Powell nowell nowell thys ys the salutacyoun of ye Aungell Gabryell.



NTIENT CAROLS FOR CHRISTMAS AND OTHER TIDES ARRANGED FOR FOUR VOICES

BY EDMD. SEDDING ARCHT. MEMBER OF YEMOTETT OVIRE& SOMETIME CANTOR OF S. RAPHL. BRISTL.

LONDON: Printed and Published by Messrs. Masters and Son, at 33, Aldersgate Street, A.D. 1863.

"The Bleffed Vingin travailed without pain,
And lodged in an inn,
A glorious Star the fign,
But of a greater Guest than ever came that way,
For there He lay
That is the God of night and day."

"Worship, ye sages of the East,
The King of gods in meanness drest,
O Blessed Maid, smile and adore
The God Thy Womb and Arms have bore."

BISHOP HALL.

BISHOP TAYLOR.

"Cease then, O Queens, who earthly crowns do wear,
To glory in the pomp of earthly things;
If men such high respects unto you bear,
Which daughters, wives, and mothers are of Kings,
What honour can unto that Queen be done,
Who had your God for Father, Spouse, and Son?"
Dr. Donne.



TO THE RIGHT REVEREND FATHER IN GOD, THOMAS NETTLESHIP,

of LORD BISHOP OF HONOLULU, Se-

WITH DEEP REVERENCE AND RESPECT,

THIS WORK IS HUMBLY DEDICATED

BY HIS LORDSHIP'S VERY

DUTYFULL SERVANT,

ED. SEDDING.



The Contents of this Book.

- 1. The Cedar of Lebanon.
- 2. Let us the Infant greet.
- 3. Tidings true.
- 4. To-day in perfect gladness.
- 5. Who is there that sing= eth so Nowell.
- 6. Wasseyl.
- 7. Joy hath come to Carth again.



THE PREFACE

TO THE COURTEOUS READER.

NCOURAGED by the fingular diftinguishment vouchsafed unto the Set of ANTIENT CHRISTMAS CAROLS, I have judged it convenient to de-

vise a second collection, with Carols to serve for Festal Tides other than Yule.

Revival of Carols,

not yet complete.

The right use of Carols.

It is a wholesome source of comfort to find the custom of finging Carols making such excellent way throughout the English Communion: there remains now but a scanty stock of Parishes in England without some observance of this delightsome and Catholick practice. But the course of progress and revival should hardly stay here. Carols have been resuscitated out of doors, but there is ill show of reason for their remaining unrestored to their original position in ye Offices of Holy Church.

Surely the Carol was never defigned to be driven out of the Church altogether, to find forry shelter in the stale and unsavoury atmosphere of concert rooms, or to be shuffled off upon family gatherings and parochial feafts. The Carol is to be confidered part and parcel of the Services appertaining to the Festival of the Nativity, one of the many joyful passages in the Celebration

of the great Eucharistick Sacrifice. In Wales, Cornwall, the Isle of Man, and divers parts of the North and West of England, Carols have never been banished from the Church, while in foreign lands they are used at High Celebration throughout Christmas Tide. We rejoice to be able to record a few cases in which the restoration of the Christmas Carol to its primitive dignity, has been prosecuted, and that with the fairest success: may these humble remarks tend to provoke others to go and do likewise.

Waffel.

Concerning the word Nowell much has already been discoursed in the Preface to Antient Christmas Carols, but I have thought good to print in this work a Wasseling Carol to a melody still used in the shires of Gloucester, Hereford, and Devon, and other places in the west of England, and on this I would adventure a few remarks.

Origin of the term. The word Wassel or Wassail is derived from the Anglo-Saxon Was hal, "Be in health." Washaile and Drincheile were the customary antient English drinking pledges, and are equivalent to "Your health," "I'll pledge you" of the present times.

"These two," says Ritson, "are the very first "Saxon words which we know from historical "evidence to have been pronounced in this "country. Vortigern, King of Britain, being "invited to supper by his ally Hengist at his "newly built castle of Sydingbourn, in Kent, "was after supper, approached by Hengist's "beautiful

- "beautiful daughter Rowena, who, having a "goblet of wine in her hand, and making a "graceful reverence, faid, was beil (i.e., be "of health,) lord King; to which the King,
- "being instructed by his interpreter, replied,

" drincbeil, i.e., drink health."a

The term wesseyl occurs in one of the earliest Carols extant:—

"Si jo vus di trestoz wesseyl, Dehaiz eit qui ne dirra Drincheyl."b

Here then I bid you all wasseyl, Curfed be he who will not fay "Drincheyl."e

The Wassel or Lamb's Wool is composed of "ale of the best barley," toast, sugar, apples, and spice.

"Sometime lurk I in a Gossip's bole,
In very likenesse of a roasted crab,
And when she drinkes against her lips I bob,
And on her withered dewlop poure the ale."d

"When roafted crabs hisse in the bowle Then nightly sings the staring owle."e

The bowl was commonly fashioned of wood drest with ribbons and rosemary, but in the dwellings of gentlemen of honour or good worship the cups were frequently of pretious metals.

New Year's Eve and Twelfth Night were the principal occasions on which the Wassel was introduced. The following extract from a manuscript of the reign of King Henry VII., will advertize the gentle reader that the ceremonies

a Differt. on English Songs and Musick, p. xlix.

b MS. Reg. 16 e. xiii. cent.

c Christmas with the Poets, A.D. 1852.

d Midfommer Night's Dreame, Act ii.

c Loue's Labour's Loft, act iv.

f Ben Jonfon, Mafque of Christmas.

The Bowl.

How the Wassel is

When to be used.

to

to be observed on bringing in of the Wassel were of no mean order:—

Wasseling in the reign of K. Henry VII.

"Hem as for the void on ye xiith nyght, ye "Kinge and the Quene ought to have it in the "halle. And as for the wassaile, the steward, the "tressourer, and ye controllere shall com for it "wt yr staves in yr hands; the Kings sewere "and the Quenes havinge faire towelles about y' "neks and disches in y' handes siche as the Kinge "and the Quene shall ete of: the Kings keruers "and the Quenes shall com aftur withe chargi-"ours or disches siche as the Kinge or the "Quene shall ete of, and w' towelles about y' "neks. And y' shall no man bere nothynge for "the Kinge or the Quene, but only fiche as be "fworn . . . and if y' be a bischope, his own " fquyere or els the Kings . . shall ferue hym; "and so of all oy estats, and y be duks or erles "in lik wyse: and of duchesses and countesses in "the fam maner, and yen yr muste cum in the "vschers of the chambre w' the pile of cuppes, "the Kings cupes and the Quenes, and the "bischopes, w' the butlers and wyne, to the "cupbord, and then a fquyere for the body to "bere the cupe, and anoy for the Quenes cupe "fiche as is fworn for hire."

"Item the Chapelle may stond at the on side of the halle: and when the steward comythe in at you halle dore w' the waissaille he must cry thris, Wassaile, &ca., and then shall the chapelle answere it anon w' a good songe...

"and

"and then whene the Kynge and Quene have "done they will go into the chambre: and y" "longithe fore the Kinge ij lights w the void, "and ij lights w' the cupe: and the Quene in "like wyfe as many."

In the reign of K. Henry VIII.

In the second year of King Henry VIII., " agaynst the xii daye or the daye of the Epi-"phanie at nighte, before the banket in the hall "at Richemona, was a pageaunt devised like "a mountayne, glisteringe by night as thoughe "it had been all of golde and fet with stones "... and then it was drawen backe, and "then was the wassaill or banket brought in, "and fo brake up Christmas."a

K. Chas. I.

Father Herrick, in one of his most delectable

" Come then, come then, and let us bring Unto our prettie twelfth-tide KING Each one his feverall offering;

Chos. And when night comes wee'l give HIM waffailling;

> And that His treble honours may be feen Wee'l chuse Him King, and make His Mother Queen."

The allusions to this one of the most important accompaniments of Yule-tide are very frequent in the works of Spenser, Wither, Ben Jonson, Bamfylde, and other old English writers.

The incomparable Shakespeare makes mention of Wits Pedler, who

" Retailes his wares At Wakes, and Wassels, Meetings, Markets, Faires."c

Labour's A carp- loft, act iv.

c Loue's

Christmas Songsb writes:-

b The Star Song, fung in the presence of K. Chas. Mar. at Whitehall.

a Hall's Chronicle.

Alluded to by old English writers.

Wassel nauseous to the Puritan.

A carping puritan knave takes offence at this as well as fundry other exercises and spectacles fanctioned by the Church:—

Thus they (this rabble of worshippers) celebrate the Nativity, Circumcision, Epiphany, and Resurrection of Christ, with gay clothes, clean houses, good cheer, the viol in the feast, to stir up lust instead of devotion, eating and drinking, and rising up to play and dance . . . with their lords of misrule, commonly called Christmas lords, games, interludes, mummeries, masks, wasfal cupes, with thousands of abominations which chaste and Christian hearts abhor to hear or think of."

Carrying round the Wassel.

The custom of carrying round the Wassel from house to house with songs, still observed in many parts of England, does not appear to be older than the seventeenth century. A specimen of one of these Wassel songs is given by Ritson from a Manuscript in the Ashmolean Museum, and commences thus;—

"A jolly wassail Bowl,

A wassail of good ale,

Well fare the butler's foul,

That setteth this to sale,

Our jolly wassail.

"Good dame, here at your door
Our wassail we begin,
We are all maidens poor,
We now pray let us in,
With our wassail."

a A bi Discourt of the False Church

b Antier Songs.

For

No. I.

No. II.

For the melody of the first Carol I am indebted to William Chappell, Esq., F.S.A., editor of "Musick in the Olden Time;" and for that of No. II. to S. Smith, Esq., Organist and Director of the Quire at S. John's, Windsor. The latter is from a collection made in Hereford-shire during Christmas, A.D. 1858, but has been of late knitted to such bald poverty-stricken verse that I was at no pains to dissolve the unmeet connection.

No. III.

The use of the melody of No. III. has been kindly granted me by Thomas Wright, Esq., M.A., F.R.S., and is taken from a manuscript aforetime in his possession. The Carol is set to sacred words, but thereto is appended this note;—

This is the tewyn for the fong foloyng, yf so be that ye wyll have another tewyn, it may be at your plesure, for I have set all the song.

This fong foloyng is a right quaint drinking chanson, and that the reader may at his plefure enjoy the fulsome ravishment of both words and musick of the antique times I have reprinted the whole of it:—

> "Bryng us in good ale, good ale, For our Blyffyd Lady fak, Bryng us in good ale.

"1. Bryng us in no browne bred, fore that is mada of brane,

Nor bryng us in no whyt bred, fore therin is no game,

a made.

" But

		•	
X	1	1	

- "But bryng us in good ale, good ale, And bryng us in good ale, For our Bleffyd Lady fak, Bryng us in good ale.
- "2. Bryng us in no befe, for ther is many bonys,

 But bryng us in good ale, for that goth downe at

 onys;"

And bryng us in good ale, &c.

"3. Bryng us in no bacon, for that is passing fate,b

But bryng us in good ale, and gyfe us i-nought of
that,

And bryng us in good ale, &c.

- "4. Bryng us in no mutton, for that is often lene,
 Nor bryng us in no trypes, for thei be fyldom clene,
 But bryng us in good ale, &c.
- "5. Bryng us in no eggys, for ther ar many schelles,
 But bryng us in good ale, and gyfe us no[th]yng ellys,
 And bryng us in good ale, &c.
- "6. Bryng us in no butter, for therin are many herys;d
 Nor bring us in no pygges flesch, for that wyl mak
 us borys,

But bryng us in good ale, &c.

"7. Bryng us in no podynges,e for therin is al Godes

Nor bryng us in no venesen, for that is not for owr blod,

But bryng us in good ale, &c.

"8. Bryng us in no capons flesch, for that is ofte der,f
Nor bryng us in no dokes flesche, for thei slober in
the mer,

But bryng us in good ale, &c."

No V.

The air of No. V. is taken from a manuscript of the reign of King Henry VIII., and may have been

a once.

b fat.

.....

c enough

d hain.

e pud. dings.

f often dear.

been fung in the presence of that Sovereign. It is of such superexcellent quaintness and beauty that it seemed to me an act of desecration to divorce the antient words from the musick to which they have been for generations wedded in comely accordance. Unhappily it was found impossible to set the entirety of the old words to the melody, so that they might run smoothly together, and after long and serious deliberation, I resolved to contrive some sew alterations in the text; but this ungracious travail, as the reader will himself discover, has been very delicately carried out with the least possible license of ink, so that the sense and drift of the original should not be wantonly disturbed.

For the convenience of Quires and Scholars, whom I am with pleasure bounden to style my chief patrons and supporters, the orthography has been charactered in modern English, but in like manner I am desirous to give good content unto those, my singular good friends, who have a reverend regard for the preservation of antient reliques, and I have therefore appended an exact copy of the original:—

- "Nowell nowell nowell Who ys there that fyngith fo nowell Nowell.
- "I am here, fyre Crystemasse,
 Wellcome my lord fyre Crystemasse,
 Wellcome to us all bothe more and less,
 Come ner Nowell.

"DIEU

xiv

The Preface.

- "DIEU wous garde byewe syre tydynges y you bryng
 A Mayde hath born a Chylde full yong,
 The weche causeth you for to syng
 Nowell.
- "Criste is now born of a pure Mayde
 In an oxe stalle He ys layde,
 Wherefor syng we all atte a brayde
 Nowell.
- "Bevvez bien par tutte la company,
 Make gode chere and be ryght mery,
 And fyng with us now joyfully

Nowell."

No. VII.

The air of the last Carol is from a Swifs Book of the sixteenth century.

In conclusion, I humbly beg to express my fincere gratitude for the many kind and gracious tokens of approbation bestowed upon my former work; also to tender my warmest acknowledgments to the Reverend Doctor R. F. Littledale, who has kindly supplied me with words for the present Collection, the fitness and beauty of which it would be presumptuous in me to commend. A tribute of thanks is likewise due to the Reverends H. L. Jenner and S. S. Greatheed for divers valuable services rendered to me on this and past occasions; and finally I most humbly pray that these unworthy labours may be blessed by Almighty God to the good of His Holy Church.

ED. SEDDING.

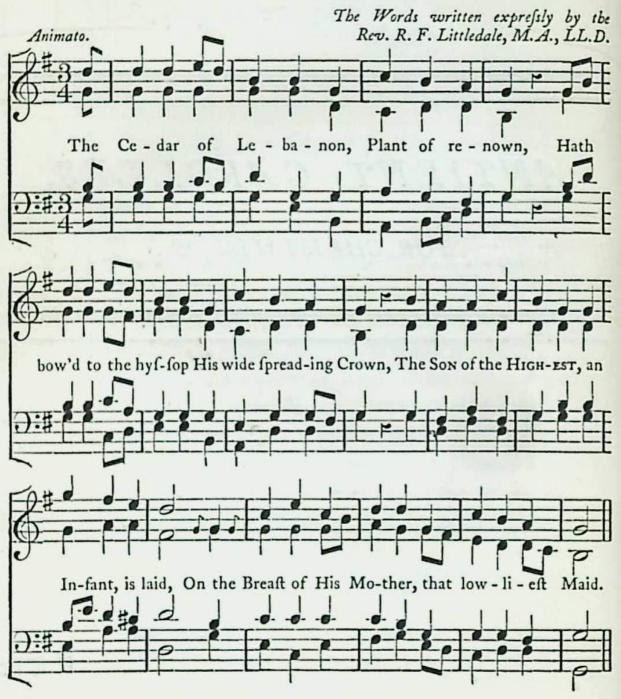
Hallowmass,

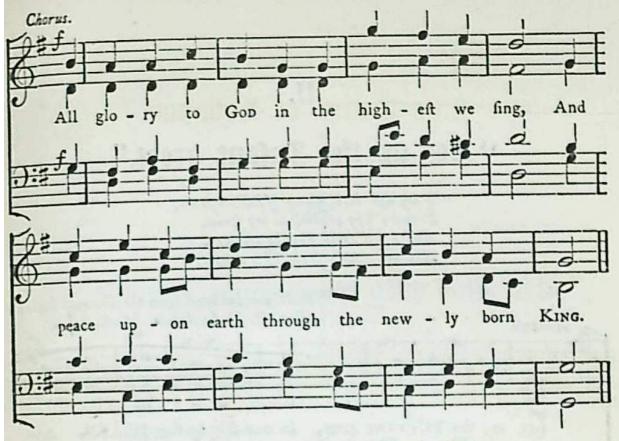
ANTIENT CAROLLES,

FOR CHRISTMASS, &c.

"The Cedar of Lebanon."

"The golden tyme ys nowe at bande,
The daye of joye from Heaven doth springe,
Salvacyone over-flowes the lande,
Wherefore all faithfull thus may singe,
Glorye to GOD most hie,
And peace on the earth continuallye!
And unto men rejoysinge!"





From the Star of the Sea the glad SUNLIGHT hath shined,
Springs the Lion of Judah from Naphtali's Hind,
The Life from the dying, the Rose from the thorn,
The Maker of all things of Maiden is born.

Chorus—All glory, &c.

The manger of Bethlehem opens once more
The gates of that Eden where man dwelt of yore,
And He Who is lying, a Child, in the Cave,
Hath conquer'd the foeman, hath ranfom'd the flave.

Chorus—All glory, &c.

In the midst of the Garden the Tree of Life stands,
And offers His twelve fruits to lips and to hands,
For the Lord of Salvation, the Gentiles' Desire,
Hath ta'en from the Cherubs their sword-blade of fire.

Chorus—All glory, &c.

On the hole of the aspic the sucking Child plays,
And His Hand on the den of the cockatrice lays,
And the Dragon, which over a fallen world reign'd,
By the Seed of the Woman is vanquish'd and chain'd.

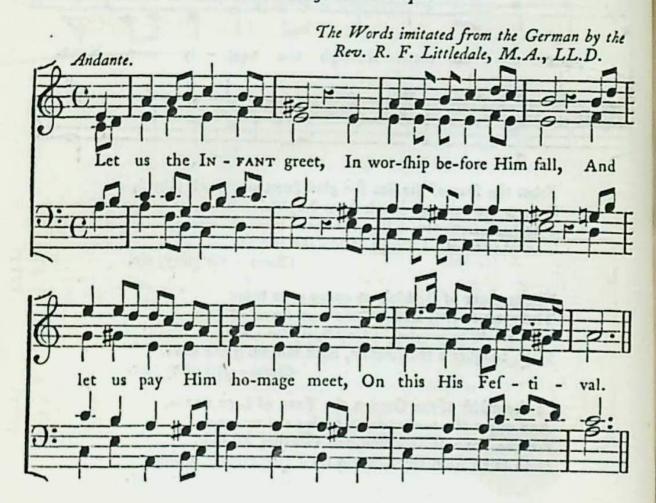
Chorus—All glory, &c.

To Him Who hath lov'd us, and fent us His Son,
To Him Who the Victory for us hath won,
To Him Who sheds on us His Sevenfold rays,
Be honour and glory, salvation and praise.

Chorus—All glory, &c

"Let us the Infant greet."

"O my deir bert, young JESUS sweit, Prepare Thy creddill in my spreit, And I sall rocke Thee in my bert, And neuer mair from Thee depart."



2.

Let us to the INFANT fing,
And bring Him of gifts rich store,
Let us honour our INFANT King,
With praise for evermore.

3.

Let us to the INFANT kneel, And love Him with faithful love, And let our joyous anthems peal, For Him who reigns above. 4.

Glad hymns in the INFANT's laud, Sing we to Him while we may, In Heaven, where He is throned as God, Our fervice He will pay.

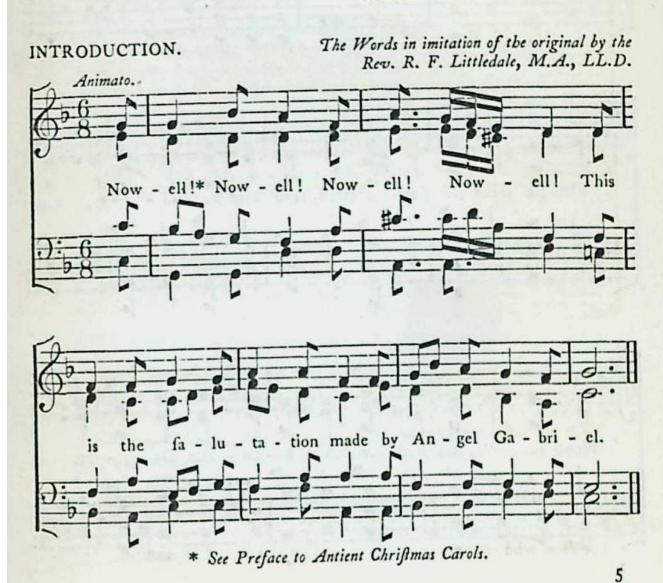
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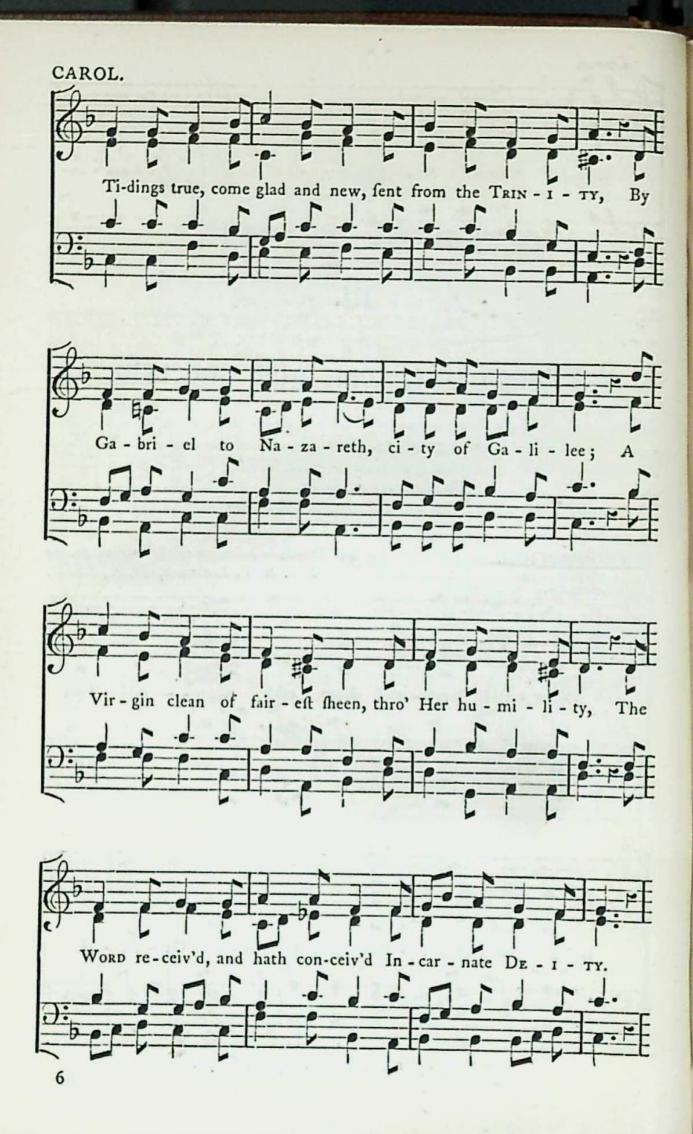
Be we to the Infant true, While we are dwelling on mould, And He will give us our wages due, A crown of purest gold.

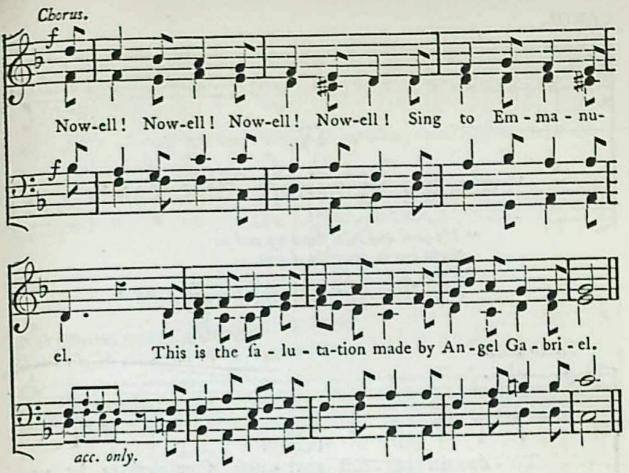
III.

"Tidings true, come glad and new."

"Gabryell of byghe degree,
Cam down from the TRENITE,
To Nazareth in Galilee,
With Nova."







- 2. When appeared Gabriel first before our Lady's eyes,
 He reverence made, and homage paid, in meek and seemly wise,
 And said, Lady, from Heaven on bigb, the Palace of the KING,
 Who born of Thee full soon shall be, a message here I bring.

 Chorus—Nowell, &c.
- 3. Hail! Thou bleffed Maiden, most mild of Human race,
 Hail! facred Shrine of Godhead, hail, Mirror of all grace,
 Hail! Virgin pure, the word is sure, and quickly shalt Thou bear
 The KING of Kings, Who gladness brings, and does away with care.
 Chorus—Nowell, &c.
- 4. Then at his faying troubled, but in no wife afraid,
 With mind discreet Her answer meet to Gabriel She made,
 Tell unto Me, how this shall be, that I should bear a CHILD,
 Who aye have been a Maiden clean, and am no whit defiled.
 Chorus—Nowell, &c.
- 5. Then the bright Archangel spake unto that lowly May,

 O Lady dear, be of good cheer, nor dread Thou what I say,

 Within Thy boly Body the LORD Himself shall dwell,

 Who by His Birth joins Heaven and Earth, Who is Emmanuel.

 * * * * *

 Chorus—Nowell, &c.
- 6. Then unto the Archangel full meekly did She say,

 When GOD commands, into His Hands I yield Me, and obey;

 Behold Me here in lowliness, the Handmaid of the LORD,

 And unto Me thus let it be, according to the word.

 Chorus—Nowell, &c.

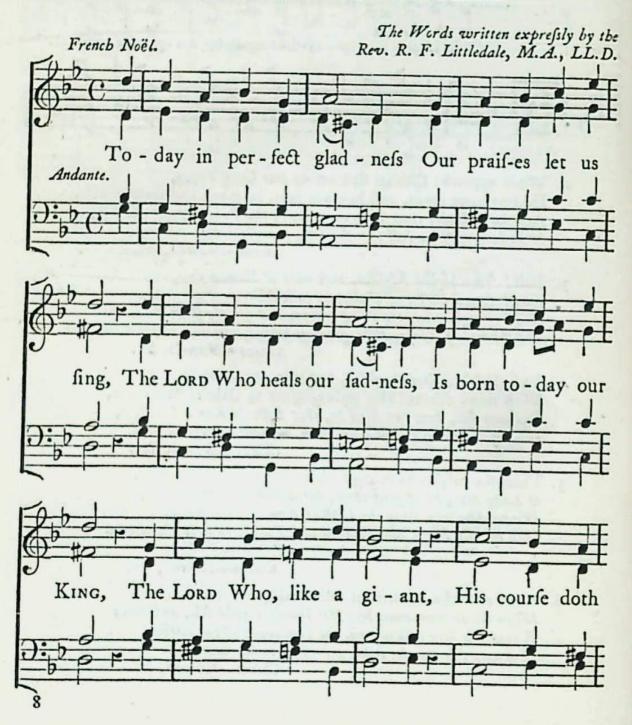
"To-day in perfect Gladness."

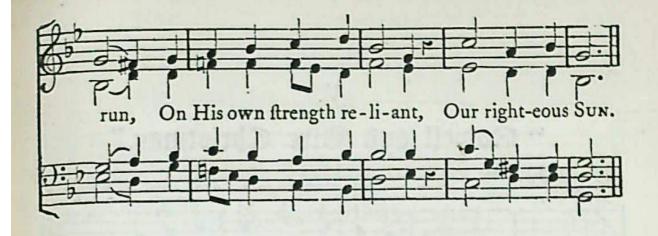
"My faull and lyfe, stand up and see

Quha lyes in ane cribe of tree,

Quhat Babe is That so gude and faire,

IT is CHRIST, GOD'S SONNE and AIRE."





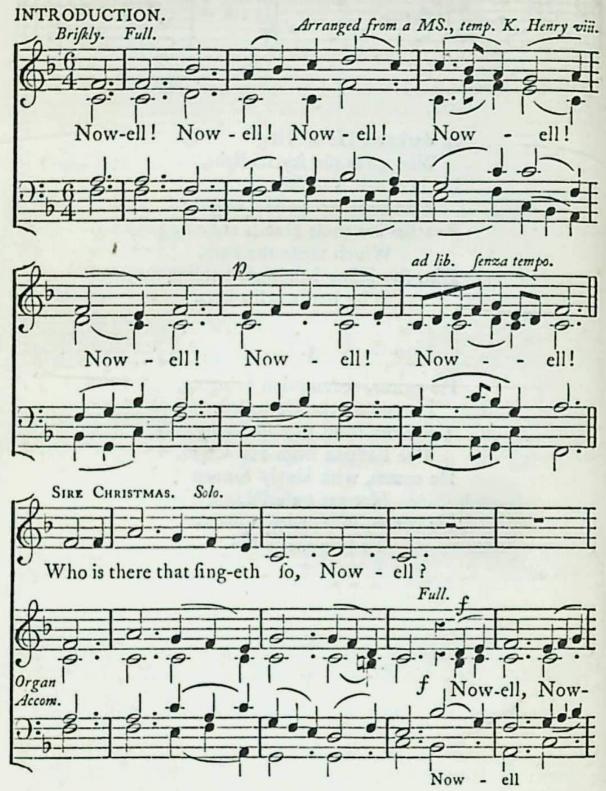
2.

In darkness He is lying
Who gives the sky its light,
He in a stall is crying
Who thunders in His might;
Swathes are those Hands enfolding
Which made the stars,
Him swaddling bands are holding
Who bursts hell's bars.

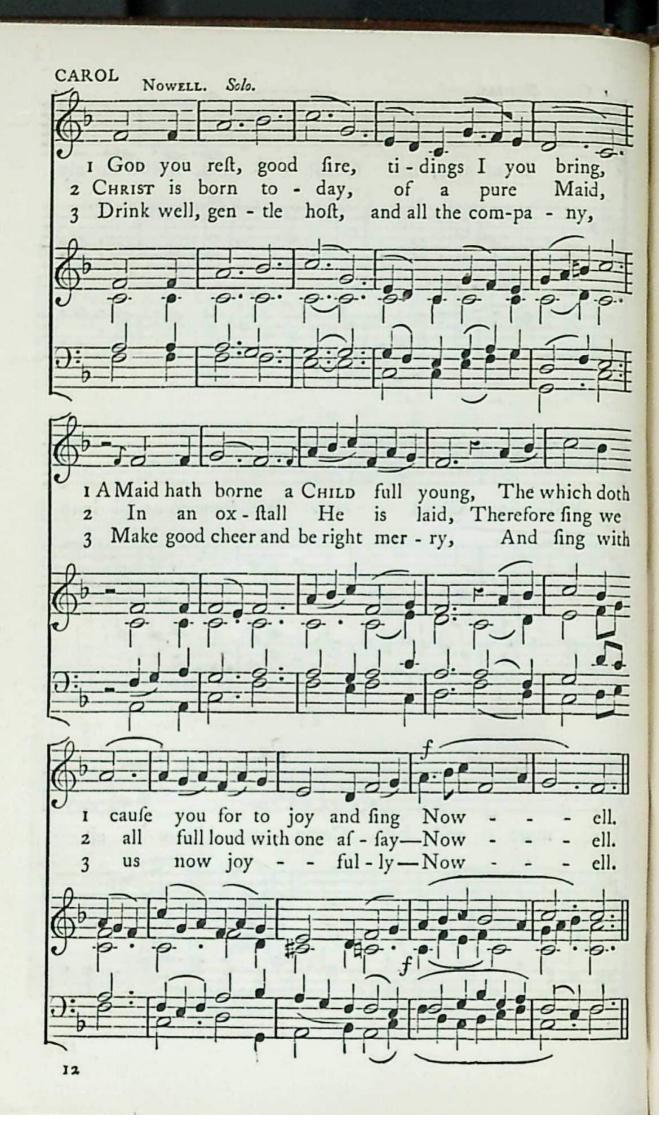
3.

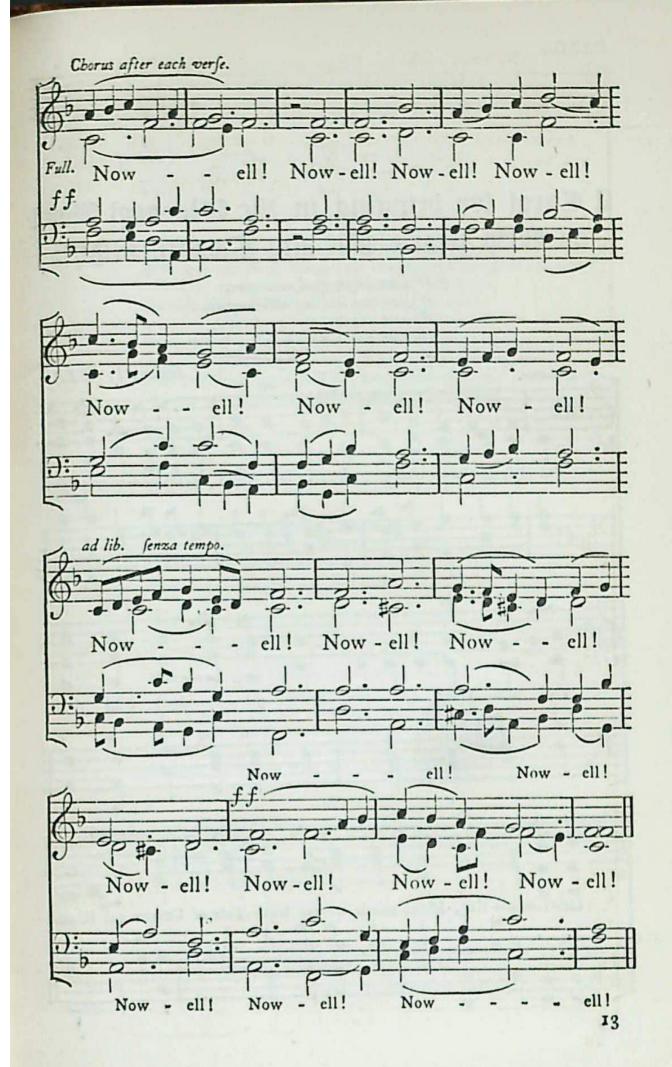
He comes, redemption bringing,
He comes, the Undefiled,
The Rose from Lily springing,
The FATHER from His Child.
He comes, with kingly banner
Not yet unfurl'd,
He comes, in wondrous manner,
To save the world.

"Mowell and Sire Christmas."









VI.

A Carol for bringing in the Wasseyl Bowl on New Pear's Eve and Twelfth Wight.

Wolcum be ye, good newe yere, Wolcum twelthe day bothe in fere, Wolcum alle and mak good chere, Wolcum alle another yere."



- 2. Wasseyl! good masters, we tell you true, Old Christmas brings nothing but mirth to you; His mansion he fills with all manner of store, His larders with plenty flow o'er and o'er.
- 3. Wasseyl! Wasseyl! to that King of Might, A pure Maiden bore upon Christmas night: Wasseyl! to our Lady, Gon's Mother so dear, Who brought us Salvation, and cast out fear.
- 4. Wasseyl! Shepherds three, who the True Shepherd sought, Wasseyl! the three Kings who the Great King gifts brought, Wasseyl! to the Angels, who carolled His Birth, Singing Glory to GOD, Love and Peace on earth.
- 5. Wasseyl! to our host, who feasteth his friends, May God give him double, and more than he spends: Full well may Sire Christmas keep Festival here, Where find we such welcome, such dainty cheer.
- 6. Wasseyl! to the Lady of this fair hall,
 Wasseyl! to her Children, both great and small,
 Wasseyl! to the Steward, who brings us the best,
 Wasseyl! to the Baker, the Maids, and the rest.
- 7. Wasseyl! to the Gentles, Wasseyl! to the Poor, May God fend them comfort, and Christmas store; Wasseyl! to the Holly, whose berries now glow, Wasseyl! to the Ivy and Mistletoe.
- 8. Wasseyl! Wasseyl! all who Christmas love, May God fend them blessings from Heaven above; Let court, city, country, and all folk be glad, Old Christmas hath entered to cheer the sad.
- 9. By Christmas we call on our loving host, And all in this mansion to drink to our toast; In the name of Sire Christmas we bid you Wassey!! Ill luck be to him who will not Drinkhey!!

Chorus.

Io. Drinkheyl! Drinkheyl! both old and young!
In the praise of Sire Christmas let Carols be sung:
To Him Who on us His sweet mercies doth pour,
Be honour and worship for evermore.

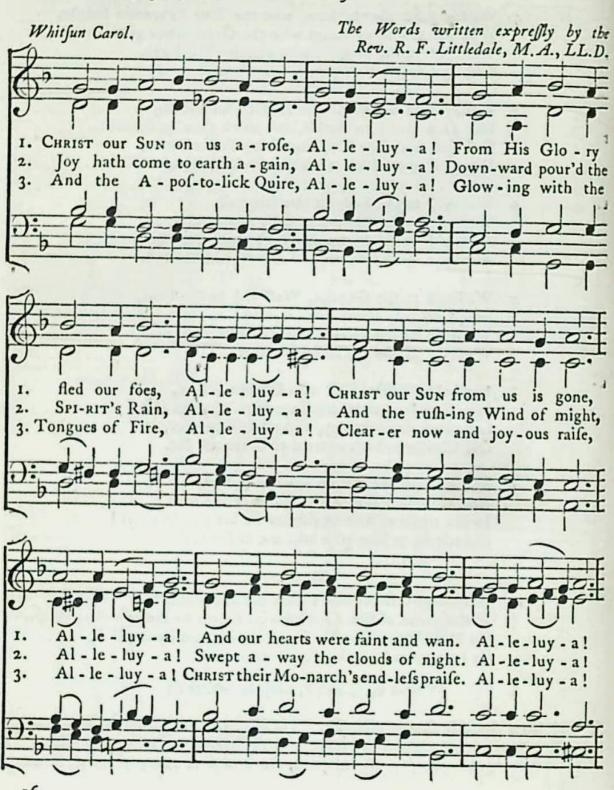
(Verses 6, 7, and 8, may be omitted.)

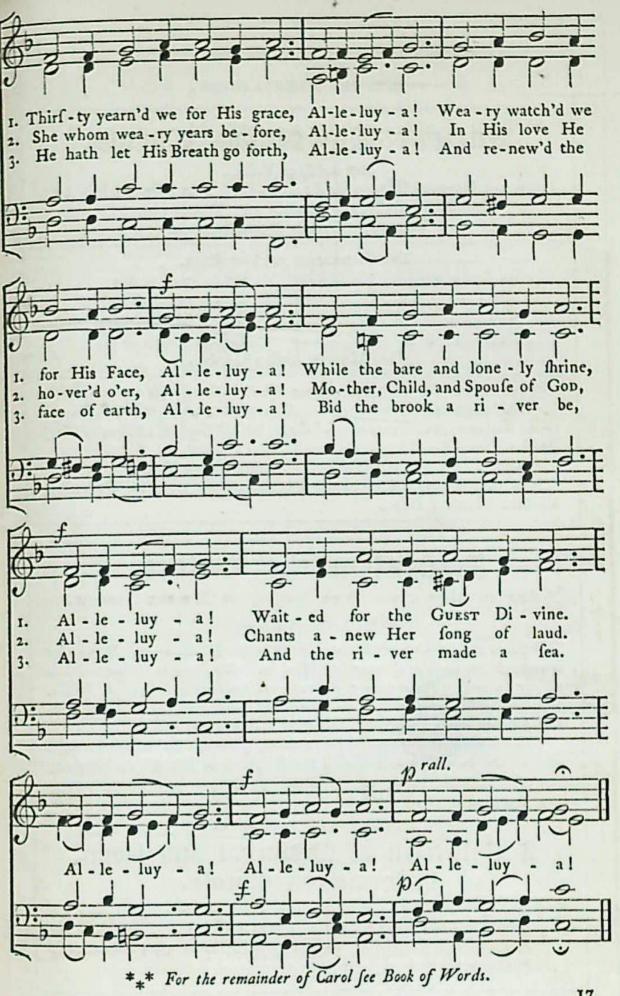
This Carol should be sung in procession. The Wasseyl Bowl garnished with stowers, &c., should be accompanied by taper or torch bearers. The Song concluded, the bowl is handed round to the company, the highest in rank, of course, drinking first

VII.

"Joy bath come to Earth again."

"Thou, O GOD, sentest a Gracious Rain upon Thine inheritance:
And refreshedst it when it was weary."





BY THE SAME EDITOR,

Antient Christmas Carols,

Set for Four Voices,

Dedicated, by permission, to the Rt. Hon. Lord John Manners, M.P., &c.

The fourth Edition, price 1s. Words 11/2d.

Printed by Novello & Co., London.

THE CONTENTS OF THE BOOK.

The First Nowell.

A Virgin most pure.

The Lord at first.

God's dear Son.

When God at first. A Day of Glory. Sing of Maiden Mary. Masters in this Hall.

Our Master hath a Garden.

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