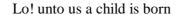
London Gallery Quire 148







The tune "St Davids" was published by James Taylor in 1820 in Aberdeen in A Collection of Psalm and Hymn Tunes ... A version with the present text appears in Carols for Use in Church edited by R. R. Chope, and first published (undated) c1870. It appears in Chope's version in Carols of the West Country edited by Glyn Court (1996). Court has a different version of verse 4, but gives no further information other than the carol's provenance from Chope. Chope himself acknowledges that he has altered the text, but gives no information about the

origin of the music except to state that it is Cornish. This edition is taken from a manuscript book in use at Bierton Strict Baptist Chapel (near Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire). It is titled there "Greenhead CM", with no accompanying text. There are many obvious errors and missing notes; these have been tacitly emended. Their nature gives the impression of an attempt by an inexperienced musician to construct a score from separate parts. The present version is free from some suspiciously Victorian harmonies present in Chope's edition. The tune clearly travelled a long distance on its way to Cornwall.