

445  
For Sunday-School, Choir and General Use

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Old Christmas Carols  
Traditional Melodies

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Newly arranged, Harmonized and Edited

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By S. Archer Gibson

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First Set

Second Set

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By F. Flaxington Parker

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Third Set

Fourth Set

Fifth Set

Sixth Set

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Each Set, Ten Cents a Copy

In Quantities of Twenty-five or more, Five Cents a Copy

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New York : G. Schirmer  
Boston : The Boston Music Co.  
London : Schott & Co.



# SIX OLD CHRISTMAS CAROLS

## Come, Shepherds, Come

Allegro moderato  
A Shepherd

A Tyrolese Carol

1

1. \*Come, shep - herds, come! shake off your sleep, And  
2. A - round the hut where - in I \_\_\_ slept A  
3. We, too, this wel - come news did \_ hear From  
4. Then know, all friends, who wish to \_ see Your

ope your wear - y eyes; 'Tis time to leave your  
glow of light was seen, And gold - en strings of  
an - gels in the air, They bade us cast a -  
sweet Re - deem - er's face, Tho' long, the way full

fold - ed sheep: Come, shep - herds, come, a - rise! Hark!  
harps were swept By an - gels clad in sheen. What  
way all fear, And to the town re - pair. We  
short will be, If ye but ask His grace. No

\* Verse 1 to be sung as a solo

an - gels clad in bright ar - ray Burst  
 sounds of joy the air then stirred! What  
 has - tened to the hum - ble stall, The  
 thorns your faith - ful steps shall stay, And

forth in heav'n - ly song; See! night grows bright - er  
 hymns of ho - ly rest! *In ter - ra pax,* a -  
 Ho - ly Child we sought; On bend - ed knee each  
 light will shine a - round; All doubts and fears will

than the — day, Lit by their glis - t'ning throng.  
 bove I — heard, And *Chris - tus na - tus est.*  
 one did — fall, And hum - ble off - 'rings brought.  
 pass a - way When Je - sus Christ is found.

# Carol of the Birds

Bas-Quercy Melody

Andante con moto

2

1. Whence comes this rush of wings a - far,  
 2. "Tell us, ye birds, why come ye here,  
 3. First came the Cock, ere break of day,

Fol - low - ing straight the No - ël star? Birds from the woods in  
 In - to this sta - ble poor and drear?" "Has - t'ning we seek the  
 Strut - ting a - long in plu - mage gay, Straight to the hum - ble

*cresc.*

won - drous flight, Beth - le - hem seek this Ho - ly Night.  
 new - born King, And all our sweet - est mu - sic bring."  
 man - ger flew, Chant - ing a - loud Co - que - ri - co.

*dim.*

4. Then near the Babe a Goldfinch drew,  
 Chirping with mirth *Tir-li-chiu-chiu*,  
*Chiu*, said the Sparrow in reply,  
*Palpabat*, was the Quail's quick cry.

5. Blackbirds then raised their sweetest notes,  
 Warbled the Ljunets' tuneful throats!  
 Pigeons all cooed, *rou-cou, rou-cou*,  
 Larks sang with joy, *ti-ro-li-rou*.

6. Hark how the Greenfinch bears his part;  
 Philomel, too, with tender heart,  
 Chants from her leafy, dark retreat,  
*Re, mi, fa, sol*, in accents sweet.

7. Angels and shepherds, birds of the sky,  
 Come where the Son of God doth lie;  
 Christ on the earth with man doth dwell,  
 Join in the shout, Noël! Noël!

# Cradle-Song

## Lullay, Thou Little Tiny Child

Coventry Mysteries

Coventry Carol (Traditional)

Slowly

*p*

*p*

1. Lul - lay, Thou lit - tle ti - ny Child,  
 2. O sis - ters, too, how may we do,  
 3. Her - od the King in his rag - ing,  
 4. Then woe is me, poor Child, for Thee,

*p*

*cresc.*

By, by, lul - ly, lul - lay: \_\_\_\_\_ Lul - lay, Thou lit tle  
 For to pre - serve this day \_\_\_\_\_ This poor Young-ling, for  
 Charged he hath this day \_\_\_\_\_ His men of might, in  
 And ev - er mourn and say, \_\_\_\_\_ For Thy part - ing nor

*cresc.*

*pp rit.*

ti - ny Child, By, by, lul - ly, lul - lay. \_\_\_\_\_  
 whom we sing By, by, lul - ly, lul - lay. \_\_\_\_\_  
 his own sight, All chil - dren young to slay. \_\_\_\_\_  
 say nor sing, By, by, lul - ly, lul - lay. \_\_\_\_\_

*pp rit.*

# Shine, Happy Star!

Bp. C. Hall (1597)

Traditional Melody

Moderato

4

1. Im - mor - tal Babe, who this dear day Didst  
 2. Shine, hap - py Star: ye An - gels, sing Glo -  
 3. Wor - ship, ye Sag - es of the East, The  
 4. Star, An - gels, Shep - herds, Sag - es wise, Thou


change Thine Heav - en — for our clay, And didst with flesh Thy  
 ry on high to — Heav - en's King: Run, Shep - herds, leave your  
 King of gods in — mean - ness drest: O bless - ed Maid, with  
 Vir - gin, glo - ry — of all eyes, Re - stor - ed frame of

God - head veil, E - ter - nal Son of God, all hail!  
 night - ly watch, See Heav'n come down to Beth - l'hem's cratch.  
 smiles a - dore The God thine arms, thy bo - som, bore.  
 Heav'n and Earth, Re - joice in your Re - deem - er's Birth!

# The Holy Well

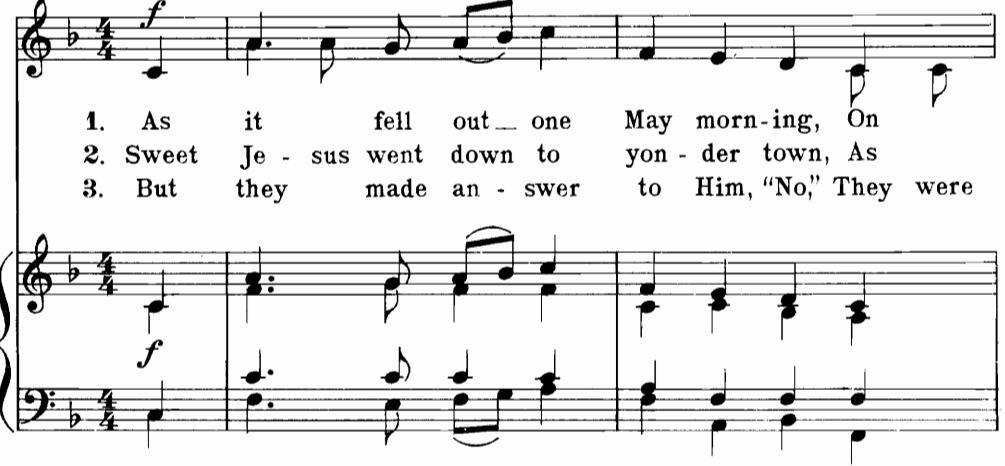
Traditional Melody and Words

Moderato

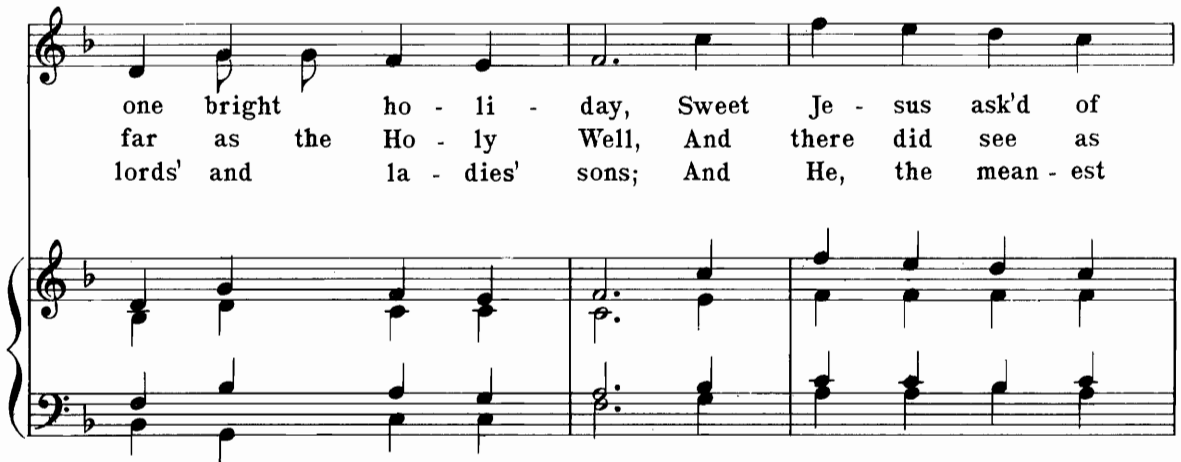


5

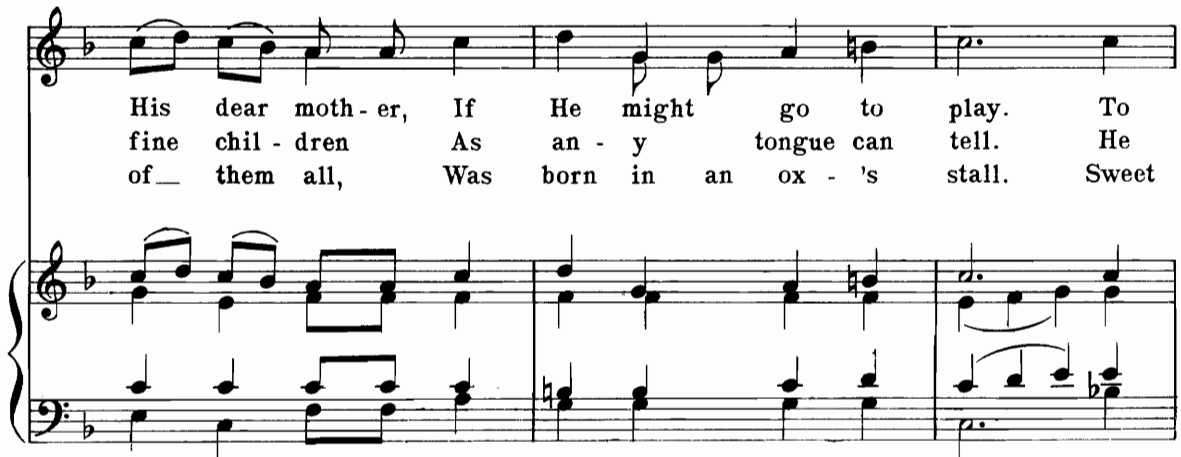
1. As it fell out one May morn-ing, On  
 2. Sweet Je - sus went down to yon - der town, As  
 3. But they made an - swer to Him, "No," They were



one bright ho - li - day, Sweet Je - sus ask'd of  
 far as the Ho - ly Well, And there did see as  
 lords' and la - dies' sons; And He, the mean - est



His dear moth - er, If He might go to play. To  
 fine chil - dren As an - y tongue can tell. He  
 of them all, Was born in an ox - 's stall. Sweet





play, to play, sweet Je - sus shall go, And to  
said, God bless you ev - er - y one, May  
Je - sus turn - èd Him a - round, And He

play now get you gone, And let me hear of  
Christ your por - tion be; Lit - tle chil - dren, shall I  
nei - ther laughed nor smil'd, But tears came trick - ling

no com - plaint At night when you come home!  
play with you? And you shall play with me!  
from His eyes, Like wa - ter from the skies.

4. Sweet Jesus turned Him about,  
To His mother's dear home went He,  
And said, "I've been in yonder town,  
As after you may see.  
Yea, I have been in yonder town,  
As far as the Holy Well;  
There did I meet as fine children  
As any tongue can tell.

5. "I bid God bless them ev'ry one,  
And Christ their portion be;  
Little children, shall I play with you?  
And you shall play with me.  
But they made answer to me, 'No,'  
They were lords' and ladies' sons;  
And I, the meanest of them all,  
Was born in an ox's stall!"

6. "Though Thou art but a maiden's Child,  
Born in an ox's stall,  
Thou art the Christ, the King of Heav'n,  
The Saviour of them all.  
Sweet Jesus, go down to yonder town,  
As far as the Holy Well,  
And take away those sinful souls,  
And dip them deep in hell!"

7. "Nay, nay," sweet Jesus mildly said,  
"Nay, nay, that must not be,  
There are too many sinful souls  
Crying out for the help of Me."  
Then spake the Angel Gabriel,  
"Upon a good set steven,\*  
Although Thou'rt but a maiden's Child,  
Thou art the King of Heav'n."

# The Three Wise Men\*

From Hildesheim (1860)

Andante

A decorative box on the left contains the number 6, surrounded by a pattern of asterisks. To its right is the first system of musical notation, featuring a vocal line and piano accompaniment in 3/4 time with a key signature of one flat. The tempo is marked 'Andante' and the dynamic is 'mf'.

1. Now hark-en to
2. We en-ter this
3. A sea-son of
4. We came un-to
5. All still stood the
6. And now most de-

The second system of the musical score, including the vocal line with lyrics and piano accompaniment. The lyrics are: "us who this e-ven have come! In the name of sweet Je-su we house not to mock or to brawl; God send a good e-ven to peace and a time of great joy Hath the good Lord pre-pared you from Beth-le-hem un-der the hill, And there did the star that had star o'er the house in the sky; So for us might be driv-en all vout-ly as meet is and right We have sung you our song, and we

The third system of the musical score, including the vocal line with lyrics and piano accompaniment. The lyrics are: "en-ter your home. each and to all. heav-en on high. led us stand still. woe and an-noy. bid you good-night."

\* In the original German version verses 1, 2 and 6 are marked to be sung by the full chorus (that is, the Three Wise Men together), while verse 4 is sung by the first Wise Man solo, verse 4 by the second, and verse 5 by the third.



# CHRISTMAS CAROLS

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- KURT SCHINDLER.** Six Old French Christmas Carols, edited and harmonized. English version by H. G. Chapman. 2 Books, each 10 cents net. (In quantities of 25 or more copies, each 5 cents net.)
- S. ARCHER GIBSON.** Old Christmas Carols. Traditional Melodies, arranged, harmonized and edited. 2 Sets, each 10 cents net. (In quantities of 25 or more copies, each 5 cents net.)
- T. TERTIUS NOBLE.** Eight Christmas Carols. The words by the Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of Truro. 10 cents net. (In quantities of 25 or more copies, 5 cents net.)
- F. FLAXINGTON HARKER.** Six Christmas Carols. Op. 38, No. 2. (Christmas Annuals, No. 8.) 5 cents net. (In quantities of 25 or more copies, 4 cents net.)

The carol collections here listed merit the attention of every clergyman and church musician anxious to have his service or Sunday-school singing instinct with the true spirit of the Nativity.

The "Old French Christmas Carols", edited and harmonized by Kurt Schindler, comprise some of the loveliest of those mediæval Noël's that sing the story of the Christ-birth in music of simple beauty, touched with the tender and reverential humor of a by-gone day—the naïve and pious joy of the peasant among whose simple spiritual verities the Nativity took first place. Mr. Chapman's English versions of the old texts admirably preserve their childlike happiness of expression.

In "Old Christmas Carols," traditional melodies, arranged, harmonized and edited by S. Archer Gibson, the compiler has allowed himself wide latitude in the selection of beautiful carol-melodies; and the two sets include, not only some of the choicest of the old-time English Christmas carols, but, in particular, various traditional airs which, supplied with appropriate texts, rank with the best Christmas carols to be found, as for instance, the old Welsh air, "All thro' the night."

Among these collections the set of "Eight Christmas Carols" by T. Tertius Noble should take high rank. The fervency of an earlier age, when the Christ-birth voiced its appeal to mankind in rhyme and melody of quaint dignity and charm, is here expressed both in music and verse.

The "Six Christmas Carols" by F. Flaxington Harker are not, as is sometimes the case, ditties written hastily and at random "for the occasion." In these little songs of Christmastide the composer has caught the very spirit of joyous exultation that marks the day of the Birth divine.

There are three advantages enjoyed in common by these collections. First, notwithstanding the fact that they are written and intended primarily for unison singing, they can be used for four-part chorus as well. Second, they are without exception easily singable and delightfully tuneful; and, lastly, they are not expensive.