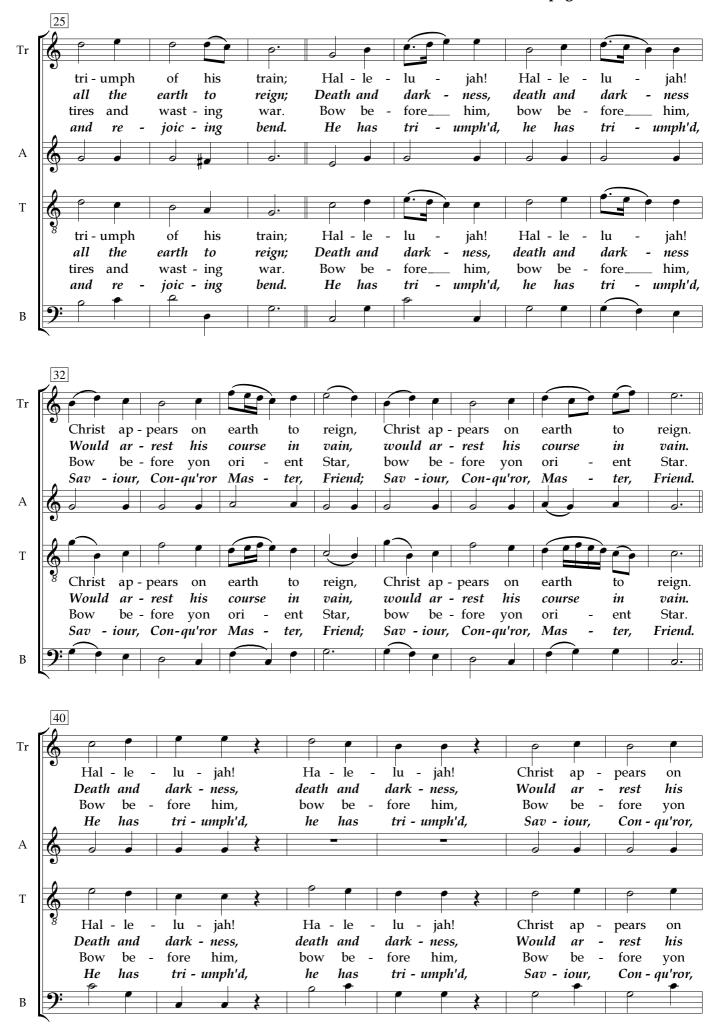
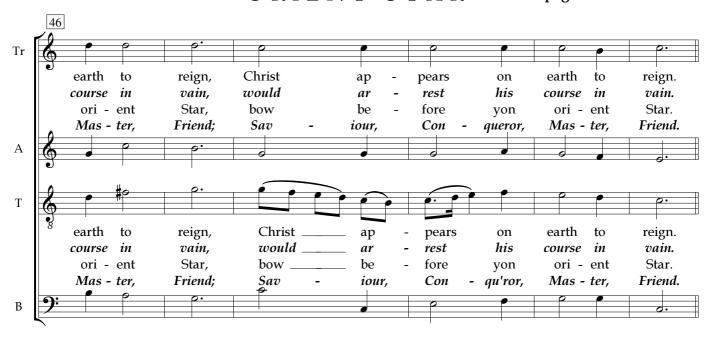
ADVENT HYMN



'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 manscript 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!







- 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 worshipers ; 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 descending'. 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.