London Gallery Quire 359









This anthem was published in John Chetham's *A Book of Psalmody* in 1718. It appeared in six subsequent editions, and in many collections by other compilers, often in revised versions. Its frequent appearance seems to show that compilers at least considered it to be a popular item.

The section between rehearsal letters F and G is marked: "On Christmas Day, this hymn following may be added". Psalm 81 is not a Proper Psalm for Christmas, so it is unclear why Chetham should have thought the anthem particularly likely to be sung then. The Hallelujahs are a late addition, not found

in Chetham's editions. This version of them is taken from Robert Barber's *David's Harp Well Tuned* (1753). Barber gives them in notes double the length of those of this edition, but it seems unlikely that the Hallelujahs were intended to be sung as slowly as such notation implies. There is no new time signature, such as would imply a change of tempo. Barber prefers the form "Allelulia", but the more familiar "Hallelujah" is used here.

Bracketed \$\\$s in bars 12 and 44 are cautionary; those in bars 47 and 52 are conjectural.