

ORIENT STAR

ADVENT HYMN

Charles Wesley and John Bowring

Unknown

Tr
T
B

12

Tr
A
T
B

1 Lo! he comes with clouds de - cend - ing Once for fa - vour'd sin - ners
 2 *Lo! he comes, the Lord of glo - ry, Peace and tri - umph in his*
 3 Lo! he comes, the Lord of glo - ry, Sin and sor - row scat - 'ring
 4 *Lo! he comes, the Lord of glo - ry, Shouts of joy his path at -*

19

Tr
A
T
B

slain, thou - sand, thou - sand, saints at - tend - ing swell the
train; Lo! he comes, by an - gels guard - ed, O - ver
 far; Lo! he comes, and at his pre - sence Woe re -
tend! Lo! he comes, let tribes and na - tions, Grate - ful

'Orient Star' is taken from a Quarto sized ms. in our possession, originally owned, and probably written, by George Varah whose signature is on the inside back cover. It is thought probable that George came from the village of Wickersley, about 4 miles east of Rotherham, there being a family of stonemasons. Father George was born there in 1810, and his son, also George, in 1836. Recorded in Drake's Rotherham and District Directory for 1862, George was the owner of a local stone quarry, and other members of the family are recorded there as stone masons, etc, up until 1905. The 1871 census records George. a quarry owner, as aged 61. The manuscript itself, together with a photograph of local bandsmen, was said by its vendor in 2005 to have been originally purchased at auction in Rotherham.

It still smelled strongly of the talcum powder from the drawer in which it had been kept!

25

Tr
 tri - umph of his train; Hal - le - lu - jah! Hal - le - lu - jah!
all the earth to reign; Death and dark - ness, death and dark - ness
 tires and wast - ing war. Bow be - fore___ him, bow be - fore___ him,
and re - joic - ing bend. He has tri - umph'd, he has tri - umph'd,

A

T
 tri - umph of his train; Hal - le - lu - jah! Hal - le - lu - jah!
all the earth to reign; Death and dark - ness, death and dark - ness
 tires and wast - ing war. Bow be - fore___ him, bow be - fore___ him,
and re - joic - ing bend. He has tri - umph'd, he has tri - umph'd,

B

32

Tr
 Christ ap - pears on earth to reign, Christ ap - pears on earth to reign.
Would ar - rest his course in vain, would ar - rest his course in vain.
 Bow be - fore yon ori - ent Star, bow be - fore yon ori - ent Star.
Sav - iour, Con - qu'ror Mas - ter, Friend; Sav - iour, Con - qu'ror, Mas - ter, Friend.

A

T
 Christ ap - pears on earth to reign, Christ ap - pears on earth to reign.
Would ar - rest his course in vain, would ar - rest his course in vain.
 Bow be - fore yon ori - ent Star, bow be - fore yon ori - ent Star.
Sav - iour, Con - qu'ror Mas - ter, Friend; Sav - iour, Con - qu'ror, Mas - ter, Friend.

B

40

Tr
 Hal - le - lu - jah! Ha - le - lu - jah! Christ ap - pears on
Death and dark - ness, death and dark - ness, Would ar - rest his
 Bow be - fore him, bow be - fore him, Bow be - fore yon
He has tri - umph'd, he has tri - umph'd, Sav - iour, Con - qu'ror,

A

T
 Hal - le - lu - jah! Ha - le - lu - jah! Christ ap - pears on
Death and dark - ness, death and dark - ness, Would ar - rest his
 Bow be - fore him, bow be - fore him, Bow be - fore yon
He has tri - umph'd, he has tri - umph'd, Sav - iour, Con - qu'ror,

B

46

Tr
A
T
B

earth to reign, Christ ap - pears on earth to reign.
course in vain, would ar - rest his course in vain.
ori - ent Star, bow be - fore yon ori - ent Star.
Mas - ter, Friend; Sav - iour, Con - queror, Mas - ter, Friend.

52

Tr
T
B

1. Lo ! he comes , the Lord of glory ,
Peace and triumph in his train ;
Lo ! he comes , by angels guarded ,
Over all the earth to reign :
Death and darkness
Would arrest his course in vain .

2. Lo ! he comes , the Lord of glory ,
Sin and sorrow scatt'ring far ;
Lo ! he comes , and at his presence
Woe retires and wasting war .
Bow before him ;
Bow before yon orient Star !

3. Lo ! he comes , the Lord of glory ,
Shouts of joy his path attend !
Lo ! he comes , let tribes and nations ,
Grateful and rejoicing , bend .
He has triumph'd !
Saviour - Conqueror - Master - Friend !

2. Every eye shall now behold him
Robed in dreadful majesty ;
Those who set at naught and sold him ,
Pierced and nailed him to the tree ,
Deeply wailing ,
Shall the true Messiah see .

3. Those dear tokens of his Passion
Still his dazzling body bears ,
Cause of endless exultation
To his ransomed worshippers ;
With what rapture
Gaze we on those glorious scars !

4. Yea, Amen, let all adore thee ,
High on thine eternal throne ;
Saviour, take the power and glory ,
Claim the Kingdom for thine own :
Hallelujah !
Thou shalt reign, and thou alone !

John Bowring

C. Wesley and J. Cennick

The music is unattributed, and the words underwritten in the first three lines of music suggest that the tune was used for the Advent Hymn 'Low he comes with clouds decending'. However, the tune name 'Orient Star' suggests that it may also have been used for an earlier hymn written by John Bowring and printed for him in 1825 by G Smallfield in Hackney, London. This was subsequently included in a publication by W P Kennedy entitled "Flowers of Zion: a selection of hymns and sacred poetry", Edinburgh 1845. In this setting, verse 1 is the opening verse of the traditional advent hymn, whilst the following three are those by Bowring. Sir John Bowring, KCB (17 October 1792 – 1872) was an English political economist, traveller, miscellaneous writer, polyglot, and the 4th Governor of Hong Kong. This transcription © 2021 Shelwin Music, Oxford.