

William Austin (1587-1634)

Unknown, ca 1825 -1836

Edited by Blaise Compton from the Melbury Osborn MS.

Tr
2
3
4
5
6

1 Hark hear you not a cheer - ful noise, Which makes the heav - ens
2 So loud they sing that down on earth, In - no - cent child - ren

A
1 Hark hear you not a cheer - ful noise,
2 So loud they sing that down on earth,

T
1 Hark hear you not a cheer - ful noise, Which makes the heav - ens
2 So loud they sing that down on earth, In - no - cent child - ren

B
1 Hark hear you not a cheer - ful noise
2 So loud they sing tha down on earth,

Tr
7
8
9
10
11

ring with joy, which makes the hea - vens ring with joy?
heard their mirth, In - no - cent child - ren heard their mirth, %

A
which makes the hea - vens ring with joy? See where like
In - no - cent child - ren heard their mirth, % And sing with

T
ring with joy, which makes the hea - vens ring with joy? See where like
heard their mirth, In - no - cent child - ren heard their mirth, % And sing with

B
which makes the hea - vens ring with joy?
In - no - cent child - ren heard their mirth,

Tr
12
13
14
15

See where like stars bright an - gels fly, A thou - sand heav'n - ly
And sing with them what none can say For joy, their Prince was

A
stars bright an - gels fly, A thou - sand
them what none can say For joy, their

T
stars bright an - gels fly, A thou - sand heav'n - ly
hem what none can say For joy, their Prince was

B
See where like stars bright an - gels fly, A thou - sand
And sing with them what none can say For joy, their

CAROLS

And other.

HArke : heare you not a cheerful Noyse,
That makes Heavens-Vaults ring shrill with joyes?
See; where (like Starres) bright Angels flye,
And thousand heavenly Echo's cry:
So loud they chaunt, that down to Earth,
Innocent Children heare their Mirth:
And sing with them, what none can say,
For joy their Prince is borne, this Day:
Their Prince, their Gods, (like one of Those)
Is made a Child, and wrapt in Clothes.
All this is in Times fulnesse done:
Wee, have a Saviour, God, a Sonne.
Heaven, Earth; Babes, Shepheards, Angels sing:
Oh! never vvas such Carrolling
Harke; how they all sing at His Birth,
Glory to Gods, and Peace on Earth.
Up then (my Soule) thy part desire
And sing (though but a Base) in this sweet Quire.

1. Hark! hear you not a cheerful, cheerful noise,
Which makes the Heavens ring with Joy?
See where, like Stars, bright Angels fly,
A Thousand Heavenly Echoes cry.

2. So loud they sing, that down on Earth,
Innocent Children heard their Mirth;
And sing with them what none could say,
For joy their Prince was born that day;

3. Their Prince, their God, like one of those,
Is made a Child, and wrapt in Clothes.
All this in Time was fully done,
We have a Saviour, God, the Son.

4. Heav'n, Earth, Babes, Shepherds, Angels sing:
Oh! never was such Carrolling.
Hark, how they all sing at His Birth,
Glory to God, and Peace on Earth.

This poem was written by William Austin (1587-1634) and was published after his death in a collection created by his wife Ann, "Devotionis Augustinianae flamma" or, "Certaine devout, godly, and learned meditations", (1635), which included three "Carrols for Christmas Day:"

This carol was transcribed by Blaise Compton from the Melbury Osmond manuscript in Dorset.

The MS contains some 40 three- and four-part compositions, and this Carol is simply entitled 'Carol [for] 1836'. The tune is not in the HTI, and is by an unknown composer probably about the same date. The words were chosen by Blaise to fit the tune, but were first used by William Knapp for a carol published in London both in 1743 and again in 1753, and then picked up by the compiler Matthew Wilkins of Great Milton, Oxfordshire, in his 'Book of Psalmody' ca. 1760. The tune, however, is not that written by Knapp.

Shelwin Music for IGQ, Christmas 2021.

Emendations: Bar 7, tenor notes have been adjusted both in pitch and tempo. Originally in C major.