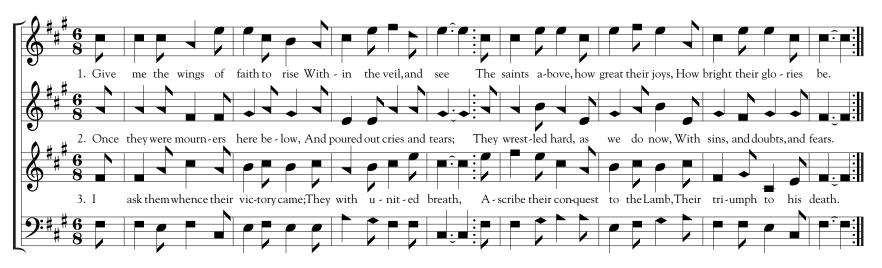




#### LEGACY. C.M.

F Minor Isaac Watts, 1709.

Dennis George, 2014.

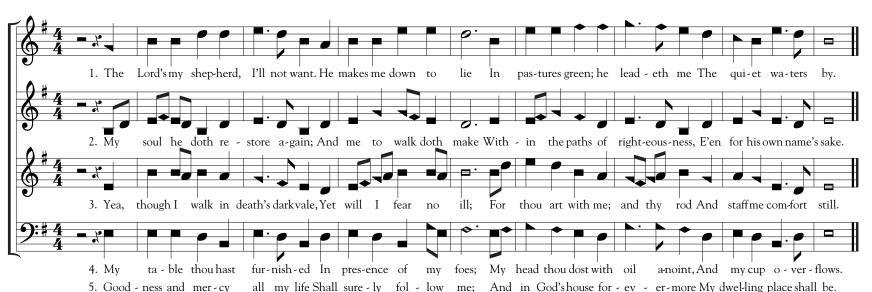


#### THE LORD'S MY SHEPHERD. C.M.

E Minor Scottish Psalter, 1650.

Psalm 23

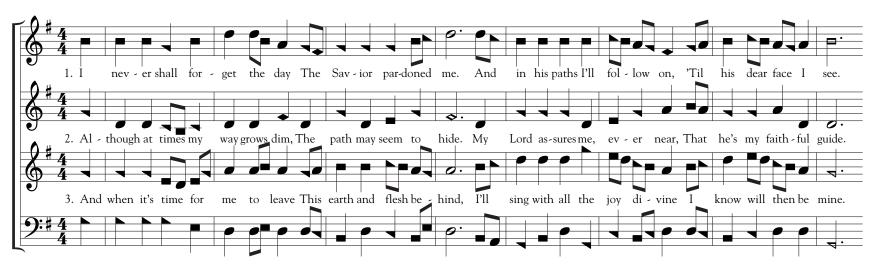
Nancy Kulik, 2014.

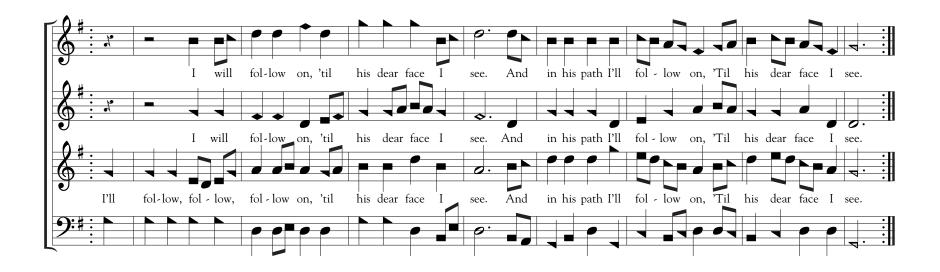


## FOLLOW ON. C.M.

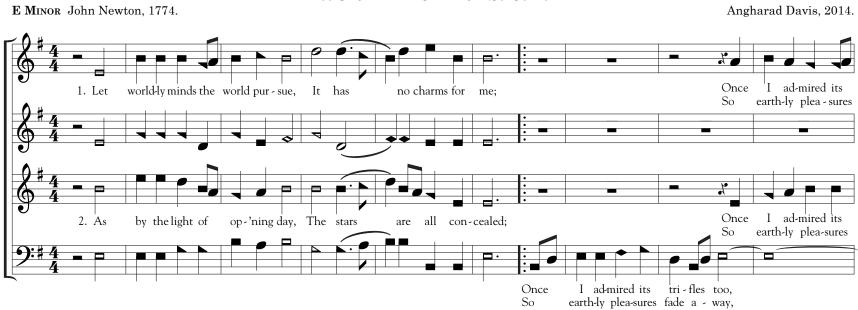
G Major Tracey Craig McKibben and Glenda Stoneback, 2008.

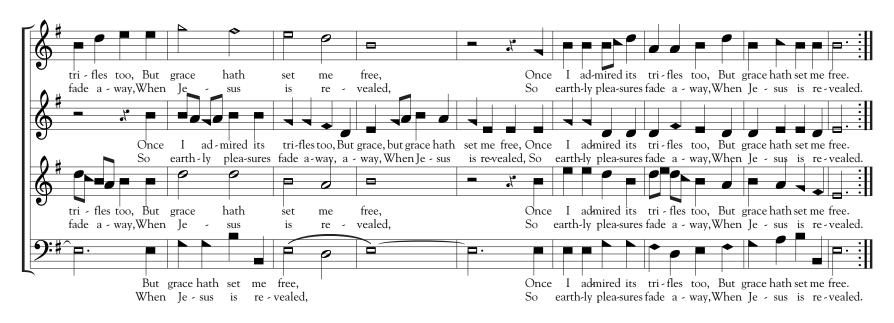
Tracey Craig McKibben, 2008.

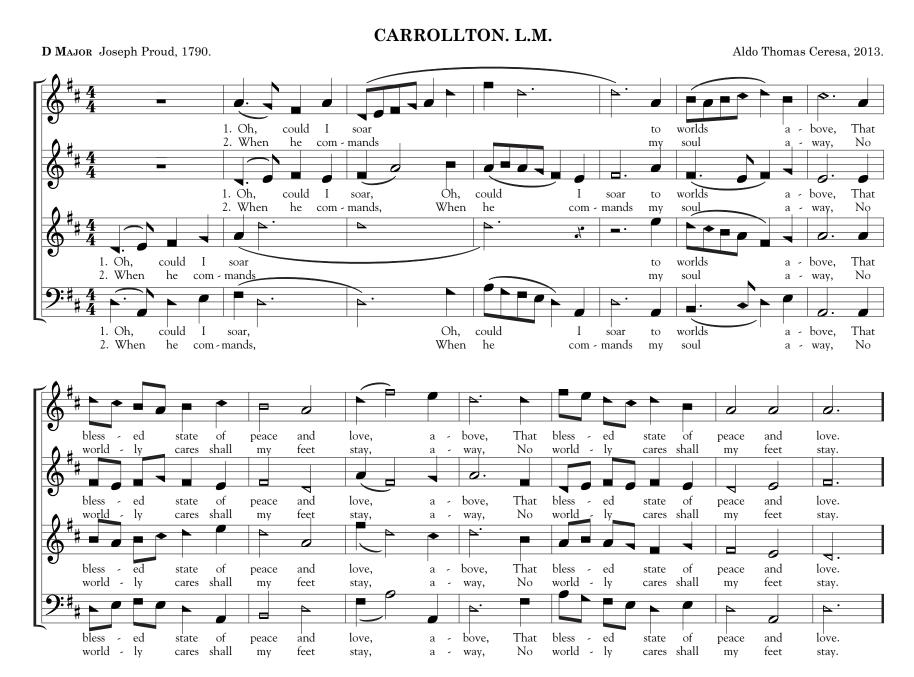




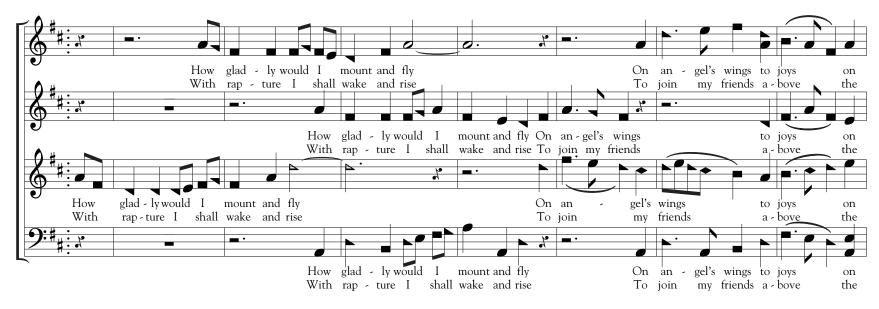
## WORLDLY CHARMS. C.M.

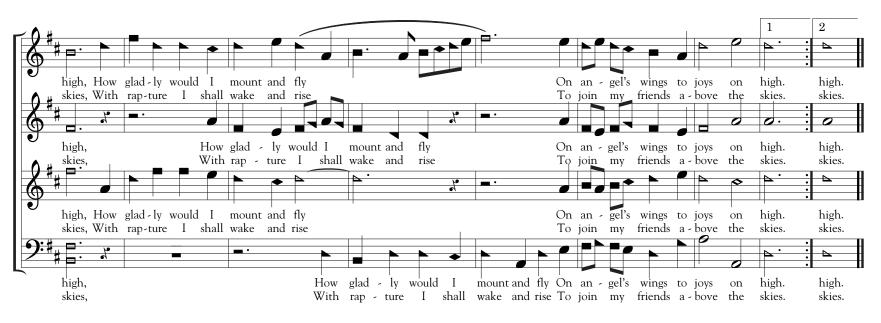






#### CARROLLTON. L.M. Concluded.

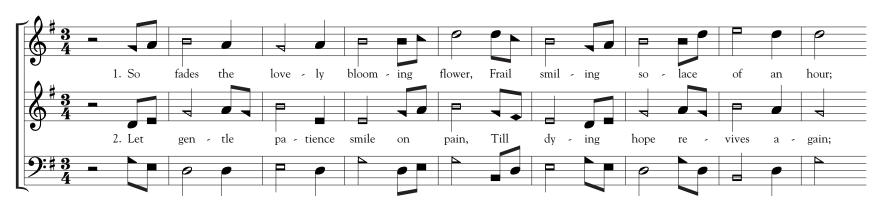


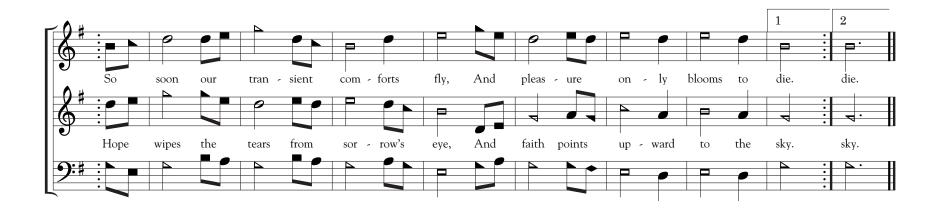


## TOWN CREEK. L.M.

G Major Anne Steele, 1760.

T. D. George, 2013.

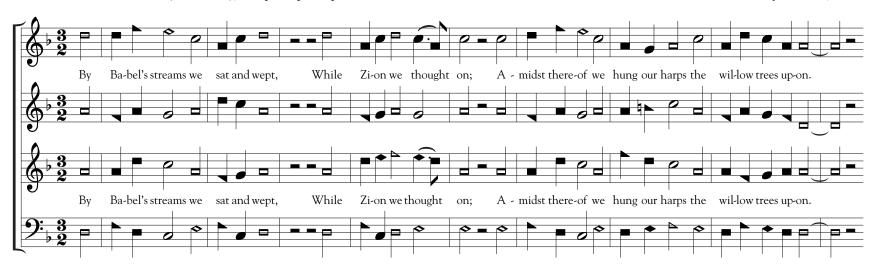




## LITTLE VINE. C.M.D.

**D** MINOR Scottish Psalter (Psalm 137); and perhaps Stephen Jenks..

Cory Winters, 2014.

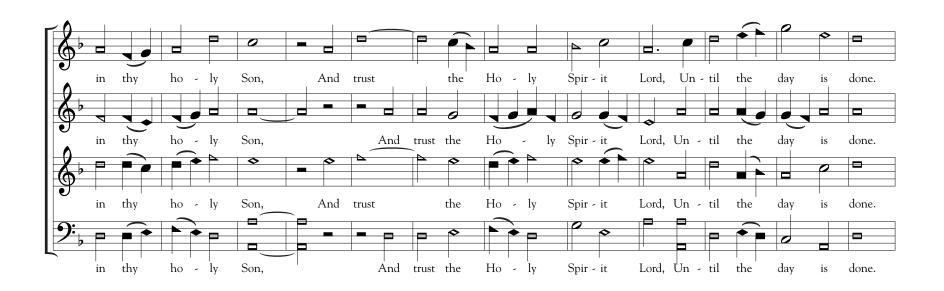




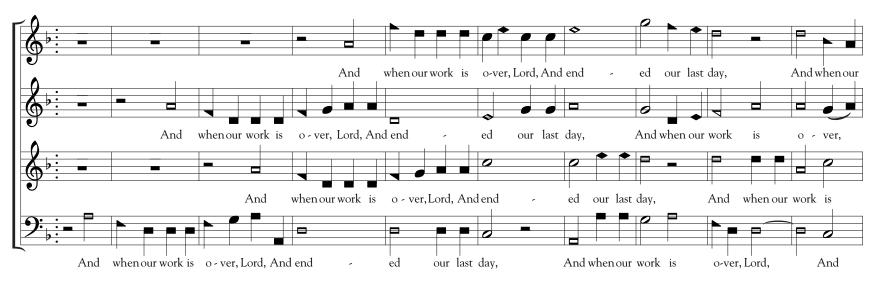
## LYNN. C.M.D.



pray



## LYNN. Concluded.

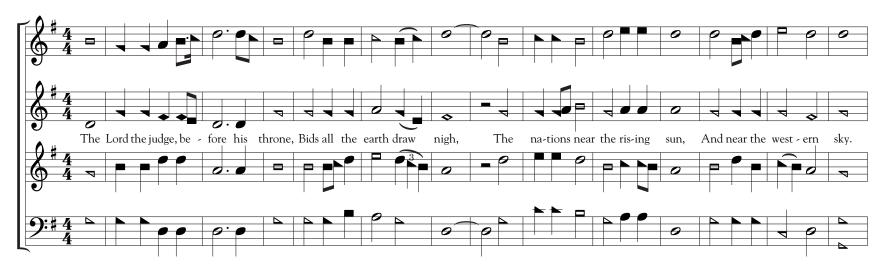


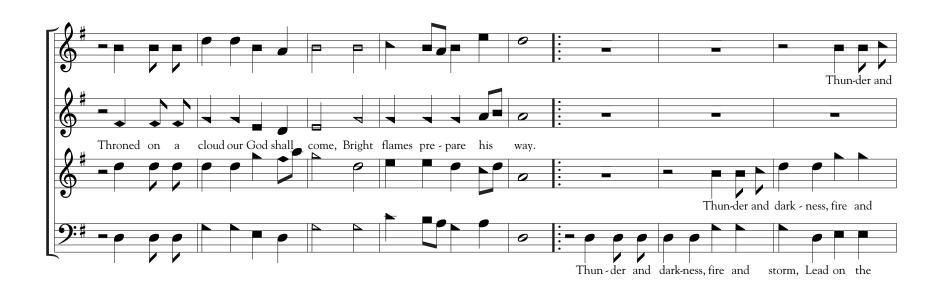


## JUDGMENT. C.M.D.

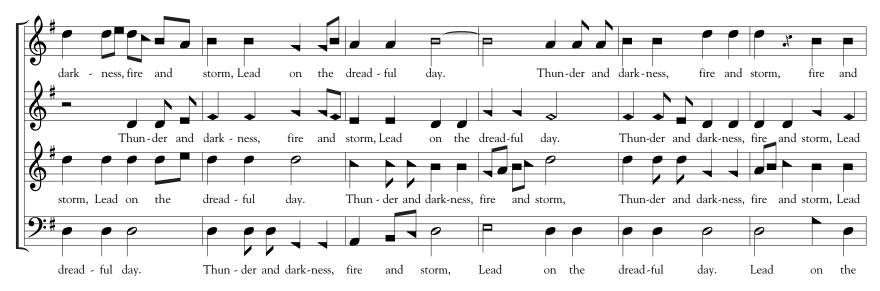
G Major Isaac Watts, 1719.

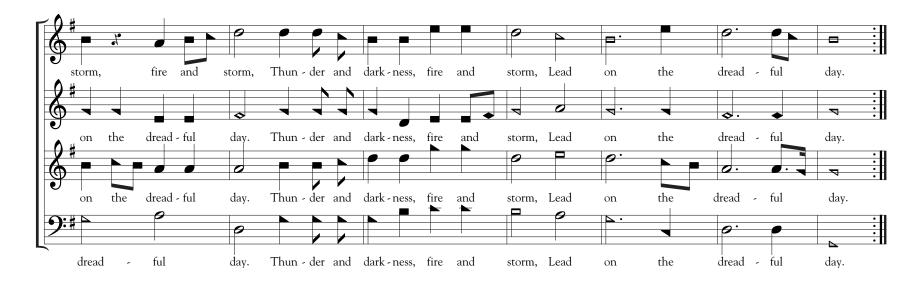
Nehemiah Shumway, 1793.





## JUDGMENT. Concluded.





## WADDELL STREET. C.M.





Through all the World the Echo Bounds...

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# From the Editors

We are pleased to present to the singing public a new issue of *The Trumpet*. Its songs have been gathered in from the United Kingdom and the United States, from North and South. We hope that classes of singing friends, in the range of tunes newly on offer here, will find more than the excuse they need to come together with open hearts and ears—in joint service to the warm fellow feeling enabled by the composers' work and by their own proper work of forming a congregation in "sweet communion" (as Christopher Coughlin reminds us in his essay for this issue, "The Importance of Listening").

The songs in this issue testify to a growing interest among Sacred Harp singers in sharing new songs and arrangements, introducing seven new composers, along with eight veteran contributors. Composers new to The Trumpet run the gamut from long-familiar presences in the hollow square to the two youngest composers vet featured (The Christian's Entreaty and Centre Hall were authored at the ages of seventeen and nine, respectively). Our new issue's composers have taken lyrical inspiration from a diversity of interesting sources ranging from Moby-Dick (JONAH) to a "new book" song known in bluegrass circles (WHEN I DIE, I'LL LIVE AGAIN) to contemporary verse written by a fellow singer (SOLDIERS' HOME) to camp meeting lyrics (WE'LL LAND ON SHORE) to a section of Tate and Brady's Psalm 42 different from the verses we know in Converting GRACE. We also present the first-ever publication of a song from more than two hundred years ago, Truman S. Wetmore's WASHING-TON, which was previously only available in manuscript form.

"I can shout, and I can sing, / Make His praises gladly ring!" Enjoy!

 $-\ The\ Editors\ ed@singthetrumpet.com$ 

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# OLD PATHS: TRUMAN S. WETMORE

By David Warren Steel, Oxford, Mississippi

ruman Spencer Wetmore (1774-1861) spent nearly all his life in the rural community of Winchester, Connecticut, where he pursued a long career as a physician. Between 1798 and 1807, nine of his compositions were published in tunebooks compiled by Asahel Benham and Stephen Jenks. Two of these, America and Florida, are still sung from *The Sacred Harp*.

The largest source of Wetmore's music is a manuscript, now in The Newberry Library, Chicago, entitled "Republican Harmony: containing The Rudiments of Psalmody; Together With a Collection of Church Music. By Truman S. Wetmore." The formal title and the promise of a rudiments section (which is absent from the surviving version) suggest that Wetmore intended to publish his collection. The book contains 132 pages of music; each opening consists of a single four-stave system of music, extending across the central fold. In its present state "Republican Harmony" contains 55 compositions and four incomplete tunes, over half of them (25) claimed by Wetmore himself. Most of the remaining tunes appear to be the work of relatively obscure composers from northwestern Connecticut, though there is also a group of eight tunes (by Benham, Morgan, Read, Swan and Brownson) previously published in Benham's Federal Harmony (1790).

Wetmore had an abundant gift for melody, often producing tunes reminiscent of folk song, both in modal structure and ornamentation. His melodic imagination frequently outran his ability to control and relate simultaneous melodic lines in a coherent harmonic texture. His unorthodox use of accented dissonance, unisons and heterophonic effects (see *The Makers of the Sacred Harp*, page 43, for an analysis of one of his tunes) shows an uncompromising sense of melodic line that occasionally conflicts with harmonic considerations. His careful setting of texts demonstrates a ready knowledge of and profound affection for sacred and elegiac poetry which Wetmore shared with his contemporaries.

Among Wetmore's most successful efforts are two tunes, Florida and Sylvia (*Shenandoah Harmony*, page 396), whose origins are associated with biographical anecdotes. The first emerged from a personal iv

confrontation with almost certain death, while the second was a personal outpouring grief at the death of his wife less than six months after their marriage, an event that led him toward a career in medicine, as well as his legal adoption of his wife's surname as his own middle name. The association of such tunes with these personal events belies the workaday image that the modern term "tunesmith" conjures up; the compositions of Morgan, Swan, Wetmore and others show how even the most meagerly trained provincial composers sought to achieve the greatest possible range of expression within the bounds of a distinctive but limited musical language.

The death of George Washington on 14 December 1799 prompted a national outpouring of public grief, expressed in countless poetic and musical tributes and in memorial observances in nearly every city and town in the nation. One such poetic tribute was read or sung at a 27 December ceremony in Hartford, and was published on 30 December in the Connecticut Courant. A musical setting of this hymn by Stephen Jenks (Mount Vernon, Sacred Harp, page 110) soon appeared, which may have been sung at local gatherings. Wetmore's setting, entitled Washington, may have served a like purpose in his own community. Though never published until now, it appears in "Republican Harmony" and in two manuscript copybooks by Ishmael Spicer, a singing-master active in the Hudson Valley. Like Jenks's setting, the music is a fuging-tune in the "flat key" (minor mode); unlike Jenks's it sets only a single quatrain of the poem. The style is similar to that of Wetmore's AMERICA. The opening six notes of the treble and bass are identical; the fuging section, in typical Connecticut fashion, includes three repeated notes, and the treble, which enters last, continues its text over sustained notes in the other parts. In measure 10, the alto B clashes with C in other parts, but all parts remain melodic.

In "Republican Harmony" an additional quatrain follows the music. This is clearly not part of the original poem: its rhyme scheme is ABAB instead of AABB. It may be the work of Wetmore himself:

Ye pleasant seats on Vernon's mount, Ye groves and vines that flourish there, Within your seats will men recount The deeds of Washington the fair.

## OPINION: THE IMPORTANCE OF LISTENING

By Christopher Coughlin, Charles Town, West Virginia

There are a number of pithy sayings that new singers will come across when initially navigating the shape-note community. One I remember hearing quite soon after I began singing was, "If you can hear the person on your left or your right, you're not singing loud enough!" At the time, as a callow and vivacious singer, this advice felt like a license to dive into this singing headlong. It almost didn't matter whether I was completely correct in singing or not, as long as I was fully contributing to the general sonic wave created by the class. However, as I began to travel to a greater number of singings across the United States and Europe, and moved from the back bench forward, this adage didn't seem to hold true. Those occupying the front-most seats in the square were, in fact, listening to their neighbors—and doing so quite actively. The cohesion that I had always felt defined a good singing was established, it seemed, by the thoughtful interactions and careful attention of those talented singers occupying seats in the front of the square.

Listening is a practice that has been enshrined in the rudiments of shape-note tunebooks for well over a century and a half. Writing in the rudiments of the 1860 Sacred Harp, B.F. White noted, "It is by no means necessary... that good singers should sing very loud. Each one should sing so soft...as will admit the other parts to be distinctly heard. [If] the singers of any one are so loud that they cannot hear the other parts, the parts are not rightly proportioned and ought to be altered." Additionally, William Walker noted when writing in the rudiments for the 1866 Christian Harmony that singers ought to "[mold] the voices together in each part, so that, when numbers are singing together in concert, there should appear to be in each part one uniform voice." The purpose of listening in these historical contexts was to accurately render this then-new music in the way intended by the composer, as well as to sing with the utmost beauty to the glory of God. In singing in contemporary contexts, the words of these rudiments still hold true. While technical mastery of such elements as rhythm and pitch is fundamentally important, in order for a singing to coalesce in that way that makes this music so uniquely striking, each singer must be attentive to the overall dynamics of every other singer, to the best of his or her ability.

In communal singing, emphasis is placed on the congregation, rather than the individual. Singing loudly, in competition with those around oneself, is the antithesis of what this music and tradition intended. The practice of "out-singing" others leads dangerously toward making the experience of singing solely about oneself, with little regard to all the rest gathered in mutual love. Being the one that is heard the most clearly isn't as important as contributing fully and correctly to the singing-keeping the class together and interlocked. From personal experience, I've found that the louder one sings, the easier it is to fall off pitch, to lose rhythm (especially by holding notes too long), and to be ignorant of those singing around oneself. Of course, rarely is this blindness intentional—it's easy to get caught up in the moment, particularly when the class is full of energetic singers. When singing with a full, firm voice one is prone to stay with the class, and can experience the true sense of community that was intended by this music. Shouting and competing with others creates unnecessary noise and changes the dynamic of the singing. The greatest joy should be found in the square, where everyone can see and interact with one another, and the sense of selfish individuality is left behind.

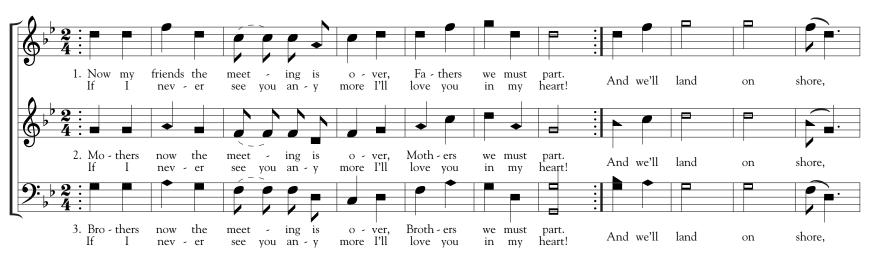
Shape-note music is, as Funk wrote in the rudiments of the *Harmonia Sacra*, "sweetly tuned and performed in rhythmical order... rich, mellifluent, melodious, and harmonious." As singers, we strive to make singings enjoyable experiences for all in attendance, catering to any who choose to join. Singing, therefore, should be a reflection of this communal experience, and listening, the base. Respect for all who have gathered there to make a joyous noise with one another is most fully achieved by being in sweet communion with each voice present—holding each in regard and love.

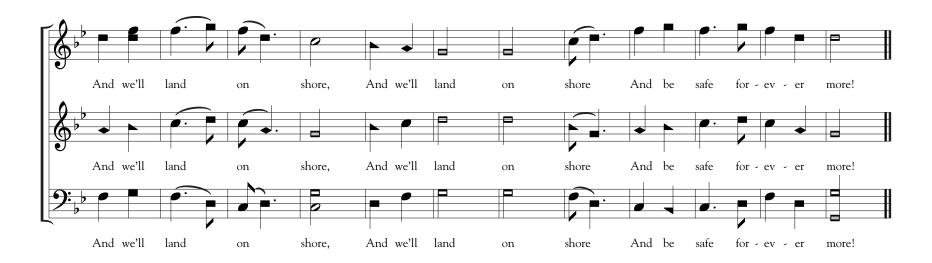
Chris Coughlin is an avid shape note singer from near Portland, Maine. Thoroughly enamored with our tradition, Chris has spent much of the past year singing around the United States, Canada, and Europe.

### WE'LL LAND ON SHORE. C.M.

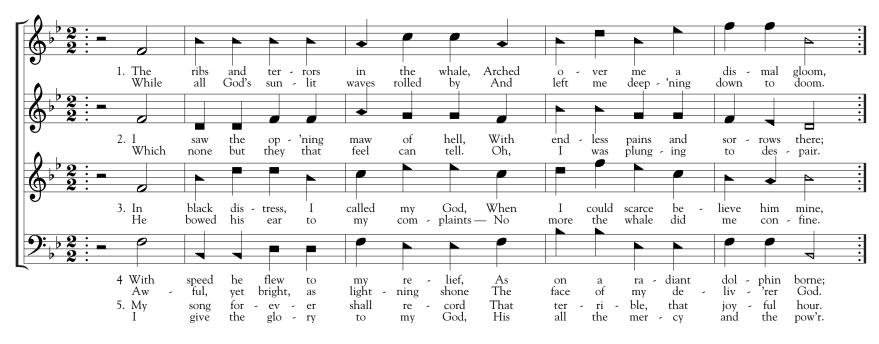
G Minor Traditional camp meeting lyrics.

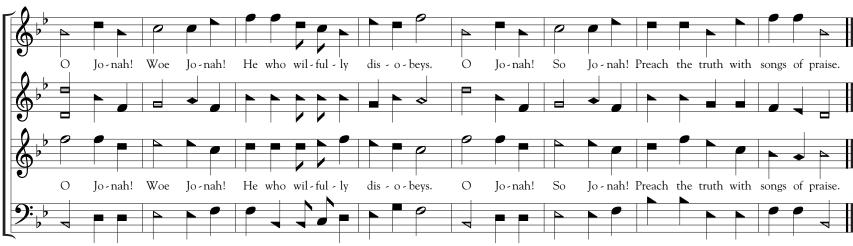
Arranged by Ben Bath, 2014.





Scott Luscombe, 2014.





# BRIGHTON (TIVEY'S NOTEBOOK). C.M.D.

E Minor Evangelical Magazine, 1801.

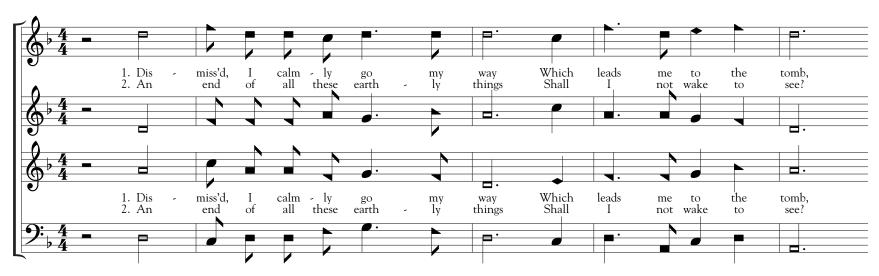
Steve Luttinen, 2014.

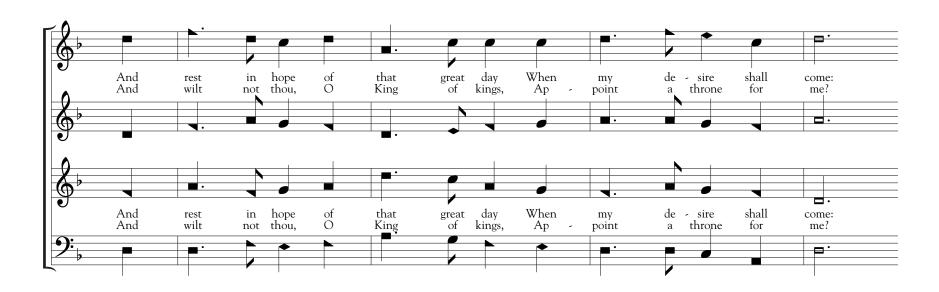


## DANIEL. C.M.D.

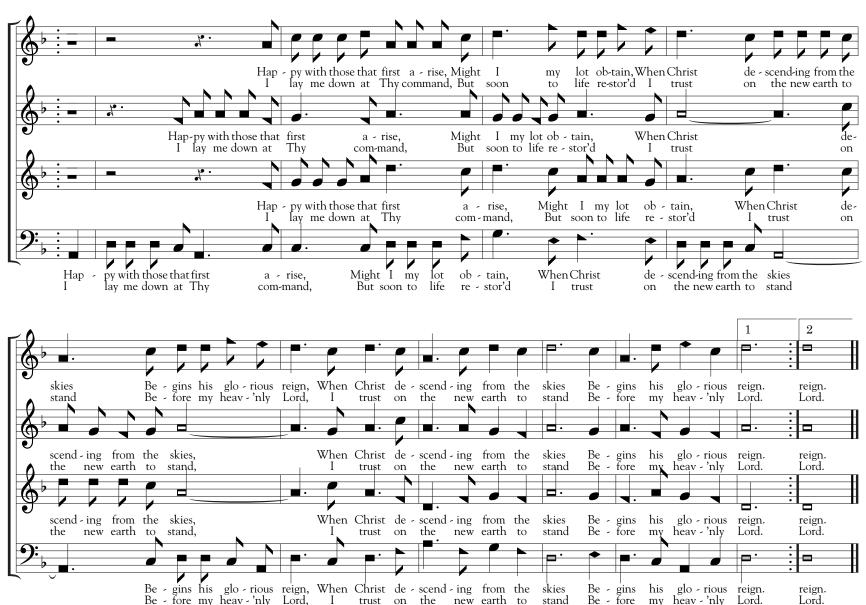
D MINOR Charles Wesley, 1762; Daniel 12:13.

Bill Hollingsworth, 2013.





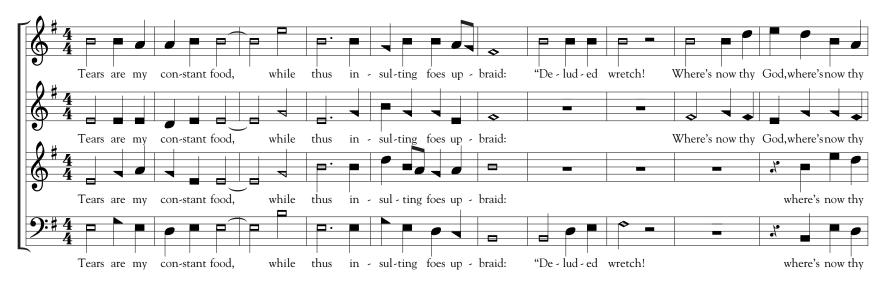
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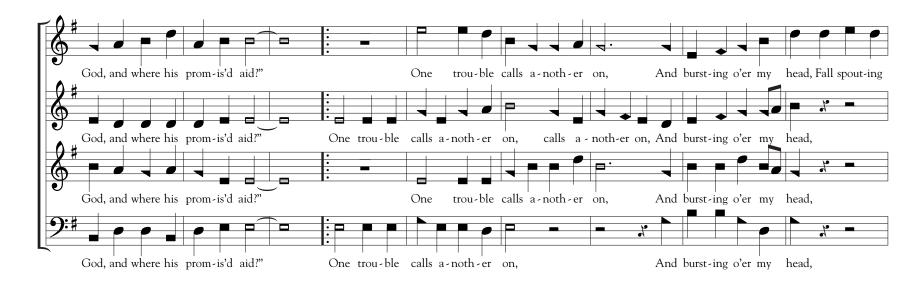


#### DELUGE. P.M.

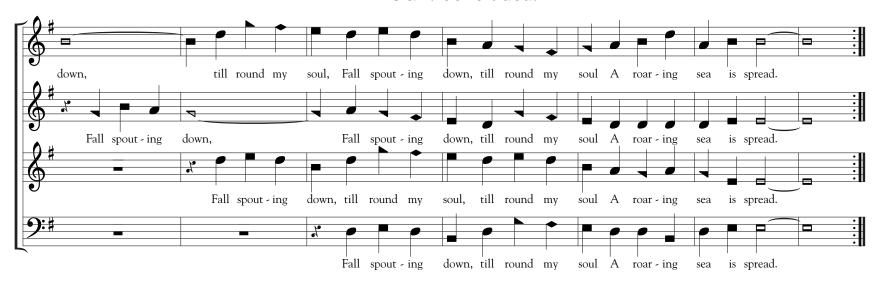
E MINOR Tate and Brady, 1696.

Leah Velleman, 2014.

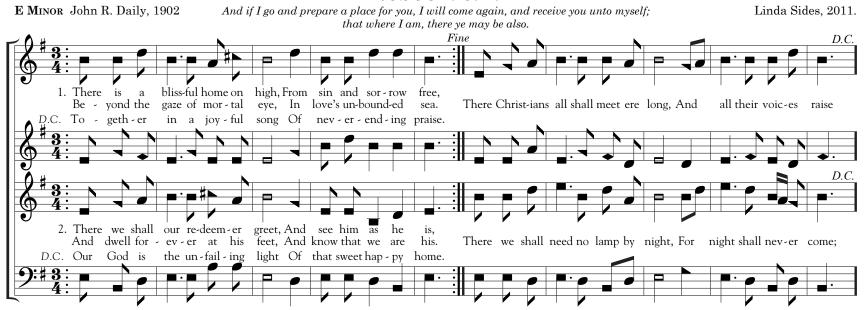




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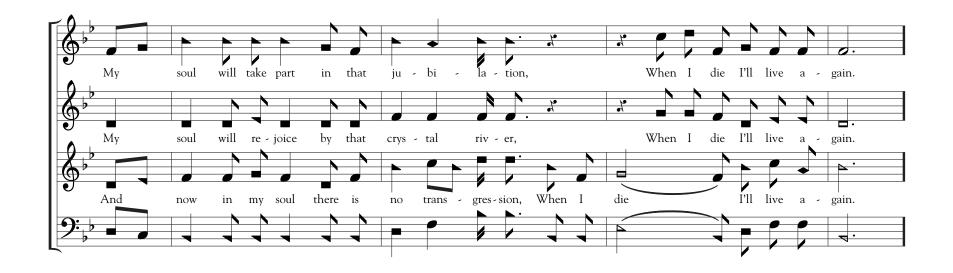




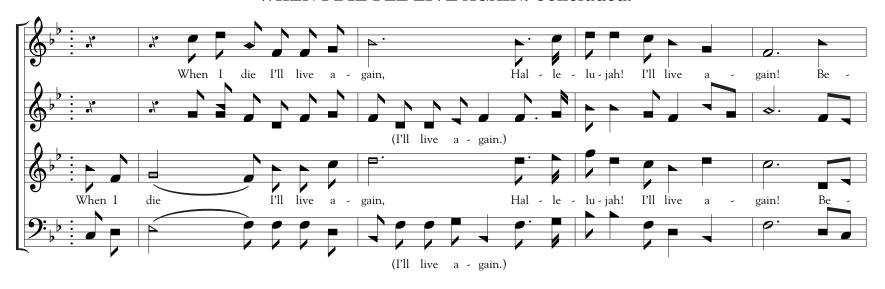


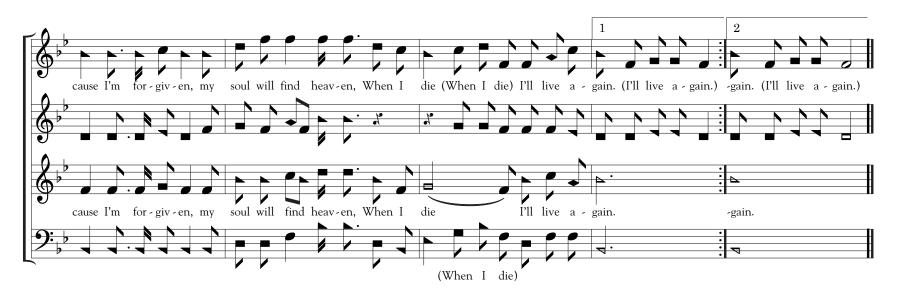
# WHEN I DIE I'LL LIVE AGAIN.

B Major James Rowe, 1924. Ernest Rippetoe, 1924; arr. David Wright, 2014. When I die I'll live a - gain; 1. Be be - lieve and have found sal cause va - tion, of the grave die I'll live a - gain; 2. The re - moved for fear When I ev - er, 3. Be Í'll live I have made con - fes-sion, When I cause in the Lord die a - gain;

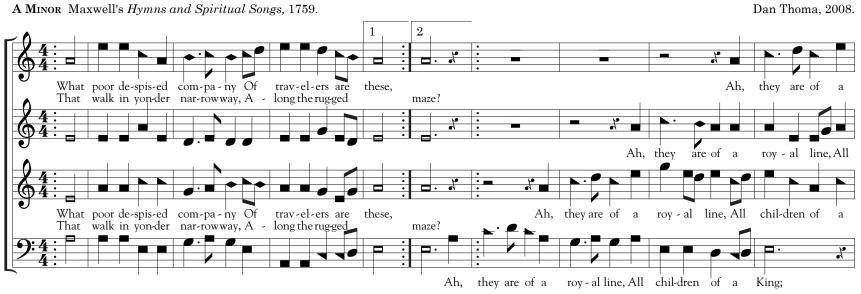


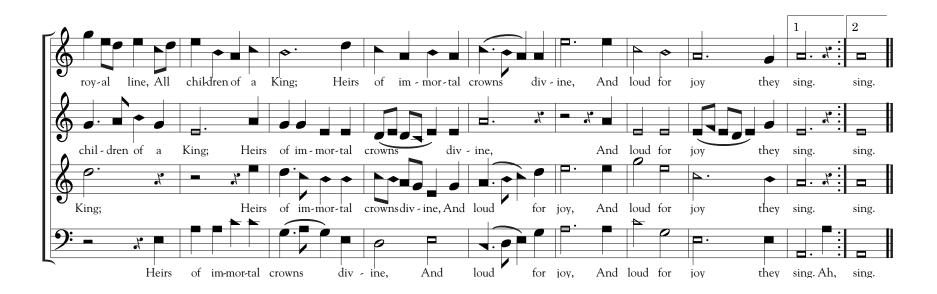
## WHEN I DIE I'LL LIVE AGAIN. Concluded.





### CHILDREN OF A KING. C.M.D.

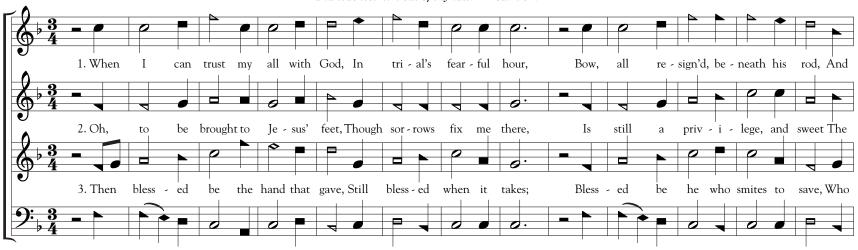


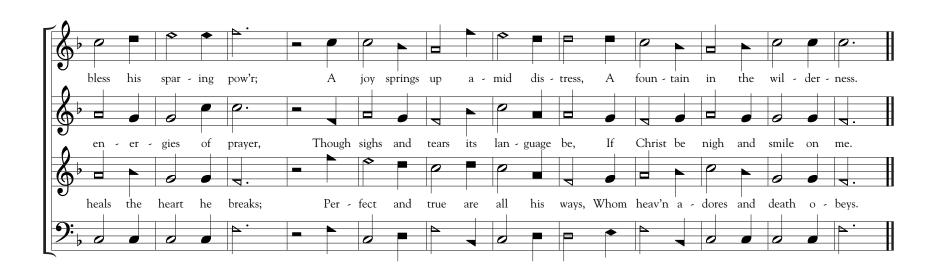


### HEARNE. 8,6,8,6,8,8.

F Major Josiah Conder, c. 1818.

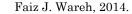
"Blessed is the man whom thou chastenest, O LORD, and teachest him out of thy law."—Psalm 94:12 Mary Huffman, 2014.



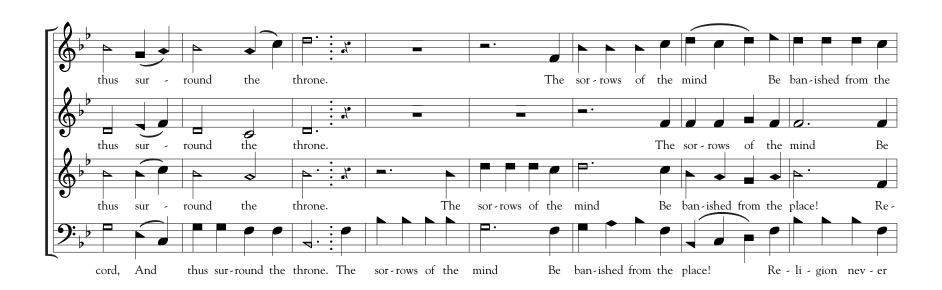


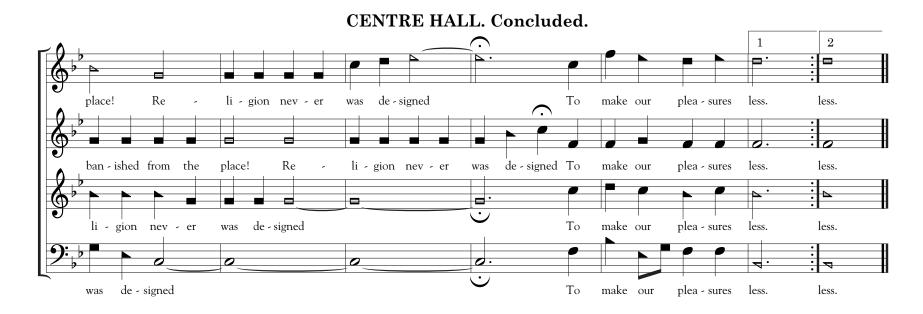
### CENTRE HALL. S.M.D.

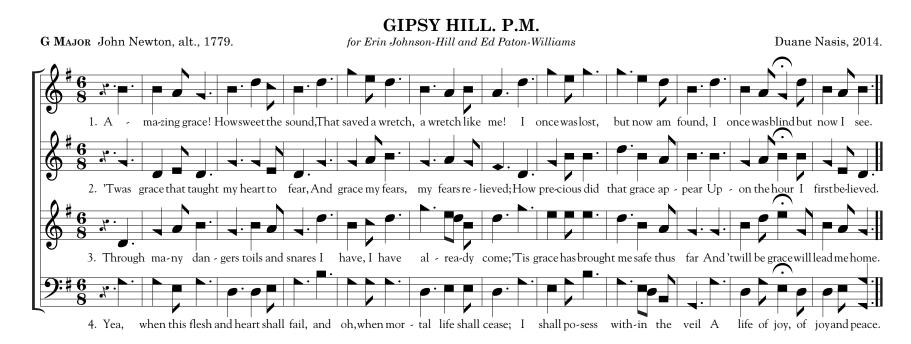
**B** Major Isaac Watts, 1707.



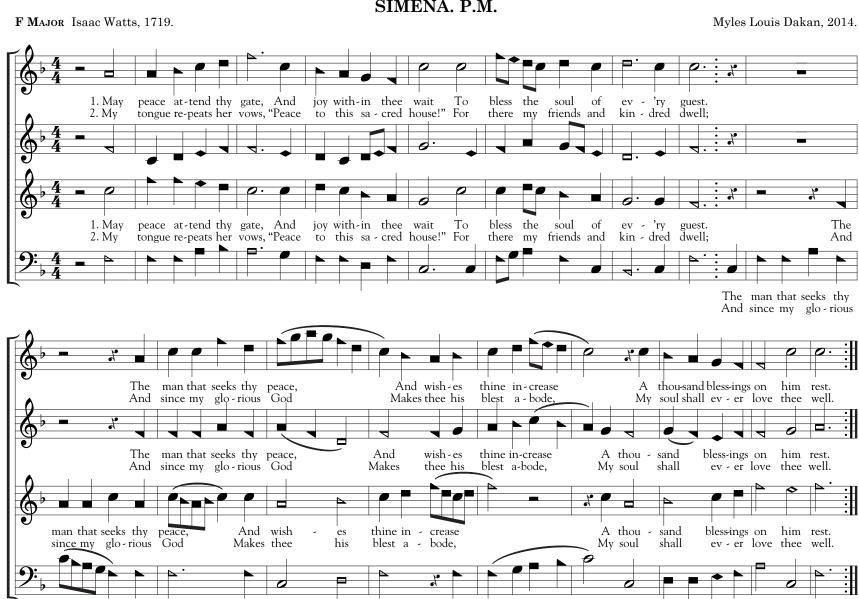








#### SIMENA, P.M.



in - crease

a - bode,

Α

My

thou

soul,

sand,

my

thousand blessings on him rest.

soul shall ev - er love thee well.

And wish

Makes thee

peace,

God

es

his

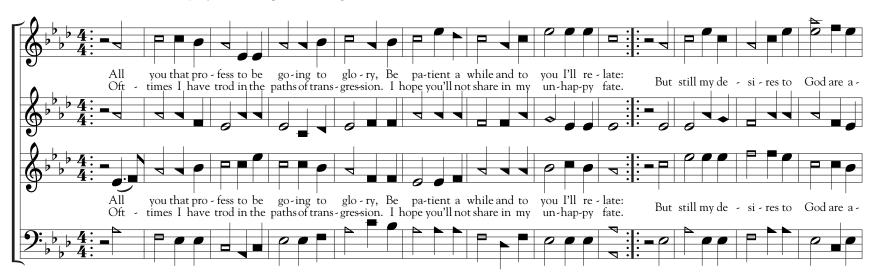
thine

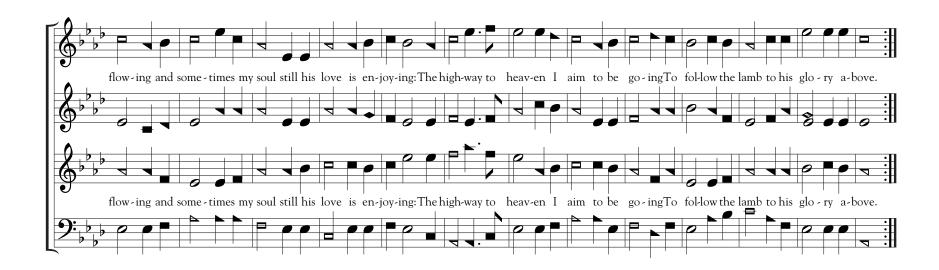
blest

#### THE CHRISTIAN'S ENTREATY. P.M.

A Major Battle's Collection of Hymns and Spiritual Songs, 1814.

C. Woods, 2014.

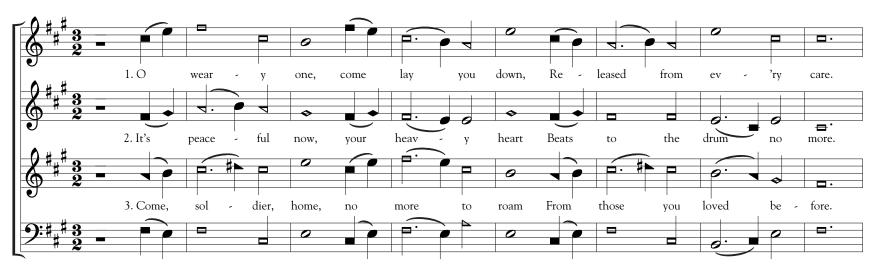


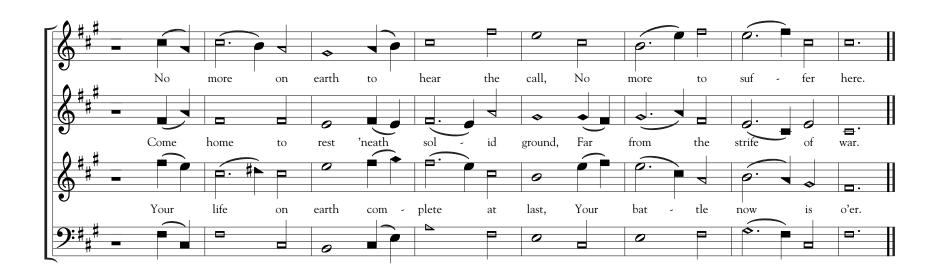


# SOLDIERS' HOME. C.M.

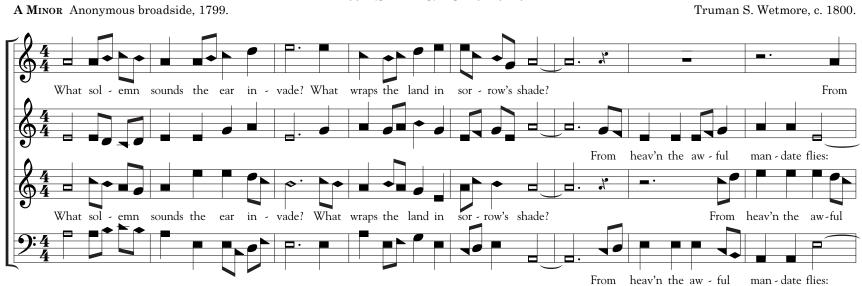
F# MINOR Barbara Hohenstein, 2012.

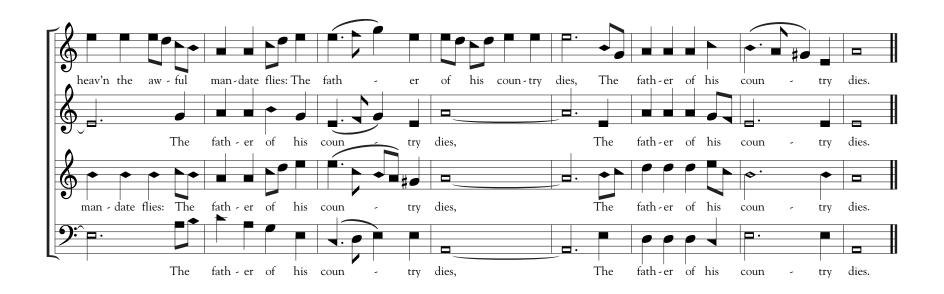
G. J. Hoffman, 2012.





### WASHINGTON. L.M.





## BUCK STREET. C.M.



