

# London Gallery Quire 704

Behold, the Grace appears

Isaac Watts (1674–1748)  
*Hymns and Spiritual Songs*, 1707

*Back Lane* by William Womack (c. 1797–1845)  
Based on the arrangement by Ian Russell  
Edited by Nicholas Markwell

[♩ = 108]

Soprano [Air]

1. Be - hold, the Grace ap - pears, The Pro - mise is ful - fill'd, The  
4. **To bring the glo - rious News\_ A heav'n-ly Form ap - pears, A**  
5. "Go hum - ble Swains," said he, "To Da - vid's Ci - ty fly, To  
6. **"With Looks and Hearts se - rene\_ Go Vi - sit Christ your King, Go**  
7. "Glo - ry to God on High, And heaven-ly Peace on Earth, And

Alto

Tenor

8

1. Be - hold, the Grace ap - pears, The Pro - mise is ful - fill'd, The  
4. **To bring the glo - rious News\_ A heav'n-ly Form ap - pears, A**  
5. "Go hum - ble Swains," said he, "To Da - vid's Ci - ty fly, To  
6. **"With Looks and Hearts se - rene\_ Go Vi - sit Christ your King, Go**  
7. "Glo - ry to God on High, And heaven-ly Peace on Earth, And

Bass

6

A

S

Pro - mise is ful - fill'd ; Ma - ry, the won - drous Vir - gin  
heav'n - ly Form ap - pears ; He tells the Shep - herds of their  
Da - vid's Ci - ty fly ; The pro - mis'd In - fant born to  
Vi - sit Christ your King ; And strait a flam - ing Troop was  
heaven - ly Peace on Earth, Good - Will to Men, to An - gels

A

T

Pro - mise is ful - fill'd ;  
heav'n - ly Form ap - pears ;  
Da - vid's Ci - ty fly ;  
Vi - sit Christ your King ;  
heaven - ly Peace on Earth,

B

11

S

bears, \_\_\_\_\_ And *Je - sus* is the Child, And  
**Joy ;** \_\_\_\_\_ **And ba - ni - shes their Fears,** **And**  
 Day, \_\_\_\_\_ Doth in a Man - ger lye, Doth  
**seen ;** \_\_\_\_\_ **The Shep - herds heard them sing, The**  
 Joy, \_\_\_\_\_ At the Re - deem-er's Birth, At

A

bears, the won - drous Vir - gin bears, And *Je - sus* is the  
**Joy, the Shep - herds of their Joy ;** **And ba - ni - shes their**  
 Day, the In - fant born to Day Doth in a Man - ger  
**seen, a flam - ing Troop was seen, The Shep - herds heard them**  
 Joy, to Men, to An - gels Joy, At the Re - deem-er's

T

*Ma - ry,* the won - drous Vir - gin bears, And *Je - sus* is the Child, And  
**He tells the Shep - herds of their Joy ;** **And ba - ni - shes their Fears,** **And**  
 The pro - mis'd In - fant born to Day Doth in a Man - ger lye, Doth  
**And strait a flam - ing Troop was seen ; The Shep - herds heard them sing, The**  
 Good - Will to Men, to An - gels Joy, At the Re - deem-er's Birth, At

B

*Ma - ry,* the won - drous Vir - gin bears, And *Je - sus* is the  
**He tells the Shep - herds of their Joy ;** **And ba - ni - shes their**  
 The pro - mis'd In - fant born to Day Doth in a Man - ger  
**And strait a flam - ing Troop was seen ; The Shep - herds heard them**  
 Good - Will to Men, to An - gels Joy, At the Re - deem-er's

16

S

*Je - sus* is the Child, And *Je - sus* is the Child.  
**ba - ni - shes their Fears,** And **ba - ni - shes their Fears.**  
 in a Man - ger lye, Doth in a Man - ger lye."  
**Shep - herds heard them sing,** The **Shep - herds heard them sing.**  
 the Re - deem - er's Birth, At the Re - deem - er's Birth.

A

Child, And *Je - sus* is the Child, And *Je - sus* is the Child.  
**Fears,** And **ba - ni - shes their Fears,** And **ba - nish - shes their Fears.**  
 lye, Doth in a Man - ger lye, Doth in a Man - ger lye."  
**sing,** The **Shep - herds heard them sing,** The **Shep - herds heard them sing.**  
 Birth, At the Re - deem - er's Birth, At the Re - deem - er's Birth.

T

*Je - sus* is the Child, And *Je - sus* is the Child.  
**ba - ni - shes their Fears,** And **ba - ni - shes their Fears.**  
 in a Man - ger lye, Doth in a Man - ger lye."  
**Shep - herds heard them sing,** The **Shep - herds heard them sing.**  
 the Re - deem - er's Birth, At the Re - deem - er's Birth.

B

Child, And *Je - sus* is the Child, And *Je - sus* is the Child.  
**Fears,** And **ba - ni - shes their Fears,** And **ba - nish - shes their Fears.**  
 lye, Doth in a Man - ger lye, Doth in a Man - ger lye."  
**sing,** The **Shep - herds heard them sing,** The **Shep - herds heard them sing.**  
 Birth, At the Re - deem - er's Birth, At the Re - deem - er's Birth.

21

B

S

'A - wake, a - wake, ye saints, a - wake ! And hail this day, our Sa - viour's born ! A -

B

26

C

S

-wake, a - wake, ye saints, a - wake ! And hail this day, our Sa - viour's born ! Al - le - lu - ia,

B

31

S al - le-lu - ia, al - le-lu - ia, Praise ye the Lord !' Al - le-lu - ia, al - le-lu - ia, al - le-lu - ia, al - le-lu - ia,

B

37

S Praise ye the Lord !' Symphony

T Symphony

B Praise ye the Lord !' Symphony

William Womack was a Yorkshireman from Storrs, a hamlet now within the city of Sheffield. He was a farmer who also worked in the metal trade as a grinder, and a composer of a number of tunes still sung in the villages to the north-west of Sheffield during November and December each year.

The instrumental parts for Back Lane, (1st & 2nd violins and cello) are found in the MSS by Thomas Nichols (1794–1867), a violinist from Brightholmlee, a hamlet also now within the city of Sheffield, dated c. 1830. The vocal parts are from the Mount-Dawson MSS from Worrall, dated c. 1873, and it is thought the instrumental parts there may have been copied from the Thomas Nichols MSS. At the time of writing, I have not yet been able to access these MSS, which are held in the Village Carols Archives by Professor Ian Russell in Aberdeen, and have instead relied on the Mount-Dawson MSS, now held in the Sheffield City Archives.

Five of the original nine stanzas by Isaac Watts have been selected here ; stanzas 2, 3, 8 and 9 were enclosed in square brackets in the second edition of his Hymns and Spiritual Songs of 1709, indicating that they may be omitted if required. They are printed below. The source of the text of the Coda has not yet been located.

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <p>2 The Lord, the Highest God<br/>Calls him his only Son ;<br/>He bids him rule the Lands abroad,<br/>And gives him David's Throne.</p>  | <p>3 O'er Jacob shall he reign<br/>With a peculiar Sway ;<br/>The Nations shall his Grace obtain,<br/>His Kingdom ne'er decay.</p>        |
| <p>8 In Worship so Divine<br/>Let Saints imploy their Tongues ;<br/>With the Celestial Host we join,<br/>And loud repeat their Songs.</p> | <p>9 " Glory to God on High,<br/>" And Heavenly Peace on Earth,<br/>" Good-Will to Men, to Angels Joy,<br/>" At our Redeemer's Birth.</p> |

The text of Watts' hymn given here is the original, and this edition does not seek to reproduce the altered form of words and music now usually sung in the biennial Festival of Village Carols, and in villages to the north-west of Sheffield. That version may be found in The Sheffield Book of Village Carols, edited and arranged by Ian Russell.