

London Gallery Quire 479

1

Anon.

Edited by Francis Roads from Davies Gilbert's
Some Ancient Christmas Carols ... (London 1822)

When God at first created man

♩ = 88

Soprano [Air]

Alto

Tenor

Bass

S

A

T

B

1. When God at first cre - a - ted man His i - mage for to be, And how he made him
 2. *Man be - ing en - tered in that place, We plain - ly un - der stand, The glo - ry of it*
 3. Man be - ing bless'd in this es - tate, And bless - ed sure was he, Ha - ving all things at
 4. *The Ser - pent then hath Eve be - guiled, That she there - of did eat; And like - wise gave un -*
 5. Man be - ing now with grief op - pressed, Not kno - wing where to go; His soul be - fore being

6
 by his pow'r, In scrip - ture we may see; And how he framed his help - mate Eve, The
ha - ving seen, God gave them this com - mand: Be sure thou eat not of the tree Which
 his com - mand, But the for - bid - den tree; But then the Ser - pent soon ap - peared To
to the man, As scrip - ture doth re - peat. And so they both broke God's com - mand, Com -
 filled with joy, Is now op - pressed with woe. But see the mer - cy of the Lord, To

6. An Angel then from heav'n was sent,
 For to declare God's will,
 And to the Virgin Mary came,
 God's words for to fulfil.
 A virgin pure of virtuous life,
 Of whom the Lord made choice,
 To bear our Saviour in her womb,
 Man's heart for to rejoice. *Chorus.*

7. The Angel then before her stood,
 Declaring of those things,
 And told her that she should conceive,
 And bear the King of kings;
 To save man's soul from hell beneath,
 From which he could not fly;
 For breaking of the Lord's commands
 He was condemned to die. *Chorus.*

8. Mary replied, 'tis wondrous strange
 To hear what thou hast said,
 I should conceive, being free from sin,
 And still a spotless maid.
 The Angel said, 'tis not by man,
 That this should come to pass,
 For God himself ordain'd it so
 Before the world ere was. *Chorus.*

9. This glorious Angel she believ'd,
 That did those tidings bring;
 And then sung praises in her heart
 To God our heav'nly King.
 Then God who knew her faith was such
 For to believe aright,
 The Angel then by God's own pow'r
 Departed from her sight. *Chorus.*

Editorial note: Gilbert's bass has been substantially altered to avoid most of the parallel octaves, and the inner parts are the editor's work. Transposed down a minor third.

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When God at first created man 479

11

S
 scrip - ture doth us tell; Being free from sin, God placed them both, In Pa - ra - dise to dwell.
in the midst doth stand; In eat - ing it thou sure shalt die, And pe - rish from the land.
 have be - guil - ed Eve, And said if she should eat there - of That she should sure - ly live.
mit - ting of this thing, Like - wise the hea - vy wrath of God Up - on them both did bring.
 save man's soul from hell; His Son he pro - mised to send down, That he with us might dwell.

A
 scrip - ture doth us tell; Being free from sin, God placed them both, In Pa - ra - dise to dwell.
in the midst doth stand; In eat - ing it thou sure shalt die, And pe - rish from the land.
 have be - guil - ed Eve, And said if she should eat there - of That she should sure - ly live.
mit - ting of this thing, Like - wise the hea - vy wrath of God Up - on them both did bring.
 save man's soul from hell; His Son he pro - mised to send down, That he with us might dwell.

T
 scrip - ture doth us tell; Being free from sin, God placed them both, In Pa - ra - dise to dwell.
in the midst doth stand; In eat - ing it thou sure shalt die, And pe - rish from the land.
 have be - guil - ed Eve, And said if she should eat there - of That she should sure - ly live.
mit - ting of this thing, Like - wise the hea - vy wrath of God Up - on them both did bring.
 save man's soul from hell; His Son he pro - mised to send down, That he with us might dwell.

B

16

S
 Let me, there - fore, then praise the Lord, Re - joice and cease to mourn, Be -

A
 Let me, there - fore, then praise the Lord, Re - joice and cease to mourn, Be -

T
 Let me, there - fore, then praise the Lord, Re - joice and cease to mourn, Be -

B

21

S
 cause our Sa - viour Je - sus Christ This bles - sed day was born.

A
 cause our Sa - viour Je - sus Christ This bles - sed day was born.

T
 cause our Sa - viour Je - sus Christ This bles - sed day was born.

B

10. Then Cæsar made a firm decree,
 That certainly should stand,
 That all the world should taxed be,
 By the pow'r of this command;
 Mary then being great with child,
 When Cæsar made this call;
 For in her womb conceived was
 The Saviour of us all. *Chorus.*

11. Then Mary and her husband kind,
 Together did remain,
 And went to Bethlehem to be tax'd,
 As Scriptures doth make plain;
 And so it was that they being there,
 Her time being fully come,
 Within a stable she brought forth
 Her first-begotten Son. *Chorus.*

12. God grant us hearts for to believe,
 And likewise to consider,
 How that our Saviour suffer'd death,
 Man's soul for to deliver;
 The which, if rightly we believe,
 We shall with him be bless'd,
 And when this mortal life is done,
 In Heav'n we hope to rest. *Chorus.*