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Four Christmas Carols

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Four Christmas Carols

November 1, 1892.

COMPOSED AND ARRANGED BY

J. BARNBY
A. C. MACKENZIE

G. C. MARTIN
J. STAINER.

London: NOVELLO EWER AND CO., 1, Berners Street (W.), and 80 & 81, Queen Street (E.C.); also in New York.

No. 1. The Anthem of Peace.*

J. BARNBY.

Allegretto.
mf

SOPRANO.
ALTO.
TENOR.
BASS.

O sweet the en-chant-ing an - them, That stole o'er the list -'ning earth, When

An - gels of God de - scend - ed, Pro - claim-ing the Sa - viour's birth. E'en

now we may catch the e - choes, A - cross the a - byss of time, Of the

strange and won - drous mu - sic, That swelled in that song sub - lime.

mp ma - ny,
mp But the voi - ces of earth are ma - ny, And loud are its sounds of strife, And the

* From "Twelve New Carols for Christmastide." Paper cover, price One Shilling.

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(1)

song of the deathless An - gels, Grows faint in the rush of life. Yet oft in the lull of

tu - mult, We hear the far mu - sic roll, And soft - ly the song of the An - gels, Is

dim.
Is borne . . . *pp*
borne to the list'-ning soul, Is borne to the list'-ning soul. O beau - ti - ful an - gel -

cres. *f*
- an - them, Earth waits thy full tones a - gain, . . Till loud o'er the Ba - bel of na - tions, Is

dim. e rall.
heard thy ma - jes - tic strain, And the ma - ny dis - cord - ant voi - ces, Grow faint, and faint - er, and

f rall. *f* *pp*
cease, In the heav'n of thy blest en - chant - ment, Sweet An - them of joy and peace.

No. 2.

On Christmas Morn.

Words by G. WEATHERBY.
(From *The Quiver*, by permission.)

A. C. MACKENZIE, Mus. Doc.

The musical score is written for voice and piano in 4/4 time, with a key signature of one sharp (F#). It consists of two systems of staves. The first system includes a vocal line with lyrics and piano accompaniment. The second system continues the vocal line and piano accompaniment. Dynamics include *mf* (mezzo-forte), *p* (piano), *f* (forte), and *rit.* (ritardando). The piano part features arpeggiated chords and flowing sixteenth-note passages.

1. On Christmas morn, When Christ was born, Was heard a song of
peace . . and love ; So full and strong, The per-fect song Of an-gel-throng From heav'n . . a - bove.

2.

That song, we know
Sung years ago,
Was sweetest carol ever heard ;
And through the year
We all may hear
An echo clear
Of every word.

3.

And now to-day
It seems to say,
To each of us, " Let discord cease,
Put by your fears,
Your griefs and tears,
While in your ears
I tell of peace ! "

4.

And on this morn,
When Christ was born,
Let all to Him an offering make
A victory won,
A good deed done,
Some work begun,
For His dear sake.

No. 3.

Across the desert sands by night.*

HOLY INNOCENTS' DAY.

Arranged by G. C. MARTIN, Mus. Doc.

Allegretto.
mf
 1. A - cross the de - sert sands by night His jour - ney Jo - seph
mf
 tak - eth; At God's com-mand his has - ty flight; With an - xious speed he
f
 mak - - eth, And Beth - le - hem for - sak - - eth.
mf
dim. e rall.

2 For Herod seeks the child to slay,
 And grudgeth e'en a manger,
 Thus early Christ is driven away,
 A King, and yet a stranger;
 A Babe, and yet in danger.

3 At Herod's court the noise is heard
 Of soldiers swiftly arming:
 Have heralds come to bring him word
 Of night-attack alarming?
 Of foes his country harming?

4 He hears that Christ the King is born;
 With craven fear he quaketh:
 His armament God puts to scorn,
 Nor heeds the care he taketh,
 Nor heeds the speed he maketh.

5 But nought can harm that holy Child,
 For angels watch are keeping;
 And nought can harm that mother mild,
 Who sadly goes and weeping,
 And folds her infant sleeping.

6 He slays the babes of Bethlehem,
 Her children, Rachel weepeth;
 But God great honour gives to them—
 Their souls He safely keepeth,
 Who slumbereth not nor sleepeth.

REV. BERNARD REYNOLDS.

* From 'Eight Christmas-tide Carols' (Old Breton Melodies), harmonized by George C. Martin. Price Sixpence.

No. 4. Shepherds! shake off your drowsy sleep.*

BESANÇON CAROL.

Arranged by JOHN STAINER, Mus. Doc.

Vivace.
Two voices to each part.

1. Shepherds! shake off your drow - sy sleep, Rise and leave your sil - ly
sheep; An - gels from heav'n a - round loud sing - ing, Tid - ings of great joy are
bring - ing. Shepherds! the cho - rus come and swell! Sing No - ël, oh sing No - ël!

CHORUS. *poco rit.*

- 2 Hark! even now the bells ring round,
Listen to their merry sound;
Hark! how the birds new songs are making,
As if winter's chains were breaking.
Chorus. Shepherds! the chorus come and swell!
Sing Noël, oh sing Noël!
- 3 See how the flowers all burst anew,
Thinking snow is summer dew;
See how the stars afresh are glowing,
All their brightest beams bestowing.
Chorus. Shepherds! the chorus come and swell!
Sing Noël, oh sing Noël!
- 4 Cometh at length the age of peace,
Strife and sorrow now shall cease;
Prophets foretold the wondrous story
Of this Heaven-born Prince of Glory.
Chorus. Shepherds! the chorus come and swell!
Sing Noël, oh sing Noël!
- 5 Shepherds! then up and quick away,
Seek the Babe ere break of day;
He is the hope of every nation,
All in Him shall find salvation.
Chorus. Shepherds! the chorus come and swell!
Sing Noël! oh sing Noël!

* From "Twelve Old Carols" (English and Foreign), adapted and arranged by Sir John Stainer. Price, in paper cover, One Shilling; words only, One Penny.