

# London Gallery Quire 183

Except the Lord the house doth make

Psalm 127 vv. 1-2

"Aintree", anon., from the Colby MSS, IOM  
Reconstructed and edited by Francis Roads

William Whittingham (1524-1579)

*♩=96*

Soprano  
Ex - cept the Lord the house doth make, And there - un - to doth set his hand,  
Though in the morn ye rise ear - ly, And so at night go late to bed,  
There - fore mark well when ye do see That men have hearts t'en - joy their land

Alto  
Ex - cept the Lord the house doth make, And there - un - to doth set his hand,  
Though in the morn ye rise ear - ly, And so at night go late to bed,  
There - fore mark well when ye do see That men have hearts t'en - joy their land

Tenor [Air]  
Ex - cept the Lord the house doth make, And there - un - to doth set his hand,  
Though in the morn ye rise ear - ly, And so at night go late to bed,  
There - fore mark well when ye do see That men have hearts t'en - joy their land

Bass  
Ex - cept the Lord the house doth make, And there - un - to doth set his hand,  
Though in the morn ye rise ear - ly, And so at night go late to bed,  
There - fore mark well when ye do see That men have hearts t'en - joy their land

9 <sup>3</sup> (Soprano)

S *p*  
What men do build, it can - not stand; Like - wise in vain men un - der take  
Eat - ing with care - ful - ness your bread, Your la - bour is but va - ni - ty:  
It is the gift of God's own hand: For God doth mul - ti - ply to thee

T (Tenor) *p*  
What men do build, it can - not stand; Like - wise in vain men un - der take  
Eat - ing with care - ful - ness your bread, Your la - bour is but va - ni - ty:  
It is the gift of God's own hand: For God doth mul - ti - ply to thee

4. And when the children come to age,  
They grow in strength and activeness,  
{ In person and in comeliness:  
So that a shaft shot with courage }  
Of one that hath a most strong arm,  
Flies not so swift, nor doth like harm.

5. Oh, well is he that hath his quiver  
Furnished with such artillery:  
{ For when in peril he shall be,  
Such one shall never quake or shiver, }  
When he doth plead before the judge  
Against his foes that bear him grudge.

Circled numbers correspond with lines of text;

{ } show lines not sung by all parts;

underlined text is to be repeated in bars 22-24 and 28-30.

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18

S  
*f* Ci - ties and holds to watch and ward, to watch and ward,  
 But they whom God doth love and keep, doth love and keep,  
 Of his great li - be - ra - li - ty, li - be - ra - li - ty,

A  
 Ci - ties and holds to watch and ward, to watch and ward,  
 But they whom God doth love and keep, doth love and keep,  
 Of his great li - be - ra - li - ty, li - be - ra - li - ty,

T  
*f* Ci - ties and holds to watch and ward, to watch and ward,  
 But they whom God doth love and keep, doth love and keep,  
 Of his great li - be - ra - li - ty, li - be - ra - li - ty,

B  
 Ci - ties and holds to watch and ward, to watch and ward,  
 But they whom God doth love and keep, doth love and keep,  
 Of his great li - be - ra - li - ty, li - be - ra - li - ty,

24

S  
 Ex - cept the Lord be their safe - guard, be their safe - guard.  
 En - joy all things with qui - et sleep, with qui - et sleep.  
 The bles - sing of pos - te - ri - ty, pos - te - ri - ty

A  
 Ex - cept the Lord be their safe - guard, be their safe - guard.  
 En - joy all things with qui - et sleep, with qui - et sleep.  
 The bles - sing of pos - te - ri - ty, pos - te - ri - ty

T  
*f* Ex - cept the Lord be their safe - guard, be their safe - guard.  
 En - joy all things with qui - et sleep, with qui - et sleep.  
 The bles - sing of pos - te - ri - ty, pos - te - ri - ty

B  
 Ex - cept the Lord be their safe - guard, be their safe - guard.  
 En - joy all things with qui - et sleep, with qui - et sleep.  
 The bles - sing of pos - te - ri - ty, pos - te - ri - ty

This tune is set to Ps 91 NV in the MS.  
 Only the tenor part is extant; the rest is the work of the editor.  
 A different printed version of this tune with the name *Aintree*  
 has subsequently been found by Tim Henderson.  
 Original key G.